



Ability  
Relationships  
Sexuality

# Sexuality, Relationships and Your Rights

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**S**EXUALITY

**E**DUICATION

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# Sexuality, Relationships and Your Rights

A book about sexuality and  
the law for people of all abilities.



Why?

# Why do PWD need to know about rights and the law?

- **Over-represented as both offenders and victims of crimes in Australia** (Baldry, 2014)
  - “Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander PWD are even more likely to end up behind bars”
  - “Individuals with disabilities are at greater risk of being a victim of violence compared to the general population” (WHO, 2011)
- **Crimes are typically related to sexual crimes** (Eastgate, van Driel, Lennox, and Scheermeyer, 2011)
  - “PWD make up 18% of the population in Australia yet comprise 50% of people incarcerated frequently for sexually related crimes”
- **In Australia 90% of women with intellectual disability had experienced sexual assault, with 68% having experienced this before the age of 18** (Frohman & Sands, 2015)
- **Family, friends, caregivers, healthcare professionals, and government policy can sometimes be barriers to accessing adequate sexuality education or information** (Frawley and Wilson, 2016)
- **Under screened for sexual health related testing** (Eastgate, 2011)
- **Modern technologies such as the internet, mobile phones and the sex industry (on and offline) are new forms of risk for PWD in relation to sexual exploitation or abuse** (Eastgate, Scheermeyer, van Driel, and Lennox, 2012)
- **The United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities states PWD have the right to receive sexuality education, and have access to information related to sexuality in a format that they can understand** (UN, 2016)
  - Human rights and laws in Australia are predominantly presented using legal jargon, complex terms and inaccessible platforms for PWD (Grantham, Grantham, & Powers, 2012)
  - Less likely to receive comprehensive sexuality and relationships education (Frawley and Wilson, 2016)

What?

# What is SRAYR?

“A book about sexuality and the law for people of all abilities”

- Simple English
- Image based – mirrors common disability education techniques
- Sex positive – pleasure and relationships
- Rights based – aligned with WAS Declaration
- Breaks down complexity of the law into understandable terms – Rights?!
- For both offenders/potential offenders, and victims or potential victims  
^ accidental offenders
- Topics relevant throughout the lifespan – puberty to family planning

**Other core considerations for SRAYR – diversity and inclusion!  
Evident in images, content discussion and language.**

**Cultures**

**Gender**

**Sexuality**

**Languages**

**Ages**

**Appearances**

**Identities**

**Learning  
Styles**

**Abilities**



# An Inclusive Approach to Different Abilities

## People with ...

- Autism Spectrum Disorder
- Intellectual Disabilities
- Learning Difficulties
- Impaired Vision
- Impaired Hearing
- Impaired Motor Control

## Accommodations we can make ...

- Visual information
- Low reliance of text
- Tell-it-how-it-is information
- Scalability of images (App)
- Audio options (Future)
- Pair with accessibility options (App)

Who?

# Who is SRAYR for?

- Made for both people with disabilities themselves and their supports;
  - Family/Carers
  - Support Workers
  - Health Professionals
- Further used by;
  - Parents with children without a disability
  - School based teachers (ESC and non-ESC)
  - Broader external educators
  - Legal organisations
  - WA Police
  - Teaching newly settled Australians the laws of the country
  - Teaching Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CaLD) people\*\*

How made?

# How was SRAYR developed?

- Update of original resource from 2002
- Connected with all the peak body organisations in WA related to disability, sexuality and justice
- 3 rounds of feedback from 18 stakeholder organisations (listed inside of book)  
 ^ Gave feedback on;

What	Explanation
Layout	Design of the information, how it is presented on the page. Images, order, organisation of the page.
Format	How the resource should actually be presented – <u>ie.</u> Physical resource, video, one resource or many etc.
Language	Specific terminology or general approach of the booklet
Topics	What information should be included, what should be talked about?

# Topics requested for inclusion

- Gender identity
- Dating
- Attraction
- Safe sex
- Family/partner violence
- Consent
- Sexual health
- Health checks
- STIs
- Sexting
- Pornography
- Menstrual management
- Adoption
- Sterilization
- Contraception (including emergency contraceptives)
- Parenting
- Diverse sexualities
- Intimate relationships
- PrEP and PEP
- Divorce/break ups
- Masturbation
- Offenders and victims of crimes
- Casual sex
- Court processes
- Sex work
- Online safety
- Sex toys
- Drugs/alcohol
- Appearance/self expression
- \* Surrogacy \*

**= Went from 20  
pages -> 100 pages!**

# Challenges

- Describing areas of the law that are extremely complex with easy English – especially the HIV laws (legal language Vs. community language).
- Law Vs. Reality – Stakeholders with different opinions on what should/should not be discussed.
- Using language that is inclusive of all genders and relationships while maintaining ease of understanding.
- Cultural considerations i.e. Marriage section and where possible

The law says that a person with HIV must be careful not to give it to anyone else. If they want to have sex, they must do everything they can to protect the other person. This means using condoms, dams, or one of you using the special HIV medication. You can go to jail if you give someone HIV and did not take steps to stop it.

If you use a condom correctly you will be protected from getting HIV.

=

If you had sex without a condom, you should talk to a doctor to check if you have HIV.

= =

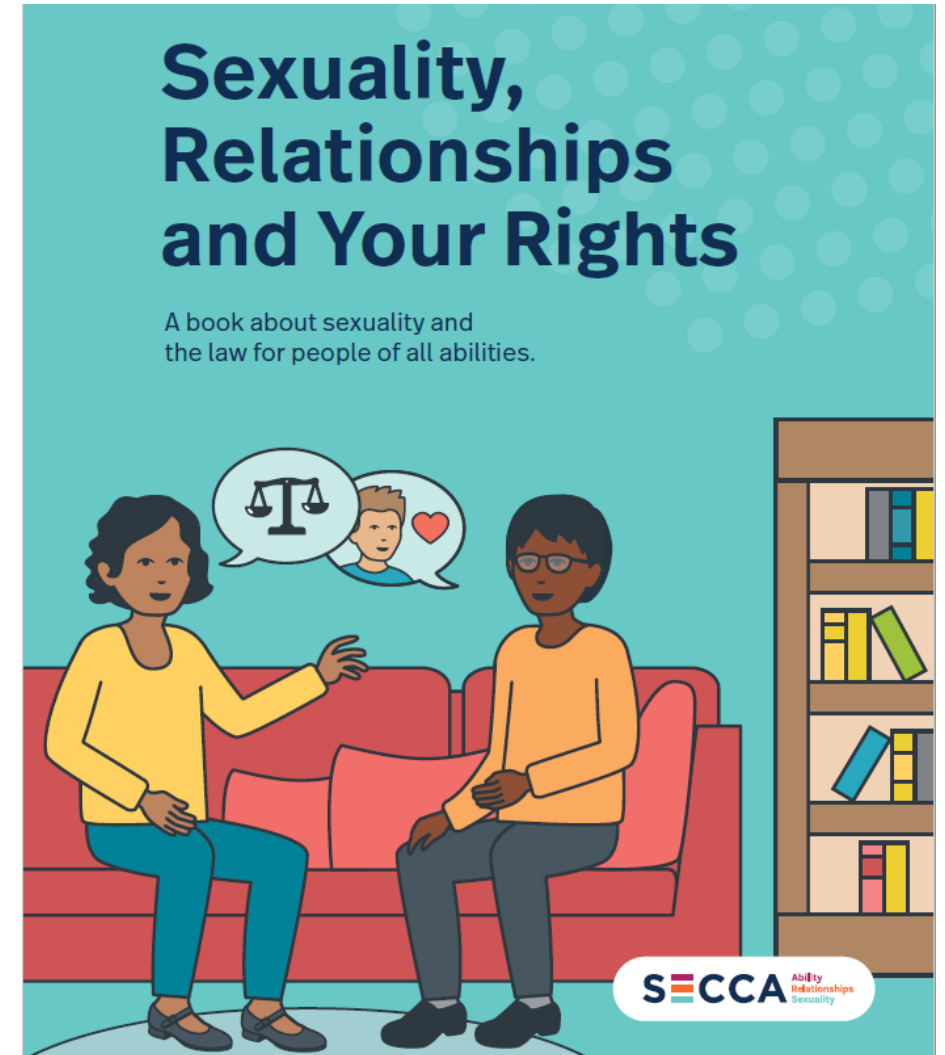
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What now?



# SRAYR Now

- 3000 Hard Copy resources printed, free online Pdf download
  - ^ Launched in June 2019: 2000+ copies and 500+ pdf downloads
- New Funding for National Adaption;
  - Hard copy resource adapted for each state/territory needs and laws (7 books)
  - National videos of the content – for impaired hearing
  - All versions made audiobook/e-reader compatible – for impaired vision



# An Inclusive Approach to Different Abilities

## People with ...

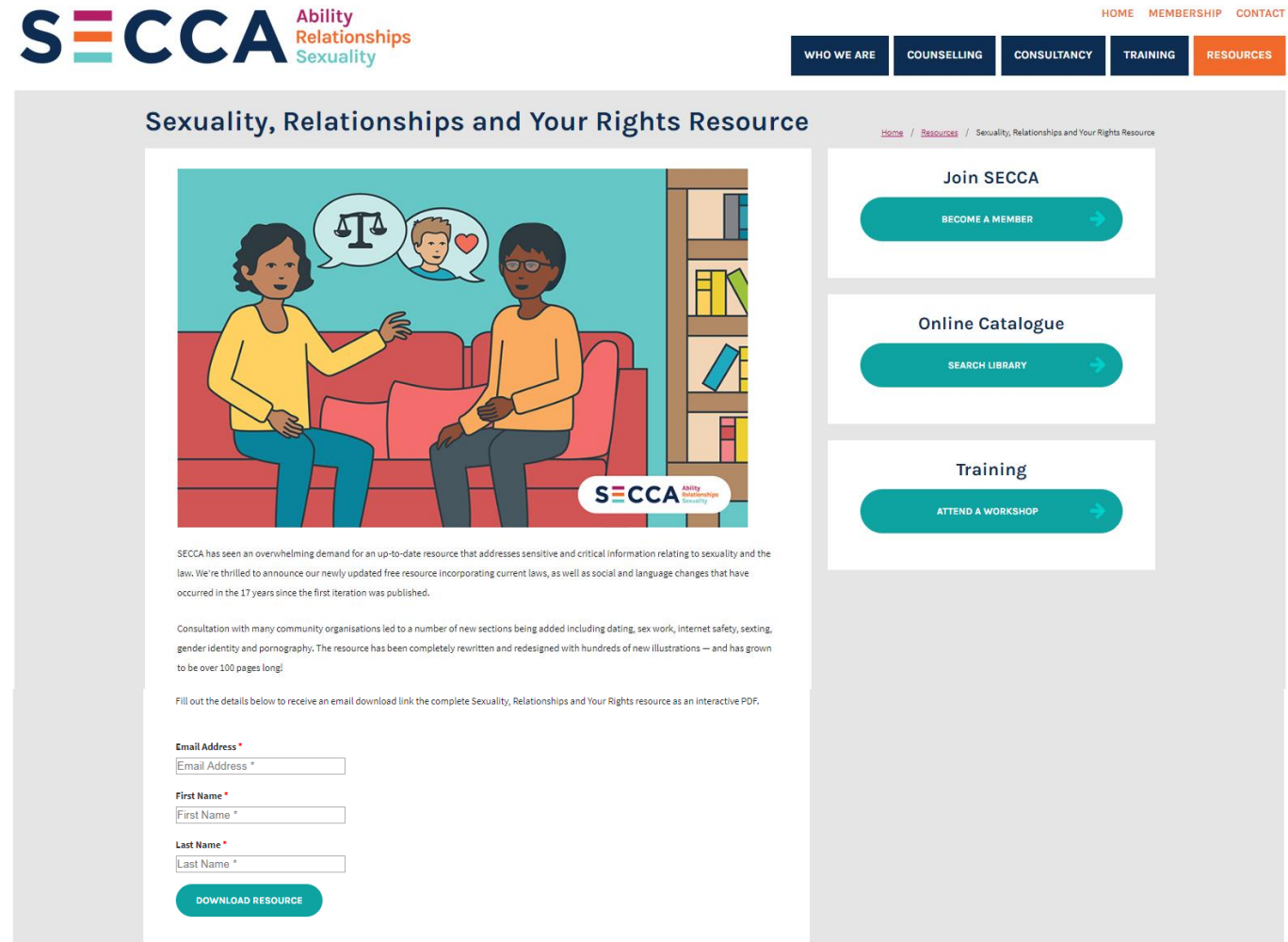
## Accommodations we can make ...

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Autism Spectrum Disorder</li><li>• Intellectual Disabilities</li><li>• Learning Difficulties</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Visual information</li><li>• Low reliance of text</li><li>• Tell-it-how-it-is information</li></ul>   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Impaired Vision</li><li>• Impaired Hearing</li><li>• Impaired Motor Control</li></ul>                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Scalability of images (Videos)</li><li>• Audio options (Captioned Videos)</li><li>• Pair with accessibility options (Accessible website format)</li></ul> |

# How can you get SRAYR?

- Pdf download on website
- Come in to the SECCA office
- Every region in WA has an organisation who stocks them
  - 9 Regions, 12 stocked orgs
- Core stakeholders all have copies to distribute
- SECCA App has Rights images and accompanying lesson plans

**\* Feedback form \***



**SECCA** Ability Relationships Sexuality

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WHO WE ARE COUNSELLING CONSULTANCY TRAINING RESOURCES

## Sexuality, Relationships and Your Rights Resource

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SECCA has seen an overwhelming demand for an up-to-date resource that addresses sensitive and critical information relating to sexuality and the law. We're thrilled to announce our newly updated free resource incorporating current laws, as well as social and language changes that have occurred in the 17 years since the first iteration was published.

Consultation with many community organisations led to a number of new sections being added including dating, sex work, internet safety, sexting, gender identity and pornography. The resource has been completely rewritten and redesigned with hundreds of new illustrations — and has grown to be over 100 pages long!

Fill out the details below to receive an email download link the complete Sexuality, Relationships and Your Rights resource as an interactive PDF.

**Email Address \***

**First Name \***

**Last Name \***

DOWNLOAD RESOURCE

# Thank you to



## Double feedback:

- Aboriginal Health Council of WA
- Rosita D'Adamo from Ethnic Disability Advocacy Network
- Jessica Baynes and Del Zimmerman at Legal Aid WA
- Gillian Lawson at Office of the Public Advocate
- Elaine Alderson at People 1<sup>st</sup> Programme
- Brianna Lee and Lisa Hook from People With disabilities WA
- Miranda McReynolds and the group at Self Advocacy WA
- Fiona McMullen from Sexual Assault Resource Centre
- Lauren Tann at SHQ
- Leanne Pearman from Individualised Services WA
- Seanna Dempsey from the Community Engagement Division of the WA Police Force
- Chantal Killen from the Sexual Assault Squad of the WA Police Force
- Matt Ranford and Tyler Morgan from the WA Aids Council
- Alison Evans from the Women's Community Health Network of WA
- Davinia Lefroy from VisAbility

## Referral only organisations:

- Magenta
- Pheonix Support and Advocacy Service
- Ngala
- Wanslea
- M Clinic

## Special thanks to:

- Lana - Disability Services WA
- Juliette, Uta and the team at Media on Mars
- SECCA team especially Ruth Swan

“It is up to each and every one of us to raise our voice against crimes that deprive countless victims of their liberty, dignity and human rights.”

Ban Ki-moon – Past UN Secretary-General