50 Reasons Individuals Don’t Leave Abusive Partners

1. Fear
2. Children
3. Lack of money
4. They love their partner
5. Their partner “loves” them
6. The children love them both
7. Law enforcement blames them
8. Clergy blames them
9. Relatives blame them
10. They blame themselves
11. Therapist blames them
12. Their batterer blames them
13. They are a drug addict
14. Their partner is a pimp
15. Their father abused them
16. Their mother abused them
17. Their partner is an alcoholic
18. Their partner is a drug addict
19. Their partner says, “I’m sorry”
20. Their partner says, “I love you”
21. Their partner says, “I’ll never do it again”
22. Their partner says, “I’ll take the children”
23. Their partner says, “I’ll kill you if you leave”
24. Their partner says, “I’ll kill myself if you leave”
25. Fear of losing custody of the children
26. They identify as deaf, blind or have a mental or physical disability
27. Lack of emotional or financial support
28. Reinforcing internalized homophobia
29. They are illiterate
30. They don’t have documents to prove they can live or work here
31. They cannot speak English
32. Fear of being deported
33. The shelters are full
34. Fear of becoming homeless
35. No one believes they are being abused
36. They don’t think they, themselves, are being abused
37. They know the welfare system will abuse them more
38. They are isolated
39. They are depressed
40. It is not the right time
41. They never told anyone
42. They are afraid of the unknown
43. They are a public figure or their partner is a public figure
44. Saying, “Women can’t abuse other women” or “Men can’t abuse other men.”
45. Their partner threatens to abuse pets
46. Their partner is their personal care attendant
47. Their partner threatens to “out” them
48. They feel that there is no help
49. They have tried to leave before
50. Their partner found them before

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