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"But I Love Him" The Play at the Hollywood Fringe

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7:00 PM MST

Michelle Jewsbury's [one woman show](#) "But I Love Him" at the Fringe presents a story of courage and creativity and talent. Ms Jewsbury retells the story of her own [abuse](#) from a three year relationship in such a way to inform and enlighten the audience of the signs of domestic abuse and the results.



Marketing flyer for the play "But I Love Him."

Jewsbury introduces the audience to her lead character "Jennifer" as a child and uses a "friend" as a narrator to advance and guide the story. She changes her voice and physicality to portray both her as Jennifer the victim,, and as the abuser she calls "Paul." She also plays friends and others along her journey. She starts with Jennifer's childhood and moves quickly to her moving away from home and getting involved with the wrong guy and situations. She gets out by going to church, but then came "Mr. Paul Right" who turned out to be "Mr. Paul Wrong." She lays the foundation to how this life led to Paul. At one point she effectively uses pre-recorded vocals to assist in a very violent scene in a shower. No actual nudity occurs on stage, just suggestive, yet it is necessary to reveal just how violent things can be in this kind of a tragic relationship.

This piece needs to be seen by anyone who thinks they know someone in a relationship with a narcissistic personality or abuser. It is a piece that would benefit most women today with the number of sexual and violent crimes against women being as high as they are. She uses the character of a counselor to educate the audience on the symptoms of a codependent relationship and explains that yes, she became financially dependent on her boyfriend, but he depended on her to raise his self esteem.

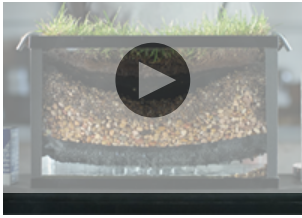
As stated in the play "80% of abusers appear non-violent outside of the home" and seem to support the community. In other words the reason that many women can't leave their violent situations results from disbelief as the abuser craftily hides the truth. 75% of [domestic violence](#) victims try to leave at least five times.

This play ended this past weekend at the [Hollywood Fringe](#), yet deserves a life beyond the Fringe as do most people deserve loving healthy non violent non degrading relationships and friends. For more information about the play and Michelle Jewsbury, [see her website](#). For some details of the workshop presented by Ms. Jewsbury at the Hollywood Fringe see [the article](#) written by the author of this piece.

SUGGESTED LINKS

- ▶ ["But I Love Him" domestic violence workshop at the Hollywood Fringe](#)
- ▶ ["Shrew'd" one woman's view of Shakespeare's "Taming of" at the Hollywood Fringe](#)
- ▶ ["Three Weeks In January" a Performance to End the Violence and Shame of Rape](#)
- ▶ [Hershey Felder Maestro of the one man Show at the Pasadena Playhouse: Part One](#)
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Laura Tull

LA Performing Arts Examiner

