



SISTERCARE

Freeing Families From Fear

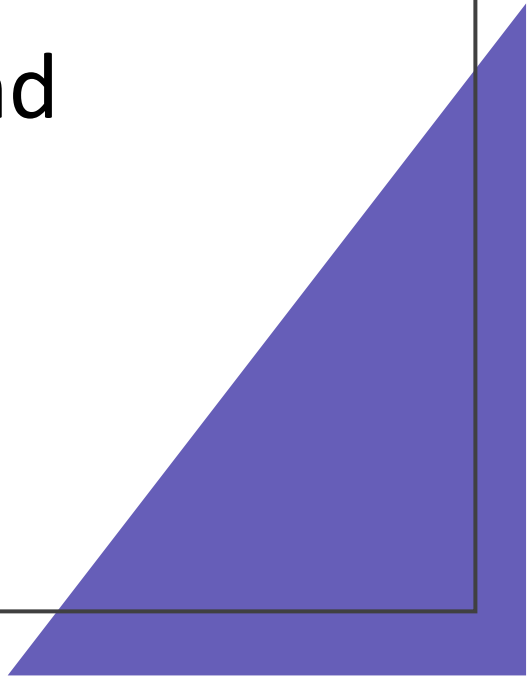
Addressing Intimate Partner Violence in Faith- Based Organizations

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Intimate Partner Violence: Goal

- Increase awareness of the values, attitudes, values , and practices which foster the perpetuation of IPV



Intimate Partner Violence: Objectives

Define IPV

List common characteristics

Assess Danger Level

Identify effects on Children

Develop a Safety Plan

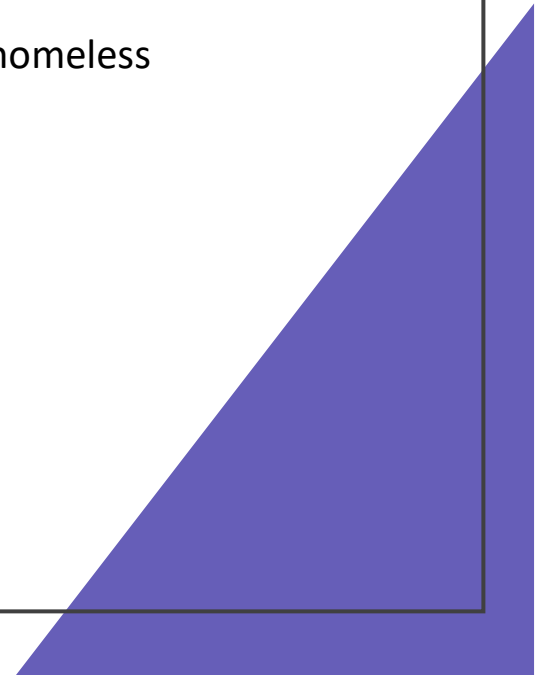
Identify a Faith-Based Strategy

Collaborate with DV
organizations

IPV: National Statistics

- 85% (women); 15% (LGBTQ)
- Women w/disabilities are 40% more likely
- Every minute 20 people are victims
- 50% (women & children) homeless

Source: CDC, NIJ



IPV: National Statistics

- 1:3 women will be abused
- #1 health risk for all women
- IPV in military double; 1:3
- 3 women & one man killed everyday

*Source:
WHO, NIJ, Bureau of Justice Statistics*



IPV: Johns Hopkins

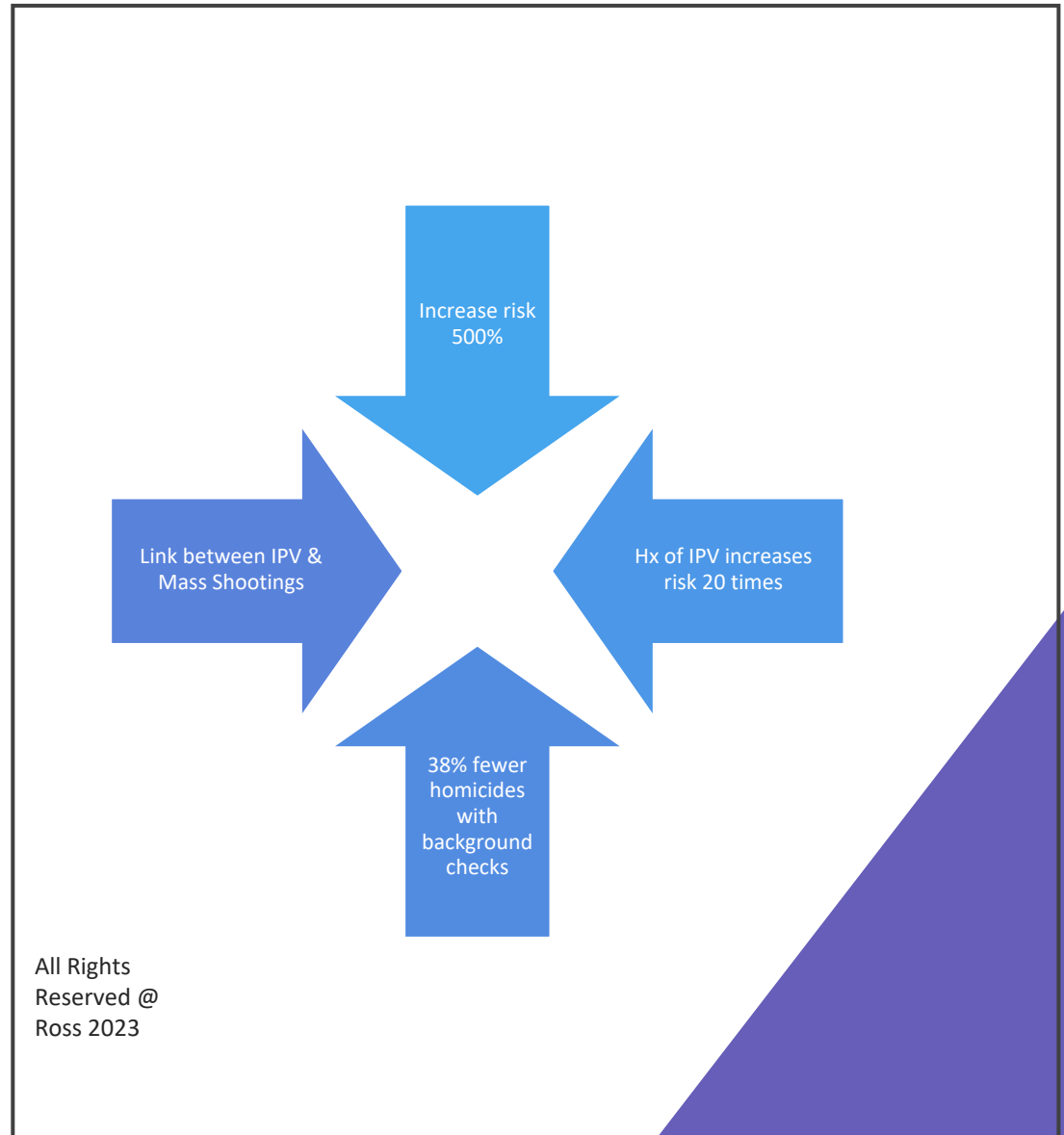
❖ Homicide Statistics:

- Women in U.S.
- Pregnant Women
- African-American
- Native American

IPV: Strangulation

- Most lethal
- Best predictor for subsequent homicides
- Unconsciousness in seconds; death in minutes
- Seven-Fold increase

IPV: Guns





Common Issues

- Safety
- Blame themselves
- Fear
- Denial
- Hopelessness
- Only one experiencing
- Trapped



Common Issues

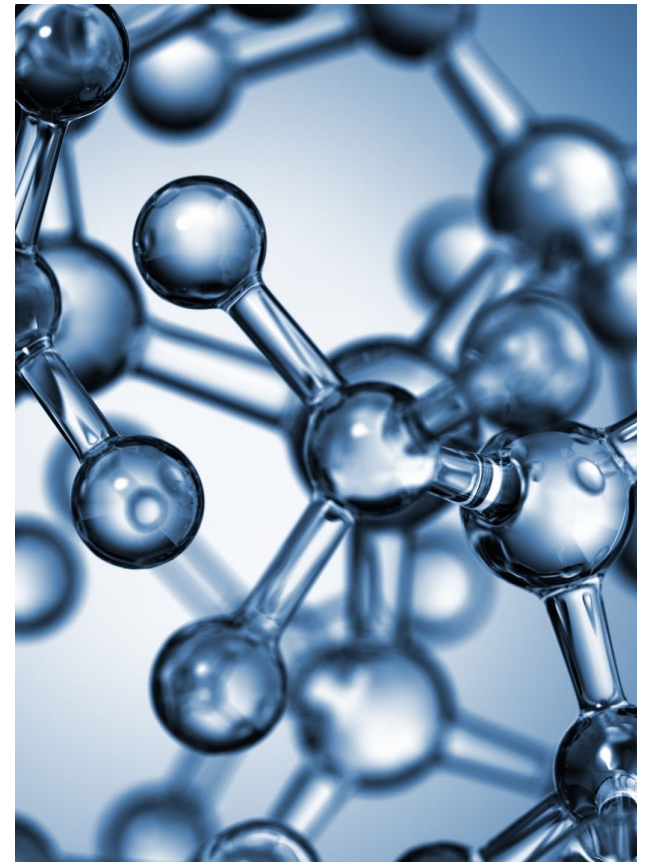
- Shame
- Guilt
- Humiliation
- Do not trust
- Do not Tell
- Anger at people who may help

Common Theories

Occurs in an unique interpersonal context

Historically been viewed as a private matter

Supports traditional gender role stereotypes



IPV Defined

Systematic pattern of
abusive behaviors

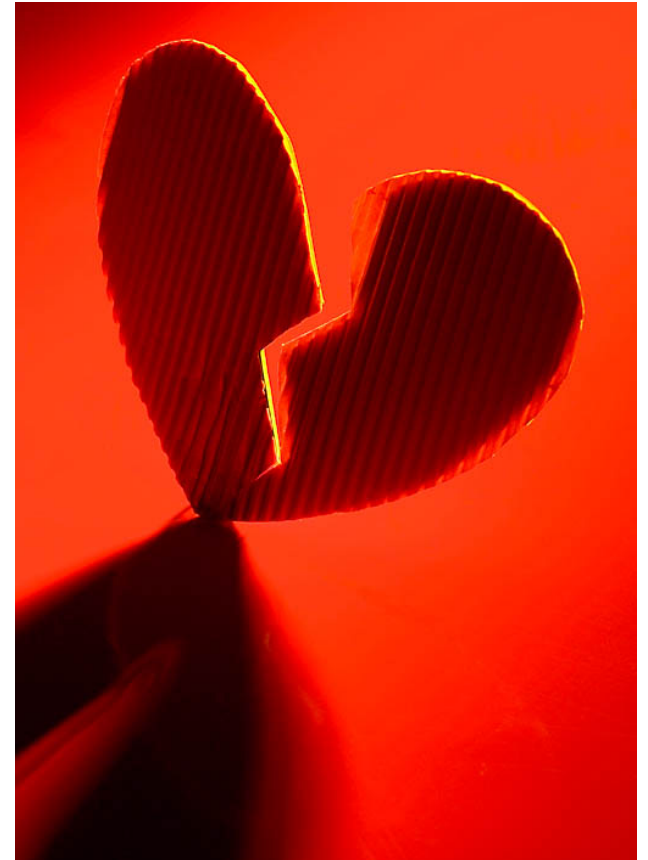
Increases with frequency
& severity over time

Purpose of coercing

Maintaining power,
control, and domination

Power & Control Wheel

- Coercion & Threats
- Intimidation
- Emotional Abuse
- Isolation



Power & Control Wheel

Denying, Minimizing, &
Blaming

Using Children

Economic Abuse

Gender Privilege

Effects of Abuse

Traps the victim into a state of fear, isolation, deprivation, & confusion

Not random, loss of temper

Complex, continuing pattern of behaviors

Physical violence may be only one dynamic



IPV Behaviors

- Physical abuse
- Psychological abuse
- Sexual abuse
- Verbal abuse and threats

IPV Behaviors

Destruction of
property and/or pets

Technological abuse

Spiritual abuse

Financial abuse

IPV Theories

Traumatic Bonding

Stockholm Syndrome

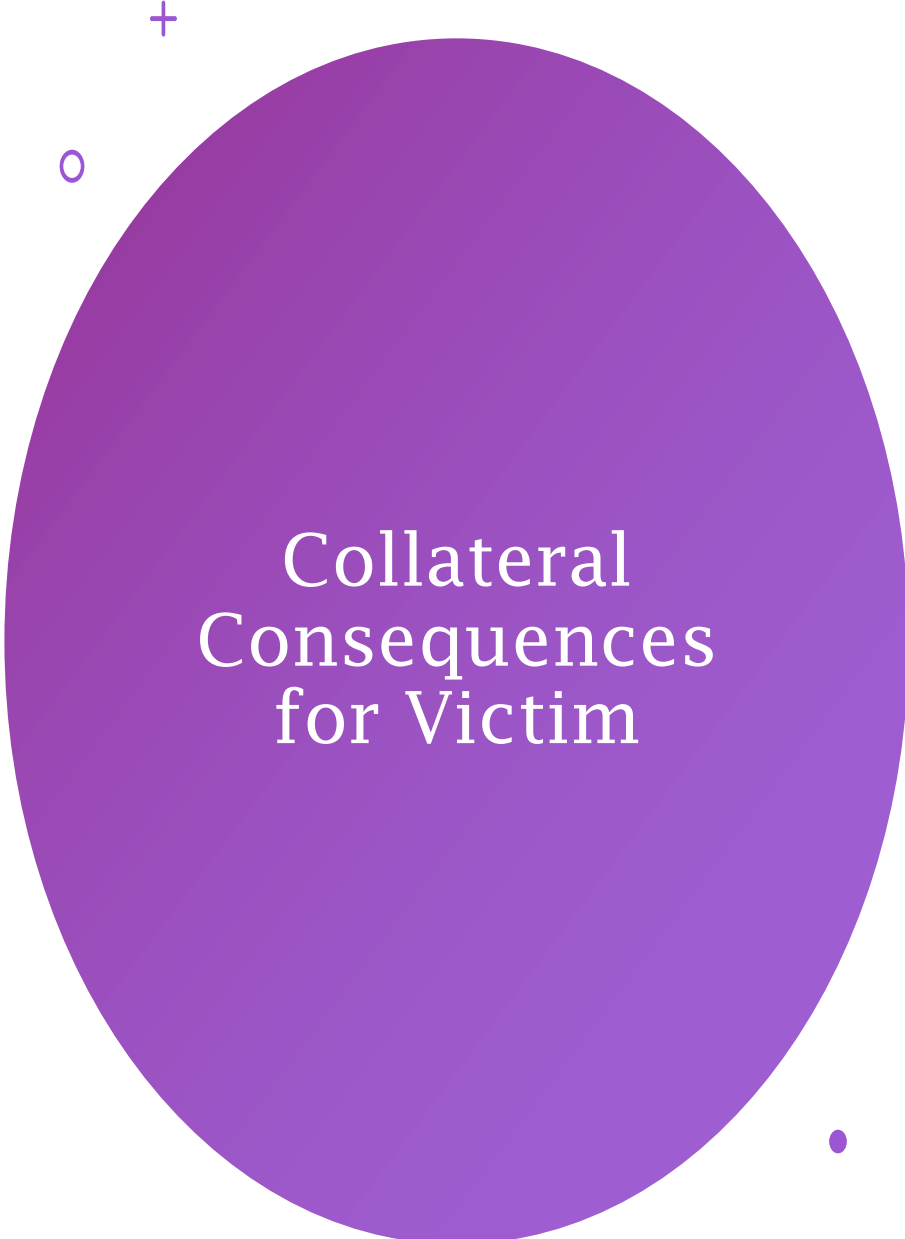
Cycle of Violence Theory

Learned Helplessness

Collateral Consequences for Victims

- Not being believe
- Making story up
- Labelled as mentally ill
- Physical health is severely compromised





Collateral Consequences for Victim

- May suffer TBI
- May be arrested for defending
- Removal of children
- Re-victimized by agencies, law enforcement, legal system
- Ostracized by the community

Persistent Myths

IPV is a private family matter

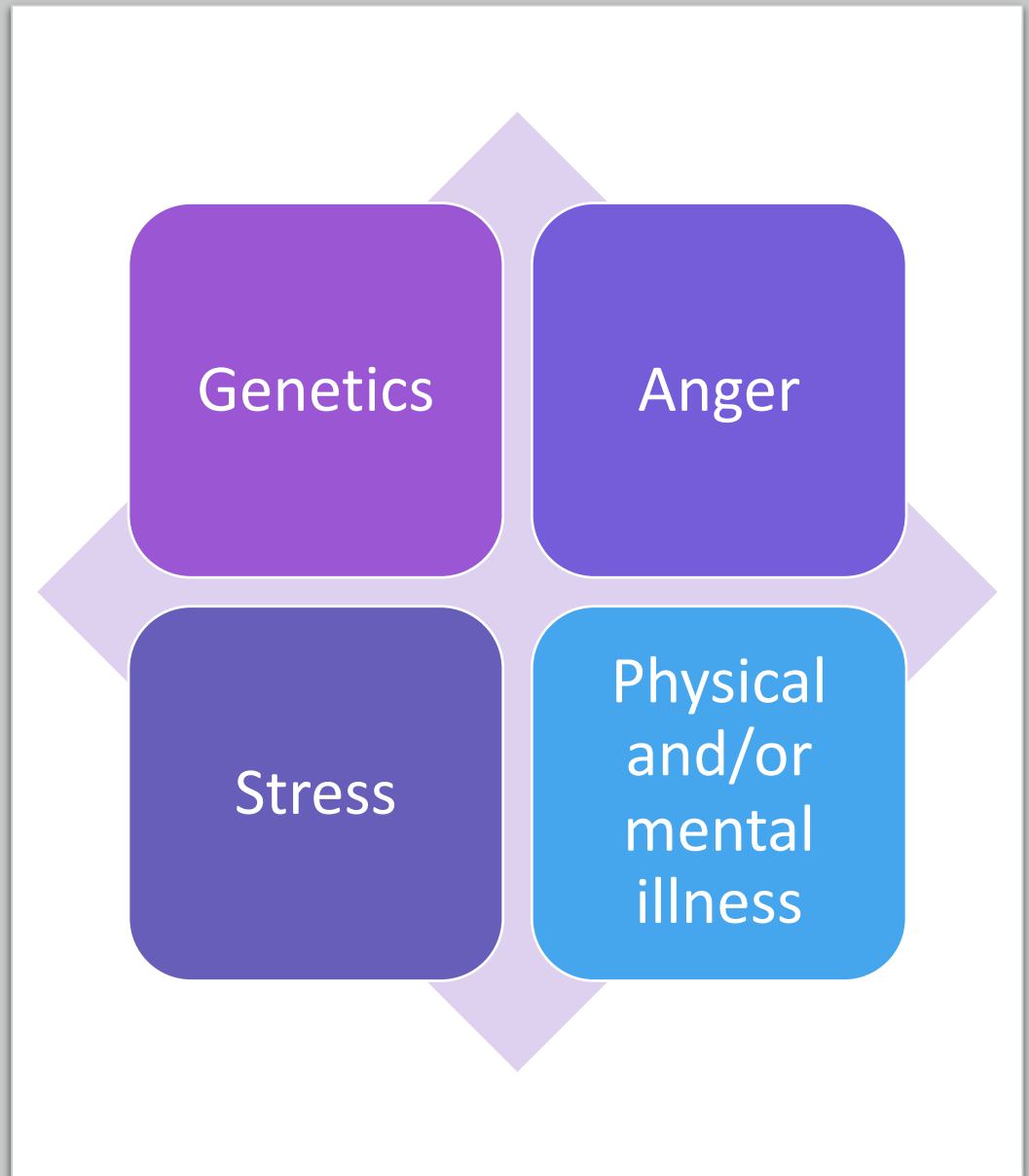
Women stay because they like to be beaten

Victims have psychological disorders

Partners abuse due to being intoxicated

Victims are physically aggressive

Misperceptions about Causes of IPV



Misperceptions About Causes

- Alcohol and/or other drugs
- The economy
- Poverty
- Problems in the Relationship
- Victim's Behavior





Common Reactions by Victims

- Shock/Denial
- Blame themselves
- Increased depression/anxiety
- Withdraw and do not tell anyone



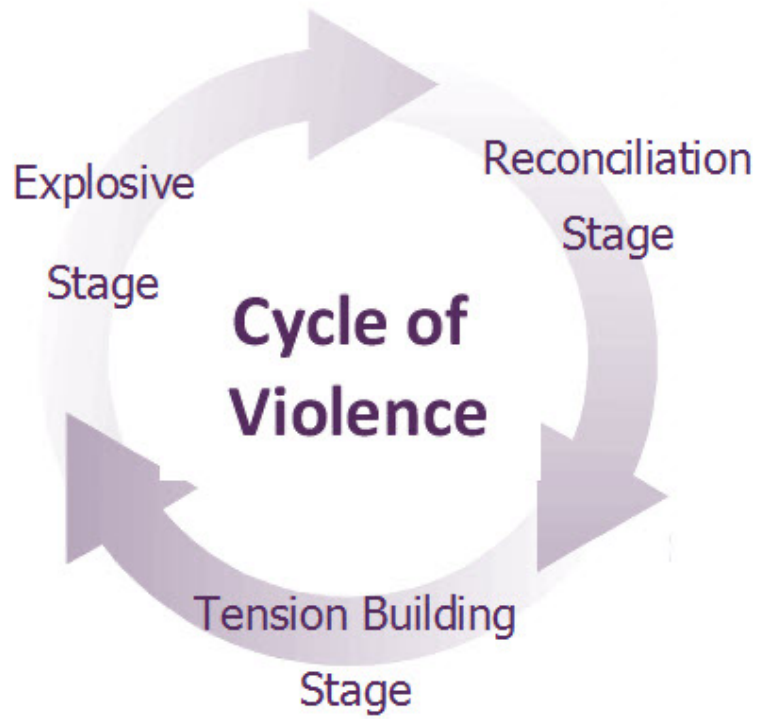
Common Reactions by Victims

- Fear for their life
- May hurt themselves
- Do not call law enforcement
- Fight to protect themselves



Common Reactions by Victims

- Weighs options rationally
- Perception of available resources
- ACEs increases vulnerability
- Minimization



IPV

Common Characteristics of Victims

- Low Self-Esteem
- Accepts rigid gender roles
- Accepts responsibility
- Suffers from guilt



Common Characteristics of Victims

- Passive Face
- Severe Stress Reactions
- No one will help
- Is the only one being abused



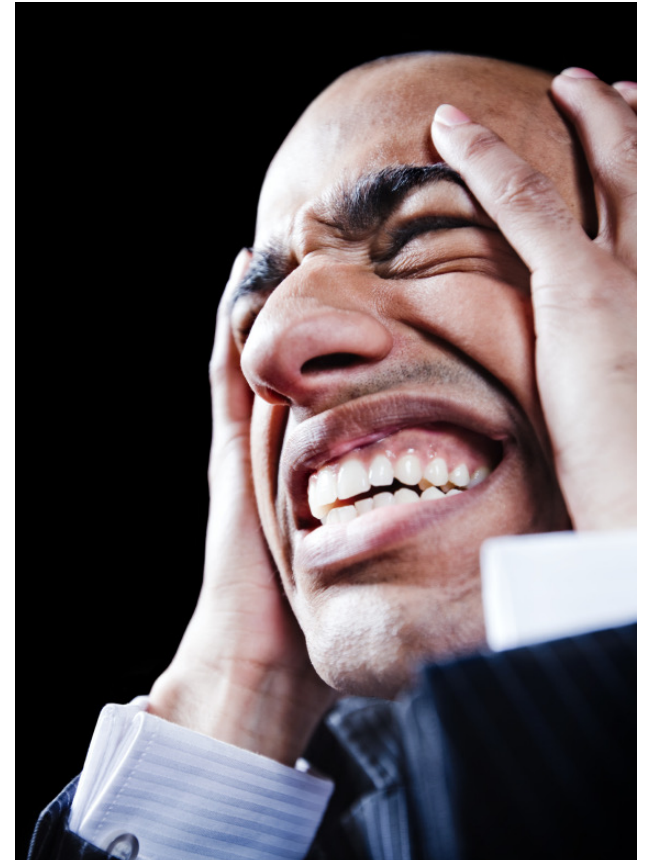


Abuser's Common Characteristics

- Low self-esteem
- Believes in rigid gender roles
- Blames the victim
- Dual Personality

Abuser's Common Characteristics

- Pathologically jealous
- Partner & Children are “property”
- Severe stress reactions
- Use sex as an act of aggression
- No consequences

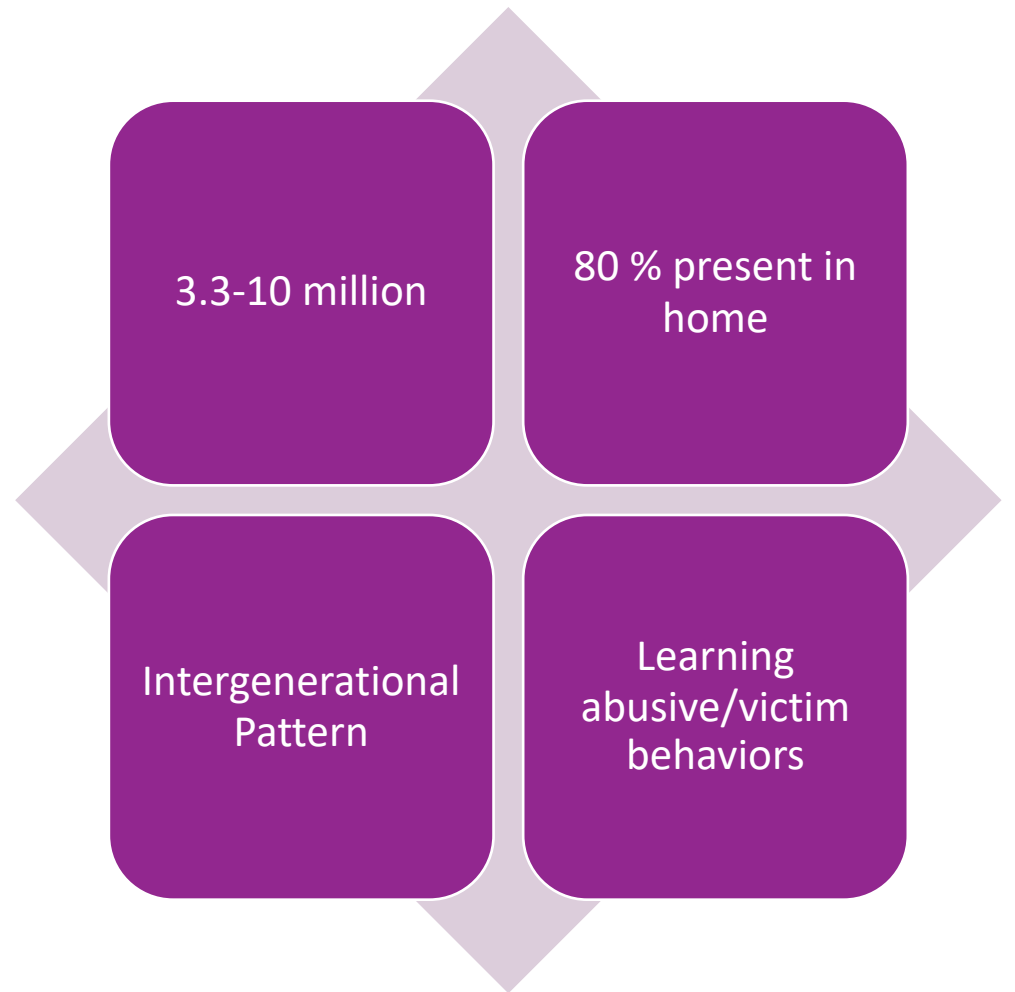




“Not Out of Control”

- Not helplessly under the influence
- Choose to respond violently
- Know what they are doing & what they want from their partner
- Not acting out of anger and/or stress

Effects on Children



Children's Responses

- Aggressive
- Fearful and Distrustful
- Low self-esteem
- Confused
- Psychosomatic complaints
- Problems with authority figures



A close-up photograph of a woman with dark, curly hair, looking down with a distressed expression. Her hands are pressed against her temples, suggesting pain or anxiety. She is wearing a dark, textured garment.

Responses of the Victim

- Anxiety
- Depression
- Sleep problems
- Eating problems/eating disorder



Reasons Victims Stay

- Fear of retribution
- Shame & humiliation
- Protective of the relationship
- Custodial Threats
- Death Threats



Reasons Victims Stay

- No perceived support/help
- Hope
- Fear
- Retaliation by the abuser
- Financial/Social Dependence
- Traditional View of Marriage

Concrete Ways to Assist

Safety First

Believe the Victim

Respect the right to privacy or
refusal of help

Do not ask what prompted the
abuse

Don't tell her/him what to do

Do not handle the situation
alone

Concrete Ways to Assist

Do not become angry
if she/he returns

No couple counseling

Proactively address IPV

Re-frame “Selfishness”
as “Self-Care”

**Sistercare,
Inc.**

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Services for Battered Women and
their families in Richland, Lexington,
Kershaw, Newberry, and Fairfield
Counties.

Administrative Office
926-0505

24 Hour Crisis Line/Service Line
765-9428

Out of Local Area 1- 800-637-7606