

Domestic Violence is an abuse of power in a relationship where one person uses a range of behaviors to intimidate, dominate and control the other person through fear.

These behaviors include:

Emotional abuse (put downs)

Social abuse (isolation)

Sexual abuse (unwanted sexual contact)

Economic abuse (controlling what you spend)

Physical abuse (hitting, spitting, punching, kicking)

Verbal abuse (name calling)

Harassment

Stalking

Internet/Cyber abuse

*Sometimes women who are having violence used against them are named as a respondent in an order (this can be a form of abuse in itself). If you feel this has happened to you, talk to one of our court support workers to plan for your safety.*

### Contacts:

**Domestic Violence Hotline - 1800 811 811**

**Emergency (Police, Fire, Ambulance) - 000**

**Gympie Women's Information Service - 5482 7973**

**Gympie Region Domestic & Family Violence Service - 5413 8088**

**Legal Aid - 1300 651 188**  
[www.legalaid.qld.gov.au](http://www.legalaid.qld.gov.au)

**Women's Legal Service - 1800 677 278**  
[www.wlsq.org.au](http://www.wlsq.org.au)

**Lifeline - 131 114**  
[www.lifeline.org.au](http://www.lifeline.org.au)

**Gympie Women's Health - 5483 6588**



*Gympie Regional Family & Domestic Violence Service  
Women's Court Support  
Brochure*

**Information for  
RESPONDENTS to  
a Domestic  
Violence Order**

***THE COURT  
PROCESS***

**A Domestic Violence Protection Order (DVPO) is an application which is made to the Domestic Violence Magistrates Court to request protection for the aggrieved against you.**

### **Responding to an application for a Domestic and Family Violence Protection Order**

It is important that you read the application and understand the conditions which are being asked for on the protection order.

A protection order is a civil matter and is not a criminal charge. It does not give you a criminal record

#### ***however***

if you breach or disobey any of the conditions set in the protection order you can be charged with a criminal offence.

***If a Domestic Violence Order is made the respondent is prohibited from possessing a weapon and their weapons licence will be suspended or cancelled for the duration of the order.***

What are your options if a Domestic Violence Protection Order has been made against you?

#### **❖ Consent to the order**

You agree to the protection order being made.

#### **❖ Consent without admissions**

You agree to the protection order being made however you are not admitting to what has been alleged by the aggrieved.

#### **❖ Ask for an adjournment**

You ask for additional time to get legal advice. Another court date is made and a temporary order may be made until the adjourned time.

#### **❖ Contest the order**

You disagree with the application and the allegations made. The Magistrate will set a court date for a hearing and a temporary order may be made until

**If you DO NOT appear in court an order could be made in your absence.**

#### **Conditions in the order:**

Standard conditions include:

- The respondent must be of good behavior to the aggrieved and not commit acts of domestic violence.
- The respondent must be of good behavior and not commit acts of associated domestic violence towards named persons on the order.

Other conditions which may be included:

- The respondent is not to go to, enter or remain in any place where the aggrieved is living, staying or working.
- The respondent is not to contact, or ask anyone else to contact the aggrieved directly or indirectly by telephone or any other means of communication.
- The respondent is not to follow, or approach within (the distance set by the court) metres of the aggrieved.