Domestic Violence Against Woman Must Stop!

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The Problem
Domestic violence is an ongoing social and health issue. According to the National Institute of Justice, more than one third of women have reported having to go to an emergency room due to violence, while a total of 280,531 domestic violence issues were reported as a whole. Additionally, an average of 765 incidents per day in 2013 (nyc.gov). It is time we educate not only ourselves but those around us to put a stop to domestic abuse and to help abused woman leave their attackers. This provides battered women help and guidance.

Method/Intervention
- **Advanced leafletting:** it is important we educate ourselves and those around us on how to help those in domestic violence relationships. Passing flyers out on domestic violence can literally get the information into the right hands.
- **Make the invisible visible:** these women feel as if they don’t have a voice and aren’t listened to. Show these women that they aren’t invisible by being their spoken voice.
- **Distributed Action:** Promote mandatory teachings of domestic violence in health classes in higher educational facilities. The workshops will consist of methods to escape and prevent domestic violent abuse.
- **Media Based Action:** Create a “clothing shopping” website with each clothing article representing a code for each type of domestic violence that occurs. Websites work as an S.O.S signal directly connected to the police.

The Rationale
- 1 in 4 women will experience domestic violence during her lifetime.
- Women experience more than 4 million physical assaults and rapes because of their partners, and men are victims of nearly 3 million physical assaults.
- Women are more likely to be killed by an intimate partner than men.
- Women ages 20 to 24 are at greatest risk of becoming victims of domestic violence.
- Every year, 1 in 3 women who is a victim of homicide is murdered by her current or former partner.
- 21% of college students report having experienced dating violence by a current partner.
- 12% of women are domestically abused in college.

The Theory of Social Change
**Points of intervention:** Not all college campuses have a safe location for students experiencing domestic violence, causing them to feel isolated from personal support and resources. We first have to educate administrators on how to handle these situations and create a safe environment for these victims offering support. For example, here at John Jay College, the student group, Men Creating Change, organize domestic violence awareness events and also discuss traditional notions of masculinity. This group aims to inform others of domestic violence and create change to put a stop to domestic violence such as providing programming and education, including a poetry slam, speak out and a dating violence conference in February in 2011.

**Tactics of everyday life:** We should alter things such as laws and language in our everyday life. For example, a woman called 911 pretending to order pizza because her abuser was in the room with her. At first the officer thought it was a prank then realizing what was going on and saw there had been previous domestic violence calls from the same address.

Domestic Abuse Case
Kira Kazantsev, Miss America 2015, was in an abusive relationship during college and had said “I didn’t even know it was happening to me.” She stated she wasn’t aware of resources provided for victims although her friends tried to point out what was going wrong in her relationship trying to push her away from her abuser but instead she decided to push them away causing her to feel alone and helpless.

Conclusion
It is essential to know the statistics of women that are in abusive relationships. The knowledge on domestic abuse raises awareness in the community and helps guide domestically abused women in the right direction. Safe Horizon and the Brides March are some examples of organizations specialized to support women mentally and physically. It is best advised to be a shoulder to cry on and an ear to listen instead of telling women to leave abusive relationships. When doing so there is a higher chance they will leave their abusers.

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Nyc.org
Nij.gov
Safehorizon.org
Bridesmarch.com
Thedailybeast.com
Npr.org