

Press Release
11 August 2021

Domestic abuse charity praises public response over level of Ofcom complaints about Love Island

Following almost 25,000 complaints to regulator Ofcom about Friday's episode of Love Island, Mark Brooks, Chair of the ManKind Initiative domestic abuse charity for male victims, said:

"We are really pleased with the level of complaints to Ofcom from the public. They have made their views very clear that the behaviour shown in Friday's episode was not acceptable and that includes when a man is on the receiving end. That is exactly the sort of response we had wished for. It clearly shows how far the public has changed its attitude over the last ten years in recognising that when this happens to a man, it has to be taken seriously.

"Soon after the episode was broadcast some members of the public on social media said it would not have been shown if the genders were reversed which we agree. However, it does clearly remind us all though that men can be, and are, victims of this behaviour and it is not only women."

ENDS

Notes to Editors

(1) Statistics

The Office for National Statistics figures show every year that one in the three victims of domestic abuse are male equating to 757,000 men (1.561m women) in 2019/20.

One in 6-7 men and one in 4 women will be a victim of domestic abuse in their lifetime

(2) About the ManKind Initiative

The ManKind Initiative (www.mankind.org.uk) is the leading national charity which runs a help-line providing, practical information and emotional support for male victims of domestic abuse and domestic violence. The help-line number is 01823 334244 (weekdays 10am-4pm) which relies on public donations. It also runs an accredited training course, a national conference and a national practitioners' network.

(3). Media Enquiries

Journalists requiring further information please contact Mark Brooks OBE on 07834 452357
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