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## United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

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August 14, 2012

Mr. Kieran Donahue  
Man Up Crusade  
P.O. Box 1922  
Nampa, ID 83653-1922

Kieran,

I commend the Man Up Crusade for raising awareness among men in an effort to stop domestic violence. I regret that my Senate schedule does not allow me to join you today for your announcement concerning your efforts to reach out to men during the Caldwell Night Rodeo and at other rodeos across the country.

One of the most important messages we all must communicate to Idahoans is that men play a critical role in stopping domestic violence. Men have a responsibility to stop not only violent actions but violent language against women or children.

The statistics are grim: One in four women and one in seven men have experienced severe physical violence by an intimate partner. Increasing victims' access to help lines and other networks and aiding family members and friends with identifying and reporting abuse can stop future abuse and help victims escape their attackers. All of our involvement is needed to break the pattern of violence before it takes root in our youth and communities.

Domestic violence irrevocably affects the entire family. A cure is only effective if it reaches the roots of the violence—insults, control issues and demeaning behavior that often precede physical violence and become learned behavior for children.

Men must see themselves as first responders in the effort to stop violence. We must stop others from committing violence or speaking in a violent or derogatory way against or about others. The Man Up Crusade is carrying the right message. Thank you for helping men mentor other men so that we can become a society where domestic violence is absolutely unacceptable.

Sincerely,



Mike Crapo  
U.S. Senator  
Idaho