



Honorary Patrons – Lord Cotter, John Penrose MP, Ann Goodchild, Paul Chivers, Sara Westle, Clive Lever and Erin Pizzey
Trustees- Mark Brooks OBE, Dr Elizabeth Bates, Prof Ben Hine, Dr Sarah Wallace, Lori Busch, Cllr Roz Willis, Jon Service and Paul Chivers.

6 June 2022

Statement on Outcome of Johnny Depp and Amber Heard Court Case

Following the verdict in the USA with respect to the Johnny Depp and Amber Heard trial, Mark Brooks OBE, Chairman of the ManKind Initiative charity supporting male victims of domestic abuse said:

“The court case highlighted unacceptable behaviour by all parties. It also highlighted that men can be, and, are victims of domestic abuse.

“We hope that this case will encourage more men to come forward and seek help, and, that they will be taken seriously, will be believed and be able to escape. This includes keeping their children safe as well.

“We also need the public including friends, family and professionals in public service to understand this too.

“We need to support for all victims – men and women alike. As we have said for over two decades, trying to create a false division between male and female victims is divisive. Even more so when it is based on an ideological view of domestic abuse. It is a division that is old fashioned. It does not fully respect this decades’ direction in creating a society that is fully inclusive and one that equally recognises the full diversity of victims of domestic abuse. A society that recognises and respects all victims as equals whoever they are.

“If there is one additional thing that comes out of this court case is a further move in this direction, then this will be a positive outcome too.”

Ends

(1) About the ManKind Initiative

The ManKind Initiative (www.mankind.org.uk) is the leading national charity which runs a help-line providing, practical information and emotional support for male victims of domestic abuse and domestic violence. The help-line number is 01823 334244 (weekdays 10am-4pm) which relies on public donations. It also runs an accredited training course, a national conference and a national services directory.

Registered Charity No. 1089547 – Company Registration No. 3869893
Flook House, Belvedere Road, Taunton, TA1 1BT
www.mankind.org.uk

(2) Journalists can call Mark Brooks on 07834 452357 for further information.