

What can I do if the other parent won't return our child?



FAMILY VIOLENCE LAW HELP

www.familyviolencelaw.gov.au



If the other parent won't return your children, get legal advice.

You may be able to apply to the courts for a Recovery Order - this is an order that allows police to find and return your children to you.

Mostly, the police cannot return your children to you without a Recovery Order—unless the parent who took the children is in breach of a Domestic Violence Order. The police can do a welfare check to make sure your children are safe.

If you don't know where your children are, the court can also make orders to help locate your children.



If you are worried the other parent may take your children overseas you may need to put your children on the Family Law Watchlist.

You should get legal advice or contact your Family Advocacy and Support Service for help.

For more information visit
www.familyviolencelaw.gov.au

While we have tried to make the information here as up-to-date and accurate as possible, the law is complex and always changing. All legal problems are different. You should see a lawyer to get advice about your problem. Legal Aid NSW, National Legal Aid and the Commonwealth Attorney-General's Department are not liable for any errors or omissions, or for any loss or damage that arises from any person who relies on any information on this factsheet. This factsheet was developed in 2019.

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