What is Abuse?

Department of Health and Human Services

Easy English
This guide has some hard words.

- the word is in blue
- we will say what the hard word means.

About this book

We are the Victorian Government.

We want to stop abuse in disability services.

Abuse is when
- someone hurts you
- you hurt someone else.

Abuse is not okay.
About abuse

We want everyone to understand
- what abuse is
- different types of abuse.

People who abuse others can be
- support workers
- supervisors
- people with a disability
- family
- other people.
Types of abuse

1. Financial abuse

Financial abuse means a person takes something without asking.

For example

- money
- property.

A person’s property is the things they own.

Someone might

- steal from you
- not give you something that is yours
- get you to give away money or property.
2. Emotional abuse

Emotional abuse is when someone acts in a way that makes you feel

- helpless
- unsafe
- worried
- frightened.

Someone might

- bully you
- make threats
- make you feel **not** important
- **not** let you do things that are important to you.

For example, go to church.
3. Physical abuse

Physical abuse is when someone hurts your body.

Someone might

- hit you
- pinch you
- be too rough
- not let you move around
- say they will hurt you if you do not do something.
4. Sexual abuse

Sexual abuse is when someone

● forces you to do sexual things that you do not want to do

● tries to make you do sexual things you do not want to do.

Sexual things might mean someone

● puts something in your private parts

● shows you pictures of private parts

● touches your private parts

● asks you to touch their private parts.
5. **Neglect**

Neglect is when you do **not** get what you need to

- be healthy

- be safe.

For example

- food and water

- clothes

- shelter

- medicine

- the support you need.