



PARLIAMENT of AUSTRALIA

MEDIA RELEASE

Parliamentary inquiry into a better family law system to support and protect those affected by family violence

Issue date: 22 August 2017

Parliamentary inquiry to hold hearings in Alice Springs

The [Parliamentary Inquiry into a better family law system to support and protect those affected by family violence](#) will travel to Alice Springs on Tuesday to hold a public hearing.

The Chair of the Committee, [Sarah Henderson MP](#), said: "Aboriginal women are 34 times more likely to be hospitalised because of family violence-related assaults than non-Indigenous Australians. It is important that the Inquiry take evidence on how Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families experience family violence and, importantly, how the family law system can better protect and support these families."

A detailed program for the hearing is available from the [Inquiry website](#).

Public hearing details:

2.00pm to 5.00 pm, Tuesday 22 August
Ibis Styles, Alice Springs

The hearing will be streamed live at aph.gov.au/live and the audio of the hearing will be made available from the [Inquiry website](#) at a later date.

Please be aware that the Committee is unable to intervene or provide advice in relation to individual circumstances. If you are in immediate danger, please contact 000. If you are experiencing distress or would like to speak with someone about your situation, the following support services are available:

- 1800RESPECT national helpline: 1800 737 732
- Women's Crisis Line: 1800 811 811
- Men's Referral Service: 1300 766 491
- Lifeline: 131 114
- Relationships Australia: 1300 364 277
- Kids Helpline: 1800 55 1800

Media enquiries:

Office of Ms Sarah Henderson MP, Committee Chair on (03) 5243 1444.

For background information:

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Media release issue date: 21 August 2017, Canberra