Domestic Violence, Intimate Partner Violence, & Risk

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This project was supported by Grant No. 2016-TA-AX-K056 awarded by the Office on Violence Against Women, U.S. Department of Justice. The opinions, findings, conclusions, and recommendations expressed in this (document/program/exhibit) are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women.
Overview

Terminology
Magnitude
Gender
Risk factors
Lethality
Military & Veteran Issues
Terminology

**Domestic Violence (DV)**

Most known and used term

Criminal statutes usually require violence, threat of violence, or violation of domestic violence protection order

In some states, victims include siblings, parents, and other adult relatives
Terminology

**Domestic Violence (DV)**

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**Intimate Partner Violence (IPV)**

More specific; commonly used by advocates, researchers, and others in the field

Physical, sexual, or psychological harm

Limited to current or former partners or spouses
Terminology

Battering

An ongoing pattern of coercion, intimidation, and emotional abuse, reinforced by use and threat of physical and/or sexual violence

“Batterers Intervention Programs” or BIPs

Not all domestic violence offenders are batterers
Military Definitions

**Domestic Violence**

Offense under USC, State law, or Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ)

Use, attempted use, or threatened use of force or violence, or

Violation of a lawful protection order

*DoD Instruction 6400.06, Domestic Abuse*

*Commandant (Coast Guard) Instruction 1752.1, Family Advocacy Program*
## Military Definitions

### Domestic Violence

- Offense under USC, State law, or Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ)
- Use, attempted use, or threatened use of force or violence, or
- Violation of a lawful protection order

### Domestic Abuse

- Domestic violence or a pattern of behavior resulting in emotional or psychological abuse, economic control, and/or interference with personal liberty

*DoD Instruction 6400.06, Domestic Abuse
Commandant (Coast Guard) Instruction 1752.1, Family Advocacy Program*
Persons

Victims and Survivors
Offenders and Perpetrators
Defendants and Participants
Veterans who use or experience intimate partner violence (Veterans Health Administration - VHA)
Servicemembers and Veterans
Military Power & Control Wheel

**Physical Violence**
- **Using Coercion and Threats:** Telling her, “If you report me, you’ll lose your income, base housing, the kids, be deported. Threatening her with firearms, saying, “Do what I tell you or I’ll get you.”
- **Using Emotional Abuse:** Ignoring her when you return from work or deployment. Trivializing her concerns. Telling her people think she’s crazy. Telling her she’s a bad wife, mother, lover. Putting her down publicly. Accusing her of ruining your career.
- **Minimizing, Denying, and Blaming:** Saying she’s lying to “get” you. Claiming she provoked it by playing around, getting drunk, not shutting up, or not doing what you told her. Blaming the violence on job stress or alcohol.
- **Claiming Military/Male Privilege:** Using her dependent wife status or cultural/religious traditions to keep her in line. Keeping all legal documents in your name. Saying you’re the CO and the family is your troops. Taking over as head of the household post-deployment.

**Sexual Violence**
- **Using Intimidation:** Telling her you’re trained to kill and maim. Controlling her with stares, looks, and gestures. Playing with or cleaning your weapons around her. Hurting pets. Destroying her property.
- **Using Isolation:** Controlling access to her military I.D. card, family, friends, information, base/command functions, telephone, transportation, or English lessons. Living off-base to lessen her contact with others.
- **Using Children:** Refusing to help with the child(ren). Threatening to get custody. Telling the child(ren) she’s a bad mother. Getting the child(ren) to disrespect her. Threatening to hurt the child(ren) if she doesn’t comply.
- **Using Economic Abuse:** Leaving no allowances during deployment. Not sharing pay or financial records. Telling her what she can buy. Preventing her from getting a checking account, credit cards, a job, or schooling.

*National Center on Domestic and Sexual Violence*
## Lifetime IPV Victimization

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Women</th>
<th>Men</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Physical violence</td>
<td>32.4% (39.1 mil)</td>
<td>28.3% (32.3 mil)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Severe physical violence</td>
<td>23.2% (28 mil)</td>
<td>13.9% (15.9 mil)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contact sexual violence</td>
<td>16.4% (19.7 mil)</td>
<td>7.0% (8 mil)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stalking</td>
<td>9.7% (11.7 mil)</td>
<td>2.3% (2.6 mil)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Any IPV-related impact</td>
<td>27.4% (33 mil)</td>
<td>11.0% (12.6 mil)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*CDC’s National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey - State Report (2017)*
## Lethal IPV

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Women</th>
<th></th>
<th>Men</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All Homicide Victims</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>↓</td>
<td>79%</td>
<td>↓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Killed by Current or Former Intimate Partners</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>↓</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>↓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ø By Firearms</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>↓</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CDC’s National Violent Death Reporting System (NVDRS) (2015)
Military and Domestic Abuse

65% of spouse abuse victims and 71% of IPV victims were women (85% of active duty servicemembers are male)

Highest rates of spouse abuse in lowest enlisted ranks; majority of offenders were slightly more senior enlisted

No statistical significant increases in spouse abuse over several years; moderate increases in IPV and sexual abuse

8 of 9 offenders in lethal incidents were male; 7 of 9 were active duty; Firearms most common method in lethal incidents

*DoD Report on Child Abuse and Neglect and Domestic Abuse in the Military for FY16*

*DoD Office of Military and Family Readiness Policy*
Military and Veteran-related IPV

Little difference in victimization between active duty and civilian women except higher rates of IPV and sexual violence for active duty women with deployment history

National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey (2010)

Incarcerated veterans comprise approximately 8% of prison population

Greater percentage of veterans (64%) than nonveterans (48%) were sentenced for violent offenses

Veterans in Prison and Jail, 2011–12, Bureau of Justice Statistics, U.S. Department of Justice
Safety is Paramount
IPV Risk Markers

- History of violent behavior toward family members (including children), acquaintances, and strangers
- History of physical, sexual, or emotional abuse toward intimate partners
- Use of or threats with a weapon
- Threats of suicide
- Estrangement, recent separation, or divorce
- Use of drugs or alcohol daily
- Antisocial attitudes and behaviors and affiliation with antisocial peers
IPV Risk Markers (Cont’d)

• Presence of other life stressors, including employment/financial problems or recent loss

• History of being a witness or victim of family violence in childhood

• Evidence of mental health problems and/or a personality disorder (i.e., antisocial, dependent, borderline traits)

• Resistance to change and lack of motivation for treatment

• Attitudes that support violence toward women

Hotaling & Sugarman, 1986; Kropp & Hart, 2000; Pence & Lizdas, 1998; Roehl & Guertin, 2000; Sonkin 1997; Straus, 1992
Most Significant Risk Factors for Lethality

Threats to kill
Alcohol / Substance abuse
Access to a Firearm
Unemployment
Pet abuse
Past acts of Domestic Violence
Strangulation / Choking
Military Personnel & Veterans Issues

Mobility and geographic separation
Deployments and reunification
Firearms, hand-to-hand combat training, combat experience
Medical and psychological sequelae from war zone deployments
Unemployment
Homelessness
Suicide
Military Sexual Assault/Military Sexual Trauma
Justice-involvement