

Nicole Brown Simpson's sister to speak at Women's Center luncheon

By Karen Pilarski
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WAUKESHA — Tanya Brown, sister of the late Nicole Brown Simpson, wants people to know domestic abuse is not just physical or sexual but takes on many forms.

Brown will deliver the keynote address at The Women's Center's Anniversary Luncheon event on May 13. Brown's speech is called "The Seven Characters of Abuse: Domestic Violence, Where It Starts and Where It Can End." Her message is domestic violence affects everyone, including a loved one's family. Brown will touch on the "tornado of pain."

"These events keep the issue at the forefront of people's minds, especially in recent times," she said.

Brown thinks media and current events have been a platform to be strong in awareness and outreach. She also believes in the power of sharing stories, both sad and inspiring.

"You never know who will be listening and who needs to hear the message," Brown said.

A person who attends one of her talks may not be directly affected by domestic abuse. She said they might know someone who is dealing with it and will



Tanya Brown

share the information.

Frequently asked questions

Nicole Brown Simpson was murdered in 1994 along with friend Ronald Goldman. Simpson's ex-husband O.J. Simpson was tried and acquitted in the murders. Although time has gone by, people still ask Brown about the case that gripped the nation.

"People ask about the kids, Justin and Sydney Simpson," Brown said.

The children are now young adults living life as normally as they can. Brown was also asked if she thinks O.J. Simpson "did it" and the answer is yes.

She is asked if her family still communicates with the Goldman family. They don't because time has moved on. Brown is also asked about the FX movie "The People Vs. O.J. Simpson."

While she takes the ques-

tions in stride, she appreciates the ones that will help people. She was asked recently what are the signs that someone is being abused?

About her family, helping others

Brown's speaking engagements are not about her but about her family's life experience and helping people. Brown hopes her perspective as a grieving sister will relate and share the awareness. She shares some of her late sister's journal entries to further her point.

"It is all about education, I get out of my own way. It is for the people I am speaking to," she said.

Brown hopes men will attend the luncheon and thinks good men have a voice in this cause. She thinks men who come to her talks provide hope to women.

"You can't judge a barrel of apples by one bad one," she said.

The Anniversary Luncheon will be held May 13 from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Italian Community Center in Milwaukee. Tickets are \$70 and can be purchased at twcwaukesha.org/event/anniversary-luncheon.

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