

Toughen domestic violence bills, lawmakers are told

By TIM RICHARD
STAFF WRITER

Area women surprised a key lawmaker by asking the definition of "domestic" violence be expanded to include "intimate" relationships where two people haven't lived together.

The women asked a Senate committee to toughen already-tough bills designed to deal more harshly with husband-wife violence.

"We need to include intimate relationships," said Virginia Nicoll of Farmington Hills, "where people are not necessarily living together. I have only anecdotal evidence," said the leader of the Older Women's League (OWL).

"We're looking at homosexual and lesbian partners," added Clementine Rice, who teaches psychiatric nursing at Oakland University.

"There's a lot of date rape and date violence, especially on university campuses," said Rice, adding that 19 to 25 percent of injured adult women in hospital emergency rooms are domestic violence victims who claim "I fell down the stairs."

Hedy Nariel, executive director of the Haven in Oakland County, agreed the definition should be expanded to "dating violence" and to cover women who "have children in common with someone they haven't lived with."

"That (expanding the definition) may prove difficult," replied Sen. William Van Regenmorter, R-Jenison. Author of the Michigan Crime Victims Rights Act

and constitutional amendment, Van Regenmorter agreed to study suggestions for a broader definition.

14 bills in hopper

Van Regenmorter chairs the Senate Judiciary Committee, which Monday brought its series of public hearings to Farmington Hills. Reps. Jan Dolan, R-Farmington Hills, and Sharon Gire, D-Macomb County, sponsors of some of the bills, joined him.

Fourteen bills are designed to make police and prosecutors treat charges of domestic violence more seriously. They limit the number of dismissals, stiffen penalties for what are now short-sentence misdemeanors, provide for more civil penalties such as court orders, and require that domestic reports be entered into the statewide Law Enforcement Information Network (LEIN).

In southeastern Michigan suburbs, the situation is improving, but not fast enough, witnesses said.

The Haven's Nicoll praised the 52nd District Court in Walled Lake for referring an increasing flow of violators to her group. "It's not counseling. It's not therapy. It's re-education. It (domestic violence) was a learned behavior, and they have to be retrained."

"Are police becoming more responsive?" asked Rep. Dolan.

"No, I wish we could say yes," Nicoll replied. "Police don't ask, 'Can't you come out and train us (to deal with domestic cases)?' We have to force the issue. It's not happening."

Laws needed

Andrea Solak of the Wayne County prosecutor's office urged prompt adoption of the bills.

"In Wayne County, some of your proposals have been implemented as policy. We will not drop a case," Solak said, adding that the policies need to be made law everywhere.

"There should be automatic prosecution of assault," said Lenore Dunn of Livonia. "It (the law-enforcement system) didn't work in my case, but it's really, really important."

Sandra Abbott, a Redford resident active in First Step, said she fled her abusive husband, now deceased, and spent two months in a shelter. "My spouse filed a missing persons report and told detectives I was abusing my child," she said.

Suzanne Fabian, of the Junior League of Birmingham, said her group has worked in several areas, helping the Haven expand its program to a new Novi location serving southwestern Oakland County.

"People have died," said Jean Prokopow, West Bloomfield resident active in Women's Action for New Directions. "Their lives might have been saved. Use all deliberate speed in moving forward."

"We want to move as quickly as we can," said Van Regenmorter, announcing another hearing at 1 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 22, in 110 Farmington Building, Lansing.

START SMART!

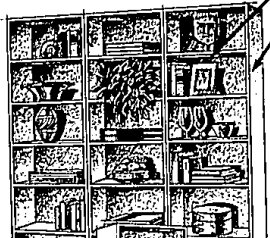
Smart buys for the smartest buyers.

NOW, there's an exciting new concept in furniture buying. It's called Starter House, and it offers dramatic savings on a large selection of quality furniture. Furniture you can take home and enjoy, right now!

Starter House is the smart place to start. Sale prices good through February 27.



Desk, With Hutch and three Drawers, in White, \$163 Value Now \$109.



Features shelves that are adjustable and snap fitting. Easy to clean, heat resistant, non-scratchable, stain resistant and does not fade.

Set Of 3 Open Bookcases, in White, \$267 Value Three For Only \$99.



Stereo Cabinet With glass door, \$169 Value Now \$97.



Desk Lamp, in White, Black, Red or Blue, \$25 Value Now \$19.

Items shown here are also available at our Livonia store 35555 Plymouth Rd.

starter house
house of denmark

All Prices Take-With Unassembled

EXCLUSIVELY AT THE ROCHESTER AND KEEGO HARBOR STORES

Rochester 893 South Rochester Rd. 651-9430

Keego Harbor/West Bloomfield 3325 Orchard Lake Rd. 682-7600

Open: Tues., Wed., Sat. 10-5:30/Thurs., Fri., 10-9/Sun., 12-5 (Closed Mondays)

ANNUAL CLEARANCE SALE! Tuxedos From \$39.99



President Tuxedo is releasing select new and used formalwear—including items from top designers—to make room for additional inventory. Some sale items are brand new and not from our rental collection. Some were gently worn for just a few hours. Alterations available at reasonable charge.

Used Formalwear

- Designer & Famous maker Tuxedos & Tails—primarily black \$39.99 - \$119.99
- Dinner jackets from \$39.99
- Formal Shirts \$2.99 - \$7.99
- Ties, Cumberbunds & Vests \$9.99 and up
- Formal Trousers (black wool) \$24.99 and up
- Formal shoes (black) only \$4.99

New Formalwear

- Designer Tuxedos (black all wool) Pierre Cardin, Lord West, Bill Jills and Christian Dior from \$149.99
- Formal Shirts from \$59.99
- Ties, Cumberbunds & suspenders 20%-50% off
- Cufflinks & Stud Sets up to 50% off
- Formal Shoes* from \$39.99

Clearance Sale
FINAL DAYS! Wednesday-Sunday, February 16th-20th
10 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily, Saturday 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Sunday 12 p.m. to 5 p.m.
AT OUR WARREN LOCATION ONLY!

President Tuxedo

Checks Accepted
20121 Hwy 10 Road
North of 12 Mile
(MI) 48065



Will wonders
never cease.

Isn't it
time you
experienced
how wonderful
fur can be?



The Winter Fur Clearance
Up to 50% off

at Northland, February 19 through 21

Experience the wonder of winter in a fur from Hudson's. During our Winter Fur Clearance, you'll find an unprecedented gathering of the season's most stylish looks in rich, wintry shades. You'll also find updated versions of the classics, an exciting range of fur and leather, fur outerwear and a huge collection of beautifully designed mink coats all at incredible savings.

Take advantage of our extended credit terms. Ask your sales associate about special payment plans using our Home Account or our interest free 6-Month Club Account. Protect the beauty of your fur. Allow us to enroll you in our exclusive fur maintenance, storage and insurance program: "The Platinum Advantage." It works.

Extra Fun: Total units available at Hudson's 2000. All fur labeled for these country of origin of imported fur.

And as always, we will make shopping easier with special services tailored to your needs.

HUDSON'S

Simple, honest, straightforward. How else would you expect to lease a Saturn?

By now, you've probably heard about the Saturn buying experience. No hassles, no pressure, no fuss, just common courtesy, along with a pretty great car.

Well, the way we see it, your experience shouldn't be any different if you want to lease a Saturn. After all, what could we possibly gain by making things any less straightforward than they have to be?



[\$190/Month \$561/Down 36/Months]

Smart Lease payments based on 1994 Saturn SL Sedan. Excludes tax, license, title, and insurance. First month's lease payment of \$108.96 plus \$224.00 refundable security deposit and down payment of \$561.00 for a total of \$893.96 due at lease signing. Option to purchase at lease end for \$6,275.00. Payments total \$6,275.00.

GMAC must approve lease. Mileage charge of \$0.19 per mile over 44,000 miles. Your payments may be higher or lower. Leases pay for excessive wear and use. See your participating retailer for qualification details. You must take delivery from retailer stock by March 31, 1994.

SATURN of ANN ARBOR
500 Auburn Drive
313-769-3991

SATURN of PLYMOUTH
9301 Massey Dr., 1-275 &
Ann Arbor Rd. 313-769-3991

SATURN of TROY
1804 Maplelawn, Troy Motor Mall
313-443-4350

SATURN of FARMINGTON HILLS
24730 Haggerty Road
313-473-7220

SATURN of SOUTHFIELD
29929 Telegraph Road
313-354-6001

SATURN of WARREN
7630 Convention Blvd., 131 & Van Dyke
313-979-2000

SATURN of NORTH
8400 Dixie Hwy., I-75, exit 93
313-620-8800

SATURN of SOUTHGATE
16600 Fort Street
313-246-3300

A DIFFERENT KIND OF COMPANY. A DIFFERENT KIND OF CAR.

© 1994 Saturn Corporation