

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS

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What will we cover?

- ▣ Domestic Violence: An Overview
- ▣ Domestic Violence and Its Impact on Women and Children
- ▣ Local Resources
- ▣ Domestic Violence Memo/Policy
- ▣ How to complete a Domestic Violence Waiver Plan

Who are victims?

- ▣ DV doesn't discriminate. Women of all races, nationalities, languages, cultures, economic levels, sexual orientation, physical abilities and religions are equally vulnerable to violence by an intimate.
- ▣ 90-95% of domestic violence victims are women.
- ▣ On average, more than 3 women are murdered by their husbands or boyfriends in this country every day.
- ▣ Approximately 1 in 5 female high school students reports being physically and/or sexually abused by a dating partner.

Domestic Violence is the leading cause of injury to women between the ages of 15-44 in the United States—more than car accidents, muggings and rapes combined.

Uniform Crime Report

Regional Impact

- ▣ DV accounts for 26% of crimes in Minnesota
- ▣ 1 in 3 women will be a victim of domestic violence
- ▣ An estimated 65,000 primary and secondary victims (family members and friends) receive services from battered women's programs in Minnesota on a yearly basis.
- ▣ SPIP serves 5,400 annually

Regional Impact

- ▣ Over 80% of victims in Minnesota did not report the incident to law enforcement
- ▣ The St. Paul Police had more than 12,000 domestic violence related calls for service in 1 year
- ▣ During 6 months following DV incident, 32% victimized again
- ▣ In Minnesota, more than 13,000 Orders for Protection are filed annually

2013 Femicide Report

- ▣ In 2013, 24 women, 6 friends, family members or interveners, and 7 men were murdered in cases where the suspected, alleged, or convicted perpetrator was a current or former intimate partner.
- ▣ 12 minor children were left motherless.
- ▣ 541 since 1989
- ▣ Average of 21 women a year are murdered in Minnesota

WHAT IS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE?

Battering

Battering is the establishment of control and fear in a relationship through violence and other forms of abuse. The batterer uses acts of violence and a series of behaviors including intimidation, threats, psychological abuse, isolation, etc. to coerce and control the other person. The violence may not happen often, but it remains as a hidden (and constant) terrorizing fact.

(Uniform Crime Reports, Federal Bureau of Investigation, 1990)

Domestic Violence

- ▣ Violence used by one partner or family member against another partner or family member, usually referring to adults.
 - *Minnesota Coalition for Battered Women*

Understanding Power and Control

- ▣ Power: the ability to influence.
- ▣ Control: the ability to shape and block influence



Using Intimidation

- ▣ Instilling fear
- ▣ Making threatening gestures
- ▣ Displaying weapons

Emotional Abuse

- ▣ Name calling
- ▣ Humiliation
- ▣ Twisting words
- ▣ Mocking
- ▣ Yelling, wearing
- ▣ Abusing trust

Using Isolation

- ▣ Keeping victims away from support
- ▣ Preventing or making it difficult to see friends or family
- ▣ Monitoring phone calls and texts
- ▣ Telling the victim where they can and cannot go
- ▣ Using jealousy to justify actions

Minimizing, Denying, and Blaming

- ▣ Making light of the abusive behavior
- ▣ Claiming the abuse did not happen
- ▣ Shifting the responsibility for the abusive behavior
 - Saying the victim caused it
 - Work has been extremely stressful
 - “If you had just done what I had asked you...”

Using the Children

- ▣ Accusing the victim of bad parenting
- ▣ Threatening to call Child Protection, to gain custody, to take the children away, etc.
- ▣ Using the children to relay messages
- ▣ Using parenting time exchange to harass the victim
- ▣ Threatening to not watch or provide childcare for the children

Using Privilege

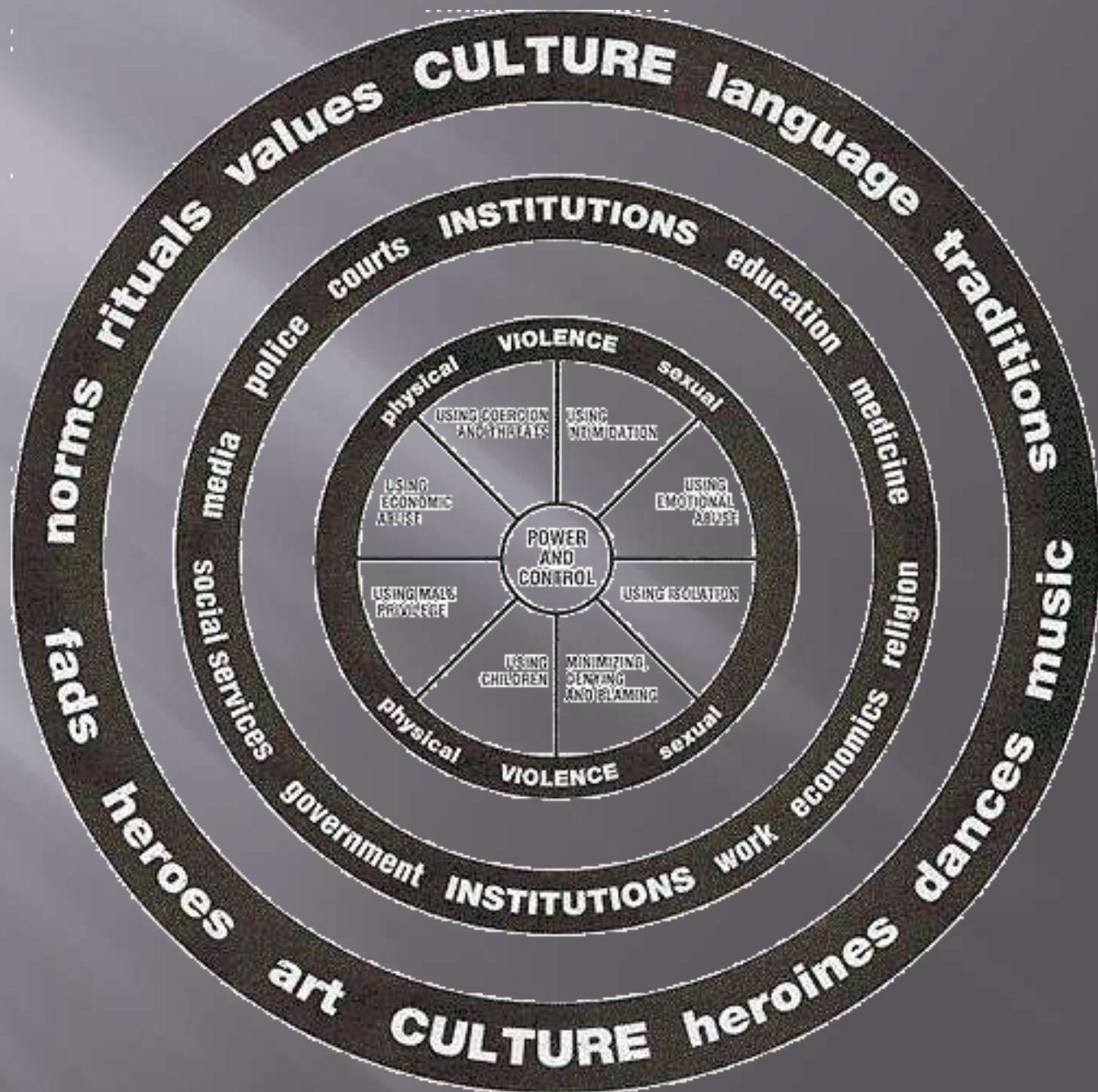
- ▣ Claiming to be right
- ▣ Telling the victim what to do
- ▣ Making all the big decisions

Economic Abuse

- ▣ Preventing the victim from getting or keeping a job
- ▣ Making the victim ask for money or giving her an allowance
- ▣ Taking the victim's money
- ▣ Not allowing the victim to have access to money

Using Coercion and Threats

- ▣ Making or carrying out threats to harm the victim, family, friends, pets, etc.
- ▣ Threaten to commit suicide
- ▣ Coercing the victim to not cooperate with the criminal proceedings



Safe Haven

▣ http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6pTk4Q4Gc_g

WHY DO VICTIMS STAY?

Statistics

- ▣ A 75% increased risk of physical harm and/or death when a victims decides to leave their abuser
- ▣ According to a report presented to the Senate Judiciary Committee, 50% of all homeless women and children in this country are fleeing domestic violence.

Elizabeth Schneider, "Legal Reform Efforts for Battered Women: Past, Present and Future", prepared for the Ford Foundation

Physical and Psychological Harm

- ▣ Risk of escalated threats and physical violence, resulting in harm to the victim, children, friends, families and pets.
- ▣ Risk that the abuser will follow through with suicide
- ▣ Risk of continued harassment and stalking

Effects on the Children

- ▣ Emotional and physical harm to the children
- ▣ Increased risk if there is unsupervised parenting time
- ▣ Parental kidnapping
- ▣ Custodial fight
- ▣ “Breaking up the family”

Effects on Children

- ▣ In 50% of strangulation cases the children were present

What are the chances of children becoming a violent offender later in life?

Young boys who are physically abused are 3x more likely

Young boys who witness Domestic Violence in the home are 6x more likely

Financial Hardship

- ▣ Reduced standard of living
 - Losing home, possessions, or community
- ▣ Unable to meet the family's basic needs
- ▣ Losing income or a job
 - Harassment, transportation, childcare
- ▣ Possibly having to relocate

Relationship Changes

- ▣ Risk of losing a partner, the relationship, or a parent to their children
- ▣ Risk of losing help with the children, transportation or household
- ▣ For the elderly or people with disabilities there is the risk of losing a caregiver

Responses from Others

- ▣ This includes family, friends, and the community
- ▣ Risk of not being believed
- ▣ Risk of being blamed
- ▣ Being pressured to do something the victim is not ready for
- ▣ Risk of being pressured to maintain the relationship by family or based on religious and/or cultural beliefs

Responses from Others

- ▣ Risk that the actions of “helpers” may increase the danger (confrontation, demanding victim leave, etc.)
 - Confrontation
 - Demanding the victim leave
 - Threatening to remove support

Keep in Mind

It is a process and not a single act

It takes a radical change to one's thought process,
world view, prior beliefs, patterns, life styles,
behaviors and attitudes

It also takes a lot of good resources, information
and support

It takes self-determination and hard work

Children are often the best motivators

RESOURCES

DV Advocacy Agencies

- ▣ St. Paul Domestic Abuse Intervention Project
 - Serves St. Paul
 - Women's agency
 - 651-645-2824

- ▣ Tubman Family Alliance
 - Serves suburban Ramsey County along with Hennepin and Washington County
 - Family agency
 - 612-825-0000

DV Advocacy Agencies

- ▣ Casa De Esperanza
 - Culturally specific serves for the Latina community
 - Shelter
 - 651-772-1611

- ▣ Women of Nations
 - Culturally specific services for the Native American community
 - Shelter: Eagle's Nest
 - 651-222-5836

DV Advocacy Agencies

- ▣ Asian Women United
 - Culturally specific services for the Asian Community
 - Shelter
 - 612-724-8823

- ▣ Outfront Minnesota
 - GLBT specific services
 - Counseling
 - 612-822-0127

Male Victim Resources

- ▣ African American Family Services
 - Counseling and support for African American men in crisis
 - 612-871-7878
- ▣ Conerstone
 - Shelter for men, counseling, 24 hour crisis line
 - 952-884-0330
- ▣ Division of Indian Works
 - Support and services for Native American men
 - 612-722-8722

Male Victim Resources

- ▣ La Oportunidad
 - Support and education to address cultural perspectives and factors surrounding patterns of violence
 - 651-646-6115

- ▣ Men's Center
 - Support groups for men
 - 612-822-5892

Male Victim Resources

- ▣ Outfront Minnesota
 - Serves the GLBT community
 - 612-822-0127

- ▣ The Men's Line
 - 24 hour phone counseling and referrals
 - 612-379-6367

- ▣ Tubman
 - 24 hour crisis line 651-770-0777
 - Counseling 612-825-3333

Domestic Abuse Programming

- ▣ La Oportunidad
 - 612-872-6165

- ▣ Bob Kelly DA Program
 - 651-430-8005

- ▣ My Home Inc: Men's Anti-Violence
 - 651-659-0359

- ▣ Domestic Abuse Project
 - 612-874-7063

Counseling

- ▣ Couples Counseling DOES NOT WORK in couples where there is domestic violence
 - When one partner is using violence and coercion to get what they want they will use the information during the counseling session to continue their control.
 - Couples counseling can only work when both partners feel free to express their issues, concerns and desires freely. If one partner exerts power and control over the other there is no basis for counseling that is free from fear and intimidation.

Counseling

- ▣ Crisis Connection: 24 hour confidential counseling information and referral
 - 612-379-6363

- ▣ Breaking Free: Direct services for prostituted women and girls.
 - 651-645-6557

- ▣ Chrysalis: Group and individual counseling and therapy
 - 612-871-0118

Counseling

- ▣ C.L.U.E.S. (Chicanos Latinos Unidos En Servicios): Individual, family and group counseling in Spanish and English
 - 612-746-3537
- ▣ Face to Face: Youth Support Group, females ages 11-23
 - 651-772-5555
- ▣ Division of Indian Work: Native American women, family and youth groups
 - 612-722-8722

Counseling

- ▣ Domestic Abuse Project: 24 hour crisis line, counseling, support groups for adults and children
 - 612-874-7063

- ▣ Family and Children Services: Counseling and therapy services for children, youth and families
 - 612-339-9101

Counseling

- ▣ Sexual Offense Services (S.O.S.): Support groups and advocacy for victims of sexual assault
 - 651-643-3006

- ▣ Wilder Violence Prevention & Intervention Services: Groups for victims and abusers. Groups for children who have lived in violent homes
 - 651-280-2309 / 651-287-2400

Support Groups at SPIP

- ▣ St. Paul Intervention
 - Wednesdays 6:00-8:00pm

- ▣ Latina Support Group
 - Thursdays 5:30-7:30pm

- ▣ Older Women's Groups
 - 1st and 3rd Wednesdays 1-3pm in Maplewood
 - 2nd and 4th Tuesdays 1-3pm in St. Paul

Why Advocates?

- ▣ Make sure to refer your client to their local advocacy agency
- ▣ Advocates are able to get criminal justice information and bring up safety concerns that the victim may not have considered
- ▣ Advocate can help clients make a safety plan that is tailored to their situation

Advocate Philosophy

- ▣ DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IS A COMMUNITY PROBLEM
- ▣ COMMUNITY NEEDS TO REACT TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
- ▣ COMMUNITY NEEDS TO WORK TOGETHER TOWARD CHANGE

Role of Advocates

- ▣ Advocates are focused on one thing: helping battered women
- ▣ Signs/Symptoms of abuse are more obvious to us
- ▣ We have been specifically trained on how to navigate through multiple systems (criminal/civil legal system, law enforcement, child protection, county agencies, etc.)

Saint Paul Intervention Project

- ▣ Assist victims
- ▣ Help to remove some of the barriers to leaving (financial, lock changes, etc.)
- ▣ 24-hour crisis line 651-645-2824
- ▣ Bilingual Advocates:
 - Spanish
 - Hmong
 - Somali
 - Swahili
 - Oromo

Role of DV Specialists

- ▣ Trained in Domestic Violence
- ▣ Knowledge of the MNFIP and Employment Plan systems and protocol
- ▣ Client referrals to the proper agencies
- ▣ Are able to assess the appropriateness of the EP when a client is a victim of DV

DV MEMO AND POLICY

DV/Family Violence Waiver

- ▣ Who Qualifies?
 - A client who has an act or a combination of acts such as: physical harm, bodily injury or assault, the infliction of fear of imminent physical harm, bodily injury or assault, terroristic threats, criminal sexual conduct committed against or committed by a family or household member.

DV/Family Violence Waiver

- ▣ Family or Household members are:
 - Spouses or former spouses
 - Parents and children
 - People related by blood
 - People who are residing together or who have resided together in the past
 - People who have a child in common
 - If a woman is pregnant and the man alleged to be the father
 - People involved in a current or past significant romantic or sexual relationship

DV Waiver Plan

- ▣ What does the Waiver do?
 - Stops the MFIP 60-month time clock
 - If a client is determined to eligible they are also meet the eligibility criteria for Family Stabilization services

Requesting a DV Waiver

- ▣ Financial Worker Responsibility
 - Once a client reveals to you that they are experiencing DV the worker must identify the client as help or assistance to develop an EP for Victims of Family Violence.
 - The worker must ensure that the client has access to a person trained in DV.
 - ▣ Domestic Violence Specialist
 - ▣ Domestic Violence Advocate

Requesting DV Waiver

- ▣ Job Counselor Responsibility
 - Once a client reveals to you that they are experiencing DV the counselor must refer client to a person trained in DV if the they are not already working with a DV Advocate.
 - Counselor MUST ensure that client has that access.
 - The counselor and the DV Specialist must assist client in developing an EP.
 - Once the plan has been approved the Counselor must inform the Financial Worker.

Documentation for Waiver

- ▣ The Financial Worker or Job Counselor should advise the client in what documentation they will need for this waiver.
- ▣ The county must assist the client if they are having difficulty getting these
- ▣ DO NOT require the client to comply with the regular Employment Services activities or ES sanctions while client is obtaining documentation.

Documentation

- ▣ All are acceptable but the client only needs for verification for the DV Waiver
 - Police, government agency, or court records
 - Statement from battered women's shelter staff person or a sexual assault or domestic violence advocate with knowledge of the circumstances
 - Statement from a professional from whom the client has sought assistance about the abuse
 - Sworn statement from the participant
 - Sworn statement from any other person with knowledge of the circumstances

Person Trained in DV

- ▣ A “person trained in domestic violence” is a person who works for an organization designated by the Minnesota Center for Crime Victim Services as providing services to victims of domestic violence, a county staff person who has received similar specialized training or any other person or organization designated by a qualifying organization.

Person Trained in DV

- ▣ A person trained in domestic violence could also be a county or Employment Services staff person who previously received training as an advocate while working at an organization designated by the Center for Crime Victim Services, or it could be someone from Legal Aid or another agency who has been designated by a qualifying organization. Each county must identify locally trained people in order to ensure access for all MFIP participants

Person Trained in DV

- ▣ For information about the DV agencies in your area contact
 - Minnesota Center for Crime Victim Services
 - ▣ 1-888-622-8799

DV Waiver Extensions

- ▣ All waiver participants are eligible for an extension
- ▣ The client must verify abuse
- ▣ These clients are considered participants of Family Stabilization Services (FSS) and are **REQUIRED** to develop an EP for FSS Participants and follow FSS requirements

DV Waiver Extensions

- ▣ The main goal is to ensure the safety of the client and the children.
- ▣ The job counselor or FSS case manager do have the final approval for the EP.
- ▣ The EP must be approved before the extension is approved.
- ▣ The client must comply with the plan to continue to receive the extension.

Non-compliance

- ▣ Meet with the client and a DV Specialist to go over whether the plan is still appropriate and is meeting the safety needs along with the EP
- ▣ Make changes if needed to the EP

Lose of Eligibility

- ▣ If the DV Specialist believes that the EP is still appropriate and the client continues to not comply, client loses the waiver.
- ▣ If it is determined that the client is to lose the waiver the financial worker needs to be notified immediately.

EP and DVW Practice

- ▣ You all have scenarios of 5 different client stories. Based off of these stories how would you work with the client?
- ▣ Use the Family Violence Referral form and the Family Safety MFIP/DWP Employment Plan form

TED Talk

▣ <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V1yW5IsnSjo>

It Takes a Village.....

No one person, program or institution alone
can end domestic violence.....
but each response creates a ripple.

We don't always know what the impact of a
person's action may be, but we believe all acts of
caring and support will carry forward positive
consequences.