



MEDIA RELEASE

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It's time to improve data

The Harmony Alliance has today called on the Australian Governments to prioritise for further research the experiences of violence by women of culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, after the release of the Australian Institute on Health and Welfare report on Family, Domestic and Sexual Violence 2018.

The Chair of the Harmony Alliance, Ms Maria Dimopoulos, noted that although it continues to be important to collate data and identify gaps to ensure our evidence base is comprehensive, more resources should be dedicated to researching gaps already identified.

“Studies have been reporting the lack of quantitative data on the experiences of family, domestic and sexual violence by diverse groups, including women of culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, since before the start of the National Action Plan to Reduce Violence Against Women and their Children in 2010”, said Ms Dimopoulos, “yet we continue to see these groups listed under the 'to do' column.”

“The data that is available regarding women of culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds is often limited to specific geographic locations or cultural identities” said Ms Dimopoulos.

“The breadth of studies produced by the AIHW present an ideal opportunity to develop a statistically valid sample of the experiences of violence by diverse women going forward.”

*****For media enquiries contact Iona Roy – 02 6162 0361 or 0437 294 133*****

The Harmony Alliance is one of the six National Women's Alliances funded by the Australian Government to promote the views of all Australian women, to ensure their voices are heard in decision-making processes. Our purpose is to provide a national inclusive and informed voice on the multiplicity of issues impacting on experiences and outcomes of migrant and refugee women, and to enable opportunities for women from migrant and refugee backgrounds to directly engage in driving positive change.