



**I HAVE THE RIGHT TO
LIVE FREE FROM FEAR**





"We used to hide under the bed at home. Dad used to blame us, so we'd blame ourselves when he hit mum. Here in the refuge he can't blame us, he can't hit mum and we don't go under these beds."

COLIN, 12

DURING 9 OUT OF 10 INCIDENTS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IN A HOUSEHOLD WITH CHILDREN, THE CHILDREN ARE IN THE SAME OR NEXT ROOM.

"Dad would hit me as well as Mum. He would always blame Mum and me that he did not have a son. He made me feel unwanted. At least now I'm away from his moods and fists."

SAMIA, 16

'75% of mothers experiencing domestic violence said their children had witnessed domestic violence, 33% had seen their mothers beaten up, 10% had witnessed sexual abuse, and all of the children had seen their mothers crying and upset because of the violence.'