

**NOWHERE SAFE TO GO**

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**MORE WOMEN'S SHELTERS  
NEEDED IN PAPUA NEW GUINEA**

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# NOWHERE SAFE TO GO

Josephine's partner beat her and her stepsons regularly. He beat them when he got drunk. He beat her when she refused to watch him have sex with his girlfriends. Most of the time he beat her to force her to have unprotected sex with him so she could have his child.

In 2007, Josephine (not her real name) fell pregnant. She left her stepsons and her partner, seeking shelter with her parents. She was HIV-positive. After her baby was born, Josephine's family discovered her HIV status. Since then, she has received regular beatings from her brothers.

Josephine desperately needs a place to stay. There are only three safe houses in the capital, Port Moresby, where she lives – each run without government assistance, and each struggling from a lack of resources. The situation is even worse outside the capital.

There is an urgent need for more shelters for women fleeing violence in Papua New Guinea. Until then, Josephine will suffer the daily brutality meted out by her family members because she has nowhere safe to go.

## TAKE ACTION NOW

**PLEASE SIGN AND SEND THIS POSTCARD TO THE PRIME MINISTER OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA, URGING HIM TO PROVIDE MORE SHELTERS FOR WOMEN SUFFERING FROM VIOLENCE IN THE HOME.**

*Image:* Port Moresby, capital of Papua New Guinea.

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**Dear Prime Minister,**

I am very concerned that women suffering from violence in the home in Papua New Guinea do not have protection because there are too few shelters available.

I call on the government to:

- set up at least four new shelters across the country before the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women on 25 November 2010, and expand funding for existing private shelters.
- equip these shelters with a 24-hour hotline and counselling services.

Yours sincerely,

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

**Country:** \_\_\_\_\_

Attach post  
stamp

**Rt Hon. Grand Chief Sir Michael Somare  
Prime Minister  
Morata Haus  
P.O.Box 639  
Waigani  
National Capital District  
Papua New Guinea**

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*Image:* This safe house in Port Moresby was closed in 2007 due to lack of funding. © Amnesty International

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