

WHAT IS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE?



Domestic violence is a pattern of assaultive and coercive behaviors, including physical, religious, sexual, and psychological attacks, as well as economic coercion, that adults or adolescents use against a family member or their intimate partner to gain and maintain power and control.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IS:

- ❖ A pattern of behaviors including a variety of tactics – some physically injurious and some not, some criminal and some not – carried out in multiple, sometimes daily episodes.
- ❖ A combination of psychological assaults, religious manipulations, physical force and/or terror used by a perpetrator that causes physical, social, spiritual and psychological harm to the victim (s).
- ❖ A pattern of purposeful behavior and/or intimidating occurrences, directed at achieving compliance from or control over the victim
- ❖ Behaviors perpetrated by adults or adolescents against the intimate partner in current or former dating, married or co-habiting relationships.

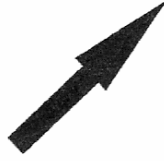
FORMS OF ABUSE

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>PHYSICAL</u></p> <p>Pushing, shoving, hitting, slapping, choking, pulling hair, pinching, kicking, grabbing, beating, scratching, throwing down stairs, etc.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>SEXUAL</u></p> <p>Inappropriate sexual talking and sexual name calling, solicitation, harassment, voyeurism, viewing of pornographic material, exhibitionism rewarding partner for sex with money and/or things, etc.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>RAPE</u></p> <p>Forcing someone or partner to perform sex against his or her will</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>INCEST</u></p> <p>Imposing sexually inappropriate acts, or acts with sexual overtones, with a minor child to meet the sexual/emotional needs of an adult that is related to, or has formed an emotional bond with that child.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>VERBAL / EMOTIONAL</u></p> <p>Name calling, talking about someone in a negative, derogatory manner, no allowance for disagreement, not valuing someone's opinions and/or feelings, values; putting down, criticizing, condemning, shaming, making someone the blunt of cruel jokes and jesting.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>PSYCHOLOGICAL/MENTAL</u></p> <p>Making someone feel that they are crazy, stupid, worthless, preventing partner from looking attractive, playing mind games, etc.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>RELIGIOUS</u></p> <p>Making partner feel that it is her/his Christian duty to stay in an abusive relationship, using texts out of context to condone abuse, encouraging a partner to be submissive to an abusive mate, making a person feel that in order to be saved he/she must adhere to rigid, compulsive, religious rules and roles.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>ECONOMIC</u></p> <p>Trying to keep partner from getting or keeping a job, taking money, denying partner from having a say in how the money is spent, making partner ask for money, preventing partner from continuing education.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>USING CHILDREN</u></p> <p>Making partner feel guilty about children, using visitation as a way to harass, using children to give messages, threatening to declare partner as an unfit parent in an attempt to manipulate and control.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>THREATS & INTMIDATION</u></p> <p>Making or carrying out threats to hurt partner, threatening to sake children, attempting to commit suicide, threatening gestures and actions, destroying partner's property and pets, smashing fist through/ into the wall.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>ISOLATION</u></p> <p>Controlling what partner does, who he/she sees, where he/she goes, keeping partner from having friends, living in isolation to avoid interaction with others.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>STALKING</u></p> <p>A willful course of conduct involving repeated or continuing harassment of another individual that would cause a reasonable person to feel terrorized, frightened, intimidated, threatened, harassed, or molested. (MI Penal Code MCLA 650.411h)</p>

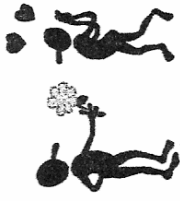
CYCLE OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE (RELATIONSHIP CYCLE)



PHASE 2:
BATTERING INCIDENT



PHASE 1: TENSION
BUILDING



PHASE 3:
HONEYMOON
RESPITE



INTERVENTION!!

THE CYCLE OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

PHASE 1

Tension:

During this phase, minor battering incidents occur. The victim often attempts to calm batterer, trying to meet his or her every whim. The victim becomes compliant, or stays out of the abuser's way. Not only does the victim stay in the environment, but she also believes she can stop the abuse.

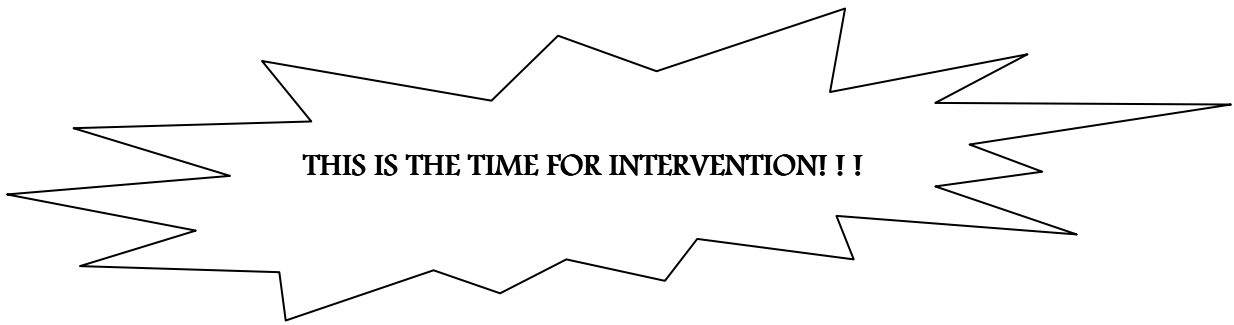
- a. The victim is not interested in reality, but wishes to stop the abuse. She denies her own anger and rationalizes the situation. She tries to control events and other people in the environment around the batterer, trying to avoid all incidents that might provoke an attack.
- b. Tension may be within the family (finances, health problems, children, etc.) or from the environment (employment or unemployment, family members, isolation, etc.) Even activities that appear to be positive, such as a new baby, promotion at work, cause added stress.
- c. The victim may postpone the violence, but can't prevent it. If there are no outlets for frustration or ways to cope with built-up anger, tension will build to explosion.

PHASE 2

Acute Battering Incident:

In the tension building phase, there is a point where the victim can no longer control the environment. The process ceases to respond to controls and predictability. Both realize the attack and release of tension that has been building is inevitable.

- a. The batterer usually accepts the fact that his rage is out of control. He starts by being able to justify his behavior, and in the actual incident doesn't understand what has happened.
- b. This phase is usually set off by external events, or the internal state of the batterer.
- c. The victim sometimes provokes a phase two incident to get it over with. When this happens, the couple has been together long enough to recognize some sort of cycle to the battering. The victim knows what will follow phase two.
- d. This phase is briefer than the first or third phase and usually occurs in private. Lack of control or predictability characterize this phase.
- e. The attacks are of a serious nature. Reasoning with the batterer, or silence may anger him/her more. The batterer often does not stop the attack, even when the victim is seriously injured. This is commonly the phase in which the police are called and/or death occurs.
- f. After the attack, the cycle moves into phase three.



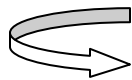
IT IS AT THIS TIME THAT THE VICTIM WILL SEEK HELP BY SPEAKING WITH SOMEONE ABOUT THE INCIDENT OR LEAVE THE ABUSER AND FIND SAFETY IN A SHELTER, OR IN THE CHURCH, OR WITH FRIENDS, FAMILY, ETC. IF HELP IS NOT AVAILABLE, SHE'LL RETURN TO THE ABUSER.

PHASE 3

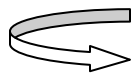
Honeymoon/Respite Phase:

The tension built up in phase one and released in phase two is now gone. This is a period of calm that is welcomed by both victim and batterer.

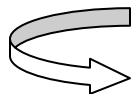
- a. Batterer exhibits charming, loving, kind, and contrite behavior (Dr Jekyll/Mr. Hyde). He/She believes they will never again hurt the victim because they have taught them a lesson. The batterer convinces everyone they are sincere. He often begs for forgiveness. He is so charming that the victim easily believes she is seeing the “real” or “new” person.
- b. In response to the victim’s escape, the batterer intensifies attempts to contact the victim, begs for forgiveness, makes several promises and often enlists friends and relatives, anyone (including religious leaders) to help hold onto the victim. They all work on the victim’s guilt.
- c. AFTER the victim leaves, the batterer seeks help (counseling, religion) thinking it will enable him to get the victim back. If the victim returns home too soon, the batterer will end counseling, stop going to church and the battering continues as the relationship renews itself.
- d. When the victim stays through this phase, the loving-kindness is very intense and bonds them together.
- e. When this phase is complete, the couple move back in phase one and repeat the cycle.



TIME VARIES IN EACH PHASE



VIOLENCE ESCALATES



SELF-WORTH FOR ALL INVOLVED DECREASES

Behavioral Characteristics of Domestic Violence

(Adapted in 2/92 by mj from work by Vicki Boyd, Seattle Washington, 1978)

<u>Batterer</u>	<u>Victim</u>	<u>Children</u>
Batterers are found in all socioeconomic levels, and in all educational, racial and age groups.	Victims are found in all socioeconomic levels, and in all educational, racial and age groups.	Children of domestic violence are found in all socioeconomic levels, and in all educational, racial and age groups.
Has poor impulse control, explosive temper and limited tolerance of frustration.	Has long-suffering, martyr-like endurance of frustration.	Show combination of limited tolerance, poor impulse control, and martyr-like, long-suffering.
Veiled symptoms of character dysfunction. Sophistication of symptoms and success at masking dysfunction vary with social and educational levels.	Blatant depressive and/or hysterical symptoms. Stress disorders and psychosomatic complaints.	Depression, stress and psychosomatic complaint, absences from school. Hidden symptoms of character dysfunction.
Emotional dependency. Has secret depressions known only to family.	Economic and emotional dependency. Prone to depression. High risk for secret drugs/alcohol and home accidents.	Economic and emotional dependency. High risk for drugs/alcohol, sexual acting out, running away, isolation, loneliness and fear.
Limited capacity for delayed reinforcement. Very "Now" oriented.	Unlimited patience for discovery of "magic combination" to solve marital and battering problems. Can "travel miles" on tiny bits of reinforcements.	Combination of poor impulse control and continual hopefulness that situation will improve.
Insatiable ego needs. Has quality of child-like self-indulgence (not generally seen by people outside family group).	Unsure of ego needs. Defines self in terms of family, job, home etc.	Very shaky definition of self. Deals with the child-like responses of parental role models.
Low self-esteem. Perceived unachieved ideals and goals for self. Disappointment in career even if successful by others' standards.	Low self-esteem. Continued faith and hope batterer will get "lucky break."	Low self-esteem.
Believes self to have poor social skills. Says relationship with mate is closest they've ever known. Remains in contact with own family.	Gradually increasing social isolation, including loss of contact with own family.	Increased social isolation. Increased peer isolation

<u>Batterer</u>	<u>Victim</u>	<u>Children</u>
Makes accusations. Acts jealous. Speaks of fear of being abandoned or “cheated on.”	Can’t convince partner of loyalty. Constantly defends self against accusations of seductive behavior toward others.	Exhibits bargaining behavior toward parents. Gets into proving self, as does mother.
Controls mate with espionage tactics (checks mileage & times errands). Cleverness depends on level of sophistication.	Permits containment or restriction. Interprets this as sign that partner cares.	Develops deceptiveness (lying, excuse for outings, etc.)
No sense of violating other’s personal boundaries. Accepts no blame for failures or violence (with job, family, or relationship).	Gradually loses sight of personal boundaries for self or children. Unable to assess danger accurately. Accepts all the blame.	Poor definition of personal boundaries. Violation of other’s personal boundaries.
Believes force will keep the family unit secure (for the good of the family)	Believes temporary acceptance of violent behavior will ultimately lead to long-term resolution of family problems.	Has little or no understanding of the dynamics of domestic violence. Often assumes violence to be normal.
Often reports not feeling guilt on an emotional level even after intellectual recognition.	Emotionally accepts guilt for mate’s behavior. Thinks mate “can’t help it.” Considers own behavior provocative.	Blames self (depending on age) for family feuding, separations, divorce, etc. Internal conflicts
General history of family violence.	Generational history of family violence.	Continues pattern of family violence into own adulthood.
Takes part in pecking order battering.	Takes part in pecking order battering	Pecking order battering. Kills animals. Batters younger siblings (and sometimes parents in later years.)
Demanding and often assaultive in sexual activities. Sometimes punishes with abstinence. At times experiences impotence.	Poor sexual self-image. Assumes role is to accept totally partner’s sexual behavior. Attempts to punish partner with abstinence are likely to result in abuse.	Poor sexual image. Unclear about appropriate behavior. Confused role model identification.
Controls by threatening homicide and / or suicide. Often attempts one or both when partner separates. Known to contemplate either or both.	Frequently contemplates suicide. History of minor attempts. Occasionally completes either suicide or homicide of partner.	Heightened suicide attempts. Increased thoughts of suicide and/or killing parents. Prone to negligence and carelessness.



The Victim

The following are some behaviors, characteristics and attitudes exhibited by victims:

1. Traditionalists. Maintains traditional male/females roles and stereotypes.
2. Fairy tale, romantic idea of marriage.
3. Low self-esteem with suffering, martyr-like endurance.
4. Emotional dependency on mate.
5. Prone to depression, psychosomatic and psychological complaints.
6. Tolerates abuse for the good of the family.
7. Loses sight of personal boundaries for self and/or children.
8. Defines self in terms of family, home, job, etc.
9. Gradual increase in social isolation, including loss of contact with own family.
10. Generational history of family violence.
11. Emotionally accepts responsibility for mate's abusive behavior.
12. Interprets containment or restriction as a sign that abusive partner cares.
13. Believes that temporary acceptance of abuse will result in long-term resolution of family problems.
14. Has poor sexual self-image and accepts partner's abusive sexual behavior.
15. Aggressive in protecting abuser, passive in protecting self.
16. Little or no friends.
17. Is unable to assess level of abuser's violence.
18. Believes that no one can help.
19. Unlimited patience in trying to find "magical combination" to solve marital problems and abusive partner.
20. Suicidal

Why Do Victims Stay?



1. FEAR
 - a. Action triggers more violence.
 - b. Children and other family members are threatened.
 - c. Batterer vows to follow victim wherever they go.
 - d. Batterer vows to disfigure victim or to kill them.
 - e. Fear of unknown.

2. Shame
3. Social and economic pressures.
4. Feels children need father or mother.
5. Blames oneself for the abuse.
6. Believes religious beliefs will save them from abuse.
7. Raised to believe that divorce is wrong and marriage should be kept intact at all costs.
8. Genuinely loves abuser and hopes they will change.
9. Victim is told if they change their behavior, the abuse will stop.
10. Feels they must stay and help abuser. They need them.
11. Lack of knowledge to know where to go for help and/or shelter.
12. Isolated. Batterer has kept them away from family and friends. Little or no job skills.
13. No support from others. Everyone else is afraid themselves and does not want to admit violence occurs, or does not want to get involved.
14. Low self - worth keep victim from initiating major life changes.

The Victimization Process

FIRST INCIDENTS OF VIOLENCE

- Experience disbelief, denial
- Feel responsible
- Feel shame and embarrassment
- Are concerned about protecting the family image
- Are hopeful this is a one-time incident
- Try to become a more pleasing, better partner
- Believe that if you change your behavior, the violence will stop

MORE INCIDENTS OF VIOLENCE

- Become more afraid for your own and your children's safety
- May still deny the seriousness of the attacks
- Make excuses for the batterer
- Begin to turn to others for help
- Without help, move further into the victim role and internalize anger, guilt and a sense of failure

YEARS OF ABUSE AND LIFE THREATENING SITUATIONS

- Feel hopeless
- Internalize anger
- Develop physical ailments
- Have nightmares, become jumpy
- Tell, without emotion, stories of abuse that outrage the listener
- Stay inside more and more
- May have suicidal thoughts and/or be hospitalized



The Batterer

The following are some behaviors, characteristics and attitudes exhibited by abusers:

1. Traditionalists. Maintains traditional male/females roles and stereotypes.
2. Low self-esteem
3. Has poor impulse control, explosive temper.
4. Tends to be emotionally depended on family to keep his secret of depression, anger, and controlling, manipulative tendencies.
5. Is “now” oriented. Requires instant gratification.
6. Rigid control of money.
7. Tends to be emotionally immature and insecure.
8. Obsessed with feelings of guilt and failure.
9. Denies responsibility for dysfunctional behavior.
10. Finds it difficult to trust others.
11. Beliefs that emotional distress is due to external factors.
12. Finds it difficult to handle stress in positive and/or constructive ways.
13. Witnessed violence between parents or significant others or were victims of child abuse.
14. Believes that the success of his marriage is the responsibility of his partner.
15. Come from all ages, ethnic, socio-economic, religious, and educational backgrounds.
16. Has conflicts with spouse over parenting.
17. Often jealous and possessive of mate, and keeps her isolated.
18. Appears to have dual personality. (Dr. Jekyll/Mr. Hyde)
19. Out of touch with his feelings and cause of anger.
20. Blames others for problems and feelings.
21. Fearful of losing control / commits homicide.

Common Beliefs of Batterers

1. *Anger causes violence.*

Variations of this belief:

- Violence is a response to anger.
- “I lost control and hit her.”
- “If I get angry enough, I will blow and become violent.”

2. *Women are manipulative.*

Variations of this belief:

- Women lie, cheat and steal to provoke men
- Women say no when they mean yes.
- Women think of men as paychecks.
- I give her the paycheck so she has economic power.

Variation of this belief:

- If a man works outside the home and the woman works in the home, everything is equal.

3. *If I don't control her, she'll control me.*

Variations of this belief:

- If a man is hurt, it's okay or natural for him to hurt back.
- If you don't strike back, you'll be henpecked all your life.

4. *Smashing things isn't abusive, it is venting.*

5. *Sometimes there's no alternative to violence.*

Variation to this belief:

- If a man's partner does something wrong, he has the right to punish her to make her stop doing it.

6. *Women libbers hate men.*

Variations to this belief:

- The shelter wants marriages to break up.

7. *Women are just as violent as men.*

8. *Women want to be dominated by men.*

Variations to this belief:

- If women didn't like it, they wouldn't stay.
- Some women are masochistic.
- Women ask for it.

9. *Somebody has to be in charge.*

10. *Jealousy is natural in men.*

Variation of this belief:

- Jealousy is a sign of love.

11. *Violence is often a breakdown of communication.*

Variations of this belief:

- Men hit women because they are not as articulate as women.
- Men hit women to get them to stop nagging.
- Men batter women because they are insecure.

12. *A man has the right to choose his partner's friends.*

Variations to this belief:

- Women are too easily influenced so men should watch out for their partner's interests.
- A man is only protecting his interest when he limits who his partner can spend time with.

13. *A man can't change if the woman won't.*

Variations of this belief:

- Nothing can change if the woman doesn't also change.
- It takes two to tango.
- The woman is half the problem.

WARNING SIGNS



1. ***Jealousy*** - Intense envy and almost paranoia can lead to isolation of the victim. Example: Girlfriend cannot look, notice or speak to another male; cannot go out alone or with friends.
2. ***Home Life*** - Has experienced violence or witnessed abusive situations in the home as a child. Example: Father abuses mother; brother abuses wife or girl-friend; abused as child by parent or siblings.
3. ***Hates Mother*** - Strong negative feelings toward mother; talks harshly or degrades mother or women in general.
4. ***Quick Temper, Low Impulse Control*** - Will strike out using violence quickly; easily provoked to anger; uses a lot of physical aggression to solve problems.
5. ***Substance Abuse*** - Uses alcohol and / or drugs regularly. Example: Abusing person claims, "I wouldn't have done it if I hadn't been drunk." Victim excuses behavior, "He only hits me when he's been drinking."
6. ***Rigid Role Expectations*** - Fantasy approach to life, women fit into only one role: dependent, submissive, compliant; men fit only one role: boss, decision-maker, dominant, macho.
7. ***Controlling*** - Completely rules the relationship; other person's point of view not important; his opinions, attitudes, beliefs must always prevail.
8. ***Dictatorial*** - Wants absolute control. Example: Dictates victim's dress, make-up, hair style, choice of friends, etc.
9. ***Displaced Aggression*** - Consciously or unconsciously finding fault with something that is not related to the problem at hand. Example: Abuser feels angry because of something that happens at school, work or home, then hits his girlfriend.
10. ***Hitting Walls, Throwing Objects, Name Calling*** - Gestures that usually lead to physical violence.

11. ***Jekyll - Hyde (Dual) Personality*** - Extreme mood swings.
12. ***Low Self - Esteem*** - Poor self-image; putting others down helps him feel better about himself.
13. ***Quick Involvement*** - Many victims dated or knew their abuser for less than six months before they were married, engaged, or living together. Abusers tend to use pressure and flattery to get the victim to commit to the relationship. Example: "You're the only person I could ever talk to," "I've never felt loved like this by anyone."
14. ***Unrealistic Expectations*** - Abusers will expect partners to meet all of their needs. Example: "If you love me, I'm all you need, you're all I need."
15. ***Blames others for problems*** - Abusers will hold everyone else responsible for their actions.
16. ***Blames others for Feelings*** - Abusers hold others responsible for their feelings. Example: "You make me so mad..."
17. ***Hypersensitivity*** - Abusers are easily insulted. They take the slightest setback as a personal attack. Example: Abusers tend to rant and rave about the injustice of things that have happened, things that are really just a part of living - having to work overtime, getting a traffic ticket.
18. ***Cruelty to Animals*** - This is a person who punishes animals brutally or is insensitive to their pain or suffering. They may expect others to be capable of doing things beyond their ability. Example: Whips a two year old for wetting a diaper.
19. ***"Playful" use of Force in Sex*** - Abusers like to throw victim down and hold them during sex. They may want to act out fantasies where the victim is helpless.
20. ***Verbal abuse*** - In addition to saying things that are meant to be cruel, this can be seen when the abuser degrades the woman, cursing her, running down any of her accomplishments.
21. ***Past Battering*** - If abuser has hit a victim in the past, "They made him do it."

Myths About Domestic Violence

Victims Provoke Abuse and So They Deserve It

No one ever deserves to be beaten, regardless of the kind of person they are. Provocation is an excuse the abuser uses to avoid responsibility for his behavior. Many people support this view because the victim “must have done something” to be assaulted.

Battered Victims Are Masochistic.

In other words, “they love it (to be beaten)”. Victims do not find pleasure in abuse nor is it a sexual turn on. Although victims often return to an abusive partner, it is not the violence they are returning to but the hope that he has or will stop the abuse. Many were abused as children (many don’t remember) and learned early to become victims.

Batterers Are Mentally Ill.

Most abusers confine their violence to the privacy of the home. The abuse is often directed to particular parts of the body that cannot be seen. Obvious restraining and forethought is necessary to accomplish this. If a batterer truly was mentally ill, he would lack the ability to be selective in his targets.

Pregnant Women Are Protected From Abuse.

In fact, they are more vulnerable to violence. Many women describe abuse starting or becoming more severe when they were first pregnant. They are more dependent on partners during this time and abusers take advantage.

Religious Beliefs Will Save Them.

Prayer and church can be comforting at times but cannot save a victim from someone who thinks they are as powerful as God.

Batterers are not successful.

Some of the most severe beatings are done by professional people (doctors, lawyers, policemen, ministers, counselors, etc.) And their victims have less chance of getting help and violence is more likely hidden because they have more to lose by exposing their situation. Domestic violence crosses all lines: social, racial, educational, religious, and economic - NO EXCEPTIONS!

Police Can Protect Victims.

Police can be called and police can “take away” abusers but that doesn’t stop abuse from happening again. A victim can get a restraining order, but that does not stop the abuser from abusing again, it just gives the police the opportunity to make an arrest if they can find the abuser.

Once Battered Always Battered.

A victim mentality is a LEARNED BEHAVIOR. Anything that is learned can be “unlearned.”

Once A Batterer Always A Batterer.

Domestic Violence is a LEARNED BEHAVIOR. Anything that is learned can be “unlearned.”

Battering Will Cease When We Marry.

It USUALLY becomes worse. Some batterers feel that marriage gives them possession of their victim.

Batterers Are Not Loving Partners.

Quite the contrary. The biggest percentage of batterers exhibit a “Jekyll and Hyde” personality, showing an extremely loving and caring side, which usually goes far beyond “Normal” loving by showing a high degree of jealousy and possessiveness. Because of this kind of personality, people find it hard to believe that “this person” could “do such a thing”. They have only seen the nice side of the batterer.

Victims Are Uneducated With Few Job Skills.

Yes, many of the victims are in this situation, that is why it is difficult for them to leave, but again family violence crosses all lines. The most hidden victims are the highly educated, professional women. These victims sometimes NEVER seek help because of shame and embarrassment.

Batterers Also Beat Their Children.

This occurs in about 70% of the reported cases we see. This could also be a fact and not a myth (Research indicates that 75% of batterers also abuse their children). Whether the children are beaten or not, they are more likely to grow up to be abusers and victims of the future if they witness domestic violence in childhood.

-Adapted from the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence

Facts About Domestic Violence

1. Each year in America, approximately 4 million women are abused by their partners, and 2.4 million children are abused by their parents. On average, there were three deaths per day recorded as a result. Violence will occur at least once in half of all marriages. (“Broken Bodies and Broken Spirits: Family Violence in Maryland and Recommendations for Change,” Family Violence Coalition, June 1991).
2. Some experts estimate that a woman has between in 1-in-3 and a 1-in-5 chance of being physically assaulted by a partner or ex-partner during her lifetime. (Violence Against Women, A majority Staff Report, Committee on the Judiciary, United States Senate, 102nd Congress, October 1992, 0.3, citing the American Medical Association and Dr. Angela Browne respectively).
3. Six out of every ten married couples have experienced violence at some time during their marriage, according to one survey. (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).
4. If every woman victimized by domestic violence in 1989 were to join hands in a line, the string of people would span from New York to Los Angeles and back again. (“Women and Violence,” Hearing before the U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee, August 29 and December 11, 1990, Senate Hearing 101-939. Pt.2, p.79).
5. During the year 1985, at least one out of every eight husbands carried out one or more violent acts against his wife. (Angela Browne, Testimony to the U.S. Senate Committee on the Judiciary, December 1990)
6. Every 15 seconds, a woman is beaten by her husband or boyfriend (FBI Uniform Crime Reports, 1991).
7. One out of every four murder victims is a woman. Nine out of ten murdered women are murdered by men. Four out of five are murdered at home. Almost three out of four are murdered by husbands or lovers. Almost none are killed by strangers. (Ann Jones, Women Who Kill, New York, NY; Fawcett Crest, 1980, P. 340).
8. Almost four 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, four years later, it still remains the leading cause of injuries to women ages 15-44 (June 1992), 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).
9. It appears that spouse abuse, specifically wife battering, may exceed even alcoholism in its magnitude as a health problem. (Alan Rosenbaum and K. Daniel O’Leary, “Children: The Unintended Victims of Marital Violence,” American Journal of Orthopsychiatry, Vol. 51, No. 4, October 1981, p.692)
10. Sites and percentages of injuries: face/neck (punching, slapping, choking) 33.0%, Arm 16.2%, Head 14.4%, Back and Buttocks 12.0%, Breast 10.0%, Abdomen 5.4%, Legs 5.4%, Genitals 3.6%. (National Women Abuse Prevention Project, “Understanding Domestic Violence: Fact Sheets,” 1989).
11. Physical abuse may be as frequent as daily, and weapons commonly used are hands, feet, fists, rocks and iron bars. Areas of abuse are the victim’s face, breasts, and stomach if the woman is pregnant. The conduct following the abuse of the victim is startled relation, frozen watchfulness, especially in children, nightmares, and response. Vietnam veterans experienced these same reactions following their experiences during

wartime. (Lynn Reynolds, Executive Summary of the Second National Workshop on Female Offenders, Raleigh, NC, April 1987, p. 12)

12. Statistics from the 1985 National Family Violence Survey show that those women who were severely assaulted, spent twice as many days in bed as other women; reported being in poor health three times as often; suffered twice as many headaches; suffered four times the rate of depression; attempted suicide 5 1/2 times more often. Nine percent (9.3%) of the women reported taking time off from work because of domestic violence and 19% who were severely assaulted spent time away from work. (Murray Straus and Richard Gelles. Physical Violence in American Families: Risk Factors and Adaptations to Violence in 8,145 Families (426) 1990, appearing in Helen Neuborne's testimony at the Biden hearings).
13. In analyzing the records on almost 900 cases of family violence, R. Emerson Dobash and Russell Dobash (1978) found that when the sex of victim and offender was known, women were the victims in 94% and offenders in 3% of the cases. Almost the exact same proportions were found in records of the Minnesota Department of Corrections on 966 assaults: 95% were women victimized by a man they were currently or had been living with, and 5% were men victimized by women partners. (Angela Browne, When Battered Women Kill, New York, NY: The Free Press, 1987, p 8).
14. From August 1, 1989 to January 26, 1990, faculty members at Midwestern State University conducted a study based on a random statewide mail survey of 6,000 women. More than 50% of women who said they had been abused by their spouse reported family incomes above \$35,000. Just over 70% of the victims were Anglo; 10.4% were black; and 9.5% Hispanic. The victims were also asked to provide information on the education and income of the abusers. That profile showed that more than 18% had a bachelor's degree or higher. (M.C. Moewe, "The Hidden Violence: For Richer and For Poorer," Fort Worth Star-Telegram, April 5, 1992).
15. Eighty-five percent of all women with disabilities have been victims of domestic violence. (Remarks by Judge Richard Lee Price at "Love and Violence: Victims and Perpetrators," New York City Coalition for Women's Mental health, January 1991).
16. As many as one in four men and one in six women think that under certain conditions it is appropriate for a husband to hit his wife. (Richard Gelles and Claire Pedrick Cornell, Intimate Violence In Families, Newbury Park, CA: Sage Publications, 1990, p. 21).
17. 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. (New York Victim Service Agency Report on the Costs of Domestic Violence, 1987), and 20% to lose their jobs. (Schechter and Gray, "A Framework for Understanding and Empowering Battered Women," Abuse and Victimization Across the Life Span. Ed. Martha Strauss, 1988, p. 242).
18. The National Women Abuse Prevention Project reports that "domestic violence happens to people of all racial, economic, and religious groups. For example, police in the mostly white, upper-class Washington D.S. suburb of Montgomery County, Maryland received as many domestic disturbance calls as were received in the same period in Harlem, New York City. However, low income battered women are more likely to seek assistance from public agencies, such as shelters and hospital emergency rooms, because they have fewer private resources than middle and upper income women. They are therefore more likely to be counted in official reporting statistics." (NWAPP, "Answers to Some Commonly Asked Questions About Domestic Violence," Domestic Violence Fact Sheets).