

Dear Editor

We have all been asked to stay at home to keep ourselves and others safe. But whilst home is often seen as a sanctuary, for many it's a place of danger.

Two million people a year experience domestic abuse in the UK - the majority of whom are women. The prospect of being isolated at home and locked in with an abuser is terrifying beyond belief – and for victims with an insecure immigration status, the situation is near impossible.

Migrant women often don't have access to public funds, meaning they don't qualify for refuge beds - four in five are turned away. Furthermore, they're often reluctant to seek help from the police or doctors for fear they'll be reported to immigration enforcement and detained or deported.

At a time when safety at home and healthcare is what we all need, migrant women victims of domestic abuse are denied these fundamental lifelines.

The Step Up Migrant Women coalition - made up of refuges and human rights organisations - has this week [written to the Home Secretary](#) urging for emergency support for all migrant victims of this horrendous crime.

At this uncertain time, we must look out for each other and put everyone's safety first, no matter what their immigration status.

Yours,