



ELLEN PENCE, Ph.D., has worked for over 30 years in efforts to end violence in the lives of women and their children. She was one of the founders of the Duluth Domestic Abuse Intervention Project, an inter-agency collaboration model used in all 50 states in the U.S. and over 17 countries. She is the chief author and architect of the Praxis Institutional Audit, a

method of identifying, analyzing and correcting institutional failures to protect people drawn into legal and human service systems because of violence and poverty.

Ellen has worked with supervised visitation centers in over thirty states to assess and redesign policies and practices that centralize safety for battered women and their children. She recently completed work with the Center for the Study of Social Policy to conduct an assessment in the State of Michigan to identify the sources of racial disparity in the Child Welfare System. Currently she is working with Praxis International and a national team of experts to design an advocacy learning center that will strengthen advocacy programs' skills and capacities in their work toward ending violence against women. Ellen is well-known for her skill in helping administrators and practitioners re-evaluate their conceptual and administrative practices in order to close the gap between what people need and what institutions provide.

A leader in both the Battered Women's movement and the emerging field of Institutional Ethnography, she is the recipient of numerous awards including the 2008 Society for the Study of Social Problems *Dorothy E. Smith Scholar Activist Award* for significant contributions in a career of activist research. She is the author of two books, five educational curriculums, three organizing manuals and over a dozen scholarly articles on institutional change and advocacy on behalf of battered women and their children.