



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Pittsburgh Symposium Addresses Dating Violence Prevention

*- PCADV, PA Says NO MORE, Southwest PA Says NO MORE, FISA Foundation
Host Youth-Focused Two-Part Symposium -*

PITTSBURGH – November 2, 2015 – Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence (PCADV), PA Says NO MORE, Southwest PA Says NO MORE and FISA Foundation will host a two-part symposium in Pittsburgh on ending domestic violence and sexual assault. Both sessions focus on the important role of engaging young people to create a generation of change committed to ending dating violence, the first session for adults and a separate session for high school and college students. The programs are free but registration is required.

“Teens are particularly vulnerable to dating violence,” said PCADV Prevention Manager Kristen Herman. “One in three teens will experience abuse in a dating relationship and more than two-thirds of them will never report it to anyone. The symposium will equip local youth and professionals to take action and make the prevention of dating violence a greater possibility than ever.”

PART ONE: Professionals working with youth are encouraged to attend ***Engaging Youth: Working Across Generations to Prevent Dating Violence*** on **Wednesday, Nov. 18** at **The Circuit Center, 5 Hot Metal Street**, in Pittsburgh’s South Side. This session runs from **9 a.m. to 5 p.m.** and addresses the importance of discussing dating violence prevention, gender messaging and roles in perpetuating gender violence, and strategies for working with and maintaining conversations with youth. Speakers include:

- **Elizabeth Miller, M.D., Ph.D.**, University of Pittsburgh Medical Center. Dr. Miller is the chief of [Children’s Hospital of UPMC’s Division of Adolescent and Young Adult Medicine](#). Her current research focuses on the impact of gender-based violence on young women’s reproductive health.
- **Ben Atherton-Zeman**, [Voices of Men](#). Atherton-Zeman is a spokesperson for the [National Organization for Men Against Sexism](#) and a public speaker on issues of violence prevention. He has performed and presented in 44 states and many countries and has worked as a prevention educator for rape crisis centers, domestic violence programs and state coalitions for 17 years.
- **Daryl Fort**, [Mentors in Violence Prevention](#). Fort is a senior strategies trainer and curriculum developer for the gender violence education and prevention program

developed by Dr. Jackson Katz. He has spent 15 years training thousands of athletes, coaches, administrators and students to put an end to dating and sexual violence.

Interested attendees may register for the Nov. 18 session at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PCADV1>. The program is free and breakfast and lunch will be provided.

PART TWO: High school and college students are encouraged to attend ***Ending Dating Violence: How to be the Generation of Change*** on **Thursday, Nov. 19 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.** at the **Jewish Community Center** in Squirrel Hill. Daryl Fort will lead an interactive discussion of how dating and sexual violence affects teens, prevention strategies for everyday life, and ideas for turning beliefs into action. Interested attendees may register for the Nov. 19 session at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PCADV2>. The program is free and refreshments will be provided.

Parking is available at both venues.

For further information, visit pcadv.org/Training/ or the Southwest PA Says NO MORE [site](http://www.southwestpasaysnomore.org).

About PCADV

Founded in 1976, the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence is the oldest statewide domestic violence coalition in the nation. Each year it provides free and confidential services to nearly 100,000 victims of domestic violence, through a network of 60 community-based programs serving all 67 counties in the commonwealth. PCADV also promotes public awareness of domestic violence-related issues through its PA SAYS NO MORE campaign, which it operates in partnership with the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape. For more information, visit www.pcadv.org or www.pasaysnomore.com; or follow PCADV on Twitter [@pcadvorg](https://twitter.com/pcadvorg) and on Facebook at www.facebook.com/Pennsylvania-Coalition-Against-Domestic-Violence-479697025386367.

About Southwest PA Says NO MORE

Southwest PA Says NO MORE is a growing community of organizations and individuals who are working to end domestic and sexual violence. FISA Foundation, in partnership with The Heinz Endowments and United Way of Allegheny County developed Southwest PA Says No More to showcase the important prevention-focused work happening in this region, and to make it easier for individuals and organizations to take action to stop gender-based violence. More than 20 organizations across the region have partnered with Southwest PA Says No More, including the Jewish Community Center of Greater Pittsburgh, YMCA of Greater Pittsburgh, and Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh. For information, visit southwestpasaysnomore.org.

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