

What Religious Leaders Can Do to Respond to Sexual and Domestic Violence

1. Work to change the conditions that perpetuate violence against women.
2. Give a sermon, *a dvar torah*, *a khtubah*, or spiritual teaching.
3. Create an environment of awareness by displaying [books and brochures](#).
4. Host an information and awareness event with [educational resources](#).
5. Arrange for a guest speaker for your congregation or community.
6. Implement a healthy relationships curriculum, like FaithTrust Institute's [Love—All That and More Curriculum](#), in your religious school and with your youth groups.
7. Support the safety and well-being of survivors.
8. Hold abusers accountable for their behavior.
9. Screen for domestic violence during premarital counseling.
10. Sign the [National Declaration](#) by Religious & Spiritual Leaders to Address Violence Against Women.
11. Get to know your local domestic violence, sexual assault, elder abuse, and child abuse service providers.
12. Provide training for staff and volunteers on how to recognize and respond to signs of abuse.
13. Utilize the texts, traditions, and values of your religion as resources for addressing violence. Click here to read [A Commentary on Religious Issues in Family Violence](#).
14. Stay current on the issues by signing up for [FaithTrust Institute's newsletter](#).
15. Hear what Marie Fortune has to say about the issues on [her blog](#).

Visit www.faithtrustinstitute.org for more resources.