



Through this social media campaign, Maitri is starting a dialogue with men in our community to identify and eliminate the root cause of gender-based violence and partner violence.

Thank you Kailash Patil for joining us in this meaningful discussion. #EngagingMenAndBoys

Q. Tell us your name and a little bit about you.

A: My name is Kailash Patil. I play multiple roles at work and at Home. At work, I am a manager of a team at Google and at home, my wife and I are parents to 2 wonderful daughters.

Q. Do you think domestic violence is a women's issue? If not, then why?

A: I believe domestic violence is a societal issue rather than just a women's issue, however, women are more often the victims. I have had the misfortune of witnessing the impact of gender-based violence and it takes a huge toll on the family including the victim and the kids. Many kids experience Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) which affect them well into their adulthood causing various problems in their health and relationships. Domestic violence has far-reaching and unknown consequences in our society.

Q. How do you think gender power dynamics impact intimate partner relationships?

A: I have seen both Gender dynamics play out. It is more personality and economic power dynamics that tend to play a larger role in intimate partner relationships.

Q: What can men do to change the harmful cultural conditions that support gender-based violence and/ or partner violence?

A: While Men are often just considered as the perpetrators, their role goes beyond that and they play a huge role in helping our society move gradually away from gender-based violence. Ex: As a father at home, my daughters see me and my wife interacting as equal partners in bringing up our kids, making family decisions, and having equal access and rights to everything in our family. When there is a disconnect, they see us argue, and debate but come to a conclusion and move on. If all dads, especially dads of sons play this role in their own way at home, the next generation will grow up knowing violence does not have a place at home. Children do what they see their parents do and not what they say.