

# Our lives: Women in the ACT

*In our survey of over 1000 women, we gave an opportunity for respondents to provide comments on their hopes, dreams, life expectations and current situation.*

*The responses were candid, insightful and sometimes deeply moving.*

*Below are some of the responses we received.*

## **On hopes and fears**

*“[I hope for] financial security, to age well in my own home, to be able to focus on my wellbeing and my adult children’s wellbeing.”*

*– respondent age 55-64*

*“[I fear] climate impacts, global conflict, becoming obsolete and not having enough money to support myself into the future.”*

*– respondent age 45-54*

*“[I fear] filling all of my available hours with low-paid/unpaid work, trying to make ends meet without a real shot at ever having a life that feels bearable.”*

*– respondent age 35-44*

## **On labour and finances**

*“Men seem to be the first considered for acting positions at higher levels and often get approached. Women on the other hand seem to need to prove themselves worthy and constantly put themselves forward.”*

*– respondent age 35-44*

*“I cut short my own leisure time and sleep in order to complete all the caring and domestic duties I have.”*

*– respondent age 35-44*



## **On housing**

*“[I fear] not being able to pay the mortgage if something happens to my husband.”*

*– respondent age 25-34*

*“I hope that paying for a house doesn’t mean I can’t save anything for retirement.”*

*– respondent age 25-34*

## **On living in Canberra**

*“Volunteering places significant and increasing demands on your time. There are occasions when I would like to walk away and get my life back.”*

*– respondent age 55-64*

*“I have kids, their happiness and wellbeing is the meaning of life. I’m not resentful of that; I can’t fathom something more satisfying and fulfilling than having a happy, healthy family thriving together.”*

*– respondent age 25-34*

*“[Sexism] impacted my daily behaviours and how I went to and from work, where I walked my dog, and if I should stand up for others.”*

*– respondent age 25-34*

## **On leadership, influence and opportunity**

*“[I want] to be a confident leader to young Indigenous people.”*

*– respondent age 25-34*

