

STATEMENT FROM THE AUSTRALIAN FEDERAL POLICE, TO SATURDAY EXTRA

The welfare of past, present and potential victims is the AFP's priority. We hope that this story will help victims escape exploitative situations or to come forward to police, and help prevent people from being exploited in the future. We want victims to understand that there is a way out of these terrible situations for them, and that we can help.

However, we also understand that it is often difficult for victims to come forward, for a range of reasons, many of which reflect the crime type itself. Victims may have been threatened, forced or coerced and not all victims identified by the AFP are willing to assist in a prosecution.

If someone is at risk of harm they should contact police on '000'. This will ensure an immediate response to check their safety and welfare in the first instance.

Members of the public wishing to report a Commonwealth crime including an alleged forced marriage where there is no imminent risk of harm, can do so through the link on the AFP website:

<https://www.afp.gov.au/contact-us/report-commonwealth-crime> Phone advice can also be obtained through the AFP Switchboard on (02)6131 3000 for those who need help reporting a crime or have any questions about whether they should report a crime to the AFP. There is also a list of contact numbers [for Operations Monitoring Centres](#) in all AFP locations.

Members of the public who have any other information about Human Trafficking offences including forced marriages are urged to contact Crime Stoppers (1800 333 000 or online via <https://www.crimestoppers.com.au/>). This information will then be disseminated to the appropriate jurisdiction for their information and attention.

Visit the AFP website www.afp.gov.au for further contact information.