

# HOW YOU CAN TAKE ACTION



The anti-rights movement is growing in Australia. Emboldened by wins in other parts of the world, they have been slowly attacking hard-won progress towards gender and reproductive justice and causing real harm to the most vulnerable among us.

Feeling angry about everything you've just found out? It's time to channel that energy into action.

**Here's your guide to drowning out the hate and organising for hope...**

# 1/ GET INFORMED

Knowledge is power and understanding how these actors work is the first step to countering them. Luckily, you've already got a head start on this one.

But you don't have to stop here.

Over the next few weeks, make sure to set aside some time to check out the work of the incredible people and organisations in our Resistance Reading List below to keep learning about anti-rights groups and how to effectively counter them.

# 2/ BE READY TO STEP UP AND STAND IN SOLIDARITY WHEN YOUR VOICE IS NEEDED

It's in the interest of the anti-rights movement to make us think we're alone in wanting a future grounded in respect, dignity, care and equality. From these factsheets, you now know that these groups are intentionally spreading mis- and dis-information, manufacturing moral panics and exploiting people's lack of familiarity with the trans community or things like comprehensive sexuality education to spread hate and division.

But not everyone in your family or community might. That's why one of the most important things you can do is talk to the people around you and help them cut through the deliberate noise to understand what's happening around us.

We know that it can sometimes be hard to find the rights words to talk about issues like these, but speaking up and showing up at this particular moment in time is a lot more important being perfect. And luckily, a lot of really smart people have already done the work to also help you find the words you need to have these conversations effectively. Here are just a few places to get you started:

- [Conversations for Trans Justice: A guide for trans people, our loved ones, and allies](#), from the Trans Justice Project
- [Be an Ally – Support Trans Equality](#), from the Human Rights Campaign
- [The Abortion Language Guide](#), from MSI
- [How to Talk About Abortion](#), from Doctors Without Borders
- [How to challenge crappy language when you hear it](#), from Minus18

Showing up also means learning about the organisations doing this work day in, day out and supporting their actions when they need it the most. Here are two actions you can take right now to stand in solidarity with the trans community in Australia:

- [Add your name to this statement of solidarity with the trans community](#)
- [Make your support for a real plan for trans health care known](#)

# 3/ SUPPORT FEMINIST MOVEMENTS

Feminist and social justice movements have always been powerful drivers for transformative change across the world. Their work challenges power, questions the norms and beliefs that limit us and tackle the root causes of inequality, all so we can all lead full, meaningful lives on our own terms. For years they have been sounding the alarm, acting as our frontline in resisting anti-rights movements and pushing back against their efforts to block our basic rights and freedoms.

But right now, they're not being resourced in the way they need to be.

In countries across the world, we're seeing funding for gender equality be slashed at the exact time when this work is most needed. Organisations on the ground have been doing their best to weather this storm and stretch already-limited resources as far as they can to mount

a defence to this deliberate, strategic attack on our rights. But truly responding to this movement requires more.

Feminist movements need real funding. The kind that allows them to invest in monitoring and exposing the work of anti-rights actors. To counter mis- and dis-information and explore ways to tell our stories more powerfully and creatively in order to shift public narratives about our rights. To set aside time for meaningful collaboration, sharing and connection. The kind of funding that recognises this work as essential to not only responding to this moment, but building the future we all deserve.

Learn more about IWDA's work [resourcing women's rights organisations](#) and [strengthening feminist movements](#), and [donate](#) to our work today.

# YOUR RESISTANCE READING LIST

## ON THE BROADER MOVEMENT

- [Who's Afraid of Gender?](#) by Judith Butler
- [Weaponising Gender: How gender became the perfect scapegoat for far-right and authoritarian actors](#) by Julisa Tambunan, Aminah Jasho & Esme Abbott
- [Gender is not an ideology – but conservative groups know learning about it empowers people to think for themselves](#) by Victoria Pitts-Taylor & Elizabeth Anne Wood
- [The anti-rights movement and the war on gender policy with Florence Bateson and Ilse Wermink](#) from *The Enabling Space* podcast
- [Mapping the anti-rights movement from the US to the UK with Amnesty International UK](#) from the *Stage Talks with Bellingcat*
- [Mapping Fascism: Global networks, power, and the rise of the far right](#) from *The Transnational Institute*
- [Inside the summit uniting the world's most successful far-right activists](#) by Sian Norris
- [Future-Proofing: The professionalization of an anti-rights youth generation](#) from *Ipas*
- [Misogyny has become a political strategy – here's how the pandemic helped make it happen](#) by Brianna I. Wiens, Nick Ruest & Shana MacDonald
- [How can we counter the anti-feminist backlash?](#) from the *Think Change* podcast
- [Future-Proofing: The professionalization of an anti-rights youth generation](#) from *Ipas*
- [The secret pipeline: how the far-right is radicalising Gen Z](#) from the *In Solidarity Podcast*
- [In Bed with the Right](#) podcast

## ON ATTACKS ON TRANS RIGHTS

- [Why is the right so obsessed with trans people?](#) by Jackie Turner
- ['Severe disinformation campaign' fuelling trans hate speech, Australia's sex discrimination commissioner says](#) by Josh Taylor
- [The Anti-Trans Movement Framework](#) by Jackie Turner

## ON ATTACKS ON SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS

- [Hate over love: conservative influencers have brought angrier anti-abortion politics to Australia](#) by Prudence Flowers
- [Growing 'anti-gender' movements are trying to restrict equality and sex education in schools around the world](#) by Rachel Marcus

## ON TACKLING DISINFORMATION

- [The Anti-Trans Disinformation Handbook](#) from *Trans Justice Project*
- [How to Identify Dangerous Anti-Trans Disinformation](#) by Jackie Turner
- [Tip Sheet: Transcending Disinformation](#) from *Transcend*
- [How to make a complaint about anti-trans media](#) from *Trans Justice Project*
- [How to Identify and Combat Anti-Abortion Disinformation](#) from *Reproductive Freedom for All*
- [Disinformation in the Digital Age: Practical Tips for Young People](#) by Aoife Carli Hannan

## LOOKING TO GET INFORMED AND TAKE ACTION?

IWDA

Attacks from the anti-rights movement are vocal, persistent and well-resourced. But when it comes to real support for their views, the numbers are on our side.

So, what is the most powerful thing we can do to resist them? Come together to **drown out their hate and organise for hope.**

Check out our other factsheets:

- ➔ **WHAT IS THE ANTI-RIGHTS MOVEMENT?**
- ➔ **YOUR GUIDE TO SPOTTING ANTI-RIGHTS CONTENT**
- ➔ **ANTI-RIGHTS STRATEGIES AT PLAY**