

HOW TO MAKE A SUBMISSION (BY 28 FEBRUARY 2020)

Steps to making a submission:

- 1) Chat with a friend or ACON staff about your experiences and what to include in your submission (optional)
- 2) Write down your experiences and ideas
- 3) Email your submission to socialissues@parliament.nsw.gov.au

Guidelines: In your submission share violence and other 'crime' related experiences which you think happened due to your (or your loved ones) sexuality or gender. Share as many personal experiences as you would like. You can share about historical or recent experiences to let the Parliamentary Committee know whether things have improved today.

Submission Template:

- 1) **A bit about me** – name, occupation, and other personal information you think might be relevant.
- 2) **My violence and/or other 'crime' related experiences**

Examples of hate related 'crimes' include:

- Being physically assaulted whether in public or private settings
- Being verbally abused or having threats made against you
- Being sexually abused whether a one-off experience or in a relationship
- Damage to your property

For each experience, describe the incident in enough detail so the reader can get a picture of the crime:

- Describe the lead up and details about the incident/s
- Where, when and how did it happen? Was there any witnesses or did anyone help you?
- What were the impacts on you - physical, emotional, was your job or relationship impacted?

3) **Reasons why I think it was a 'hate crime'**

Share the details which make you think the crime was committed due to your sexuality or gender, such as:

- The perpetrator/s called you hateful names or mentioned your clothing or appearance
- The location of the crime (e.g. in or near a queer venue)

4) **My interactions with police and other 'authorities' and support services**

Share your experiences of reporting or mentioning the incident to police, hospital, employer or another 'authority'? What was their response? Did their reaction have a negative effect on you? Did you seek counselling or other support and was this helpful? Were LGBT people protected? Was your crime investigated and was justice served?

5) **My thoughts on what needs to happen, change or be improved**

The aim of the Inquiry is to heal the past, achieve justice and improve responses to violence in the future.

- Are we safe and protected today? Have justice and other institutions improved?
- Why have you written your submission – what is your key message?
- What needs to change? Give clear examples like an apology, law changes, training for police etc

