

Care Corner – Domestic Violence; #togetherathome, KiKA, Germany

Care Corner Domestic Violence

“In general, conflicts between family members form a normal part of family life and especially in times like this, when you have to stay together at home all the time. But if you have to suffer from permanent scolding or even beating, this is far from a normal situation, in fact it is violence. Clarissa, presenter of the TV show “Kummerkasten” (“Care Corner”), explains how to spot violence. All children have the right of being protected, nobody is allowed to hurt you. A call for help in such a dangerous situation is your basic right and no betrayal of your family. Sabine, consultant for “Kummerkasten” („Care Corner“), knows who can help you with such problems: You can either turn to the police, if you cannot stand the situation any longer and you are able to talk about it with a policeman. Or you can call the “Nummer gegen Kummer” (helpline) to talk with someone about your situation on the phone and to get advice. Or you can send an e-mail to the “Kummerkasten” mail box, if you can only contact us in writing. Domestic violence is a taboo issue. It does not matter if a family is regarded rich, poor, educated or not: Domestic violence appears in all ranks of society. Experts warn about rising domestic violence in times of lockdown. The offenders get easily frustrated, for instance when they lose their job due to the corona crisis. Especially mothers and their children lose any kind of shelter and undergo severe assaults. Public broadcaster KiKA takes on responsibility and offers help and guidance even in times of crises. Thus, our team of “Kummerkasten” (Care Corner) reacted promptly in picking up the subject of domestic violence and showing ways of help under the particular circumstances. Filming with children was not possible under the existing corona crises restrictions. Therefore, our producers created an animated clip explaining the two basic forms of violence (physical and verbal violence). Following up, we have Clarissa dealing with the subject in her usual empathetic manner. She asks Sabine where children can get help even in the present situation and both of them point out again, that seeking help with such problems is no betrayal of the family. It is important to offer hope and help to children in general, but even more under these exceptional circumstances. Contacts and helplines can be found on the website”

KiKA Together at home #Gemeinsamzuhaus (#Togetherathome): KiKA During the Corona Crisis

“As the current measures of social distancing and the closure of schools and nurseries throughout Germany wear on, parents increasingly find themselves wondering how to keep their children busy in a productive way. Since the beginning of the crisis, KiKA has been offering an extensive range of content across all its platforms under the hashtag #Gemeinsamzuhaus (#Togetherathome), leading to record figures both on TV and online. The decision to relax restrictions means that KiKA programming will need to be adapted once again over the weeks to come – above all for our youngest viewers.

“Children can sense that these are unusual times. The absence of schools, nurseries, grandparents or friends has left media centre-stage.

Across all its platforms, KiKA has adjusted its content in response to the situation: informative and educational content have been incorporated, fictional content ramped up, and in #Gemeinsamzuhaue (#Togetherathome), a rubric has been created under which users can find tips and a whole host of inspiring ideas,” says Dr. Astrid Plenk, KiKA’s Managing and Programming Director. “In the weeks to come, we will be there above all for the very youngest children, those who can’t yet return to their everyday nursery and school schedules.”

Adjustment of Linear Content: Programme Changes and Special Programming. Since March 16th, KiKA’s main priority has been to configure its programming in accordance with the current situation. During the morning schedules, extra animated shows for school children have been created, along with educational content. On March 18th and March 25th 2020, KiKA broadcast live from the studio in Erfurt, entering into a direct dialogue with the audience. The presenters were there to respond to children’s questions, concerns and ideas. After the special broadcast, children could continue the conversation via webchat at kika.de. Programmes currently in production such as the KiKA media review show “Timster” or the trend and lifestyle format “KiKA LIVE” tackle themes such as ways of staying busy at home to avoid boredom, e-learning and home-schooling, but also information about the coronavirus. Beginning in April, KiKA has scheduled more feature films and series highlights.”

<https://www.kika.de/index.html>