**LET’S TALK – POSITIVE**

**TRANSCRIPT**

Kaitlin - Leaving a domestic violence situation is incredibly difficult and a lot of people take a lot of time before they're ready to do something like that. So it's really important when you're talking to someone about domestic violence that you're following their lead.

Karin - You always leave the power with the woman with disability or the person with disability. You don't just jump in and assume you know what's best or what is the right thing to do. When you're talking through the options. You're always talking in a way that gives the person the authority. Because if you just start to jump in and act without that person fully being on board, then you take what little autonomy they have left away.

Karni - You can't make decisions on behalf of anyone. They often don't want their partner to go to jail or go to court or face criminal charges. They want the behaviour to stop.

Sam - People with disabilities are strong. They can stand up for themselves. Sometimes they just need more help. I was lucky that I had my parent's house I could go back to that was accessible. My parents would keep me safe. But for older people, it might be a lot harder.

Karin - Particularly when you're talking about people who are potentially going to be thrust away from the one person, despite the fact it's DFV, is often the one person who's been there to support them. So when you're looking at that situation, you need to go gently, gently and certainly with the person on board.

Kaitlin - It's really important that even if you disagree with what the person has chosen for themselves, that you stick with them and that you keep that door open and you say that you're there in the future if they change their mind. And it's also really important to affirm that what you've noticed or the abusive actions that you've seen is not okay and that they do deserve better, even if they're not ready for any change at the moment. That what's happened to them is wrong and it's not their fault. You believe them and you're there and ready and waiting if they change their mind.

Karin - Keep building that relationship because it could be a week or a month or whatever from now where they're comfortable to actually say to you "No, not everything is okay. I need a hand. I've got no idea where to start. Can you help me?"