



## Fact sheet No. 5

### Quick tips

#### What can you do if you are about to be strip searched?

- Ask reasons for the search
- A sniffer dog indication by itself is **not a reasonable ground** to conduct a search, it only gives police a reason to question
- If you are 17 and under - tell the officer your age
- If you are 17 and under - get them to call your parents immediately or a support person
- If you are 17 and under wait for your support person before being strip searched
- Ask them to turn on their Body Worn Video and say: "I do not agree to being searched. I do not consent to the search"
- Request the officer record your non-consent in their notebook
- You do not have to answer any questions
- Get the name of the police officer and the police station
- Take a friend with you
- Have someone film from a distance your interactions with police before and after the search
- You do not need to provide your ID, unless something illicit is found during the search
- After the search speak to a supportive person immediately
- Write down the details of the search: date, time, location, officers involved, police station involved, what they made you do, what you said
- If any injuries, go to doctor asap and take photos of injury
- Contact a legal service asap

*Produced by Redfern Legal Centre, Published: December 2019.*

*This factsheet is not a substitute for legal advice. If you have a problem please seek legal advice from your local community legal centre.*