



Resources

There are resources available to help and support you, no matter what you choose to do.

Crime Victims Assistance Centres (CAVACs)

1 866 LE CAVAC (532-2822)
cavac.qc.ca/en

Interligne

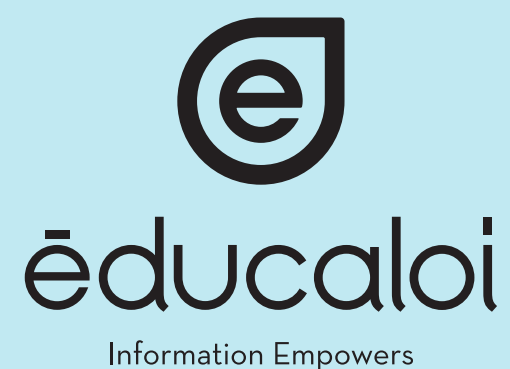
1 888 505-1010
interligne.co/en

Info-Social

811, option 2

Community Justice Centers

justicedeproximite.qc.ca/en



Éducaloi is a neutral and independent organization, with a recognized expertise in legal education and clear legal communication.

Partner Members



Éducaloi also receives support from

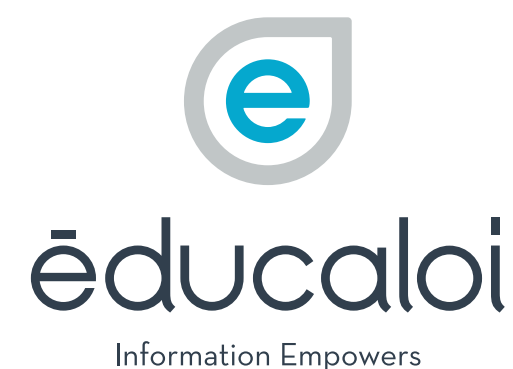


educaloi.qc.ca/en

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CONVERSION THERAPY: Recourses and Resources



FEBRUARY 2024

The pamphlet's objectives

Did you know that various recourses exist for victims of conversion therapy?

This pamphlet describes the recourses available to you, to help you choose the ones that best suit your needs.

You'll also find a list of resources to help and support victims.

A crime

Conversion therapy is a crime, even if the victim willingly participates.

A conversion therapy is a practice that aims to change, reduce or repress a person's:

- sexual orientation, to turn it heterosexual,
- non-heterosexual attraction or sexual behaviour,
- gender identity, to make it cisgender,
- gender expression, to make it conform to the sex assigned at birth.

Any person who provides conversion therapy services, advertises them, or profits from them can be charged with a crime.

RECOURSES

WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING FOR?

HOW DOES IT WORK?

WHAT SHOULD YOU KNOW?

Civil Lawsuit

Receive compensation from the persons who harmed you. This could include loss of income or psychotherapy fees, for example.

You would have to file an application in court. You can do this yourself or with the help of a lawyer.

At trial, you would have to prove that the person you’re suing is the one responsible for your conversion therapy, and that the conversion therapy caused you harm.



Legal costs, including lawyer fees involved.



Time limits **may vary**. Contact a lawyer to find out which time limit applies in your situation.

The time limit starts running when you realize that the harm you’ve experienced is due to the conversion therapy.

Compensation for crime victims (IVAC)

For more information:
ivac.qc.ca/en

Receive compensation from this government program for lost income or expenses related to recovery from the crime, such as counselling services for example.

You would need to complete a form and meet the program’s eligibility criteria. If you qualify for this program, IVAC will create a treatment plan tailored to your needs.



Free.



Only available for conversion therapies that have taken place **since January 7, 2022**.

Time limit to request is **3 years** from the moment you realize that the harm you’ve experienced is due to the conversion therapy.

No time limit if you were under 18 at the time of the conversion therapy.

Criminal Process

Report illegal behaviour.
Punish the person who committed the crime using sanctions, such as a fine or imprisonment.
Protect yourself.

You would have to report the crime to the police as a first step.
The State handles the prosecution, not the victim.
You won’t be accused of a crime, even if you agreed to participate in the conversion therapy.



Free.



Only available for conversion therapies that have taken place **since January 7, 2022**.

No time limit to report to the police.

Mediation

For more information:
equijustice.ca/en or csjr.org/en

Talk about the harm you suffered, your needs and your expectations.
Talk to the person directly or indirectly involved in your conversion therapy. That person can be a close friend or family member or someone who encouraged you or made you go through with the conversion therapy.

You would have to contact an organization like Équijustice or a Centre de services de justice réparatrice (Restorative justice services center).
A mediator will facilitate the discussion. This process is voluntary: no one can be forced to participate.

Mediation can be conducted in several ways (face-to-face, written exchanges, etc.).
Generally, before you go into mediation with the other person, you will go through one-on-one preparation with the mediator.



Free.



No time limit.

Complaint with a professional order

For more information (in French only):
opq.gouv.qc.ca/droits-et-recours

Report the incompetence, negligence and/or lack of integrity of a professional towards you.
Require that they undergo training.
Temporarily or permanently suspend their right to practise the profession.

You would have to file a complaint with the professional’s order.
The order will assess your complaint and decide whether to transfer it to the disciplinary council on your behalf.
If your complaint is not transferred to the disciplinary council, you can still take the matter up with them, either on your own or with the help of a lawyer. This is called a private complaint.



Free if your complaint is transferred to the disciplinary council.
Legal costs, including lawyer fees involved, for private complaints.



No time limit to file a complaint with a professional order.