



MEDIA ADVISORY — FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Finding Positive Ways to Engage Men and Boys to End Violence Against Women

Ottawa, October 15th and 16th, 2009 – The Ottawa Coalition to End Violence Against Women (OCTEVAW) and the Sexual Assault Network (SAN) will be hosting a community forum entitled “Man Talk.”

Men and boys are the fathers, brothers, sons, neighbors, friends and colleagues of women survivors of abuse and sexual assault. They are impacted when women in their lives are denigrated, beaten up, raped and killed – simply because they are women. Violence against women affects the whole community and men are a part of that community. That’s why Michael Kaufman, the co-founder of the White Ribbon Campaign, has been invited to our city to facilitate a dialogue on how we can positively engage men and boys to end violence against women. His newest resource “Man Talk,” focuses on guy stuff, healthy relationships and dating violence. His tagline reads: *It’s what every guy oughta / gotta know about good relationships.*

“I’ve been embarrassed by my own gender too many times. It chips away at my spirit to hear about any type of abuse against women. Hearing other guys denounce abuse restores my spirit. Real men don’t abuse women.” asserts Bill Welychka, from Ottawa’s A Channel News, who will be present at Friday’s workshop.

Join us to start the conversation! Prevention is key and men talking to other men is a pretty important thing. All in the Ottawa community are invited to participate and do their part.

Thursday, October 15th – For community leaders and service providers (\$40 registration fee)

- R.A. Centre, 2451 Riverside Rd., Clark Hall, 8:30am to 4:30pm with lunch

Friday, October 16th – For students and youth leaders (Free for students and youth)

- Carleton University, Porter Hall, 8:30am to 12:30pm with lunch

Registration required at: www.octevaw-cocvff.ca

We thank our sponsors: Crime Prevention Ottawa, Equity Services at Carleton University and Hot 89.9.

For more information please contact:

Erin Williams, Executive Director, OCTEVAW, 613-725-3601 x105

Bailey Reid, Coordinator, Neighbours, Friends, and Families, 613-853-1033