

Fact Snippets on Domestic Violence in the South Asian community

Behind Closed Doors: Domestic Violence in India



--- Rinki Bhattacharya

To be assaulted, abused and raped by someone as intimate as a husband, or lover, is the most degrading experience for a woman. Not recognized as 'real' violence, abuse of this nature is experienced daily by countless women in every culture. Behind closed doors of family, custom, values, traditions that are taken for granted and never questioned – are muffled voices of terror and trauma, which do not reach beyond the threshold nor attract the attention of lawmakers or redress agents./-//-

/Edited by a renowned women's rights activist and a former

victim of domestic violence, the book takes us inside these closed doors. It puts together the life stories of seventeen women from diverse cultural, class, education and religious backgrounds in India who were victims of domestic violence. Apart from being a first person account, this powerful book is a tribute to the courage and determination of women who decided to break their silence. The book will inspire other victims of this 'hidden crime', to speak out, share their plight and change their fate

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On December 7, 2013, ASAFSF held a Gala Fundraiser, honoring our survivors, volunteers and friends. Two of the ASAFSF survivors spoke at the evening's function. The evening's Program carried the following messages:

“Our courageous survivors: We celebrate today and always the strength and resilience of the empowered survivors of domestic violence in our South Asian community, trailblazers in their own right. They teach us through their experience and are living proof of how barriers are broken and how “cultures of resistance continually spring up to counter cultures of violence”- APIIDV.. As stated by a DV victim “... violence is not within a woman's control. Everything in our society contributes to it.” (‘Behind Closed Doors, domestic violence in India’, Edited by Rinki Bhattacharya).

“Evil does not exist in isolation. It is a product of amorality in consensus.” – Chhaya Dey