

# Why We Must Stop CEDAW and I-VAWA

Senator Joe Biden will soon be introducing two bills that, if passed, will worsen our domestic violence programs and lead to family break-up:

## 1. CEDAW

CEDAW is a treaty promoted by the United Nations. CEDAW stands for the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women. General Recommendation #19 of CEDAW addresses Violence Against Women. The recommendation does not say anything about violence against men:

<http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/cedaw/recommendations/recomm.htm#recom19>

If CEDAW is ratified by the Senate, then a U.N. compliance committee would be empowered to review a broad range of U.S. domestic laws and request that changes be made. Passage of CEDAW would make it more difficult to reform the Violence Against Women Act.

## 2. International Violence Against Women Act

Senator Biden's companion bill is the International Violence Against Women Act – I-VAWA for short. I-VAWA is based on a one-sided survey by the World Health Organization that didn't bother assess male victimization.

I-VAWA would be used to funnel U.S. taxpayer money to CEDAW-mandated programs around the world. More information about I-VAWA is available from the Family Violence Prevention Fund:

<http://www.endabuse.org/programs/printable/display.php3?NewsFlashID=771>

## What Can I Do to Stop CEDAW and I-VAWA?

CEDAW and I-VAWA are based on the myth that only men commit domestic violence and only women are victims. But research paints a very different picture: women are at least as likely as men to engage in partner abuse: <http://pubpages.unh.edu/~mas2/ID41H3a.pdf>

RADAR's Special Reports document how domestic violence programs in the United States violate the civil liberties of the falsely-accused, discriminate against many victims of abuse, weaken families, and harm children. Plus, these programs are ineffective in stopping abuse and may actually place victims at greater risk of violence.

CEDAW and I-VAWA are two bills with innocent-sounding names that would break up families, harm children, and worsen the injustices of the current system. Help get the truth out about the destructive effects of CEDAW and I-VAWA: <http://www.mediadaradar.org/docs/RADARflyer-CEDAW-and-IVAWA.pdf>

**And contact your elected officials today. Tell them to protect families and children. Tell them to “Vote ‘No’ on CEDAW and I-VAWA.”**