

## Sample Sports Reporter Letter

Ask your local sports reporter to share your team's focus on respect for women and girls with the broader community. Refer to the Halftime Card in the Card Series.

Date

Name

Title

Newspaper/Station Name

Street Address

City, State Zip

Dear *(personalize for each sports reporter)*:

We know it not just from headlines and news stories but from experience. Teen relationship abuse is a serious problem in our city and across the country. In fact, according to a 2005 Teenage Research Unlimited study, 1 in 3 teenagers nationwide report knowing a friend or peer who has been physically hurt by their partner. *(Insert local statistic here if possible.)*

I want you to know what an exemplary group of local student-athletes are doing:

I coach *(sport)* at *(school name)*. There, I have the privilege of mentoring a stellar group of athletes who have joined me in taking a stand against relationship violence. This season, my young men have participated in Coaching Boys into Men<sup>®</sup>, a groundbreaking violence prevention program developed by Futures Without Violence. Every athlete has pledged to treat the women and girls in their lives with respect. Not only are the young men on this team great athletes, they are also role models for our entire community.

What can you do to help?

I am writing to invite you to our next game and request that you feature an article about my team and their involvement in Coaching Boys into Men in your paper. By writing about these athletes, you will not only be recognizing their commitment to respect, but also broadcasting their motivating message to the community at large to show that we can all do something to end abuse right here in *(insert city)*.

With your help, *(insert city)* will be inspired by the commitment of these brave young leaders to prevent and end violence against women and girls. Together, we can stop violence and abuse before it even starts.

I can be reached at *(insert telephone number)* and I hope to hear from you soon.

Thank you,

*(Your Name)*

*(Your Title)*

*(Your Team/School)*

*School Address, Telephone Number, Email)*