

I am calling upon Triple M Radio (Southern Cross Austereo network), Channel 7 and the Herald Sun to sack Wayne Carey to show to the Australian people that we will not tolerate having violent men in our community hold powerful positions in the media and be in the media to be idolised by boys and men.

I find Triple M's support against family violence baffling and thinly veiled as Wayne Carey, convicted of horrific violence towards multiple women, has his own show on Triple M radio station. I call upon the management at Southern Cross Austereo to sack Wayne Carey immediately and show their listeners that they are utterly, comprehensively and thoroughly committed to ending family violence in our community.

Triple M, Channel 7 and the Herald Sun's continued support of Wayne Carey shows a lukewarm and convenient support for a campaign that is trying to save women's lives. Triple M Radio listeners are predominantly men and ultimately the violence perpetrated by men against women must stop and it is up to men to stop it. Two women a week have been killed as a result of domestic violence in Australia. There are children now without mothers to protect them. These children are left with violent, abusive fathers; who could be Triple listeners, Channel 7 viewers and Herald Sun readers. Men in our society need role models who stand for a zero tolerance on family violence.

Men who speak out against violence against women, and effectively challenge the attitudes and behaviours of a minority of men who use or condone violence against women. Triple M has the unique position to capture the minds of many men and challenge their attitudes towards women, violence and the all too commonly shared misogynist 'jokes' or comments that are sadly accepted in Australian society.

Triple M, Channel 7 and Herald Sun must show an unquestioning, authentic support to stop family violence in our community. The genuine support must start by the sacking of Wayne Carey and the institute of an upstanding citizen of our football community. A man who can, by his behaviour and language, demonstrate to other men that he "swears to never commit, excuse or remain silent about violence against women" (White Ribbon Campaign).

Wayne Carey has charges against him for violence and abuse towards women and multiple charges which were dropped. As a professional who has worked with children of domestic violence, I know first-hand how difficult it is to prosecute a violent perpetrator. Given there have been patterns of violence and drug abuse in Australia and overseas, I find it abhorrent that Wayne Carey can slide off into the abyss for 5 years and then resume a career in the media with pats on the back and admiration from his colleagues in the media for his "come back career". I feel that allowing Wayne Carey to maintain his high profile position in media negates all the work done by many of the anti-violence campaigns and organisations. I fear that if the everyday Australian man sees, with proof, that there may be short term pain (go overseas for a few years to let things settle down) followed by long term gain (continued sponsorships, a high profile media career and accompanied adoration of the media), this undermines every avenue of changing the behaviour of violent men as their cherished football idol has "gotten away with it and is still famous, rich and has it all". Wayne Carey has not shown remorse for his past actions. Even within today's climate of the Royal Commission into family violence, the Luke Batty foundation and the Tyabb Community day, Wayne Carey has not taken the opportunity to set his wrongs right and continues to live his life with little thought to how his admired media career impacts the trajectory of battered women and impedes any possible change a violent man might make.

I have spoken with Triple M's Head of Communications, Mike Fitzpatrick, about this incongruent support of Luke Batty Foundation and the White Ribbon Campaign and suggested that Wayne Carey speak to his audience about how he now controls his anger or deals with situations where he cannot control his female partner. This suggestion to show rehabilitation was met with "Wayne did not get back into the media to be the spokesperson for domestic violence". I explained to Mr Fitzpatrick that Wayne Carey has lost his right to be idolised in the community as a footballer as he has admitted to violence towards women. If Wayne Carey maintains a career in the media he must demonstrate, educate and support what rehabilitation looks like, feels like and how to start the change we want to see in society. As his current media role stands, he is allowed to stay in the limelight without any accountability for his past actions.

I am asking Triple M, Channel 7 and Herald Sun to be the change we want to see in society.

"The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing."

Edmund Burke