



media release



**FROM THE OFFICE OF THE VICTORIAN PRIVACY COMMISSIONER
AND THE OFFICE OF THE HEALTH SERVICES COMMISSIONER**

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COMMUNICATING PRIVACY AMONG DIVERSE COMMUNITIES

New research shows that Victorians, regardless of their ethnic background, value their privacy.

A study of attitudes towards privacy among non-English speaking background and Indigenous groups in Victoria shows that all communities acknowledge the need for governments to collect personal information. But they want to be sure that their cultural sensitivities will be understood and their personal information will be treated with respect.

Communities differ in which aspects of their lives they wish to keep private and in their attitudes towards Australian governments and information sharing between parts of government.

The study has informed a campaign for communicating privacy issues to Victorians from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.

The campaign is a joint initiative of Privacy Victoria and the Office of the Health Services Commissioner.

It was launched by Victorian Parliamentary Secretary for Justice, Jenny Mikakos MP, today at Melbourne's Immigration Museum. Victorian Privacy Commissioner Paul Chadwick and Health Services Commissioner Beth Wilson also spoke at the launch.

The campaign aims to raise awareness among Victoria's culturally and linguistically diverse communities about privacy laws and about the roles of the Privacy Commissioner and Health Services Commissioner.

Three laws combine to give Victorians better privacy protection. The Information Privacy Act (Vic), covers personal information held by Victorian public sector agencies and local councils, the Health Records Act (Vic) covers health information in Victorian public and private sectors, and the Privacy Act (Cth), covers Federal government agencies and much of the private sector.

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