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Announcing the ‘Typical Victim’ of Domestic Violence? Do You Know?

Having a gun in the home increases the risk of homicide by at least 500%

TULSA, OK - October 10, 2018 - Domestic violence (DV) happens to most age groups and to all ethnicities, religions, backgrounds, abilities, careers, communities, and across all education scales.

“It shocked me”, says Oklahoma lawyer and author, Jim Lloyd, “to learn that practically any type of person could be a victim of DV. There is no typical victim.”

Lloyd, asserts, “Violence in a relationship happens when one person feels it is their right to have power over their partner and to control them through abuse.” He continues, “Instinctively I knew that when I defended my client (during the trial my book is based upon). But today, there is a lot of research to back my gut instinct.”

The National Coalition Against Domestic Violence (NCADV) has multiple social media sites including YouTube and a website (<http://www.ncadv.org/>). Lloyd found the following quote on their website. “In relationships where domestic violence exists, violence is not equal. Even if the victim fights back ...There is always one person who is the primary, constant source of power, control, and abuse in the relationship.”

“In Oklahoma,” Lloyd states, “we’ve raised awareness of DV since I defended my client against a murder charge when she killed her abusive husband.” Lloyd explains, “For example, back in the 1980s, a lot of people asked me, ‘Why did she stay if the abuse was so bad?’ We now know,” he says, “that DV is an extremely complex situation for the victim - psychologically, financially, with or without children.”

In part, one of the reasons many victims stay is because abusers usually continue to threaten even after separation. In fact, this is one of the most hazardous times. And not only for the victim, about 20% of homicide victims are family members, friends, neighbors, people who intervene, law enforcement responders, or bystanders.

Although leaving is risky, staying is dangerous, too. Therefore, getting help to leave an abusive situation can make separation safer. For anonymous, confidential help available 24/7, call the National Domestic Violence Hotline at 1-800-799-7233 (SAFE) or 1-800-787-3224 (TTY). Also, each Oklahoma Congressional District (1 through 5) has programs to help victims of DV.

Lloyd offers 9 hints to help stop domestic violence, backed by research.

- Raise awareness and educate others about domestic violence (Lloyd uses NCADV statistics);
- When the call cannot be overheard, call the National Domestic Violence Hotline;
- Encourage schools, churches, civic or volunteer groups to teach young people communication and conflict resolution skills prior to dating age;
- Encourage your neighborhood watch to keep an eye and ear out for DV as well other crimes;
- Donate to domestic violence counseling programs and shelters;



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- Download the Center for Disease Control's free package, [*Preventing Intimate Partner Violence across the Lifespan: A Technical Package of Programs, Policy, and Practices*](#), to help your community prioritize DV prevention;
- Contact a local domestic violence outreach organization (learn how to create a safety plan; learn how to safely approach a friend about your concerns);
- Attend a DV support group;
- Be vigilant about domestic violence especially during holidays.

"October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month," Lloyd says. "Let's shed light on this issue and inspire others to do the same."

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ABOUT LAWYER / AUTHOR JIM LLOYD

Jim Lloyd is the defense lawyer during the trial based on his nonfiction crime book "*Almost A Murder*". The book exposes the shadowy underbelly of domestic violence in the 1980s during this epic legal battle. The book is distributed through Ingram and is available online at Barnes & Noble, Goggle Books, and Amazon. If you'd like more information, please call Dayna Hubenthal at 503/723-7392 or email her at daynah@kohopono.com. Visit the website, <http://AlmostAMurder.com>, for more information.

ABOUT NCADV

The National Coalition Against Domestic Violence (NCADV) is the nation's leading grassroots voice on domestic violence. They are the voice of victims and survivors and are the catalyst for changing society to have zero tolerance for domestic violence. They do this by affecting public policy, increasing understanding of the impact of domestic violence, and providing programs and education that drive that change. For more information, visit the website at <http://www.ncadv.org/>.

ABOUT The CDC

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is committed to ensuring that all Americans, especially those at risk for intimate partner violence (IPV), live to their fullest potential. The goal is to stop IPV before it begins. Disrupting the developmental pathways toward partner violence and teaching skills that promote respectful, nonviolent relationships through individual, relationship, community, and societal level change are key strategies. For more information, visit the website at <https://www.cdc.gov/features/intimatepartnerviolence/index.html>.