



# PARLIAMENT of AUSTRALIA

## MEDIA RELEASE

### Parliamentary inquiry into a better family law system to support and protect those affected by family violence

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Issue date: 20 June 2017

## Inquiry into a better family law system to support and protect those affected by family violence

On 23 March 2017, a [Committee of the Australian Parliament](#) announced an inquiry into a better family law system to support and protect those affected by family violence.

The inquiry has received 114 submissions including from the Family Court of Australia.

Last night, the Committee passed a resolution postponing today's appearance before the Committee of Chief Justice Diana Bryant AO of the Family Court of Australia and Chief Judge John Pascoe AC of the Federal Circuit Court of Australia.

It did so after concerns were raised by Committee Chair, [Sarah Henderson MP](#), that, given recent proceedings in the Victorian Supreme Court, the Committee should seek the Attorney-General's advice on the appropriateness of senior members of the judiciary appearing for questioning by Members of Parliament before a parliamentary inquiry.

Please be aware that the Committee is unable to intervene or provide advice in relation to individual circumstances. If you are in immediate danger, please contact 000. If you are experiencing distress or would like to speak with someone about your situation, the following support services are available:

- 1800RESPECT national helpline: 1800 737 732
- Women's Crisis Line: 1800 811 811
- Men's Referral Service: 1300 766 491
- Lifeline: 131 114
- Relationships Australia: 1300 364 277
- Kids Helpline: 1800 55 1800

#### Media enquiries:

Office of Ms Sarah Henderson MP, Committee Chair on (03) 5243 1444.



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**For background information:**

Parliamentary inquiry into a better family law system to support and protect those affected by family violence

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Interested members of the public may wish to track the committee via the website. Click on the blue 'Track Committee' button in the bottom right hand corner and use the forms to login to My Parliament or to register for a My Parliament account.

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