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Help for abuse

■ Domestic violence is a complex and pervasive problem. It is a subtle beast that is ever changing, one that grows over time with an overwhelming surge of power and control.

We need to be very cautious in not continuing to place the blame on the victim by asking such questions as “Why would you let someone talk to you like that?” as posed in the Aug. 8 article “Faith against violence.”

In doing so, we are perpetuating the cycle of domestic violence by telling victims that it is their fault for “putting up” with abuse, and that if they would just say something back, put the offender in his/her place, the abuse would stop. In some instances, the death of the victim is a result of that action.

May we be made aware of local community agencies, such as the YWCA as well as Domestic Violence Services, that specialize in advocacy for victims, emotional support, crisis intervention and supportive services to help people realize their own strength and self-worth.

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eliminating racism
empowering women
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