

I grew up in a suburb where domestic violence was rampant. The housing commission suburb no longer exists, but at the time, battered women, roamed the streets as though it were common day.

Foundation / make-up hid the black eyes of women. I even remember as a ten year old, riding to a chemist, just to purchase mother some 'make up' so she could hide her black eyes. She once had part of her earlobe bitten off, nose broken, and was stabbed.

It is the 'silence within domestic violence' that remains one of the major problems. The victim feels a sense of embarrassment, a sense of being stuck, and feeling that it is 'their' fault. Unfortunately it crippled my mother, she became an agoraphobic, later dying of cancer, after years and years of beatings. This was caused by my father's alcoholism. Alcohol is a violent drug; there is not enough media coverage on this, alcohol for me, my reference, is one of the major causes of domestic violence. Many nights I would answer the door, it was always the cops. Father would hide under a bed, mother would put on her make-up and we would tell the police, 'that there were no issues / intruders or violent behaviour in the house.'

"The Silence Within Domestic Violence" and alcohol needs to be addressed. Of course each situation is complex.

1. Neighbours or by-standers fear to report domestic violence.
2. Men, do it once and perhaps get a thrill out of it
3. Women need to walk away immediately. A slogan, 'Its okay to Walk Away.'
4. Australian cultural outlet is 'sport', We are a sporting nation, leading to a 'mucho nation.' Our icons like ██████████ for example, a role model for polygamy, where 'women are seen as objects.'

Kind regards,

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