Nashville Public Television Goes Inside Tennessee’s Domestic Violence Epidemic

Contributed by Joe Pagetta
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State ranks third in the nation for the number of women killed by men

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NASHVILLE, Tennessee – March 14, 2013 -- The number of incidents and severity of domestic violence has been a public safety crisis in Tennessee for a decade, and the staggering statistics show there is no typical victim. Tennessee ranks third in the nation for the number of women killed by men, and fifty-two percent of the reported violent crimes in the state are related to domestic violence. In a new documentary by Nashville Public Television (NPT), “NPT Reports: Domestic Violence: Living in Fear,” airing Friday, March 29, 2013 at 8:00 p.m., we learn about the survivors, the perpetrators, and the witnesses to these criminal acts of violence.

Produced by Emmy Award-winning Greta Requierme (“No Going Back: Women and the War”), “NPT Reports: Domestic Violence: Living in Fear” includes candid interviews with Nashville domestic violence experts and survivor advocates. Those interviewed include Captain Kay Lokey, Head of the MNPD Domestic Violence Division; Valerie Wynn, Founder and CEO of Mary Parrish Center; Emily Nourse and Lani Ramos, both with Family and Children’s Services; and Pamela Sessions, YWCA.

“It was certainly an emotional journey working on this documentary,” says Requierme. “Domestic Violence has such far-reaching consequences in our community, and experts tell us that statistically speaking, we all know someone dealing with this issue, whether it is known to us or kept a close-guarded shameful secret. Having worked on our Civil War documentary ‘No Going Back’ and this in less than a year was a startling reminder how little we’ve come in the respect for and roles of women in our culture.”

“But there was also hope in the honest stories that women told us, and in the strength and great minds of those on the front lines everyday working to aid survivors and create awareness about this issue.”

“NPT Reports: Domestic Violence: Living in Fear” comes just days before the national broadcast of the unprecedented 5-hour documentary, “Kind-Hearted Woman,” on Monday and Tuesday, April 1 and 2 at 8:00 p.m. The film, a joint production between Independent Lens and Frontline looks at the epidemic of sexual abuse and violence on Native American reservations by following the story of a 32-year-old divorced single mother on North Dakota’s Spirit Lake Reservation.

“NPT Reports: Domestic Violence: Living in Fear” is made possible by the law firm of Waller, the First Tennessee Foundation and The Women's Fund of the Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee.

About Nashville Public Television
Nashville Public Television is available free and over the air to nearly 2.2 million people throughout the Middle Tennessee and southern Kentucky viewing area, and is watched by more than 600,000 households every week. The mission of NPT is to provide, through the power of traditional television and interactive telecommunications, high quality educational, cultural and civic experiences that address issues and concerns of the people of the Nashville region, and which thereby help improve the lives of those we serve. # # #Downloadable Art for “NPT Reports: Domestic Violence: Living in Fear” Promo Image Promo Image with Title