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**No To Violence
Male Family Violence
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Incorporating the
Men's Referral Service
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New project begins

NTV starts work on NSW MBCP practice guidelines

No To Violence was the successful bidder for a project commissioned by the NSW Department of Attorney General and Justice to develop a practice guide for men's behaviour change programs (MBCPs) in that state. This practice guide will accompany the recently finalised NSW minimum standards for MBCPs.

Outside the domestic violence offender programs run by Corrective Services NSW, there are few current programs in the state that resemble Victorian MBCPs.

Therefore, NTV's work in developing the practice guide will play an important role in helping these programs progress towards meeting the standards.

Update required

While the practice guide cannot be too complex (to reflect the early stage of development of the male family violence sector in NSW), it might include some areas of practice and innovation that are not covered by the NTV minimum standards. The literature searches and consultations conducted during the early part of the project has revealed that while the NTV

minimum standards manual is still very relevant to this day, it is also in need of an update to reflect emerging areas of high quality practice.

Victorian program resources

NTV is grateful for the help already provided by Victorian programs for this project, especially in sharing examples of tools, templates, forms and resources that will help in constructing the quality resources section of the practice guide.

This is one of several projects with interstate or national scope that NTV has been working on of late. Others include:

- training for West Australian child protection workers and directors/managers in engaging men who perpetrate family violence,
- training for Tasmanian community organisations on identifying and responding to male family violence, and
- input into the development of a family violence training package for the federal Department of Human Services to roll out to some Medicare, Centrelink and Child Support Agency staff.

Rodney Vlasis. email: rodney@ntv.net.au •

From the NTV / MRS Chair

A message from Marg Darcy about recent changes

We are writing to you to let you know about some changes to the NTV/MRS Management Committee. Karen Weiss, Don Baker and Kaye Swanton have resigned. We would like to thank them all for their contribution to the committee and the work of NTV/MRS. In particular, we would like to thank Karen who has been the chair for the last 18 months and Don Baker who has been the treasurer for a number of years.

The Committee is continuing to work to improve its structure and governance and we thank Karen, Don and Kaye for their work in relation to governance. We are pleased to let you know that Danny Blay has agreed to return as EO, from August 1st 2011 and he will work with us to bring about the changes required to ensure we continue to operate as a strong voice for the prevention of male family violence.

The current members of the committee are: Marg D'Arcy (Chair), Cathie Nederveen (Deputy Chair), Michael Wilson (Public

Officer), Brian Moody and Margaret Hodge.

We will be going through a process to bring new members onto the committee, and would welcome any expressions of interest. We are particularly looking for someone who understands financial reports to join the committee as treasurer and would encourage anyone with financial expertise who is interested in supporting our work to contact a member of the Management Committee via email to chair@ntv.net.au

We would also like to recognise the way in which the staff of NTV/MRS has continued to work together during this period of change. Rodney Vlasis and Mary Karambilas are particularly commended for sharing the EO role to ensure that the organisation has continued to work effectively during what has been a busy and demanding time.

Thank you
Marg D'Arcy
NTV /MRS Chair •

Tackling family violence in the west

A state funding increase for three western suburbs councils

In June, the Victorian government announced \$120,000 in funding over three years for Brimbank, Maribyrnong and Wyndham councils to develop, implement and test initiatives for the prevention of violence against women. According to police figures, during 2009-10, Brimbank municipality recorded 142 reported family violence incidents per 100,000 people. Wyndham Council recorded the second-highest rate of offences in the western suburbs with 985 reported incidents per 100,000 people, resulting in 174 charges being laid.

Partnership

The *Wyndham Weekly* reports that programs being considered for assistance include those for men which promote positive masculinity and responsible fatherhood, training for community groups, and the partnership between the councils and the Western Football League to empower clubs to take a lead role.

Shane Bourke, Wyndham Chaffey Ward councillor and member of the city's *White Ribbon Day* Taskforce, said reducing family violence was a priority. "It's an extremely serious issue and it's vital that we work together with all levels of government, community groups and residents to address it.

"While the exact initiatives are yet to be determined, we will investigate a number of possible programs from internal projects to working with external community agencies, sporting clubs, schools and workplaces."

Source: Wyndham Weekly (<http://tiny.cc/uwbjji>) •

Gippsland's 'dirty little secret'?

The ABC recently asked "is family violence Gippsland's 'dirty little secret'?"

Reporter Gerard Callinan says it seems whenever the subject is raised with police or those who work in the field, the extent of the problem in the region gets larger.

Following an attack on a woman in her home in recent weeks by an estranged partner, the ABC Radio Gippsland Breakfast Program looked again at the issue of family violence.

More than just physical

CEO of the Gippsland Women's Health Service and Chair of the Gippsland Family Violence Steering Committee Dianne Wilkinson warns that family violence is not just about physical violence. "That's the one we sometimes hear about more often ... but family violence and violence against women takes many forms and that can be emotional violence ... it can be financial violence where women are simply deprived of sufficient financial resources in order to really live when they are in a relationship. It can be a controlling of who they see and when they see it, that sort of deprivation of liberty."

Andy Blaney works with men who have been violent in the home. They may have self referred to the program he helps run at the Latrobe Community Health Service or be referred by police. Andy says men who do choose to accept responsibility for their behaviour and make the change have to adapt to a whole new way of living.

It's a choice

"The use of violence is a choice. It's a conscious choice ... we often get men who do this stuff (the behaviour change program) and the rewards are ten-fold," said Andy Blaney. "The new type of relationship you'll share with your partner is unbelievable.

"It's really difficult to describe the closeness and the one that you have with your partner when she's your equal and not subservient. It's really powerful."

Source: ABC Gippsland (<http://tiny.cc/gjdjfi>) •

US men and masculinity conference

The 37th National Conference on Men and Masculinity (M&M), *Preserving Our Roots While Looking to the Future* will be held in Denver, Colorado from July 21 to 25, next year (2012).

This conference, in support of anti-violence initiatives, will once again be presented in partnership with the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, (NCADV) 15th National Conference on Domestic Violence.

It's a National Organization for Men Against Sexism (NOMAS) conference, with the program addressing a broad range of issues pertaining to men and masculinity, and the analysis and prevention of domestic violence and sexual assault. NOMAS emphasizes the interrelated factors of societal abuse of power and

domination in the forms of sexism, racism, homophobia, classism, anti-Semitism, able-bodyism, ageism and other oppressions that influence social inequalities, the construction of gender, and the perpetration of all forms of violence.

Who attends?

- Domestic violence and sexual assault prevention professionals and survivors,
- anti-trafficking workers,
- public health and child abuse prevention professionals,
- gender studies professionals and students,
- sociology, anthropology, psychology and campus professionals- and students,
- therapists and social workers,
- students, campus, community, and youth organizers,

- male allies to the women's and ending violence movements,
- faith communities working for social justice,
- legal and justice system professionals, or
- activists and all others interested in examining the intersections of social justice issues (e.g. gender, sexual orientation, race, culture, ability).

Proposals sought

NOMAS is seeking workshop submissions that evaluate and examine diverse aspects in gender identity, gender roles, the construction of masculinity, and the experiences of men's lives, specifically as related to the role of men as allies to the women's and sexual assault domestic violence movements. Presentations (90 minutes) are welcome.

For more info, go to: <http://tiny.cc/em1bi>

Gold Coast education and intervention program

Rosemary O'Malley details a Queensland based MDVEIP

As a result of attending a Practice Forum hosted by NTV earlier this year for men's programs managers and coordinators, I was asked to provide a summary describing the Men's Domestic Violence Education and Intervention Program (MDVEIP) delivered by the *Domestic Violence Prevention Centre Gold Coast Inc* (DVPC) in Queensland.

The MDVEIP has been co-facilitated by the DVPC and Queensland Corrective Services (QCS) for the past eleven years. In 2008, Bob Pease identified the gendered nature of domestic violence by stating he believes "that the theoretical premises underpinning men's violence prevention need to be based upon both feminist theory and the critical scholarship on men and masculinities".

Services on offer

The DVPC is a feminist organisation committed to enhancing the safety of women and their children, and the MDVEIP is grounded in the work undertaken with women who have been affected by domestic violence and abuse. Services offered by the DVPC include:

- crisis and longer term counselling and support for women who have experienced domestic violence,
- Police Assisted Referrals, a Court Support (information and advocacy) Program,
- groups for women,
- counselling for children who have witnessed domestic violence,
- a Safety Upgrades Program (to enhance the safety of physical premises when women choose to remain in their current residence),
- a schools based education program (Supakids), extensive interagency training, and
- the MDVEIP.

Additionally, the Director of the DVPC sits on the Gold Coast Domestic Violence Round Table (DVRT) which brings together decision-makers from government and other agencies throughout the year to work at a strategic level to reform domestic violence responses on the Gold Coast. The DVRT originated from Community Cabinet and reports directly to the Premier and the Minister for Communities.

Integrated Response

The DVPC also convenes the Gold Coast Domestic Violence Integrated Response (DVIR). The DVIR meets on a monthly basis and has been fully operational for the past fifteen years.

Its member agencies include the DVPC, Queensland Police Service (QPS), QCS, Southport and Coolangatta Magistrates Courts, Department of Child Safety, Department of Housing, local women's accommodation support services (refuges), Gold Coast and Robina Hospitals, Legalaid, and Centrecare.

The DVIR is not a Local Area Network, the key word is *response* and all member

have the safety of women and their children as their primary function; and the safety and well-being of patients is a primary concern for the hospitals. When the focus is on the common goal of safety and risk management, all agencies have individual processes which support this and, when combined, make it possible and resource-efficient to work together to achieve positive outcomes.

The program

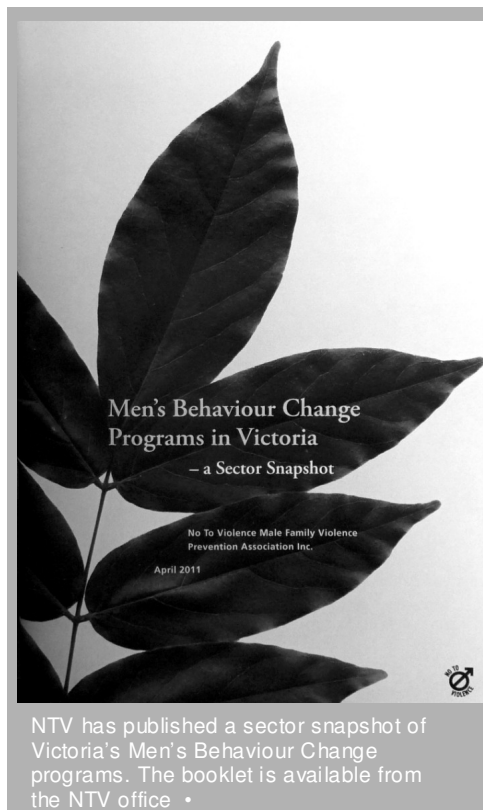
The MDVEIP is embedded within the DVIR and currently runs two program sessions per week for 50 weeks of the year. The program delivers the Ellen Pence / Michael Paymar curriculum distributed by the Domestic Abuse Intervention Programs (DAIP) located in Duluth Minnesota. The curriculum follows the eight themes on the Power and Control Wheel and it takes three weeks to deliver each theme, therefore men attend the program for a minimum of 24 weeks.

The effectiveness of the program is not measured by whether or not the men change their behaviour, but instead by the safety of women and their children being enhanced while the men are participating in the program, through systems agencies monitoring offenders. Each offender's address and aggrieved addresses are flagged on the police communications system to ensure swift police responses. A briefing sheet is also sent to police for each offender attending the program so they have a history before attending the address and flagging that he is currently supervised by QCS and is attending the MDVEIP.

Men are mandated to attend the MDVEIP through the Courts or by Parole Boards. The Manager of the MDVEIP has provided local Magistrates with the wording to use for the condition to be added to Probation Orders, which includes the offender ordered to attend for a *minimum* of 24 weeks, that his participation must be appropriate (as assessed by facilitators), that he will submit to urine and breath testing, that he will comply with the conditions of the Group Contract, and that he will pay \$375 in program fees.

Offenders at Court consent to being placed on a Probation Order and to the MDVEIP condition being added to their order. If they fail to comply with this program condition they are returned to Court for Breach of Probation Order and may be resentenced for their original offences.

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NTV has published a sector snapshot of Victoria's Men's Behaviour Change programs. The booklet is available from the NTV office •

agencies have the capacity to respond rapidly to high risk situations, with the woman's consent being sought at each stage of any response to ensure it supports her safety and autonomy. Information is shared in a timely and appropriate manner through the use of Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) and member agencies hold each other accountable for how they respond to high risk situations. Individual agencies are also held accountable for how they work with domestic violence cases and clients, and ongoing interagency training is provided.

The strength of the DVIR is the understanding of common goals despite the competing paradigms of individual agencies. For example QPS and QCS, the Courts and the Department of Child Safety have community safety as one of their primary functions; the DVPC and refuges

MouthPeace

The Men's Referral Service newsletter

On the phones

Revitalising the Service

The Men's Referral Service is undergoing a renewal, and hopefully re-energizing, with new staff and more activity. With the return of our Executive Officer Danny Blay, we look forward to an even brighter future for MRS. Many of you will have received notification from the *No To Violence* and *Men's Referral Service* Chair Marg D'Arcy updating you about the Management Committee membership and Danny. We encourage you, the MRS telephone counsellor to raise any issues or concerns with me directly via email, phone or in the office about the Service or the Committee and they will be forwarded on.

SMS reminders

We are diversifying our communication with existing MRS Telephone Counsellors and re-engaging with many of those that have either taken a break or been on leave. The SMS reminders will only be used as such and we are focusing on more live contacts and meetings. As well as the reflective interviews, we will be inviting you to meet here at the MRS.

Winter results

Winter months seem to be tough all round, both for callers and the phone room. Traditionally, the shifts become harder to fill during dark wintry days. There were only 168 calls responded to for the month of July and with only 26 Telephone Counsellors taking on shifts.

In June the figures were higher with 35 Telephone Counsellors covering shifts and responding to 295 calls.

Telephone counseling course

Although the MRS has now officially started a new 2011 Course in Telephone Counselling, the new trainees will not begin work on the phones until March 2012. Over the coming six months we will be relying heavily on our small existing pool of Telephone Counsellor volunteers and calling upon other TCs who can even offer a monthly or fortnightly shift.

Advisory Working Group

The Telephone Counsellor Advisory Working Group (TCAG) met (see the photo) on August 17 for an enthusiastic discussion about the role of the TC, down time in the phone room and ideas about the buddy system and peer group supervision. Dave Lane, our Communications Officer, was also present, seeking thoughts about *NTV Notes / MouthPeace* and promotions. Please let me know if you would like to see the terms of reference and to know of other outcomes.

Group Supervision

Our recent group supervision with supervisor Chris Grace on July 14 was well



Telephone Counsellors Brian, Steve, Alister, Frank and Mark discuss TC issues with MRS Co-ordinator Mary Karambilas at the August TC Working Group meeting

received and attended. The group focused on the wellbeing of Telephone Counsellors and on ways of exploring and opening the call in a short timeframe. There were also reflections and discussions about the way a TC can use the MRS model and principles as a way of naming behaviours that may be minimised or considered not violent. Chris provided good affirmations for the tough but significant work that Telephone Counsellors do at the MRS.

The next session

All group supervision sessions are open to new trainee Telephone Counsellors and other Telephone Counsellors. The next Group Supervision will be held August 31 with Mark Glazebrook. Please RSVP to joelf@ntv.net.au

Mary Karambilas
Men's Referral Service Co-ordinator
email: mary@ntv.net.au •

Tony's tips

Calls from men who are 'ordered' to ring the Men's Referral Service

Increasingly, Men's Referral Service Telephone Counsellors are responding to calls from men whose opening statement is "I've been told to ring you guys". Quite often these men have had an intervention order, parenting order or other orders made against them from an increasing number of jurisdictions, including the Magistrates Court, community corrections and Child Protection.

Mandated cases

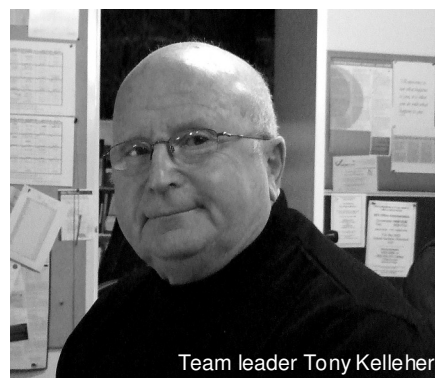
It is therefore important for Telephone Counsellors to be aware that the only two Magistrates Courts in Victoria which can 'mandate' a man to undertake a men's behaviour change group are located at Heidelberg and Ballarat. These are the two legislated Family Violence Court Divisions of the Magistrates Court, and only these divisions have the legal authority to direct men who are responding to an application for an Intervention Order for an assessment to the Men's Behaviour Change Programs attached to those

courts. Men appearing in these court divisions do not have a choice of program they can attend, and therefore it is unlikely they would contact the MRS for a referral in this instance.

A (former) partner or police officer may request a magistrate to include in the conditions of an order that the man undertakes anger management/behaviour change work. A Child Protection worker may make attendance at a Men's Behaviour Change Program a condition before a man can have unsupervised access to his child / children.

Civil or criminal?

In these cases it is very important that Telephone Counsellors have conversations with these callers in order that they have an understanding that no matter what they may or may not think about the fairness about having an order made against them, that an intervention order is a civil matter and that any breach of the conditions of the order is a criminal offence. It is



Team leader Tony Kelleher

therefore in their own interest to have a clear understanding of the conditions.

Referrals checklist

When making referrals to agencies that provide Men's Behaviour Change Programs, as well as 'stepping' callers through the process of requesting an assessment interview for the Men's Behaviour Change Program, it is important they are made aware that:

.../ continued next page



Tony's tips continued

.... from page 4

- men will often be placed on a waiting list,
- the assessment interview will be held with a professional counsellor, social worker or psychologist and may take more than one hour (or that there may be two interviews),
- they will be required to give the contact details of their (former) partner, and
- Men's Behaviour Change groups are co-facilitated by men and women.

Motivation

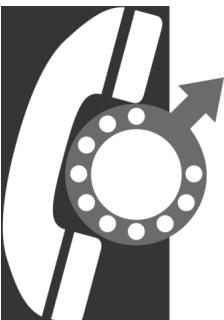
It is also important that Telephone Counsellors inform the caller that the agencies to which they are being referred are not obliged to accept everyone and that they will need to demonstrate motivation to change their violent behaviour.

Quite often these callers contact us at the very last moment, and sometimes become anxious and panic. It is important for these callers to be informed that they can only join a group when a place is available for them. Agencies are able to provide a standard letter confirming that the man has attended an interview and had been offered a place in a program at a particular time in the near future.

It is also important that Telephone Counsellors don't restrict the content of the call to conversations about legal orders and referrals. Our primary aim is to support the safety of women and children, and hence it is vital that Telephone Counsellors inquire about how a man will achieve this vital goal. That is, given that ordinarily a man will not be able to immediately commence a Men's Behaviour Change Program, Telephone Counsellors have the best opportunity to talk with the man about his intentions in the immediate future, and strategies to keep his (former) partner, children and himself safe.

Men should also be offered the opportunity to call the Men's Referral Service anytime for further discussions and support.

Tony Kelleher
Team Leader
Men's Referral Service •



For information about
The Men's Referral
Service,
please contact:
Mary Karambilas,
The Men's Referral
Service
Co-ordinator
(03) 9428 3536
mary@ntv.net.au

Men's Referral Service Profile – Mark Glazebrook

Mark Glazebrook has been a supervisor with the *Men's Referral Service* since 2007. He lives in Vermont, in Melbourne's eastern suburbs

Why did you become involved with the Men's Referral Service?

I had recently arrived from Brisbane in 1997 and I saw the ad calling for Telephone Counsellors and it seemed to click with me and I have valued all the years as a telephone counsellor and now as a supervisor.

Favourite holiday destination? It's a dead-heat between Wilson's Prom and Wineglass Bay Tasmania.

Your most difficult caller? When a man called just as his wife and children were leaving the house, it was a challenging call to ensure safety as well as maintain a connection with the caller.

When at home I like to cook.....: homemade pancakes on Sat morning...it says to me welcome to the weekend.

If you were marooned on a desert island and could only take three things (not people) with you, what would you take? Any book from Murakami, a telescope to enjoy the amazing night skies and a snorkelling set .

If you could invite three people to have dinner with, who would they be? The Marx Brothers.

Which living person do you most admire? *The Big Issue* vendor near my work who turns up everyday matter how many knockbacks they get.

What has Telephone Counselling at the Men's Referral Service taught you? The power of the telephone to engage men who may otherwise never reach out.

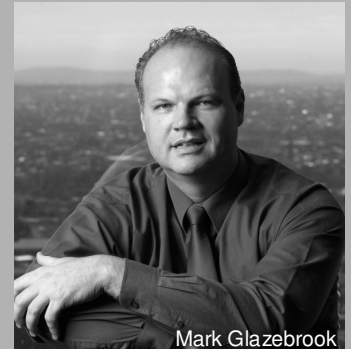
What is your greatest extravagance? Fresh socks every day.

What surprises you? When problems become solutions.

What do you hope for? Warp Speed.

What is the trait you most deplore in yourself? And in others? Selfishness.

If you could change one thing about the world, what would it be? The knowledge and memories we lose when people die are retained for prosperity (...well at least an edited version). •



Mark Glazebrook

After Hours Service

The 2010 – 2011 stats report

Between July 1, 2010 and June 30, 2010, the After Hours Service received a total of 3,131 L17s.

Of these:

- 1,789 were acted on ,
- 856 (or 47.8%) were successfully contacted, and
- 933 (or 52.2%) were unable to be contacted.

Of the successful contacts:

- 390 (45.6%) agreed to a further intake discussion; that's 21.8% of the L17s acted on, while
- 466 (54.4%) wanted no further contact with a behaviour change service.

Of the 1,342 L17s not acted on / entered into the database:

- in 156 cases, there was no attempt due to time constraints, no attempt made / not contacted yet by police accounted for 80,

- there was insufficient information on 522 L17s, and

- with 584, an attempt to contact was assessed as inappropriate.

Status of contacts

Of the attempted contacts:

- 56 clients were contacted but it was not a suitable time to talk,
- 820 were contacted and engaged in a conversation,
- there were 1,941 unsuccessful attempts to contact clients (this figure includes multiple attempts to contact clients),
- 30 AFM clients were contacted and engaged in conversation, and
- in 96 cases, a female answered the call.

Peter Londesborough
After Hours Co-ordinator
Men's Referral Service •

Gold Coast program

Queensland based MDVEIP details

... continued from page 3

For parolees who do not comply with the program condition on their Parole Order, their parole may be suspended and they may be returned to custody.

Supervision

Men attending the MDVEIP are supervised by QCS and Probation and Parole Officers (PPOs) who conduct a specialised assessment to refer offenders to the program. The Assessment Pack which is forwarded to the DVPC includes:

- a copy of the Probation or Parole Order,
- the police report in relation to the facts of the current offences,
- the criminal history (and interstate criminal history if available),
- a copy of the current Domestic Violence Order (DVO),
- the Assessment Questionnaire (from interview conducted with the offender),
- the Male Abuse Inventory, the Dangerousness Checklist, and
- any relevant psychological or pre-sentence reports.

The information provided with the Assessment Pack is used during the offender's time on the program to challenge him regarding his domestic violence offences. For example when he presents the Control Log of his current offences the facilitators reference the police facts which were tendered at Court to prompt the offender and assist him with details he may be overlooking.

Induction sessions are held prior to offenders' first program session (usually a group induction), and are attended by the Manager of the MDVEIP, program facilitators and PPOs. Induction, program sessions, and reviews are conducted at a local Probation and Parole District Office and QCS provide a security officer to monitor cameras and duress alarms during sessions. Each session is facilitated by a male and a female facilitator.

Reviews

A man's attendance at the program is reviewed at six, twelve, and eighteen weeks and these reviews are attended by facilitators, the PPO, the offender and in some cases, the Manager of the MDVEIP. The reviews are an opportunity for facilitators to provide feedback to the man on how they contribute to program sessions, identify if he is developing Safety Strategies, and for the PPO to identify issues with compliance (absences, lateness, participation) and responsibility issues (drug and alcohol use, mental

health issues, literacy issues). The offender, facilitators and PPO also assess the man's current risk rating and this is discussed openly, current concerns are identified and plans to manage these are developed.

If at the six week review, it is identified the offender's current participation is not appropriate, goals are agreed upon for him to achieve before the 12 week review. If his participation has not improved by the 12 week review, he can be stood down from participating in the program for three weeks (or longer if necessary) to address the issues affecting his participation.

Participation strategies

Strategies may include increasing his reporting frequency with his PPO for more intensive case management and motivational interviewing, or work with a psychologist or other counsellors to stabilise drug, alcohol, or mental health issues.

The offender then restarts the program at Week One and is reviewed again after three weeks. If he is assessed as having made some progress, he continues and is reviewed again at six weeks. If progress continues he returns to 12 and 18 week reviews.

If no progress is evident after restarting the program and being reviewed at three weeks, he is given a further three weeks to improve his participation. If after three weeks there are still no signs of improvement, having been given every opportunity to address his inappropriate participation, the offender is exited from the program and his PPO summons him to return to Court for Breach of Probation Order, or advises the Parole Board regarding the non-compliance and recommends whether or not to return the offender to custody.

Women's Advocate

The DVPC also funds a Women's Advocate (WA) to offer support and counselling to women partners and ex-partners for each man attending the MDVEIP. The WA contacts all the aggrieved on a weekly basis and provides written feedback to program facilitators, including how the woman assesses her current risk of violence or abuse. Counselling is provided to children of men on the MDVEIP if they are no longer residing with him and if the female ex-partner requests it.

The Manager of the MDVEIP compiles Exit Reports which are thorough summaries (3,000 – 4,000 words) of each man's attendance at the program and includes a risk rating at time of completion, and

recommendations of further interventions which may be required post-program. These reports may also be included in documentation submitted by QCS to Court or the Parole Board regarding an offender who has not complied with the conditions of the Group Contract.

CJS Role

Graham Barnes from DAIP has stated, with regards to responding to domestic violence, the role of the Criminal Justice System is to communicate "messages of help to the victims, and messages of accountability to the offenders". By their actions and responses on a daily basis, colleagues from the DVIR and MDVEIP work hard to fulfill these dual roles. This is demonstrated by:

- MDVEIP facilitators being aware that although they are working with the men, their clients are the women and children affected by the offenders use of violence and abuse,
- PPOs, while supervising offenders, taking responsibility for the safety of the aggrieved,
- police officers employing a 'Predominant Aggressor' framework when they attend domestic violence incidents and not arresting the most drunk or most obnoxious person at the scene, but rather the one experiencing the greatest level of fear, and
- courts using the MDVEIP as a sentencing option rather than the historical penalty of choice of fining domestic violence offenders.

If you would like to read more about how the Gold Coast DVIR works with domestic violence offenders please visit our website at domesticviolence.com.au or read the book *Domestic Violence: Working with Men*. This was published in 2009 as a result of independent evaluation by researchers from the University of South Australia and documents, in detail, the structure, processes, and level of interagency collaboration which supports this crucial and tragically necessary work.

Rosemary O'Malley
Manager of the MDVEIP
Domestic Violence Prevention Centre
Gold Coast Inc.

References: Pease, Bob *Engaging Men in Men's Violence Prevention: Exploring the Tensions, Dilemmas and Possibilities*. Issues Paper 17, August 2008 Australian Domestic and Family Violence Clearinghouse.

The Clearinghouse website is at austdvclearinghouse.unsw.edu.au •

Access to male criminal records proposed

UK women will get access to criminal records if a radical proposal become law.

The plans, to give victims of family violence access to their partners' criminal records, are being drawn up amid mounting fears about the risks of internet dating. Home Secretary Theresa May is considering the introduction of a 'Sarah's Law' for women caught in abusive relationships.

This would give them the right to know if their partners had a violent past in the same way that new Sarah's Law rules mean parents can find out about any child sex convictions of men with access to their children. The proposals have been dubbed 'Clare's Law' after the murder in 2009 of mother-of-one Clare Wood, 36, by an ex-boyfriend with a history of violence against women.

Wood had met her killer, George Appleton, on the social networking site Facebook and was unaware of his record of violence against women which included the kidnapping at knifepoint of a former girlfriend.

The draft is based on recommendations by Wiltshire Police Chief Constable Brian Moore, who speaks for the Association of Chief Police Officers on violence against women. Under the proposed Clare's Law scheme, women with concerns about their partners could apply to their local police station for information on any violent past. Controversially, the plans would also allow police to proactively warn women that their partner was a potential danger.

Police sources stressed that information would be released by police officers of inspector rank and above and only after they were fully satisfied someone's concerns about their partner were genuine.

Source: Gulfnews (<http://tiny.cc/t71nu>) •

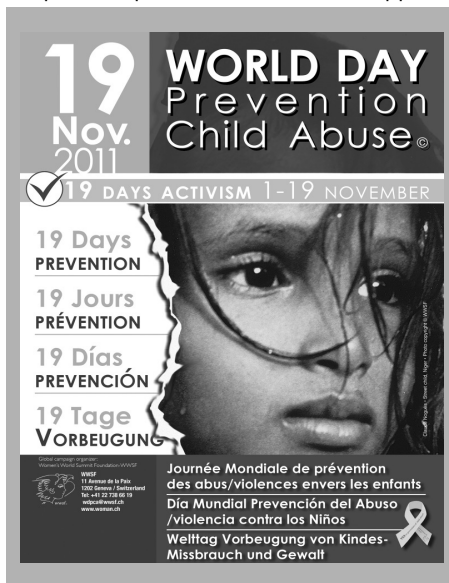
19 Days of Activism

A world-wide campaign for the prevention of abuse and violence against children and youth will run from November 1 to 19.

After 10 years of campaigning to mark the World Day for Prevention of Child Abuse (19 November) each year and to build an international coalition of actors and partners, the Women's World Summit Foundation (WWSF) says the time has come to expand their outreach by launching the WWSF 19 Days of activism global campaign from November 1.

The campaign is the work of a multi-issue

coalition of diverse organizations and partners (including young people) involved in the fight against one or more of the 19 abuse issues listed in the WWSF Prevention Kit. Others are working for a social transformation, mobilizing agents for change or informed prevention actors to help create public awareness and support



at regional national, and /or international level.

By focusing on the prevention of diverse types of abuse and violence against children and youth, the campaign aims to continue bringing to light the alarming problem, its multifaceted aspects, and the need to generate sufficient grassroots interest, and government and public support for better prevention measures.

Download the prevention kit

<http://tiny.cc/Ovtos> •

Reporting rape a crime

After Sudan sentenced a journalist to prison for reporting on a rape case, a U.N. envoy on sexual violence said Khartoum was targeting the wrong crime.

A court in the capital recently ordered journalist Amal Habani to pay a \$600 fine or spend one month in jail for reporting on a rape case allegedly involving a member of the state security forces.

She chose the jail sentence and becomes the second person charged recently with defamation for covering suspected rape cases in the country.

Margot Wallstrom, U.N. special envoy on sexual violence in conflict, said journalists have the right to report and rape is still a

crime. "Rapists, not reporters, must face criminal charges in the Sudan," she said in a statement. "Only by addressing sexual violence openly can we have any chance of breaking what has been called history's greatest silence and, ultimately, rooting it out."

Sudan and its neighbour, South Sudan, are faced with mounting security problems following the South's independence in July. Border conflicts and issues over oil revenue continue to haunt a comprehensive peace agreement signed between both sides in 2005. The peace agreement ended a bloody civil war.

Source: upi.com (<http://tiny.cc/tl1xr>) •

Free tickets support anti-violence campaign

New Zealand's *Treasure Rotorua*, *Rotorua Safe Families* and *Bay of Plenty Rugby Union* gave away 2,400 tickets to the Bay of Plenty vs Hawkes Bay rugby match in Rotorua this month to help promote the *Blow the Whistle on Violence* campaign.

This national family violence campaign uses familiar rugby expressions, such as 'after match function' and 'tight five', on promotional material to endorse anti-violence messages and coincide with the rugby season. The main objective is to encourage people to disclose family violence incidents, and to seek help and support.

A number of high profile sports ambassadors are supporting the program. *Rotorua Safe Families* co-ordinator Ariana Smith says research shows a negative relationship between large sporting events and increased consumption of alcohol, resulting in increased reporting of family violence. Because of this the groups are keen to promote anti-violence messages throughout the community.

The team work

Ms Smith says local rugby clubs have been encouraged to support the campaign by distributing *Blow the Whistle* resources amongst their teams, and local schools will also be invited to come on board. "We are giving away tickets to the match because we want local families to come along to show that our community supports the *Blow the Whistle on Violence* campaign.

"We also have some great goodie packs to give away to teams."

Source: voxy.co.nz (<http://tiny.cc/p22jb>) •

Men's Referral Service
03 9428 2899
or 1800 065 973 FREECALL

The Men's Referral Service (MRS) is the Victorian gateway agency for men who are making their first moves towards taking responsibility for their violence or abusive behavior toward their partner or family members.

The MRS refers exclusively to men's behaviour change programs adhering to standards of practice developed by NTV and endorsed by the Victorian Department of Human Services.

**No To Violence Male Family
Violence Prevention
Association (NTV) Inc.**

NTV - No To Violence, the Male Family Violence Prevention Association, is the Victorian statewide peak body of organisations and individuals working with men to end their violence and abuse against family members. NTV members come from a wide range of professional and community backgrounds and work in a range of settings including government, community based settings as well as private practice. While NTV is based in Victoria, its members include organisations and individuals from a number of Australian states and territories.

If undeliverable return to:
No To Violence (NTV)
PO Box 3022
Victoria Gardens
Richmond VIC 3121

NTV Notes

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Become a member of No To Violence (NTV) The Male Family Violence Prevention Association Inc. NTV is the peak body of organisations and individuals working with men to end their violence and abuse toward family members. NTV members receive the monthly NTV Notes, periodicals and professional development and training.

Please send me information about becoming a member of NTV.

Name:

Address:

Postcode:

Phone:

Email:

Please send to: NTV PO Box 3022 Victoria Gardens Richmond VIC 3121