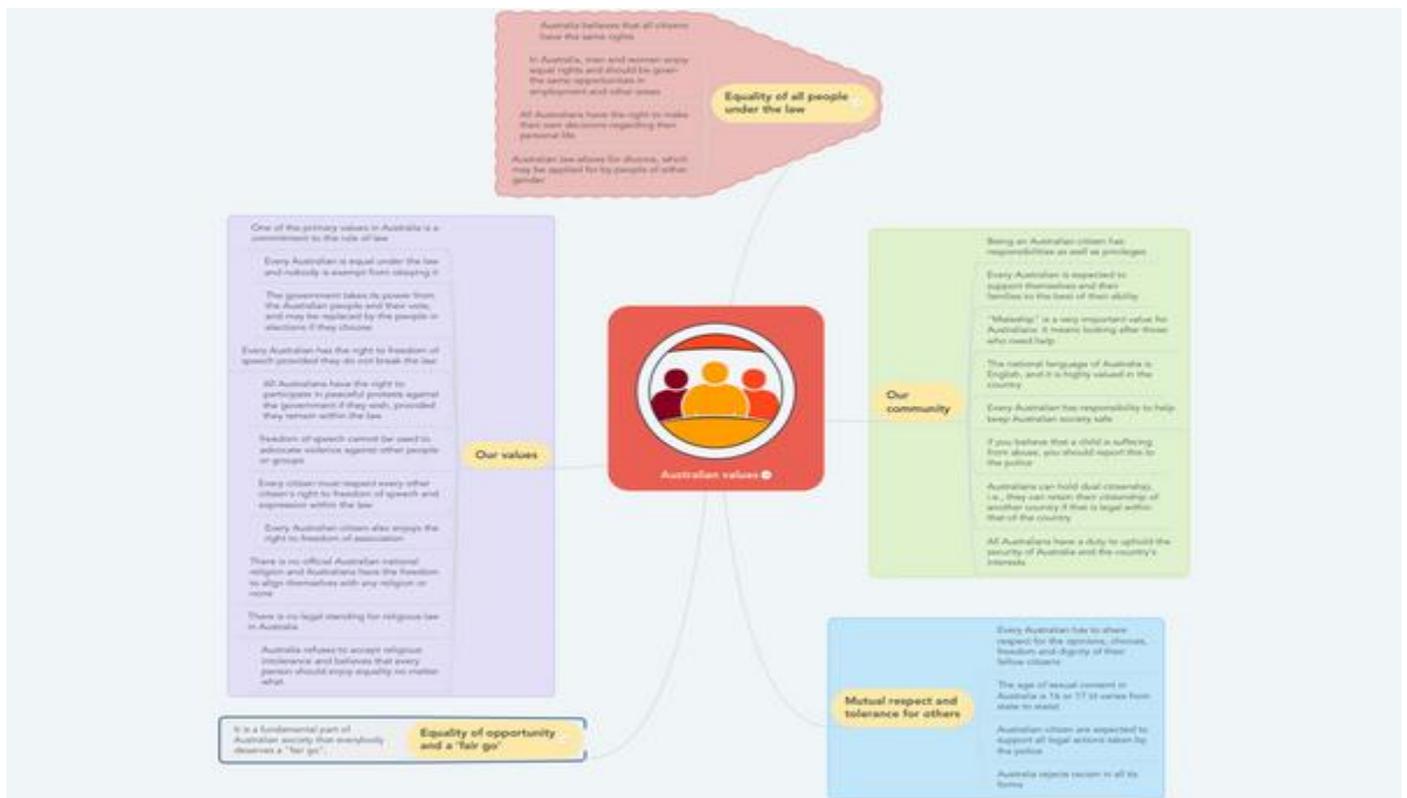




Australian values





1 Our values

- 1.1 One of the primary values in Australia is a commitment to the rule of law
- 1.2 Every Australian is equal under the law and nobody is exempt from obeying it
- 1.3 The government takes its power from the Australian people and their vote, and may be replaced by the people in elections if they choose
- 1.4 Every Australian has the right to freedom of speech provided they do not break the law
- 1.5 All Australians have the right to participate in peaceful protests against the government if they wish, provided they remain within the law
- 1.6 freedom of speech cannot be used to advocate violence against other people or groups
- 1.7 Every citizen must respect every other citizen's right to freedom of speech and expression within the law
- 1.8 Every Australian citizen also enjoys the right to freedom of association
- 1.9 There is no official Australian national religion and Australians have the freedom to align themselves with any religion or none
- 1.10 There is no legal standing for religious law in Australia
- 1.11 Australia refuses to accept religious intolerance and believes that every person should enjoy equality no matter what



2 Equality of all people under the law

- 2.1 Australia believes that all citizens have the same rights
- 2.2 In Australia, men and women enjoy equal rights and should be given the same opportunities in employment and other areas
- 2.3 All Australians have the right to make their own decisions regarding their personal life
- 2.4 Australian law allows for divorce, which may be applied for by people of either gender



3 Equality of opportunity and a 'fair go'

3.1 It is a fundamental part of Australian society that everybody deserves a "fair go",



4 Mutual respect and tolerance for others

- 4.1 Every Australian has to share respect for the opinions, choices, freedom and dignity of their fellow citizens
- 4.2 The age of sexual consent in Australia is 16 or 17 (it varies from state to state)
- 4.3 Australian citizens are expected to support all legal actions taken by the police
- 4.4 Australia rejects racism in all its forms



5 Our community

- 5.1 Being an Australian citizen has responsibilities as well as privileges
- 5.2 Every Australian is expected to support themselves and their families to the best of their ability
- 5.3 "Mateship" is a very important value for Australians: it means looking after those who need help
- 5.4 The national language of Australia is English, and it is highly valued in the country
- 5.5 Every Australian has responsibility to help keep Australian society safe
- 5.6 If you believe that a child is suffering from abuse, you should report this to the police
- 5.7 Australians can hold dual citizenship, i.e., they can retain their citizenship of another country if that is legal within that of the country
- 5.8 All Australians have a duty to uphold the security of Australia and the country's interests