

SAFEPLACE PHILOSOPHY STATEMENT AGREEMENT

SafePlace, a feminist organization, provides crisis intervention and social change that strives to end domestic and sexual violence and end the systems of oppression that perpetuate it. Oppression is defined as the institutionalized, socially condoned mistreatment of the members of one group by another group.

Freedom from all forms of violence and oppression is a basic human right. We oppose the use of violence as a means of control over others and support equality in relationships and the concept of individuals assuming power over their own lives. We view every interaction as an opportunity to share with and educate individuals about their rights to be free from all forms of violence and oppression by providing opportunities for autonomy and self determination. If change is to occur, it must be made on an individual level as well as an institutional level. We practice social change internally by ensuring that institutional forms of oppression are not perpetuated in policies, practices, services, staffing, and distribution of resources

We believe that all people have the right to make their own decisions regarding sexual and reproductive matters, finances, education, religion, and employment. Each person is wonderfully unique, our strengths come in many forms and we contribute in different ways. Only by honoring our differences and appreciating our various perspectives can we find harmony.

Adopted December 1996,
Revised July 29, 2008

I have read the above statement and agree to adhere to the principles stated therein.

Signature

Date