

# Domestic Violence: AKA Intimate Partner Violence (IPV)



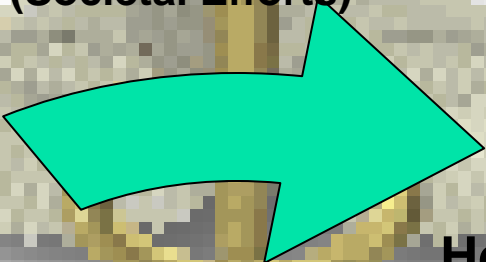
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Dr. Bernice Roberts Kennedy

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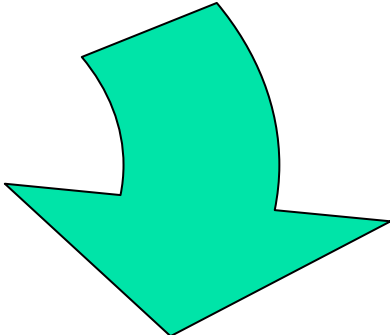
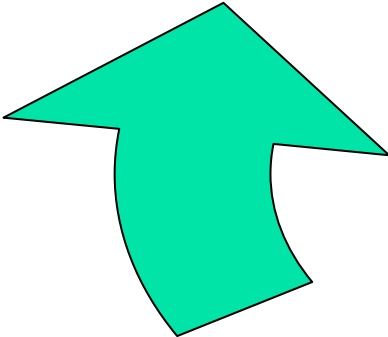
**Health Care**  
**(Societal Efforts)**



**Restoration**

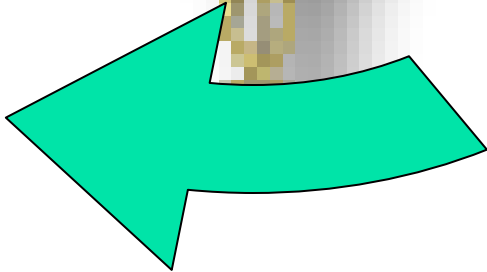
**Health Promotion**

**Health Services**  
**(Delivery Components)**



**Prevention**

**Rehabilitation**





# Self-Help Book

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**Domestic  
Violence:  
A.K.A.  
Intimate  
Partner  
Violence  
(IPV)**

**Bernice Roberts Kennedy,  
PhD, APRN, BC**



# Overview of Domestic Violence

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- *Domestic violence* is a prevalent **public health problem** in our society affecting thousands of **women worldwide**.
- *Domestic violence* affects women on an **international level**. The experience or threat of violence affects the lives of women everywhere, cutting across boundaries of **wealth, race, and culture**.
- Every year hundreds of women, **of all ages** and in all **parts of the country**, are reportedly **killed in the name of honor**. Many cases go **unreported**. Almost all cases go unpunished.



# Overview of Domestic Violence-Cont:

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- The relatives of married sons demand *large sums of material* goods from the families of *daughters-in-law*. If this is not provided, they may *kill the young woman*.
- Female *infanticide* has increased in parts of Asia over the past decade.
- Not only is this a tragic loss of life, but it also has a tremendous impact on the mental health of mothers and other family members.
- Women are forced by *family pressures* and agonizing circumstances to make desperate moral choices. These choices are not easily made nor ever forgotten.



# Overview of Domestic Violence-Cont:

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- Domestic violence *resulting in death is a serious problem* in some parts of the world. In India, the illegal “*dowry death*” or “*bride-burning*” occurs in some areas.



# Overview of Domestic Violence

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- ***Every 12 seconds*** in the ***United States*** a woman is battered in her home.
- ***Approximately, (95 %)*** of victims of domestic violence are women.
- ***Every 9 seconds*** in the United States a woman is ***assaulted*** and ***experiences battering***.
- ***Family violence*** kills as many ***women every 5 years*** as the total number of ***Americans*** who ***died in the Vietnam War***.



# Incident and Prevalence/ United States

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- *Domestic violence* is the *leading cause* of *injury to women*.
- Women are more likely to be *attacked by someone they know* rather *than a stranger*.
- *Over half the women murdered* in the *United States* are killed by a *current or former partner*.
- *Every day, 4 million women* are murdered by *boyfriends or husbands*.
- When *spouse abuse* was considered, *divorced or separated men committed (79 %) of assaults and husbands committed (21 %)* (CDC, 2000).



# Incident and Prevalence/ United States

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- *Two-thirds of marriages* will experience *domestic violence at least once* (CDC, 2000).
- *More than half of battered women stay with their batterer* because they do not feel they can *support themselves and their children alone*.



# Definition

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- ***Domestic violence*** is defined as the actual or threatened ***physical, sexual, psychological or economic abuse*** of an individual by someone with whom they have had an ***intimate relationship***.
- ***Partner abuse*** includes abuse by a ***current or former spouse or a romantic or cohabitation partner (e.g., dating or same sex partner)***.
- ***Intimate partners*** are current or former nonmarital partners (dating or same-sex partner).



# Historical Perspective

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- According to *English Common Law*, women were view as chattel –first the *property of their fathers*, and then *their husbands*.
- When a women married, her *legal existence* consolidated into that of her *husband*
- She was considered to be *under his protection*, and influence and could not *inherit property*.
- *Physical violence* was used *frequently by husband against wives*.



# Historical Perspective

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- *Spousal abuse* was legal in *the United States until 1824*.
- A law allowed husbands to *beat their wives with any reasonable instrument*.
- The law was later modified to stipulate that the *instrument used had* to be a *rod no thicker than the thumb*.
- Wives were seen as *chattel of their husbands* and could be beaten for such offenses as *nagging too much*.



# Historical Perspective

1864	The Supreme Court of North Carolina ruled in the <i>State versus Black</i> that a husband could not be convicted of beating his wife unless he inflicted a permanent injury, used excessive violence or exhibited malignity or vindictiveness.
1886	The Supreme Court of South Carolina in the <i>State versus Rhodes</i> refused to hold a husband criminal responsible for beating his wife with a stick.



# Historical Perspective

<p>1880s</p>	<p><b>Legal Reforms related to Domestic Violence in the United States.</b></p> <p><b>Alabama and Massachusetts introduced the first legislation making it illegal to beat one's wife.</b></p> <p><b>Several other states followed with similar legislation.</b></p> <p><b>A few arrests and prosecutions were made.</b></p>
<p>1882</p>	<p><b>Maryland passed legislation that outlawed wife beating and made it punishable by 40 lashes or a year in jail.</b></p>



# Historical Perspective

1960s and 1970s

Grassroots feminists brought the problem of violence against women to public attention in the United States. Establishment of community based programs for battered women  
*Haven House* was opened in 1964  
*National Organization of Women* and The *National Coalition Against Domestic Violence* pushed for social services and legislative reform to better protect battered women.



# Physical Abuse

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- Shoving
- slapping
- hitting with fist
- kicking
- choking
- grabbing
- pinching
- poking



# Physical Abuse Cont:

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- Pulling hair or threatening with weapons
- Bodily wrestling
- Throwing things at the person
- Denying the person
  - Sleep
  - Food
  - Fluids
  - Use of the bathroom
- Confining the person in any manner
- Harming
  - Self
  - partner
  - Children
  - Pet
  - property



# Verbal Abuse

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- Verbal abuse includes name-calling, threatening, denial, undermining and ordering.
- All of these behaviors prohibit normal, healthy interaction between two adults and foster a lack of respect for individual thoughts, feelings, and opinions.
  - Yelled at
  - Nagged at
  - Called stupid
  - Talked to as a child
  - Ridiculed appearance
  - Threatened to take the children



# Verbal Abuse: Cont:

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- Called the victim “stupid” “ugly” or “dumb”
- Embarrassed the victim in public
- Called the victim “a bad sex partner”
- Called names
- Called racial slurs
- Told victim no one else would want them
- Constant put-downs
- Threatened to kill victim
- Belittled important things accomplished
- Called the victim an unfit mother
- Told the children the victim is disgusting
- Always screamed at the children



# Sexual Abuse

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- Any sexual act or behavior without consent, from degrading name-calling with sexual implications
- Sexual abuse includes forced sex with the threat of violence, or the use of objects and damaging acts without the person's consent.



# Psychological/emotional-

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- **Psychological/Emotional**

- brainwashing
- control of the person's freedom to come and go when he or she chooses
- forcing someone to stay awake
- forcing degrading behavior such as eating out of a pet dish
- constant blame or ridicule
- controlling behavior such as telling a person what to or not to wear
- stopping partner from seeing friends or using the phone
- timing absences from home
- monitoring the mileage on the car



# **Destruction of Property or Pets**

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## **.Destruction of property or pets.**

It includes:

- breaking partner's special or treasure possession
- punching holes in walls
- destroying furniture, doors
- windows, or partner's vehicle
- throwing things
- May harm or threat to harm pets

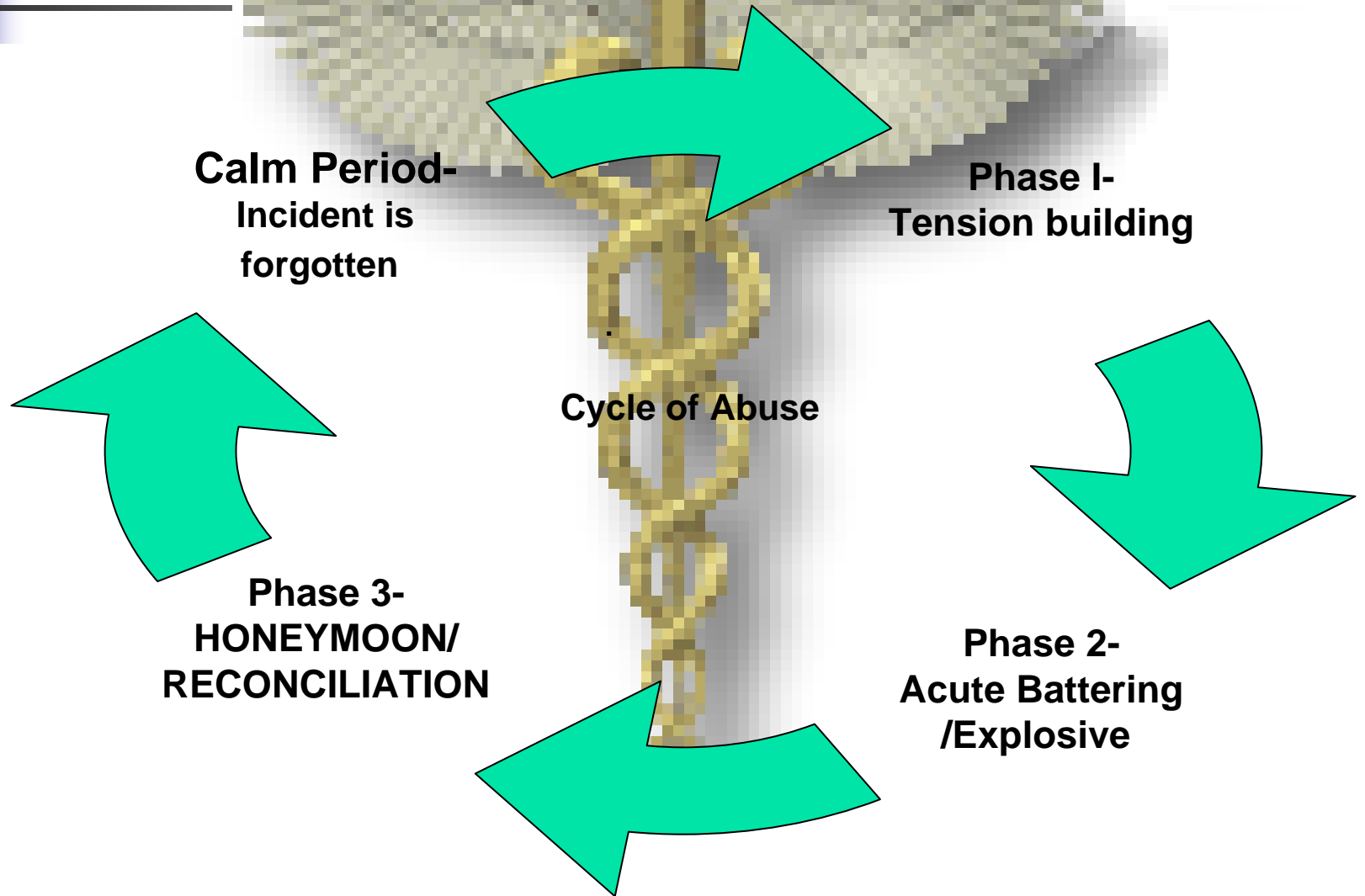
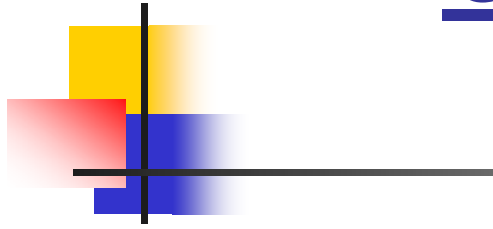
# Spiritual Abuse



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- Spiritual abuse is often categorized with psychological and emotional abuse.
- In intimate relationships, the abuser does not allow the victim to have or maintain her own spiritual belief system.
- The strategy may consist of forbidding the victim from attending church or religious gatherings and this may consist of the following acts:
  - Forcing the victim to attend a church which promotes a difference doctrine
  - Threatening to have the victim excommunicated
  - Manipulating a pastor, church counselor, or spiritual leader to provide joint counseling to force the victim to confess sins (not taking responsibility for being an abuser)
  - Justifying abuse by stating it is a religious law, sanctioned by church or church officials as "God 's will "

# *Cycle of Violence*



**Calm Period-**  
Incident is  
forgotten

**Phase 1-**  
Tension building

**Cycle of Abuse**

**Phase 3-**  
HONEYMOON/  
RECONCILIATION

**Phase 2-**  
Acute Battering  
/Explosive

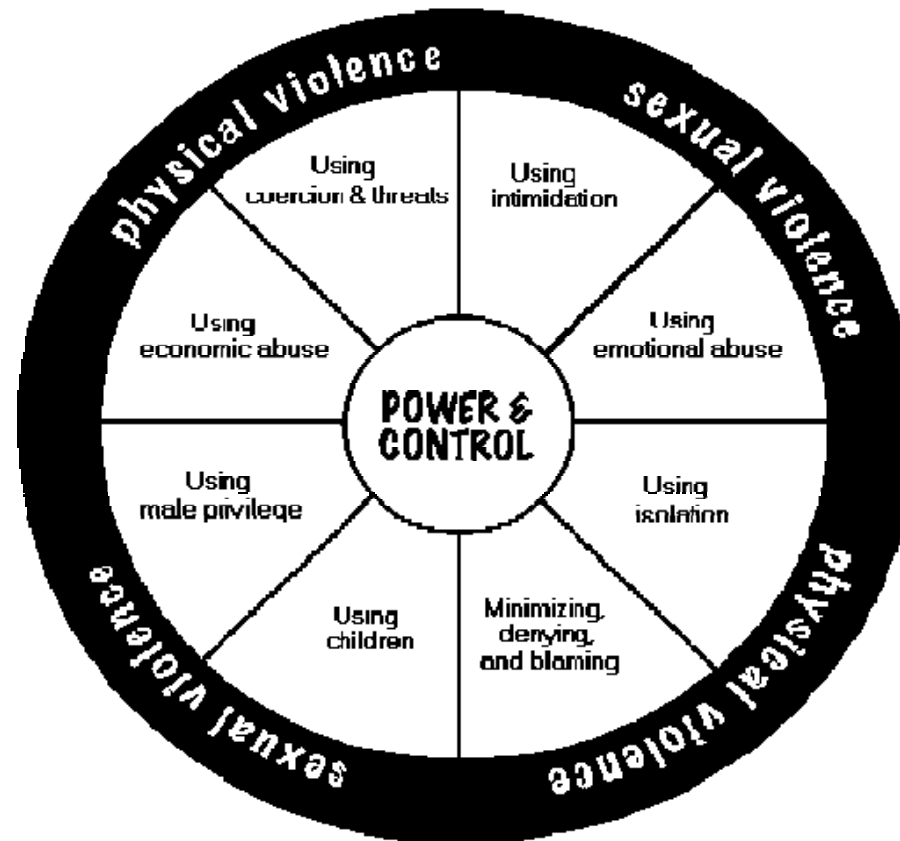


# *Cycle of Violence*

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- **Phase 1**
- **TENSION BUILDING:**
- Tension increases, breakdown of communication, victim feels the need to placate the abuser
- **Phase 2**
- **ACUTE BATTERING INCIDENT/EXPLOSIVE**
- Verbal and emotional abuse. anger, blaming, arguing, threats, intimidation.
- **Phase 3**
- **HONEYMOON/  
RECONCILIATION**
- Abuser apologizes, gives excuses, blames the victim, denies the abuse occurred, or says it wasn't as bad as the victim claims
- **CALM PERIOD**
- Incident is "forgotten", no abuse is taking place.

# THE WHEEL OF POWER AND CONTROL



Domestic Intervention Project, Duluth, Minnesota



# Characteristics of An Abusers

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- Shows extreme jealousy and wants to keep the woman isolated
- Has an inability to cope with stress and shows a lack of impulse control (This may not necessarily appear outside the home)
- Has a poor self-image and blames others for problems
- Shows severe mood swings
- May have a history of abuse in his own family and may have been abusive in courtship



# Characteristics of An Abusers- Cont:

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- Presents a history of personal and/or family discord
  - unemployment
  - cruelty to animals
  - abuse of alcohol or other substances, and other unexplained behavior
  - Has been verbally abused as a child, or witnessed it in his own family
  - Has an explosive temper, triggered by minor frustrations and arguments
  - Are extremely possessive and jealous (e.g., an intense desire to control their mates)
  - His sense of masculinity depends on the women's dependency upon him.
  - He feels like a man only if his partner is totally submissive and dependent on him.



# Characteristics of An Abusers- Cont:

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- Has superficial relationships with other people. Their primary, if not exclusive relationship is with their wife /girlfriend
- Has low self-esteem
- Blames others for his actions
- Has severe stress reactions using drinking and battering to cope
- Frequently uses aggressiveness, forceful sex to control victims
- Does not believe that violent behavior should have negative consequences



# Characteristics of An Abusers- Cont:

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- Exhibits cruelty to animals and children
- Becomes quickly involved in relationships
- Isolates their partners from their own families
- Breaks or throws objects
- Uses verbal abuse to intimidate or manipulate their partners
- May appear calm and rational in the presence of others after a battering incident
- Alternates from extreme tenderness to extreme aggressiveness
- Has a public personality, which is very different from their private personality



# Characteristics of an Abused Women

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- **Characteristics:**

- Shows guilt, ambivalence, and fear about living conditions
- Feels isolated and untrusting of others, even though she may be involved in the community
- Is emotionally and economically dependent
- Has a poor self-concept (this may not have been true *BEFORE* the relationship)
- Feels angry, embarrassed, and ashamed
- Is fearful of being insane
- Has learned to feel helpless and feels powerless
- Has unexplained injuries that may go untreated



# Reasons Women Stay in an abused Relationship

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- **Economic dependence**

- concern about the support of herself and her children
- Fear of greater physical danger to herself and her children if they try to leave
- Fear of being hunted down and suffering a worse beating than before

- **Social isolation**

- lack of support from family and friends
- Lack of understanding from family, friends, police, ministers, etc
- Negative response from community, police, courts, social workers, etc.



# Reasons Women Stay in an abused Relationship- Cont:

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- **Survival**
  - Fear that her partner will follow her and kill her if she leaves, which is often based on a real threat by the partner
  - Fear of emotional damage to the children
  - Fear of losing custody of the children, based on the partner's remarks
- **Lack of alternative housing**
  - she has nowhere to go
- **Lack of skills**
  - she may not be able to get a job



# Reasons Women Stay in an abused Relationship- Cont

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- **Fear of involvement in the court process**
  - she may have had experiences before
- **Fear of the unknown**
- **Fear and ambivalence over making** formidable life changes
- **Acceptance of the violence**
  - Violence escalates slowly overtime
  - Living with constant abuse numbs the victim so the she is unable to recognize the pattern of abuse.
- **Ties to the Community**
  - Children would have to leave their school ne



# Reasons Women Stay in an abused Relationship- Cont

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- **Ties to her home and belongings**
- **Family pressure**
  - family members may have warned her that the marriage would not work out
- **Fear of the abuser doing something to get her**
  - He may report her to welfare, call her workplace, etc.
- **Unable to use resources because of how they are provided (language problems, disability, homophobia, etc.)**
- **Time needed to plan and prepare to leave**



# Reasons Women Stay in an abused Relationship- Cont

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## ■ Emotional Factors

### **Insecurity**

- Insecurity about being alone, on her own
- Afraid to cope with home and the children herself

### **Loyalty**

- May feel he is sick and she needs to stay e.g., compare this with a cancer or broken leg.

### **Pity**

- May feel sorry for him
- Wanting to help; may feel if she stays she can help him get better
- Fear that he will commit suicide if she leaves; often the abuser threatens to commit suicide



# Reasons Women Stay in an abused Relationship- Cont

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- **Denial**
  - May feel that the situation is really not that bad
  - Often terrified that she may deny the abuse
- **Love**
  - often the abuser is quite loving and lovable when he is not abusive
  - Victim remembers what he was like during the honeymoon stages
- **Guilt**
  - Victims believes in her partner and other significant others agree that she is at fault
  - Believes the violence is caused through inadequacies of her own
  - Abuser often tells her this and she may feel that she deserves it for failing
  - Victim may feel guilt about the failure of the marriage/relationship



# Reasons Women Stay in an abused Relationship- Cont

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- **Shame and humiliation in front of the community**
- **Unfounded optimism that the abuser will change**
  - May feel that things will get better, despite evidence to the contrary
- **Learned helplessness**
  - Tried everything possible in her life to change, but no success, so that eventually she expects to fail
  - Feeling helpless is a logical response to constant resistance to efforts
- **False hope**
  - May attempt to do everything she asks him to do such as counseling, anger management, etc; sees a chance for improvement



# Reasons Women Stay in an abused Relationship- Cont

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- **Responsibility**
  - Feels as though she only needs to meet some set of vague expectations in order to earn the abuser's approval
  - Insecurity over her potential independence and lack of emotional support
- **Demolished self-esteem**
  - May feel that she is too fat, stupid, and ugly, etc. to leave the relationship
- **Lack of emotional support**
  - Feels like she is doing this on her own and it is just too much
- **Simple exhaustion**
  - Just too tired and worn out from the abuse to leave



# Reasons Women Stay in an abused Relationship- Cont

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- **Personal Beliefs**

- **Parenting**

- May feel that she needs a partner for raising the children ( a poor father may be better than none )

- **Emotional Factors**

- Insecurity about being alone, on her own ; afraid to cope with home and the children herself

- **Loyalty**

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- **Pity**

- May feel sorry for him

- **Wanting to help**



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# Reasons Women Stay in an abused Relationship- Cont

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# Reasons Women Stay in an abused Relationship- Cont

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- **Religious and extended family pressure to keep the family together no matter what**
  - May have been raised to believe that she is solely responsible for maintaining a good relationship with the man in her life
  - May believe outsiders should not be involved in family affairs
- **Duty**
  - cultural and religious belief may influence her decision that when she married him it was for life
- **Responsibility**
  - It is up to her to work things out and save the marriage
- **Identity**
  - Women are raised to feel they need a partner (e.g., even an abusive one) in order to be complete or accepted by society



# Legal Aspects

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- Women are most likely to be ***killed*** when ***attempting to leave the abuser***.
- They are at (25 %) more risk than those who stay. The victims' safety is jeopardized as soon as their ***partners learn*** that ***their relationships may end***.
- ***Women who leave*** their ***batterers are at (75 %)*** greater risk of ***being killed by the batterer*** than those who stay (NCADV, 1995).
- Most states have general laws that mandate health care providers to report incident when the injuries are caused by weapons (gun, knife, or other deadly weapon)



## Legal Aspects-Cont:

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- Most *intimate partner victimizations* are *not reported* to the police.
- Only approximately *one fifth of all rapes, one-quarter of all physical assaults, and one half of all stalking perpetrated against female respondents by intimate partners* were reported to the police.



# Legal Aspects-Cont:

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- ***Arrest and incarceration*** can result when women ***try to protect or defend themselves.***
- The arrests of women for domestic violence assaults have ***increased since mandatory*** and ***pro-arrest laws and policies have been implemented.***
- The ***increase of women*** arrested under mandatory arrest laws and policies may be due to officers' reluctance to conduct careful investigations, perhaps in part as backlash against women.



## Legal Aspects-Cont:

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- *Some abusers* call the police to have their *partners arrested* and use arrest as an additional tool of *power and control*.
- Some *battered women* do *fight back* to defend themselves and are *treated as the primary aggressors* by the police and the courts
- The *majority* of women who *fight back* do so in *self-defense*



## Legal Aspects-Cont:

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- The average *prison sentence of men* who kill their women partners is *2 to 6 years*.
- *Women* who kill their partners are sentenced on an *average to 15 years*, despite the fact the most women who, kill do so in self-defense.
- As many as *(90 %)* of the women are in jail today for *killing their battered partner*.



# Safety Antiviolence Plan/Safety Plan

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- **The antiviolence plan** should consist of having the following items packed in *a box or suitcase* and *kept in a safe and trusted place* such as the home of a *reliable neighbor, friend, or relative*. Other items include a *duplicate driver's license, passport, and birth certificate*



# Safety Antiviolence Plan/Safety Plan- Cont:

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Also, there are number of items a victim needs to take when leaving. They are as follows:

- Cash: at least enough for a couple of nights shelter, food and, perhaps a bus ticket
- Emergency phone numbers: women's shelter, legal services
- An extra set of car keys
- Clothing for self and children
- Identification
- Driver's License and Registration
- Children's Birth Certificates
- Money
- Lease, Rental Agreement, House Deed, Mortgage Payment Book



# Safety Antiviolence Plan/Safety Plan- Cont:

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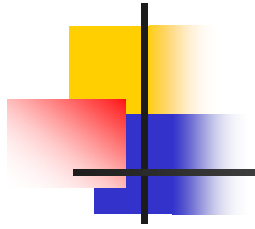
- Bank Books, Saving Books
- Checkbooks, ATM Cards
- Keys-House/ Car, Office, Safety Deposit Box
- Items of Special Sentimental Value
- Medications
- Small Saleable Objects
- Address Book
- Pictures
- Medical Records For All Family Members
- Insurance card or insurance papers



# Safety Antiviolence Plan/Safety Plan- Cont:

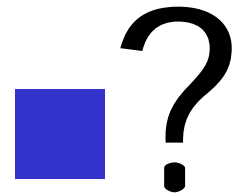
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- Social Security Cards (children too, SS# for spouse)
- School and Vaccination Records
- Work Permits
- Green card
- Passport
- Divorce Papers
- Order for Protection/Harassment, Restraining Order
- Jewelry
- Children's Small Toys
- Computer Disk Containing Essential Information (Domestic Violence: There 's No Excuse, 2001, Varc Carolis, 2000)



# Questions

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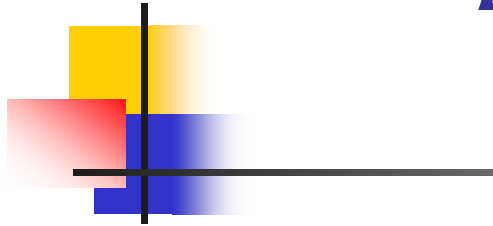
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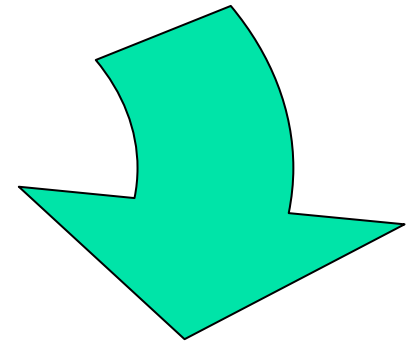
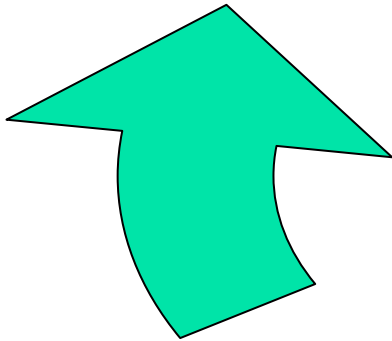


**Health Care**  
**(Societal Efforts)**

**Restoration**

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**Health Services**  
**(Delivery Components)**



**Prevention**

**Rehabilitation**

