

# STATE HOUSE DISTRICT 20 - GREENVILLE

## EXPANDING/ENHANCING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE REPORTING EFFORTS

Would you support efforts to enhance/expand methods for reporting in South Carolina?

**YES**

Stephen Dreyfus, Democratic

**NO RESPONSE**

Adam Morgan, Republican

*“Control Covid-19. The United States has failed miserably and is arguably the worst country in the world for dealing with this deadly pandemic, with 4% of the world’s population and 20% of the deaths. Specifically, the Trump administration has failed miserably to address this crisis. Even worse, South Carolina has one of the worst records of all 50 states. We are 42nd place in preparedness; and have much higher deaths per capita and cases per capita than the average state. Tensions increase when there are conflicts in a relationship and the parties are in close quarters for extended periods of time. Yet in South Carolina we were led to believe by the Governor it was safe to re-open the economy when it wasn’t. Since then cases in SC skyrocketed. With increase in Covid comes increases in domestic violence.” – S. Dreyfus*

## SUPPORT FOR GOING BEYOND CRIMINAL JUSTICE RESPONSE

Would you support the creation of a statewide plan to effectively address the issues of domestic and sexual violence beyond the criminal justice response?

**YES**

Stephen Dreyfus, Democratic

**NO RESPONSE**

Adam Morgan, Republican

*“We do not need to “defund the police.” But there are times and situations when the police are the least effective intervention in dealing with domestic issues. For example, I know someone in a toxic relationship with a boyfriend who is an emotionally abusive alcoholic. She has called the police several times, and they have taken him away. But she keeps letting him back. I fear for her safety, for although she got rid of him “for good” a week ago, they are already together again, as she believes him when he says he quit drinking. As a retired Alcoholism and Drug Addiction Counselor, I know the criminal justice system can only do so much, and other government programs and services are necessary. Calling the police or sheriff only takes care of the symptoms of abuse, and doesn’t address the underlying causes such as alcoholism or drug addiction. For this we need other government experts in agencies who can provide necessary counseling or treatment.” – S. Dreyfus*

# STATE HOUSE DISTRICT 20 - GREENVILLE

## INCREASED FOCUS ON PREVENTION OF DOMESTIC & SEXUAL VIOLENCE

**Do you believe our state needs to increase its focus on the prevention of domestic and sexual violence?**

### YES

Stephen Dreyfus, Democratic

### NO RESPONSE

Adam Morgan, Republican

*"This is a difficult question. To prevent domestic violence and domestic abuse takes more than education; it takes changing cultural attitudes about women and their rights. I am reminded of a male friend who told me his co-worker openly admitted he physically beat his wife and justified it by saying, "She had it coming." Read O Henry's daring short story, A Harlem Tragedy, published well over a hundred years ago, to see how culture contributes to violence against women. Yet there are peripheral issues that can be addressed as everything is related to everything else. Connected to domestic violence is child abuse. Many people who were abused as a child are more likely to be abusive as adults, and also more likely to get into a relationship where they are abused as an adult. Unemployment or under-employment also contribute to domestic violence. Thus, good education for everyone is a preventive remedy.*

*Running for office as a Democrat I am appalled at how many people would never consider voting for a Democrat because we believe a woman should have the right to make decisions over her own body. Preserving this right goes hand-in-hand with preserving the right not to be physically abused by one's spouse.*

*Finally, our culture of guns endangers women. A gun in the home, ostensibly to protect the family from dangerous intruders, actually puts everyone in the home at greater risk, especially women. I counseled one woman who lived in fear for her life that if she ever tried to leave her abusive husband he would kill her. He had a gun and that is what he said." – S. Dreyfus*

**ELECTION 2020**

**DOMESTIC & SEXUAL VIOLENCE POLICY  
QUESTIONNAIRE**



# STATE HOUSE DISTRICT 20 - GREENVILLE

**SUPPORT ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR DOMESTIC & SEXUAL VIOLENCE SERVICE PROVIDERS**

**Would you support additional state funding be allocated to victim service providers?**

**Do you believe additional federal funding should be allocated to victim service providers?**

**YES**

Stephen Dreyfus, Democratic

**NO RESPONSE**

Adam Morgan, Republican

*“Covid-19 will put a financial strain on states, making funding at the state level more difficult. Yet many object to federal funding saying this is a state issue. All I know is that South Carolina has one of the worst records of domestic violence in the nation. I am in the process of sending out 7500 mailers listing ten issues I support. One of them is Women’s Rights where I state, “We also need to reduce the epidemic of domestic violence against women.”*