

House, Royal Women's Hospital, 2004, http://www.rwh.org.au/casa/index.cfm?doc_id=4652

A report comprised of interviews, case studies, and a survey of some 200 workers, which includes the experiences of people who have been sexually harassed in the Victorian workplace since 1999 and who did not report it under either federal or state legislation. The purpose is to assess the current situation and to develop strategies for change. (reviewed in this edition, p. 3)

Working for women's safety, by G. Beecher, *Women Against Violence - An Australian Feminist Journal*, no.14, Jul 2003, pp.71-73.

This article discusses the need to put workplace sexual harassment on the agenda of governments, businesses and communities. The objectives and philosophy of Working Against Sexual Harassment (WASH) are described, a group that works towards the elimination of sexual harassment through raising public awareness, working with organisations and conducting research.

Telephone counselling

A best practice manual for specialised sexual assault crisis telephone counselling, by F. Rummery, Drummoyne, NSW, NSW Rape Crisis Centre, 2003.

This manual is a guide designed to assist workers at the NSW Rape Crisis Centre in their work to provide telephone crisis counselling to women who have experienced sexual violence. The manual attempts to standardise the approach taken by counsellors in assessing and managing those seeking assistance through the Rape Crisis Centre, and draws on the knowledge and experience of the counsellors as well as other associated health professionals. The guide covers: initial stages of contact; ongoing contact and case management; crisis intervention; risk assessment procedures; and general issues for survivors of sexual violence.

Violence against women

Toolkit to end violence against women, National Advisory Council on Violence Against Women and the Violence Against Women Office, Washington DC, National Advisory Council on Violence Against Women, 2001, <http://toolkit.ncjrs.org/>

The National Advisory Council on Violence Against Women developed this Toolkit to provide concrete guidance to communities, policy leaders and individuals engaged in activities to end violence against women. The website contains 16 chapters on different subjects, each of which includes a summary, a full download option and links to other relevant resources.

Special rural issue

Women Against Violence journal

It is six years since *Women Against Violence – an Australian feminist journal* published the first rural issue. In that time, women outside the major cities have continued to experience violence; researchers have continued to build knowledge in this field and rural practitioners across the country have continued to work against violence in innovative ways.

Issue no. 15 will once again feature articles, briefings and news from rural Australia. It will tackle important questions facing rural women and rural services, including:

- *What does it mean to be a rural woman in Australia?*
- *What is meant by a rural culture?*
- *What barriers do women in rural areas face when disclosing their experiences of violence to authorities?*

Importantly, researchers and practitioners keep returning to the stories told by the women who are victim/survivors of violence, and we are very fortunate to have a powerful and inspiring survivor account in this issue. We hope that this issue of *Women Against Violence* will inspire women in rural and urban Australia, and internationally, to continue working against violence.

For more information or to subscribe, visit our website at www.rwh.org.au/casa/ and click on to Women Against Violence Journal.