

# Mobilising Communities to Prevent Family Violence



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## Community members doing it for themselves



In Ohakune, we hit the slopes, not each other!













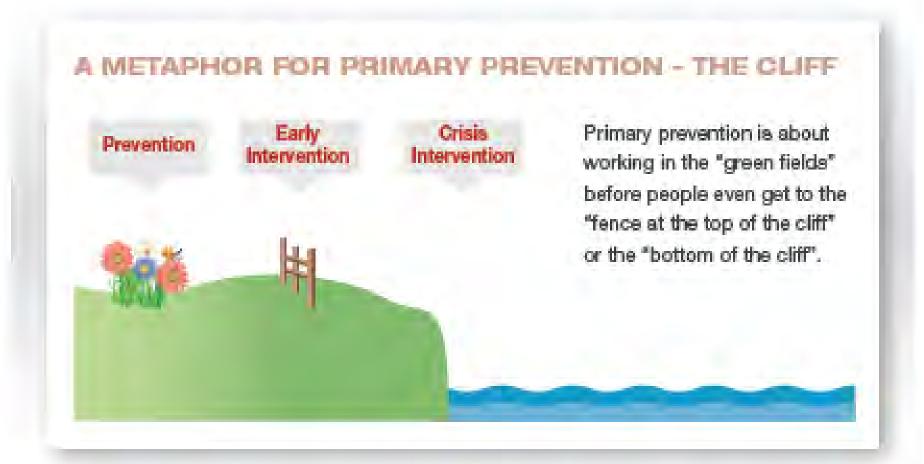
# Mobilising the community





Community mobilisation is	Community mobilisation is not
Systematic and long-term programming	Ad hoc, one-off activities in short-term
	projects
Fostering alternative social norms	Transferring information and facts
Complex and multifaceted	A singular strategy
A struggle for social justice	A technical quick-fix
About fostering activism	About implementing activities or training
Involving a critical mass of individuals,	Possible with few individuals or groups
groups and institutions	
Stimulating critical thinking	Transmitting simple messages
Holistic and inclusive	Limited to specific individuals or groups
Benefits-based	Punitive
Focused on core drivers	Focused on manifestations of violence
Iterative and organic	Linear and predictable
Community-led	Organisation and expert focused





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# Socio-ecological model

#### SOCIETAL

- Implement policies and actions that decrease gender, ethnic and economic inequalities
- Strengthen laws that address violence
- Challenge social norms that support violence
- Reduce access to firearms
- Decrease violence in the media

#### COMMUNITY

- Mobilise community members and leaders to take a stand against violence
- Run community campaigns, events and involve media
- Promote the benefits of living free from violence
- Build connections between neighbours

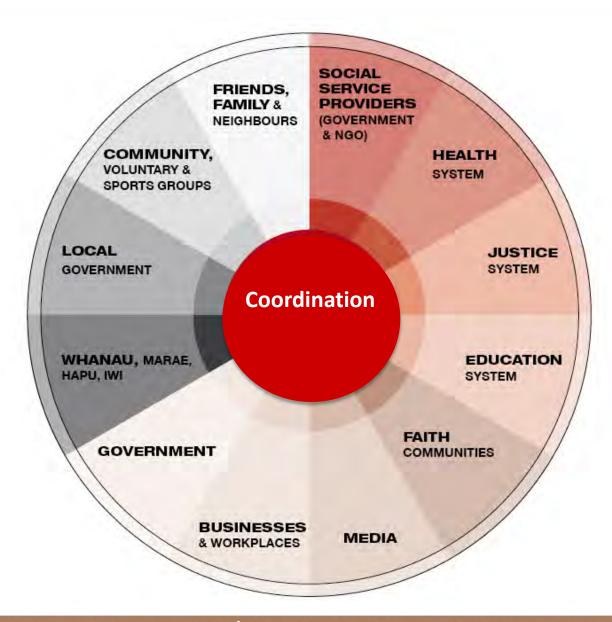
#### RELATIONSHIP

- Promote positive parenting practices
- Build problem-solving and/or conflict management skills
- Develop non-violent norms within relationships and families – communicate these norms to others.

#### INDIVIDUAL

- Increase understandings of family violence
- Reduce social isolation
- Challenge beliefs, values and attitudes that support violence

### **COORDINATED COMMUNITY ACTION TO PREVENT FAMILY VIOLENCE**



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## What it looks like

- Conversations and story telling
- Social marketing campaigns
- Using the media
- Using art, music, theatre, sports to engage
- Community events and workshops
- Community education and training
- Network building
- Champions, community activists, action takers

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## How change happens

- Find what people care about
- Build empathy, heart level
- See it as relevant
- See they can do something about it
- Talk, question, conversation
- Build relationships, connections, critical mass
- Challenge old ideas, explore new ones
- Do something differently- small steps

Change happens through long-term exposure to new ideas, behaviours and critical thinking

# **GG**Why its good

- Most people do not go to services
- Rather have help from those close to them
- Ethical responsibility to try to stop the harm
- Makes the most of community resources
- Positive, energising, empowering builds people up
- Spreads hope and light
- Connects people, reduces isolation
- We all want safe families, whānau and communities

community in mobilisation Isolation domination no choice Silence fear destruction blame Shame fun power lessness connected support inaction guilt voice trapped Control inspiration collective power no future action hope positive velationships Connection pride change decision-making better future

# Pulling it together

- Random or isolated actions won't be effective
- Complex change needs a systematic approach
- Understand factors that contribute to violence
- Someone to hold the space facilitate, enable, support
- Long term commitment
- Tight on the vision & outcomes, loose on the way it happens
- Build networks, coalitions, partnerships sector lets go

## It's not OK campaign aims

#### What needs to shift?

- Family violence is seen as normal
- People can't change
- It's a private issue
- Male entitlement and domination
- Acceptance of physical punishment
- Using violence to solve conflict
- It only happens to others

### Intermediate level outcomes that can be measured

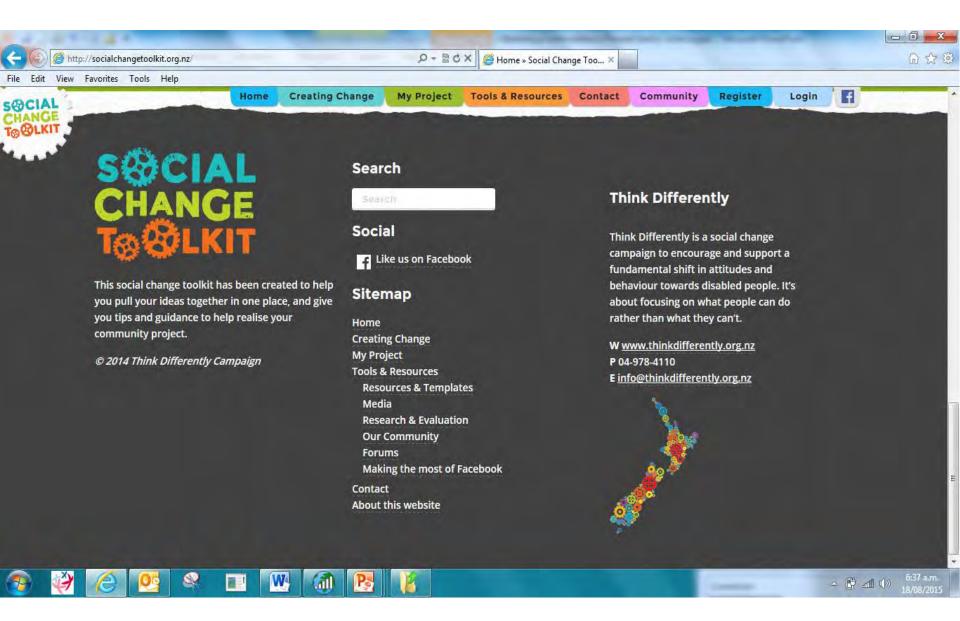
- People understand more about family violence
- Talk more about it
- Refuse to tolerate violence
- Know that change is possible
- Ask for help early
- Be willing and confident to offer help
- Make respect, equality and safety the norm
- See that everyone can do something to create safe families and communities



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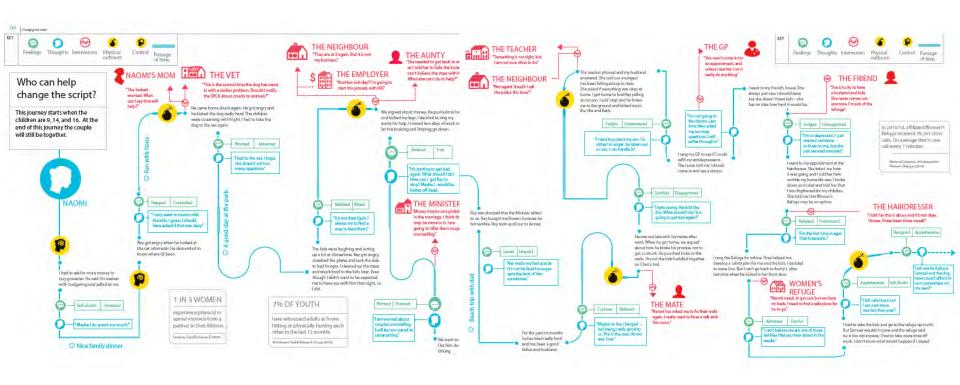
areyouok.org.nz facebook.com/ItsNotOK





resource for change makers - socialchangetoolkit.org.nz

## **CHANGING THE SCRIPT**



New resource to encourage social change action – search NZFVC website for details nzfvc.org.nz