

MYTH

“IF IT WERE
THAT BAD,
SHE WOULD
JUST LEAVE”

TRUTH

“WOMEN STAY WITH
ABUSIVE MEN
BECAUSE IT CAN BE
EXTREMELY
DIFFICULT TO LEAVE”

16 Days of Action 25 Nov – 10 Dec 2018

#CHANGETHECONVERSATION

No one enjoys being beaten, threatened and humiliated in their own homes. But leaving an abusive relationship is fraught with difficulty. Reasons why a woman may not be ready to leave include feeling isolated, ashamed and afraid of an unknown future. There is a growing understanding of the barriers women face when trying to end the abuse. It isn't as simple as telling the woman to leave. Whilst the risk of staying may be very high, simply leaving the relationship does not guarantee that the violence will stop.

Many women are frightened of the abuser, and with good reason. It's common for perpetrators to threaten to harm or even kill their partners or children if she leaves.

In fact, the period during which a woman is planning or making her exit, is often the most dangerous time for her and her children. We also know that 28% of women who contacted us in 2017 were experiencing abuse by their former partners including stalking, physical assault and abuse during access arrangements. In order for women to move on many things are needed - good legal protection, the practical and emotional support of their friends and support of organisations like Women's Aid.

#CHANGETHECONVERSATION



Women's Aid 24hr National Helpline

1800 341 900

Listening. Believing. Supporting.

www.womensaid.ie