

# Age of Consent

## Young mob under 12 years of age CANNOT LEGALLY GIVE CONSENT

Even if they agree, a person under 12 years old cannot give consent to any form of sexual activity. This includes:

- Touching them sexually, or being touched sexually
- Performing a sexual act in front of them
- Showing them sexually explicit materials

### 12 – 15 YEARS

In Victoria, a person aged 12 to 15 years can consent to a sexual activity with someone within two calendar years of their age.

### 16 – 17 YEARS

It is an offence for a person in a role of care, supervision or authority to sexually engage with a person under their special care who is aged 16-17 years.

## REPORTING

*Young people aged 18-24 years experience significantly higher rates of sexual violence than those in older age groups.*

Sexual assault is never the victim's fault. Don't be shame and speak up to get the support you need to stay safe.

*All adults who form a reasonable belief that a sexual offence has been committed against a child or young person (16 years and under) in Victoria, must report this to police.*

**Please report as soon possible:**

- Report the assault to the police
- Apply for a family violence intervention order
- Apply for a personal safety intervention order

A Centre Against Sexual Assault counsellor or advocate can help you decide what to do.

## SERVICES WHICH CAN SUPPORT YOUNG MOB WHO HAVE EXPERIENCED SEXUAL ASSAULT

- **Free, confidential support for anyone who has experienced sexual violence:** <https://www.sasvic.org.au/>
- **24-hour Sexual Assault Crisis Line:** 1800 806 292 <https://www.sacl.com.au/>
- **Kids Help Line:** 1800 551 800 <https://kidshelpline.com.au>
- **VALS:** 1800 064 865 [balit.ngulu@vals.org.au](mailto:balit.ngulu@vals.org.au)
- **Headspace:** 1800 650 890 <https://headspace.org.au>
- **Beyond Blue:** <https://www.beyondblue.org.au/>
- **SANE Australia:** 1800 187 263 [www.sane.org](http://www.sane.org)
- **Vic Legal Aid:** [www.legalaid.vic.gov.au](http://www.legalaid.vic.gov.au)

