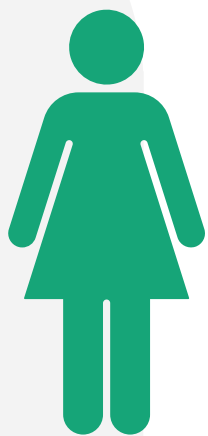


Inequities in the family sphere

Everyone has the right to **safety and equality in their home and relationships**.

Many people—especially women and gender-diverse people—face violence and exploitation behind closed doors. Women also face significant economic inequalities, which impacts their rights within the home.



Women do more unpaid labour at home, including child care and household tasks, leaving them with less time for paid work, rest or leisure.



A **lack of affordable child care and workplace supports** makes it harder for many women to stay employed.



Women earn less than men, especially racialized women, immigrant and refugee women and women with disabilities.

In 2022, **14,000 people** reported intimate partner violence

79% were women and girls

Nearly half of all women

in Canada experience intimate partner violence in their lifetime.



Many women don't report abuse because they fear retaliation, police violence or losing their children to child protection services.



Earning less money, along with the high cost of living and lack of affordable housing, can make it **hard for women and gender-diverse people to leave abusive relationships**.



Legal aid is severely underfunded.



Too many times, family courts disbelieve women's credible allegations of abuse.

Protection orders, which restrain people from contacting ex-partners or children due to risk of violence, are difficult to obtain and often short-term, requiring repeated renewals.

Impact on marginalized groups



Indigenous women, women with disabilities, trans women and women in rural areas face especially high rates of violence.



Immigrant women may fear deportation or losing legal status if they report violence. Language barriers can also prevent them from getting help.

About BC's Office of the Human Rights Commissioner

Under B.C.'s *Human Rights Code*, B.C.'s Human Rights Commissioner is responsible for promoting and protecting human rights in the province. Learn more about our Office at bchumanrights.ca

10 key systems impacting human rights in B.C.

This fact sheet is based on the Commissioner's 2024 report, *Rights in Focus: Lived Realities in B.C.*, which highlights significant inequities and injustices affecting B.C. residents across 10 key systems. These include inequities in housing, the social safety net, health care, education, employment, child welfare, criminal justice, public spaces and the family sphere, as well as in the effects of the environmental crisis. Exploring these systems is an important way to determine the state of human rights in British Columbia.



baseline.bchumanrights.ca/in-focus