

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH 2017 CATHOLICS FOR FAMILY PEACE RESOURCE KIT

Catholics for Family Peace Education and Research Initiative (CFFP) offers you this resource kit to enhance your efforts to address domestic abuse through prayer and education.

WHAT IS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE? Domestic abuse and violence refers to a pattern of violent and coercive behavior exercised by one adult in an intimate relationship over another. It is not a private family matter. The Centers for Disease Control state that "Intimate partner violence (IPV) is a serious, preventable public health problem that affects millions of Americans.

Domestic violence, also known as intimate partner violence (IPV) is defined by the Centers for Disease Control as a serious, preventable public health problem that affects millions of Americans. It refers to the physical, sexual, or psychological harm by a current or former partner or spouse and does include teen dating relationships.

A statistic from the Bureau of Justice indicates that from 1994 to 2010, about 4 in 5 victims of intimate partner violence were female. Domestic violence affects the whole family, including any children. Faith communities are called to offer hope, help, and healing to all harmed by domestic abuse and violence.

HOW CAN I HELP?

- Listen, Believe, and Refer. Share that the abuse is not God's will. Say that help is available 24/7 at the National Domestic Violence Hotline 1-800-799-SAFE (7233), 1-800-787-3224 (TTY) or at www.ndvh.org.
- Share that without intervention, abuse often escalates in frequency and severity over time.
- Recommend expert assistance by calling the NDVH. Refer only to specialized domestic violence counseling programs, not to couples counseling.
- If possible, encourage the person using abusive behaviors to seek help. Recommending attending an appropriate 12 step recovery group has been a source of recovery for many people.

A LITTLE ABOUT US. Catholics for Family Peace Education and Research Initiative is part of the National Catholic School of Social Service's Consortium for Catholic Social Teaching at The Catholic University of America.

We share ways to promote family peace, prevent and respond to domestic abuse, and to provide resources and promote prayer for all families. Our Initiative provides education, resources, and research that help pastoral leaders, clergy, and parishioners recognize domestic abuse and respond with compassion. To learn more, please visit www.catholicsforfamilypeace.org.

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SPREAD PEACE THROUGH SOCIAL MEDIA

Participate with Catholics for Family Peace on social media! This will give you a chance to partake in important dialogue about domestic violence, take a stand against this grave injustice, and pray with other Catholics for family peace.

SAMPLE SOCIAL MEDIA POSTS

Help is available 24/7 at the National Domestic Violence Hotline (1-800-799-SAFE (7233) or at www.ndvh.org

“Lord, make me an instrument of your peace. Where there is hatred, let me sow love.” -Prayer of St. Francis of Assisi

“What can you do to promote world peace? Go home and love your family.” -St. Teresa of Calcutta.

And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:7

Join us for our daily 3pm prayer for those suffering from abuse. Holy Family, protect all families in need of healing and peace.

Catholic teaching about domestic abuse is explained in When I call for Help. Find it at http://bit.ly/usccb_dv.

“The time has come to condemn types of sexual violence which frequently have women for their object.” -St. John Paul II

WHO CAN I FOLLOW TO LEARN MORE?

@USCCB The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

@NationalDVAM National Domestic Violence Awareness Month

@NOMOREorg NO MORE Campaign

@CCCharitiesUSA Catholic Charities USA

#faithsupportsurvivors

www.interfaithagainstdv.org

Speak Out Sabbath www.wewillsspeakout.org

NOVENA TO OUR LADY UNDOER OF KNOTS

Join us October 23-31 as we pray a novena through social media for peace in all families, especially those suffering injustice or abuse. A novena is a traditional nine-day Catholic prayer.

We will post the novena prayers each day on our Facebook and Twitter, and the full text of the novena can be found on our website at www.catholicsforfamilypeace.org.

SPREAD PEACE THROUGH YOUR PARISH COMMUNITY

Using these prayers of the faithful gives your parish community the chance to pray for family peace together and the opportunity to start a dialogue about domestic violence in your parish ministries.

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

For all people in abusive relationships. May they experience God's love and know that the abuse is not God's will. May they find in our parish community the courage and support to seek help, and safety, and free themselves from domestic violence.

For children who are victims of abuse or are traumatized by witnessing violence in their homes. May they know that God loves them and receive comfort and assistance in our parish community.

For the elderly who are abused. May they experience God's love and find the support and resources they need in our parish community.

For teenagers in violent or controlling relationships. May they find in our parish the role models of kindness, care, and love that will show them how to recognize a healthy and whole relationship.

For all men and women who use power and control over other people, whether physically, verbally, emotionally, or financially. May they recognize their abusive behavior and find help, hope, and healing in our parish community.

ORACIÓN UNIVERSAL

Recemos por todas las personas en relaciones abusivas. Para que ellos tengan la experiencia del amor de Dios y para que sepan que el abuso no es la voluntad de Dios. Para que encuentren en su parroquia el valor y al apoyo para buscar ayuda, encontrar seguridad y poder liberarse del abuso doméstico.

Recemos por los niños que son víctimas del abuso o que han sido traumatizados al ver el abuso en su familia. Para que conozcan el amor de Dios y que reciban el consuelo y ayuda de su parroquia.

Recemos por los ancianos que han sido abusados. Para que ellos puedan sentir el amor de Dios y puedan encontrar el apoyo y los recursos que necesitan en su parroquia.

Recemos por los adolescentes que están en relaciones violentas o que se sienten controlados por su pareja. Que puedan encontrar en su parroquia los ejemplos de dulzura, amabilidad, y amor que les demuestre lo que es un amor sano y completo.

Recemos por todos los hombres y mujeres que usan su poder y su control sobre otras personas, sea físicamente, verbalmente, emocionalmente o en temas de amenazas. Para que ellos se den cuenta de su comportamiento abusivo y para que encuentren ayuda, esperanza, y saneamiento en su parroquia.

SAMPLE ANNOUNCEMENT TO SHARE IN YOUR PARISH BULLETIN.

October is National Domestic Violence Awareness Month. To learn more about the Catholic response, visit the U.S. Bishop's website for their Pastoral Letter: "When I Call for Help" (http://bit.ly/usccb_dv) If you or a family member or friend needs help now, contact the National Domestic Violence Hotline, 800-799-7233 (24 hours); 800-787-3224 (TTY); www.ndvh.org. If you are in immediate danger, call 911.

INTERESTED IN HAVING A SPEAKER COME TO YOUR PARISH COMMUNITY?

Contact Catholics for Family Peace and we can assist you with coordinating a speaker during domestic violence awareness month. This is a great opportunity to engage your parish community and create resources for those who may be facing domestic violence in your parish community. To coordinate, email info@catholicsforfamilypeace.org.

CONNECT WITH CATHOLICS FOR FAMILY PEACE (CFFP)

FOLLOW US ON TWITTER @CFFamilyPeace

FIND US ON FACEBOOK Catholics for Family Peace

Share your Domestic Violence Awareness Month outreach response and programs with Catholics for Family Peace. Your work will be highlighted on our website and social media pages. Contact Catholics for Family Peace at info@catholicsforfamilypeace.org