

# Forced Adoption Support Service

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



**Phone 1800 21 03 13**

*Relationships*<sup>™</sup>  
AUSTRALIA · VIC



Forced Adoption  
Support Services

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

## About forced adoption

Between 1940 and 1990, many Australian women and infants were separated. This was known as 'forced adoption' and was unethical and often illegal.

In 2013 the Australian Government formally apologised to everyone who was affected by forced adoption.

They also set up Forced Adoption Support Services around Australia. These services help people affected by forced adoption.

Relationships Australia Victoria provides a Forced Adoption Support Service in Victoria.

## Learn more about forced adoption

The Australian Government Department of Social Services website has information about forced adoption and where to get support.

**Visit their website:** [dss.gov.au/forced-adoption](https://dss.gov.au/forced-adoption)

## Who our service is for

Anyone affected by forced adoption can use our service. This includes mothers, fathers, adopted individuals and other family members.



## How we can help you

We can:

- talk to you about how you feel
- talk to you about managing hard things in your life
- answer your questions about forced adoption
- give you information about other services that can help you
- explain how you can find records (information) about you and your family
- explain how you can search for family.

## How we provide services

When you first contact us, we'll make a time to call you and talk about how we can help.

## Opening hours

9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday  
(Victorian local time).

## Contact us

- Call 1800 21 03 13
- Email [fass@rav.org.au](mailto:fass@rav.org.au)
- Fill in the form on our website page at [www.rav.org.au/FASS](http://www.rav.org.au/FASS)

If you're Deaf/deaf or find it hard to hear or speak on the phone, you can contact us through the National Relay Service. Visit [accesshub.gov.au](http://accesshub.gov.au)

If you speak a language other than English, you can contact us through the Translating and Interpreting Service. Visit [www.tisnational.gov.au](http://www.tisnational.gov.au) or call 131 450.

## About us

Relationships Australia Victoria (RAV) is a community-based, not-for-profit organisation that has been providing family and relationship support services since 1948.

Our services are for all members of the community, regardless of their religion, age, gender, sexual orientation, lifestyle choice, cultural background or economic circumstances.



We're committed to providing safe, inclusive and accessible services for all people.



We acknowledge First Nations peoples as the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the lands and waterways of Australia and support their right to self-determination and culturally safe services. We welcome all First Nations peoples seeking the support of this service.

We recognise the lifelong impacts of childhood trauma.

We recognise those who had children taken away from them.