



# Fall Domestic Violence Project

Be Safe This Fall

*If you are in or have left an abusive relationship, or are trying to help someone who is trying to leave their abuser, being safe is essential. Follow some simple guidelines to keep yourself safe:*

- Make copies of all important documents
- Screen your phone calls or change your phone number
- Change your locks
- Avoid staying alone
- Vary your routine
- Make a list of safe people to contact
- Memorize important phone numbers
- Document any contact, messages, injuries, or other incidents involving the abuser

*Keep in mind that we are here to help!*

**Call the DVP Hotline at (718) 222-7447!**



## October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Domestic Violence Awareness Month evolved from the first Day of Unity observed in October, 1981 by the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence. The intent was to connect battered women's advocates across the nation who were working to end violence against women and their children. The Day of Unity soon became a special week when a range of activities were conducted at the local, state, and national levels. These activities were as varied and diverse as the program sponsors but had common themes: mourning those who have died because of domestic violence, celebrating those who have survived, and connecting those who work to end violence.

In October 1987, the first Domestic Violence Awareness Month was observed. That same year the first national toll-free hotline was begun. In 1989 the first Domestic Violence Awareness Month Commemorative Legislation was passed by the U.S. Congress. Such legislation has passed every year since with NCADV providing key leadership in this effort.

In October 1994 NCADV, in conjunction with Ms. Magazine, created the "Remember My Name" project, a national registry to increase public awareness of domestic violence deaths. Since then, NCADV has been collecting information on women who have been killed by an intimate partner and produces a poster each October for Domestic Violence Awareness Month, listing the names of those documented in that year.

The Day of Unity is celebrated the first Monday in October. NCADV hopes that events in communities and regions across the fifty states will culminate in a powerful statement celebrating the strength of battered women and their children.

*Taken from the New York State Coalition Against Domestic Violence website—[http://www.ncadv.org/takeaction/DomesticViolenceAwarenessMonth\\_134.html](http://www.ncadv.org/takeaction/DomesticViolenceAwarenessMonth_134.html)*



# Domestic Violence Project

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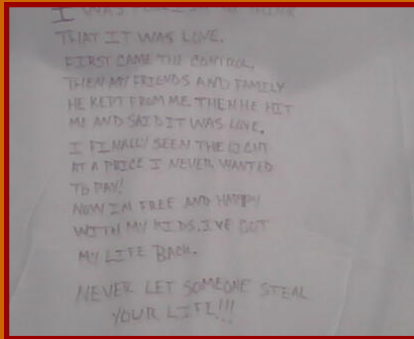


**Save the date!**

December 11th & 12th —DVP will be hosting the Facilitative Leadership Training presented by NYSCADV. For more information or to register for this training, please visit NYSCADV online at <http://www.nyscadv.org/trainings.htm>

Thought for the Fall: "In violence, we forget who we are . . ."

~Mary Williams, American author



Throughout October, members of DVP were out and about, partnering with other agencies in honor of Domestic Violence Awareness Month. This is a picture of a t-shirt made by a child whose mother lost her life as a victim of domestic violence. The Clothesline Project is a way for individuals affected by violence and abuse to express their words, thoughts, and feelings by decorating a t-shirt. The shirts are then hung on a clothesline to be viewed by others as a testimony to the problem of violence against women. DVP would like to thank Bronx AIDS Services for hosting the Clothesline Project.



*I was foolish to think that it was love.*

*First came the control  
Then my friends and family  
he kept from me. Then he hit  
me and said it was love.*

*I finally see the light  
at a price I never wanted  
to pay.*

*Now I'm free and happy  
with my kids. I've got  
my life back.*

*Never let someone steal  
your life!*

*[Message on t-shirt to the  
left]*



Photo credit: Elaina Camacho

