

USING MEDIA EDUCATION TO RAISE AWARENESS ABOUT DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

1. Show *Killing Us Softly 3*, *Tough Guise*, or *Wrestling With Manhood* in a high school class, during a PTA meeting, at a teen workshop, at your library, etc.. Discuss the ways that media normalize violence & reinforce, as well as construct, stereotypical ideas about gender and relationships. Use the discussion questions and exercises in the study guides to help you.

2. Join the **Dad's and Daughters/Red Wing GoGirls!** campaign to boycott *Abercrombie & Fitch's* advertising.

Go to <http://www.dadsanddaughters.org> for more information.

3. Organize your own letter writing campaign to express your views on advertisements or news coverage you find offensive.

For examples of letters, go to <http://www.about-face.org/yv/action/letters/>.

4. Write a letter to the editor of your local paper expressing concerns about the media portrayal of girls and women, and explain the links to dating and domestic violence, as well as sexual assault.

5. This is an idea from **About-Face** (www.about-face.org): Write a message on magazine subscription cards, and send it back to the company at their own expense!

6. Screen *Wrestling With Manhood* in your community & organize a protest for the next time the WWE comes to your area. The **Burlington Business & Professional Women** did this in April 2003 in conjunction with Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

For more information about their efforts, see <http://www.mediaed.org/news/articles/wrestling> .

7. Work with your local domestic violence shelter or prevention agency to hold a poster-making party, and then display the posters in your community. Create posters that ask people to consider the connections between media and domestic violence. Always put a hotline number on the posters, so people learn where they can go for more information.

8. Get your local community access TV station to show an *MEF video* and promote it through your local press.