

From the Desk of Sharon Love

Dear Friend:

I founded One Love over seven years ago after my daughter Yeardley Love, a 4th year student at the University of Virginia, was beaten to death by her ex-boyfriend just weeks short of her college graduation.

It didn't seem possible on that day and quite honestly it is still incredibly hard to believe. When I sent Yeardley to college, I worried about her being in a car accident or injured on the lacrosse field. I had never thought about relationship abuse and I never imagined that my own strong, funny, kind daughter could be a victim.

We realized after her death that if anyone had understood the warning signs of an abusive relationship, actions would have been taken that could have saved Yeardley's life.

Now, it has become my life's purpose to prevent others from experiencing such a devastating and preventable loss and to honor Yeardley by making sure that everyone understands the signs that we did not.

One Love exists for one reason - Yeardley was killed and her death could have been avoided if anyone in her life had understood the signs of an unhealthy and increasingly dangerous relationship. We work to bring this information to young people through powerful content and peer conversations.

The fact that 1 in 4 people will be in an abusive relationship in their lifetime means relationship violence is the largest public health epidemic that no one is talking about. Nearly 20 people per minute are physically abused by an intimate partner in the United States equating to more than 10 million women and men per year. This is a human issue that cuts across all demographics and, as I well know, absolutely anyone can be at risk.

As our momentum grows, I believe that together we can change these statistics.

In the last three years, over 185,000 students have participated in our *Escalation* Workshop. Our #ThatsNotLove campaign has been viewed by 82 million people. We hear every day that we are saving lives. Our success would not be possible without all of you, and your support is critical to keep our momentum going.

I am writing you now because this month, you have an opportunity to triple your impact on our work. A generous donor has offered to match every dollar you give, two to one, before December 31st which means for every dollar you give, your impact will be two dollars more. I ask you to please consider putting One Love at the top of your list as you plan your year-end giving so that we can make even more progress in the year to come.

(over, please)



This is an important time of year for us as funds raised now determine just how much we can do in the coming year. You can help us do **more**: creating <u>more</u> powerful film content that personalizes this issue in a meaningful way; training <u>more</u> young people to bring our programs to their peers, changing the conversation and social norms in their communities; and finding <u>more</u> innovative ways to bring people together around an issue that has been in the dark for too long. Each of you can help us do **more**, and I hope you will join us today.

Inspired and hopeful, I truly believe that together we can, and will, change the statistics around relationship abuse and continue saving lives.

Thank you for prioritizing this work and generously contributing today. I cannot think of a better way to honor Yeardley than by making sure others have the information she did not - information that could have saved her life.

Gratefully,

Snaron D. Love

Sharon Love

P.S. Please remember that this is an opportunity to <u>triple your impact</u> and help us reach more young people on more campuses in 2018. Please donate today at **joinonelove.org/triple-impact** or through the mail using our Supporter Form. Thank you!