

# PLEDGE NOW AND BE PART OF THE ANSWER

## TAKING ACTION: HOW MEN CAN STOP VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

Young women between the ages of 16-24 experience high rates of sexual assaults, stalking, and relationship violence. One in five women will be sexually assaulted while in college, and one in four women will be a victim of domestic violence in her lifetime. By signing this pledge, I recognize that I have a central role in stopping violence against women. I know that violence includes physical violence, aggressive or sexist language, and sexual pressure. As a man, I have a responsibility to ensure that my sisters, classmates, partners, and friends have the right to live a life free of violence. I know that this is not about blaming men; it is about holding my brothers, classmates, partners, and friends to a higher standard that eliminates the pressure to be aggressive, unemotional, homophobic, and sexist.

I believe that all people have a right to live without sexual assault, dating and domestic violence, and sexism. In this belief, I pledge to:

- Never use violence of any kind in my relationships
- Never use physical force or emotional manipulation to have sex
- Only engage in sex when my partner agrees
- Hold myself accountable for all of my actions and behaviors even when I am intoxicated
- Never get a date intoxicated in order to have sex
- Hold myself and my friends accountable for aggressive and sexist language
- Think about the music, movies, and other media that I consume and whether they promote sexism, violence, or homophobia
- Offer help if I know someone who is being physically, emotionally, or sexually abused
- Recognize that most women do not feel safe
- Do my part to make my community a safe place for women
- \_\_\_\_\_

Add your own pledge on how you can make a difference here

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_