

# Adolescent Domestic Battery (ADB)

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ROBIN HASSLER THOMPSON, JD, MA

WENDY NUSSBAUM, MA

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# Goals

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- Defining Adolescent Domestic Battery
- Deepen understanding of types of “ADB” behaviors in families
- Look at the “System Response” to the problem
- Look at the “Treatment Response” to the problem
- Next Steps
- Resources

# Definition of ADB

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**Adolescent Domestic Battery (ADB)** is defined as a youth committing an act of violence against a **parent**, sibling or other family member living in the home.\*

**a.k.a:**

**Adolescent Parent Abuse (APA)**

**Adolescent to Parent Violence and Abuse (APVA)**

**Child to Parent Abuse (CPA)**

**Adolescent Family Violence (AFV)**

**Other?**

# Who are these youth?

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According to data from the FBI's National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS):

Half (51%) of ADBs victimized a parent and one-quarter (24%) victimized a sibling.

When against a parent, the parent was most likely the mother for both juvenile male (68%) and juvenile female offenders (81%).

Juveniles were least likely to commit an assault with another offender when the victim was a parent (11%).

48% of ADBs were arrested, compared with 31% of juvenile offenders who assaulted acquaintances and 32% who assaulted strangers

# The scope of the problem

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Over a ten year period, approximately 10% of all juvenile arrests in Illinois were for DB related incidents.

65% resulted in no injury  
+34% resulted in only minor injury

**99% minor or no injury**

Yet these kids are overridden into detention at a much higher rate than other kids with similar crimes and return to court more frequently.

We continue to arrest...

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# Background on DV laws

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Definitions of Domestic Violence

Mandatory vs. Preferred arrest

Intentions of laws

Unintended consequences regarding youth?

# Intimate Partner Violence vs. ADB

Intimate Partner Violence	Adolescent Domestic Battery (In majority of cases)
Power and Control Dynamic Fixed	Power and Control Dynamic Varies
Control over Victim	Control over Immediate Environment
Intent to harm or humiliate	No real intent to harm, but to get own way.
Violence as Preferred or “Go to” Response	Escalation of Behavior-Violence as Last Resort
Family’s PRIMARY concern: Safety	Family’s Primary Concern: Establish or re-establish appropriate balance of power and control
Individual Treatment	For best outcome: family is involved in treatment



# Other Adolescent Battery vs. ADB

Other Adolescent Battery	Adolescent Domestic Battery
Either no emotional connection or no positive emotional connection	Greater degree of ambivalence. "I love my mom and I know I shouldn't hit her, but..."
<b>Ability to separate and avoid other person.</b>	<b>Inability to separate both emotionally and physically.</b>
Usually clear delineation between victim/perpetrator.	Not always clear delineation between victim/perpetrator.
The JJ system defines battery.	The family defines battery.

Sarah  
(Defensive)

Jason  
(Isolated)

Richie (Family  
Chaos)

Cliff  
(Escalating)

# “Types” of ADB

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- Not all kids who commit domestic battery are the same
- Different types of kids and families need different types of responses
- Address familial risk factors
- Teach youth and parents/guardians new ways of resolving family conflict

# Why do youth use “violence”

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**Self-defense** (or defense of others) especially from ongoing abuse

**Unusual Stressors**, such as

- Death of a loved one
- Financial instability in the home
- School or relational stress
- Other traumatic event

**Poor family functioning**, including conflicting expectations between parent and child

**Desire to get his/her own way**

**Overall rejection of parental authority**

# Typologies

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Defensive – only when youth threatened by parent/caregiver

Isolated incident – one off/atypical stress incident

Family chaos – inconsistent or unclear parenting authority

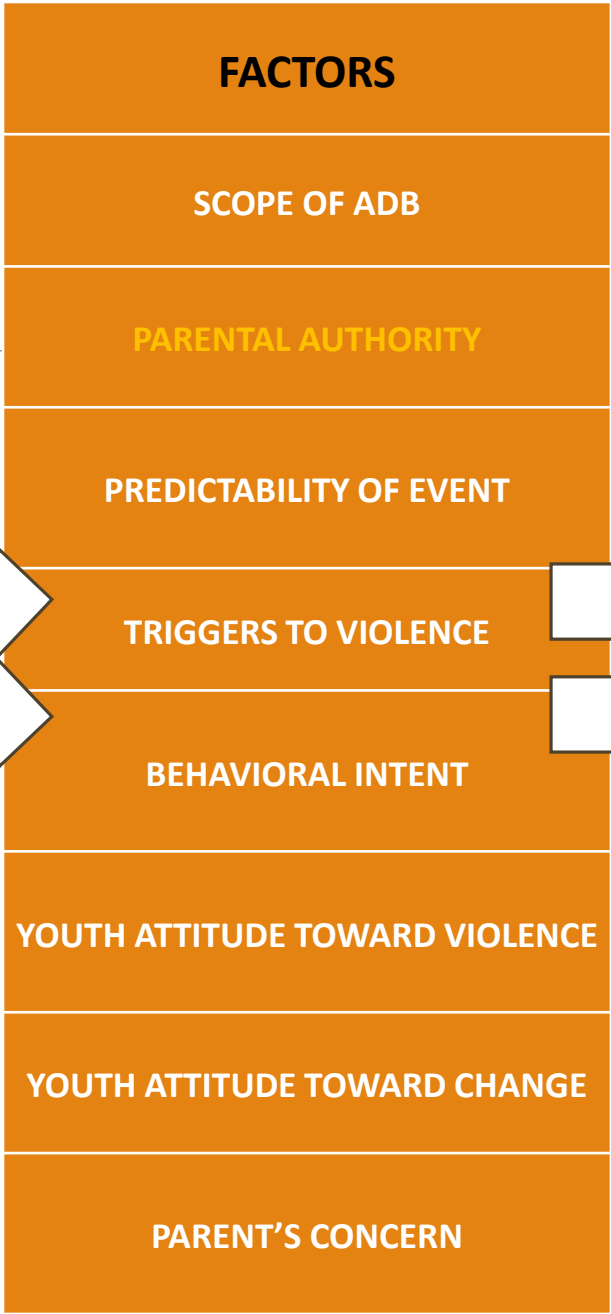
Escalating – frequent, inappropriate control by youth, higher danger/ safety concerns (7% in one study; real batterers)

Defensive

Isolated Incident

Family Chaos

Escalating



# Adolescent Domestic Battery Typology Graph

# Florida DV Respite Program

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Created to respond to youths arrested for “domestic violence”

Statute defines “domestic violence” broadly to include non-intimate partner violence:

“Acts committed by one family member against another who are residing together as if a family or are related by blood or marriage”

Recent changes allow up to 21 days in shelter

# Value and Importance of DV Respite

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Cooling off period

Place to do thorough assessment of youth and family

Prevent future violence

Offer tools to youth and family for help in future

Structure safe reunification

Detail practical and continued aftercare

Offer resources





# General observations about DV Respite

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New program

Vast differences around the state

Promising practices will need to adapt depending on area

Training needs present – can we pinpoint them?

Need to explore differences/similarities with other youth getting services

Importance of family safety

# Moving the Dial

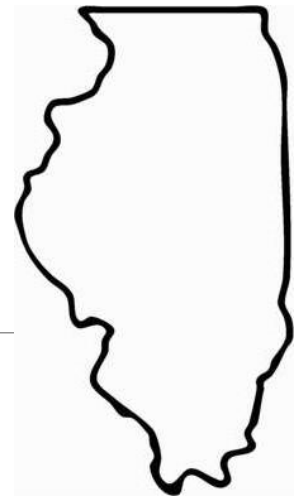
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- Implementing New Policy
- Screening and Assessment
- Train the Trainer
- Matching Interventions to “Typologies”



# Illinois ADB Project

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## **Phase I: Models for Change (2009 to Present)**

- System Mapping
- Collaborative Effort with Juvenile Justice and Community Agencies

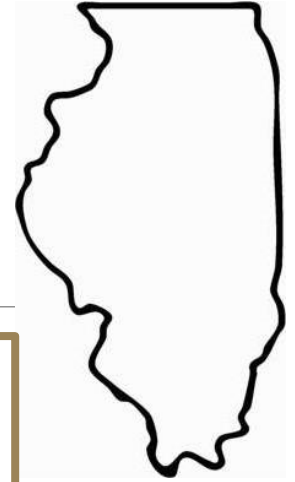
## **Phase II: Research Project to Validate the ADBTT**

## **Phase III: Girls Grant**

- Comprehensive System Map
- ADB Law Enforcement Response Protocol
- System Response
- Treatment Response and Library

# Comprehensive System Maps

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## Juvenile Justice System Map

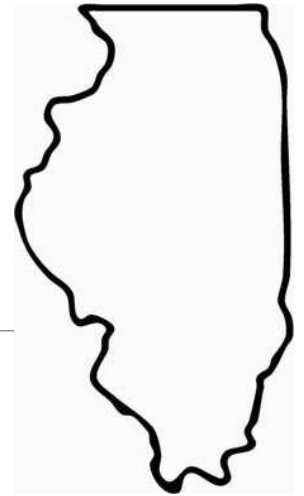
- DuPage County
- Demonstrated how a case progresses through the system
- Provide decision points to build new processes and programs.

## Girls System Map

- Conducted by Loyola University
- Looked at Pathways into the system for Girls charged with Domestic Battery
- Reviewed Case Files and Interviewed Clinicians

# Illinois ADB Law Enforcement Response Protocol

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- Based on input from variety of stakeholders, including girls and families
- Modeled after the International Chiefs of Police “Domestic Violence Arrest Protocol”
- Companion Piece to IL DV Protocol
- Part of a “tool kit”
- Draft form

# System Response

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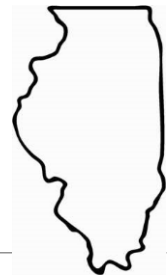


## Juvenile Justice Response

- Engagement and Safety Planning at point of Detention
- Formal Diversion
- Support of the Court
- Dedicated Probation Officer

## Girls Grant Response

- Piloted at three sites
- Goal is to use Comprehensive Community-Based Youth Services System (CCBYS)
- Will be used with Girls and Boys



# Treatment Response

ADB Specific Treatment	Defensive	Isolated Incident	Family Chaos	Escalating
Safety Planning	Recommended, including planning around parent violence	Recommended, may include "behavior contract"	Recommended; may include "behavior contract"; may need to include planning around parent behavior	Recommended, may want to safety plan with parent alone.
Domestic Violence Education (4 hour educational program)	Recommended on case by case basis and only if it has a parent component	Recommended on case by case basis	Recommended if it has a parent component	Recommended for early incidents
Step Up (21 week group therapy curriculum with parent component)	Not recommended unless it is the only treatment option available	Due to length of program, not recommended unless parents are requesting additional support.	Highly recommended; emphasize accountability	Recommended; emphasize safety planning; needs to include youth accountability to the system (monitoring)
Traditional Adult DV education	Not recommended	Not recommended	Not recommended	Recommended only for escalating youth with very high risk scores

# Promising Practices

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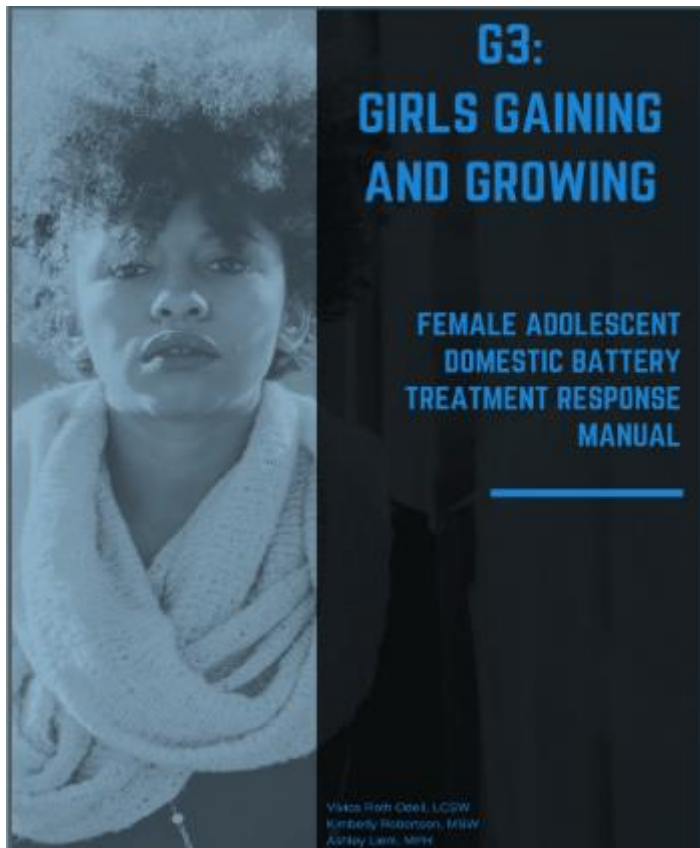
## **Step Up – King County, WA; DuPage, IL**

- Coordinated community approach/team focus
- 21 weeks/low recidivism
- Models respectful family relationships
- Prioritizes safety
- Joint parent/youth sessions with parallel youth and parent groups
- Skills based/cognitive behavioral/strength based
- Restorative practice approach
- Trauma Informed



# Promising Practices

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## **Therapeutic Models:**

Repairing Attachment  
Trauma-Focused Step Up  
Circumplex Model

## **Case Management Services:**

Wraparound  
Brokerage/Generalist  
Task-Centered  
Clinical

# Other Considerations

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- Safety planning
- Trauma
- Adolescent development
- Gender-responsive services
- Relatives as caregivers
- Impact of Race
- Cultural realities of LGBTQ youth
- Human Trafficking

# Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACES)

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“Youth in the juvenile justice system were indeed victims of child abuse, neglect, and dysfunctional homes prior to, or at least current with, being ‘offenders.’” Dr. Michael Baglivio (2014 study)

Higher rates in girls than boys

Family violence, parental separation/divorce, household member incarceration most common

Sexual abuse higher (13%) for girls than boys (7%)

Need trauma informed care – vital for all staff

# Gender matters

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Importance of appropriate gender specific programming

Most program responses based on males

Violence/abuse in home strong predictor of JJ involvement of girls

Girls have higher rates of physical and sexual violence in home; 4x > males

2014 FL DJJ ACES study clearly found need for gender-specific interventions

“Mother blaming” in culture – impacts on system responses?

Females were victims in 67% of juvenile DV cases

Offenders: 35% female, 65% male

UK study found 7% of calls to family helpline were child to parent abuse, usually targeted mothers

# Useful Research

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*Adolescent Domestic Battery: Responding Effectively to Families in Crisis*  
(Models for Change: System Reform in Juvenile Justice, Illinois Models for Change Initiative, Dec. 2012)

<http://www.modelsforchange.net/publications/627>

*Gender Injustice: System Level Juvenile Justice Reforms for Girls*  
(Sherman, F. and Balck, A., Sept 2015)

<http://www.nationalcrittenton.org/gender-injustice/>

Promising Practices in the Diversion of Juvenile Domestic Violence Cases  
(Siegel, G., and Halemba, G. NCJJ, Mar 2015)

<http://www.ncjj.org/pdf/Gene%20Gregg%20report/PromisingPracticesJuvvenileDVdiversion2015.pdf>

# Useful Research – Cont'd

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*Adolescent to Parent Abuse as a Form of “Domestic Violence.”* Holt, A. (2015)

<http://tva.sagepub.com/content/early/2015/05/12/1524838015584372.abstract>

*Domestic Assaults by Juvenile Offenders.* Snyder, H., & McCurley, C. OJJDP (Nov. 2008)

*Information Guide: adolescent to parent violence and abuse (APVA)*  
Home Office, UK

(undated) [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/420963/APVA.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/420963/APVA.pdf)

# What do you need?

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More/better information

Community Engagement (Stakeholders)

Training

Strategies for parental involvement

Specific DV related curricula

Community Resources – dealing with DV, poverty issues

Aftercare – strategies for youth and families to stay safe

Addressing ACES

# Final Comments or Questions

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## Thank you!

Contact info:

Robin Hassler Thompson

[robinhthompson@comcast.net](mailto:robinhthompson@comcast.net)

850.907.0693

Wendy Nussbaum

[Wendy.Nussbaum@Illinois.gov](mailto:Wendy.Nussbaum@Illinois.gov)

312.793.3401