

Because We're Dads: Reaching and Mobilizing Father's to Promote Gender Equality

Father's Pledge Against Dating Violence and For Gender Respect

Dating and domestic violence are rampant in our communities and in far too many of our homes: domestic violence is occurring in 1 – 5 homes in NY, and dating violence is impacting 1 – 3 teens and college students in NY.

This means that children in NY exposed to domestic violence in their homes, are at risk for being abused in their dating relationships, and at risk for witnessing dating violence (both victimization and perpetration) amongst their peers.

As dads, we can have an impact on this. As dads, we can raise our daughters to be strong, powerful individuals; and our sons to be the kind of men we'd like to have our children date. But doing so requires active involvement. We can no longer be passive about what our children are learning about dating, gender equality and gender respect.

As dads, we pledge to:

- Support our children to be involved in equitable and respectful relationships
- Develop the confidence and comfort to *pro-actively* talk with our children about dating with respect and gender equality
- Model for our children our support for gender equality more broadly
- Take action with other dads to prevent domestic and dating violence
- Help raise funds for the local domestic violence agency

(NOTES: make this both a physical pledge form as well as a tool to be used on-line. Have a way for this contact info from dads to be shared between the local program and NYSCADV.)