Caught in a Web of Uncaring: An Ethnography of a Montreal Women's Shelter

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Women escaping domestic abuse face challenges at every turn, on multiple scales and across dimensions. This experiential account of working in a Montreal women's shelter describes some of the threads holding these women locked into positions of disempowerment and despair. The simple act of preparing and sharing a meal is evaluated for its efficacy as an escape for these women, however fleeting or ephemeral, from the various sources of oppression they are systematically confronted by each day.