

**Purpose: To create a forum which engages discussion that connects the mission of CCADV to mainstream culture and to our personal lives.**

**Submission Guidelines\* :**

- There is not word limit; however, submissions should average 300 to 900 words or approximately 3-4 short paragraphs
- Include a suggested headline (subject to review by blog editors<sup>†</sup>)
- Please include a picture(s) to post with your submission (include any credits if necessary) with a short caption
- Your story should be opinionated: this is not the forum for neutrality
- You may submit/site previously published work, but you must include all appropriate credits and/or links back to the original

**Editorial Vision:**

- Subjective stories with a personal anchor (i.e. I heard, I saw, I read, I experienced)
- Thoughtful commentary on main stream culture and how it connects to the overarching issues of: power and control dynamics, self-determination, and healthy relationships
- Deeper treatment of the issues than through other social media forums

**General tips to consider when writing a blog submission:**

- Submissions shouldn't take more than an hour to write  
*Ideas are all around you. It's likely that most days, you see, hear, experience something to which you apply a critical feminist lens. Write it down!*
- Focus on the questions, not the answers  
*This is a conversation, not a lecture. Engage your readers to think critically about your story.*
- Get to the point: What is the goal of your story? Did you reach it?  
*Use the Editorial Vision as your guide as you read through your completed story. Your submission should have a personal component, and it should also relate back to the goals set forth above.*

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\* CCADV bloggers are volunteers and are not financially compensated for their contributions. By submitting your proposed post, you understand that you will not be paid for your submission.

† Blog editors also have the final decision in which posts are published.

### **Topic Ideas/Questions to Ponder**

- How popular media does/doesn't address the issue of DV (news, books, music, etc)
- Sports culture and how it relates to power and control
- What messages are advertisers sending you/your children?
- What examples of healthy relationships do you see around you?
- The response to domestic violence homicide in the country
- Why did you get involved in the movement to end violence against women?
- Moments that sustain us in our vision (kindness, honesty, cultural legacy, faith)
- Moments when we were surprised in a good way (i.e. witnessed a bystander speak up)
- Situations that pose dilemmas or tensions (i.e. allowing a child to express themselves v. social norms that might view the expression negatively)

### **Examples of Effective Blogging:**

- <http://canyourelate.org/2014/03/11/what-does-a-bat-mitzvah-have-to-do-with-healthy-relationships/>
- <http://goodmenproject.com/families/ban-bossy-dont-stop-gmp/>
- <http://canyourelate.org/2014/04/15/equal-pay-day-is-no-holiday/>
- <http://www.ccasa.org/marijuanaandconsent/>
- <http://goodmenproject.com/featured-content/for-crying-out-loud-can-we-please-stop-calling-them-sensitive-men-megasahd/>