



DVAM Table of Contents

Information provided by the National Resource Center on Domestic Violence, the National Domestic Violence Awareness Project, National Network to End Domestic Violence Texas Council on Family Violence, National Domestic Violence Hotline and National Teen Dating Abuse Helpline

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A Dozen Ways Any HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT Can Make Ending Domestic Violence His or Her Business.

1. Cultivate a respectful attitude toward girls in your school and female members in your family. Avoid behaviors that demean or control women.
2. When you are angry with your friend, girlfriend, boyfriend, sister, brother, or parent, respond without hurting or humiliating them. Try to use a non-violent, respectful response to resolving conflicts in your family. Call a domestic violence or child abuse prevention program for their help if you continue to hurt friends or members of your family. **(Add local program number)**
3. If you have a friend or know of a family member who is afraid of their partner or who is being hurt, refer them to the National Teen Dating Abuse Helpline 1-866-331-9474, 1-866-331-8453 TTY or visit loveisrespect.org
4. Ask and learn about domestic violence. Give a presentation in school. Use <http://www.knowtheredflags.com> for help.
5. Call the police if you see or hear violence in progress.
6. Talk to your friends, neighbors, and family members when they belittle women, make a joke about violence, or ignore a battered woman.
7. Contact your student government about conducting a safety audit of your school and instituting a violence-free program for your school.
8. Write to music producers, movie companies, Internet businesses, video game producers, and TV stations to speak out about violence against women. Use www.fvpf.org/celebrity/dvontv.html for help.
9. Build a general agreement among your classmates and friends that abusive behavior and language is not OK and will not be tolerated.
10. Bring together friends and classmates to work with domestic violence program staff, parents, teachers, and school administrators to start a discussion about developing a school-based curriculum on dating and family violence.
11. Learn about city codes, state and federal laws that deal with violence against girls and women.
- 12. EXAMINE YOUR OWN LIFE for violence and oppressive behaviors.**
Try to live a VIOLENCE-FREE life.



Thirteen Ways Any ADULT Can Make Ending Domestic Violence His or Her Business.

1. Cultivate a respectful attitude toward women in your family and at your workplace. Avoid behaviors that demean or control women.
2. When you are angry with your partner or children, respond without hurting or humiliating them. Model a non-violent, respectful response to resolving conflicts in your family. Call a domestic violence or child abuse prevention program for their help if you continue to hurt members of your family **(Add local program number)**.
3. If you have a friend or co-worker who is afraid of her partner or who is being hurt, offer her your support and refer to the 24-hour, toll-free, National Domestic violence Hotline number at 1-800-799- SAFE (7233).
4. Learn about domestic violence services in your community. Contribute your time resources, or money to your local program **(Add local program number)** .
5. Call the police if you see or hear violence in progress.
6. Talk to your friends and neighbors when they belittle women, make a joke about violence, or ignore a battered woman.
7. Ask your local government to collaborate with domestic violence programs to conduct a safety audit of your community.
8. Write to music producers, movie companies, Internet businesses, video game producers, and TV stations to speak out about violence against women.
9. Develop a women's safety campaign in your workplace, neighborhood, school or house of worship. Build a consensus among your colleagues and neighbors that abusive behavior and language is unacceptable.
10. Bring together your local domestic violence program staff, parents, teachers, students, and school administrators to start a discussion about implementing the school based curriculum on dating violence.
11. Ask that physicians and other health care professionals receive training about domestic violence and follow the diagnostic and treatment guidelines about domestic violence, child abuse, elder abuse developed by the American Medical Association.
12. Co-sponsor a citizens' monitoring group with your local domestic violence program to insure that law enforcement officers, judges, and probation & parole personnel receive training about domestic violence and enforce the law.
- 13. EXAMINE YOUR OWN LIFE for violence and oppressive behaviors. Try to live a VIOLENCE-FREE life.**

Fill-In-The-Blank Letter To Elected Official (Annual Event)

Annual Event Letter

Dear [Elected Official's Name],

As you may know, October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month. This month offers a unique opportunity for concerned officials to help increase public awareness about the seriousness of domestic violence. As part of Domestic Violence Awareness Month, [enter organization name] is hosting its annual [enter event].

As a leading figure in our community who has helped to increase awareness about this important issue, I would like to take this opportunity to invite you to our [enter event]. [Enter event description.] You have shown great support in the fight to end domestic violence and we would be honored if you would [enter specific request, i.e. speak at, attend, moderate] our [enter event name] on [enter date] at [enter location].

In the United States alone, nearly 31 percent of American women report being physically or sexually abused by a husband or boyfriend at some point in their lives, according to a 1998 Commonwealth Fund survey. As [enter elected official's position], you have committed to working to end domestic violence in our community and elsewhere. We would be grateful if you would attend our [enter event] and look forward to hearing from you soon. Thank you for your leadership in helping to eradicate violence against women.

Sincerely,

[Your Name, Title, and Organization]

Fill-In-The-Blank Letter To Elected Official (New Event)
New Event Letter

Dear [Elected Official's Name],

As you may know, October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month. This month offers a unique opportunity for concerned officials to help increase public awareness about the seriousness of domestic violence. This year, as part of Domestic Violence Awareness Month, [enter name of organization] is hosting a [enter type of event] to increase such awareness.

As a leading figure in our community who has helped to increase awareness about this important issue, I would like to take this opportunity to invite you to our [enter event]. [Enter event description.] You have shown great support in the fight to end domestic violence and we would be honored if you would [enter specific request, i.e. speak at, attend, moderate] our [enter event name] on [enter date] at [enter location].

In the United States alone, nearly 31 percent of American women report being physically or sexually abused by a husband or boyfriend at some point in their lives, according to a 1998 Commonwealth Fund survey. As [enter elected official's position], you have committed to working to end domestic violence in our community and elsewhere. We would be grateful if you would attend our [enter event] and look forward to hearing from you soon. Thank you for your leadership in helping to eradicate violence against women.

Sincerely,

[Your Name, Title, and Organization]

PRESS RELEASE TEMPLATE

Information from: Press-release-writing.com; www.press-release-writing.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

CONTACT: [Contact Person]
 [Company Name]
 [Telephone Number]
 [Fax Number]
 [Email Address]
 [Web site address]

[Headline]

City, State, Date — [opening paragraph: should contain: who, what, when, where, why]

[Remainder of body text - Should include any relevant information to your events or services. Include benefits, why your event or service is unique. Also include quotes from staff members, experts or “satisfied customers.”]

[If there is more than 1 page use:] -more-
(centered below the last line of text)

[The top of the next page:] [abbreviated headline] (page 2)

[Remainder of text.]

For additional information, contact: [restate all contact information]

[Include a few lines about your organization / agency; information on the history or development of organization, accomplishments, services, etc.]

(indicates Press Release is finished)

Sample Letter to News Media Requesting Support
Newspapers or Magazines

[Name]
[Official Title]
[Mailing Address]

Dear Mr. / Ms. [Name of Editor / Reporter / Publisher],

[Date]

According to a report entitled *Intimate Partner Violence* by the Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Statistics {May 2000}, 876, 340 women were victimized by domestic violence in 1998. Each [year / week / day] [local statistic] of women are victims of domestic violence in [city / county / state].

October is *National Domestic Violence Awareness Month*. During this month, local organizations join together to promote greater public awareness about domestic violence. This month provides an excellent opportunity for our [City / County / State] to demonstrate its support in ending domestic violence and show support to the numerous victims who are among us. Moreover, it is a wonderful opportunity to educate the public on the seriousness of domestic violence and the prevalence of this epidemic in our lives.

We ask you to consider supporting the community during *National Domestic Violence Awareness Month* by writing a feature or feature series examining the crime of domestic violence. Such important news stories could explore various aspects of domestic violence, such as the types of abuse, the legal ramifications of this crime, the affect domestic violence has on our community, domestic violence homicides in our area, as well as services provided in our area. I would be willing to talk to you about other possible angles.

Enclosed are materials about my organization, a calendar of events, and some fact sheets on domestic violence. [The list of items is optional. The words should reflect what actually goes in the envelope.]

If I can provide you with additional information concerning my organization or *National Domestic Violence Awareness Month*, please call me at [telephone number]. I will follow-up with your office on this request in the next few days. As always, we appreciate your support of *National Domestic Violence Awareness Month* and the ending of domestic violence. Thank you for consideration on this special request.

Sincerely,

(Your name)

Enclosure

Sample Letter to News Media Requesting Support

Radio or TV

[Name]

[Official Title]

[Mailing Address]

Dear Mr. / Ms. [Name of Reporter / Producer / News Director],

[Date]

According to a report entitled *Intimate Partner Violence* by the Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Statistics {May 2000}, 876, 340 women were victimized by domestic violence in 1998. Each [year / week / day] [local statistic] of women are victims of domestic violence in [city / county / state].

October is *National Domestic Violence Awareness Month*. During this month, local organizations join together to promote greater public awareness about domestic violence. This month provides an excellent opportunity for our [City / County / State] to demonstrate its support in ending domestic violence and show support to the numerous victims who are among us. Moreover, it is a wonderful opportunity to educate the public on the seriousness of domestic violence and the prevalence of this epidemic in our lives.

We ask you to consider supporting the community during *National Domestic Violence Awareness Month* by producing a news segment or series of segments examining the crime of domestic violence. Such important news stories could explore various aspects of domestic violence, such as the types of abuse, the legal ramifications of this crime, the affect domestic violence has on our community, domestic violence homicides in our area, as well as services provided in our area. I would be willing to talk to you about other possible angles. Moreover, we have also prepared public service announcements to promote this month.

Enclosed are materials about my organization, a calendar of events, some fact sheets on domestic violence, and sample public service announcements. [The list of items is optional. The words should reflect what actually goes in the envelope.]

If I can provide you with additional information concerning my organization or *National Domestic Violence Awareness Month*, please call me at [telephone number]. I will follow-up with your office on this request in the next few days. As always, we appreciate your support of *National Domestic Violence Awareness Month* and the ending of domestic violence. Thank you for consideration on this special request.

Sincerely,

(Your signature)

Enclosure