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Photojournalist, filmmaker and domestic violence activist

An award-winning photojournalist and author of *Living with the Enemy*, for over twenty-two years Ferrato has devoted her life to documenting, exposing, and preventing the abuse of women and children by the ones they love. Ferrato is founder of the Domestic Abuse Awareness Project or DAAP, the nation's only visual archive on the subject of Domestic Violence.

From the *National Coalition Against Domestic Violence* to magazines like *LIFE*, *TIME* and *US News and World Report* opinion makers declare that her photographs have changed laws and consistently challenged ignorant attitudes promoted by society about violence against women and children.

Her domestic violence documentation has appeared in every major magazine and, in television reports on domestic violence, including *The Oprah Winfrey Show*, *OXYGEN*, *CBS' America Tonight*, *Good Morning America*, *Dateline*, *Eye on America*, *NBC Now*, *The Crusaders* and *Court TV*.

In 1991, after *Aperture* published Donna's book on domestic violence, *Living with the Enemy*, a New York's battered women's shelter approached her to mount the photographs as an exhibition for a benefit event. Building on the success of this, Donna founded the *Domestic Abuse Awareness, Inc.* to raise funds and educate the public about domestic violence. The exhibitions have since traveled to over 220 venues including many over seas, and have enabled community groups to raise over three million dollars for battered women's shelters.

Domestic Abuse Awareness, Inc. is a non-profit grass roots organization dedicated to eliminating violence in the home through increased awareness and education. Donna travels the globe lecturing at schools, hospitals, government agencies and domestic violence conferences. She is focused on opening people's minds and showing what we all can do to stop the pain

For her documentation of domestic violence, she has received numerous awards, including: the *W. Eugene Smith Grant*, the *Robert F. Kennedy Award for Humanistic Photography*, the *Kodiak Crystal Eagle for Courage in Journalism* and, most recently the prestigious *Missouri Honor Metal for Distinguished Service in Journalism* from the School Journalism at University of Missouri-Columbia.

The Unbeaten Woman

A visual journey in and out of violence in relationships

Donna Ferrato's multimedia program, with slides and music, begins with images of relationships where respect is a cornerstone and love and caring provides a safe haven. She then takes you into the painful world of violence in relationships, where home is no longer safe, for a clearer understanding of how abuse affects all of our lives, of the injustices faced by victims, and how we can stand up to combat this tragedy. It is a program about women who have traveled from being victims of violence to becoming empowered to find peace and wholeness to thrive in life.

**FOR SCHEDULING,
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800.743.9182**

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An award-winning photojournalist and author of *Living with the Enemy*, for over eighteen years Ferrato has devoted her life to documenting, exposing, and preventing the abuse of women and children by the ones they love. Ferrato rode with the police on their “4-10” calls, was granted unprecedented access to hospitals, women’s shelters, support and therapy groups, women in prison for killing their husbands and lovers in self-defense — and the homes of victims.

What Donna Ferrato witnessed was a self-made millionaire, husband and father of five, beating his wife. “Until then I’d thought the greatest threat of danger to women came from strangers, those nameless men prowling for prey in darkened alleys. Suddenly my eyes were opened to the dark side of family life. No longer was I protected by the dream that the home was a refuge. That experience changed my life as a photographer, starting me on what has evolved as a life-long mission to explore and understand violence committed in the name of love. With my camera I’ve tried to throw a light on what was America’s best kept secret - violence in relationships.”

“I did not set out to photograph domestic violence. Fifteen years ago, while on assignment doing a story on a family that epitomized the American success story, I saw something in their mansion I was not meant to see.”

— Donna Ferrato

“I feel compelled to let you know how Donna Ferrato’s program affected our campus. Her slide presentation...was an eye-opening and startling realization. When the audience heard a story or saw an image which would shock the most seasoned doctor or police officer, they were able to feel...if for just a moment...the terror, humiliation, and desperateness of this situation.” —Cathleen J. Bonner, Co-Director, Gettysburg College Women’s Center

“Ms. Ferrato moved, touched, challenged, and enlightened. Her convocation was very well-attended. More importantly, her convocation sparked heated discussions, deeply-felt emotions, and a call for increased understanding and action.” —Angela Bies, Assistant Director of Student Activities, University of Minnesota/Morris

“The audience was inspired by [Donna’s] photography and educated through her words. We are proud to know individuals such as [Donna Ferrato] who are “making a difference” in the mission to aid battered women and children.” —Karen Parker, Project Coordinator, The Council on Battered Women

“Thank you so much for your wonderful presentation.... The evening was very successful and gave many people an insight into the subject and raised awareness of this problem in our community and the world.... hopefully awareness will provide answers and solutions.” —Diane Schilke, Hillsborough Crisis Intervention Team

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