

FIVE THINGS TO SAY

Five things to say when a victim says they cannot leave**.....

1. I am afraid for your safety
2. I am afraid for the safety of your children
3. It will only get worse
4. There is help available
5. You don't deserve to be abused

**AZ Police Officer Standard and Training Board



Why would a victim be hesitant to leave?

- Fear of threats, harassment and retaliation by the defendant and/or family members of the defendant
- Victim is afraid that the defendant will be held in jail and she has no financial support
- Victim and defendant have reunited and the defendant promises that he will never assault her again.
- Feels guilty for causing the defendant to go to jail.
- The victim may not understand the criminal process and mistrusts the system. Many victims are concerned that they might be on trial, or that they are the filing charges against the defendant.

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