

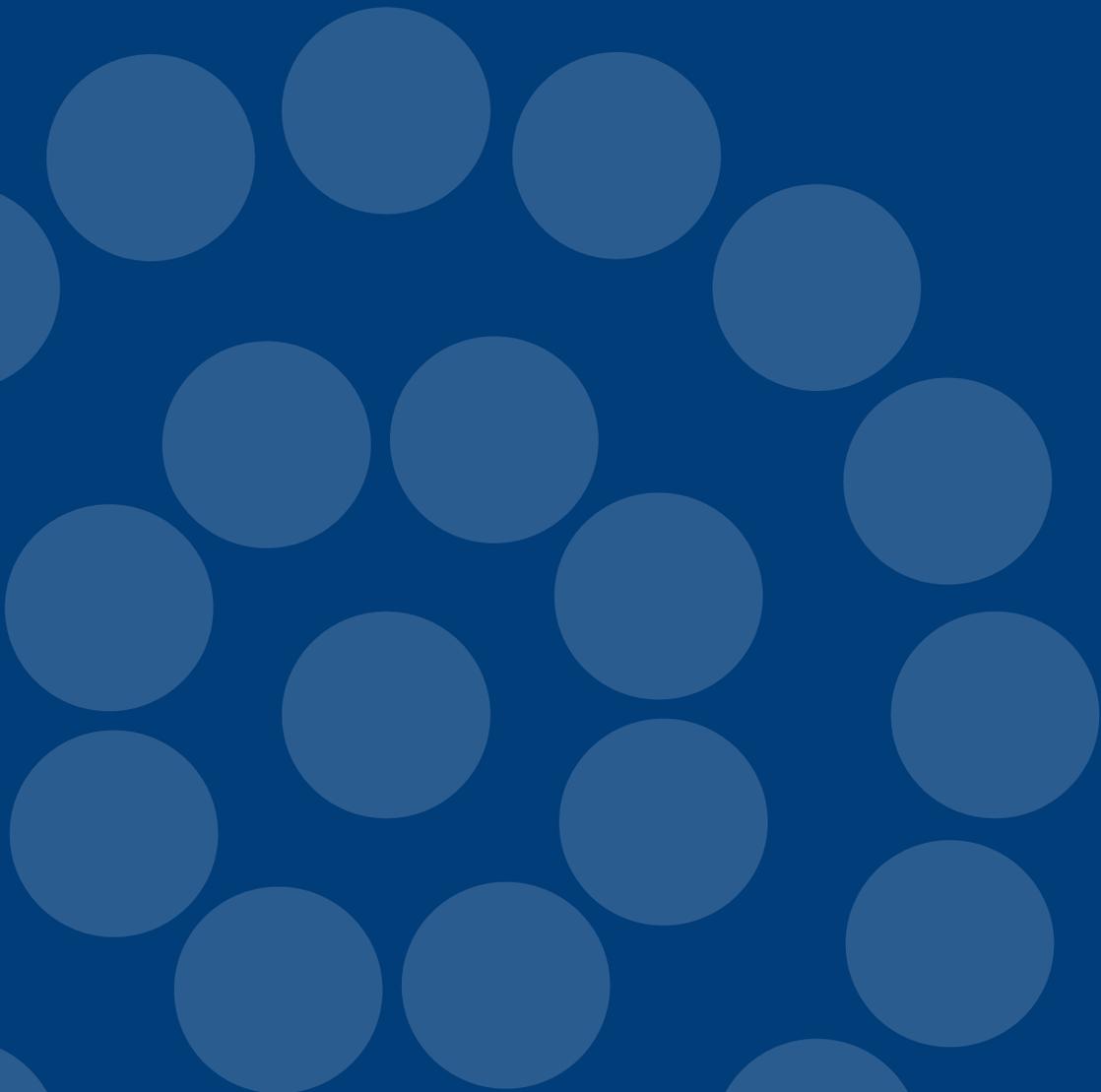


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Submission to the Victorian Inquiry into anti-vilification

Date: 04 November 2019

Contact: Colin Seery CEO
Lifeline Australia



Committee Manager
Legislative Assembly, Legal and Social Issues Committee
Parliament House
Spring Street
EAST Melbourne VIC 3002

Dear Committee Manager

Lifeline Australia wishes to make this submission to the Victorian Inquiry into anti-vilification on behalf of the seven Lifeline Centres in Victoria that are Members of Lifeline Australia, drawing on information and insights from the crisis support, suicide prevention services and the development and delivery of issue-specific community education that Lifeline provides.

About Lifeline

Lifeline is a partnership between 10,000 committed volunteers, our Member Centres, of which there are 40 located in communities around the nation, and Lifeline Australia. Together, we provide the crucial moments of connection that bring hope and save lives. We are united in our vision to achieve an Australia free of suicide and our determination to ensure that no person has to face their darkest moments alone.

Lifeline is an organisation that respects everyone's right to be heard, understood and cared for. We believe in inclusive communities where everyone feels they belong. We embrace diversity; working with and for people from all beliefs, cultures and backgrounds. Lifeline advocates that compassion be shown through: respectful relationships that give competent care; empowering people by enabling their ability to care for themselves and others, and building communities that show fairness, enhance resilience and promote inclusion.

Feedback to Terms of Reference and Overall Comments

Any form of vilification (including vilification via online platforms) violates our beliefs and shared values. Lifeline welcomes additional legislative measures that will uphold an inclusive society where all people feel they have the right to belong and be safe. Lifeline Australia welcomes the opportunity to contribute to the Victorian Inquiry into anti-vilification. Should the Committee wish to raise questions or further consider the experience of Lifeline Australia and its member Lifeline Centres in Victoria, we would be pleased to provide further information.

The relevant contact person for this submission is:

Colin Seery CEO
Lifeline Australia

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