

Love Should Not Hurt by Fabio D'Andrea

Interview with Mel B and Teresa Parker

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In this interview, Melanie Brown (also known as Mel B) and Teresa Parker (Head of Media and Communications at Women's Aid) discuss the music video for Love Should Not Hurt by Fabio D'Andrea. They also talk about different forms of domestic abuse, the importance of raising awareness, and Mel's own experience of abuse.

Read the full interview transcript below, and visit [our website](#) for more information.

Transcript

Interview begins at 00:07

Teresa Parker: (00:07)

This is a really exciting project for us because we want to help raise as much awareness of domestic abuse as possible. Lots of women don't think that their experience counts and what this film shows is a real range of all the different types of abuse, from the physical to the emotional. What you can really see in Melanie's performance is the control that her partner has over her. I think the coercive control, as well as the physical abuse, is really important to show.

Melanie Brown: (00:31)

I'm just really pushing to bring as much awareness to this topic as possible. Always. That's my role as being patron of Women's Aid. It's a topic and it's a subject that's really close to my heart, and I get to work with the fabulous composer Fabio D'Andrea and the brilliant choreographer Ashley Wallen. We've all come together and we're collaborating on a piece together that means a lot to more or less everybody working on this project right now. We've all had some kind of experience of domestic violence, which is sad to admit but it's just the truth. So we felt like we had to do it.

TP: (01:08)

There're so many women who are impacted by violence against women, there are so many women who are raped or go missing. Women are much more likely to die. One woman is killed every four days.

MB: (01:20)

You just say that and it's just shocking.

TP: (01:23)

Yeah.

MB: (01:24)

One woman is killed every four days.

MB: (01:29)

This project really does represent, you know you're listening to something so beautiful, yet witnessing something so horrendous. That's what you end up living, you end up living a double life. Because what you experience at home, you don't want anyone to know and you're too ashamed or you feel guilty about it, so you present yourself to the world that everything's fine. But you can only do that for so long before it becomes if not fatal, but mentally damaging.

MB: (01:54)

I mean, it is shocking but it's done in such a realistic way and with the music composed over it, it just sounds so beautiful but looks quite intense and horrific and shocking. So hopefully it'll get people talking about it a bit more, and being more comfortable to be able to talk about it because what you see is real. I mean, this is what happens. From my own experience I can tell you that.

MB: (02:20)

It took me 10 years to leave and for those reasons I didn't have access to my bank account, didn't even have my own front door key, which sounds ridiculous, and that didn't just happen overnight. But that was my situation and it took me 10 years to get out of it. And I'm still in some ways in it, because I've got children, and I've got court cases. You know, you can still be abused through the court system and still be abused financially. It's just ongoing so we need to talk about it.

Text: (02:51)

Love Should Not Hurt. Full video available to watch now.

www.womensaid.org.uk/loveshouldnothurt

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