



THE SENATE

**LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS LEGISLATION COMMITTEE**

**Family Law Amendment Bill 2024**

**PUBLIC HEARING  
Friday 18 October 2024**

**Committee Room 2S1, Parliament House  
Canberra**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Witness</b>
9.00 am	<p><b>Panel:</b> <b>Fitzroy Legal Service</b> (<i>Submission 14</i>) Mr Hamish McLachlan, Chief Executive Officer Ms Amity Mara, Manager of Policy, Advocacy and Projects</p> <p><b>National Legal Aid (via videoconference)</b> (<i>Submission 20</i>) Ms Katherine McKernan, Executive Director</p> <p><b>Women's Legal Services Australia (WLSA) (via videoconference)</b> (<i>Submission 27</i>) Mrs Meaghan Bradshaw, Chair, Family Law and Domestic and Family Violence Committee</p> <p><b>Caxton Legal Centre (via videoconference)</b> Ms Colette Bots, Practice Director - Family, Domestic Violence and Elder Law Practice Ms Daniella Pratt, Managing Senior Lawyer</p> <p><b>First Nations Advocates Against Family Violence (FNAAFV)</b> Mrs Kerry Staines, Chief Executive Officer</p>
10.00 am	<p><b>Panel:</b> <b>National Women's Safety Alliance</b> (<i>Submission 2</i>) Katherine Berney, Executive Director Angela Lynch, Chair, Sexual Violence Working Group (via videoconference)</p> <p><b>Lucy's Project Ltd (via videoconference)</b> (<i>Submission 8</i>) Ms Monique Dam, Chief Executive Officer</p> <p><b>Council of Single Mothers and their Children (via videoconference)</b> Ms Andi Sebastian, Communication and Policy Coordinator</p>
<b>11.00 am</b>	<b>Morning tea</b>
11.15 am	<p><b>Panel:</b> <b>Professor Belinda Fehlberg (via videoconference)</b> (<i>Submission 22</i>)</p> <p><b>Associate Professor Miranda Kaye (via videoconference)</b> (<i>Submission 23</i>)</p>
<b>12.15 pm</b>	<b>Lunch</b>

Committee Chair: Senator Nita Green

Committee Secretary: Sophie Dunstone

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1.00 pm	<p><b>Panel:</b> <b>Relationships Australia</b> (<i>Submission 5</i>) Mr Nick Tebbey, National Executive Officer Dr Susan Cochrane, National Policy Manager</p> <p><b>Family &amp; Relationship Services Australia (FRSA)</b> (<i>Submission 13</i>) Dr Robyn Clough, Manager, Policy and Research</p>
1.45 pm	<p><b>Australian Institute of Family Studies (via videoconference)</b> (<i>Submission 21</i>) Dr Rachel Carson, Executive Manager Ms Kira Duggan, Research Director - Systems and Services</p>
2.15 pm	<p><i>Afternoon tea</i></p>
2.30 pm	<p><b>Law Council of Australia</b> (<i>Submission 25</i>) Ms Di Simpson, Chair, Family Law Section Ms Natalie Cooper, Senior Policy Lawyer</p>
3.30 pm	<p><b>Attorney-General's Department</b> (<i>Submission 19</i>) Mr Chris Collett, First Assistant Secretary, Children and Families Division Ms Rebecca Mills, A/g Assistant Secretary, Family Law Branch</p>
4.30 pm	<p><i>Adjournment</i></p>