



## Testimonials

What do others say about our campaign?

**Samantha Asumadu - Founder Media Diversity UK aka [@WritersofColour](#):**

EVB are running both emotive and intelligent campaign. Directly speaking to journalists about their use of language and how it contributes to victim blaming is an essential job and I'm glad that EVB are the ones to take it on as all their volunteers are both informed and nice with it!

**[Caroline Criado-Perez](#), Feminist Campaigner and Writer:**

I was delighted when Ending Victimisation & Blame was set up. I had long been horrified by the discourse surrounding victims of abuse: the way we question their behaviour, rather than the behaviour of their abusers. I felt that it put the focus on the wrong party, and thereby made it harder for us to tackle the abuse with which our society is riddled. That was before I became a victim in the public eye myself. That was before I realised the impact victim-blaming has on the victim, how it prevents their recovery from the original abuse, how it re-victimises them again, and again, and again, in small, insidious ways that are in some ways harder to combat, because they are harder to define - and because they seem too small to protest. They get under a victims skin, enclose a victim's mind, and gently sand a victim down until that victim has no fight left.

Ending Victimisation & Blame provides a crucial service that not only campaigns for some of the most powerless and voiceless in our society, it also provides a name for what happens to victims after they are abused. It reminds them that it is not their fault. It helps them keep their fight and keep their voice. Ending Victimisation & Blame has already proved its huge worth with a highly successful campaign that had the whole country talking about victim-blaming language in court. But if it all it did was tell one victim that her rape was not her fault, it would still be one of the most important services in the UK.

**[Jane Fae](#) - Writer, Activist and Campaigner:**

Victim-blaming is real: a "thing", to use a modern idiom – and a vile pernicious thing it is too. Because while sometimes we can spot it in action, much of the time it is invisible,



under the radar stuff, detracting from, undermining, putting down women who have already suffered at the hands of someone else and suggesting ever so sweetly that maybe their behaviour contributed to them being raped, assaulted, or simply passed over for a promotion. It is a major contributor to women's inequality in society today, and the mere achievement of driving victim-blaming out of current culture would be a major step forward for all.

That is why I firmly support EVB, both for the work they do in re-affirming the positive qualities of individuals otherwise branded as victims, and in campaigning against those who are all too ready to name women as such.

### [Feminism & Women's Studies Association:](#)

The FWSA commends the work of End Victimisation & Blame. Changing the world begins with changing attitudes and EVB do vital work to challenge the victim blaming ideologies which underpin and frame male violence against women and children

### **Karen Ingala Smith, CEO of [NIA Ending Violence Against Women](#) & Campaigner:**

Ending Victimisation and Blame have set out to change the world. They want to change the culture and language around male violence against women and children. Language and culture create a conducive context for male violence, victims are blamed and perpetrators of violence are rendered invisible or excused. I've been [counting and commemorating UK women killed through male violence](#). I've lost count of the number of media reports that are little more than eulogies for woman killers.

I share Ending Victimisation and Blame's world changing vision. I want to see an end to male violence against women and girls. Inequality between women and men is rarely analysed by the mainstream media as a cause and consequence of male violence. Until we approach male violence from that perspective, as long as the choices that men make are ignored and explained away, women and girls will continue to be beaten, raped, assaulted, abused, controlled and killed by men.



**Liz Kelly - Co-Chair of the [Ending Violence Against Women Coalition](#) & Director of Child & Woman Abuse Studies Unit, [London Met University](#):**

Victim blame remains a major issue in our responses to violence against women and girls. It is still the case that when women and girls tell anyone – be it a friend, family member, professional – they risk being held to account for what happened. This is so normalised that we could say there is a culture of victim blame, questions asked, statements made without thinking what they may mean to someone has been abused. Why did you..., why didn't you..., how could you not.... It is this culture that silences so many, and re-silences after they have opened up to someone. Each time we blame a victim we also fail to hold perpetrators to account, contributing to impunity. For all these reasons I support EVB, a campaign long overdue whose time has come.

**SB, Social Care Support Worker**

Thank you to the team at EVB for the sound advice, the useful links and information provided. It enabled me to grow in confidence professionally; meaning that I know the right things to say, ensuring I gave my service user appropriate, accurate, useful support without (hopefully) them feeling patronised or disempowered. It has enhanced my good practice in positive ways. I would recommend professionals and people who have personal reasons who feel they need to learn more, to contact EVB.

**Anonymous, Campaign Supporter**

As somebody who has been (and still is) getting support for for the past 1 & 1/2 years from my local rape crisis centre I have to admit that currently I am not able to follow you on twitter etc as I find it too upsetting. However, when I feel like giving up trying to get better I do come and read your posts and some of them remind me why I have to keep going. I often think it's still all my fault, but when I read somebody else's story I can see that it's not. Thank goodness there are people out there who are willing to fight our corner because people like me are not strong enough to do it ourselves. Thank you for doing what you do.