# Family violence campaign

# Action on alcohol and gendered violence

State and territory governments around Australia have the power to keep women and children safe, by better regulating the way alcohol is marketed, sold and delivered into homes.

But right now the intense lobbying from alcohol companies, who wield significant influence in the corridors of power is stopping this from happening.

Alcohol is involved in [**between 23% and 65% of all police-reported family violence**](https://www.anrows.org.au/publication/links-between-alcohol-consumption-and-domestic-and-sexual-violence-against-women-key-findings-and-future-directions/) incidents.

When perpetrators are drinking, it also increases the severity of violence, leading to higher rates of harm and injury.

Australian evidence shows greater access to alcohol increases the risk of violence – and the largely unregulated explosion in online sales and delivery has only added fuel to the fire.

So, let’s call for our governments to do what's right, and put the health and wellbeing of women and children before industry profits.

https://fare.org.au/wp-content/uploads/Cat-reaction-to-National-Cabinet-meeting-small.mp4 of women who experienced sexual assault by a man in the past 10 years believed that alcohol or another substance contributed to their most recent incident 0 % of women who experienced sexual assault by a man in the past 10 years believed that alcohol or another substance contributed to their most recent incident 0 % of women who experienced sexual assault by a man in the past 10 years believed that alcohol or another substance contributed to their most recent incident 0 %

47% of women who were sexually assaulted by a man in the past decade said alcohol or another substance contributed to the most recent incident¹

34% of intimate partner violence incidents involve alcohol²

29% of family violence cases involve alcohol²

## Alcohol policies around Australia

The rapid rise of alcohol sold online and delivered into the home has massively increased availability.

Research shows alcohol delivery is used to extend drinking sessions. When alcohol can be delivered within 20 minutes – at any time of the day or night – without checks and balances, it puts families at greater risk of violence.

Some jurisdictions have taken the first steps towards reducing harm.

It’s time for the rest of the country to follow suit.

Australian Capital Territory

There are no specific regulations for the online sale and delivery of alcohol in the ACT.

New South Wales

The NSW government implemented some reforms in 2020. These included mandatory ID checks when buying alcohol online and when it is delivered, mandatory responsible service of alcohol training specific to delivery and making it an offence to sell online or deliver alcohol to people under 18 or to people who are intoxicated.

There are currently no regulations on rapid (under 2 hours) or late-night delivery.

Northern Territory

In 2019, the NT government implemented several reforms, following a review of alcohol laws in 2017.

Current measures in place include limits on late night delivery and required ID checks when delivering alcohol. The government has also made it an offence to deliver alcohol to anyone under 18, people who are intoxicated, or to leave a delivery unattended.

Queensland

There are no specific regulations for the online sale and delivery of alcohol in Queensland.

In fact, alcohol delivery providers are not required to have their own licence. Instead, they piggyback off bottleshops, which themselves piggyback off the licences given to hotels.

This means these delivery providers are not required to have a risk management plan nor are they held fully accountable if there is any breach.

South Australia

The state government introduced some reforms in 2018 including making it an offence to deliver alcohol to people aged under 18, or people who are intoxicated and requiring ID checks for delivery.

However, there is currently no regulation of rapid (under 2-hour) delivery services or requirements to check ID when ordering alcohol online.

Tasmania

There are almost no specific regulations of the online sale and delivery of alcohol in Tasmania. However, it is an offence to deliver alcohol to anyone under 18.

Victoria

In 2021, the state government introduced several reforms including mandatory ID checks when delivering alcohol and the introduction of a licence specific to online sale and delivery, which delivery providers must obtain. It is also an offence to deliver or sell alcohol online to anyone under 18, to people who are intoxicated, or to leave deliveries unattended.

There are no regulations for the rapid (under 2-hour) delivery of alcohol.

Western Australia

The WA government introduced some protections in 2022, including mandatory ID checks when delivering alcohol and making it an offence to deliver alcohol to anyone who is under 18 to people who are intoxicated, or to leave deliveries unattended.

The mandatory ID checks and under 18 offence do not apply to selling alcohol online, nor are there any laws implemented on rapid (under 2 hours) or late-night delivery of alcohol.

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1. [Personal Safety Survey](https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/people/crime-and-justice/personal-safety-australia/latest-release), Australia, ABS, 2023
2. Alcohol/Drug-Involved Family Violence in Australia (ADIVA) sourced from [Family, domestic and sexual violence](https://www.aihw.gov.au/family-domestic-and-sexual-violence/resources/data-dashboard), AIHW, 2024

#### Hover over each state/territory

“A fire cannot be started by kerosene alone, it needs a match. But when fuel is added, it burns more intensely. The same is true of the link between domestic violence and alcohol.”  Kym Valentine Television/theatre actor and Survivor Advocate

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### Kym Valentine

### Television/theatre actor and Survivor Advocate

[Read Kym's story](https://www.smh.com.au/national/gut-wrenching-sound-of-alcohol-delivery-in-an-abusive-relationship-20210609-p57zgl.html" \t "_blank)

## Share your story

Bold policy change must be informed by people across the country with lived experience of the role alcohol plays in fuelling men's violence against women.

Sharing your story can help ensure decision-makers listen to and consider lived experience when enacting policies that affect our communities.

* First name\*
* Last name
* State/Territory\*
* Age
* Email\*
* Phone number
* Preferred form of contact
  + Email
  + Phone (call)
  + Phone (text message)
* How has alcohol impacted your life?\*
* Where would you be comfortable with this story being shared?\*
  + Policy papers and submissions
  + Social media post
  + Blog or feature article
  + Video
* Do you want to remain anonymous?
  + Yes
  + No
* CAPTCHA

## Campaign timeline

April 30, 2024

Dozens of community, health and Aboriginal organisations join FARE in signing an open letter to National Cabinet, calling for immediate action on better alcohol regulating to reduce rates of men's violence against women and children.

May 1, 2024

National Cabinet meets and Prime Minister Anthony Albanese announces a suite of measures that do not include any mention of meaningful reform on the commercial determinants of family violence, including alcohol and gambling.

May 1, 2024

FARE responds to National Cabinet's decision to overlook alcohol's role in family violence.

Alcohol wasn't mentioned once - not even once.  
  
As PM Anthony Albanese addressed the country on the steps National Cabinet agreed to take to combat gender-based violence, alcohol's role in fuelling violence against women and children was again ignored.  
  
The silence was deafening. [pic.twitter.com/46sJAY8azv](https://t.co/46sJAY8azv)

— FARE (@FAREAustralia) [May 1, 2024](https://twitter.com/FAREAustralia/status/1785567229431738503?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)

May 2, 2024

Media coverage the day after National Cabinet highlights the action that's required on alcohol to curb rates of family violence.

#### Survivors, advocates, experts respond to national cabinet announcement

[Read more](https://www.abc.net.au/news/2024-05-02/survivors-advocates-experts-respond-to-national-cabinet/103792420" \t "_blank)

## Join our community

Will you join the community taking action on alcohol?