

# ADVOCACY IS...

- ✦ Planned action to support an issue, interest, cause, or idea
- ✦ Founded on beliefs about social justice and rights
- ✦ To work for the marginalized in society to change their circumstances
- ✦ To articulate, promote, defend, represent, & educate the powerful about the needs of the powerless
- ✦ Focused on CHANGE

# ADVOCACY IN DV WORK

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- ✦ Questioning the status quo
- ✦ Representing & articulating the needs of battered women & their children
- ✦ Challenging social & legal systems (e.g., judiciary, government, social services, etc.) about their responses to battered women
- ✦ Educating systems, groups, & individuals about battered women and their children's realities & needs
- ✦ Changing social circumstances to end violence against women

# ADVOCACY IS NOT...

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- ✦ Crisis management
  - ✦ Counseling
  - ✦ Accompaniment
  - ✦ Emotional, informational, economic, & social support
  - ✦ Housing
  - ✦ Health care

# ESSENTIALS OF ADVOCACY

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- ✦ Advocacy is a skill; therefore, it can be taught & learnt
- ✦ Advocacy is ethical action; therefore, it must be based on values and principles
- ✦ Planning, collaborating, & coordinating are fundamental to advocacy
- ✦ Educating & documenting are vital parts of advocacy
- ✦ Advocacy includes intellectual, emotional, & action-based components

# TYPES OF ADVOCACY

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✦ Individual

✦ Institutional

● Policy

✦ Community

✦ Transnational

# CASE SCENARIO

✦ Bubbly has been living with her husband in your state for five years. Her parents paid a huge dowry to arrange her marriage to an immigrant to the U.S. They have no children. Bubbly's husband has just declared that he has fallen in love with someone else and wants her out of his home ASAP. Bubbly's parents want her to return to India. Bubbly might do so, but she wants all her possession back. Her husband has returned her clothes & jewelry but she is not satisfied. Bubbly wants your help in getting everything back.

# ADVOCACY & MOVEMENT BUILDING

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- ✦ Advocacy encompasses the actions of demanding, collaborating, & changing
  - ✦ Advocacy is to *amplify* the needs of the marginalized in society
  - ✦ Advocacy includes connecting the individual to many affected likewise
  - ✦ Advocacy is organized, focused, & collective
  - ✦ A vital part of effective advocacy is teaching the affected self-advocacy