

**NOVEMBER 2003**

# DVTF Newsletter

A Quarterly Publication of the Kitsap County Domestic Violence Task Force

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## KCDVTF Summit 2003

The Good, The Bad and The Ugly  
Youth Violence and the Media

Approximately 200 community members attended this years Summit on Youth Violence with Jackson Katz. Over 25 of those attendees were students from various Kitsap County Schools. Nearly all of the students that attended know someone that exhibits violent behavior. Now they feel they may have the tools to do something about it.

It was a very informative day.

Those that had not seen Jackson before left with a wealth of information.



**Advertise on KCDVTF.org**

The KCDVTF website gets 10,000 hits each month! We want to offer our local business owners, an opportunity to reach out to the community by advertising on our site. Your donation benefits the cause AND benefits your business by getting more exposure! This is our offer to you, promise to donate an annual set amount of at least \$100 or a percent of your business profit and we will post your name/business logo and, if you have a website, a link. You can either send us an email at [kcdvtf@silverlink.net](mailto:kcdvtf@silverlink.net) or use the online donation page at the website to make your financial commitment. Of course, if you want to donate and do not want the publicity, be sure to let us know that too. Together, we can create a community free from Domestic Violence. [www.kcdvtf.org](http://www.kcdvtf.org)

## Contracted Staff

Joan Taie

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**KITSAP COUNTY**  
**Domestic Violence**  
**TASK FORCE**

**Mission**

To create a community free from domestic violence.

**Goals**

To promote victim safety and perpetrator accountability the KCDVTF will:

- Educate the community about domestic violence;
- Establish and maintain a Coordinated Community Response;
- Encourage and support agencies that work with domestic violence;
- Maintain information regarding Kitsap County domestic violence resources;
- Advocate for legislative progress in issues as they relate to domestic violence;
- Develop funding resources to maintain the KCDVTF and to support the efforts of our community;
- Collect and maintain data on domestic violence in the community.

How to reach us:

- Kitsap County Domestic Violence Task Force  
 Post Office Box 48  
 Bremerton, WA 98337
- Phone: 360.373.5392
- Email: kcdvtf@silverlink.net

# Upcoming KCDVTF Meetings

*~ all meetings are open to the public ~*

**KCDVTF Board Meeting**

- Fourth Tuesday of the month at noon
- Bremerton/ K.C. Health District

**KCDVTF Quarterly Meeting**

- ? January 28, 6:30 p.m.
- ? Silverdale Lutheran Church

**Domestic Violence Network**

Brown bag lunch group supports and educates agencies and individuals who work with DV.

- 1st Wednesday of the month, quarterly
- YWCA office - 905 Pacific Avenue, Bremerton
- 11:30 a.m. -12 p.m. brown bag lunch/networking
- 12 - 1 p.m. Topic presentation: check our website [www.kcdvtf.org](http://www.kcdvtf.org) for topic

**Faith Community Action Group**

Serving as a resource for information and training to the local faith community on DV issues.

- 2nd Tuesday of the month, 11:30 a.m.
- YWCA office - 905 Pacific Avenue, Bremerton

**RESPECT (Relationship Education Strengthens & Provides Empowering Choices for Today's ) Kitsap Youth**

Addressing multi-disciplinary issues around youth.

- 3rd Friday of the month, 9 - 11 a.m.
- Waterfront Bakery, Old Silverdale, Upstairs

For more information contact: Candy Cardinal 360.337.5235 x6338 or Jennifer Forbes 360.337.5505

**Program Committee**

Plans the monthly Network meetings, Quarterly Forums, and annual community Summit, as well as the production of the Task Force Newsletter, Resource Guide for Victims, and our Website. Meets regularly on the 3rd Wednesday at 11:30 at the YWCA Community Center, 905 Pacific Avenue, Bremerton.

**Community Education Committee** -offering speaker and trainers to the community on D.V. issues. Contact the Task Force for more information.

**A Big Thank You To Those That  
 Donated  
 To The 2003 Summit!**

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- Allyndayle**
- Dayle Crane**
- Michelle Gleason**
- Mysticool**
- Heidi Hoke**

**Howard Johnson Hotel  
 State of Washington Office of the Courts**

## Truth Will Prevail

It's funny what images get frozen in your mind during a traumatic event. For me, it's the way the drywall dust and wood splinters hurled through the air towards me when he kicked the door open to come after me.

It's been three and a half years since that incident. The way his face looked, contorted with rage, isn't so clear anymore. I can tell you that it was. When he became angry, it always changed into a face I didn't even recognize. He became another person, a demon. But I can't (or don't) picture exactly what he looked like anymore. Nor can I recall the way his voice sounded while he was shrieking at me.

But I can easily picture the particles flying through the air. And the feeling of absolute disbelief (at that moment and still now) that I was in this situation. Of all the women out there, I above all, *should have known better*.

There had been incidents before this one, and there were more after. Each one traumatic to me, but none all that serious in the grand scheme. I have been to many meetings for victims of domestic violence now and I know that I am lucky. I was not punched, kicked, pinched, slapped, burned, stabbed or shot. I never had a bruise, or any other wound that could be seen. I am alive and my son is alive. For this I am thankful.

I was merely put down, treated with contempt, screamed at, shoved, pushed, dragged, terrorized and threatened (repeatedly) with losing my child. After I finally ended the relationship, I was stalked, harassed, slandered, accused of theft, burglary, and other crimes. I was investigated by my employer, ostracized by friends and co-workers, and forced to defend myself and my motherhood in two separate and very costly civil lawsuits.

As you may imagine, the psychological, physical, and financial toll on me and my resources was immense. I had anxiety attacks, obsessive thoughts and at one point was suicidal. I dropped to 107 pounds, was unable to sleep, and developed a laundry list of physical ailments. I lost my home and paid at least a half a year's salary in legal fees.

I am a police officer. The menacing bully who mistreated me and caused so much agony is also a police officer. We both still work at the same agency.

I began my law enforcement career over 7 years ago, with the idealistic conviction that Police Officers should be held to a *higher* standard of behavior than the general public. I still believe, even after all that I have been put through by my former boyfriend and my own agency, that given enough time, the truth will prevail.

It is this belief that kept me going through all of it, and keeps me going today. While some police women would have left their jobs, I have not. I got counseling, went on medication and went through hypnosis for PTSD. I fought like a wildcat and right now, I can honestly say for the most part, things in both my personal life and my professional life have turned around.

Some people have told me they consider me courageous for sticking it out. Maybe I am exceptionally brave, or maybe I'm just stubborn. Either way, I just can't let the good ol' boys beat me. A year and a half ago, I filed a lawsuit against my department. Within two weeks, the Chief unexpectedly announced his retirement. Subsequent administration changes shifted the work environment from downright hostile to tolerable.

In this new atmosphere, I continued to be *myself* and my former tormentor continued to be *himself*. People began to see him for who he really is. He began to screw up in ways that had nothing to do with me, but everything to do with his true nature. He was caught in a lie. He was investigated for misconduct and dereliction of duty.

Another Officer in my department told me one day, "More and more people here are seeing his behavior as a pattern. Pretty soon, he won't have any friends left here anymore. As it is, the new Chief won't even shake his hand."

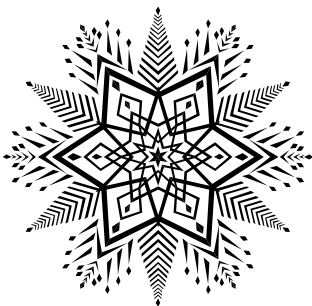
And it's come true. I began to get recognized again for my job performance. I got promoted to Detective. He got a new Sergeant who could "supervise" him more effectively and is watching him like a hawk. I hear other officers make disparaging comments about him and the quality of his work now. One Assistant Chief professes to hate him, the other, refers to him as, "That man."

Although it sounds like a happy ending, the battle is far from over. My lawsuit is yet to be settled and I anticipate more disharmony surrounding that. Realistically, the effect all this has had and will have on my career cannot be measured. I will never know whether my ultimate success or failure in law enforcement is because of all this or in spite of it all.

I also won't truly be comfortable in my workplace until my former boyfriend no longer works here. To see him still in uniform, walking the hallways of *my* police department is an insult to me, my co-workers and the public. He is a criminal. After all, I am expected to arrest people for doing to others exactly what he did to me. I don't want to be black and white about it, but hey, I swore to uphold the law and so did he. I don't want to be a hypocrite, and frankly, it's a double standard we could all do without these days.

But again, I have a belief. The truth will win out in the end. I am ever hopeful that next time he screws up, there will be a witness and there won't be an excuse. And whether I'm brave or stubborn really doesn't matter. What does matter is that I'm no longer living in an environment and with a man that made me feel helpless, worthless and scared.

This is a story from [www.dwetendorf.com](http://www.dwetendorf.com) ABUSE OF POWER Information by and for survivors of Police and Firefighter DV



The Kitsap County  
Domestic Violence Task  
Force wishes you and your  
family a safe and wonderful  
Holiday Season!

Happy 2004!





# ORDER FORM

You can also order on line at [www.kcdvtf.org](http://www.kcdvtf.org)



**RESOURCE GUIDES FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE VICTIMS**  
PRICE: \$10 for each 100 guides, \$50 for 500, \$100 for 1000 etc. Please order by denominations of 100. FREE 50 and a brochure holder if you've never received them before

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Business/Agency/Faith Community: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**WHAT EVERY CONGREGATION NEEDS TO KNOW ABOUT DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**  
PRICE: \$10 for each 50 brochures, \$20 for 100, \$40 for 200 etc. Please order by denominations of 50. FREE 50 and a brochure holder if you've never received them before

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Quantity: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

**What is dating violence?**  
Price: \$10 for each 50 brochures, \$20 for 100, \$40 for 200 etc. Please order by denominations of 50. FREE 50 and a brochure holder if you've never received them before

Free 50 and Holder (I haven't received any RGs, Faith or Youth brochures before, free or purchased)

Do not add tax. We will call you to make drop off/pick up arrangements.

Send this form and your check or purchase order to: Kitsap County Domestic Violence Task Force, P.O. Box 48, Bremerton, WA 98337. We do not take credit cards at this time. Questions? Please call 360.373.5392 or drop us an email at: [kcdvtf@silverlink.net](mailto:kcdvtf@silverlink.net)