

SAFE TO SPEAK, BOUND TO ACT

Kirsty Forsdike, Hanorah Arundell, Samantha Marshall

In association with the IOC Olympic Studies Centre, the Safer Sport team led by La Trobe's Associate Professor Kirsty Forsdike and in collaboration with colleagues from Victoria University and University of Sydney have developed a toolkit – Safe to Speak, Bound to Act – to help address the problem of gender-based violence (GBV) in sports organisations. Informed by GBV survivors, the toolkit was released in February 2026 and has already been picked up for further rollout by policy-makers and community groups. Activist organisation Not All Clubs also promoted the toolkit alongside their recent "Wear Red" Round initiative, calling for greater awareness of the consequences of GBV in sport and greater accountability from sporting organisations. The toolkit was subsequently downloaded by over 300 participating clubs.

The Safer Sport team, also including Dr Samantha Marshall and Hanorah Arundell, and working with A/Prof Mary Woessner at Victoria University have now been commissioned by the NSW Office of Sport to adapt the toolkit as part of the NSW Strategy for the Prevention of Family, Domestic and Sexual Violence, targeting state level and community clubs.

