



**HAVEN
HORIZONS**

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Haven Horizons Donates Books on Domestic Abuse to TUS: Midlands (Athlone) Campus Library as part of the '16 Days' Campaign

Domestic Abuse and Coercive Control Books Educate about Healthy Relationships

This important donation by Haven Horizons to TUS: Library (Midlands) will allow students and staff to access an extensive list of 70 books on the subject of Domestic Abuse and Coercive Control.

The donation is part of the '16 Days' of Action global campaign aimed at raising awareness and taking action to end Domestic, Sexual and Gender-based abuse locally, nationally, and internationally.

Madeline McAleer, Research, Training and Development Director of Haven Horizons said, "This donation is essential when you consider the epidemic of violence against women and girls. Educating people and in particular young people about Domestic Abuse and Coercive Control is crucial as too many people including victims often don't recognise the red flags or the risk in intimate relationships sometimes with fatal consequences."

The '16 Days' runs from 25 November, the UN Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, to 10 December 2023, International Human Rights Day.

Handing over the books in TUS Library: Midlands (Athlone), Madeline McAleer, Research and Development Director of Haven Horizons said: "Haven Horizons is proud to donate these books. The types of toxic relationships that are routinely displayed in porn are deeply problematic, with power and control, and misogyny at their core. Therefore, teaching third-level students to navigate and establish healthy, consensual relationships while developing an understanding of sexual violence is vital if we are to achieve Zero Tolerance of Domestic, Sexual and Gender-based Abuse. Haven Horizons was set up to educate people about

Domestic Abuse and Coercive Control and to bring about the changes in attitudes and beliefs that are needed to eliminate Domestic Abuse and Coercive Control.”

Thanking Haven Horizons for the book donations, Head Librarian, TUS Library: Midlands Dr. Johanna Archbold said: “We welcome this donation of recently published and seminal books on Domestic Abuse and Coercive Control by Haven Horizons. The rate of gender-based violence on university campuses remains unacceptably high. So, the positive impact of this donation cannot be overstated. These 70 titles provide resources to help raise awareness of an important topic and to bring about a broader social understanding of healthy interactions with each other. They will help to bring about real cultural change and benefit both students and staff,” she said.

Madeline Mc Aleer commented that: “When Minister McEntee launched The Third National Strategy on DSGBV she said that we would need to address the attitudes that underpin domestic abuse. This book donation by Haven Horizons is part of that strategy. These books educate and inform but could ultimately save somebody’s life.”

The books range from a Sunday Times bestseller, Melanie Brown’s (Spice Girl) memoir *Brutally Honest*, to the groundbreaking book *Coercive Control* by Professor Evan Stark to *Stopping Gender-Based Violence in Higher Education* by Clarissa Humphreys & Graham Towl.

Brutally Honest is an expose of the struggles and acute pain that lay behind Spice Girl, Melanie Brown’s glamour and success. The book reveals the horror of her marriage and her 10-year struggle to be free from Domestic Abuse and Coercive Control.

Coercive Control-How Men Entrap Women in Personal Life is one of the most important books ever written on Coercive Control or what author Professor Evan Stark has termed ‘intimate terrorism’. It challenges the harmful and entrenched view that domestic abuse consists solely of physical abuse and informs us that coercively controlled behaviour is more dangerous and higher risk.

Stopping Gender-Based Violence in Higher Education provides a unique insight into how gender-based violence at universities is impacting students and staff and outlines the path toward tangible changes that can prevent it.

All of these titles are also available to the general public and can be accessed in their local library branch.

A full list of the books donated is available on the Haven Horizons website – www.havenhorizons.com

Photos from the book donations available via [this link](#).

For anyone affected by domestic abuse contact:

Women's Aid 24-hour national freephone helpline – 1800 341 900

Clare Haven Services – 24-hour confidential helpline – 065 6822435

ENDS

NOTES TO EDITORS

For further information contact Katarina - admin@havenhorizons.com Tel 085 862 1720

Haven Horizons focuses on prevention activities including education, research, collaborative partnerships, and piloting best-practice models. [Haven Horizons](#)

Clare Haven Services offers refuge and support services to women experiencing domestic abuse. [Clare Haven Services](#)

Background Information

[16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence](#)

The 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence is an annual international campaign that kicks off on 25 November, the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, and runs until 10 December, Human Rights Day. It was started by activists at the inaugural Women's Global Leadership Institute in 1991 and continues to be coordinated each year by the Center for Women's Global Leadership. It is used as an organizing strategy by individuals and organizations around the world to call for the prevention and elimination of violence against women and girls. In support of this civil society initiative, under the leadership of the UN Secretary-General, António Guterres, the [United Nations Secretary-General's UNiTE by 2030 to End Violence against Women campaign](#) (UNiTE campaign) calls for global actions to increase awareness, galvanize advocacy efforts, and share knowledge and innovations.

