

For Immediate Release: July 14, 2010  
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## **National Network to End Domestic Violence** **Responds to Mel Gibson Recordings**

**Washington, D.C.** – Sue Else, president of the National Network to End Domestic Violence, today issued the following statement in response to the tape recordings of Mel Gibson and his ex-girlfriend.

“Mel Gibson’s behavior on the recordings is deplorable. His violent threats and demeaning words are themselves forms of abuse.

“I’m troubled by some of the media coverage of these recordings. Several so-called experts have wrongly blamed Gibson’s ex-girlfriend for his violent, racist behavior. Victims of intimate partner violence are never to blame for the abuse perpetrated against them.

“Mel Gibson needs to take responsibility for his actions, and he must be held accountable.

“The William Morris Endeavor agency did the right thing when it dropped him from its list of clients.”

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*NNEDV, a 501(c)(3) organization, is a leading voice for domestic violence victims and their allies. Its members include the 56 state and territorial coalitions against domestic violence. It works closely with them to understand the needs of domestic violence victims and advocacy programs. NNEDV has been a premiere national organization advancing the movement against domestic violence for the past 15 years, after leading efforts among domestic violence advocates and survivors in urging Congress to pass the landmark Violence Against Women Act of 1994. To learn more about NNEDV, please visit [www.nnedv.org](http://www.nnedv.org).*