



Asian Women's Shelter
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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- For general information about victims of battering charged with crimes, including parental kidnapping/custodial interference, contact the National Clearinghouse for the Defense of Battered Women at (215) 351-0010.

National Domestic Violence Organizations Stand With Nan-Hui

San Francisco, CA—National domestic violence organizations from across the country released a statement in support of Nan-Hui Jo as she awaits her sentencing hearing tomorrow on April 28, 2015. Endorsers include: Asian Women's Shelter (San Francisco, CA), Asian & Pacific Islander Institute on Domestic Violence (San Francisco, CA), Battered Women's Justice Project (Minneapolis, MN), Casa de Esperanza (St. Paul, MN), Domestic Violence Consortium (San Francisco, CA), Korean American Coalition to End Domestic Abuse (Oakland, CA), My Sister's House (Sacramento, CA), National Latin@ Network (St. Paul, MN), National Network to End Domestic Violence (Washington, DC), and Women of Color Network (Harrisburg, PA). Over 150 organizations nationwide have also signed on in support of the Stand With Nan-Hui Campaign.

Nan-Hui Jo is a survivor of domestic violence and was convicted of child abduction in Yolo County on March 3, 2015. In December 2014, Ms. Jo was first tried for child abduction, resulting in a hung jury. Ignoring all evidence of domestic violence, including public testimony by her ex-partner admitting his physical and emotional violence against her, the Yolo County District Attorney aggressively pursued a retrial that culminated in Ms. Jo's conviction.

"Regardless of Nan-Hui's sentencing outcome, domestic violence organizations are standing up to say that we support her in her fight for freedom and reunification with her daughter," states Beverly Upton, Executive Director of the San Francisco Domestic Violence Consortium.

Ms. Jo has been in Yolo County jail without possibility of bail and has not been allowed to see or speak to her daughter in over eight months.

"Nan-Hui's case highlights the vulnerable situations that immigrants and survivors of domestic violence face," says Orchid Pusey, Associate Director of the Asian Women's Shelter based in San Francisco. "Limited English proficient mothers who flee from violent partners do not have the same access to information and resources as English speakers in the same situation."



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In 2009, Ms. Jo called the police twice because of physical abuse by her then partner, and both times the police failed to take a report. The way police responded to Ms. Jo's calls is not uncommon. Domestic violence calls constitute half of all violent crimes calls to police departments. However, at least 30% of cases where victims request police assistance fail to result in an official report.

"Nan-Hui's case is a clear example of what often happens to survivors when they and their children flee an abusive partner. Victims are blamed and judged if they stay but also punished and criminalized when they try to protect themselves and their children. We are concerned about Nan-Hui and her daughter and about the greater impact and message this case sends to survivors who are deciding whether to leave an abusive partner," says Kim Gandy, President and CEO of National Network to End Domestic Violence.

The statement highlights that: "Survivors of domestic violence should not be punished for defending themselves, protecting their children, and rebuilding their lives from the violence of an abuser. Our legal systems should not entrap survivors in multiple legal systems that relentlessly criminalize and re-victimize them. We must support all survivors of domestic violence regardless of immigration status. We will continue to watch closely and advocate for Nan-Hui Jo."

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