



WISCONSIN COALITION AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

COMPILATION OF STATISTICS PACKET

June 1993, 1996, updated 2002

The Wisconsin Coalition Against Domestic Violence would like to acknowledge the following for providing many of the statistics:

- National Clearinghouse for the Defense of Battered Women
- National Abuse Prevention Project
- The Family Violence Prevention Fund
- The Urban Institute and National Council on Family and Juvenile Court Judges
- The National Black Women's Health Project
- The Taylor Institute
- The National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs
- Wisconsin Coalition Against Domestic Violence Needs Assessment Summary
- Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services
- Women's Studies Outreach--University of Wisconsin

Words of wisdom adapted from the Family Violence Prevention Fund...

Domestic Violence is virtually impossible to measure with absolute precision due to the numerous complications including the societal stigma that inhibits victims from disclosing their abuse and the varying definitions of abuse used from study to study. Due to these and other complications, estimates of the number of domestic violence incidents greatly differ

Information packets are available from the Wisconsin Coalition Against Domestic Violence on the following topics: Prevalence of domestic abuse, Domestic Abuse in Later Life, Health Issues, Children's Packet, Domestic Abuse in Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Trans community and Dating Violence. These packets include statistics, bibliography, resource list and several articles. Packets are \$5 for members and \$10 for non members.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Prevalence of Domestic Violence.....	Page 4
Abuse in Later Life.....	Page 9
Battered Women Who Kill in Self Defense.....	Page 11
Batterers.....	Page 13
Children’s Issues.....	Page 14
Communities of Color	Page 17
Dating Violence.....	Page 22
Disability Issues.....	Page 24
Economic Issues and Domestic Violence.....	Page 26
Guns.....	Page 28
Health Care Issues.....	Page 30
Homelessness.....	Page 36
Immigration Issues.....	Page 38
Legal Issues.....	Page 39
Lesbian, Gay, Bi-sexual and Trans Issues.....	Page 43
Separation Violence.....	Page 44
Violence, Poverty and Welfare	Page 46
Workplace Impact.....	Page 49
Wisconsin Statistics.....	Page 51

PREVALENCE OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

- ◆ A woman is beaten every 15 seconds.
(Uniform Crime Reports, Federal Bureau of Investigation, 1991)
- ◆ By the most conservative estimate, each year 1 million women suffer nonfatal violence by an intimate.
(Bureau of Justice Statistics Special Report: Violence Against Women: Estimates from the Redesigned Survey (NCJ-154348), August 1995, p. 3)
- ◆ Estimates range from 960,000 incidents of violence against a current or former spouse, boyfriend, or girlfriend per year to 3.9 million women who are physically abused by their husbands or live-in partners per year.
("First Comprehensive National Health Survey of American Women," Commonwealth Fund, July 1993)
- ◆ Approximately 1.5 million women are physically assaulted by an intimate partner annually in the U.S. Since many women experience multiple victimizations every year, an estimated 5.9 million physical assaults are perpetrated against U.S women annually.
(National Institute of Justice and Centers for Disease Control, National Violence Against Women Survey, 1998)
- ◆ The American Medical Association now estimates that almost 4 million women are victims of severe assaults by boyfriends and husbands each year and about one in four women is likely to be abused by a partner in her lifetime.
(Sarah Glazer, "Violence Against Women", CQ Researcher, Congressional Quarterly, Inc., Vol. 3 No.8, February 1993, p. 171)
- ◆ Victims of family violence are overwhelmingly female- 71% for family violence versus 58% for all other types of violence.
(Federal Bureau of Investigation. 17 October 1999. Crime in the United States, Uniform Crime Reports, 1998. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice)
- ◆ Each day, more than three women in the United States are murdered by a male intimate partner.
(United States Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, Violence by Intimates, 2000)
- ◆ Intimate partners murdered 1,218 women during 1999. From 1993 to 1999 intimates killed 45% of all female murder victims age 20-24.
(Bureau of Justice Statistics Special Reports: Intimate Partner Violence and Age of Victim, 1993-1999 (NCJ-187635), October 2001)

- ◆ Women are more often victims of domestic violence than victims of burglary, mugging, or other physical crimes combined.
("First Comprehensive National Health Survey of American Women," Commonwealth Fund, July 1993)

- ◆ In 1992, a congressional report indicated that the most dangerous place in the United States for a woman to be is in her home. Former Surgeon General Antonia Novello has labeled domestic violence an epidemic.
(Linda Ammons, Discretionary Justice: A Legal and Policy Analysis of a Governor's Use of Clemency Power in the Cases of Incarcerated Battered Women, Journal of Law and Policy, vol. III., 1994, pp.5-6)

- ◆ In 1996, approximately, 1,800 murders were attributed to intimates; nearly three out of four of these had a female victim.
(U.S Department of Justice, Violence by Intimates: Analysis of Data on Crimes by Current or Former Spouses, Boyfriends, and Girlfriends, March 1998)

- ◆ Intimate violence is primarily a crime against women. In 1998, females accounted for seventy-five percent of the victims of intimate murders and about eighty-five percent of the victims of non-lethal intimate violence.
(Henneberg, M. (August, 2000. Bureau of justice statistics 2000: At a glance. [Publication #NCJ183014]. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics)

- ◆ Women age 35-49 were the most vulnerable to intimate murder, while females age 16 to 24 were the most vulnerable to nonfatal violence.
(Bureau of Justice Statistics Special Reports: Intimate Partner Violence and Age of Victim, 1993-1999 (NCJ-187635), October 2001)

- ◆ Nearly twenty-five percent of surveyed women and 7.5 percent surveyed men said they were raped and/or physically assaulted by a current spouse, cohabiting partner, or date in their lifetime.
(Tjaden, P. & Thoennes, N. (July 2000). Extent, nature, and consequences of intimate partner violence findings from the National Violence Against Women Survey. (Publication #NCJ181867). National Institute of Justice and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Washington, DC:Office of Justice Programs)

- ◆ 28% of all annual violence against women is perpetuated by intimates. 5% of all annual violence against men is perpetuated by intimates.
(Tjaden, P. & Thoennes, N. (July 2000). Extent, nature, and consequences of intimate partner violence findings from the National Violence Against Women Survey. (Publication #NCJ181867). National Institute of Justice and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Washington, DC:Office of Justice Programs)

- ◆ While women are less likely than men to be victims of violent crimes overall, women are five to eight times more likely than men to be victimized by an intimate partner.
(Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 1992-1996, and FBI Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1992-1996, reported to the U.S. Department of Justice, Violence by Intimates: Analysis of Data on Crimes by Current or Former Spouses, Boyfriends, and Girlfriends, March 1998)

- ◆ Of the 1,642 persons murdered by an intimate in 1999, 424- or 26%- were men. Male murder victims were substantially less likely than female murder victims to have been killed by an intimate partner. In 1999 intimate partner homicides accounted for 32% of the murders of females and about 4% of the murders of males.
(Bureau of Justice Statistics Special Reports: Intimate Partner Violence and Age of Victim, 1993-1999 (NCJ-187635), October 2001)

- ◆ For those cases in which the victim-offender relationship is known, husbands or boyfriends killed 26% of female murder victims, whereas wives or girlfriends killed 3% of the male victims.
(FBI, Crime in the United States 1995: Uniform Crime Reports)

- ◆ From 1992 to 1996, victimization by an intimate accounted for 21 percent of the violence experienced by females. It accounted for about two percent of the violent crime sustained by males.
(U.S. Department of Justice, Violence by Intimates: Analysis of Data on Crimes by Current or Former Spouses, Boyfriends, and Girlfriends, March 1998)

- ◆ Annually, compared to males, females experienced over 10 times as many incidents of violence by an intimate. On average each year, women experienced over 572,000 violent victimizations committed by an intimate, compared to approximately 49,000 incidents committed against men.
(“Violence between Intimates”, Bureau of Justice Statistics Selected Findings, Nov. 1994, p.2)

- ◆ One in four American women report that a husband or boyfriend at some point in their lives has physically abused them.
(Domestic Violence Advertising Campaign Tracking Survey (Wave IV) conducted for Advertising Council and the Family Violence Prevention Fund. 1996)

- ◆ 90-95% of domestic violence victims are women, as many as 95% of domestic violence perpetrators are men.
(Tjaden, P. & Thoennes, N. (July 2000). Extent, nature, and consequences of intimate partner violence findings from the National Violence Against Women Survey. (Publication #NCJ181867). National Institute of Justice and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Washington, DC: Office of Justice Programs)

- ◆ Thirty percent of Americans say they know a woman who has been physically abused by her husband or boyfriend in the past year.
(Domestic Violence Advertising Campaign Tracking Survey (Wave IV) conducted for Advertising Council and the Family Violence Prevention Fund. 1996)
- ◆ 70% of intimate-partner homicides are women.
(Tjaden, P. & Thoennes, N. (July 2000). Extent, nature, and consequences of intimate partner violence findings from the National Violence Against Women Survey. (Publication #NCJ181867). National Institute of Justice and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Washington, DC:Office of Justice Programs)
- ◆ In 1999, 71% of rape or sexual assault victims knew their offenders. Approximately 22% of victims are raped by intimates such as husbands or boyfriends.
(Criminal Victimization in 1999: Changes 1998-1999, with trends 1993-1999. U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics. August 2000)
- ◆ Only approximately one-fifth of all rapes, one-quarter of all physical assaults, and one-half of all stalkings perpetrated against female respondents by intimates were reported to the police. Even fewer rapes, physical assaults, and stalkings perpetrated against male respondents by intimates were reported. The majority of victims who did not report their victimization to the police thought the police would not or could not do anything on their behalf.
(Tjaden, P. & Thoennes, N. (July 2000). Extent, nature, and consequences of intimate partner violence findings from the National Violence Against Women Survey. (Publication #NCJ181867). National Institute of Justice and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Washington, DC:Office of Justice Programs)
- ◆ When a woman is a perpetrator of domestic homicide, typically the abuser was killed during an assaultive incident in which the woman was the victim.
(Tjaden, P. & Thoennes, N. (July 2000). Extent, nature, and consequences of intimate partner violence findings from the National Violence Against Women Survey. (Publication #NCJ181867). National Institute of Justice and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Washington, DC:Office of Justice Programs)
- ◆ Female murder victims are substantially more likely than male victims to have been killed by an intimate.
(FBI Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1992-1996, reported to the U.S. Department of Justice, Violence by Intimates: Analysis of Data on Crimes by Current or Former Spouses, Boyfriends, and Girlfriends, March 1998)
- ◆ In 1998, one-third of all murdered females were killed by an intimate partner.
(Rennison, C.M., and S. Welchans. May 2000. Intimate Partner Violence. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics)
- ◆ Twenty-three percent of women experiencing severe violence in the past year had thought about taking their own life, compared to 4% of other women.
(Intimate Violence and Black Women's Health, The National Black Women's Project)

- ◆ In 1998, about one million people were victims of crimes committed by their current or former spouses, boyfriends or girlfriends. Approximately 85% of the victims (876,430) were women, and 15% (157,330) were men. Thus, women were victims of intimate partner violence at about five times the rate that men were.
(Extent, Nature and Consequences of Intimate Partner Violence, National Institute of Justice and the centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 1998, reported in "Speaking Up: Family Violence Prevention Fund's News and Tips for the Domestic Violence Community, May 15, 2000, Vol. 6, Issue 10)

- ◆ More than twice as many women were killed by their husbands, ex-husbands, or boyfriends as are murdered by strangers.
(Arthur Kellerman, "Men, Women and Murder," The Journal of Trauma, July 17, 1992, pp. 1-5)

- ◆ In 1999, 7% of American women (3.9 million) who are married or living with someone as a couple were physically abused, and 37% (20.7 million) were verbally or emotionally abuse by their spouse or partner.
(The Commonwealth Fund. First Comprehensive National Health Survey of American Women Finds Them at Significant Risk, New York: The Commonwealth Fund, July 14 1993)

- ◆ Violence is the reason stated for divorce in 22% of middle class marriages.
(EAP Digest November/December 1991)

- ◆ Police were more likely to respond within five minutes if the offender was a stranger than if an offender was known to the female victim.
(Ronet Bachman Ph.D., U.S. Department of Justice Bureau of Justice Statistics, "Violence Against Women: A National Crime Victimization Survey Report," January 1994, p. 9)

- ◆ White females represent the only category of victims for whom the rate of intimate partner violence has not decreased substantially since 1976. The number of white female victims rose three percent between 1976 and 1988, and between 1997 and 1998 increased 15%.
(Extent, Nature and Consequences of Intimate Partner Violence, National Institute of Justice and the centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 1998)

- ◆ Intimate murder now accounts for about 9% of the murders that occur nationwide.
(FBI Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1992-1996, reported to the U.S. Department of Justice, Violence by Intimates: Analysis of Data on Crimes by Current or Former Spouses, Boyfriends, and Girlfriends, March 1998)

- ◆ Seventy-eight percent of stalking victims are women. Women are significantly more likely than men are (60% and 30% respectively) to be stalked by intimate partners.
(Center for Policy Research, Stalking in America, July 1997)

- ◆ Eighty percent of women who are stalked by former husbands are physically assaulted by that partner and 30% are sexually assaulted by that partner.
(Center for Policy Research, *Stalking in America*, July 1997)
- ◆ In general, for both fatal and non-fatal violence, women are at higher risk than men to be victimized by an intimate.
(U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Statistics *Selected Findings, Female Victims of Violent Crime*, December 1996, NCJ-162602)
- ◆ In 15.1% of family murders, the offender used his/her feet, hands, or fists to kill his/her intended victim.
(Federal Bureau of Investigation. 17 October 1999. *Crime in the United States, Uniform Crime reports, 1998*. Washington, DC: U.S Department of Justice)
- ◆ For both blacks and whites, when intimate murder occurs, increasingly the woman, and not the man, is the victim.
(FBI Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1992-1996, reported to the U.S. Department of Justice, *Violence by Intimates: Analysis of Data on Crimes by Current or Former Spouses, Boyfriends, and Girlfriends*, March 1998)

ABUSE IN LATER LIFE

- ◆ The U.S. Administration on Aging reports that there are 43 million Americans over the age of 60, and 3 million who are 85 or older. Due to improved health and standards of living, it is predicted that by the year 2030, more than 85 million Americans will be over 60 and more than 8 million will be over the age of 85.
(Administration on Aging. *The Administration on Aging and the Older Americans Act*. 2001)
- ◆ Experts suggest that domestic elder abuse is perhaps the most underreported crime. Older adults may be especially reluctant to report abuse because they are ashamed to admit that their spouse or children have mistreated them, fear retaliation, or dread being institutionalized if they are removed from the care of the abuser. In addition, cognitive and physical impairments may make it impossible for some elderly individuals to report their abuse.
(Payne, B.K., *Crime and Elder Abuse: An Integrated Perspective*, Springfield, IL: Charles C. Thomas, 2000)
- ◆ In 1999, 470,702 cases of abuse and neglect were reported to adult protective services throughout the United States. This is a 62% increase since 1996.
(National Clearinghouse on Abuse in Later Life, 2001)
- ◆ According to most research, the majority of older victims are women.
(Dunlop, 2000; Crichton, 1999; Lithwich, 1999; Vladescu, 1999; Lachs, 1997; Greenberg, 1990)

- ◆ The majority of perpetrators are males (Brownell, 1999; Crichton, 1999; Lithwick, 1999). Sexual abusers were almost exclusively male (Teaster, 2000, Ramsey-Klawnsnik, 1991). Of the cases reviewed, only men perpetrated homicide-suicide in later life (Cohen, 1998).
- ◆ Random sample studies of seniors living in the community found more spouse/partner abuse than abuse by adult children.
(Podnieks, 1992)
- ◆ According to a national survey of the health of women conducted for the Commonwealth Fund in 1992, an estimated 1.4 million between the ages of 45-64 were physically abused by their spouse
(The Commonwealth Fund. First Comprehensive National Health Survey of American Women Finds Them at Significant Risk, New York: The Commonwealth Fund, July 14 1993)
- ◆ Many abusers are dependent on their victims for housing, transportation and sometimes care (Brownwell, 1999; Reis, 1998 and 1997; Ontiniano, 1998; Wolf and Pillemer, 1997; Seaver 1996). Financial dependency of adult children also seemed to be a key factor (Ontiniano, 1998; Lachs, 1997; Greenberg, 1990).
- ◆ A study of 257 older women ages 50-79 found that 32% had experienced physical violence in their relationship within the past year.
(Mouton, 1999)
- ◆ Friends, neighbors, and even health care providers and other professionals often assume that older women's injuries and behavior are due simply to "old age," when those symptoms were actually caused by abuse or neglect.
(National Center on Elder Abuse, 1993)
- ◆ If an older woman is frail or dependent on others to provide physical care, she may fear being placed in a nursing home if she reports abuse or neglect.
(National Center on Elder Abuse, 1993)
- ◆ In almost ninety-percent of the elder abuse and neglect incidents with a known perpetrator, the perpetrator is a family member, and two-thirds of the perpetrators are adult children or spouses.
(National Center on Elder Abuse. (1998). National elder abuse incidence survey: Executive summary. [Publication #ISBN 0-910106-63-0]. Washington, DC.)
- ◆ A study of 5,168 couples found that 5.8% of couples ages 60+ experienced physical violence in their relationship within the past year.
(Harris, 1996)
- ◆ Based on NEAIS findings and U.S. Census data, it is estimated that a total of 449,924 persons aged 60 and over experienced abuse and/or neglect in domestic

settings in 1996. 70,942 (16%) were reported to and substantiated by APS agencies; 378,982 (84%) were not. The researchers also found that females were abused more frequently than males, and that elders over 80 are at the greatest risk for abuse and neglect. In 90% of the incidents of elder abuse and neglect by a known perpetrator, the perpetrator was a family member; two-thirds of the perpetrators were adult children or spouses.

(Draucker, Claire, "Domestic Violence: The Challenge for Nursing," Journal of Issues in Nursing vol. 7 (1), January 31, 2002)

- ◆ A study of 28 women ages 65-101 who had been sexually abused found that:
 - *71% of the victims were described as dependent for physical care or functioning poorly
 - * 29% of suspected perpetrators were spouses/partners; 39% were sons, 7% were brothers
 - * The total of 81% perpetrators were caregivers; 78% were family members.
(Ramsey-Klawnsnik, 1991)

- ◆ Relatives or intimates committed more than one in four murders and one in ten of the incidents of non-lethal violence against persons age sixty-five or older. Victims of murder over age sixty-four were two times more likely than victims between ages twelve and sixty-four to have been killed by relatives or incidents
(Klaus, P. (2000). Crimes against persons age 65 or older, 1992-1997. [Report #NCJ176352]. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs)

BATTERED WOMEN WHO KILL IN SELF DEFENSE

- ◆ When women kill—and they do so at astonishingly lower rates than men who commit 85% of all homicides—the vast majority kill family members, usually men who have battered them for years. As many as 90% of the women in jail today for killing men had been battered by those men.
(Allison Bass, "Women far less likely to kill than men; no one sure why," The Boston Globe, February 24, 1992, p. 27)

- ◆ Of the women convicted of violent crimes, the vast majority was convicted for defending themselves or their children from abuse. In California alone there are 600 women in prison for killing their abusers in self-defense. Average prison terms are twice as long for killing husbands as for killing wives.
(Prison Activist Resource Center & American Friends Service Committee, Prison Connections, Spring/Summer, 1997)

- ◆ Marital homicide differs significantly by gender: a large proportion of the killings by women are acts of self-defense, while almost none of the killings by men are acts of self-defense.
(Florida Governor's Task Force on Domestic and Sexual Violence, Florida Mortality Review Project: Executive Summary, 1997)

- ◆ Defensive action by battered women to protect themselves or their children is often interpreted by law enforcement as an act of domestic violence. The number of battered women arrested for committing acts of violence against their partners has disproportionately increased in communities that overuse “dual arrest”.
(Promising Practices Initiatives Report on the Expert Panels on Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault and Stalking Technical Assistance Project, U.S. Department of Justice, 1997)

- ◆ Ninety percent of women in prison are single mothers. They lose contact with their children, sometimes forever. There are 167,000 children in the U.S. whose mothers are incarcerated.
(Prison Activist Resource Center & American Friends Service Committee, Prison Connections, Spring/Summer, 1997)

- ◆ Eighteen women incarcerated for homicide or attempted homicide in Wisconsin in 1993 were interviewed by a subcommittee of the Legislative Council Special Committee on Women and Corrections. Of the 18 women, 12 had been battered by the deceased prior to the homicide incident. 11 of those women had also experienced sexual abuse within their relationship with the deceased. Eight of the deceased had used weapons in prior incidents of abuse with the women. In two cases the police had been called on the day of the incident to respond to a report of battering by the deceased.
(Gilfus M., Koeffler K., Krennek K., Munaker J., Study on Women Incarcerated for Homicide in Wisconsin, 1993: A Report Submitted to the Legislative Council Special Committee on Women and Corrections)

- ◆ Although the proportion of armed confrontation that ends in the death of the batterer or his victim is unknown, domestic homicides of both women and men are often preceded by an escalating pattern of violence. Our data confirm that women who reach a firearm shoot and kill their husbands almost as often as men shoot their wives, but research by others suggests that their reasons for pulling the trigger are often quite different (Saltzman, 1989). Men commonly kill their female partners in response to the women’s attempt to leave an abusive relationship. Women, on the other hand, often kill their male partners in self-defense or in retribution for prior acts of violence.
(Cazemore, 1986; Browne, 1987) (Arthur Kellerman, “Men, Women and Murder,” The Journal of Trauma, July 17, 1992, p. 3)

- ◆ Currently there are 2,000 battered women in America who are serving prison time for defending their lives against their batterers.
(Stacey Kabat, Remarks from presentation at Harvard School of Public Health, Center for Health Communication, June 1991)

- ◆ Four out of five victims of intimate offender resisted the assault. They passively resisted—trying to get help, threatening or arguing, or using evasive action—twice as often as they actively resisted—using a weapon or fighting back.
(Caroline Harlow, Bureau of Justice Statistics, “Female Victims of Violent Crime,” Washington, D.C.: U.S. Department of Justice, 1991, p. 6)

- ◆ Fifty-four percent of women in prison are women of color.
(Prison Activist Resource Center & American Friends Service Committee, Prison Connections, Spring/Summer, 1997)
- ◆ Racism and economic discrimination are inextricably linked to sexism in our culture, creating severe inequalities in the court system and the prison system. For example, Black women are twice as likely to be convicted of killing their abusive husbands as white women. Black women, on average, receive longer jail time and higher fines than do white women for the same crimes.
(Prison Activist Resource Center & American Friends Service Committee, Prison Connections, Spring/Summer, 1997)

BATTERERS

- ◆ Batters are not out of control. Indeed they choose the victim, time, place, violent tactic and severity of assault when committing domestic violence. The batterer assumes that he is entitled to control his partner; he is a moral person, even if he uses violence against his partner; he will get what he wants through use of violence and he will not suffer adverse, physical, legal, economic, or personal consequences that outweigh the benefits achieved by the violence.
(“Women and Violence,” Hearings before the U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee, August 29 and December 11, 1990, Senate Hearing 101-939, pt. 2, p. 140)
- ◆ Batterers come from all socioeconomic backgrounds, races, religions and occupations. While there is no typical batterer, some common behaviors do exist. Most minimize the seriousness of the violence or blame it on the victim’s provocations, alcohol, drugs, or stress. Traditional views of sex roles and parenting as well as negative attitudes toward women in general are common. Battering is the extreme expression of the belief in male dominance over women.
(Howard Holtz and Kathleen Furniss, “The Health Care Providers Role in Domestic Violence,” Trends in Health Care, Law & Ethics, Vol. 8, No. 2, Spring 1993, p. 50)
- ◆ Short-term (6-12) weeks psycho-educational batterer intervention programs helped some batterers stop immediate physical violence, but were inadequate in stopping abuse over time. Some batterers became more sophisticated in their psychological abuse and intimidation after attending such programs.
(Violence and the Family: Report of the American Psychological Association Presidential Task Force on Violence and the Family p.85, 1996)
- ◆ Approximately one-third of the men counseled for battering (at Emerge) are professional men who are well respected in their jobs and their communities. These have included doctors, psychologists, lawyers, ministers, and business executives.
(For Shelter and Beyond, Massachusetts Coalition of Battered Women Service Groups, Boston, MA 1990)

- ◆ The spousal murderer does not fit into any neat demographic or psychosocial profile—he may be young, old, rich, black or white—but there do seem to be some common triggers. High on the list: sexual jealousy and the threat of being left, which are often singled out as the prime motivators behind spousal murder and murder-suicides, in which the killer does in both his wife and himself, and possibly children as well.
(Caroline Knapp, “A Plague of Murders: Open Season on Women, The Boston Phoenix, August 1992)
- ◆ Saunders (1988) empirically derived three types of men who batter. The most severe violence was used by men who were severely abused or witnessed abuse in childhood, who abuse alcohol and other drugs, and who are violent outside as well as inside the home.
(Daniel Saunders and Angela Browne, “Domestic Homicide,” Case Studies in Family Violence, Ed. Robert Ammerman and Michael Heslen, New York: Plenum Press, 1991)
- ◆ National Family Violence Survey (1989) would tend to support the notion that arrest would work, but only for abusers with something to lose. Walker and Hawkins (1989) found that arrest appears to be meaningful to men in terms of the indirect cost it poses to them in their social environment. The personal humiliation of arrest for wife assault is the possible deterrent effect of arrest.
(Richard Gelles, “Constraints Against Family Violence: How Well Do They Work? Paper presented at the American Society for Criminology annual meeting, 1991)

CHILDREN’S ISSUES

- ◆ 40-60% of men who abuse women also abuse their children.
(American Psychology Association. Violence and the Family: Report of the American Psychological Association Presidential Task Force on Violence and the Family, 1996)
- ◆ 63% of all males between ages 11 and 20 who are serving time for homicide in the U.S. are incarcerated because they killed their mothers’ abusers.
(Sarah M. Buel, “The Dynamics of Domestic Violence Cases in the United States of America: An Overview” in Defending Battered Women in Criminal Cases, American Bar Association, Section of Criminal Justice, 1992)
- ◆ 3 million American children are exposed to domestic violence in their homes each year.
(American Psychology Association, Violence in the Family: Report of the American Psychological Association Presidential Task Force on Violence in the Family, 1996)

- ◆ About 45% of the female intimate violence victims in 1998 lived in households with children younger than twelve years old.
(Rennison, C.M., and S. Welchans. May 2000. Intimate Partner Violence. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics)
- ◆ When women are murdered by their husbands, children are present in 25% of cases.
(Crawford & Gardner, 1992)
- ◆ The maltreatment of children and violence against women often go hand in hand. As many as half a million children may be encountered by police during domestic violence arrests. There is an overlap of 30 to 60 percent between violence against children and violence against women in the same families.
(Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. (November 2000). Safe from the start: taking action on children exposed to violence. (Publication No. NCJ182789) Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. Available: phone: 800-851-3420 or www.ncjrs.org/pub/order)
- ◆ Children exposed to wife abuse suffer low self esteem, depression, poor health, sleep difficulties, post traumatic stress disorder, poor impulse control, and are at higher risk for problems in school, drug and alcohol abuse, sexual acting out, running away, isolation, loneliness, fear and suicide.
(Peter Jaffe, Davis Wolfe & Susan Kaye Wilson, Children of Battered Women, Sage Publications, 1990)
- ◆ Girls whose fathers batter their mothers are 6.5 times more likely to be sexually abused by their fathers than are girls from non-violent homes.
(Bowker, L.H., Arbitell, M., & McFerron, J.R., "On the Relationship Between Wife Beating and Child Abuse." In K. Yllo & M. Bograd, Feminist Perspectives on Wife Abuse, Sage, 1988)
- ◆ Children who witness domestic violence were found to show more anxiety, depression, traumatic symptoms, and temperamental problems than other children.
(Schechter and Edleson, Domestic Violence and Children, Open Society Institute, Center on Crime, Communities, and Culture, 2000)
- ◆ Research shows that between 3.3 million and 10 million children in the United States are exposed to domestic violence each year.
(The David and Lucille Packard Foundation, The Future of Children, 1999)
- ◆ Between 45 and 70% of children exposed to domestic violence are also victims of physical abuse.
(P.K. Trickett and C.J. Shellenbach, The American Psychological Association, pp.57-404, 1998)
- ◆ 2,000 children die each year by violent means, and 140,000 more are seriously injured.
(U.S. Advisory Board on Child Abuse and Neglect; information obtained from a 2.5 year study and released on email computer communication April 25, 1995)

- ◆ More than 50% of child abductions result from domestic violence.
(Geoffrey Grief & Rebecca Hagar, "Abduction of Children By Their Parents: A Survey of the Problem," Social Work, 1991)
- ◆ Some of our country's "missing children" are actually being hidden by their mothers to protect them from violent fathers. Conversely, abusers sometimes kidnap their children to punish their partners for leaving them or to get them to come back.
(Domestic Violence - A Guide for Health Care Professionals, NJ: March 1990)
- ◆ Older children may be hurt while trying to protect their mother.
(Domestic Violence - A Guide For Health Care Professionals, State of New Jersey, Department of Community Affairs, March, 1990)
- ◆ Children from violent homes have higher risks of alcohol/drug abuse and juvenile delinquency.
(Domestic Violence - A Guide For Health Care Professionals, State of New Jersey, Department of Community Affairs, March, 1990)
- ◆ Children from violent families can provide clinicians with detailed accounts of abusive incidents their parents never realized they witnessed.
(Jaffee, P.G., D.A., Wolfe, and S.K. Wilson (1990). Children of Battered Women, Newbury Park, CA: Sage Publications)
- ◆ Abusive husbands are seven times more likely than non-abusive husbands to abuse their children. Battered women are twice as likely as non-battered women to abuse their children, although once out of the relationship, the odds of them abusing their children are reduced.
(Ending the Cycle of Violence-Community Responses to Children of Battered Women, Einat Peled, Peter Jaffe, Jeffrey Edleson)
- ◆ A comparison of delinquent and non-delinquent youth found that a history of family violence or abuse was the most significant difference between the two groups.
(Miller, G. (1989). "Violence By and Against America's Children," Journal of Juvenile Justice Digest, XVII (12), p.6)
- ◆ Domestic abuse is the single greatest risk factor in child abuse.
(National Woman Abuse Prevention Project)
- ◆ Domestic violence is a major factor that contributes to the problem of teenage runaways and homeless street youth.
(National Woman Abuse Prevention Project)

- ◆ Almost half of all battered women were sexually abused as children by male relatives.
(Zorza, J. 1991. Women Battering: A Major Cause of Homelessness. Clearinghouse Review, 24, 421-424. In J.A. Drye (1998/1999). The Silent Victims of Domestic Violence: Children Forgotten by the Judicial System. Gonzaga Law Review, 34, (2), 230)
- ◆ Men who witness their father's abuse their mothers were three times more likely to abuse their wives than men who had not.
(Davidson, R. The Impact of Domestic Violence on Children: A Report to the President of the American Bar Association, August 1994)
- ◆ Boys who witnessed domestic abuse were significantly more likely to approve of violence than girls who had also witnessed it.
(Carlson, B.E. 1990. Adolescent Observers of Marital Violence. Journal of Family Violence, 5, 285-299)

COMMUNITIES OF COLOR

- ◆ Domestic violence is statistically consistent across all racial and ethnic boundaries.
(Bureau of Justice Statistics Special Report: Violence Against Women: Estimates from the Redesigned Survey (NCJ-154348), August 1995, p. 3)
- ◆ Women of all cultures, races, occupations, income levels, and ages are battered by husbands, boyfriends, lovers and partners.
(Surgeon General Antonia Novello, as quoted in Domestic Violence: Battered Women, publication of the Reference Department of the Cambridge Public Library, Cambridge, MA)
- ◆ Previous studies suggested that their intimate partners, irrespective of their races or ethnic backgrounds, abuse women. Although the overall rates may be similar, emerging research suggests that variables such as socioeconomic status, cultural background, and age may influence the impact of domestic violence.
(Tjaden, P. & Thomas, N. (April 1998). Stalking in America: Findings from the National Violence Against Women Survey, Research in Brief (Publication # NCJ 1169592). National Institute of Justice and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Washington DC: US Department of Justice)

African-American:

- ◆ A greater percentage of African American victims, both sexes, were killed by boyfriends or girlfriends than by current spouses.
(Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, "Report on Surveillance for Homicide Among Intimate Partners-United States, 1981-1998," October 12, 1999)

- ◆ Black women experiencing sexual abuse were more likely to experience unprotected sexual intercourse and unintended pregnancy. Sexually abused women were more likely to report having a partner who refused to wear a condom.
(Intimate Violence and Black Women's Health, The National Black Women's Health Project)

- ◆ Many shelters have few women of color on their staffs. Additionally, if a shelter is located in a primarily white neighborhood, this may create increased feelings of vulnerability, visibility and exposure for women of color. Regrettably, shelters are not immune to the racism that exists in society, and some can be run in ways that are insensitive to the needs of black women.
(Wilson, Dr. K.J., When Violence Begins at Home, Hunter House, Alameda, California, 1997)

- ◆ Many African American women fear that if they report an abusive partner, he will be treated more harshly because he is a man of color.
(Wilson, Dr. K.J., When Violence Begins at Home, Hunter House, Alameda, California, 1997)

- ◆ Many African American women have strong religious beliefs dating back to early childhood and typically comprise about 70 percent of black congregations. Religious beliefs or fear of rejection from the church may keep women in abusive relationships.
(Wilson, Dr. K.J., When Violence Begins at Home, Hunter House, Alameda, California, 1997)

- ◆ 1 out of 4 American women becomes victim to domestic violence during her lifetime; 1 in 3 African American men come under the supervision of the police and courts before the age of 25. Sometimes these two realities create conflicting loyalties, especially for women of color, who desperately need solutions to both problems.
(Domestic Violence in Communities of Color; Colorlines, Vol2 #1, Spring 1999)

- ◆ Black Women report higher rates of partner violence. Rates of severe partner violence are higher for low-income Black women as compared to higher income Black women. Black women who have unemployed husbands have particularly high rates of severe violence.
(Intimate Violence and Black Women's Health, The National Black Women's Health Project)

- ◆ An African American woman is more likely to feel protective of her batterer because of discrimination and "hard times" he has faced, and obligated to support and assist him emotionally to preserve some sense of family.
(Edward W. Gondolf, Assessing Women Battering in Mental Health Services, Sage Publications, 1998, National Network to End Domestic Violence Sheet on Meeting the Needs of Underserved Communities)

- ◆ Black women who had a history of childhood physical or sexual abuse were more likely to report using unhealthy substances—tobacco, alcohol, and drugs (73%). The proportion of women reporting childhood abuse who used two or more substances was nearly double that of women who did not report such abuse.

(Intimate Violence and Black Women's Health, The National Black Women's Health Project)

- ◆ African American women of lower socioeconomic status who have been battered are more likely than middle class white women who have been battered to need extensive services and support.

(Edward W. Gondolf, Assessing Women Battering in Mental Health Services, Sage Publications, 1998, National Network to End Domestic Violence Sheet on Meeting the Needs of Underserved Communities)

- ◆ Women in households with incomes of \$15,000 or less are three times more likely to be raped or sexually assaulted. Black women are more likely to be poor.

(Intimate Violence and Black Women's Health, The National Black Women's Health Project)

Latina:

- ◆ Among undocumented Latina women, the rate of battering is estimated to be as high as 34%.

(AYUDA, Inc.)

- ◆ The U.S Hispanic population increased by 53% in the decade between 1980 and 1990. Hispanic growth in Wisconsin approached the national average.

(U.S. Census of Population 1980 and 1990, Latino Institute Research, 1993)

- ◆ Domestic violence within Latina/o families happens in the context of a community suffering from a legacy of multiple oppressions, some of which go back for centuries, for example, poverty, long-term discrimination, racism, and colonization.

(Wilson, Dr. K.J., When Violence Begins at Home, Hunter House, Alameda, California, 1997)

- ◆ Battered Latina women in shelters are likely to have experienced a longer duration of abuse, be married at a younger age, have larger families, and stay in relationships longer.

(Edward W. Gondolf et. Al, Racial Differences Among Shelter Residences: A Comparison of Anglo, Black, and Hispanic Battered Women. Black Family Violence: Current Research and Theory (R. Hampton ed., Sage Publications, 1991)

- ◆ There are not adequate culturally and linguistically competent prevention, intervention, and treatment services that take into consideration the strong orientation toward family and community that is predominant in the Latina/o culture.

(Wilson, Dr. K.J., When Violence Begins at Home, Hunter House, Alameda, California, 1997)

- ◆ Latinas are more concentrated in low-paying, semiskilled occupations than the overall workforce. The money women need to move or to obtain a lawyer is not always available. For Latinas who drop out of school, poor education and lack of skills make it difficult to get better-paying jobs. Additionally, opportunities for job advancement are not always comparable to those of white women because of racial discrimination.
(Wilson, Dr. K.J., *When Violence Begins at Home*, Hunter House, Alameda, California, 1997)
- ◆ From a domestic violence and migrant farm worker assessment that included 112 women, 1 in 3 (35%) reported being hit within the last year.
(*Suffering in Silence, Domestic Violence and Migrant Women*, Dr. Rachel Rodriguez, 1995)
- ◆ From a domestic violence and migrant farm worker survey that included 112 women, one in five (21%) reported forced sexual contact within the last year.
(*Suffering in Silence, Domestic Violence and Migrant Women*, Dr. Rachel Rodriguez, 1995)
- ◆ From a domestic violence and migrant farm worker that included 112 women, one in three (35%) reported being hurt by their partners within the last year.
(*Suffering in Silence, Domestic Violence and Migrant Women*, Dr. Rachel Rodriguez, 1995)
- ◆ Several factors- including discrimination and lack of bilingual/bicultural staff- have led to an under-utilization of shelters and other domestic violence services by Latina/os affected by domestic violence.
(Wilson, Dr. K.J., *When Violence Begins at Home*, Hunter House, Alameda, California, 1997)

Native American/ Alaska Natives (AIAN):

- ◆ A greater percentage of female AIAN victims were killed by boyfriends or girlfriends than by current spouses.
(Bureau of Justice Statistics Special Reports: *Intimate Partner Violence and Age of Victim, 1993-1999 (NCJ-187635)*, October 2001)
- ◆ Native American women's sense of tribal sovereignty and loyalty may conflict with making a police report about their husband who assaulted them.
(American Psychological Association, *Violence and the Family Report of the American Psychological Association Presidential Task Force on Violence and the Family*, 1996)
- ◆ Several factors have accompanied the increase of domestic violence in Native communities. These factors include the removal of Native Americans from their ancestral lands, suppressed religious and cultural practices, forced removal of their children into foster homes and boarding schools, and a disruption of traditional living patterns compounded by the poverty of reservation life. These dramatic

changes in social, spiritual, and economic structure have drastically undermined traditional ways of life.

(Wilson, Dr. K.J., When Violence Begins at Home, Hunter House, Alameda, California, 1997)

- ◆ American Indian women are at high risk of homicide, including domestic violence homicide.
(College Emerging Physicians, 1995, Sacred Circle, South Dakota)
- ◆ From 1988-1991, homicide was the third leading cause of death for Native women. Of Native women murdered, 75% were killed by a family member, an acquaintance, or someone they knew. Four percent were murdered by a stranger.
(Homicide and Suicide Among Native Americans, ('79-'92), Sacred Circle, South Dakota)
- ◆ The stalking rate is so high against Native American and Alaska Native women that 17% will be stalked during their lifetimes.
(Domestic Violence Report, March 1988, Sacred Circle, South Dakota)
- ◆ One possible explanation for high homicide rates among Native communities can be attributed to distrust of the legal system. Although the community may view the behavior of the batterer as undesirable, the decision to contact the external legal system, or to reveal details of intimate family life is often viewed as disloyal. Many Native women have a high level of mistrust for white agencies and helpers. The lack of trust is not difficult to understand given the historically oppressive way that white society has treated Native Americans.
(Wilson, Dr. K.J., When Violence Begins at Home, Hunter House, Alameda, California, 1997)
- ◆ A recent study by the Bureau of Justice Statistics of the U.S. Department of Justice entitled American Indians and Crime found that American Indians are the victims of violent crimes at more than twice the rate of all U.S. residents.
(U.S. Department of Justice, "American Indians and Crimes", February 1999)

Southeast Asian:

- ◆ Some Asian women fear that moving away from their abusive husbands will mean losing their children or, at the least, stigmatizing their children. The Asian community reinforces the belief that women must not leave their family and community.
(Wilson, Dr. K.J., When Violence Begins at Home, Hunter House, Alameda, California, 1997)
- ◆ Wisconsin is home to approximately 49,000 refugees. The majority, 46,232, are Southeast Asians.
(W-2 Watch, Wisconsin Council on Children & Families, 1997)

- ◆ Asian women, especially Asian immigrant women, may be hesitant to disclose battering or abuse because of their cultural views about privacy, perseverance, and self-restraint or their fears about immigration status.

(Christine K. Ho, An Analysis of Domestic Violence in Asian American Communities: A Multicultural Approach to Counseling. Diversity and Complexity in Feminist Therapy, Hayworth 1990)

- ◆ The situation for Asian women, particularly immigrant, refugees, and military brides, can be further magnified by cultural, language, and economic barriers. Together with their lack of knowledge about their legal rights and resources, these factors deter them from reporting the abuse and getting necessary help.

(Wilson, Dr. K.J., When Violence Begins at Home, Hunter House, Alameda, California, 1997)

- ◆ It may be difficult for battered immigrant women to speak out against abuse because many cultures value family loyalty. Therefore, it may go against what battered immigrant women consider important.

(Christine K. Ho, An Analysis of Domestic Violence in Asian American Communities: A Multicultural Approach to Counseling. Diversity and Complexity in Feminist Therapy, Hayworth 1990)

DATING VIOLENCE

- ◆ Women ages 16-24 years old experience the highest per capita rate of intimate violence in the U.S.

(National Institute of Justice, "Extent, Nature and Consequences of Intimate Partner Violence: Findings From the National Violence Against Women Survey," July, 2000)

- ◆ One in five high school girls has been physically or sexually abused by a dating partner. These girls are at higher risk for substance abuse, suicide, risky sexual behavior, pregnancy and suicide attempts.

("Dating Violence Against Adolescent Girls and Associated Substance Use, Unhealthy Weight Control, Sexual Risk Behavior, Pregnancy, and Suicidality," Silverman, Jay G., Journal of the American Medical Association, Vol. 286, No. 5)

- ◆ Eight percent of high school girls said "yes" when asked if "a boyfriend or date have ever forced sexed against your will."

(Commonwealth Fund survey of the Health of Adolescent Girls, November 1997)

- ◆ During the 1996-97 school year, there was an estimated 4,000 incidents of rape or other type of sexual assault in public schools across the country.

(U.S. Department of Education, Violence and Discipline Problems in the U.S. Public Schools: 1996-1997)

- ◆ In a study of 769 male students, grades 7-12 in rural Wisconsin, 52% reported engaging in sexually aggressive behavior. 24% engaged in unwanted sexual touch of another teen; 15% engaged in sexual coercion (such as lying) to initiate sexual activity; 14% engaged in assaultive behavior (use of physical force, threats of physical force, or using alcohol) to gain sexual activity.
(Adolescent Male Sexual Aggression: Incidents and Correlates. Donell Marie Kerns, Ph.D, thesis, UW-Madison, 1994)
- ◆ Studies indicate that dating violence affects at least one in ten couples.
(Dating Violence: Young Women in Danger. Barry Levy, Seattle, Washington, Seal Press 1991)
- ◆ Younger victims of intimate partner violence were least likely to report the violence to the police.
(Bureau of Justice Statistics Special Reports: Intimate Partner Violence and Age of Victim, 1993-1999 (NCJ-187635), November 1999)
- ◆ A survey of students in 3 Midwestern high schools found that more than 15% of girls and more than 4% of boys had experienced sexual violence within a dating relationship. Most victims did not tell anyone.
(“Dating Violence Among High School Students,” Bergman, L. Social Work, 1992; 37 (1), 21- 27)
- ◆ A study of 3,142 college undergraduates showed that serious dating increases abuse by 1.5 events per year, and cohabitation increases the number by 3.5 events per year.
(Alvi, Shahid; Selbee, Kevin. (1997). “Dating Status Variations and Woman Abuse: A Test of the Dependency, Availability, and Deterrence (DAD) model.” Violence Against Women, Vol. 3(6): 610-628)
- ◆ Approximately 1 out of every 3 high school and college students has experienced sexual, physical, verbal, or emotional violence in dating relationships.
(Mitchell, Anita. (1996). “Teen Dating Violence.” Protecting Sexually Active Youth, Vol. 4(1), March, 1996)
- ◆ Estimates of the prevalence of teen dating violence range from 9 to 60 percent, including verbal, physical, and sexual violence. Female teens cause more minor injuries than male teens, but are also likely to receive more significant physical injuries and are more likely to be sexually victimized.
(Cohall, Alwyn; Cohall, Renee; Bannister, Hope; Northridge, Mary. (1999). “Love Shouldn't Hurt: Strategies for Health Care Providers to Address Adolescent Dating Violence.” Journal of the American Medical Women's Association, 54(3), Summer 1999)
- ◆ A study of over 1,000 high school students found that 45% of females, and 43% of males reported being the recipient of violence from dating partners at least once.
(O'Keefe, M.; Trester, L. (1998). “Victims of Dating Violence Among High School Students.” Violence Against Women, 4(2): 195-223)
- ◆ In discussing violent dating relationships, female teens reported that males they dated initiated abuse 70 percent of the time, and males in the same study reported

that females they dated initiated abuse 27 percent of the time.

(Molidor, C.; Tolman, R.M. (1998). "Gender and Contextual Factors in Adolescent Dating Violence." Violence Against Women, 4(2): 180-194)

- ◆ In a study of college students, 13.3 percent of 442 women reported having been forced to have sex in a dating situation.
(Johnson, Ida M.; Sigler, Robert T. (2000). "Forced Sexual Intercourse Among Intimates." Journal of Family Violence, 15(1): 95-108)
- ◆ Twelve percent of high school daters reported experiencing a form of dating violence.
(Richard Gelles and Claire Pedrick Connell, Intimate Violence in Families, Newbury Park, CA: Sage Publications, p.66, 1990)
- ◆ One study of battered women who had sought shelter found that 51% of these women had been physically abused in a dating relationship.
(Richard Gelles and Claire Pedrick Connell, Intimate Violence in Families, Newbury Park, CA: Sage Publications, 1990, p. 66)
- ◆ An average of 28% of high school & college students experience dating violence at some point.
(Brustin, S., Legal Response to Teen Dating Violence, Family Law Quarterly, vol. 29, no. 2, 331 (Summer 1995) (citing Levy, In Love & In Danger: a teen's guide to breaking free of an abusive relationship, 1993)
- ◆ 28% of pregnant teens reported being physically abused by their boyfriends; about half of them said the battering began or intensified after he learned of her pregnancy.
(Brustin, S., Legal Response to Teen Dating Violence, Family Law Quarterly, vol. 29, no. 2, 333-334 (Summer 1995) (citing Worcester, A More Hidden Crime: Adolescent Battered Women, The Network News, July/Aug., national Women's Health Network 1993)
- ◆ Victims of dating violence report the abuse takes many forms: insults, humiliation, monitoring the victims movements, isolation of the victim from family and friends, suicide threats, threats to harm family or property, and physical or sexual abuse. Their abusers also blamed them for the abuse, or used jealousy as an excuse.
(Brustin, S., Legal Response to Teen Dating Violence, Family Law Quarterly, vol. 29, no. 2, 336 (Summer 1995) (citing Gamache, Domination and Control: The Social Context of Dating Violence, in Dating Violence, Young Women in Danger, Levy, ed. 1991)

DISABILITY ISSUES

- ◆ Women with disabilities and Deaf women face many of the same risks of abuse that all women face, plus additional risks specifically related to their disability.
(Strong, Marlene, et al, Caregiver and Domestic Violence in the Lives of Women with Disabilities, Berkley Planning Associates, 1997)

- ◆ 68 percent to 83 percent of women with developmental disabilities will be sexually assaulted in their lifetime, which represents a 50 percent higher rate than the rest of the population.
(Pease, T. and Frantz, B. (1994). Your safety... your rights & personal safety and abuse prevention education program to empower adults with disabilities and train service providers. Doylestown, PA: Network of Victim Assistance)
- ◆ In many instances, victims with disabilities do not have physical access to services.
(U.S. Department of Justice, Office for Victims of Crime Bulletin. (2001). Working with victims of crimes with disabilities)
- ◆ Women with disabilities and Deaf women are at least one-and-a-half to two times more likely than non-disabled women to experienced abuse.
(Stimpson, L., and Best, E., Courage Above All: Sexual Assault and Women with Disabilities, prepared for DisAbled Women's Network (DAWN) Toronto, 1991)
- ◆ A national survey of 860 women found that women with and without physical disabilities were equally likely (62%) to experience physical or emotional abuse from husbands, live-in partners or family members; however, for women with disabilities the abuse tends to last longer than for women without disabilities.
(Young, M.E., M.A. Nosek, C. Howland, G. Changpong, and D. Rintala. 1997. Prevalence of Abuse of Women with Physical Disabilities. Archives of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, 78 December)
- ◆ There are several hundred battered women's and sexual assault programs—none of which are mandated to address the needs of women with disabilities and Deaf women. Most services have been set up to respond to the needs of the general (non-disabled) population and do not have the capacity to meet the full range of needs that women with disabilities and Deaf women present in addition to the issues of battery and assault.
(Women Abuse Prevention, <http://womanabuseprevention.com>)
- ◆ A crime may go unreported for many reasons: mobility or communication barriers, the social or physical isolation of the victim, a victim's normal feelings of shame and self-blame, ignorance of the justice system, or the perpetrator is a family member or primary caregiver.
(U.S. Department of Justice, Office for Victims of Crime Bulletin. (2001). Working with victims of crimes with disabilities)
- ◆ Shelters and other women's services are primarily focused on supporting women who are victims of partner abuse. For many women with disabilities and Deaf women, treatment and intervention for assault by caregivers, neighbors, service providers and family members require different treatment and prevention strategies but nevertheless may be considered "intimate" violence.
(Women Abuse Prevention, <http://womanabuseprevention.com>)

- ◆ Reporting agencies often fail to note that the victim had a disability, especially if the crime is reported by someone other than the victim.
(U.S. Department of Justice, Office for Victims of Crime Bulletin. (2001). Working with victims of crimes with disabilities)

- ◆ The Colorado Department of Health estimates that upward of 85 percent of women with disabilities are victims of domestic abuse, in comparison with, on average, 25 to 50 percent of the general population.
(Feuerstein, P. (June 1997). Domestic violence and women and children with disabilities. Millbank Memorial Fund Report, unpublished)

ECONOMIC ISSUES AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

- ◆ Cost of medical and psychological services to victims of violence is estimated to range between \$1,075 and \$1,633 per woman each year.
(Meyer H. The Billion-dollar Epidemic. AM Med News 1992 Jan 6)

- ◆ Estimates put the direct medical cost of care for battered women at approximately 1.8 billion per year.
(The Journal of Family Practice, Vol. 48 No.6 (June) 1990 citing: Miller, TR, Cohen, MA, Rossman, SB. Victims Cost of Violence, Crime and Resulting Injuries. Health Affairs. 1996:12:186)

- ◆ After an in depth analysis of over 33,000 medical records from South Eastern Michigan hospitals, the Detroit News found that domestic violence cost the hospitals 7 million dollars in health care costs during 1998-1999.
(Detroit News: Special Report on Violence. Sunday, November 26, 2000. Http://:detnews.com/specialreports/2000/violence/index.htm)

- ◆ When a battered woman leaves her abuser, there is a 50% chance that her standard of living will drop below the poverty line.
(“Women and Violence,” Hearings before the U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee, August 29 and December 11, 1990, Senate Hearing 101-939, pt.2, p.95)

- ◆ One-third of all police time is spent responding to domestic disturbance calls.
(“The Billion-Dollar Epidemic”, American Medical News, January 6, 1992)

- ◆ Eighty-three percent of very low-income mothers have been victims of severe physical violence and/or sexual abuse during their lifetime.
(Angela Browne, Ph.D. & Shari Basuk, B.A., “Intimate Violence in the Lives of Homeless and Poor Housed Women”, American Orthopsychiatric Association, Inc. 1997)

- ◆ As adults, 61% had experienced severe physical violence at the hands of male partners. Among women assaulted by their partners, 79% sustained physical injury, including bruises, cuts, burns, and concussions. More than a third required medical treatment.
(Angela Browne, Ph.D. & Shari Basuk, B.A., "Intimate Violence in the Lives of Homeless and Poor Housed Women", American Orthopsychiatric Association, Inc. 1997)
- ◆ Nearly two-thirds of all minimum wage earners are women. Women of color are four times more likely than white men to earn the minimum. Nearly 80% of working women earn less than \$25,000 a year. More than 12 million women—and one in five single mothers—have no health insurance. More mothers are employed than ever before. Yet fewer than 2% of all private business and 9% of government agencies have child care facilities. African-American women earn only 63% of white men's wages, Latinas only 56%.
(1996 Profile of Working Women, 9 to 5)
- ◆ Women with an annual family income under \$10,000 were more likely to experience violence than those with a family income of \$10,000 or more.
(BJS, Violence Against Women: Estimates from the Redesigned Survey, August, 1995)
- ◆ When the violence is committed by intimates, women in the lowest income group are at 4 times greater risk than women in the highest income group.
(BJS, Violence Against Women: Estimates from the Redesigned Survey, August, 1995)
- ◆ 27% of battered women surveyed said they were prevented from having any access to money by their abuser; 51% lacked access to charge accounts.
(Walker, 1994)
- ◆ The level of economic resources available to an abused woman is the best indicator of whether or not she will permanently separate from her abuser.
(Horn, 1992)
- ◆ More than half of battered women surveyed stayed with their batterer because they did not feel that they could support themselves and their children.
(Sullivan, Cris, et al (1992) After the Crisis: A Needs Assessment of Women Leaving a Domestic Violence Shelter, 7 Violence and Victims 267)
- ◆ Almost 6 out of every 10 black children (57.5%) residing in the city live below the poverty line, placing Milwaukee third among all major cities in this category. For Latino families 43.9% of the children are poor—and when female-headed households, the number jumps to 71.9%. Over half of all Asian children in Milwaukee are poor, placing Milwaukee fourth in this category. Families headed by single women raise the percentage to 68%.
(WISCKIDS, November 1992 p.1)

GUNS

- ◆ On average in 1997, more than one woman a day (393 women) was shot and killed by her husband or intimate acquaintance during an argument.
(Brock, K. When Men Murder Women: An Analysis of 1997 Homicide Data: Females Murdered by Males in Single Victim/Single Offender Incidents. Washington, DC: Violence Policy Center, 1999)
- ◆ Having a gun in the home makes it three times more likely that you or someone you care about will be murdered by a family member or intimate partner.
(Kellerman, A., Rivara, F., Rushforth, N., Banton, J., Reay, D., Francisco, J., Locci, A., Prodzinski, J., Hackman, B., and Somes, G. Gun ownership as a risk factor for homicide in the home. The New England Journal of Medicine 329(15): 1084-1091, 1993)
- ◆ More than four times as many women were murdered with a gun by their husbands or intimate acquaintances than were killed by strangers' guns, knives, or other weapon combined.
(Brock, K. When Men Murder Women: An Analysis of 1997 Homicide Data: Females Murdered by Males in Single Victim/Single Offender Incidents. Washington, DC: Violence Policy Center, 1999)
- ◆ A firearm in the home may be a key factor in the escalation of nonfatal spouse abuse to homicide. In a study of family and intimate assaults for the city of Atlanta, Georgia in 1984, firearm associated family and intimate assaults were 12 times more likely to result in death than non-firearm associated results between family and intimates.
(Linda E. Salzman, PhD, et al. "Weapon Involvement and Injury Outcomes in Family and Intimate Assaults," JAMA, June 10, 1992, Volume 267, No. 22, p. 3043)
- ◆ In 1994, 4,739 women were victims of homicide (28%—1,326 women—were slain by husbands and boyfriends). Firearms were the weapons used in approximately seven out of every 10 murders committed in the United States in 1994. While for men murder was intra-gender 87% of the time, nine out of 10 female victims were slain by a male.
(Federal Bureau of Investigation, Crime in the United States 1994: Uniform Crime Reports, U.S. Department of Justice, p. 17)
- ◆ Handguns are more likely than rifles or shotguns to be used in homicides in which men kill women. In the U.S. in 1997, handguns were used in 75% of shootings in which one man killed one woman.
(Brock, K. When Men Murder Women: An Analysis of 1997 Homicide Data: Females Murdered by Males in Single Victim/Single Offender Incidents. Washington, DC: Violence Policy Center, 1999)
- ◆ A recent study found that, for women, having a gun in the home and a history of domestic violence combine to significantly increase the risk that she will be murdered. In 25% of the domestic violence murders examined in this study, the

perpetrators killed themselves after the homicide. Guns were the most common weapons used in these murder-suicides.

(Bailey, J., Kellerman, A., Somes, G., Banton, J., Rivara, F., and Rushforth, N. Risk factor for violent death of women in the home. Archives of Internal Medicine 157:777-782, 1997)

- ◆ There is some evidence that domestic violence perpetrators' access to guns has been reduced. In the U.S between January 1998 and November 1998, 70,000 handgun purchases were rejected due to pre-sale background checks. Of these, 9,310 (13.3%) were attributable to a finding that the purchaser had been convicted of a domestic violence misdemeanor (9.9%) or was subject to a domestic violence restraining order (3.4%). Domestic violence misdemeanors and restraining orders combined were the second most common reason for rejection, after denials due to felony indictments or convictions.

(Manson, D.A., Gilliard, D.K., and Lauver, G. Presale Handgun Checks, the Brady Interim Period 1994-1998: A National Estimate. Washington DC: U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Statistics. Report No. NCJ-175034, June 1999)

- ◆ Keeping a gun in the home does not increase the chance than an abused woman can protect herself from her batterer. Instead, it increases the chance that she will be injured or killed. A review of violent deaths in three major cities concluded that by keeping a gun in the home is associated with an increased risk of being murdered by an intimate acquaintance or family member.

(Kellerman, A., Rivara, F., Rushforth, N., Banton, J., Reay, D., Francisco, J., Locci, A., Prodzinski, J., Hackman, B., and Somes, G. Gun ownership as a risk factor for homicide in the home. The New England Journal of Medicine 329(15): 1084-1091, 1993)

- ◆ In 1998, for every time a woman used a handgun to kill an intimate partner in self-defense, 83 women were murdered by an intimate partner with a handgun.

(Brock, K. When Men Murder Women: An Analysis of 1997 Homicide Data: Females Murdered by Males in Single Victim/Single Offender Incidents. Washington, DC: Violence Policy Center, 1999)

- ◆ Black and White females are equally as likely to be a victim of family and intimate partner firearm homicide.

(Firearm Injury Center, "3rd Annual Statistical Report, 1999 Wisconsin Firearm Fatalities," 1999)

- ◆ Possession of a gun by anyone convicted of a misdemeanor domestic violence offense is prohibited by federal law.

(Domestic Violence Offenders Gun Ban (1996), 18 U.S.C 922 (g)(9))

- ◆ Possession of a gun by anyone subject to a protection order is prohibited by federal law.

(Domestic Violence Offenders Gun Ban (1996), 18 U.S.C 922 (g)(8))

HEALTH CARE ISSUES

Injuries and Other Health Consequences of Domestic Violence:

- ◆ About one in five female domestic violence victims report that they had suffered at least three serious assaults in the last six months.
(Zawitz, M. et al. Highlights from 20 Years of Surveying Crime Victims: The National Crime Victimization Survey, 1973-1992. Washington D.C. U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Crime Victimization Survey. October 1993)
- ◆ A recent study found that women who screen positive for domestic violence are 46.5 times more likely to experience severe physical violence within the next four months.
(Predictive Validity of a Screen for Partner violence against women. Koziol-McLain, Jane. Coates, Caroline J. and Lowenstein, Steven R., Journal of Preventative Medicine, Volume 21, Issue 2. August 2001, Pages 93-100)
- ◆ In addition to injuries sustained during violent episodes, physical and psychological abuse are linked to a number of adverse physical effects including arthritis, chronic neck or back pain, migraine and other frequent headaches, stammering, problems seeing, sexually transmitted infections, chronic pelvic pain, stomach ulcers, spastic colon, and frequent indigestion, diarrhea, or constipation.
(Coker, A., Smith, P., Betha, L., King, M., McKeown, R., "Physical Health Consequences of Physical and Psychological Intimate Partner Violence," Archive of Family Medicine, Vol. 9, May 2000)
- ◆ Slightly more than half of female victims of violence by an intimate partner are physically injured in the attack; however, only four in ten of these women seek professional medical treatment.
(Rennison, C.M., and S. Welchans. May 2000. Intimate Partner Violence. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics)
- ◆ According to the American Medical Association, injuries sustained from domestic violence account for 25-35% of visits by women to emergency rooms annually.
(Violence Against Women, Vol. 6, No. 5, p. 534, May 2000)
- ◆ Almost half of the 1.4 million victims of violence or suspected violence treated in hospital emergency rooms in 1994 were hurt by someone they knew.
(National Crime Victimization Survey, Bureau of Justice Statistics, 1997)
- ◆ Battering is the single most frequent reason why women seek attention at hospital emergency departments and is the single major cause of injury to women, accounting for 25% of female suicide attempts and 4,000 homicides per year.
(Howard Holtz and Kathleen Furniss, "The Health Care Providers Role in Domestic Violence," Trends in Health Care, Law & Ethics, Vol.8, No.2, Spring 1993, p. 47)
- ◆ Differences between women's and men's rates of physical assault by an intimate partner become greater as the seriousness of the assaults increases. For example, women were two or three times more likely than men to report that an intimate

partner did something that could hurt them, or pushed, grabbed or shoved them. However, they were seven to fourteen times more likely to report that an intimate partner beat them up, choked or tried to drown them, or threatened them with a gun or knife.

(Tjaden, P. & Thoennes, N. (July 2000). Extent, nature, and consequences of intimate partner violence findings from the National Violence Against Women Survey. (Publication #NCJ181867). National Institute of Justice and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Washington, DC: Office of Justice Programs)

- ◆ Almost 4 years ago, the Surgeon General of the United States warned that violence was the number one public health risk to adult women in the United States. Unfortunately, 4 years later, it still remains the leading cause of injuries to women ages 15-44, more common than automobile accidents, mugging, and cancer deaths combined.

(Violence Against Women, A Majority Staff Report, Committee on the Judiciary, United States Senate, 102nd Congress, October 1992, p. 3)

- ◆ More than half of the victims of assaults by intimates are seriously injured. At least 25% report receiving medical care. One in 10 is treated in a hospital or emergency department. It is estimated that 35% of women who visit hospital emergency departments are there for symptoms of ongoing abuse. Unfortunately, as few as 5% of the victims of domestic violence are so identified.

(Antonia C. Novello, "From the Surgeon General, U.S. Public Health Service, A Medical Response to Domestic Violence," Journal of the American Medical Association, June 17, 1992, p. 3132)

- ◆ In addition to being at increased risk for physical injury or death, victims of domestic violence are also at risk for complications of pregnancy and childbirth, gynecologic problems; sexually transmitted diseases and HIV; chronic somatic disorder; exacerbation of chronic medical conditions; noncompliance with medical treatment; depression, anxiety disorders, and suicide; eating disorders; alcoholism and substance abuse. All of these conditions in turn lead to the increased use of medical services and resources.

(Eisenstat, S., Bancroft, L., "Domestic Violence," The New England Journal of Medicine, September 16, 1999, Vol. 341 (12), 886-892)

- ◆ The level of injury resulting from domestic violence is severe: of 218 women presenting at a metropolitan emergency department with injuries due to domestic violence, 28% required admission to hospital for injuries, and 13% required major medical treatment. 40% had previously required medical care for abuse.

(Berrios, D.C. and Grady, D. Domestic Violence: Risk Factors and Outcomes. The Western Journal of Medicine, Vol. 155 (2), August 1991)

Identification of Domestic Violence/Women and their relationships with health care providers:

- ◆ Despite the recognition of domestic violence as common and preventable, screening for domestic violence is not a routine part of medical visits, whereas screening for less prevalent health risks is routine.
(Freud, KM., Bak, SM., Blackhall, L., "Identifying domestic violence in primary care practice," J Gen Intern Med 1996; 11:44-46)
- ◆ Because domestic abuse is an ongoing cycle producing increasingly severe injuries overtime, battered women are likely to see physicians frequently.
(Children's Safety Network, Domestic Violence: A Directory of Protocols for Health Care Providers, 1992, p. 1)
- ◆ The vast majority of women who have been abused/assaulted/raped have not discussed their experiences with a doctor. For example, only 32% who experienced child abuse and 29% who experienced intimate partner violence report having had a discussion with their doctor, three-quarters (74%) took the initiative with their doctor.
(Plichta, S., Falik, M., "Prevalence of Violence and Its Implications for Women's Health," Women's Health Issues, Vol.11 (3), May/June 2001, p. 244-258)
- ◆ 92% of women who were physically abused by their partners did not discuss these incidents with their physicians; 57% did not discuss the incidents with anyone.
(The Commonwealth Fund, First Comprehensive Survey of American Women Finds them at Significant Risk, (News Release). New York: The Commonwealth Fund, July 14, 1993)
- ◆ A 1999 study published in the *Journal of the American Medical Association* found that an estimated 10% of primary care physicians routinely screen for intimate partner abuse during new patient visits and 9% routinely screen during periodic checkups.
(Rodriguez, M., Bauer, H., Mcloughlin, E., Grumbach, K., (1999). Screening and Intervention for Intimate Partner Abuse: Practices and Attitudes of Primary Care Physicians. The Journal of American Medical Association, 282, No. 5, August 4, 1999)
- ◆ A 1999 survey of managed care organizations found that less than one-third (29%) of health maintenance organizations in the United States have policies, protocols, guidelines, or materials on screening for domestic violence.
(Family Violence Prevention Fund's National Health Resource Center on Domestic Violence, National Survey of Managed Care Organizations. San Francisco, CA. August 1999)
- ◆ Women who experienced violence were also significantly more likely to report that they had switched doctors in the past five years because they had been dissatisfied with care.
(Plichta, S., Falik, M., "Prevalence of Violence and Its Implications for Women's Health," Women's Health Issues, Vol.11 (3), May/June 2001, p. 244-258)

- ◆ The rate of DV detection in emergency rooms is low.
(Abbott et al., Domestic Violence Against Women: Incidence and Prevalence in an Emergency Department Population, Journal of the American Medical Association, vol.273, no. 22, 1763, 1766 (June 1995))
- ◆ Although battered women comprise 20-30% of ambulatory care patients, only 1 in 20 is correctly identified as such by medical practitioners.
(Hyman et al., Laws Mandating Reporting of Domestic Violence: Do They Promote Patient Well-Being?, Journal of the American Medical Association, vol. 273, no. 22, 1781 (June 1995))
- ◆ One study found that less than 3% of women visiting emergency rooms disclosed or were asked about DV by a nurse or physician.
(Abbott et al., Domestic Violence Against Women: Incidence and Prevalence in an Emergency Department Population, Journal of the American Medical Association, vol. 273, no. 22, 1763, 1765 (June 1995))
- ◆ One third of battered women see health professionals, often repetitively. Thus, health providers have enormous potential to identify and assist battered women.
(Howard Holtz and Kathleen Furniss, "The Health Care Providers Role in Domestic Violence," Trends in Health Care, Law & Ethics, Vol. 8, No. 2, Spring 1993, p. 47)
- ◆ Despite the negative health consequences of violence, women who experience violence are more likely than other women to report difficulties in obtaining needed care.
(Plichta, S., Falik, M., "Prevalence of Violence and Its Implications for Women's Health," Women's Health Issues, Vol.11 (3), May/June 2001, p. 244-258)
- ◆ Not surprisingly, in a survey that asked 1,000 abused women to rate the effectiveness of various professionals in addressing their abuse, health care professionals had the lowest rating, ranking behind battered women's shelters, lawyers, social service workers, police, and clergy.
("Physicians and Domestic Violence: Ethical Considerations," Trends in Health Care, Law & Ethics, Vol. 8, No. 2, Spring 1993, p. 13)
- ◆ Abused women often turn to health professionals for assistance in coping with the health effects of violence, and female patients, when surveyed, indicate that they welcome screening for violence and would reveal abuse histories if asked directly.
(Plichta, S., Falik, M., "Prevalence of Violence and Its Implications for Women's Health," Women's Health Issues, Vol.11 (3), May/June 2001, p. 244-258)
- ◆ An estimated four million U.S. women were battered by a partner or former partner last year, and research suggests that at least one million women seek medical care for abuse-related injuries each year.
(Louis Harris and Associates, Inc. The Commonwealth Fund Survey of Women's Health. July 14, 1993)

Mental Health and Domestic Violence:

- ◆ Up to 64% of female psychiatric inpatients are abused as adults.
(“Physicians and Domestic Violence: Ethical Considerations,” Trends in Health Care, Law & Ethics, Vol. 8, No. 2, Spring 1993, p. 13)
- ◆ Battered women are 15.3 times more likely than non-abused women to seriously want to commit suicide.
(Jeffrey L. Edelson & Richard M. Toman, Intervention for Men Who Battered: An Ecological Approach, 1992)
- ◆ One in four women who attempt suicide is a victim of abuse.
(Eisenstat, S., Bancroft, L., "Domestic Violence," The New England Journal of Medicine, September 16, 1999, Vol. 341 (12), 886-892)
- ◆ One in four women who are treated for psychiatric symptoms have been battered.
(Eisenstat, S., Bancroft, L., "Domestic Violence," The New England Journal of Medicine, September 16, 1999, Vol. 341 (12), 886-892)
- ◆ According to the American Medical Association, battering may account for 25% of women who attempt suicide and 25% of women seeking emergency psychiatric care.
(Caroline Knapp, “A Plague of Murders: Open Season on Women, The Boston Phoenix, 8/1992)
- ◆ Abuse results in 26% of all women and 50% of African American women going to hospitals because of suicide attempts. Yet before these women were battered, their risk of suicide was no different from that of women never battered.
(Evan Stark & Ann Flitcraft, “Spouse Abuse” in Violence in America: A Public Health Approach, Mark L. Rosenberg & March Ann Fenley, eds., 1991)
- ◆ Fifty-six percent of women who experience any partner violence are diagnosed with a psychiatric disorder.
(Danielson, K., Moffit, T., Caspi, A., and Silva, P., "Comorbidity Between Abuse of an Adult and DSM-III-R Mental Disorders: Evidence From an Epidemiological Study," American Journal of Health Sciences. Vol. 25 (1), 1995)
- ◆ 29% of all women who attempt suicide were battered.
(Stark, e. and Flitcraft, A., "Killing the Beast Within: Women Battering and Female Suicidality," International Journal of Health Sciences, Vo.25(1), 1995)
- ◆ Thirty-seven percent of battered women have symptoms of depression, and 45% experience posttraumatic stress disorder.
(Housekamo, B.M., and Foy, D., "The Assessment of Posttraumatic Stress Disorder in Battered Women," Journal of Interpersonal Violence, Vol. 6(3), 1991)

Pregnancy and Domestic Violence:

- ◆ Battering prior to pregnancy is the primary predictor of battering during pregnancy.
(Parker, B., McFarlane, J., Soeken, K., "Abuse During Pregnancy: Effects on Maternal Complications and Birth Weight in Adult and Teenage Women," Obstetrics and Gynecology, September 1994; 84:323-328)

- ◆ Recent clinical studies have proven the effectiveness of a 2- minute screening for early detection of abuse of pregnant women. Additional longitudinal studies have tested a 10-minute intervention that was proven highly effective in increasing the safety of pregnant abused women.
(McFarlane, J., Parker, B., Soeken, K., Silva, C., & Reel, S. (1998). Safety Behaviors of Abused Women Following an Intervention Program offered During Pregnancy. Journal Of Obstetrical, Gynecological, and Neonatal Nursing, January 1998)

- ◆ Both teenage and adult women who are battered while pregnant enter prenatal care later in pregnancy than non-battered pregnant women. Among a sample of low-income pregnant women attending public prenatal clinics, 21.9% of battered teenagers began prenatal care in the third trimester, compared with 7.5% of non-battered teens. For adults, the percentages were 15.8% and 8.8% respectively.
(Parker, B., McFarlane, J., Soeken, K., "Abuse During Pregnancy: Effects on Maternal Complications and Birth Weight in Adult and Teenage Women," Obstetrics and Gynecology, September 1994; 84:323-328)

- ◆ Intimate partner violence does not end when a woman becomes pregnant. On the contrary, pregnancy is a period of increased risk for violence perpetrated by intimate partners. Population-based data from the Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System indicate that between 3.8% and 6.9% of women reported being physically hurt by their husband or partner in the twelve months preceding childbirth.
(Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Physical Violence during the 12 months preceding childbirth: Alaska, Maine, Oklahoma, and West Virginia, 1990-1991. MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep 1994; 43: 132-137)

- ◆ A number of studies have attempted to identify the risk factors for violence during pregnancy. Rates of physical violence have been found to be highest for women who are young, have fewer than 12 years of education, are unmarried, are of low economic status, participated in the WIC program during pregnancy, had delayed or no prenatal care, and have had an unintended pregnancy.
(Gazmararian JA, Adams MM, Salzman LE, Johnson CH, Bruce FC, Marks JS, et al. The relationships between pregnancy intendedness and physical violence in mothers of newborns. Obstet Gynecol 1995; 85: 1031-1038)

- ◆ Teenage women are at higher risk than adult women for battering during pregnancy. In one study of low-income women attending public prenatal clinics, 20% of teenage women (age 13-19) and 17% of adult women experienced battering during pregnancy.
(Parker, B., McFarlane, J., Soeken, K., "Abuse During Pregnancy: Effects on Maternal

Complications and Birth Weight in Adult and Teenage Women," Obstetrics and Gynecology, September 1994; 84:323-328)

- ◆ Twenty-five to 45% of battered women have experienced battering during pregnancy. The prevalence of battering measured in one pre-natal clinic was 23%. There is an increased chance of miscarriage, preterm labor and low birth weight in infants of mothers who are battered during pregnancy.
(Howard Holtz and Kathleen Furniss, "The Health Care Providers Role in Domestic Violence," Trends in Health Care, Law & Ethics, Vol. 8, No. 2, Spring 1993, p. 47)
- ◆ Mere notification of pregnancy is frequently a flashpoint for battering and violence within the family. The number of battering incidents is high during the pregnancy and often the worst abuse can be associated with pregnancy.
(Planned Parenthood of Southeastern Pennsylvania v. Robert Casey, Supreme Court of the U.S., 1992, No. 288, p. 34)
- ◆ 5 to 25% of pregnant women are battered.
(Evan Stark & Anne Flitcraft, 1992)
- ◆ In a prospective study of 1,200 white, Hispanic and black pregnant women, one in six reported physical abuse during pregnancy.
(Abuse During Pregnancy: A Cross-Cultural Study of Frequency and Severity of Injuries," J. McFarlane, 1991)
- ◆ Nearly 50% of abusive husbands batter their pregnant wives. As a result, these wives are four times more likely to bear infants of low birth weight.
(U.S. Senate, Committee on the Judiciary. August 29 and December 11, 1990. Hearings on Women and Violence, "Ten Facts about Violence Against Women," p 78)
- ◆ More babies are born with birth defects as a result of the mother's being battered than a combination of all diseases and illnesses for which we now immunize pregnant women.
(L. Chiles, Death Before Life: The Tragedy of Infant Mortality, Report of the National Commission to Prevent Infant Mortality, at 16, August 1988)
- ◆ An Abuse Assessment Screen detected a 17% prevalence of physical or sexual abuse during pregnancy. Abuse was recurrent, with 60% of abused women reporting two or more episodes of assault. Abused women were twice as likely as non-abused women to begin prenatal care during the third trimester.
(McFarlane, J., D.PH., Assessing for Abuse During Pregnancy, JAMA, June 17, 1992-Vol 267, No 23)

HOMELESSNESS

- ◆ Domestic Violence is the largest cause of homelessness in the United States.
(Joan Zorza, "Women Battering: A Major Cause of Homelessness", in Clearinghouse Review, 1991)

- ◆ One-third to one-half of homeless women are on the streets because they are fleeing domestic violence.
(U.S. Senate, Committee on the Judiciary. (August 29, and December 11, 1990). Hearings on Women and Violence, "Ten Facts about Violence against Women," p. 78)

- ◆ When a woman leaves an abusive relationship, she often has nowhere to go. This is particularly true of women with few resources. Lack of affordable housing and long waiting lists for assisted housing mean that many women and their children are forced to choose between abuse at home or being on the streets. Moreover, shelters are frequently filled to capacity and must turn away battered women and their children. An estimated 32% of requests for shelter by homeless families were denied in 1998 due to lack of resources.
(The United States Conference of Mayors, A Status Report on Hunger and Homelessness in America's Cities: 1998)

- ◆ A sizable portion of the welfare population experiences domestic violence at any given time; thus, without significant housing support, many welfare recipients are at risk of homelessness or continued violence.
(Institute for Women's Policy Research, 1997)

- ◆ The typical homeless family in America is composed of a single mother, about 30 years old, with 2 or 3 children averaging 5 years in age.
(Homes for the Homeless, Ten Cities: A Snapshot of Family Homelessness Across America, 1998)

- ◆ Over half (58%) of homeless families nationally are African-American, while African-Americans make up only 12% of the general population.
(Homes for the Homeless, Ten Cities: A Snapshot of Family Homelessness Across America, 1998)

- ◆ In Minnesota, the most common reason for women to enter a [homeless] shelter is domestic violence. Approximately one in five women (19%) surveyed indicated that one of the main reasons for leaving housing was to flee abuse; 24% of women surveyed were homeless, at least in part, because of a previous abuse experience.
(Owen, Greg et al. Minnesota Statewide Survey of Persons Without Permanent Shelter. Vol. 1: Adults and Their Children. 1998)

- ◆ When poor, battered women leave home, they cannot rely on the availability of affordable public housing or shelters. Space in shelters is extremely limited: in 1989 a Los Angeles county grand jury found that 90% of the battered women and children who sought safety were turned away; in Washington, D.C. eight in ten women were told there was no room.
("Permanent Homes Give Battered Women Time to Change Their Lives," LA Times, November 18, 1990, Part Q, p.37, col. 1)

- ◆ The rate of shelters for battered women in a state was negatively correlated with intimate femicide, so that states with a greater number of services had a lower rate of intimate femicide.
(Karen D. Stout, "Intimate Femicide: Effects of Legislation and Social Services," *Affilia*, Vol. 4, Summer 1989, p.25)
- ◆ 57% of homeless families identified domestic violence as a primary cause of homelessness.
(The United States Conference of Mayors, *A Status Report on Hunger and Homelessness in America's Cities: 1999*, p. 39)
- ◆ A 1990 Ford Foundation study found that 50% of homeless women and children were fleeing abuse.
(Joan Zorza, "Women Battering: A Major Cause of Homelessness", in *Clearinghouse Review*, 1991)
- ◆ In a study of 777 homeless parents (the majority of whom were mothers) in ten U.S cities, 22% said they left their last place of residence because of domestic violence.
(*Homes for the Homeless. Ten Cities 1997-1998: A Snapshot of Family Homelessness Across America*)
- ◆ 46% of cities surveyed by the U.S. Conference of Mayors identified domestic violence as a primary cause of homelessness.
(The United States Conference of Mayors, *A Status Report on Hunger and Homelessness in America's Cities: 1998*)
- ◆ There are nearly three times as many animal shelters in the United States as there are shelters for battered women and their children.
(Senate Judiciary Hearings, *Violence Against Women Act, 1990*)

IMMIGRATION ISSUES

- ◆ Immigrant women may suffer higher rates of battering than US citizens because they come from cultures that accept domestic violence, or because they have less access to legal and social services than US citizens. In addition, immigrant batterers and victims may believe that the penalties and protections of the US legal system do not apply to them.
(Orloff et al., *With No Place to Turn: Improving Advocacy for Battered Immigrant Women*, *Family Law Quarterly*, vol. 29, no. 2, 313 (Summer 1995))
- ◆ A battered woman who is not a legal resident, or whose immigration status depends on her partner, is isolated by cultural dynamics which may prevent her from leaving her husband or seeking assistance from the legal system. These factors contribute to the higher incidence of abuse among immigrant women.
(Orloff et al., *With No Place to Turn: Improving Advocacy for Battered Immigrant Women*, *Family Law Quarterly*, vol. 29, no. 2, 313 (Summer 1995))

- ◆ Battered immigrant women who attempt to flee may have no access to bilingual shelters, financial assistance or food. It is unlikely that she will have the assistance of a certified interpreter in court, when reporting complaints to police or a 911 operator, or even in acquiring information about her rights and the legal system.
(Orloff et al., With No Place to Turn: Improving Advocacy for Battered Immigrant Quarterly, vol. 29, no. 2, 313 (Summer 1995))

- ◆ Some obstacles faced by battered women include: a distrust of the legal system arising from their experiences with the system in their native countries; cultural and language barriers; and fear of deportation.
(Orloff et al., With No Place to Turn: Improving Advocacy for Battered Immigrant Women, Family Law Quarterly, vol. 29, no. 2, 313 (Summer 1995))

- ◆ A battered immigrant woman may not understand that she can personally tell her story in court, or that a judge will believe her. Based on her experience in her native country, she may believe that only those who are wealthy or have ties to the government will prevail in court. Batterers often manipulate these beliefs by convincing the victim he will prevail in court because he is a male, a citizen, or that he has more money.
(Orloff et al., With No Place to Turn: Improving Advocacy for Battered Immigrant Women, Family Law Quarterly, vol. 29, no. 2, 313 (Summer 1995))

- ◆ Domestic violence is thought to be more prevalent among immigrant women than among US citizens.
(Anderson, A License to Abuse: The Impact of Conditional Status on Female Immigrants, 102 Yale L. J. 1401 (April 1993))

- ◆ A battered immigrant woman is often trapped in an abusive relationship by economics. She may have legal or practical impediments by obtaining employment or legal assistance.
(Jang, Caught in a Web: Immigrant Women and Domestic Violence, National Clearinghouse (Special Issue 1994), p. 403)

LEGAL ISSUES

Family Law Issues:

- ◆ Fathers who batter the mother are twice as likely to seek sole custody of their children than are nonviolent fathers, and three times as likely to be in arrears in child support.
(American Psychological Association Presidential Task Force on Violence and the Family (1996). Pg. 40)

- ◆ When fathers fight they win custody 70% of the time, whether or not they have been absentee or violent fathers.
(Chesler, P. (1991). Mothers on Trial: The Battle for Children and Custody. New York: McGraw Hill Brook Co.)

- ◆ Although 80-85% of all custodial parents are mothers, this does not mean that mothers have won their children. Rather, mothers often retain custody when fathers choose not to fight.
(Chesler, P. (1991). *Mothers on Trial: The Battle for Children and Custody*. New York: McGraw Hill Brook Co.)
- ◆ Each year 350,000 children are abducted by parents in this country; that is, 40 children are abducted per hour. 54% of these abductions are short-term manipulations around orders, but 46% involve concealment of the whereabouts of the child or taking the child out of state. Most of these abductions are perpetrated by fathers.
(Hunt, B. (1990). *Gentle Jeopardy: The Further Endangerment of Battered Women and Children in Custody Mediation*. *Mediation Quarterly*, 7 (4), 323)
- ◆ One study found that 25% of the abusive male partners of battered women in shelter residents have kidnapped their children, 35% threatened to take the children in a custody action, 25% used visitation to verbally abuse the children's mothers, and 10% used visitation to physically abuse the children's mothers.
(Liss, M.B. and Stahly, G.B. (1993). *Domestic Violence and Child Custody*. In M. Hensen & M. Hawaway (Eds.), *Battering and Family Therapy: A Feminist Perspective* (pp. 181-183). Newbury Park: Sage Publications)
- ◆ 5% of abusive fathers threaten during visitation to kill the mother.
(Jaffe, P.G. (1995). *Special Challenges in Custody and Visitation Dispute Resolution*. *Children of Domestic Violence: The Silent Victims Project*. Prepared for the Family Prevention Fund)
- ◆ 34% of abusive fathers threaten to kidnap their children, and 11% actually do abduct them.
(Liss, M.B. and Stahly, G.B. (1993). *Domestic Violence and Child Custody*. In M. Hensen & M. Hawaway (Eds.), *Battering and Family Therapy: A Feminist Perspective* (pp. 181-183). Newbury Park: Sage Publications)

Women, the Legal System and Domestic Violence:

- ◆ Female victims of domestic violence are 6 times less likely to report crime to law enforcement as are female victims of stranger violence.
(American Psychological Association, *Violence and the Family: Report of the American Psychological Association Presidential Task Force on Violence and the Family* (1996), p. 10)
- ◆ Some studies indicate that arresting a batterer increases recidivism, while some studies indicate that arrest serves as a deterrent for future domestic violence.
(Buzawa & Buzawa ed., *Do Arrests and Restraining Orders Work?* p. 46, 1996)
- ◆ Studies of court services related to domestic abuse found that 60-75% of divorcing couples identified a history of domestic abuse in their marriages.
(Kurz, D. (1996). *Separation, Divorce, and Woman Abuse*. *Violence Against Women*, 2 (1), 63-81)

- ◆ Every state allows its police to arrest perpetrators of misdemeanor domestic violence incidents upon probable cause, and more than half of the states and the District of Columbia have laws requiring police to arrest upon probable cause for at least some domestic violence crimes.
(Zorza, Mandatory Arrest for Domestic Violence: Why it may prove the best first step in curbing repeat abuse, Criminal Justice, Vol. 10, no. 3, p.66 (Fall 1995))
- ◆ Only about one-seventh of all domestic assaults come to the attention of the police.
(Florida Governor's Task Force on Domestic and Sexual Violence, Florida Mortality Review Project, 1997, p.3)
- ◆ When injury was inflicted upon a woman by her intimate partner, she reported the violence to the police only 55% of the time. She was even less likely to report violence when she did not sustain injury.
(Bureau of Justice Statistics Special Report: Violence Against Women: Estimates from the Redesigned Survey (NCJ 154348), August 1995, p. 5)
- ◆ Arresting a batterer may reduce violence in the short term, but may increase violence in the long term.
(Buzawa & Buzawa ed., Do Arrests and Restraining Orders Work? p.49, 1996)
- ◆ The varying effect of arrest on abusers may be related to the amount the batterer has to lose from facing the social consequences of arrest. The single most consistent result of studies of the effect of arrest on batterers is that unemployed suspects become more violent after an arrest, and employed suspects do not.
(Buzawa & Buzawa ed., Do Arrests and Restraining Orders Work? p. 48-49, 1996)

Protection Orders:

- ◆ A protection order issued by one U.S. state or Indian tribe is valid and enforceable in any other U.S. state or Indian tribe.
(Violence Against Women Act of 1994, 18 U.S.C. 2265)
- ◆ In cases of marital or dating violence, which accounted for 82% of all protection order cases, 90% of defendants were male.
(Adams & Powell, Tragedies of Domestic Violence: A Qualitative Analysis of Civil Restraining Orders in Massachusetts, Office of the Commissioner of Probation, Massachusetts Trial Court, p.9 (1995))
- ◆ 35% of women with temporary protection orders did not return for a protection order because the respondent stopped battering her; 17% because service of process was not achieved.
(CPOs: The Benefits and Limitations for Victims of Domestic Violence, National Center for State Court Research Report, 1997)

- ◆ More than 17% of domestic homicide victims had a protection order against the perpetrator at the time of the killing.
(Florida Governor's Task Force on Domestic and Sexual Violence, Florida Mortality Review Project, 1997, p.46)
- ◆ Although the majority of batterers do not have criminal records, the majority of batterers brought to court by their victims for a protection order had criminal records.
(Buzawa & Buzawa ed., Do Arrests and Restraining Orders Work? p. 10, 1996)
- ◆ Protection order defendants who had prior criminal histories were more likely to violate the order than those who did not.
(Adams & Powell, Tragedies of Domestic Violence: A Qualitative Analysis of Civil Restraining Orders in Massachusetts, Office of the Commissioner of Probation, Massachusetts Trial Court, p.17, 1995)
- ◆ In one study, nearly half of the victims who obtained a protection order were re-abused within two years.
(Buzawa & Buzawa ed., Do Arrests and Restraining Orders Work? p.10, 1996)
- ◆ The majority of women who seek temporary protection orders have complaints of serious abuse; physical assaults; threats to kill or harm her; or attempts or threats to take the children.
(Buzawa & Buzawa ed., Do Arrests and Restraining Orders Work? p. 216, 1996)
- ◆ In one study of women seeking temporary protection orders, 56% had sustained physical injuries.
(Buzawa & Buzawa ed., Do Arrests and Restraining Orders Work? p. 216, 1996)
- ◆ 60% of women in one study reported acts of abuse after the entry of a protection order, and 30% reported acts of severe violence.
(Buzawa & Buzawa ed., Do Arrests and Restraining Orders Work? p. 223, 1996)
- ◆ Entry of a protection order did not appear to deter most types of abuse, but it did significantly reduce the likelihood of acts of psychological abuse such as preventing the victim from leaving her home, going to work, using a car or telephone, and stalking and harassing behaviors.
(Buzawa & Buzawa ed., Do Arrests and Restraining Orders Work? p. 228-229, 1996)
- ◆ One study showed 80% of women with a temporary protection order said the order was somewhat or very helpful in sending the batterer a message that his actions were wrong. Less than 50% of the women thought that the batterer believed he had to obey the order.
(Buzawa & Buzawa ed., Do Arrests and Restraining Orders Work? p. 218, 1996)
- ◆ 60% of those obtaining protection orders in one study reported violations within one year.
(Buzawa & Buzawa ed., Do Arrests and Restraining Orders Work? p. 240, 1996)

- ◆ Calls to police due to violations of protection orders were high, but the arrests were rare.

(Buzawa & Buzawa ed., Do Arrests and Restraining Orders Work? p. 239, 1996)

LESBIAN, GAY, BI-SEXUAL AND TRANS ISSUES

- ◆ Evidence suggests that the incidence and types of domestic violence in same sex relationships are comparable to those in heterosexual relationships.

(Anti-Violence Project/National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs, Report on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgendered Domestic Violence, New York: Anti-Violence Project National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs, 1998)

- ◆ Studies indicate that from 25% to 30% of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgendered people are abused by their intimate partners and that social discrimination and marginalization may complicate their attempts to seek help, thus increasing the risk of serious abuse.

(Renzetti, C., and C. Miley, Violence in Gay and Lesbian Domestic Partnerships, New York: Hayworth Press, 1996)

- ◆ The National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs (NCAVP) documented 2,352 cases of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender domestic violence victimization during 1996. Of those incidents, 1,191 were reported by men and 1,161 by women. Transgendered persons were classified with the gender they identify as.

(1997 Report on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Domestic Violence, The National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs)

- ◆ Approximately 23% of the men who had lived with a man as a couple reported being raped, physically assaulted, and/or stalked by a male cohabitant, while 7.4% of the men who had married or lived with a woman as a couple reported such violence by a wife or female cohabitant.

(Tjaden, P. & Thoennes, N. (July 2000). Extent, nature, and consequences of intimate partner violence findings from the National Violence Against Women Survey. (Publication #NCJ181867). National Institute of Justice and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Washington, DC: Office of Justice Programs)

- ◆ While same-sex battering mirrors heterosexual battering both in type and prevalence, its victims receive fewer protections. Seven states define domestic violence in a way that excludes same-sex victims; 21 states have sodomy laws that may require same-sex victims to confess to a crime in order to prove they are in a domestic relationship.

(Tjaden, P. & Thoennes, N. (July 2000). Extent, nature, and consequences of intimate partner violence findings from the National Violence Against Women Survey.

(Publication #NCJ181867). National Institute of Justice and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Washington, DC:Office of Justice Programs)

- ◆ By 1994, there were over 1,500 shelters and safe-houses for battered women- many of these shelters routinely denied their services to victims of same-sex battering
(Murphy, Queer Justice: Equal Protection for Victims of Same-Sex Domestic Violence, 30 Vol. U. L. Rev. 335 (1995)

- ◆ Same-sex batterers use forms of abuse similar to those of heterosexual batterers, they also have an additional weapon in the threat of "outing" their partner to family, friends, employers, or community.
(Lundy, Abuse That Dare Not Speak Its Name: Assisting Victims of Lesbian and Gay Domestic Violence in Massachusetts, 28 New Eng. L. Rev. 273, Winter 1993)

- ◆ To date, only a few studies have examined the experiences of lesbian and gay victims of domestic violence. Both Renzetti (1992) and Merrill (1996) report that these victims experienced abusive behaviors in forms, frequencies, and patterns identical to those reported by battered heterosexual women. Both found that battering in these populations were unlikely to be mutually perpetrated. Furthermore, they found that gay and lesbian victims stayed in abusive relationships for reasons similar to those reported by heterosexual women.
(1997 Report on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Domestic Violence, The National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs)

- ◆ Each year, between 50,000 and 100,00 lesbians and as many gay men are battered.
(Murphy, Queer Justices: Equal Protection for Victims of Same-Sex Violence, Vol. 30, U.L. Review, p.335, 1995)

- ◆ Incidences and types of domestic violence in same-sex relationships are comparable to that in heterosexual relationships. Studies indicate that 25-35% of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgendered persons are abused by their partners—comparable to the rate in heterosexual relationships.
(Anti-Violence Project/National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs, 1998 Report on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, & Transgender Domestic Violence, 1998, p.26)

SEPARATION VIOLENCE

- ◆ Unfortunately, it is often more dangerous for battered women after they leave a violent relationship. Although divorced and separated women compose only 10% of all women in this country, they account for 75% of all battered women. Divorced and separated women report being physically abused fourteen times as often as women still living with their partners.
(Raphael, Jody, Saving Bernice: Battered Women, Welfare, and Poverty, 2000, p. 61)

- ◆ Women are most likely to be murdered when attempting to report abuse or leave an abusive relationship.
(A. Browne, *When Battered Women Kill*, New York: Free Press, 1987)
- ◆ Women are likely to be victims of homicide when they separate from their husbands. Sixty-five percent of intimate homicide victims had physically separated from the perpetrator prior to their death
(Florida's Governor's Task Force on Domestic and Sexual Violence, Florida Mortality Review Project, p.47, 1997)
- ◆ Separated women are 3 times more likely than divorced women and 25 times more likely than married women still living with their husbands to be victimized by a batterer.
(Bureau of Justice Statistics Special Report: Violence Against Women: Estimates from the Redesigned Survey (NCJ-154348), August 1995, p. 4)
- ◆ Three out of four offenders committing domestic violence against women were spouses (9%), ex-spouses (35%), and boyfriends or ex-boyfriends (32%). When only spousal abuse is considered, divorced or separated men committed 79% of such violence, and husbands, 21%.
(Caroline Harlow, Bureau of Justice Statistics, "Female Victims of Violent Crime", Washington D.C.: U.S. Department of Justice, 1991, p.2)
- ◆ Divorced or separated persons had the highest rate of violent crimes committed by relatives.
(Bureau of Justice Statistics, "Criminal Victimization in the United States, 1990", Washington D.C.: U.S. Department of Justice, February 1992)
- ◆ Separated/divorced women are 14 times more likely than married women to report having been a victim of violence by their spouse or ex-spouse.
(Bureau of Justice Statistics: Female Victims of Violent Crime, 1991)
- ◆ In a study of divorced men, 40% of them admitted they had threatened to become violent toward their former wives after the marriage ended.
(Arendell, T., *Fathers and divorce: At the intersection of family and gender*, Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications, 1995)
- ◆ Homicide data reveal high percentages of battered women as victims, and many of the victims had left their abuser at the time of their death. Separation presented a sixfold increase in risk to women in comparison to couples who continued to reside together.
(Raphael, Jody, *Saving Bernice: Battered Women, Welfare, and Poverty*, 2000, p. 62)
- ◆ Non-fatal violence often escalates once the battered woman attempts to end the relationship.
(David Adams, "Identifying the Assaultive Husband in Court: You Be the Judge," *Response*, Vol.13, No.1, 1990, pp.13-16)

- ◆ It takes an average of 8 years for the women who left the relationship to leave permanently, and those who left suffered worse abuse than those who remained.
(Horton, A., and Johnson, B., Profile and strategies of women who have ended the abuse. *Families in Society: The Journal of Contemporary Human Services*, 74(8), 481-492, 1993. In J.M. Davis, E. Lyon, & D. Monti-Catania, Safety planning with battered women: Complex lives/difficult choices. Thousand Oaks, Sage Publications, p. 80, 1998)

VIOLENCE, POVERTY, AND WELFARE

- ◆ Past and current victims of DV are over-represented in the welfare population. The majority of welfare recipients have experienced domestic abuse in their adult lives, and a high percentage are currently abused.
(Raphael & Tolman, *Trapped by Poverty, Trapped by Abuse: New Evidence Documenting the Relationship Between Domestic Violence and Welfare*, 1997, p. 20)
- ◆ Abused (past or current) welfare recipients experience higher levels of health or mental health problems such as physical disability, or serious or acute depression.
(Raphael & Tolman, *Trapped by Poverty, Trapped by Abuse: New Evidence Documenting the Relationship Between Domestic Violence and Welfare*, 1997, p. 21)
- ◆ By 1997 quantitative research conclusively established that, although domestic violence is a factor in approximately 6 percent of all U.S. households, 20 to 30 percent of women receiving welfare are current victims of domestic violence—a considerable overrepresentation.
(Raphael, Jody, *Saving Bernice: Battered Women, Welfare, and Poverty*, 2000, p. 5)
- ◆ In a Wisconsin study of current and former welfare recipients who had experienced domestic violence: 30% of those surveyed had a lost a job because of violence and 58.7% percent were threatened so much that they felt afraid to go to work or school.
(Thomas Moore and Vicky Selkove, *Institute for Wisconsin's Future, Domestic Violence Victims in Transition from Welfare to Work: Barriers to Self-Sufficiency and the W-2 Response 6* (1999); Jody Raphael, *Taylor Institute, Prisoners of Abuse: Domestic Violence and Welfare Receipt p. 6-10*, 1996)
- ◆ Welfare studies show that abused women do seek employment, but are unable to maintain it. It is possible that domestic violence presents a barrier to sustained labor market participation.
(Raphael & Tolman, *Trapped by Poverty, Trapped by Abuse: New Evidence Documenting the Relationship Between Domestic Violence and Welfare*, 1997, p. 22)
- ◆ By 1993 single mothers headed 60% of poor families with children. Well over one-fifth of today's children live in families whose income is below the poverty line. Over half (57 %) of these children reside in single-mother-headed-families.
(Raphael, Jody, *Saving Bernice: Battered Women, Welfare, and Poverty*, 2000, p.105)

- ◆ Between one-third and two-thirds of welfare recipients reported having suffered domestic violence at some point in their adult lives; between 15-32% reported current domestic victimization.
(Raphael & Tolman, Trapped by Poverty, Trapped by Abuse: New Evidence Documenting the Relationship Between Domestic Violence and Welfare, 1997, p. 21)
- ◆ Numerous studies have estimated that more than half of women receiving welfare have been victims of domestic violence as adults (as compared to 22% of women in the general population). Many were also the victims of sexual or physical abuse as children. In several studies a quarter or a third of welfare recipients reported being abused within the last year.
(Patricia Tjaden and Nancy Thoennes, National Institute of Justice and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Extent, Nature, and Consequences for Intimate Partner Violence iii (2000); General Accounting Office, Domestic Violence: Prevalence and Implications for Employment Among Welfare Recipients, 15-16 (1999)
- ◆ A Utah study of long-term welfare recipients found that 81% had lived with an abusive partner and 79% had either called the police or sought a protective order. The individuals who had experienced domestic violence reported more barriers to achieving employment including higher rates of depression, post-traumatic stress disorder, and substance abuse than individuals who had not experienced abuse.
(Michelle K. Derr, Mathematica Policy Research, Inc., Domestic Violence Among Utah's Hard-to-Serve Welfare Families 9, p. 14-15, 1999)
- ◆ A recent study found that women who had experienced both sexual and physical abuse had held more jobs than other women, but were employed for fewer total months, suggesting that they continued to try to work but had trouble keeping jobs.
(Eleanor Lyon, National Resource Center on Domestic Violence, Welfare, Poverty, and Abused Women: New Research and its Implications, 2000)
- ◆ Welfare benefits alone are too low in the United States to enable women to have the economic wherewithal to escape violence and support themselves and their children.
(Raphael, Jody, Saving Bernice: Battered Women, Welfare, and Poverty, 2000, p. 112)
- ◆ Approximately 75% of welfare recipients surveyed in Wisconsin who disclosed that they were victims of violence were not informed about available services including counseling, housing, or the possibility of using work hours to seek help. While 26.8 percent reported that they were afraid their former partner would harass them if the state attempted to collect child support, only 4.9 percent were told about the possibility of obtaining a good cause exception to the child support cooperation requirement.
(Thomas Moore and Vicky Selkove, Institute for Wisconsin's Future, Domestic Violence Victims in Transition from Welfare to Work: Barriers to Self-Sufficiency and the W-2 Response 6 (1999); Jody Raphael, Taylor Institute, Prisoners of Abuse: Domestic Violence and Welfare Receipt, p. 6-10, 1996)

- ◆ Eighty-three percent of very low-income mothers have been victims of severe physical violence and/or sexual abuse during their lifetime.
(Angela Browne, Ph.D. & Shari Basuk, B.A., "Intimate Violence in the Lives of Homeless and Poor Housed Women", American Orthopsychiatric Association, Inc. 1997)

- ◆ The Taylor Institute used four recent studies (Passaic County, University of Massachusetts, Better Homes Fund, Northwestern University) to document the relationship between domestic violence and welfare. The four studies found large and consistently high percentage of women on AFDC currently abused by partners. The studies also document that the majority of women on welfare are past victims of domestic violence.
(Trapped by Poverty, Trapped by Abuse, The Taylor Institute, 1997)

- ◆ The Taylor Institute found that many women, despite domestic violence, do not suffer from physical and mental health problems; however, significant percentages do. Women on welfare who were ever abused currently suffer from depression, other mental health problems, posttraumatic stress disorder, drug and alcohol abuse, and physical health problems at higher rates than their non-abused counterparts as well as in the general female population.
(Trapped by Poverty, Trapped by Abuse, The Taylor Institute, 1997)

- ◆ In states that have looked at domestic violence and welfare receipt, most report that approximately 50-60% of current recipients say that they have experienced violence from a current or former male partner.
(Institute for Women's Policy Research. "Domestic Violence and Welfare Receipt," 1997. IWPR Welfare Reform Network News, Issue No.4, April)

- ◆ At a welfare-to-work program in Chicago, 585 of women participants were current victims of domestic violence when they entered the program; an additional 26% were past domestic violence victims. Similarly, a Denver welfare-to work program estimated that 50% of participants were struggling with issues of domestic violence. A program in Iowa reported comparable statistics: 22% of its clients were current domestic violence victims while 51% were past domestic violence victims.
(Raphael, Jody, 1995, Domestic Violence: Telling the Untold Welfare-to-Work Story, The Taylor Institute)

- ◆ About half of women on welfare who leave the rolls do so because they have increased earnings. Following are the percentage of welfare departures in 1993. Earnings-46%, Marriage, remarriage or reconciliation-11%, non-work related income increase-7%, moved in with family or friends-5%, no longer eligible child in household-3%, moved between states-2%, disability-1%.
(New York Times, 6/19/94 p. E4)

- ◆ Findings from a study of 274 victims of domestic violence from around the state of Wisconsin:
 - * Domestic violence has a severe negative impact on low-income women's ability to maintain jobs and to succeed at education and training efforts.

*Women who are currently being abused are less likely to be employed than are women who were abused in the past, regardless of education level or age.

*Victims of domestic violence are being overlooked under W-2.

* When W-2 participants do disclose domestic violence, W-2 caseworkers frequently fail to advise women of available support services, program options or exemptions from certain regulations.

(Thomas Moore and Vicky Selkove, Institute for Wisconsin's Future, Domestic Violence Victims in Transition from Welfare to Work: Barriers to Self-Sufficiency and the W-2 Response 6 (1999); Jody Raphael, Taylor Institute, Prisoners of Abuse: Domestic Violence and Welfare Receipt 6-10 (1996))

WORKPLACE IMPACT

- ◆ Studies indicate that between 35 to 65 percent of employed battered women surveyed were harassed at work, in person, by their abusive partner. Up to one-half of female employees experiencing domestic violence lost a job, due at least in part to domestic violence.

(Thomas Moore and Vicky Selkove, Institute for Wisconsin's Future, Domestic Violence Victims in Transition from Welfare to Work: Barriers to Self-Sufficiency and the W-2 Response 6 (1999); Jody Raphael, Taylor Institute, Prisoners of Abuse: Domestic Violence and Welfare Receipt 6-10 (1996))

- ◆ Abusive partners often interfere with women's attempts to work or obtain education by: making work-related threats, picking fights or inflicting injuries before important events such as interviews or test, preventing the partner from sleeping, calling the partner repeatedly at work, stalking the partner at work, saying negative things about partner's ability to succeed, or refusing to provide promised child care at the last minute.

(Thomas Moore and Vicky Selkove, Institute for Wisconsin's Future, Domestic Violence Victims in Transition from Welfare to Work: Barriers to Self-Sufficiency and the W-2 Response 6 (1999); Jody Raphael, Taylor Institute, Prisoners of Abuse: Domestic Violence and Welfare Receipt 6-10 (1996))

- ◆ Ninety-four percent of corporate security directors surveyed ranked domestic violence as a high security problem at their company.

(Solomon, Charlene Marner, "Talking Frankly about Domestic Violence," Personnel Journal, April 1995: 64)

- ◆ Thirty-seven percent of women involved in partner violence have felt its effects in the workplace— reflected in lateness, missed work, difficulty keeping a job, and difficulty advancing in their careers.

(Results of EDK National Telephone Poll, September 1987)

- ◆ Sixty-six percent of senior corporate executives believe their company's financial performance would benefit from addressing the issue of domestic violence among their employees.
(Roper Starch Worldwide for Liz Claiborne, Addressing Domestic Violence: A Corporate Response, New York: Roper Starch Worldwide, 1994:9)
- ◆ Homicide is the #1 leading cause of death for women on the job: In 1992 approximately 20% of the women killed in the workplace were murdered by a husband or a male partner, current or former.
(Bureau of Labor Statistics, 1993)
- ◆ Women victims of severe domestic violence are at least three times as likely to be in poor health and spend at least twice as much time in bed due to illness as women who have never been battered.
(Jeffrey L. Edelson & Richard M. Tolman, Intervention For Men Who Batter: An Ecological Approach, 1992)
- ◆ The annual costs to U.S. companies for workplace domestic violence is \$3.5 billion; lost work time, increased health care costs, higher turnover and lower productivity.
(The Boston Globe, 3/11/92)
- ◆ Abusive husbands and lovers harass 74% of employed battered women at work, either in person or over the telephone, causing 20% to lose their jobs.
(Caroline Wolf Harlow, Female Victims of Crime, Bureau of Justice Statistics, 1991)
- ◆ Harassment on the job by the batterer, as well as the burden of time spent waiting to appear in court, reduce battered women's ability to maintain or secure employment.
(Committee on Battered Women, June 12, 1990, appearing in Helen Neuborne's testimony at the Biden Hearings)
- ◆ On a national level, domestic violence costs employers \$3 to \$5 billion annually due to worker absenteeism. Abusive husbands and lovers harass 74% of employed battered women at work, either in person or over the telephone, causing 56% of them to be late for work at least five times a month, 28% to leave early at least five days a month, 54% to miss at least three full days of work a month and 20% to lose their jobs.
(New York Victim Service Agency Report on the Costs of Domestic Violence, 1987)
- ◆ The average charge for medical services for injuries to abused women and children was \$1,633.00 per person per year. This would amount to a national annual cost of \$857.3 million.
(Pennsylvania Blue Shield Institute, Social Problems and Rising Health Care Costs in Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania Blue Shield)

- ◆ 75% of working battered women use company time to contact doctors, lawyers, shelters, counselors, family and friends because they can not do so at home. All of these costs to their employers amount to at least \$13 billion annually.
(Richard Magee, "Family Violence and the Workplace: The Role of Employee Assistance Programs," in Family Violence & Sexual Assault Bulletin, 1993)
- ◆ Estimates based on medical treatment, lost worker productivity and quality of life have indicated that costs to the nation may be as high as \$67 billion annually.
(Laurence L, Spalter-Roth R. Measuring the costs of Domestic Violence Against Women and the Cost-Effectiveness of Interventions. Washington: Institute for Women's Policy Research; 1996)
- ◆ 15-50% of abused women report interference from their partner with education, training, or work
(Raphael & Tolman, Trapped by Poverty, Trapped by Abuse: New Evidence Documenting the Relationship Between Domestic Violence and Welfare, p. 22 (1997))

WISCONSIN STATISTICS

- ◆ There were 61,124 hotline calls received in 2000. This is a two-percent increase from 1999.
(Wisconsin Coalition Against Domestic Violence, 2002)
- ◆ In 2000, 6,212 women were sheltered. This is a decrease from 1999, in which 6,628 women were sheltered.
(Wisconsin Coalition Against Domestic Violence, 2002)
- ◆ The total number of people served in 2000 was 35,190, which is a five-percent increase since 1999.
(Wisconsin Coalition Against Domestic Violence, 2002)
- ◆ In 2000, 25,021 incidents of domestic abuse were reported to the Wisconsin Department of Justice. This represents a decrease from 1999 (when 26,462 incidents were reported) and is the lowest number of reported incidents in Wisconsin since 1991 (when 24,163 incidents were reported.)
(2000 Wisconsin Domestic Abuse Incident Report, Wisconsin Office of Crime Victim Services, 2001)
- ◆ The number of domestic violence homicides in 2000 remained unchanged from 1999 and the proportion of domestic violence cases among all homicides remained virtually unchanged. During 2000, 29 of 173 Wisconsin homicides resulted from domestic violence, compared to 30 of 179 homicides in 1999. Of the 29 victims in 2000, 21 were women murdered by male offenders.
(2000 Wisconsin Domestic Abuse Incident Report, Wisconsin Office of Crime Victim Services, 2001)

- ◆ Disorderly conduct and battery were the most common misdemeanor charges issued against domestic violence offenders in 1999. Consistent with prior years, very few domestic violence cases result in felony charges.
(1999 Wisconsin Domestic Abuse Incident Report, Wisconsin Office of Crime Victim Services, 2001)

- ◆ Physical battery occurred in approximately 58% of all reported incidents of domestic abuse reported in Wisconsin during 1999. More than 9% (excluding Milwaukee County) of reported incidents in 1999 involved the use of a weapon.
(1999 Wisconsin Domestic Abuse Incident Report, Wisconsin Office of Crime Victim Services, 2001)

- ◆ Data from Wisconsin domestic abuse weapons and injury statistics reveal more than 44% of all domestic violence victims are injured during an incident. Of those, only 14% receive medical attention.
(1999 Wisconsin Domestic Abuse Incident Report, Wisconsin Office of Crime Victim Services, 2001)

- ◆ Of the domestic violence incidents reported in 1999 (excluding Milwaukee County), an arrest was made in 14,410 of the 17,083 reported case, or 84% of the incidents. In Milwaukee County, of 9,379 domestic violence incidents reported, an arrest was made in 4,571 cases or 49% of all incidents.
(1999 Wisconsin Domestic Abuse Incident Report, Wisconsin Office of Crime Victim Services, 2001)

- ◆ From January to December 2000, law enforcement agencies in Wisconsin reported 176 homicides. Of these, 31 were determined to have occurred in domestic situations and resulted in 41 deaths. The average rate of domestic homicide in Wisconsin in 2000 was 2.6 murders per month.
(2000 Wisconsin Domestic Homicide Report, WCADV, 2002)

- ◆ In 2000 33 of the people killed in domestic homicides were murder victims and eight perpetrators committed suicide.
(2000 Wisconsin Domestic Homicide Report, WCADV, 2002)

- ◆ Of the 33 homicides, 18 involved use of handgun or rifle.
(2000 Wisconsin Domestic Homicide Report, WCADV, 2002)

- ◆ In 1996, the number of domestic abuse victims ages 70 years and older increased by 150 from 1995. Another notable increase in the number of domestic abuse incidents occurred in the Asian/Pacific Islander population; the number of victims doubled from 1995.
(1996 Domestic Abuse Incident Report, Wisconsin Office of Crime Victim Services, 1998)