

**Family Violence Reform: The Whole Package.
Women's Voices for Justice and Human Rights [Federation
of Community Legal Services] project campaign.**

WELVictoria is supporting this project and the campaign to have the whole package recommended by the Victorian Law Reform Commission's Review of Family Laws Report implemented. We are allowing our name and logo to be used in campaign material.

WELVictoria submitted comments to the VLRC on its report and has assessed the FCLS project's comments on it, which prioritised the recommendations.

We agree that the relevant bodies should not pick out bits and pieces, but take the recommendations as a whole. They are largely directed at making police and court procedures *fairer for the victims of family violence* and providing them with safety and support.

WELVictoria has emphasised that:

1. Procedures should provide support and protection so that most women and children can *stay in their own homes*, schools, jobs, and support networks [family, friends etc.]
2. Without detracting from women's ability to make their own choices in these matters, they *should have access to legal advice* and support should they consider dropping any charges, rather than having police and court personnel accept this decision as an easy way out. In what other crime of violence [except perhaps rape] would such personnel be what often seems almost eager to drop charges?