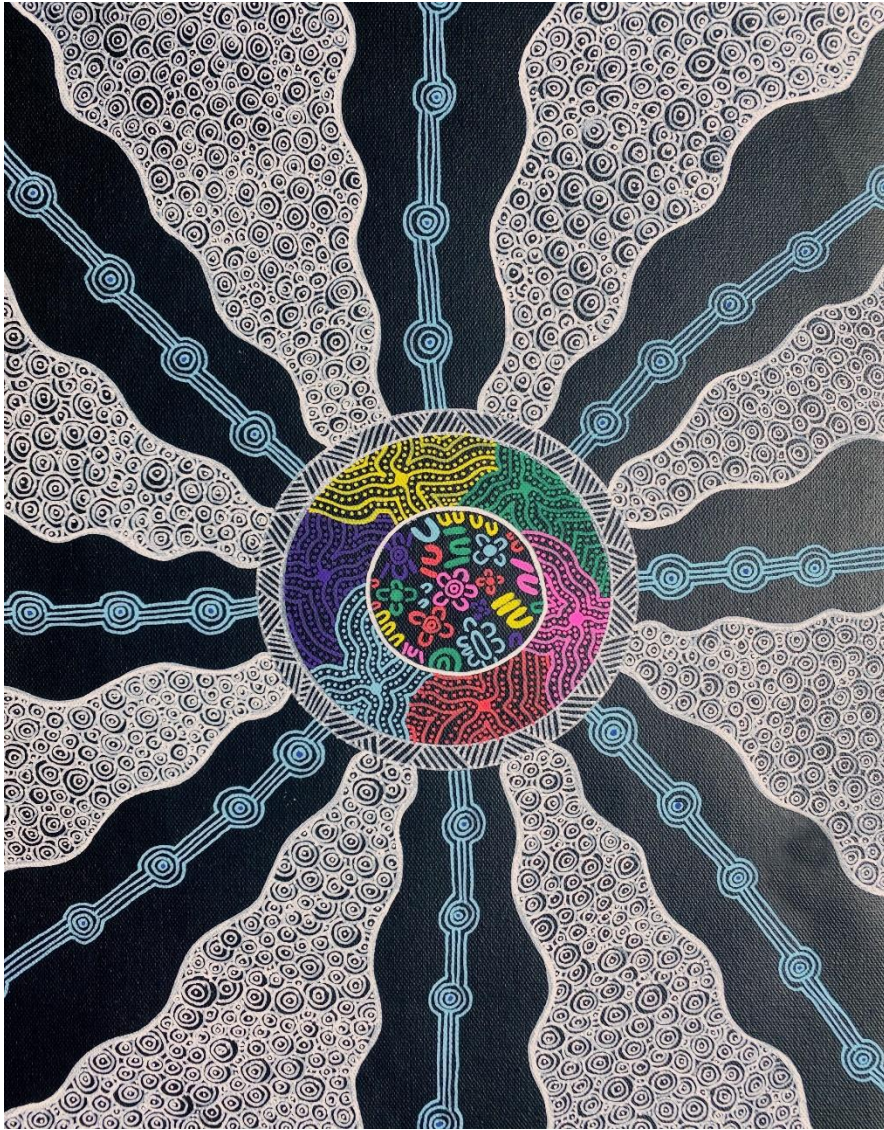


Forced Marriage & Women's Rights

The Hura Project

**Sexual
Health
Quarters**





Artwork waabidja

Sexual Health Quarters recognises Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people's resilience, strength and deep spiritual connection to land, waters, and community as Australia's First People and Traditional Custodians. We pay our respects to them and their cultures.

We acknowledge the Whadjuk Noongar people as the Traditional Custodians of the land on which our head office is located. We recognise their positive contribution to the sexual health and relationship wellbeing of community and offer our respects to Elders past, to those guiding us today and to those shaping the leaders of the future.



The HERS Project

- Sexual Health Quarters
- Association of Services for Survivors of Torture and Trauma
- Circle Green Community Legal Centre



Fiona McGaughey, Tsitsi Gotora,
Natalie Skead, Jani McCutcheon





Sexual
Health
Quarters

Sexual and Reproductive Rights

Have their bodily integrity, privacy and personal autonomy respected

Freely define their own sexuality, including sexual orientation and gender identity and expression

Decide whether and when to be sexually active

Choose their sexual partners

Decide whether, when and whom to marry

Have safe and pleasurable sexual experiences

Decide whether, when and by what means to have a child or children, and how many children to have

Have lifelong access to information, services and support—free from discrimination, coercion, exploitation and violence.



Aims of the Hura Project

To raise awareness on:

- ◆ Women's rights in Australia
- ◆ Forced Marriage
- ◆ Where to go for help



The Hura Project in Practice

- ◆ Formed a Project Advisory Group: lived experience expert, humanitarian lawyer, academics, subject matter experts, forced marriage support workers.
- ◆ Designed strength-based, trauma informed and culturally centred community education sessions.
- ◆ Engaged with multicultural organisations.
- ◆ Interpreters.
- ◆ Wallet Cards



Forced marriage is **NOT** allowed in Australia

Are you or someone else
being forced into marriage?

Get in touch with:

- ☐ My Blue Sky **02 9514 8115**
- ☐ Salvation Army **1800 000 277**
- ☐ Life Without Barriers **1800 403 213**
- ☐ Australian Federal Police **131 237**
- ☐ Interpreter Services **131 450**
- ☐ 1800RESPECT **1800 737 732**

☐ **For Emergencies Call 000**

Calls are private and confidential





Emerging Findings from the Hura Project

- ◆ Women have expressed they don't know their rights in Australia.
- ◆ A confusion between an arranged marriage and a forced marriage.
- ◆ Very little knowledge on sexual and reproductive rights.
- ◆ Little to no knowledge of who can help when someone is in a forced marriage or is at risk.
- ◆ No confidence in speaking out about forced marriage.
- ◆ Fear in speaking out or seeking help.



Feedback from the Hura Project

- ◆ A strong message that more work is needed at the community level.
- ◆ A need to hear more directly from people in authority, such as the Australian Federal Police.
- ◆ The importance of community education for faith leaders and community elders.
- ◆ Awareness that organisations like SHQ provide discreet and confidential sexual health support for women.
- ◆ A need for tailored community education sessions for men's groups.

Information & Support - National

MYBLUESKY
- my future -



My Blue Sky is Australia's national service dedicated to providing information, support, and legal advice to people in or at risk of forced marriages.

My Blue Sky is run by **Anti-Slavery Australia (ASA)**, a non-profit legal, research and policy centre at the University of Technology Sydney.

mybluesky.org.au/

Referrals - Western Australia



Australian Federal Police - Human Trafficking and Slavery

131 237

**LIFE
WITHOUT
BARRIERS**

Forced Marriage Specialist Support Program - establish immediate safety, supporting holistic wellbeing and making connections to financial, legal and health providers, building pathways to independence through employment and education and working alongside families to re-establish connection and create safer home environments.

lwb.org.au

1800 403 213



Additional Referral Pathway - financial assistance, accommodation, medical treatment, counselling and referrals to legal and migration assistance.

salvationarmy.org.au

1800 000 277



Circle Green - Access to legal services for humanitarian visa holders, asylum seekers or refugees who have, or have had, an immigration matter

circlegreen.org.au

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