

Violence of any kind needs to be treated seriously and without delay. I believe that by creating the terms 'Family violence' and 'Domestic violence' our lawmakers have condoned these acts as being of lesser importance than 'normal' violence.

It should make no difference to the legal implications if a man or a woman bashes a person they know, or a stranger in the street. there may be mitigating arguments (For example many might believe that Tiger Woods' wife was justified in hitting him with a golf club.

But overall there is no justification for violence within families to be treated any differently in the legal process. Certainly programs may be needed to address identified problems – but the current legal process appears to be counter productive as our system regards domestic violence