

# MYTH

**“DOMESTIC  
VIOLENCE IS A  
PRIVATE MATTER,  
WE SHOULDN'T  
GET INVOLVED”**

# TRUTH

**“DOMESTIC  
VIOLENCE IS  
EVERYONE'S  
BUSINESS”**

**16 Days of Action 25 Nov – 10 Dec 2018**

**#CHANGETHECONVERSATION**

Domestic violence is a serious crime and should be treated as such. Domestic violence includes physical assault, cruelty, verbal abuse, rape, and sexual assault. It can lead to physical injury, hospitalisation and mental health issues.

In some extreme cases it can result in homicide. Perpetrators of domestic violence against women can also abuse the children of the relationship. No behaviour which so degrades and violates a human being can be dismissed as 'just a domestic'.

Everyone can be a part of supporting women and children affected by abuse. If you hear or witness abuse or are concerned about a loved one, organisations like Women's Aid can help you too.

We can challenge the behaviour and victim blaming culture that allows domestic violence to happen.

Remember, if you want to support a woman you know acknowledge that she is the best judge of her own situation. Never tell a woman what to do but offer her support and a listening ear. And only ever approach her when it is safe to do so.

Domestic violence is a social issue, not a private affair. The abuse of any human being by another is everyone's business. Society has a responsibility to speak out against domestic violence. To show that domestic violence is not acceptable.

**#CHANGETHECONVERSATION**



Women's Aid 24hr National Helpline

**1800 341 900**

Listening. Believing. Supporting.

[www.womensaid.ie](http://www.womensaid.ie)