



DEBATE PACK

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The role of men in preventing violence against women

**Westminster Hall debate, 4 February 2016
1:30pm**



By Danny Rogers
John Woodhouse

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The House of Commons Library prepares a briefing in hard copy and/or online for most non-legislative debates in the Chamber and Westminster Hall other than half-hour debates. Debate Packs are produced quickly after the announcement of parliamentary business. They are intended to provide a summary or overview of the issue being debated and identify relevant briefings and useful documents, including press and parliamentary material. More detailed briefing can be prepared for Members on request to the Library.

1. Summary

The Office for National Statistics publishes data on the prevalence of domestic abuse in the Crime Survey for England and Wales. The latest figures show that 6.1% of adults aged 16-59 were a victim of domestic abuse in 2014/15.¹

The Government has described the costs of domestic violence as “immense”:

...the estimated cost of domestic violence to employers is some £3.1 billion. The total cost is an estimated £23 billion when all the various factors are taken into account, including the human and emotional suffering and the subsequent suffering of children...²

Tackling domestic violence is a “key priority” for the Government.³ A new offence of controlling or coercive behaviour came into force on 29 December 2015.⁴ An updated Violence Against Women and Girls strategy is due to be published “shortly”.⁵

The role of men in preventing violence against women

One campaigning group has said that non-abusive men “have the potential to make an enormous difference in helping to stop domestic violence and sexual assault”.⁶ Its suggested actions include the following:

- Be a positive role model to other men. If you know somebody who is abusive toward their partner tell them their behaviour is not okay and they need to get help to stop.
- Be a positive role model to children. If you know a child who is without a positive adult male figure you can help to provide consistent support and help the child to make a safety plan.
- Speak out against domestic violence. This can have a powerful effect in helping change attitudes and social norms that support and perpetuate abuse.
- Take on a leadership role in your community, e.g. sports club, university, neighbourhood association or church group, and use this opportunity to speak out against violence in the home.
- Understand how your own attitudes and actions may perpetuate sexism and violence.
- Confront sexist, racist, homophobic and all other prejudiced remarks or jokes.
- Don't buy magazines, movies, music or watch television programs that portray women in a sexually degrading or violent manner.
- Organise or join a group to raise awareness of and work against domestic violence. This might be at university, your workplace or among friends.

¹ [PQ 21261 on domestic violence](#), answered 11 January 2016

² [HL Deb 5 November 2015 c1758](#)

³ [PQ 23493 on domestic violence](#), answered 25 January 2016

⁴ [“Coercive or controlling behaviour now a crime”](#), Home Office news story, 29 December 2015

⁵ [PQ 23493 on domestic violence](#), answered 25 January 2016

⁶ Domestic Violence Prevention Centre Gold Coast Inc, [What men can do to help stop domestic violence](#) [accessed 2 February 2016]

- Participate in local community events to raise awareness of domestic violence and join the white ribbon campaign.

2. Parliamentary materials

2.1 Parliamentary questions

Oral questions on Domestic Abuse

1. **Mr Robin Walker (Worcester) (Con):** What recent steps the Crown Prosecution Service has taken to ensure that prosecutors are able more effectively to prosecute cases of domestic abuse.

The Solicitor General (Robert Buckland): Crown Prosecution Service legal guidance on domestic abuse was updated ahead of the introduction of the new offence of coercive or controlling behaviour in intimate and familial relationships. To support the introduction of that guidance, training has been developed and made available to prosecutors.

Mr Walker: I thank my hon. and learned Friend for that answer. Women's groups in Worcester and national campaigns such as Women's Aid have warmly welcomed the new law of coercive control as a real step forward in the protection of victims. Does he anticipate a further rise in the number of domestic abuse cases coming to court as a result of that change in legislation?

The Solicitor General: I pay tribute to all those groups that do so much to support male and female victims of domestic abuse. Yes, I think we can expect a rise in prosecutions. There has been a similar precedent in the case of stalking and harassment offences, which were introduced several years ago, and I was proud to be the Minister who took the coercive control provisions through this House.

Andrew Gwynne (Denton and Reddish) (Lab): Given that conviction rates for rape, domestic abuse and other sexual offences have fallen in the past year, what reassurances can the Solicitor General give to the House that further budget cuts will not damage attempts to secure justice for the victims of those crimes?

The Solicitor General: The hon. Gentleman makes a proper point. Conviction rates for domestic violence remain broadly flat, but the volume of convictions continues to increase, which is good news for every single victim. For example, rape convictions now exceed 2,500 a year, whereas there were only 2,000 some five years ago. I assure him that the CPS, in the light of the comprehensive spending review

settlement, is placing continued priority on rape and serious sexual offence units, and no prosecution will be prevented as a result of any budget problem.

Alex Chalk (Cheltenham) (Con): The strength of the victim's evidence in a domestic violence trial can often depend on recalling recollections as close in time to the incident as possible. Does the Solicitor General agree that we should consider allowing victims to record evidence remotely, perhaps via an app on their phones, rather than having to flog off to a police station?

The Solicitor General: Like my hon. Friend, I am always enthusiastic about the sensible use of new technology. Police in London are already piloting body-worn cameras, which capture the immediacy of events of domestic abuse. That sort of technology needs to be very much part of the tools available to police officers when investigating such cases.

Jim Shannon (Strangford) (DUP): I thank the Solicitor General for his responses so far. Domestic violence accounts for about a fifth of all crime in Northern Ireland, with police officers attending 60 domestic incidents a day. That is massive, but we still have problems with people failing to come forward, particularly men. Is the CPS considering taking steps to work alongside police forces to encourage people to report all domestic incidents?

The Solicitor General: I am very grateful to the hon. Gentleman for raising the issue of male victims. About 15% of domestic abuse victims are, indeed, men, and proper emphasis is being placed on the need to encourage men to come forward. It is not a badge of shame for someone to admit that they are a male victim of domestic abuse, and that message needs to be heard loud and clear throughout the length and breadth of the kingdom.

14 Jan 2016|604 c974

Asked by: Shannon, Jim

To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps her Department is taking to reduce the number of women murdered as a result of domestic violence.

Answered by: Karen Bradley | Department: Home Office

Tackling domestic violence is a key priority for this Government. We put Domestic Homicide Reviews on a statutory footing in 2011 so that local areas and agencies identify lessons learned to help to prevent future homicides and violence. We have commenced a new domestic abuse offence to tackle controlling and coercive behaviour, and have rolled out Domestic Violence Protection Orders and the Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme across the country. We have already committed £40

million between 2016 and 2020 to support domestic abuse victims, and provided £2 million to Safelives and Women's Aid to support early intervention. We will shortly publish a refreshed cross-Government Violence Against Women and Girls strategy setting out how we will do more still to secure long-term funding for domestic violence services and support for all victims.

25 Jan 2016 | 23493

Asked by: Carswell, Mr Douglas

To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what recent steps she has taken to reduce levels of domestic violence.

Answered by: Lynne Featherstone | Department: Home Office

The Government is committed to tackling the appalling crime of domestic violence and abuse. It is actively pursuing ways in which domestic violence and abuse can be prevented in the first place, doing even more to help victims, and bringing more perpetrators to justice. In September 2013, the Home Secretary commissioned Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) to undertake a comprehensive review on how the police deal with domestic abuse. HMIC published its findings in March 2014 and highlighted serious police failings. In response, the Home Secretary has established a national oversight group to ensure that the police change the way they respond to domestic abuse, and made clear to all chief constables that every police force must have an action plan in place. All forces have now produced plans that are being reviewed by HMIC.

The Government is also committed to providing the police with the tools they need to tackle domestic violence and abuse, and to ensure victims have the support they need to rebuild their lives. On 8 March, we announced the national roll-out of Domestic Violence Protection Orders and the Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme across England and Wales. The Government has additionally recently consulted on whether the law needs to be strengthened by creating a specific offence of domestic abuse to offer the best possible protection to victims. That consultation has closed and responses are currently being analysed.

We have also ring-fenced £40 million of funding for specialist local support services and national helplines over this Parliament.

Latest data from the Crown Prosecution Service Violence against Women and Girls Crime Report 2013-2014 shows the volume of domestic violence referrals from the police rising to 103,569, the highest level ever. Prosecutions and convictions have risen by over 10%

in the last year, with the conviction rate at its highest ever level at 74.6%.

02 Dec 2014 | 215627

Asked by: Mrs Moon

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence (1) how many sexual violence perpetrator programmes are available to (a) Royal Navy, (b) Army and (c) Royal Air Force personnel; where each such programme is made available; and if he will make a statement; [169407]

(2) how many places are available on his Department's domestic violence perpetrator programmes; what the length is of each such programme; how many participants failed to conclude each of the programmes in the last five years; and if he will make a statement.

Answered by: Mr Francois | Department: Defence

The tri-Service Military Corrective Training Centre (MCTC) in Colchester has a range of offender programmes designed to address detainees' offender attitudes, thinking and behaviour. These include the newly introduced Domestic Abuse programme delivered by Essex Probation Services. The MCTC does not provide specific sex offender treatment programmes, primarily because detainees generally serve short sentences and are not sentenced for offences which would warrant this type of intervention.

When a service person based in the UK is ordered by a civil court to attend a rehabilitation programme, commanding officers will ensure that the individual is not prevented through their military duties from complying with the order. Any serious impact on the military duties of the individual which result from such an order being imposed is considered during the service's administrative process that follows court proceedings, and an employment decision is made accordingly. Where appropriate, the service police and welfare services will liaise with Home Office police forces and the Probation Service to assist in the offender management process.

Domestic violence offender programmes have been offered to British forces in Germany since November 2008. It is taking time to collate the details and I will write to the hon. Member shortly.

08 Oct 2013 | 568 c27W

Asked by: Kate Green

To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what perpetrator-focused programmes her Department provides to help prevent domestic violence; and whether any of these programmes are directed at teenagers.

Answered by: Blunt, Crispin | Department: Ministry of Justice

I have been asked to reply on behalf of the Ministry of Justice.

The National Offender Management Service (NOMS) has developed and delivers a range of offending behaviour programmes, designed to address a diverse range of offending related needs. There are currently two community based accredited domestic violence programmes in use in England and Wales: the Community Domestic Violence Programme (CDVP) and the Integrated Domestic Abuse Programme (IDAP). Both programmes are targeted at male offenders who are assessed as being of medium to high risk of causing harm and have been fully implemented in all 35 Probation trusts since 2006.

The Healthy Relationships Programme (HRP) in use in prisons is currently available in 12 prison sites. There are two versions of HRP—the moderate intensity programme for men assessed as having a moderate risk/moderate need profile and the high intensity programme designed for high risk/high need offenders.

All of the programmes are targeted at men aged 18 and over.

23 Feb 2012 | 540 c920W

2.2 Parliamentary debates

[Westminster Hall debate on Violence against Women and Girls](#)

HC Deb 12 March 2015 cc 156 – 178WH

[Westminster Hall debate on Domestic Violence](#)

HC Deb 29 October 2014 cc 76 -97WH

[Westminster Hall debate on Domestic Violence \(Police Response\)](#)

HC Deb 10 April 2014 cc 135 – 172WH

[Westminster Hall debate on Fatal Domestic Violence](#)

HC Deb 5 March 2014 cc313 – 321WH

[Westminster Hall debate on Domestic Violence \(West Essex and Harlow\)](#)

HC Deb 4 March 2014 cc272 – 280WH

[Westminster Hall debate on Domestic Violence](#)

HC Deb 11 September 2012 c25 – 50 WH

[Westminster Hall debate on Women's Aid](#)

HC Debate 14 March 2012 cc 110 – 131WH

[Westminster Hall debate on Violence against Women and Girls](#)

HC Debate 12 October 2011 cc 128 - 144

2.3 Early Day Motions (EDMs)

EDM 752

WHITE RIBBON AND INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE ELIMINATION OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

That this House recognises White Ribbon and International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women which takes place on 25 November 2015; believes that committing violence against women is a human rights abuse, and accordingly recognises the 16 Days of Action against Gender Violence, which runs from White Ribbon Day to 10 December 2015, International Human Rights Day; encourages hon. Members to show their support by attending White Ribbon UK's drop-in session on 18 November 2015 from 16.00 to 18.00 in Room A in 1 Parliament Street; praises the fantastic work of White Ribbon UK, a campaign launched in October 2005 which engages men in working to end violence against women, and operates in 55 countries around the world; notes the success of White Ribbon UK in promoting positive male role models with 12 leading rugby league and rugby union clubs now wearing the White Ribbon on their kit, while 30 sports clubs, organisations and schools have supported White Ribbon UK's Sports campaign; appreciates the involvement of high-profile sportsmen and musicians in promoting and supporting the campaign, with figures such as Amir Khan and Labrinth becoming involved with White Ribbon UK; further recognises the importance of dealing with violence against women in the UK, with up to three million women experiencing violence every year; is disturbed by the amount of violence against women across the world with 1.4 million women suffering domestic abuse in 2014; and commits to ending violence against women both in the UK and abroad.

Primary sponsor: Greg Mulholland, 24 Nov 2015 | 752 (session 2015-16)

EDM 628

10TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE VIOLENCE REDUCTION UNIT

That this House congratulates the Violence Reduction Unit (VRU) on its 10th anniversary; notes the foundation of the VRU in 2005 by Detective Chief Superintendent John Carnochan and Strathclyde Police principal analyst Karyn McCluskey and its innovative use of a public health approach to tackle violence; recognises the groundbreaking partnerships carried out by the VRU over the last decade, including working with dentists, hairdressers, vets and others to identify domestic abuse; further notes groundbreaking projects such as Mentors in

Violence Prevention and Medics against Violence; notes the work the VRU has carried out amongst gangs in Glasgow promoting positive alternatives, based on work in Boston in the US in the 1990s; recognises its success in helping bring crime to a 40-year low in Scotland; wishes the VRU continued success over the next decade; and supports the principle that violence is preventable, not inevitable.

Primary sponsor: Anne McLaughlin, 29 Oct 2015 | 628 (session 2015-16)

3. Press articles

Guardian Observer

28 November 2015

[Government 'still failing to protect women against violent men'](#)

Telegraph

July 20 2015

[We must stop indoctrinating boys in feminist ideology](#)

Guardian

14 June 2015

[UK under fire over 'incoherent' approach to domestic violence](#)

Guardian

23 January 2015

[Reform programs stop most violent men harming partners, says landmark study](#)

Llanelli Star

12 August 2015

[Domestic violence perpetrators to be helped by "life changing" Llanelli Women's Aid programme](#)

Guardian

30 May 2014

[Education is essential for changing male attitudes towards sexual violence](#)

Telegraph

1 January 2014

[Why aren't men speaking up on gender issues?](#)

Independent

6 July 2014

[We must educate our sons to save our daughters](#)

3.1 Research briefs

Durham University - Centre for Research into Violence and Abuse

[Rehabilitation programmes for domestic violence perpetrators can work](#)

12 January 2015

[Steps Towards Change](#) - Respect briefing paper on the findings of the Mirabal research into the outcomes of accredited perpetrator programmes, January 2015.

Phillips, R., Kelly, L. and Westmarland, N. (2013) [Domestic Violence Perpetrator Programmes: An Historical Overview](#), London and Durham: London Metropolitan University and Durham University.

Lana Wells et al,

[Engaging Men and Boys in Domestic violence Prevention: Opportunities and Promising Approaches](#), University of Calgary, February 2013

Michael Flood, [Where Men Stand: Men's roles in ending violence against women](#), White Ribbon Prevention Research Series, 2010

4. Press releases

4.1 Crown Prosecution Service (CPS)

Press release 29/12/2015

DPP: Controlling and coercive behaviour can "limit victims' basic human rights" as new domestic abuse law introduced

Domestic abusers who subject victims to controlling or coercive behaviour could face up to five years in jail under a new law which comes into force today (29 December 2015).

The new legislation will mean the CPS can for the first time prosecute specific offences of domestic abuse if there is evidence of repeated, or continuous, controlling or coercive behaviour.

This type of abuse in an intimate or family relationship can include a pattern of threats, humiliation and intimidation, or behaviour such as stopping a partner socialising, controlling their social media accounts, surveillance through apps and dictating what they wear. Controlling or coercive behaviour causes someone either:

- to fear that violence will be used against them on at least two occasions; or
- serious alarm or distress which has a substantial effect on their usual day-to-day activities.

Director of Public Prosecutions, Alison Saunders, said:

"Controlling or coercive behaviour can limit victims' basic human rights, such as their freedom of movement and their independence. This behaviour can be incredibly harmful in an abusive relationship where one person holds more power than the other, even if on the face of it this behaviour might seem playful, innocuous or loving.

"Victims can be frightened of the repercussions of not abiding by someone else's rules. Often they fear that violence will be used against them, or suffer from extreme psychological and emotional abuse. Being subjected to repeated humiliation, intimidation or subordination can be as harmful as physical abuse, with many victims stating that trauma from psychological abuse had a more lasting impact than physical abuse.

"These new powers mean this behaviour, which is particularly relevant to cases of domestic abuse, can now be prosecuted in its own right. Police and prosecutors are being trained to recognise patterns of abusive behaviour which can be regarded as criminal abuse. We will do everything in our power to tackle this abhorrent crime."

Coercive behaviour is an act, or a pattern of acts, which are used to harm or frighten a victim. This can include humiliation, threats and intimidation. Controlling behaviour is a range of acts designed to make a person subordinate or dependent on them. Cases can be heard in

either magistrates' courts or crown courts and the maximum sentence is five years imprisonment.

When reviewing these cases, prosecutors will be trained to look at the overall effect this controlling and/or coercive behaviour had on the victim.

The consideration of the **cumulative impact** of controlling or coercive behaviour and the **pattern** of behaviour within the context of the relationship is crucial.

This behaviour can include:

- Stopping or changing the way someone socialises
- Limiting access to family, friends and finances
- Monitoring a person via online communication tools e.g. tracking apps on mobile phones
- Repeatedly putting them down such as telling them they are worthless
- Humiliating and embarrassing the victim

As well as the CPS legal guidance, prosecutors will receive specialist training on the new legislation. This will form part of the CPS' extensive work on wider domestic abuse, including a charging advice checklist for police and prosecutors and an evidence-gathering checklist for officers on the ground - both jointly published by the police and the CPS.

Louisa Rolfe, National Police Lead on Domestic Abuse, said:

"Every police force is working hard to increase the confidence of victims to report domestic abuse and we have seen a substantial increase in reporting nationally with greater understanding of all forms of abuse, not just physical violence. The new domestic abuse offence of Controlling and Coercive Behaviour within the Serious Crime Act is another tool to help the police service and CPS prosecute perpetrators of domestic abuse and protect victims. It will provide more opportunities to evidence other forms of domestic abuse, beyond physical violence. Not only will this encourage more victims to report we hope, but also the concerned family and friends of victims."

The College of Policing's head of crime and criminal justice, David Tucker, said:

"The new offence of coercive control presents challenges - it demands much fuller understanding of events that led up to a call for assistance and this can make evidence gathering more complex. However, more importantly, it delivers greater opportunities to safeguard victims and achieve successful prosecutions.

"We have produced specialised training to educate officers and staff involved in any aspect of domestic abuse investigation about the dynamics of coercive control.

"This is a real opportunity for the police service and CPS to work together to make victims and potential victims of serious assaults safer."

Polly Neate, Chief Executive of Women's Aid, said:

"Coercive control is at the heart of domestic abuse. Perpetrators will usually start abusing their victim by limiting her personal freedoms, monitoring her every move, and stripping away her control of her life; physical violence often comes later. Women's Aid and other organisations campaigned to have this recognised in law, and we are thrilled that this has now happened. It is a landmark moment in the UK's approach to domestic abuse, and must be accompanied by comprehensive professional training and awareness raising among the public."

Ends

Notes to Editors

1. The Government definition of these types of behaviour are:
 - o Coercive behaviour is an act or a pattern of acts of assault, threats, humiliation and intimidation or other abuse that is used to harm, punish, or frighten their victim
 - o Controlling behaviour is a range of acts designed to make a person subordinate and/or dependent by isolating them from sources of support, exploiting their resources and capacities for personal gain, depriving them of the means needed for independence, resistance and escape and regulating their everyday behaviour
2. Evidence in these cases can include:
 - o Copies of emails
 - o GPS tracking devices installed on mobile phones (etc.)
 - o Bank records
 - o Witness statements from family and friends
 - o Evidence of isolation
3. A person guilty under section 76 of the Serious Crime Act 2015 - Controlling or Coercive Behaviour in an Intimate or Family Relationship - is liable:
 - o On conviction on indictment, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding five years or a fine, or both;
 - o On summary conviction, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months, or a fine, or both.
4. You can find our more information at the CPS legal guidance on [controlling or coercive behaviour in an intimate or family relationship](#)
5. For media enquiries call the CPS Press Office on 020 3357 0906; Out of Hours Pager 07699 781 926
6. For the latest in breaking news from the CPS Press Office follow [@cpsuk](#) and visit our official News Brief - [blog.cps.gov.uk](#)
7. The CPS consists of 13 Areas in total, each headed by a Chief Crown Prosecutor (CCP). In addition, there are three national casework divisions: Specialist Fraud (formerly Central Fraud and Welfare, Rural & Health Divisions), Special Crime & Counter Terrorism and Organised Crime. CPS Direct is a 'virtual' 14th Area which provides charging decisions to all police forces and other investigators across England and Wales - it operates twenty-four hours, seven days a week, 365 days a year.
8. At 31 March 2015 we employed a workforce of approximately 5,895 staff (full time equivalent), including around 2,255 prosecutors and 3,288 caseworkers and administrators. Further information can be found on our website: [www.cps.gov.uk](#).

The CPS, together with police representatives (formerly ACPO) and media representatives, has developed a Protocol for the release of prosecution material to the media. This sets out the type of prosecution material that will normally be released, or considered for release, together with the factors we will take into account when considering requests. Read the [Protocol for the release of prosecution material to the media](#)

Welsh Government

Press release 10 November 2015

Campaign to tackle domestic abuse of young people launched

The next phase of the Welsh Government's Live Fear Free campaign launched yesterday (9 November), and concentrates on the themes of consent and control in young people's relationships.

Research shows that 1 in 5 teenage girls have been assaulted by a boyfriend. But the campaign aims to show that abuse is not limited to physical attacks. Emotional abuse such as constant criticism, isolation from friends and family, control of personal appearance and of finances can be just as damaging.

The campaign also reminds young people that consent to one act is not a 'free pass' to future acts, that consent cannot be presumed or forced and ultimately, "NO means NO".

Aimed towards 16-24 year olds, the campaign begins with advertising on Facebook and Google. It will be closely followed by a poster campaign appearing in bars and clubs, shopping centres and student unions in 180 sites across Wales.

Running alongside the campaign will be two films produced in partnership with University of South Wales students, around the same messages of consent and control. These will be hosted on social media and on the Live Fear Free website.

Public Services Minister Leighton Andrews said:

"This phase of the Live Fear Free campaign targets young people, who might not always be considered at risk of gender-based violence, domestic abuse and sexual violence.

"Understanding healthy and unhealthy behaviour in relationships, could help young people to get advice and support sooner or prevent destructive behaviour."

One of the students involved in the making of the films, Angharad Hoskins said:

"While it was a great opportunity to be part of this process with regards to developing the storyline and being involved in the filming, it also highlighted to me some key issues around domestic abuse and how it can impact on individuals – their self-confidence and self-esteem. I hope what we have done will help to raise awareness about the issue and ensure that anyone who is affected knows where to get help."

Theatre and drama lecturer at University of South Wales, Rhiannon Williams said:

"This project was important as it allowed the students to work through ideas regarding domestic abuse and develop their own relevant storylines which will hopefully resonate with others of the same age."

Women's Officer Rosie Inman NUS Wales said:

“The Live Fear Free campaign is an excellent way of raising awareness of the issues around violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence.

“We have researched the experience of women students and know that they are exposed to a range of unwanted behaviours from ‘everyday’ verbal and non-verbal harassment, to serious episodes of stalking, physical and sexual assault.

“This is of huge concern to us and despite some progress in changing the law to protect women from violence and abuse, there remains a deeply-ingrained problem in the way society views and treats women.

“This requires an approach which involves all areas of Welsh life. We welcome this work as a step towards tackling these problems through education.”

For more information, visit www.gov.wales/livefearfree, and for advice and support call the Live Fear Free Helpline on 0808 8010800.

5. Further reading

- Home Office, [Domestic violence and abuse](#), March 2015
- HM Government, [A Call to End Violence against Women and Girls Progress Report 2010-15](#), March 2015
- Home Office, [2010 to 2015 government policy: violence against women and girls](#), May 2015
- House of Lords Library, [Domestic Violence and Abuse in the UK](#), December 2015
- College of Policing, [Authorised professional practice on domestic abuse](#), September 2015
- All-Party Parliamentary Group on Domestic Violence, [The Changing Landscape of Domestic and Sexual Violence Services](#), 2015
- Joint Committee on Human Rights, [Violence against women and girls](#), HL Paper 106/HC 594, February 2015
- Women's Aid, [Annual Review 2014/15](#)

Women's shelters/organisations

- **Refuge**

Website: <http://www.refuge.org.uk/>

- **Women's Aid**

Website: <http://www.womensaid.org.uk/>

- **Welsh Women's Aid**

Website: <http://www.welshwomensaid.org.uk/>

- **Women's Aid Federation Northern Ireland**

Website: www.womensaidni.org

- **Scottish Women's Aid**

Website: www.scottishwomensaid.org.uk

- **National Centre for Domestic Violence**

Website: www.ncdv.org.uk

- **Victim Support**

Website: <https://www.victimsupport.org.uk/>

- **Respect**

Website: <http://respect.uk.net/>

- **Broken Rainbow** (for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people)

Website: www.brokenrainbow.org.uk

- **Woman's Trust**

Website: <http://www.womanstrust.org.uk/>

- **Southall Black Sisters**

Website: <http://www.southallblacksisters.org.uk/>

- **Action on Elder Abuse**

Website: <http://www.elderabuse.org.uk/>

The White Ribbon campaign:

- <http://www.whiteribboncampaign.co.uk/aboutus>
- <http://www.whiteribboncampaign.co.uk/node/391>

Respect.org

<http://respect.uk.net/>

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