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# Third Action Plan — National Priority Area Four

## Sexual Violence

Sexual violence is a serious issue, with nearly 1.5 million women in Australia having experienced sexual assault since the age of fifteen[[1]](#endnote-1). In 93 per cent of cases, the perpetrator was known to the victim and was an intimate partner, friend, colleague or date[[2]](#endnote-2).

The Third Action Plan sharpens the focus on sexual violence and prioritises action on developing an understanding of and countering the impact of pornography, particularly among young people, and supporting women who have had their images shared without their consent.

## Key national actions

* Supporting frontline services to better recognise and respond to women and their children who have experienced sexual violence.
* Improving training and resources for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander leaders who are working to respond to, and prevent sexual violence in their communities.
* Delivering an evidence based community initiative to understand and counter the impact of pervasive pornography.
* Broadening the categories of health workers who can collect forensic evidence.
* Developing a national portal to assist women in the removal of intimate images that are distributed online without their consent.

### More information

For more information on the priority areas or the Third Action Plan, visit the [National Plan website](http://plan4womenssafety.dss.gov.au/).

1. PSS: Australian Bureau of Statistics 2012, Personal Safety, cat. no. 4906.0, [http://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/mf/4906.0](http://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs%40.nsf/mf/4906.0). [↑](#endnote-ref-1)
2. ibid. [↑](#endnote-ref-2)