

About Relationships Australia Victoria

Relationships Australia Victoria (RAV) provides family and relationship support services across Melbourne and Victoria.

With more than 70 years' experience, our vision is for positive, respectful, safe and fulfilling relationships for all Australians. We are committed to inclusivity and providing safe, inclusive and accessible services for all people.



RAV acknowledges the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the Traditional Owners of the lands and waterways of Australia. We support Aboriginal people's right to self-determination and culturally safe services.

We recognise the lifelong impacts of childhood trauma. We recognise those who had children taken away from them.

Forced Adoption Support Service

Free and confidential counselling, support and information for people affected by forced adoption



Forced Adoption Support Services are funded by the Australian Government Department of Social Services.

Relationships Australia
VICTORIA



Forced Adoption
Support Services

What is forced adoption?

Many Australian women and infants were separated through adoption particularly from the 1940s to the 1980s. The policies and practices that enabled them were unethical and often illegal, for which the Australian Government formally apologised in 2013.

Following the apology there was recognition that specialised support was needed for the people affected, inclusive of mothers, fathers, adopted people and other family members. As a result, Forced Adoption Support Services (FASS) were funded nationally. Relationships Australia Victoria (RAV) provides one of the FASS programs.

For more information on forced adoption, visit the Department of Social Services website at www.dss.gov.au and search 'Forced Adoption Practices' in the search bar.

What does the RAV Forced Adoption Support Service provide?

- Counselling and emotional support
- Information and referral to community services
- Advice and support on adoption-related issues
- Support with how to search for records and family members

Who is eligible?

Anyone affected by forced adoption is eligible for RAV's Forced Adoption Support Service.

This includes mothers, fathers, adopted individuals and other family members.

Contact us

Our Forced Adoption Support Service operates Monday to Friday from 9am to 5pm.

To find out more, talk about how our service can help or to make an appointment, please contact us.

Call 1800 21 03 13

Email fass@rav.org.au

Visit www.rav.org.au/FASS

