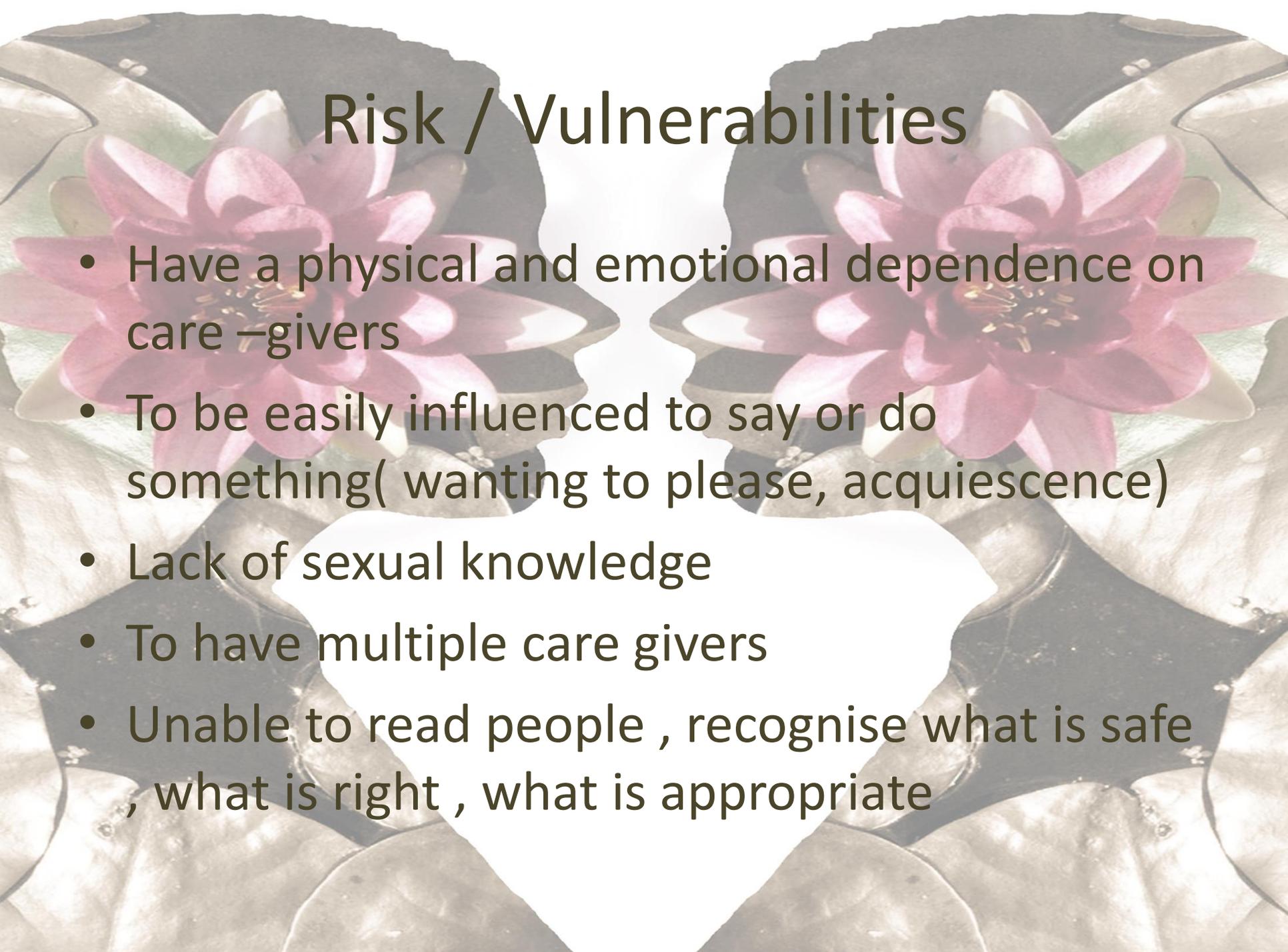


# Women with Intellectual/Learning Disability

## Looking at Abuse in Aotearoa

- Overseas research consistently finds much higher rates than general population
- Face particular risks of sexual assault and exploitation



# Risk / Vulnerabilities

- Have a physical and emotional dependence on care –givers
- To be easily influenced to say or do something( wanting to please, acquiescence)
- Lack of sexual knowledge
- To have multiple care givers
- Unable to read people , recognise what is safe , what is right , what is appropriate

# Rates in New Zealand

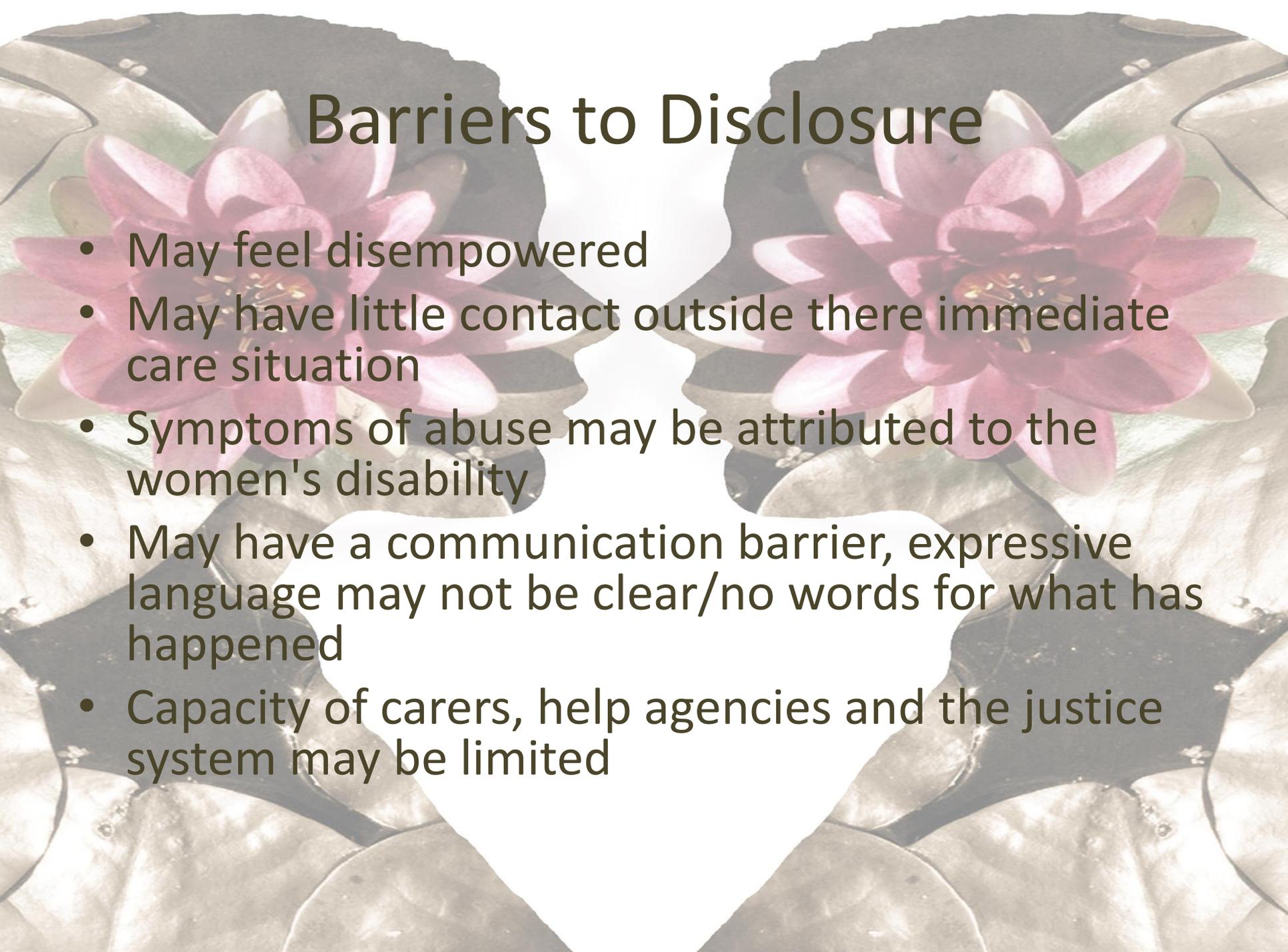
The background of the slide features two vibrant pink lotus flowers in full bloom, positioned on either side of the central text. They are surrounded by large, green lily pads with prominent veins, creating a serene and naturalistic setting.

- No reliable accessible data base
- Little research
- Barriers associated with communication and disclosure
- Diagnostic overshadowing
- Under reporting



# Clinical Effects

- Same for all women
- Vary in intensity and range
- Behavioural difficulties, this includes anger management issues, self harm
- Substance abuse
- Mental Health Dis-orders



# Barriers to Disclosure

- May feel disempowered
- May have little contact outside their immediate care situation
- Symptoms of abuse may be attributed to the women's disability
- May have a communication barrier, expressive language may not be clear/no words for what has happened
- Capacity of carers, help agencies and the justice system may be limited

# Results of a Small NZ Case Study

- Sexual abuse as described .....
- 25% of women in service had experienced sexual abuse
- 50% had not returned to the same level of independence as before up to 4 years on

# Healing

A heart shape is formed by two pink lotus flowers and green lily pads on a dark background. The flowers are positioned at the top corners of the heart, and the lily pads fill the rest of the shape. The background is a dark, textured surface.

- Takes time ,trust, effort and commitment
- Requires supportive predictable care
- Includes therapeutic interventions

The background of the slide features two vibrant pink lotus flowers in full bloom, positioned symmetrically on either side of the central text. They are surrounded by large, dark green lily pads with prominent veins, creating a serene and naturalistic setting. The overall composition is balanced and visually appealing.

# Education

- Educating families, teachers and carers
- On going and across the life span
- Appropriate to the audience
- Repetitive using the everyday as a time to learn
- Staying Safe , Keeping Safe Programme

The background of the slide features two vibrant pink lotus flowers in full bloom, positioned symmetrically on either side of the central text. They are surrounded by large, green lily pads with prominent veins, floating on a dark, reflective surface that suggests water. The overall aesthetic is serene and natural.

# Research

- Asking if this is what people want to find out
- Looking at what is already known
- Recording case studies by region
- What will happen with information
- Will it provide a benefit
- Narratives from care