

# IN THE WORDS OF WOMEN WITH DISABILITIES...



We asked what they wanted people to know about preventing violence against women with disabilities and this is what they told us:

The value of lived experience and voices of women with disabilities is important. We need to be heard rather than be a footnote.

Disability is everywhere. Like most people, women with disabilities have relationships, jobs, friends, and university degrees.

No disability is more important than another – reject the idea of a hierarchy of disability.

We experience different types of violence – challenge all forms of violence against women and girls with disabilities.

**If you or your organisation is interested in learning more about consulting our Experts, please contact**

Ask us directly for our input – lived experience is expertise.

Our job is not to inspire, we are productive and contribute to society – recognise our value.

Language matters – challenge stereotypes and words that imply weakness, alienate women, or suggest disability is a reason for violence.

We are productive and contribute to society – recognise our value.

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People lack knowledge about disability – educate and challenge stereotypes about women with disabilities.

Disability identity looks different for each person – challenge the narrow focus.

Our disabilities don't exclude us, systems and social structures do – work within the social model of disability.

Economic participation is essential – remunerate our contributions equitably.



**wdv.org.au**

Promote disability pride – disability is not a tragedy or something to be ashamed of.

True representations of women with disabilities are crucial – we're not all celebrities, make us visible.

Disability isn't a justification to use violence against us – we have the right for safety and respect.

Accessibility is so much more than disability – universal design benefits everyone.

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