

Case Study – Church of England

Stage 1

At church one Sunday morning in November, after talking about the 16 days of action to end violence against women, the spouse of the vicar, Sarah, comes over to chat to you. After the general chit chat, she mentions that Rob sometimes gets angry at home and she doesn't know how to calm him down. She says it's only the odd occasion and there is nothing to worry about. "It's certainly not abuse" she says and smiles.

Questions:

What would you ask her?

What concerns would you have?

What action can you take?

Stage 2

A few weeks later, just before Christmas, Sarah finds you again over coffee. She talks about how stressful it's been for Rob in the run up to the Christmas services and how he finds this time of the year pressured. She says in a whisper that he has been a bit of a nightmare to live with recently. "You know how it is, they take it out on those closest to you"

Questions:

What would you ask next?

What concerns do you have at this stage?

What actions can you take?

Stage 3

It's the New Year and Sarah looks sad. It's the New Year blues she says when you ask her about it. Rob sees you talking to her and comes over. Sarah quickly changes the subject and smiles.

Questions:

What would you ask/say next?

What concerns do you have?

What action can you take?