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Domestic Violence

Lafayette, LA, September 10, 2014 - This week, outcries over the very public story of Ray Rice have inundated the media as the nation watched the video of his assault on his then girlfriend. Unfortunately, this disgusting display of abuse occurs repeatedly and daily in women's lives across the nation and, statistics show, disproportionately in Louisiana.

The most recent reports from the Violence Policy Center rank Louisiana as 4<sup>th</sup> in the nation for women murdered by men and have ranked consistently in the top 10 for 9 of the past 10 years. Whatever the circumstances of the Rice case may be, it is undeniable that acts of domestic violence are killing women in Louisiana.

What is domestic abuse? Acts of violence, controlling behaviours, verbal threats, sexual abuse, and isolation are a few indicators of abusive relationships. It is important to plan for your safety as far too often victims of domestic violence are murdered as they attempt to flee from the abuse. Faith House is fielding calls, and can help walk you through this difficult process. If you or someone you know is in need of more information call our 24 hour hotline at 1-888-411-1333 or visit our website at [www.faithhouseacadiana.com](http://www.faithhouseacadiana.com).

ABOUT FAITH HOUSE            Faith House is a private non-profit organization which provides comprehensive support services to victims of domestic violence in Acadia, Avoyelles, Evangeline, Lafayette, St. Landry, Rapides, and Avoyelles parishes. All services are free and confidential.            -END-