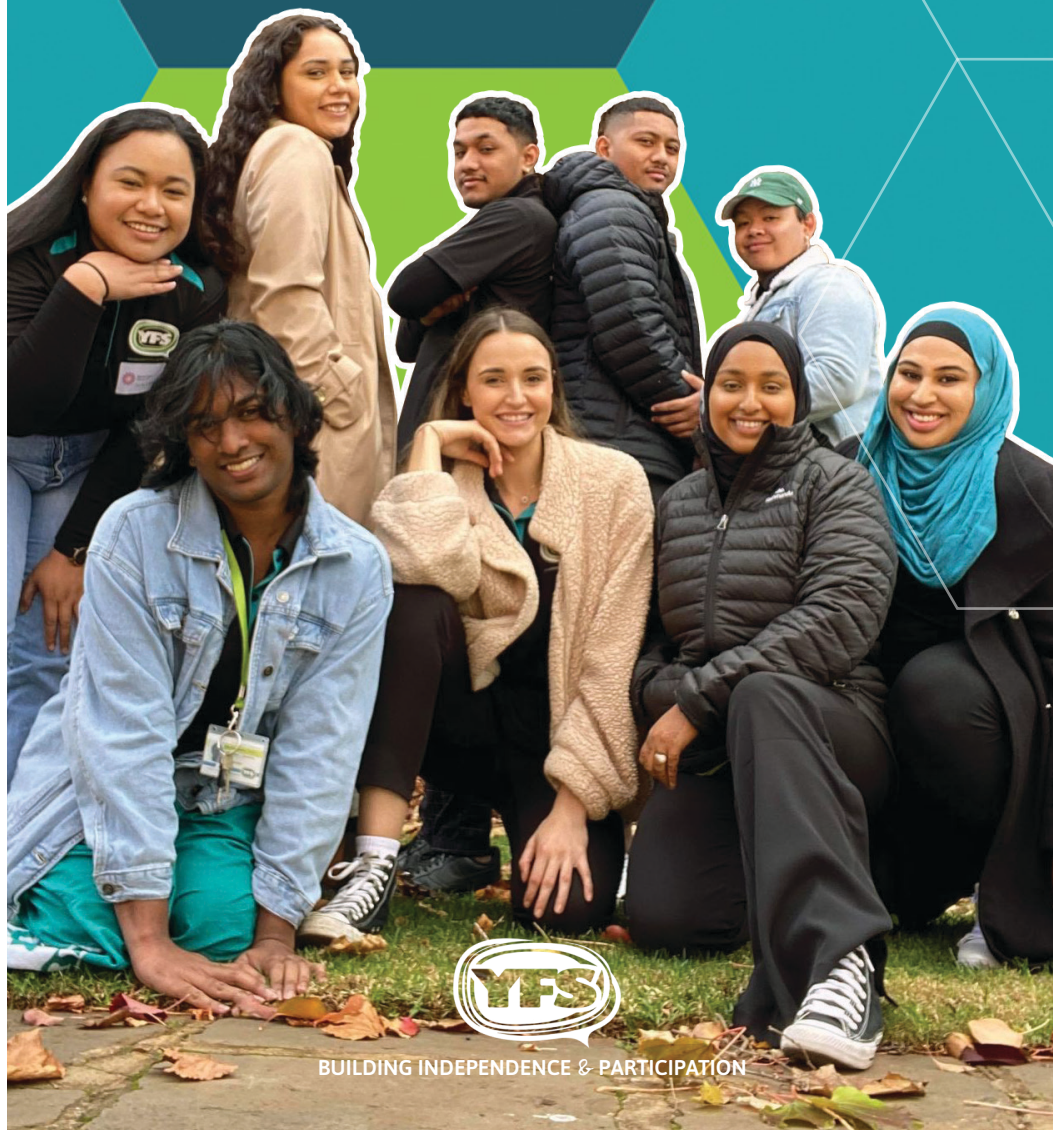


RespectTM

*Preventing violence against women.
Young people as agents of change.*



BUILDING INDEPENDENCE & PARTICIPATION

Who is R4Respect

We are a team of young people aged 17 to 24 years who run an education and prevention strategy that aims to prevent anti-social behaviour and violence, including violence in personal or intimate relationships.

We use a unique peer-to-peer model, which empowers us as leaders and agents of change.

In just a short timeframe, we have reached thousands of young people online and face to face with positive messages of respect and of what crosses the line into harm.

Our strategy is evidence-based and it has achieved national acclaim.



Through R4Respect, young people support other young people to develop the values, knowledge and skills they need for respectful relationships. Our aim is to prevent controlling and abusive behaviour at a young age as this can feed the cycle of domestic and family violence.

Why young people?

The Australian National Research Organisation for Women's Safety (ANROWS) commissioned an evaluation of our peer-to-peer work.

- 92% of R4Respect participants strongly agreed or agreed that it is helpful to have young people leading the learning on respectful relationships.
- R4Respect's peer-to-peer education complements teacher-led respectful relationships education.



The need for R4Respect

Young people are at risk of violence and harm and/or witnessing harm, particularly in their own families. One in 10 Australians aged 18 years and over have had their intimate images shared online without their consent. Too many young people think it is ok to force someone to have sex. Young men (32%) and young women (18%) agree with the statement, "A lot of times, women who say they were raped had led the man on and then had regrets."

One in five women (18%) have experienced sexual violence.

Does R4Respect work?

Yes. According to ANROWS research into R4Respect:

- 86% of participants agreed with the statement, “things I learnt in the program would help me act with greater respect in the future”
- there was a 12% increase in young people indicating strong agreement with the statement, “I know that there is a clear line between what is OK behaviour and what is harmful behaviour”
- R4Respect showed potential to positively influence young people’s behaviour, including how they manage conflict.

However, young men’s attitudes towards gender equality remained difficult to shift.



The need for Men4Respect

In response to the ANROWS findings that demonstrated more work must be done to transform young men's attitudes and beliefs, we have created an initiative called Men4Respect.

Through Men4Respect, our male Youth Ambassadors aim to engage young men aged 14 to 21 years, helping them understand the line between what is healthy and what is harmful in relationships and redefining what it means to "be a man".

Young men learn about equality, respectful relationships, consent and healthy masculinity.

Can you support R4Respect and Men4Respect?

We are looking for people and organisations to sponsor a Youth Ambassador.

\$1000 will fund one upstanding young adult in the community to take on this role for one year.

This amount funds a Youth Ambassador's training and the materials they use to deliver sessions.

If you can offer support, please contact YFS chief executive Cath Bartolo on 07 3826 1500 or email cathb@yfs.org.au.

What we do

1. Influence young people

A team of Youth Ambassadors runs R4Respect. We act as agents of change, leading our peers towards respectful relationships.

2. Educate face-to-face

We facilitate workshops at schools, universities and community centres.

3. Reach nationwide, digitally

While we are based in Logan, Queensland, we reach young people no matter where they live through social media.

4. Public advocacy

We often make submissions to governments on law reform and are partners in important think tanks including the Queensland Government's Sexual Violence Prevention Roundtable, the Queensland Youth Engagement Panel and the Queensland Family and Child Commission's Youth Council.



Our messages

Four key messages about healthy, respectful relationships guide everything we do.

1. We all have the right to be free of abuse and violence.
2. Respect means being fair and valuing others as equals.
3. Value diversity. Value culture. Celebrate difference.
4. Negotiate through disagreements. Don't hit out.





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YFS and R4Respect respectfully acknowledge Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as Australia's first peoples and the traditional owners/custodians of the land on which we meet and work. We recognise the important role they have within community and country, and we pay our respects to the Elders of this land past and present.

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