



### 16 Days RISE UP Quiz 2024

You may wish to introduce this quiz with a trigger warning...... **Domestic Abuse and Gender Based violence** is a sensitive, difficult and uncomfortable subject. Gender based violence, in particular, domestic abuse, can affect us all and if you are affected by this – keep yourself safe, look after yourself, walk out of the room if you need to find a different space and please, don't share anything if you don't feel comfortable

#### **Opening Prayer**

May God give us eyes to recognise abuse where it exists. May God give us a heart to reach out in compassion. May God give us courage and resolve to make a difference wherever we are. May God bless you and nurture your head, heart and hands as we invite God to guide and comfort us as He gently directs our paths. Source unknown, adapted for 'Equipping The Church to take Action to End Domestic Abuse', 2022

### 1. How many women are affected by domestic abuse in our Irish context?

l in 4 women (1 in 6-7 men) Note: Since 2020, 24 women in NI and 34 women in RoI have died violently – that is 58 women across the island of Ireland (8 October 2024).

#### 2. What does the statistic #nomore1in 3 refer to?

1 in 3 women will be affected by GBV during their lifetime – Domestic Abuse, Domestic Violence, FGM, Child marriage etc

#### 3a. How much does domestic abuse cost the state in NI?

The Stopping Domestic & Sexual Violence and Abuse Strategy estimates the cost of domestic and sexual violence in Northern Ireland to be £931 million including costs to victims and their families as well as the costs to health, social care and criminal justice.

#### 3b. How much does domestic abuse cost the state in Rol?

Safe Ireland 2021 - estimated cost of at least €2.7 billion each year (Based on the most comprehensive study of the prevalence of domestic violence/coercive control and this does not include the cost of service provision).

#### 4. What is the leading cause of homelessness today?

Domestic Abuse - Homelessness and domestic abuse are intrinsically linked; when a woman leaves an abusive relationship, she often has nowhere to go. This is particularly true of women with few resources. Lack of affordable housing and long waiting lists for social housing mean that many women and their children are forced to choose between abuse at home or life on the streets.

Although domestic abuse occurs in same-sex relationships and happens to men too, the overwhelming number of victims are women (at the hands of a male partner/family member). For some women they go to refuge for safety, because a dangerous perpetrator may know where else she may turn to for shelter, such as friends or family members.

# 5. Are you aware of any specific days/times of the year when domestic abuse might increase?

On *Christmas Day 2022* PSNI received 110 calls from domestic abuse victims and concerned loved ones - an increase of 10 per cent from 2021. (1 every 13 mins)

*New Year's Eve,* the PSNI received 106 calls, an increase of 5 per cent on 2021. These figures cover the period between Nov 24, 2022 and Jan 2, 2023. (1 in every 13.5 mins)

Also, of note is a significant domestic violence statistic – Of the murder cases resolved 1 in 2 women die at the hands of their partner, former partner or family members in comparison, 1 in 20 men die at the hands of their partner, former partner or family member. It follows that a high proportion of women live in constant fear 24/7.

# 6. What are the three simple commitments required before branches and parishes can apply for the RISE UP Bronze Award

To achieve the **Bronze** award a branch / church should:

- 1. Put up RISE UP posters raising awareness of domestic abuse in appropriate public spaces such as in churches, toilets, community centres, parish halls etc.
- 2. Commit to pray for those affected by domestic abuse, including the victims, survivors, perpetrators, and those who work in the field of domestic abuse.
- 3. Make a connection with your local domestic abuse service to see how you can support them.



A range of **RISE UP Resources** are available for viewing and download at <u>www.mothersunion.org/RISEUP</u>

Domestic Abuse Campaigning Resources 2024 | Mothers' Union (mothersunion.org)

Register your interest, complete your actions and apply for your award at https://tinyurl.com/Riseupassess

For information regarding Ireland specific **RISE UP** supports contact <u>muchangingthestory@gmail.com</u>

What we do matters – let us continue to love not just with words but in actions and in truth. 1 John 3:18