

# Understanding and Addressing Women's Use of Force in Intimate Heterosexual Relationships: A Retrospective

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Who is Lisa Young Larance?

Practitioner-Scholar

# Training Overview



## ✦ Intervention Perspective

- ✦ Common Experiences of Women Who Use Force
- ✦ Experiences of Women in Marginalized Communities
- ✦ Promising Community-Based Interventions

## ✦ Legal Perspective

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# Intervention Perspective

## Common Experiences of Women Who Use Force:

- ✦ Context is critical
- ✦ Presentation at Intake
  - ✦ IPV Typically have Survivorship Histories; However, Do Not Self-Identify with Practitioner Language
  - ✦ SA Survivorship Histories; However, May Not Be Initially Forthcoming
  - ✦ Expressing Anger; However, Feeling Grief and Shame

# Intervention Perspective

## Experiences of Women in Marginalized Communities:

- ✦ Paradigmatic Victim (Goodmark, 2008, 2012)
- ✦ System's perspective (Miller, 2005)
- ✦ Disabled women (Ballan & Freye, 2012)
- ✦ Black Women (Potter, 2008)
- ✦ South Asian Immigrant Women (Dasgupta, 2002)

# Intervention Perspective

Promising Domestic Gender-Responsive, Trauma-Informed Community-Based Interventions:

- ✦ RENEW, MI
- ✦ Turning Points, MN
- ✦ Vista, NJ

# Change Process

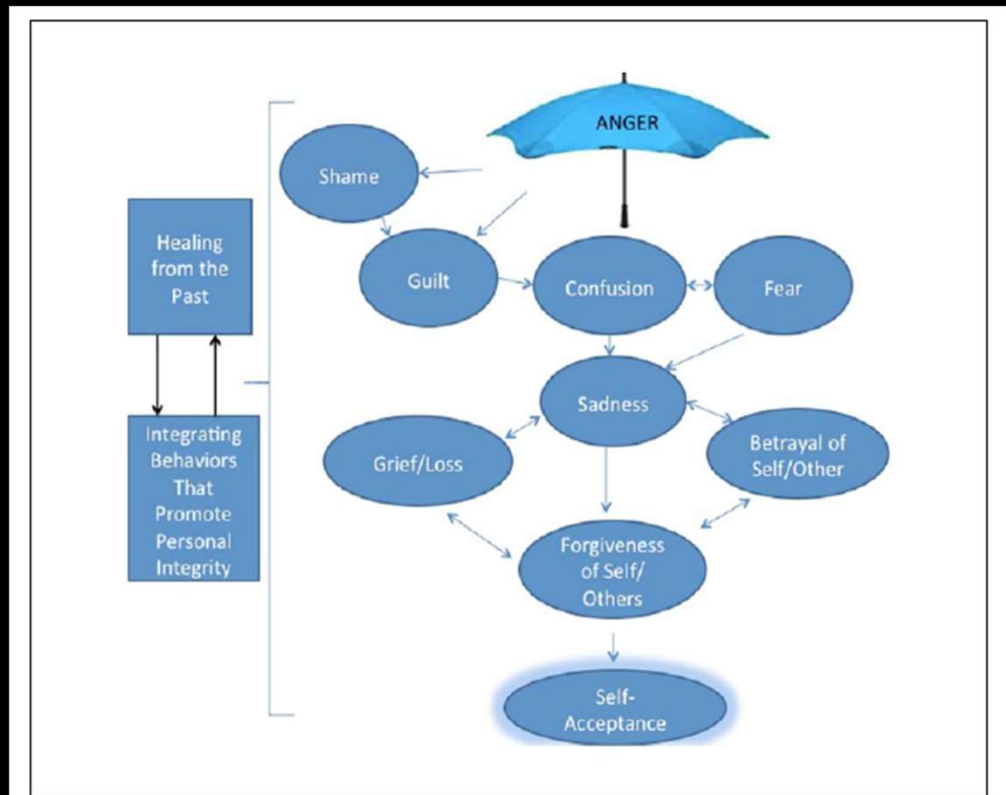


Figure 1. Conceptual Model of the Change Process.

Larance & Rousson, 2016



# Next Steps for Intervention Programs:

- ✦ Know your program's role and goal as a system's partner, i.e., work alongside the criminal legal system while working diligently to not reproduce power and oppression in the women's lives.
- ✦ The role of language
- ✦ Address safety & support, program documentation, & economic insecurity
- ✦ Focus on the presence or absence of coercive control in the current relationship,
- ✦ Rather than a sole focus on gender-responsive intervention, think "intersectionally responsive"
- ✦ COVID-19 complicates women's already complex circumstances

Who is Leigh Goodmark?

Practitioner-scholar

# Legal Perspective

- ◆ Understanding the Legal Framework
  - ◆ Mandatory arrest
  - ◆ Self-defense
  - ◆ Battered woman syndrome
  
- ◆ Limitations of the Legal Response
  
- ◆ Promising Community-Based Interventions

Never doubt that  
a small group of  
thoughtful,  
committed citizens  
can change the  
world; indeed,  
it's the only thing  
that ever does.

— Margaret Mead

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