



**We can help you
if financial abuse happens**

Bank Australia



Easy English

Hard words



This book has some hard words.

The first time we write a hard word

- the word is in **blue**

- we write what the hard word means.

You can get help with this book



You can get someone to help you

- read this book

- know what this book is about

- find more information.



We will write contact information at the end of this book.

About this book



This book is from Bank Australia.



This book is about **financial abuse**.

Financial abuse means someone uses your money



- when you do **not** want them to



- to control you.



This book tells you how you can get help if financial abuse happens to you.

When can financial abuse happen?



Financial abuse can happen to anyone at any time.

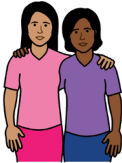


Financial abuse can happen

- between family members



- from a partner



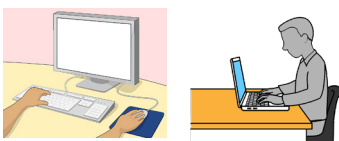
- from a friend



- from someone at work
 - for example, your boss



- from a carer



- from a stranger
 - for example, a person you met on the internet.

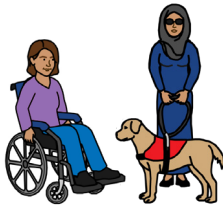


Often financial abuse happens when another person has more power than you.



Financial abuse can happen more if you

- are a woman



- have a disability

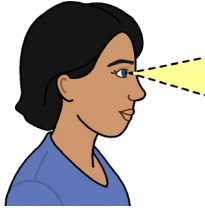


- are very ill.

What are signs of financial abuse?



It can be hard to know if financial abuse is happening to you.



You can look for signs that something is **not** okay.

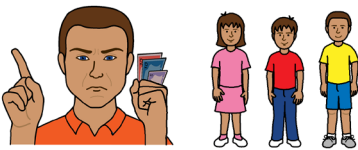


Look for signs in your partner.

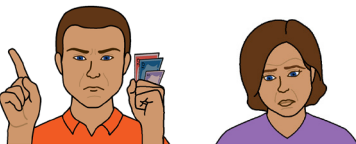


For example, financial abuse might happen if your partner

- stops you from going to work



- does **not** pay child support



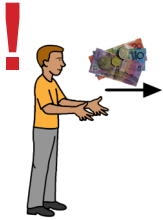
- does **not** let you have your own money.

Look for signs that a person wants to control you.



For example, financial abuse might happen if a person

- says you **must** do what they want for money



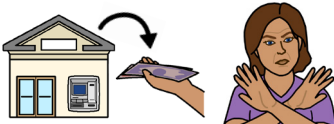
- tells you how to spend your money



- wants to see the bills when you go shopping



- does **not** let you use your money



- does **not** let you use your things

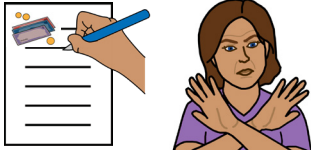
– for example, your car.



A sign can be that the other person gets angry if you tell them how you feel.



Other signs of financial abuse

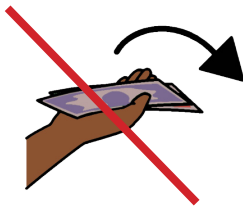


Financial abuse can also mean someone

- makes you sign a bank document even when you say **no**

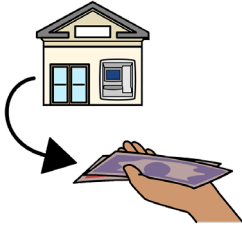


- makes you give them your money when you do **not** want to



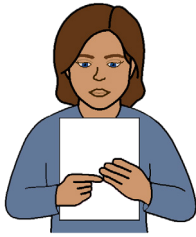
- does **not** pay you for your work.

How we can help you



We can help you make sure that

- only you can take money from your bank account



- only you can see letters from us about your money.



Call us if financial abuse happens to you.

Call 132 888



If financial abuse happens to you

- **do not** email us



- **do not** message us.



You should **not** email or message us because the person who abuses you might read it.



More help

1800RESPECT is a free service that can help you with financial abuse.



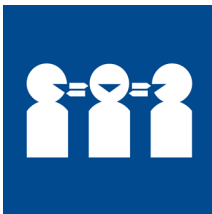
Call 1800 737 732



Website 1800respect.org.au



1800RESPECT do **not** tell anyone your information.



If you do not speak English

You can ask the TIS in your language to contact us.



Call 131 450

Give the TIS officer the phone number you want to call.



If you need help to speak or listen

The National Relay Service can help you make a phone call.



Call 1800 555 660

Give the relay officer the phone number you want to call.



Website <https://bit.ly/nrs-helpdesk>

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