

EXPECT RESPECT

The Expect Respect Project is an advocacy initiative which aims to heighten awareness in children, adults and the community of the need for respect in relationships, especially towards women and children. The project promotes community dialogue to address all forms of violence and provides positive role models for the participants. The project works as follows:

- Children in years 4/5 at Primary Schools are introduced to the theme by their teachers, followed by a workshop held at the school by experts in the field such as the Police and Community Health Professionals.
- The children use art to create posters to reflect their learning from the workshop, and these incorporate the national domestic violence help line and kids helpline numbers, which provide a quick reference for support services hotlines.
- A selection of the children's artwork provides the key elements for a monthly calendar which each student takes home. Each month the artwork shows different key messages about respectful relationships, taken from the workshops and interpreted by the children.
- The posters are celebrated with a public exhibition of all artworks in the local library or community centre to coincide with the ZONTA International Campaign to end gender-based violence: "ZONTA Says NO", and the White Ribbon Day activities
- A community event is held where the posters are displayed. The children, are the focus with community leaders and the wider society attending. Participants receive recognition for their work

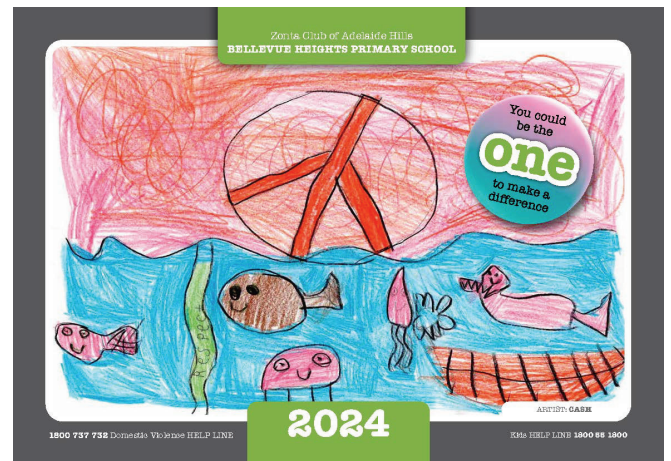


This event is an opportunity to involve many local community leaders, high school students and White Ribbon Ambassadors

The senior school students are encouraged to share their views on the significance and importance of respect in all relationships. The group then gather outside to shout "NO" to violence which. At this event the students are shown that the whole community values the learning they have undertaken.

Expect Respect was developed with the following rationale:

- Educating children before poor social habits develop is preferable to dealing with crime and disrespect at teenage and later years.
- Gender and cultural change are interdependent. Involving men is essential to raising awareness about the need to promote a society free from the issue of domestic violence.
- Building and maintaining strong links with the local government, police and support services is essential to ensuring that Zonta activities are supported and are in line with current policy.



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Ed 2024