

STATEMENT

MALE CHAMPIONS OF CHANGE WELCOMES LANDMARK REPORT INTO WORKPLACE SEXUAL HARASSMENT

6 March 2020

Male Champions of Change (MCC) welcomes the release today of [Respect@Work: Sexual Harassment National Inquiry Report \(2020\)](#) by Australia's Sex Discrimination Commissioner Kate Jenkins.

This landmark report is the result of a comprehensive program of work to better understand and eliminate sexual harassment in Australian workplaces.

We will examine the report closely and continue to meet with Commissioner Jenkins to discuss the findings, its recommendations and the role Male Champions of Change can play in leading and accelerating change.

OUR POSITION

Sexual harassment, in all its forms, is an abuse of power and represents behaviours that are beneath the standard we expect from every one of us and across our organisations. It is unethical and against the law.

We have seen the psychological, emotional and physical toll it takes, and the detrimental consequences it can have on the careers and personal lives of those affected, as well as their families and those close to them.

We acknowledge that past approaches to address this behaviour have been insufficient. We agree that new approaches are required, recognising that this is a human and societal issue.

We will act to prevent sexual harassment and ensure effective responses for those impacted within, and connected to, our organisations. We will take action to change the systems, structures and processes that have enabled sexual harassment.

Our focus is advancing gender equality and creating respectful, inclusive and safe environments for all, knowing that advancing gender equality within our organisations is the one of the most effective strategies in addressing cultures where sexual harassment occurs.

We thank Commissioner Jenkins for her leadership on this issue and all those who shared their experiences to inform the inquiry and the recommendations released today. We look forward to working across the organisations we lead, with our peers and stakeholders to eliminate sexual harassment from our workplaces and society.

Notes for media

All content above can be attributed to Liz Broderick AO, Founder of Male Champions of Change And / or "Male Champions of Change."

About Male Champions of Change

Male Champions of Change is a coalition of CEOs, secretaries of government departments, non-executive directors and community leaders. Male Champions of Change believe gender equality is a major business, economic, societal and human rights issue. Established in 2010, by then Australian Sex Discrimination Commissioner Elizabeth Broderick, our mission is to step up beside women to help achieve a gender equality and a significant and sustainable increase in the representation of women in leadership.

Please refer to our [2019 Impact Report](#) for more information on our work to achieve gender equality, accelerate the advancement of women into leadership and create the conditions and cultures that enable all employees to thrive.

For more information please contact:

Julie Bissinella, Communications Director, Male Champions of Change, Mobile: 0478 199 791 or julie@malechampionsofchange.com