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My reason for choosing domestic violence as my topic to advocate is to speak on behalf of victims that don't have the strength to come out and face their abuser because of fear. Targeting the problem right at the point, how domestic violence in homes affect any child or person and its environment is unhealthy and causes depression and suicidal actions. Some that are often affected by this issue are children and women. Families and children are affected because of the trauma they suffer from seeing or overhearing and even the abuse they encounter causing a long-term effect of them not wanting to live any longer or isolate themselves from the world because they are scared of getting hurt. A lot of people tend to advocate to other issues but one that hasn't had a lot of recognition is domestic violence. This issue needs to have a bigger effect on people because it is a contributor to mental illness, substance abuse and most importantly self-harm. There are some interventions for this project but one that has had a sit on my mind is the need of protection program which should be funded by the city such individual resides in. My targeted audience is

the governor, the mayor and community leaders, the reason for choosing them is because they are in the position to make it a possibility or so it can go into being a consideration for future plans for victims because a restraining order isn't enough to keep a person away when they want to hurt you.

My first source is an article from New York Times written by Amanda Taub, this article proves how much we need a better protection service from an abuser and why this became such an important topic that should be starting conversations and making progress in protecting victims. The article stated because more families are staying at home due to pandemic domestic violence cases and hotlines are going up with more abuse in the homes and mostly women are being affected that has children. A victim stated she was holding her child while her husband was hitting her with a chair. I selected this source because it is showing how victims are not safe and it is not a healthy environment for a child to witness that type of behavior from a father figure also the community is affected because it's not a healthy place to live because abuser is located there and can eventually harm others if people are not aware. You can also learn from this article how the pandemic has an enormous affect causing stress to both parties involve.

My second source is from New York Post by Gabrielle Fonrouge, this source was chosen because it shows numbers and how the pandemic slowly

causes people to get aggressive with their partners. The author mainly focuses on how due to mandatory lockdowns and job shortage in the five boroughs domestic violence cases went up from the past couple years and how intense and serious these acts were. I selected this source because my aunt experienced this exact situation with her husband, and I learnt that she wasn't alone that they were so many other women that are suffering the same way she did.

My type advocacy would have to be self-advocacy and my action will be by creating a group on social media and finding resources for victims to get in touch with like counseling, shelter and host meetings once a month to speak with everyone and share stories to show that no one is alone fighting for safety while battling other effects of abuse.

My other action is systemic advocacy, and my targeted audience is the school leaders and community members. We will be targeting the restraining order and to show them that it doesn't do anything and just causes more risk for the abuser to see the victim and act she/he again. Everyone especially community members school leaders can play a role by setting up meetings, writing letters to the governor of NYC and creating a virtual shared tags on social media platforms to promote awareness of the issue.

This topic is very dear to me, I was a witness to domestic violence, and I know and seen a lot of women who suffer tremendously after being abuse from losing their light and right to live a life without fear. I chose to advocate for this specific topic because every victim is either in fear or in a living depression state. It is not something you can ever forget, and it will always hold a shadow over your life but by advocating and creating resources and shared stories it will at least give hope and help those who are suffering to know that there are others, and they are not fighting alone and that will give them some percentage of courage. This topic will have a lot of impact as an early childhood educator because I will be teaching and learning children about this issue so they will know that they can have trust in me to be able to confide in me to help.

Cited Sources

Taub, A[Amanda]. April 06, 2020. Domestic Abuse Rises Worldwide. <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/04/06/world/coronavirus-domestic-violence.html>

Fonrouge, G[Gabrielle]. July 26, 2020. Domestic Violence soared during coronavirus in NYC. <https://nypost.com/2020/07/26/domestic-violence-soared-during-coronavirus-in-nyc-report-shows/>