

To: Interested Callers, Allied Organizations, and State Coalitions

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## **SUPER BOWL RESPONSE 2002**

Over the years, there has been media attention surrounding the possible link of Super Bowl Sunday and an increase in domestic violence incidents. This possible link first hit the airwaves in 1993 when advocates made seemingly innocuous statements to the press about a possible increase of battering on Super Bowl Sunday.

Following the comment, the Washington Post ran a front page story by reporter Ken Ringle entitled *Debunking the 'Day of Dread' for Women* which quoted a number of experts and battered women's advocates who said there was no discernible increase in battering on Super Bowl Sunday or on any day when football games are played. Some of those interviewed claimed that Ringle had taken their comments out of context.

In addition, NBC showed a 30-second public service announcement (PSA) on the crime of domestic violence during its coverage of the game. [Since the newest and most innovative ads are traditionally premiered during the Super Bowl, the network could easily have sold this coveted pre-game spot for approximately a half million dollars but aired the PSA instead.]

The following information may help you decide for yourself whether there is an increase in domestic violence on Super Bowl Sunday.

- [Points to Ponder](#)
- [Talking Points/ Reframing the Story](#)
- [They're Not All Bad](#)
- [Superbowl Quick Facts](#)
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## POINTS TO PONDER

On Super Bowl Sunday and on every day of the year, too many women are assaulted and beaten by their husbands and boyfriends. Although the issue may make headlines on this particular day, **battering occurs every day.**

Batterers come from every segment of our society. Abuse and sexual assault knows **no demographic or job-related bounds.**

As **role models**, professional sports figures can play an important role in educating society about domestic violence and projecting that it is never acceptable.

**No national studies** have been conducted that link sports broadcasts to increased domestic violence, child abuse, or sexual assault cases.

The fact is that some men use violence every day as a way to exercise power and maintain control over their wives and girlfriends. Super Bowl Sunday is only one day in 365 when women and children are abused and assaulted. **February 3<sup>rd</sup> will come and go**, but this fact won't go away.

Police officers and judges, teachers and coaches, business owners and employees, athletes and sports fans must take steps to **reverse societal norms** that tolerate, justify, and enable violence against women and children to occur.

The **National Coalition Against Violent Athletes** was formed in 1997 in response to the growing number of violent crimes by athletes in all areas of the sports world. This organization is based solely on the fact that athletes should be held to the same standards and laws as the rest of society. Visit them at [www.ncava.org](http://www.ncava.org).

**National Summit on Sports and Violence** (Title IV, Subtitle D). A direction by Congress that a national summit of sports, community and media leaders with expertise in anti-violence advocacy and youth advocacy should be convened to develop a plan to deter acts of violence. As a result, the Citizenship Through Sports Alliance sponsored the 1999 Summit on Sports in the New Millennium with USA Today. For more information on the CTSA and its founding members, visit [www.sportsmanship.org](http://www.sportsmanship.org).

The NFL recognizes that some players carry violence and aggression off the field and into their homes. The **Family Assistance Program** began in 1992 to address these issues. Also, during training camp, domestic violence is given as an example of when athletes should seek help.

[Please note: every team may operate these programs and their training camp differently. You need to check with each team individually to see how they are specifically approaching domestic violence in the lives of their players.]

Male athletes are six times more likely than other men to commit sexual assaults, and ten times more likely to commit domestic violence. But the conviction rate of athletes who are prosecuted is under half the national US rate for similar offences. [Kettle, M., (2001). The players think they can get away with it. Guardian Unlimited, January. Available at <http://www.guardianunlimited.co.uk>]

There are hundreds of professional sports athletes whose violent crimes against women have been documented. The same conduct that is rewarded in sports is unacceptable and inexcusable in other areas of athletes' lives, especially intimate relationships. For a full listing of convicted athlete offenders, see the **ACLU Sports Hall of Shame Hate Crimes Against Women** web site at [www.nostatusquo.com](http://www.nostatusquo.com).

Domestic violence is not just an athlete's issue. It is not simply a woman's issue or a family issue, but a **man's issue as well as a community-wide problem** that demands society's attention.

More Americans began recognizing a possible link between domestic violence and sports during the trial of O.J. Simpson. Simpson is not the only abuser in professional sports. **Murder** was what it took to finally draw attention to the issue.

Sports figures are not above the law. In fact, they have an obligation to help enforce that **domestic violence is no lesser of a crime** than any other.

# TALKING POINTS / RE-FRAMING THE STORY

While we are not advocating you initiate any media coverage on the possible link of the Super Bowl and domestic violence, you may get some calls requesting information. Below are some general talking points and suggestions for re-framing the story

❶ DO NOT initiate stories linking domestic violence and the Super Bowl. Unless your program has experienced a significant increase in hotline calls or requests for shelter in previous years on this day and you have STATISTICS as proof, you should not be supporting this link. The National Resource Center cannot support this link because we do not keep local statistics – you need to cite the numbers from your community as proof.

❷ If you are contacted by a reporter who is *contemplating* a story that focuses on the Super Bowl and domestic violence, try convincing her/him that the public would be better served by a story that provides concrete information about domestic violence and available services. Be prepared to provide that concrete information and talk about your services.

❸ If a reporter who *insists* on the Super Bowl angle contacts you, simply set your own agenda for the interview.

- Try to prepare for the interview — if a reporter calls and you are not ready to talk, ask the reporter what her/his deadline is and if you can call back.
- Think of questions the reporter will probably ask and prepare answers that incorporate the message you want to send. Don't forget to prepare answers to the difficult questions — the ones you hope the reporter won't ask.
- Avoid using technical jargon, acronyms / initials, or language familiar to the "movement" — explain any unfamiliar terms.

❹ Answer the reporter's questions, but redirect the emphasis away from battering on **any one day** to the epidemic of domestic violence perpetuated **every day**.

*The incidence of domestic violence may very well increase in some homes on Super Bowl Sunday, but this abuse pervades our society throughout the year. The fact is that some men use violence every day as a way to exercise power and maintain control over their wives and girlfriends. Super Bowl Sunday should not be singled out as the one time when men may become violent because it's only one day out of 365 when women and children are abused. February 3 will come and go, but the abuse of women and children continues. Domestic violence occurs every day and it is a crime.*

❺ Send your own message to the readers / listeners. If your agency has adopted a slogan such as "Every home a safe home," "Domestic Violence – it is your business," or "There's no Excuse for Domestic Violence," incorporate that message into your interview.

❻ Acknowledge that domestic violence perpetrators can be anyone, including STAR ATHLETES such as professional football players.

❼ Provide information on the use of violence by some athletes in general.

*Some athletes fail to draw a line between the behavior that is accepted in their "profession" versus that in their personal lives. Aggression and control are dominant and highly regarded in sports. However, the same conduct that is rewarded in sports is absolutely unacceptable and inexcusable in other areas of athletes' lives –especially intimate relationships.*

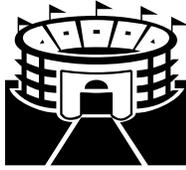
## THEY'RE NOT ALL BAD

Programs and athletes addressing the issue of violence and athletes.

- The National Advisory Council on Violence Against Women was established in 1995 to provide guidance to the implementation of the 1994 Violence Against Women Act (VAWA). The National Advisory Council brings together experts in the fields of domestic violence and sexual assault, including survivors, advocates, researchers, legal and health care practitioners, elected officials, and representatives from the media, sports, education, labor, social services and business. In late 1998, the Council was challenged by its co-chairs, the Attorney General of the U.S. Department of Justice and the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, to develop a comprehensive national plan to end violence against women. Hence, the Council wrote Ending Violence Against Women and Girls — Agenda for the Nation, which contains a chapter on athletes and violence: *The Sports Community, Athletes, And Coaches*.
- Athletes who are members of the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence (NCADV) *Voices Against Violence*: Kathy Long, Lisa Gaylord, Bruce and Kristi Jenner.
- In April 1996, the New England Patriots football team made a decision to drop University of Nebraska draft pick, Christian Peter, after knowledge of his extensive history of assaulting women. Peter had been accused of sexually assaulting or raping three women. Prosecutors did not bring charges in two of the cases. In the third case, Peter pleaded guilty to third-degree sexual assault. He was given 20 months probation.
- In May 1997, the Seattle Mariners added a new pitch to their season: "Refuse to Abuse." A partnership between the Seattle Mariners and the Washington State Coalition Against Domestic Violence produced the season-long educational campaign to promote a commitment to end violence in intimate relationships.

It is interesting to note that the NFL recognized some players might have a tendency to carry violence and aggression off the field and into their homes. **In 1992, the league initiated the Family Assistance Program** to address domestic violence with its players. Also, during training camp, domestic violence is given as an example of when athletes should seek help. [Please note: every team may operate these programs and the team's training camp differently. You need to check with each team individually to see how they are specifically approaching domestic violence in the lives of their players.] If you live in an NFL city (i.e. Green Bay, Baltimore, Philadelphia, Denver, Oakland, San Francisco, etc.) find out how your team handles domestic violence cases, what family programs exist for the players, and if the team donates to the local shelter or program.

The NFL takes part in philanthropic work and sponsored *Breast Cancer Awareness Day* on October 24, 2000. Because over 10,000 persons visited the *NFL for Her* web site [<http://www.nfl.com/nflforher>], the NFL agreed to donate \$50,000 to the Komen Foundation. In addition, the NFL worked with the Komen Foundation and fashion designer Nicole Miller to raise money for breast cancer education and research. On Friday, January 27, 2001, LifeTime TV aired: "NFL Stories Straight from the Heart" — stories on breast cancer. Question: Does the NFL know that October is also National Domestic Violence Awareness Month?



## SUPERBOWL QUICK FACTS

<b>SUPER BOWL</b> * Facts taken from the Super Bowl Web page <a href="http://www.superbowl.com">www.superbowl.com</a>	<b>DOMESTIC VIOLENCE</b> * Louisiana statistics taken from the Louisiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence Web page <a href="http://www.lcadv.org">www.lcadv.org</a> **Other statistics taken from the Family Violence Prevention Fund Web page <a href="http://www.fvpf.org">www.fvpf.org</a>
Super Bowl XXXVI February 3, 2002 New Orleans, LA 6pm ET	Happens EVERY DAY At ANY TIME ANY PLACE
CBS will be broadcasting the event on radio. FOX will air the TV coverage, which will begin one week prior to the Super Bowl and coverage on Super Bowl Sunday will continue for 8-10 hours. The Super Bowl is annually the most-watched single-day sporting event.	Stories related to domestic violence are periodically shown on programs such as <i>Dateline</i> , <i>60 Minutes</i> , etc. and the local news if there was a high profile case in the community. One exception to this minimal coverage on this topic came when the OJ case went to trial.  On average, more than three women are murdered by their husbands or boyfriends in this country every day.** <i>Question: Where are the daily reports of those crimes?</i>
The game will take place at the New Orleans Superdome which holds 76,791 people at maximum capacity and has held more Super Bowl games than any other venue.	Louisiana has only 16 centers for domestic violence services in the entire state. In the year 1999-2000*, Louisiana turned away more than 1,700 women and children due to maximum capacity in the programs.*
Ticket cost for the game = \$350-400 per ticket. Sorry, it is sold out!  U2 will perform at the E*TRADE Super Bowl Halftime Show, which is being executive produced by Clear Channel	You don't need a ticket or an invitation to be involved in a domestic violence incident. More people are affected by this crime than you know. In the state of Louisiana in 1999-2000*, 29,415 women and children received services related to domestic violence in both Residential and Non-residential programs. <i>Question: How many of people involved in a domestic violence incident will be at the game?</i>  Inspired by the Old Testament tradition of the jubilee year, in which the indebted should be unburdened every fifty years, U2 lead singer Bono teamed up with U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan for the Jubilee 2000 Campaign designed to help cancel the debts of the world's poorest countries. Wouldn't it be nice if U2 teamed up

<p align="center"><b>SUPER BOWL</b></p> <p>* Facts taken from the Super Bowl Web page www.superbowl.com</p>	<p align="center"><b>DOMESTIC VIOLENCE</b></p> <p>* Louisiana statistics taken from the Louisiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence Web page www.lcadv.org **Other statistics taken from the Family Violence Prevention Fund Web page www.fvpf.org</p>
<p>Entertainment’s Special Events Group.</p>	<p>with domestic violence coalitions in the United States to help battered women in 2002?</p>
<p>The final list of official Host Committee Corporate Sponsors includes: Coca-Cola, Tenet HealthSystem, New Orleans Magazine, Freeport- McMoRan, Entergy, The Home Depot, RCA, Hibernia National Bank, Cox Communications and CableRep Advertising, The Oath and Miller Beer.</p>	<p>Slowly corporations and businesses of all sizes are seeing how domestic violence affects the workplace. We thank the following corporations for contributing to the end of domestic violence by supporting the National Workplace Resource Center on Domestic Violence [Family Violence Prevention Fund <a href="http://www.fvpf.org/workplace">www.fvpf.org/workplace</a>] Aetna U.S. Healthcare, American Council of Life Insurance, American Express, Bank of America, Verizon Wireless, Blue Shield of California, Blue Shield of Georgia, Gap Inc., The Hitachi Foundation, Kaiser Permanente, Levi Strauss &amp; Co., The Limited, Inc., Liz Claiborne Inc., Mintz, Levin, Cohn, Ferris, Glovsky and Popeo, P.C., Polaroid Corporation, Reebok, Snell &amp; Wilmer, Time Warner, Wells Fargo Bank, American Federation of Government Employees, American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, American Federation of Teachers, Association of Flight Attendants, Coalition of Labor Union Women, National Education Association, and Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers International Union. <b>BUT WE NEED MORE. HINT! HINT!</b> It would be great to have corporate sponsorship for shelters, for example “The Coca-Cola Shelter for Victims of Domestic Violence.”</p>
<p>Cost of the Super Bowl Trophy = \$12,000</p>	<p>[Find some budgetary number or cost that this could represent in your state or community.]</p>
<p>The NFL pays for up to 150 Super Bowl Rings - each having a ticket price of \$5,000 (this doesn’t include the paid adjustments for increase in gold or diamonds) [150 rings total = \$750,000]</p>	<p>[Find some budgetary number or cost that this could represent in your state or community.]</p>
<p>Each player on the winning team will get \$58,000. If, for example, the player is a member of a Wild Card Team that goes through the entire playoff and wins the big game, he will walk away with \$121,000.</p>	<p>[Find some budgetary number or cost that this could represent in your state or community.]</p>

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<p>Each player on the losing team will receive \$34,500.</p>	<p>[Find some budgetary number or cost that this could represent in your state or community.]</p>
<p>In the year 2000, the Super Bowl brought in \$292 million for the state of Georgia.</p>	<p>Number of Shelters / Programs in LA = 16</p> <p>Amount of money generated by the Super Bowl going directly to the shelters / programs = probably \$0.</p>
<p>In 2001 131,200,000 viewers across the nation and in the world tuned in to watch the game – making it the 5<sup>th</sup> most watched TV program in history.</p> <p>This year, Super Bowl XXXVI is expected to reach 130 million viewers in the United States and 800 million viewers worldwide.</p>	<p>Now you know why the most popular commercials are aired during the Super Bowl. Just think what a 30-second PSA on domestic violence could do?</p>
<p><u>Future Super Bowls</u> #37 = January 26, 2003 in San Diego, CA #38 = February 1, 2004 in Houston, TX #39 = February 6, 2005 in Jacksonville, FL #40 = February 5, 2006 in Detroit, MI</p>	<p>Number of Shelters and Programs: California = 113  Texas = 84  Florida = 38  Michigan = 63</p> <p><i>Question: How much profit will these programs see when the big game comes to town?</i></p>



## HEADLINERS & HALL OF SHAME

### HEADLINERS

#### **December 29, 2001. PATRIOTS' HAMILTON FACES ASSAULT CHARGE**

CUMBERLAND, RI ([www.SportingNews.com](http://www.SportingNews.com)) -- Patriot defensive end Bobby Hamilton was charged with assaulting his wife. Hamilton was arraigned on a domestic assault charge Thursday and released, police Lt. Joseph Louro told The Associated Press on Saturday. He was unable to provide further details. "We were informed by Bobby Hamilton of the situation he was involved in and are reviewing it internally," Patriots spokesman Stacey James said. Hamilton's agent, Brian Levy, did not immediately return a message left at his office Saturday. Hamilton allegedly grabbed his wife, Celeste, during an argument Thursday night, and she showed no signs of injury, The Call in Woonsocket, RI, reported Saturday. Hamilton, 6-foot-5 and 280 pounds, has started 14 games this season, his second with the Patriots. He played four seasons with the New York Jets before coming to New England last year.

#### **December 18, 2001. FORMER PATES LB CHARGED WITH DOMESTIC ASSAULT**

CUMBERLAND, RI ([www.SportsLine.com](http://www.SportsLine.com)) -- Former New England Patriots linebacker T.J. Turner was charged with hitting his wife and throwing a coffee table through a glass door. His wife declined medical treatment, and police would not comment on the extent of her injuries. Police charged Turner with two counts of domestic assault and one count of vandalism. He was arrested Saturday and released. He faces a pretrial hearing Jan. 7, 2002. The 23-year-old player was accused of hitting his wife twice at the couple's Cumberland apartment. Turner, 6-foot-3 and 255 pounds, was drafted by the Patriots out of Michigan State in the seventh round last spring. He played in two games before being waived last month. His agent is Richard Katz. A secretary for the agent said Katz was unavailable for comment.

#### **March 3, 2001. BRONCOS' CARSWELL SOUGHT FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

PUEBLO, Colo. (<http://www.sportserver.com>) -- Police are asking a judge for a warrant to arrest Denver Broncos tight end Dwayne Carswell after his girlfriend claimed that he beat her and pushed her from his car. Carswell's girlfriend, identified in a police report as Amparo Permelia Crump, said Carswell pushed her from his vehicle early Friday after they had a fight. Reached on his cellphone, Carswell said he had left Crump at a Holiday Inn in Pueblo. He admitted that she didn't want to get out of the vehicle, but he denied hitting or pushing her to the ground. Shift Commander Guy Thoms said police have prepared an affidavit requesting an arrest warrant for third-degree assault and domestic violence. He said a judge probably would sign it early next week. Carswell and other Broncos players were in Pueblo on Thursday to play a benefit basketball game with firefighters. Police said Crump had a slight injury to one hand. Carswell has played seven seasons with the Broncos, and ranked third on the team last year with 49 receptions for 495 yards. He caught a career-best three touchdown passes

**February 2001. FORMER FOOTBALL PLAYER ARRESTED FOR SECOND TIME**

(Family Violence Prevention Fund website <http://endabuse.org/celebritywatch>) -- Former professional football player Raphel Cherry was convicted a second time in the 1998 strangulation of his estranged wife, Jerri Harris Cherry. Judge Chris Piazza sentenced Cherry to 30 years in prison last month. Harris Cherry was found dead in her home in December of 1998, and prosecutors claimed that Raphel Cherry killed his wife because she was pursuing a divorce. He has previously been convicted of first-degree murder and sentenced to life in prison, but a judge overturned that conviction after jurors admitted they had violated the judge's order by talking about the case before deliberations.

**October 2000. WASHINGTON REDSKINS FOOTBALL PLAYER ARRESTED**

(Family Violence Prevention Fund website <http://endabuse.org/celebritywatch>) -- Washington Redskins football player Dana Stubblefield was arrested last month on charges of assaulting his wife, Kim. Stubblefield denies hitting his wife, who made the phone call to the police during an argument. "Nobody got hurt...Nobody was drinking. Nobody was doing anything out of the ordinary. It was just one of those normal arguments you get in with your wife," said Stubblefield in the Washington Post. Stubblefield has been charged with a misdemeanor that carries a maximum penalty of 12 months in jail, and he could face a fine or suspension by the National Football League.

**September 2000. FORMER NEW YORK JETS FOOTBALL PLAYER SENTENCED TO TIME IN JAIL** (Family Violence Prevention Fund website <http://endabuse.org/celebritywatch>) --

Former New York Jets football player Mark Gastineau was sentenced to 18 months in jail for failing to complete an anger-management course after hitting his estranged wife, Patricia Schorr. In 1998, Gastineau plead guilty to a misdemeanor assault charge and was ordered to spend a year in a treatment center. Prosecutors claim he did not fulfill his sentence, and left the program after about four months.

**August 28, 2000. DILLON ARRESTED FOR ASSAULTING WIFE**

CINCINNATI, OH (AP) -- Cincinnati Bengals running back Corey Dillon missed practice Monday following his weekend arrest in a Seattle suburb after his wife was assaulted. Dillon, 25, also did not tell the team about his arrest Saturday. Players were off on Saturday and Sunday, and Dillon told the team he would be late returning. "He had called and his agent had called, but the information they relayed was not consistent with what I'm hearing," general manager Mike Brown said from home Monday night. "I just heard the report [about the arrest] minutes ago. I have nothing to say concerning that until I know about it." Police said the former University of Washington standout was arrested Saturday afternoon after officers responded to a domestic violence complaint at a Federal Way, Washington, address. When officers arrived, they found Dillon's 23-year-old wife bleeding from the mouth in front of the house. Dillon was in the driveway, police said. Dillon was booked into the King County jail for investigation of fourth-degree assault, but was released later Saturday. Police said the couple was in a car when Dillon struck his wife, who was driving. She got out of the car and walked one block to the address where police were summoned. It was not immediately clear who lived at the house. Agent Marvin Demoff didn't return a telephone message Monday night. The Bengals had been told that Dillon would be back for practice on Tuesday, but that was before they learned of the arrest. "I was told he would be returning tomorrow," Brown said Monday night. "Whether that is the case, it is unclear to me at this moment." Dillon was repeatedly in trouble as a juvenile, prompting him to slip to the second round in the 1997 draft. He's been arrested twice while with the Bengals. Dillon was the leading rusher for the Bengals the last three years, going over 1,000 yards each season. He broke Jim Brown's rookie rushing record in 1997 when he picked up 246 yards in a victory over Tennessee.

## HALL OF SHAME

The *ACLU Sports Hall of Shame Hate Crimes Against Women* web site [[www.nostatusquo.com](http://www.nostatusquo.com)] contains a list of cases involving professional athletes, college and high school players, and coaching staff. Below are the football players - some professional, other students - who made this *Hall of Shame* for committing a domestic violence crime. This list does NOT contain the football players who were charged with sexual offenses or other professional athletes in different sports who committed domestic violence or sexual assault – the list would be too long.

1. **Nov. 1999: Rae Carruth**, wide receiver for the North Carolina Panthers, faces the death penalty for his involvement in the shooting death of his pregnant girlfriend, Cherica Adams. Adams was six months pregnant when she was shot Nov. 16, 1999. Doctors performed an emergency delivery and her son, which paternity tests showed to be Carruth's child, survived. Three other men were also charged in the drive-by killing, which occurred while Carruth allegedly spoke to the men via cell phone from a second car. While no motive has been confirmed, Cherica Adams' mother Sandra told the Associated Press that Carruth broached the topic of abortion with her daughter, and expressed concern about "how much the baby was going to cost him."
2. **1999:** Former NFL player **Raphel Cherry** was sentenced to life in prison in 1999 for the murder of his estranged wife.
3. **July 1999:** Former New York Jets football team defensive end **Mark Gastineau** was sentenced to 15 days in jail after being arrested for violating an order of protection obtained by his estranged wife. State Supreme Court Justice Deborah Stevens Modica sent Gastineau to jail because his arrest violated the terms of a conditional discharge – that he attend anger management classes and stay away from his wife.
4. **Sept. 1996:** University of Nebraska football star, **Lawrence Phillips**, was placed on probation and dismissed from the football team for attacking his former girlfriend. Phillips had violently assaulted his girlfriend, beating her and dragging her down three flights of stairs and kicking her until she was black and blue before neighbors intervened. On October 23, 1996 the University announced that Phillips would be required to complete mandatory counseling sessions, community service and attend all of his classes. He was charged with a misdemeanor assault and trespassing and was sentenced December 1, 1996. Phillips was reinstated six weeks later in time to play in a game for the national championship. The same week, another Nebraska running back, **Damon Benning** was also arrested under suspicion of assaulting a former girlfriend. Charges against Benning were filed but dropped.
5. **Sept. 1995:** Cincinnati Bengals defensive lineman **Dan Wilkinson**, is arrested after allegedly punching his girlfriend, who was four months pregnant at the time.
6. **Aug. 1995:** Two Florida Gators (college football players) each received a one-game suspension in August 1995 for "conduct detrimental to the university." Senior defensive end **Johnie Church** was charged with battery for abusing his wife, and freshman safety **Teako Brown** was charged with aggravated battery for hitting his girlfriend.
7. **Aug. 1995: Stacey Spikes**, Miami Dolphins running back, is arrested and charged with assaulting his wife. She publicly accuses him of a five-year pattern of domestic abuse.
8. **Aug. 1995: Frank Duncan**, a former player for the San Diego Chargers, is sentenced to eight years in prison for beating his girlfriend in January 1995. He was acquitted of additional charges of kidnapping. In the attack, Duncan reportedly threatened to "do to her what O.J. did to Nicole."

9. **Aug. 1995:** Seattle Seahawks star running back **Chris Warren** pleads not guilty to charges of misdemeanor assault after allegedly grabbing a woman outside a club in suburban Renton. Charges are later dropped when the case is settled out of court.
10. **July 1995:** Star Minnesota Vikings quarterback **Warren Moon**, by reputation one of the most upstanding players in the NFL, is arrested in suburban Houston and charged with misdemeanor assault after he slapped his wife, choking her "nearly to the point of unconsciousness" during an argument. Moon is later acquitted after his wife refuses to testify. A few months previously, Moon had been charged with sexual assault by a Vikings cheerleader in a case that was settled out of court.
11. **Feb. 1995:** **Harvey Williams**, Los Angeles Raiders running back, is charged in Overland Park, Kansas with felony aggravated assault and misdemeanor battery after an alleged confrontation with his ex-wife.
12. **Dec. 1994:** Former Philadelphia Eagles running back **Siran Stacy** was arrested for assaulting his girlfriend, Sharon Chancellor, less than two weeks after he had been acquitted of assaulting her on another occasion. Chancellor had filed numerous complaints against Stacy in the past, but in most cases declined to press charges.
13. **Nov. 1994:** Buffalo Bills running back **Carwell Gardner** is charged with assault after hitting his fiancée during a fight.
14. **June 1994:** Hall of Fame football player, former sports telecaster and celebrity **O.J. Simpson** is charged with murdering his ex-wife and her friend. The case draws unprecedented national media attention. Reports emerge that Simpson has a history of repeated attacks against the woman as well as a previous wife.
15. **April 1991:** A star football player at **Santa Teresa High School** in San Jose CA is arrested for assault after charges that he raped, battered, and attempted to run down his girlfriend in the school parking lot with his truck.
16. **Aug. 1990:** **Lorenzo Marshall**, a former defensive back for the University of Southwest Louisiana, is sentenced to counseling after admitting to beating his wife on five separate occasions.
17. **March 1989:** Assault charges are dropped against Denver Bronco wide receiver **Mark Jackson**, accused of slapping a former girlfriend.
18. **Jan. 1989:** Retired football star **O.J. Simpson** pleads no contest to charges of assault against his wife on New Year's Eve.
19. **Jan. 1987:** Seattle Seahawk linebacker **Michael Jackson** is charged with simple assault and domestic violence in a dispute with his wife. He agrees to enter a diversionary counseling program.
20. **Sept. 1986:** Former Dallas Cowboys defensive end **Larry Bethea** is charged with assault in connection with a fight in Dallas with his estranged wife.
21. **It is also worth noting that in Jan. 1990, Darryl Strawberry** [famous baseball player] was arrested after beating his wife and pointing a gun in her face while watching the Super Bowl.



## RELATED STATISTICS

In a study examining the association between professional football games and domestic violence (DV) calls to the Los Angeles Sheriff Department (LASD) from January 1, 1993, to December 31, 1995, the LASD dispatched units for 26,051 domestic violence calls. At the beginning of the 3-year study, LASD averaged 20 dispatches per day; by 1997, they averaged 27 calls per day. Dispatches increased an average of 74% from Wednesdays to Sundays during football weeks versus an average of 63% during non-football weeks during the entire study period. Dispatches also increased 74% during playoff weeks and 101% during Super Bowl weeks. However, Super Bowl Sunday was NOT the biggest day for domestic violence dispatches in any of the study years. In summary, analysis of results FAILED to show any statistically significant increase in domestic violence calls by the LASD during selected days of professional football games for the entire study period. [Sachs, C. & Chu, L. (2000). The association between professional football games and domestic violence in Los Angeles County. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*, 15 (11), 1192-1201.]

A study to examine the relationship between membership on men's varsity sports teams in NCAA Division I universities and officially reported incidents of women battering was conducted. Data based on the judicial affairs offices of nine Division I colleges for academic years 1991 - 1993 were analyzed. Results showed that male student-athletes comprised 3% of the total male population, yet represented 35% (20) of the perpetrators reported. [Crosset, T., Ptacek, J., McDonald, M., & Benedict, J. (1996). Male student-athletes and violence against women. *Violence Against Women*, 2 (2), 163-179.]



As a result of speculation about a link between violent sports and the propensity for males to commit acts of violence, a new study from Washington University in St. Louis finds no such correlation between reported cases of child abuse and the broadcast of national playoff games for baseball, basketball, hockey or football. The study was conducted by Brett Drake, Ph.D., and Shanta Pandey, Ph.D., both assistant professors in the George Warren Brown School of Social Work. "Prior studies have probed linkages between professional sporting events and homicides and woman battering, but our study is the first to extend this inquiry to the linkage between professional sporting events and violence against children," Drake said. "It is reasonable to postulate," wrote Drake and Pandey, "that if professional sporting events promote homicides and violence against women, they might also promote violence against children, who could also be seen as powerless and targets of domination." Drake and Pandey found no evidence of an association between male-perpetrated child abuse and any of the sporting events studied in their research. (Study appears in the September 1996 issue of the *Journal of Family Violence*.) [Everding, Gerry. (1996) Viewing of Violent Sports Not Linked to Child Abuse. *Washington University of St. Louis News*: <http://wupa.wustl.edu/nai/feature/1996/Nov96-Sports.html>]



## ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY

### ARTICLES

Callahan, G. (1995). The Worst Kind of Coward: Allegations by Robert Parish's former wife have cast a new light on an old hero. *Sports Illustrated*, July 31, 76.

History of abuse case and commentary on Celtics' player Robert Parish. Details the abuse of his former wife Nancy Saad with direct quotes.

Crosset, T., Ptacek, J., McDonald, M., & Benedict, J. (1996). Male student athletes and violence against women. *Violence Against Women*, 2 (2) 163-179.

This focuses on a study examining the relationship between membership on NCAA Division I sports teams and woman battering. Its findings report that male athletes make up 3% of the total male population, yet make up 35% of reported perpetrators of violent crimes against women.

Crosset, T., Benedict, J. & McDonald, M. (1995). Male student athletes reported for sexual assault: A survey of campus police departments and judicial affairs. *Journal of Sports and Social Issues*, 19 (2).

deMause, N. (2000). Punch Like a Man: Big Time Sports' Domestic Violence Problem. *The Cincinnati Post*, March 8-14.

Several statistics are cited here from the National Coalition Against Violent Athletes. There is a listing of incidents of violence against women, as well as an explanation of athletic departments' resistance to set comprehensive programs against domestic violence and sexual assault. The notion that sports players are above the law is covered.

Edes, G. (1997). Violent Reaction: Domestic abuse affecting sports. *The Boston Globe*, June 20, C01.

Details statistics involving sports players and domestic violence. Outlines many specific cases and offenders, but focuses on the case of Wilfredo Cordero, the Red Sox outfielder accused of assault and battery against his wife, Ana. Recognizes that a few counseling sessions will never be adequate in solving the problem of sports figures involved in violence against women.

Family Violence Prevention Fund. (2001). Domestic Violence and the Super Bowl. *Speaking Up*, January 23, (2).

Stresses that no national studies have been conducted regarding the relationship between domestic violence and the Super Bowl. Gives facts about the true correlation between the two -- there is none.

Holmstrom, D. (1994). Sports Violence Impacts US Society. *The Christian Science Monitor*, January 6, 2.

Holmstrom, D. (1995). Do Aggressive Sports Produce Violent Men?: Programs aim at halting the abuse of women by some athletes. *The Christian Science Monitor*. (Sports in Society.) October 16, front page.

This article covers associated factors of violent behavior in the sports realm. A great emphasis is put on the efforts of Jackson Katz, the head of Mentors in Violence Prevention (MVP), and his

involvement with counseling and workshops for college and professional sports players in relation to domestic violence and sexual assault.

Katz, J. (1995). Reconstructing Masculinity in the Locker Room: The Mentors in Violence Prevention Project. *Harvard Educational Review*, 65 (2) 163-174.

Jackson Katz, head of the Mentors in Violence Prevention project, is a leader in exploration on perspectives that include masculine constructions as explanations for violent crime. This article focuses on the importance of recognizing domestic violence as a men's issue. It makes an important point about the construction of masculinity and its role in domestic violence. Sections include: "Changing masculine norms," "MVP Playbook" (sessions with college teams), "Practical origins of the MVP project," and "Moving beyond silence in sports culture."

Katz, J., Scarborough, K., & White, G. (1992.) The Impact of Professional Football Games Upon Violent Assaults on Women. *Violence and Victims*, 7 (2) 157-171.

"In an exploration of the potential relationship between presentations of media violence & subsequent violent behavior by viewers, links between the timing & outcomes of the Washington Redskins' football games & the frequency of admissions to hospital emergency rooms in northern VA are examined."

Leo, J. (1996). Monday Night Political Football. *U.S. News & World Report*, January 8, On Society, p. 21.

Nack, W & Munson, L. (1995). Sports' Dirty Secret. When scarcely a week passes without an athlete being accused of domestic violence, it is no longer possible to look the other way. *Sports Illustrated*, July 31, 63-74.

Details specific cases of sports player perpetrators. Emphasizes the importance of recognizing that there is domestic violence everywhere and that it is not exclusive to sports players. Outlines the cycle of violence and silence.

Nextel Communications, Motorola, and Detroit Lions Take Part in National Wireless Phone Collection Campaign to Aid Domestic Violence Victims. *Business Wire*, October 18, 2001.

In the 2001 football season, NFL teams will each host a Donate a Phone collection drive at their home stadium where football fans will be encouraged to donate their used wireless phones. This article talks about the initiative by the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence and its support by the NFL. Gives contacts for further information.

Ryan, J. (1995). Why Sports Heroes Abuse Their Wives: No, it isn't just O.J. *Redbook*, September.

This article details incidents of abuse by star athletes. It discusses "The vulnerable sports wife," "What separates athletes from other men," "Why is leaving harder to do," "When the judge is starstruck," and "Breaking the wall of silence." Explains the dynamic within a "famous" relationship and stresses that domestic violence is common everywhere.

Sachs, C. & Chu, L. (2000). The association between professional football games and domestic violence in Los Angeles county. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*, 15 (11), 1192-1201.

This details a study examining the association between professional football games and domestic violence over a 3-year period. There is an analysis of results that failed to show any statistically significant increase in domestic violence distress calls during selected pro-football game days.

Shelman, J. (1998). UC Targets Domestic Violence: Studies say athletes more likely to abuse. *The Cincinnati Post*, August 25.

Includes a listing of prominent athletes accused of violence against women. Also, this article focuses on the University of Cincinnati problem of high incidents of the crime, outlining several cases. The National Coalition Against Violent Athletes is cited and comprehensive solutions to addressing violence against women in colleges are given. Answers the question "What can be done?"

Wolf, M. Nebraska's Message Chills. *Rocky Mountain News*.

Covers the problem of treating domestic violence as a lesser crime with sports figures. Spotlights the Nebraska Cornhuskers as an example.

Wolff, A. (1995). Out of Control: Three disturbing incidents raise doubts about the men in the driver's seat. *Sports Illustrated*, May 15.

Outlines specific cases of violence against women involving prominent sports figures. This article includes transcripts of police conversations involving offenders, and covers the fear that the women in these situations have of media attention. Good explanations of the cycle of violence, silence, and victim-blaming are offered.

## NEWSLETTERS

duPont, R. (1996). *Speaking Up: News and Tips for the Domestic Violence Community*. The Family Violence Prevention Fund. January 22, 2 (3).

This is the special Super Bowl edition which stresses the importance of drawing attention away from the supposed "day of dread." Outlines violence by athletes, the American Bar Association summit on college athletes and violence, talking points for media outreach, and a sample guest editorial.

## BOOKS

Katz, J. (1996). Masculinity and sports culture. In R. Lapchick (Ed.), *Sport in society: Equal opportunity or business as usual?* Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications.

McKay, J., Messner, M., & Sabo, D. [Eds] (2000). *Masculinities, Gender Relations, and Sport*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications.

Quirk, J. & Fort, R. (1999). *Hard Ball: The abuse of power in pro team sports*. Princeton, N.J.: Princeton University Press.

Sabo, D. & Messner, M. (1994). *Sex, Violence, and Power in Sports: Rethinking Masculinity*. The Crossing Press.



# WEB SITE RESOURCES

Web sites mentioned throughout the information and other sites for general assistance.

## **DOMESTIC VIOLENCE (GENERAL)**

### **Family Violence Prevention Fund**

[www.endabuse.org](http://www.endabuse.org)

Focuses on domestic violence education, prevention and public policy reform. Topics include stalking, healthcare, statistics on domestic violence, violence and poverty, and effects of domestic violence on children. Updates on domestic violence research and developments. National and state resources. Also houses the Health Resource Center and the National Resource Center on the Workplace Response.

### **Family Violence Prevention Fund Celebrity Watch Hall of Shame**

[www.endabuse.org/celebritywatch](http://www.endabuse.org/celebritywatch)

Contains Hall of Shame which details celebrities who have committed acts of violence against women, as well as Hall of Fame which details celebrities who speak up and take a stand against the media's glorification of partner violence.

### **Louisiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence**

[www.lcadv.org](http://www.lcadv.org)

Super Bowl XXXVI is set for February 3, 2002 in New Orleans, LA.

### **National Coalition Against Domestic Violence (NCADV)**

[www.ncadv.org/](http://www.ncadv.org/)

Provides information on NCADV services and materials, Domestic Violence Awareness Month, the Remember My Name Project, and upcoming NCADV events, and available products.

### **National Domestic Violence Hotline (NDVH)**

[www.ndvh.org/](http://www.ndvh.org/)

Provides detailed information on the *National Domestic Violence Hotline* services, guidance on providing support to someone being abused, domestic violence statistics, and other related materials and links.

### **National Network to End Domestic Violence (NNEDV)**

[www.nnedv.org](http://www.nnedv.org)

The *National Network to End Domestic Violence* is a membership and advocacy organization state domestic violence coalitions. The NNEDV began in 1990 as a small working group of state domestic violence coalitions and national domestic violence advocates. Today, the NNEDV is a leading voice among domestic violence advocates in public policy. More recently, the NNEDV has spearheaded efforts through its sister organization, the National Network to End Domestic Violence FUND to provide more direct support to local programs and coalitions through information, research, funding, and training.

### **National Training Center on Domestic & Sexual Violence**

[www.ntcdsv.org/](http://www.ntcdsv.org/)

They design and provide innovative training and consultation, influence policy and promote collaboration and diversity in working to end domestic and sexual violence. *The National Training Center*: (1) Develops and provides training, consultation and technical assistance to enhance collaboration among advocates, professionals, public entities and others working to

end domestic and sexual violence. (2) Works with local, state and federal agencies in the assessment and development of policies and practices designed to assist people who have been or are at risk of being victims of domestic and sexual violence. (3) Works with local, state and federal agencies, domestic violence service providers, university research programs, and others with expertise to develop and implement policies for assisting welfare recipients and other low-income individuals who are domestic violence victims so they can move safely from welfare to work.

**Office of Justice Programs, Violence Against Women Office**

[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/vawo](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/vawo)

**Power & Control wheel picture on the CDC page**

[www.cdc.gov/ncipc/dvp/fivpt/spotlite/power.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/ncipc/dvp/fivpt/spotlite/power.htm)

**NEWS**

**APB News**

[www.apbnews.com](http://www.apbnews.com)

APBnews.com is the first news-centered network devoted exclusively to crime, justice and safety – an 8-channel/26-program Web site covering the most intensively followed genre in media: police and crime news, personal and community anti-crime and safety information, and media and entertainment.

**Guardian Unlimited**

[www.guardian.co.uk](http://www.guardian.co.uk)

The UK's most popular newspaper Web site.

**SPORTS (GENERAL)**

**CBS SportsLine**

[www.SportsLine.com](http://www.SportsLine.com)

CBS SportsLine is a sports news Web site with current information and articles.

**Citizenship Through Sports Alliance**

[www.sportsmanship.com](http://www.sportsmanship.com)

This site focuses on citizenship through involvement in sports and includes a Toolkit for Community Organizing.

**Northeastern University's Center for Study of Sport in Society**

[www.sportinsociety.org](http://www.sportinsociety.org)

The Mission of Northeastern University's Center for the Study of Sport in Society is to increase awareness of sport and its relation to society, and to develop programs that identify problems, offer solutions, and promote the benefits of sport. The Center includes the Mentors in Violence Prevention (MVP) Program, which is a gender violence prevention and education program for athletes.

**Sporting News**

[www.sportingnews.com](http://www.sportingnews.com)

## **Sports Book**

[www.sportsbook.uk.co/](http://www.sportsbook.uk.co/)

## **The Sports Ethics Institute**

[www.sportethicsinstitute.org](http://www.sportethicsinstitute.org)

The Sports Ethics Institute addresses ethical issues that flow from answering: "What standards of conduct should govern in the complex world of sports?"

## **Sports Illustrated**

[www.sportillustrated.cnn.com](http://www.sportillustrated.cnn.com)

## **SportsJones**

[www.sportsjones.com](http://www.sportsjones.com)

A guide to the strange and unusual sports related information.

## **SPORTS AND VIOLENCE**

### **ACLU Sports Hall of Shame**

[www.nostatusquo.com](http://www.nostatusquo.com)

### **BadJocks**

[www.badjocks.com](http://www.badjocks.com)

"Where COPS meets SportCenter" This site details arrests and allegations made towards athletes and coaches in professional, amateur and high school sports, and includes the Sports Crime Resource Center which gives links to other Web sites regarding athletes and crime.

### **National Coalition Against Violent Athletes**

[www.ncava.org](http://www.ncava.org)

This coalition is dedicated to a concept of sports as an educational activity that promotes positive life skills in children so that they become respectful, productive adults. Features articles and statistics regarding violent athletes, as well as prevention strategies and curriculum for future athletes.

## **FOOTBALL AND THE SUPER BOWL**

### **National Football League**

[www.nfl.com](http://www.nfl.com)

### **National Football League, NFL for Her**

[www.nfl.com/nflforher](http://www.nfl.com/nflforher)

An interactive Web site for women on understanding the game of football, to learn about the prominent women in the NFL who are owners, managers, etc. and to order clothing made for her.

### **Super Bowl XXXVI**

[www.superbowl.com](http://www.superbowl.com)

Official Web site for the Super Bowl.