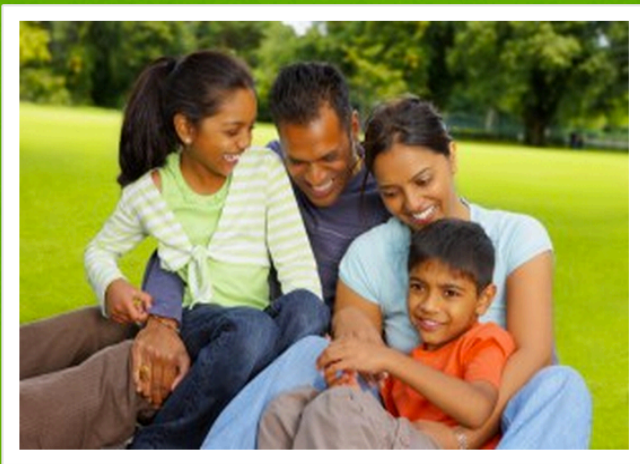




SAHELI
Men Against Violence Program
6 March, 2015

Ramesh Advani, Craig Norberg-Bohm & Joya Banerjee

SAHELI



Saheli Boston is an organization dedicated to empowering South Asian women and families to lead safe and healthy lives. With over 18 years of experience, Saheli offers a range of pro-bono services geared specifically toward the challenges faced by South Asians and other immigrants in New England.

Saheli provides services in the areas of domestic violence, physical and mental health and safety, legal and immigration issues, career and economic empowerment, and social and cultural volunteer opportunities.

MEN AGAINST VIOLENCE PROGRAM

- In 2013, Saheli partnered with the Indian human rights organization Breakthrough's internationally acclaimed campaign, Bell Bajao to launch a community-level male engagement campaign to reduce levels of violence against women in our community
- Bell Bajao's award-winning series of public service announcements has been viewed by over 130 million people. The announcements, inspired by true stories, showed men and boys stepping up and ringing the doorbell to interrupt overheard domestic violence in their buildings, neighborhoods and communities.
- Our partner agency, Jane Doe Inc. provides local support through their male engagement program



MEN AGAINST VIOLENCE PROGRAM

- Our online campaign and face-to-face events with local South Asian community members have already received 176 personal pledges to reject violence against women and to help transform harmful gender norms in our community.

MAKE YOUR PLEDGE NOW!

I commit to ending violence against women by...



I pledge to
**respect the women in
my life as equals,**
and to
**speak out against
violence against women**
wherever it occurs.

- Rajat Banerjee
Washington, DC



More than three women a day are murdered by their husbands or boyfriends each year. Take the pledge.

WWW.SAHELIBOSTON.ORG

MEN AGAINST VIOLENCE PROGRAM

Examples of personal pledges made in Saheli's MAV Campaign:



Ramesh Advani, Boston, MA

Indian American Community Leader, Saheli Advisory Board, Former Selectman & Asian American Commissioner, Indian American Mass Forum Chapter President

From this day forward, I pledge to be part of the solution to end domestic violence against women and men. To this end, I will lead all men who wish to be part of the solution here in New England where I live.



Rajat Banerjee

Washington, DC

I pledge to respect the women in my life as equals, and to speak out against violence against women wherever it occurs.



Rahul Kulkarni

USAID ASSIST Project, Kampala, Uganda

I commit to advocating for basic human rights, educating both my peers and the next generation of males on the role of gender, and empowering those already affected to leverage current resources and find personal balance.

MEN AGAINST VIOLENCE PROGRAM

Severity of violence against South Asians in the United States:

- ❑ 41 – 61% of Asian women report experiencing physical and/or sexual violence by an intimate partner during their lifetime
- ❑ 64% of Indian and Pakistani women had experienced sexual violence by an intimate partner in a study interviewing 143 women
- ❑ 50% of Indian and Pakistani women reported being stalked by an intimate partner
- ❑ 5,200 – 7,800: Asians are the largest group of people trafficked into the U.S., out of an estimated total of 14,500-17,500 individuals trafficked in 2004
- ❑ 79% of South Asians men and women reported being hit regularly as children
- ❑ In a review of 160 Asian homicide cases, 22 children were killed. Of 63 non-fatal child survivors 60 were on site when the homicides occurred, survived an attempted homicide, were eye or ear witnesses to a maternal homicide, or discovered the bodies.

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Severity of violence against South Asians in the United States:

- ❑ Strong, traditional, patriarchal gender norms and victim-blaming increase the vulnerability of South Asian women to violence, and decrease the likelihood of reporting
- ❑ Arranged marriages prevail, in which partners know very little about each other prior to marriage (and oftentimes immigration to another country) often leading to high rates of domestic violence
- ❑ Immigration issues also decrease the likelihood of reporting or seeking assistance

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Why should men care about violence against women?

- ☐ Because men can stop violence
- ☐ Because men listen to men
- ☐ Because domestic violence is NOT just a “women’s issue”
- ☐ Because violence costs
- ☐ Because men work with survivors
- ☐ Because men know survivors



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MAV Events

- Saheli spoke to youth at Emmanuel College and Boston College, 10/13
- Workshop at the New England Conference for Women, Boston University, 11/13
- Pledge signing campaign for men at India Association of Greater Boston's Republic Day Celebration, Burlington High School, 2/14.
- Saheli partnered with Jane Doe. Inc's White Ribbon Day Campaign 2/14
- Seminar & Discussion: Family & Relationship Issues, Sponsored by the India Association of New Hampshire 4/14
- Presentation & Pledge Drive at the Mandaara New England Kannada Koota's Grand Ugadi Celebrations in Framingham 5/14
- 2015 MAV strategy & project planning session with community leaders 16 Nov 2014



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DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PREVENTION • EMPOWERMENT • EDUCATION
Empowering South Asian women & families to lead safe and healthy lives

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