

C. DOMESTIC ABUSE AND THE SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH

There is a general assumption within the Church that male survivors of abuse among Christians are few and far between. However, the most extensive research on domestic abuse within the Adventist church shows a different picture. Research conducted by Dr René Drumm among 49 Adventist churches in the United States indicated that 90% of abusers were active church members who included, pastors, elders, deacons, chaplain, conference secretary, university professor, pathfinder leader and other church leaders. The study indicated that women in the Church are just as likely to be abused by their husbands as women in the general population. Even more surprising was the finding that men are more likely to be abused by their wives than those in the general population.² As previously noted, large disparities between male and female incidences occur when homicides, sexual assaults, severity of injury and frequency of attacks are factored in.³ While male on female abuse will remain the primary focus of programming and provision, the suffering of male survivors must also be recognized and addressed.

The Seventh-day Adventist Church views all forms of abuse as antithetical to Christian values. In response the world headquarters of the church has embraced [enditnow](#). This is a global initiative to raise awareness and advocate for the end of violence around the world. It aims to mobilize Seventh-day Adventists around the world and invites other community groups to join in to resolve this worldwide issue.

This initiative, which extends to more than 200 countries and territories. enditnow is the most important stand the Seventh-day Adventist Church has ever taken regarding violence against men, women and children. Through this campaign, more than 15 million Adventist church members-men, women, and children-are expected to create a global movement that will be mobilized within their own communities, where each person will actively work to create awareness and share solutions on ways to end this global problem.

² [enditnow: Adventists Say No to Violence](#)

³ [Domestic Abuse is a Gendered Crime](#)