

If she leaves...

COMMUNITY RESPONSE

NOBODY'S PERFECT

HE SEEMS LIKE SUCH A NICE BLOKE/GOOD DAD

WHAT ABOUT THE CHILDREN?

ARE YOU SURE SHE'S NOT MAKING IT UP?

HOME WRECKER

SHE'LL GO BACK, SHE ALWAYS DOES

DON'T LEAVE ME - I'LL KILL/HARM MYSELF

HE TELLS HER "I'M THE ONE WHO GETS TO SAY WHEN ITS OVER - NOT YOU"

I'LL KILL/HARM YOU, THE KIDS, YOUR FAMILY, ETC.

PARTNER'S RESPONSE

WHY ARE YOU DOING THIS TO OUR FAMILY?

I'LL NEVER DO IT AGAIN

I'LL GET HELP/ I'LL CHANGE

MAY GET ACCESS TO REFUGE/SAFE HOUSING

COMPLICATED AND EXPENSIVE LEGAL PROCESS

INSTITUTIONAL/ SYSTEMS RESPONSE

USE OF SYSTEM AGENCIES TO ABUSE E.G. DCS, COURTS, POLICE

FEELINGS OF SHAME AS SHE TELLS AND RETELLS HER STORY TO SERVICES

SUPPORT AND RESOURCES AVAILABLE BUT IN HIGH DEMAND

WOMAN'S RESPONSE

FEAR-WILL I BE ABLE TO COPE EMOTIONALLY/FINANCIALLY?

WILL SOMEONE EVER WANT TO BE WITH ME?

WHAT ABOUT THE KIDS?

HE'LL FIND ME, I'LL NEVER GET FREE OF HIM

SHAME/ EMBARRASSMENT/GUILT

If she stays...

HER CHOICE - SHE'S MADE HER BED SO SHE CAN LIE IN IT

WE'RE NOT GETTING INVOLVED ANYMORE

WHY DOESN'T SHE JUST LEAVE?

IT CAN'T BE THAT BAD

DOESN'T SHE CARE ABOUT THE CHILDREN?!

THE ABUSE CONTINUES/ESCALATES

DON'T EVER FORGET YOU'RE HERE BECAUSE OF ME

YOU MADE ME DO IT

YOU'LL NEVER SURVIVE WITHOUT ME - NO ONE WILL EVER WANT YOU

YOU'RE THE ONE WITH THE PROBLEM

FRUSTRATION WITH HER DECISION TO STAY

PRESSURE TO LEAVE

HER CHOICES ARE PUTTING HER AND THE KIDS AT RISK

LACK OF SUPPORT AND EMPATHY

WE'VE GIVEN HER OPTIONS BUT SHE WON'T ACCEPT OUR HELP

I HAVE TO TRY HARDER AND MAKE THIS RELATIONSHIP WORK

I LOVE HIM AND JUST WANT HIM TO STOP BEING VIOLENT

KIDS NEED A MUM AND A DAD TO BE HAPPY

HE'S NOT ALWAYS THAT BAD - THERE ARE GOOD TIMES TOO

I MUST STOP PUSHING HIS BUTTONS