

» IndyStar Homepage Apartments Autos Homes Items Jobs Personals **Sta**

THE INDIANAPOLIS STAR
INDYSTAR.COM

INDY WEATHER
78°F, High: 90°F, Low: 67°F

Cust

CHANNELS

- News
- Opinion
- Letters to The Editor
- Varvel's View
- Columnists
 - » Andrea Neal
 - » Dan Carpenter
 - » Andrew Horning
 - » James Patterson
 - » Russ Pulliam
 - » Tim Swarens
- Business
- Sports
- Entertainment
- Indiana Living
- Classifieds
- Community

STORY SEARCH: Past 30 days | What's available

Sponsored by Comcast HIGH-SPEED INTERNET

- Email t
- Printer-version

OPINION

TODAY'S EDITORIAL

Hear the voices of the abused

June 20, 2002

Our position: *By telling their stories, victims of domestic violence will bring needed attention to a community-wide problem.*

How often do you hear an abused girlfriend share her life's horrors and how she struggled to overcome them? How often do you hear a battered wife tell the story of how she finally left her husband and started a new life?

The stories and accounts exist. The Indianapolis Police Department and the Marion County Sheriff's Department hear and respond to about 32,000 of them each year. It's time the public hears them too.

Because they feel these stories need to be told, the good people of the Domestic Violence Network of Greater Indianapolis (DVNGI) are publishing a whole book of them.

"Hear Our Voices," a collection of essays and poetry about domestic abuse, will be published this October, which is Domestic Abuse Awareness month. Submissions are being accepted through Monday.

DVNGI, an alliance of local domestic-abuse organizations, calls the project, "a literary celebration of hope for survivors of domestic abuse." Striving for a positive, empowering tone, the group hopes to reach out to current victims and struggling survivors.

"We're hoping that we can show that there is a way out, a light at the end of the tunnel," said Kathy Davis, DVNGI office manager.

The group says the voices of domestic-abuse survivors have been too long muffled by mainstream views of them as victims to be pitied. It hopes "Hear Our Voices" will change that.

The project will be part of DVNGI's "Prelude to Light" domestic abuse awareness series, which also includes an Aug. 20 concert with Bonnie Raitt and Lyle Lovett at Verizon Wireless Music Center and an Oct. 3 conference for employers entitled "When Domestic Abuse Comes to Work." The launching of "Hear Our Voices" will be celebrated on Oct. 5 with a gala author's reception at Borders Books and Music Downtown.

We support DVNGI in its endeavors and urge those with a story to tell to share it bravely.

If you have a story to share or would like more information about the project, call 317-475-6110, or visit www.dvngi.org.

HEADLINE

- Jeffries wo moving up i
- Communit with brother
- Man tries acquisition
- Commissi Broad Ripp
- Police hun missing wom

Subscribe to The Star
And add 30 minutes to your day

THE INDIANA

EXTRAS

- Horoscopes
- Lotteries
- Obituaries
- StarChat
- Traffic

SERVICES

- Message boards
- Newsletters