

What is forced adoption?

Forced adoption refers to instances of adoption where a child's parent or parents were compelled and coerced against their will or wishes to give up a child for adoption.

In Australia, there were approximately 150,000 forced adoptions during the peak period of 1951-1975. Forced adoption practices occurred prior to this period and continued into the 1980s and beyond.

The impact of forced adoption can create a lifelong legacy of pain and suffering.

A National Apology in 2013, was made by the Prime Minister to those affected by forced adoption policies and procedures.

Following the National Apology Relationships Australia, Tasmania received funding to provide the Forced Adoption Support Service (FASS) to those in Tasmania affected by forced adoption.

Further information on the National Apology can be found at Department of Social Services website www.dss.gov.au

Where are we located?

Relationships Australia Tasmania

Relationships Australia Tasmania has offices in Hobart, Launceston and Devonport. To speak with a support worker from the Forced Adoption Support Service contact:

Hobart

20 Clare Street
New Town TAS 7008
p: 1300 364 277
e: hobart@reltas.com.au

Launceston

6 Paterson Street
Launceston
TAS 7250
p: 1300 364 277
e: launceston@reltas.com.au

Devonport

70 North Fenton Street
Devonport TAS 7310
p: 1300 364 277
e: devonport@reltas.com.au

National Telephone Support Service

1800 21 03 13

Forced Adoption Support Services

Confidential specialist support for people who have been affected by forced adoption practices

Relationships Australia[®]
TASMANIA



Forced Adoption Support Services

Funded by the Australian Government
Department of Social Services

What is forced adoption?

The Forced Adoptions Support Service (FASS) offers support to anyone in Tasmania affected by past forced adoption practices.

FASS can provide counselling, information and support, assistance with family search and reunion, and referral to other services and networks.

Professional and confidential support

Our professional counsellors are highly skilled to help clients deal with various issues that arise from forced adoption. Issues including grief and loss, trauma, anger, rejection, identity, personal and family relationship issues and mental health concerns.networks.

1300 364 277
tas.relationships.org.au

FASS Provides:

- Assistance with records tracing
- Advice and Support on adoption related issues
- Support for raising awareness of the effects of forced adoption on all those affected
- Developing local networks of relevant services, where they exist

FASS is complemented by access to individual or phone counselling as required

Counselling

Through counselling, clients will be able to identify their individual needs and explore their options in a safe and supportive environment.

Individual counselling sessions may be short or long term and are tailored to client's needs.

... a safe confidential environment to share thoughts, experiences and knowledge if you wish to do so.

Group support

Group support is available and provides a safe confidential environment to share thoughts, experiences and knowledge if you wish to do so.

Anyone affected by past adoption practices are welcome to attend.