

# Domestic violence and the Church in Quebec

In 2022-2023, Christian Direction launched the Rapha Project, a community-led study seeking to understand experiences of domestic abuse and the response of the church in Quebec. Below are the results of the survey from Phase 1 of the project.

## WHO ANSWERED THE SURVEY?

**503**

Christians in Quebec answered the survey



18 - 40 yrs (35.2 %)  
41 - 60 yrs (36 %)  
61 yrs + (28.8 %)

Women (66.8 %)  
Men (33.2 %)



Evangelical protestant (51.1 %)  
Protestant (39.5 %)  
Catholic (9.5 %)



Born in Canada (63.5 %)  
Part of a visible minority (20.3 %)  
Part of an Indigenous group (2.2 %)



61.5 % attend church once a week



**33.6 %**

Identify as victims of domestic violence, or occasionally as victims of domestic violence



**67.3 %**

Know one or several people in their community of faith who are victims of domestic violence



**17 %**

Agree that their Church has taken measures to inform its members about domestic abuse

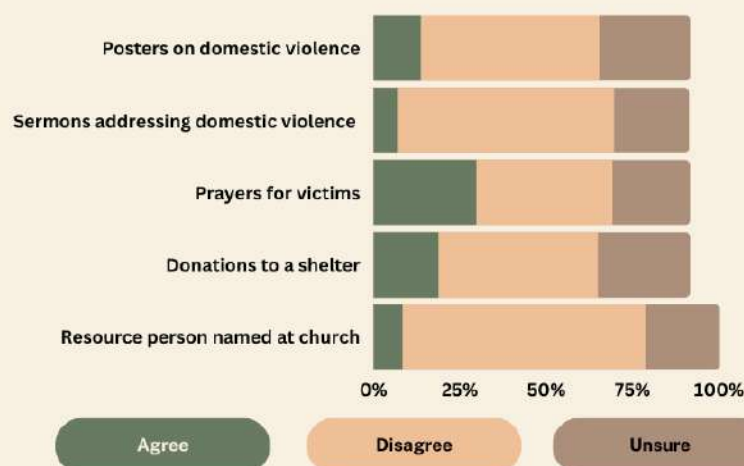


**84 %**

Agree that issues concerning domestic abuse and its prevention must be publicly addressed in the church or parish

## WHAT IS BEING DONE IN CHURCH ?

We surveyed the respondents in order to understand what activities are taking place in churches to sensitize or prevent domestic violence



## Listening to the voices of victims

Amongst those who self-identified as victims of domestic violence...

**49.2% divulged their experience to someone at their church or parish**



We asked the question: was the response you received from your church/parish helpful ?

40.3 % of respondents found their church's response helpful, and 20.9% were unsure.  
38.8 % feel the response was not helpful, even harmful to their situation.



The majority of people who disclose their experiences do so to a pastor, a priest or a person in leadership in their Christian community.

73.3 % of victims had Christian partners

18 % of victims had partners in a position of ecclesiastical leadership.

27.9% were impacted as children by domestic violence between their parents.

