

Dr. Phil Comes to Nation's Capital on Behalf of Victims of Domestic, Sexual Violence

July 14, 2011

Washington, D.C. – The National Network to End Domestic Violence (NNEDV) was pleased to welcome Dr. Phil McGraw, host of the *Dr. Phil* show, when he appeared before the U.S Senate Judiciary Committee to testify in support of the reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA). VAWA creates and supports comprehensive, effective, and cost-saving responses to the crimes of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. VAWA programs, administered by the Departments of Justice and Health and Human Services, have dramatically changed federal, tribal, state, and, local responses to these crimes.

In addition to featuring the issues of domestic and teen dating violence on his television show, Dr. Phil launched a partnership with NNEDV in the fall of 2010 to address the issue of domestic violence in every U.S. state and territory. His campaign to "END THE SILENCE ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE" will continue into his tenth season this fall.

"We are grateful to work with Dr. Phil to raise awareness and increase resources for survivors of domestic and sexual violence," said Sue Else, president of NNEDV. "We have a tremendous ally in Dr. Phil. His broad platform is truly helping to end the silence on domestic violence."

Dr. Phil's testimony drew on his work to raise awareness about domestic violence and his belief that there is a great need for protections and services for survivors. He encouraged the Judiciary Committee to reauthorize VAWA, which is set to expire this year.

"I pledge to you today our campaign to End the Silence on Domestic Violence is just beginning. With legislation like VAWA, we can turn obstacles into stepping-stones," said Dr. Phil during his testimony.

Read coverage of Dr. Phil's visit on ABC News [here](#) or view video coverage on the Huffington Post [here](#). You can read the testimony and view video of the hearing [here](#).