



# Barriers to reporting abuse: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander older people

**Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander care recipients have an increased risk of abuse and face additional barriers due to:**

- Lack of culturally safe services
- Lack of communication (e.g. services not using interpreters when it is required)
- Fear of families being separated (because of past policies of child removal)
- Fear of police (because of the high number of deaths in custody)
- Mistrust of mainstream services
- Family and kinship obligations / humbugging
- Ongoing impacts of colonisation and trauma\*

Keep in mind that, even within the same community, every person's experience is unique.