



# YARNING ABOUT ABUSE, NEGLECT & EXPLOITATION AND KEEPING SAFE

Ageing and Disability  
Commission



## **ABUSE, NEGLECT AND EXPLOITATION**

Developed in partnership  
with First Peoples Disability Network  
(Australia) for the NSW Ageing  
and Disability Commission (ADC)



YARNING  
ABOUT ABUSE,  
NEGLECT &  
EXPLOITATION  
**AND KEEPING SAFE**

Symbols  
we use in  
this book...



Elder/  
Older person

Person with  
disability





# SOMETIMES, ELDERS AND MOB WITH DISABILITY EXPERIENCE...

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## Abuse

If someone is treating you badly

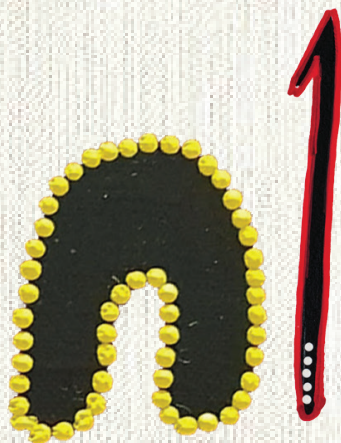
## Neglect

If someone is not helping you the way they are supposed to help you

## Exploitation

If someone is taking advantage of you

**Here are some stories that people shared with us about their experience of abuse, neglect and exploitation.**



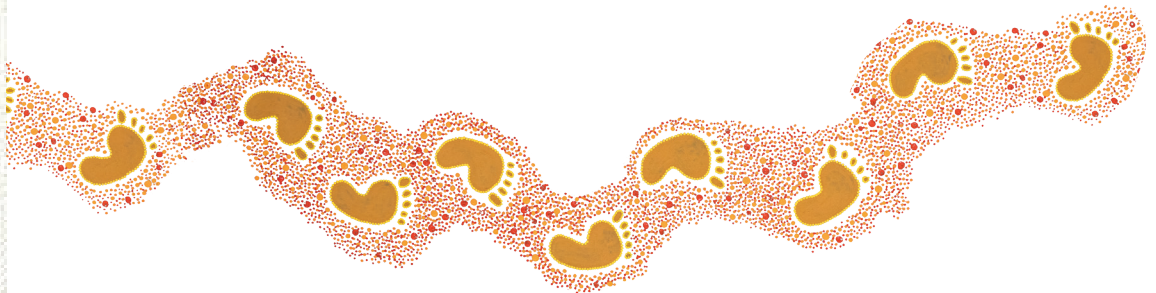


## ABUSE STORY

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“ I don't get to leave my house much because my carer won't help me to go outside. ”

“ My sister's partner won't let her see me or any of her friends. We don't see her in community anymore unless she is with him. ”





## NEGLECT STORY

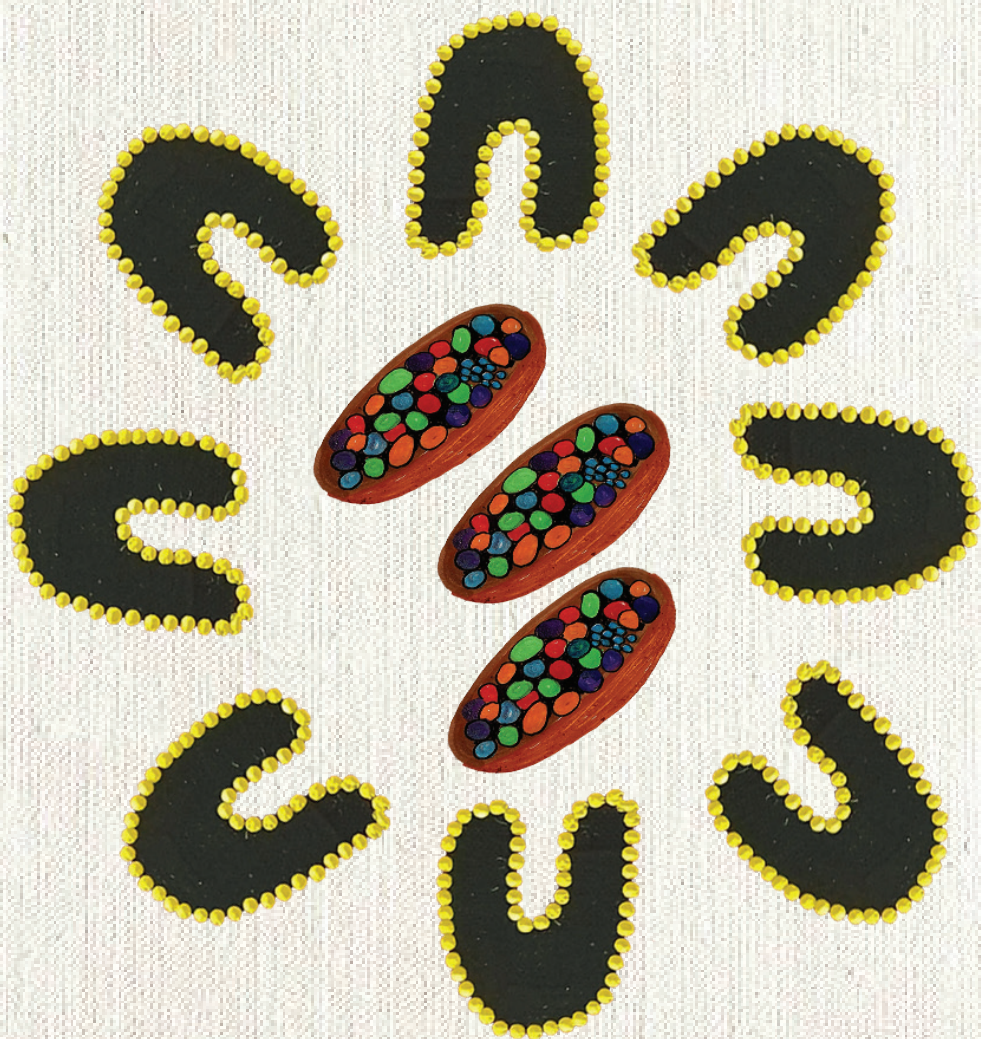
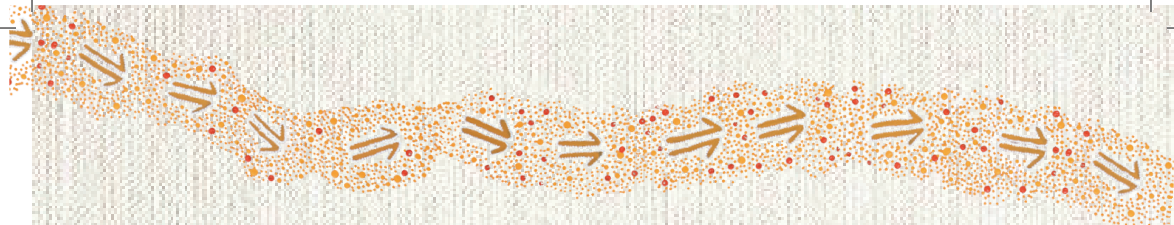
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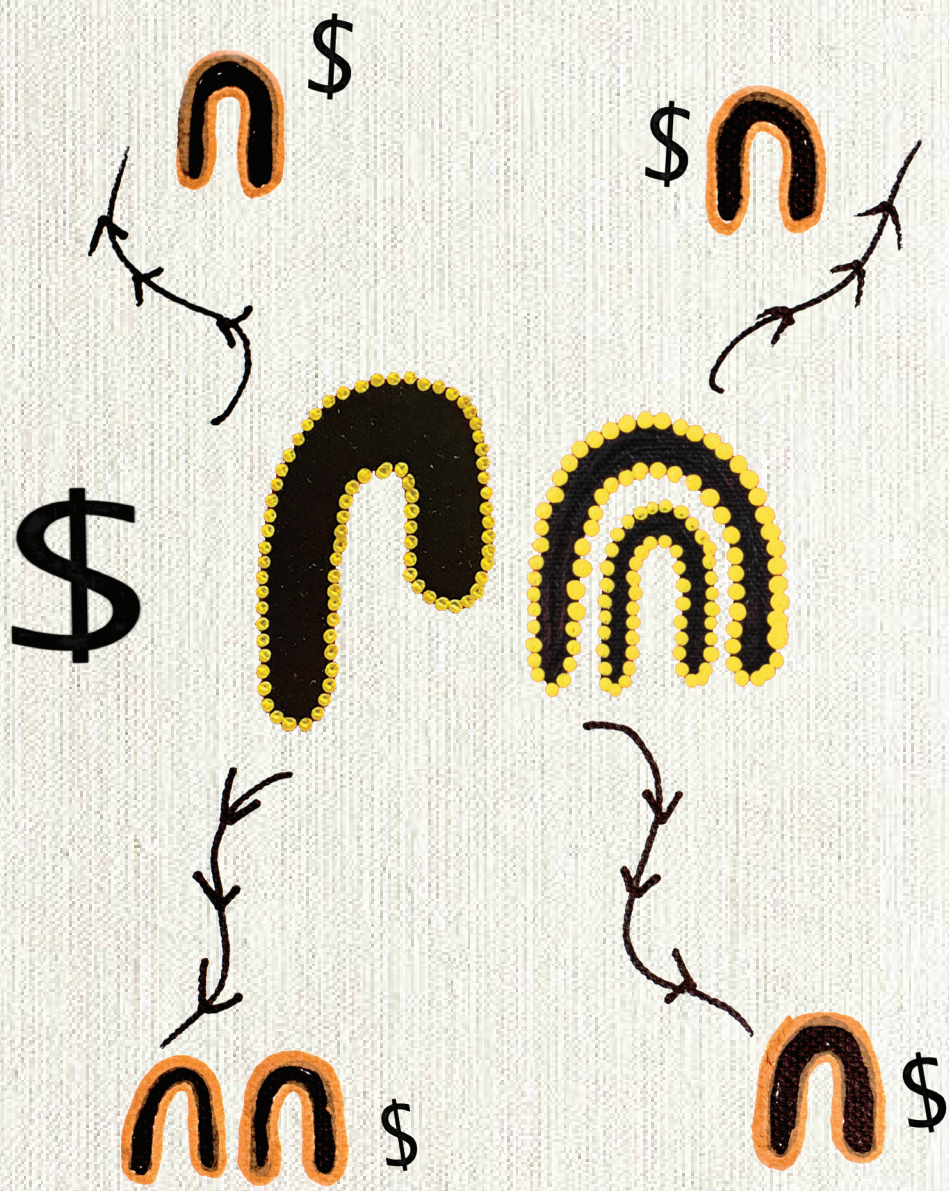
“ The people in my house won’t share their food with me, and I’m too old to get it myself. Sometimes I’m very hungry.

I spend a lot of time by myself before anybody checks on me to see if I need help. Sometimes I just sit in my chair all day.”







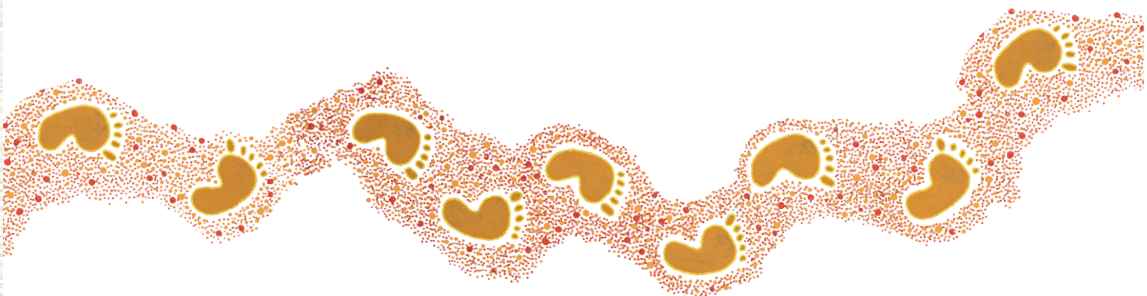




## EXPLOITATION STORY

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“ When I get my disability pension,  
my relatives come around  
and borrow money,  
but they never pay it back. ”





# KNOW YOUR HUMAN RIGHTS

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There are laws to protect you from abuse, neglect and exploitation.

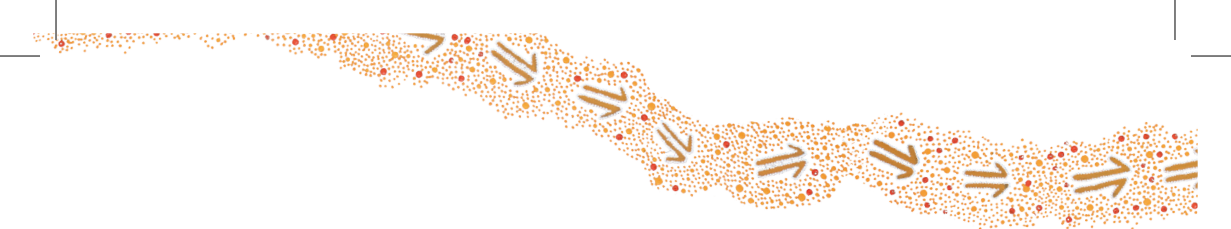


## UNCRPD Article 16

### Freedom from exploitation, violence and abuse

This artwork shows a person with disability being protected by Elders, (the law makers) who are facing out to be protective of individuals, community and family. The shields represent protection from services, both non-Indigenous and Indigenous, that might want to do the wrong thing.





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The United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with disabilities is law in this country to protect you, these are your rights.



**UNCRPD Article 28**

### **Adequate Standard of living and social protection**

Shows an Elder and a person with disability having access to fresh food, bush tucker and fresh water – represented by animal tracks and coolamon, and a safe place to live – represented by a yarning circle around a campfire.

## SELF DETERMINATION

We have the right to  
have a say in how our  
lives are governed;

We have the right  
to participate in  
decisions that  
affect us.

*United Nations  
Declaration on the Rights  
of Indigenous Peoples  
(UNDRIP)*

**Aboriginal and Torres  
Strait Islander Elders and  
mob with disability have  
the right to:**

- connect to their country and their culture
- participate in community
- have access to appropriate services and supports
- form relationships and live with who they want
- travel any place they want
- access to education
- freedom from violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation
- access to Justice
- access to fresh food and water
- a safe place to live



## GET HELP

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If you feel that you have experienced abuse, neglect or exploitation in your family, home or community and need help to talk about it, you can contact the NSW Ageing and Disability Commission.



**NSW Ageing  
and Disability  
Abuse Helpline**

**1800 628 221**  
Monday to Friday  
9am to 4pm

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**Email**

[helpline@adc.nsw.gov.au](mailto:helpline@adc.nsw.gov.au)

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**Website**

[www.adc.nsw.gov.au](http://www.adc.nsw.gov.au)

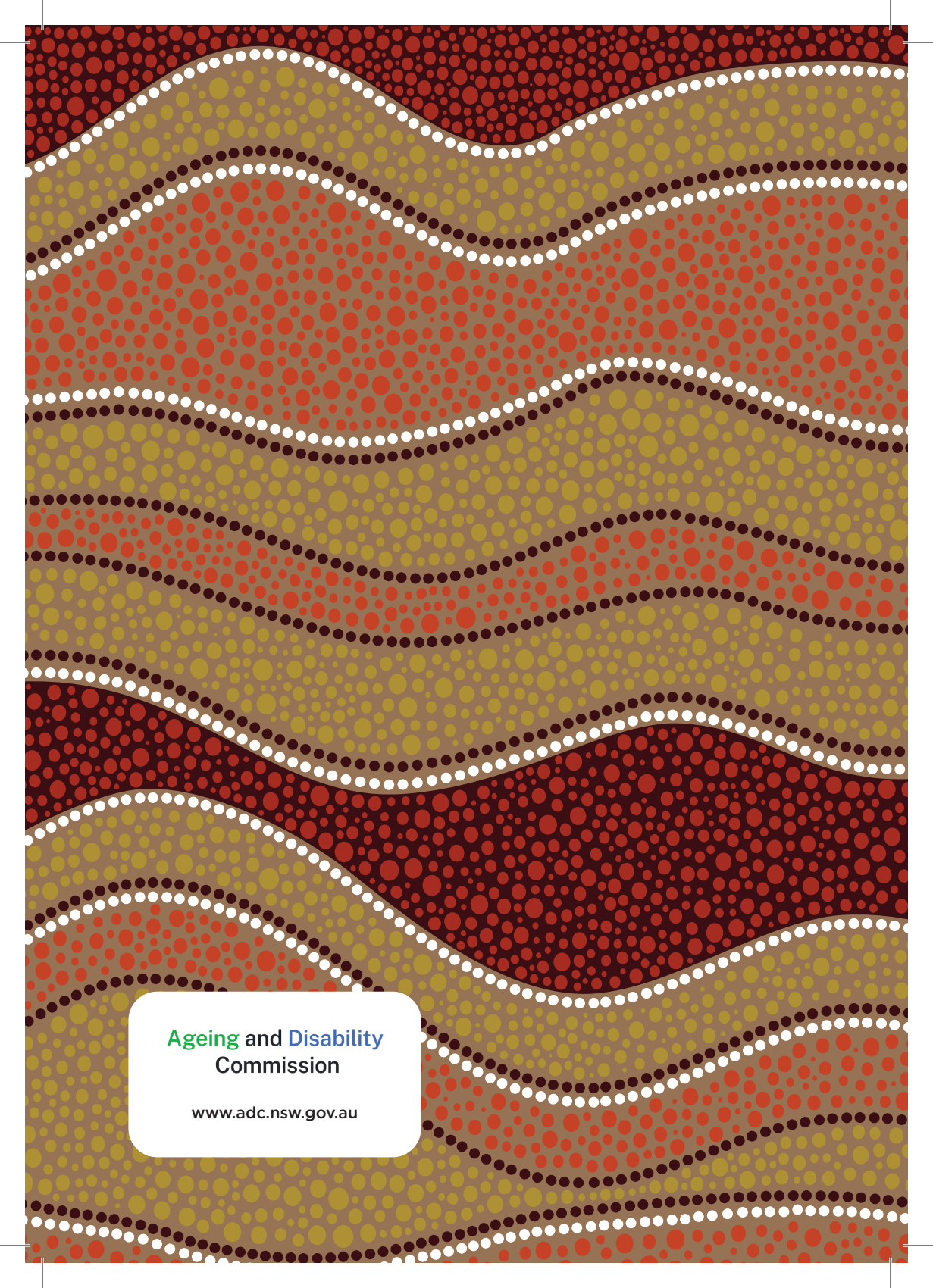
**Ageing and Disability  
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Australia







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