



‘P’ (ANONYMOUS), South Africa

P is a community activist who works with women and children in a neglected and impoverished rural area. For the last 20 years, she has been providing practical support to women subjected to domestic violence or living with HIV. She has continuously challenged negative attitudes towards women.



WORKING TOGETHER

The communities in which P works are poor and have a high prevalence of HIV infection. Women have a low social position and limited educational and economic opportunities. They also face persistent domestic violence. These circumstances place them at increased risk of HIV infection, particularly when they have little ability to insist on the use of condoms by their partners.

P organizes community workshops to encourage discussion of these concerns and recognition that domestic violence is an abuse of women’s rights, including to their dignity. She also trains women volunteers to support women and girls caring for family members suffering from HIV related illnesses.

A DIFFICULT ROAD

P is dedicated to assisting women access domestic violence shelters and comprehensive and emergency health services. She campaigns for more reliable, affordable and safe transport to enable women to reach these facilities.

P prefers to remain anonymous. She can face hostility because of the work she does and volunteers have been badly beaten by their husbands or other family members in an effort to stop them working.

By remaining anonymous, P also hopes to highlight that she is only one of thousands of women doing this vital work in poor rural communities.

To support P’s work please go to: www.amnesty.org/worldcup2010

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