

# A letter to the support group of the abuser

You know the abuser very well. You eat and share conversations with them. You entertain them and they entertain you. You live with them or visit each other's houses on a regular basis. And the biggest thing is that you also know about the abuse they commit on others. You also know about the despicable things they do to their victims.

You know about the racist comments very well. You know about the 'dirty jokes' which are meant to degrade women and children. You know about the 'dark humor' which attacks and humiliates the disadvantaged groups. You even know about the physical, mental and emotional abuse very well. Yet, you choose to ignore the behaviour to sustain your relationship with the abuser.

Never once did you question them. Never once did you challenge them to be accountable for the horrible deeds. Never once did you call the community to intervene. Lest you lose the privilege of being associated with this person. Your association with the abuser is far important for you to act and call them out. Their lies and fabrications of events are entertainment to you. You listen or watch and laugh.

You sit and watch the unbearable things happen in your presence.

Yet, because the abuser is your confidant, friend or relative, you choose to turn your head and look away. You do not shy away from even blaming the victim.

You respond and say the victim is the one who is full of negativity.

You silence the victim when they expose the horrid deeds of the abuser. You do not shy away from even defending the abuser in the face of the victim. Thus, discouraging the victim even more.

You're the one who also contributes to the silence of the victim. It is due to your doubt that the victim is labeled as 'crazy', 'delusional', 'jealous', or 'narrow-minded'. 'Stupid', 'she asked for it', 'monkey', 'baboon', or [anything else that you usually say at your dinner tables].

You share laughs and gossip when the abuser blames the victim. You encourage them by even telling them that the victim deserved the abuse. You tell the abuser that what they did is what anyone could have done it in their case. You normalise dysfunction and abuse, all in the effort of keeping face with the abuser.

You choose to believe the excuses of the abuser because you have no close relationship to the victim. But in the worst cases, you do have a relationship with the victim but still choose to ignore their pain.

Your sympathy is lacking.

Your conscience is questionable. Your demeanour is also despicable in the same way the abuser's actions are. You are not innocent. You're complicit in destroying each victim at a time.

This must stop today!

The reality is that your defense is damaging the victim and others.

It builds a society of damaged people. In fact, it is people like you who break the trust in people's dynamics. You watch the abuse happen in-front of you over and over again. It is because of your complicity that the abuse is not decreasing in the households. It is you who nurture the abuser and strengthen their behaviour.

The irony is that the abuser digs a hole and buries the victim, and yet turns around and cries suffocation. And you believe them. Another sad part is that your inaction encourages them to go out there and dig more holes. And fill them up with more victims. Please, make it stop today.

At what point are you able to disassociate your intimate feelings towards the abuser?

When do you plan to caution them against their behaviour?

Abusers have a better chance of stopping their abuse if you intervene.

You can make it all stop today.

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