

## HELP SHELTER/UNIFEM GBV PROJECT

### REGION 3 WORKSHOP - WALES COMMUNITY CENTRE, WEST BANK DEMERARA – 12<sup>TH</sup> & 13<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2009

#### PARTICIPANTS' EVALUATION

**Participants:** A total of nine (9) participants filled out evaluation forms. Four (4) of these were female participants representing (44%) and five were male representing (56%). The age of participants ranged from 21 -69 years with a breakdown into the following age ranges:

- 17-20 years - Nil
- 21-30 years -3 person or 33% of all participants
- 31-40 years – 2 persons or 22% of all participants
- 41-50 years -3 persons or 33% of all participants
- 51-60 years – Nil
- 61-70 years -1 person or 11% of all participants
- 71-80+ years- Nil

**Aim of the Workshop:** Participants expressed in their own word the aim of the workshop as follows:

- To inform persons about domestic violence, sexual abuse, alcohol abuse and human trafficking
- To educate persons about the rights of the child, trafficking and domestic violence
- To educate us about domestic violence so that we can share this information in our community

**Topics covered:** Self, Gender, Domestic Violence, Domestic Violence Act, Child Abuse, Child Sexual Abuse, New Sexual Offence Act, Trafficking in Persons and Substance Abuse.

Participants in their evaluation of the workshop indicated an overwhelming 100% success in understanding information presented, learning of new ideas and skills and increased knowledge and understanding of domestic violence, child abuse including child sexual abuse. Facilitation of the workshop and the venue were also rated as definitely good by all participants. 89% of all participants also definitely agreed that the workshop helped them to gain new knowledge and understanding of self and gender, the new sexual offences act and helped them to think of workshop topics in a new way. The topic area which rated the lowest approval rating was the Domestic Violence Act (DVA) only 67% of all participants felt that they had definitely gained new knowledge of this law.

#### Analysis of Workshop Sessions by Participants

	Yes, Definitely	Somewhat	No, Not at All	No Response
Do you think the aim of the workshop was achieved?	89%			11%
Was information presented in a way you could understand?	100%			
Did you learn new ideas or skills?	100%			
Did you gain new knowledge & understanding about Self & Gender?	89%	11%		

Did you increase your understanding about Domestic Violence?	100%			
Did you gain new knowledge about the DVA?	67%	11%		22%
Did the workshop increase your understanding & knowledge about child abuse & child sexual abuse?	100%			
Did you gain new insight into the new Sexual Offences Act and how it will be implemented?	89%	11%		
Did you activities help you to think about topics in a different way?	89%	11%		
Did you like the way the workshop was facilitated?	100%			
Did you think the venue for the workshop was good?	100%			

#### **Participants' favourite part of workshop:**

- Gaining new knowledge and understanding about domestic violence and child sexual abuse
- Group work and interaction
- Substance abuse
- Having men sharing their ideas with us women and learning from others. Hearing from one of the men that if he gives his wife everything at home and has another woman it is wrong.
- Favourite part was when I got to do explanations and express my feelings
- Education and knowledge shared by Help & Shelter

**Participants' least favourite part of the workshop:** Seventy eight percent (78%) of all participants said they enjoyed the entire workshop or did not respond indicating likewise. The other participants identified the following:

- The exercises
- Presenting in front of everyone

**Ways in which participants will use knowledge gained in this workshop:** Participants said they would share this knowledge with others including family, friends, church and community groups and individuals in their community. Other participants identified the following:

- I will try to educate other women that are facing these problems
- To elevate and protect myself, family and people I know

**How to prevent domestic violence in your community:** All of participants responded to this question as follows:

- More awareness programmes (2 hrs in the evenings)
- To have more workshops like this and to have more people participating- adults as well as young people
- Introduce such workshops in schools and churches
- Get the community to know about their rights
- Police should be more vibrant in their duties
- Police should get more involved when a report is made
- Call the Police and share information
- Knowing the Law and those who are there to protect us
- Speak to persons about the dangers of domestic violence

**How to prevent child abuse & child sexual abuse in your community:** All of the participants responded to this question as follows:

- Get an institute to specifically deal with child abuse and child sexual abuse
- Report to the nearest Police Station or call up the Ministry of Human Services
- Continue to hold sessions to inform people and also get the police more involved
- Observe the behaviour of children and ask questions about it
- Placing a child who has been abused in a home where he or she is well kept and cared for and loved
- Report it. Introduce workshops in the community and teach sex education in schools
- More public education programmes
- More education in schools and parents should acquire more knowledge about the Sexual Offences Act

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