



Jason Fong is a senior at Irvington High School. He loves spending time with his friends and participating in any manner of game or activity, particularly Yu-Gi-Oh!

Domestic violence is a frightening concept, not just because it affects so many people, but because it pushes an unstable and irrational emotion like love to its limit. Emotions can get in the way of our better judgement, leading some people to forgive the violent crimes of their partners purely out of love. Often, the victim has no choice but to stay with the perpetrators. The conditions that trap a person in an abusive relationship is what makes domestic violence or intimate partner violence so difficult to stop.

Like with most issues, we must stop domestic violence at its roots. That is more easily said than done. However, when a community works together to fight this injustice, we can do much more. Although men can be victims of domestic violence, most reported domestic abuse cases are about men abusing women. Therefore, it is important to teach boys from a young age not to lash out at others. It is important for boys to learn to respect girls and they must understand the value of consent. Additionally, we should work harder to make it more acceptable for victims to speak out, whether they be male or female, and end stigma once and for all. Students of all people have power to bring the change, let's pledge that we won't be bystander if we see relationship abuse or violence against women around us. We will believe and support victims.