

# FINANCIAL SAFETY

LATER ON IN LIFE

## DID YOU KNOW?



Financial abuse is the most commonly reported type of abuse against older people in Queensland.

Financial abuse can take many forms. Sometimes, the person causing the abuse may not even recognise that their actions or behaviours are abusive.



## FINANCIAL ABUSE IS...

any situation where someone that you trust, such as a partner, family, friend or paid caregiver, takes away your access to money, manipulates your financial decisions, or uses your money or assets without your consent.



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## HOW DO I KNOW IT'S ABUSE?

Here are some of the common signs of financial abuse:

- Items missing inexplicably
- Assets sold without your consent
- Your money is used without your consent
- Money goes missing from your bank account
- Your bank account has unexplained transactions
- Someone else is opening your mail or taking your mail
- Someone is pressuring you to make changes to your will
- You are forced to sign documents you don't understand
- Money that you have lent someone is not being paid back
- Your signature is used by someone else on legal documents
- Someone is forcing you to sign up for benefits or credit cards
- Your signature is forged by someone else on legal documents
- Someone is misusing or taking advantage of powers of attorney
- Someone you live with refuses to contribute to shared living costs
- You are coerced to loan money or change your legal arrangements
- Someone threatens or coerces you for how you spend your money
- Your bank account details or financial statements are kept from you
- Someone takes out a loan, credit card, or bank account in your name
- Someone is insisting to take control of your finances because "you're too old now"

### WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

By knowing what financial abuse looks like, you are in a better position to recognise if it is happening to you. You can also take simple steps to protect yourself.

### WHAT CAN I DO?

Learn more about your financial situation and plan for your future with professional advice. Stay connected with people you trust. It's okay to reach out for help.



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