



THE VICE PRESIDENT
WASHINGTON

November 6, 2013

Becky's Fund
5 Thomas Circle NW
Fourth Floor
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Friends:

It is a privilege to recognize Becky's Fund as you celebrate your fifth annual "Walk This Way" Fashion Event. This organization has worked tirelessly to advocate and to provide resources for survivors of this terrible crime, as well as to spread awareness and foster activism.

I've always said that the worst abuse of power is when a man raises his hand to hurt a woman. We all have to take responsibility. We have to spread this message to everyone, particularly young men. To all of the athletes at this event, thank you. Thank you for stepping up, speaking out, and setting an example for so many men and women. These athletes are sending a clear message that it is never ever acceptable for a man to harm a woman and there is nothing manly about it. There is absolutely no excuse for not stepping up and speaking out when you see abuse.

The proudest moment in my career was passing the Violence Against Women Act in 1994. Over the last two decades, we have made great strides on this issue, and we have shown that we can change people's lives. Since the passage of the Violence Against Women Act, incidents of domestic violence have dropped by more than half. Sadly, however, all too many Americans are still affected by domestic violence and sexual assault.

As you know, our work is far from done. We still have a long way to go to change attitudes and provide survivors with the resources needed to end this epidemic. Pardon my passion, but I cannot stress enough to you how grateful I am for organizations like Becky's Fund. You folks are on the front line, truly making a difference in the world one person at a time.

Again, thank you for never relenting in your important work.

Sincerely,



Joseph R. Biden, Jr.