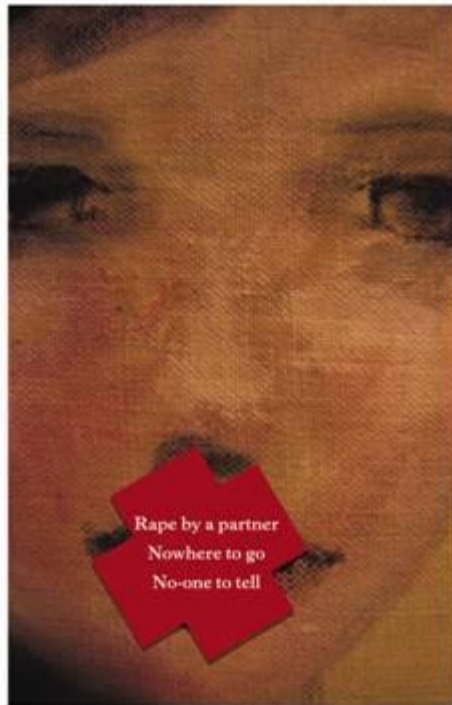


Intimate Partner Sexual Violence

KERRY RAPE & SEXUAL ABUSE CENTRE



IPSV



Objectives

- 1) Be able to describe the nature and prevalence of IPSV.
- 2) Identify the dynamics and impact of IPSV, and the specific challenges faced by survivors.
- 3) Choose strategies for supporting and providing services for survivors..

Participant introductions:

- **In pairs discuss the following-**
- What if any experience do you have dealing with a disclosure of Sexual Violence?
- What is your motivation for attending this training?
- One thing that you would like to learn about in relation to Sexual Violence?

History of “Marital Rape”

- Guess the Year...
 - 1.. A **leading feminist argued that a woman's right to refuse her husband's sexual advances was the “bedrock foundation needed to support equality.”**
-1855 –Elizabeth Cady Stanton
 2. Women protesting the legalization of marital rape (in another country) were **spat on and stoned.**
2009-Afghanistan
 3. Marital rape is recognized as a **human rights violation by the United Nations.** -1993

Marital Rape

“The husband cannot be guilty of rape committed by himself upon his legal wife- for by their matrimonial contract & consent the wife hath given herself up in this kind unto her husband which she cannot retract”

(Sir Matthew Hale 16th Century)

Marital Rape

“ There is of course nothing wrong with a husband, faced with his wife’s initial refusal to engage in intercourse, in attempting to persuade her to change her mind by using rougher than normal handling-it may be that this handling will persuade her to agree-it’s a fine line between not agreeing& changing her mind & consenting”

Justice Bollen Supreme Court Australia 1992-Rape Trial

Intimate Partner Sexual Violence is...

- Any sexual contact or activity with an intimate partner that makes a person feel uncomfortable-

With the purpose off controlling through fear, threats, coercion, manipulation or violence.

With or without the presence off physical violence at the time off the act or within the relationship.

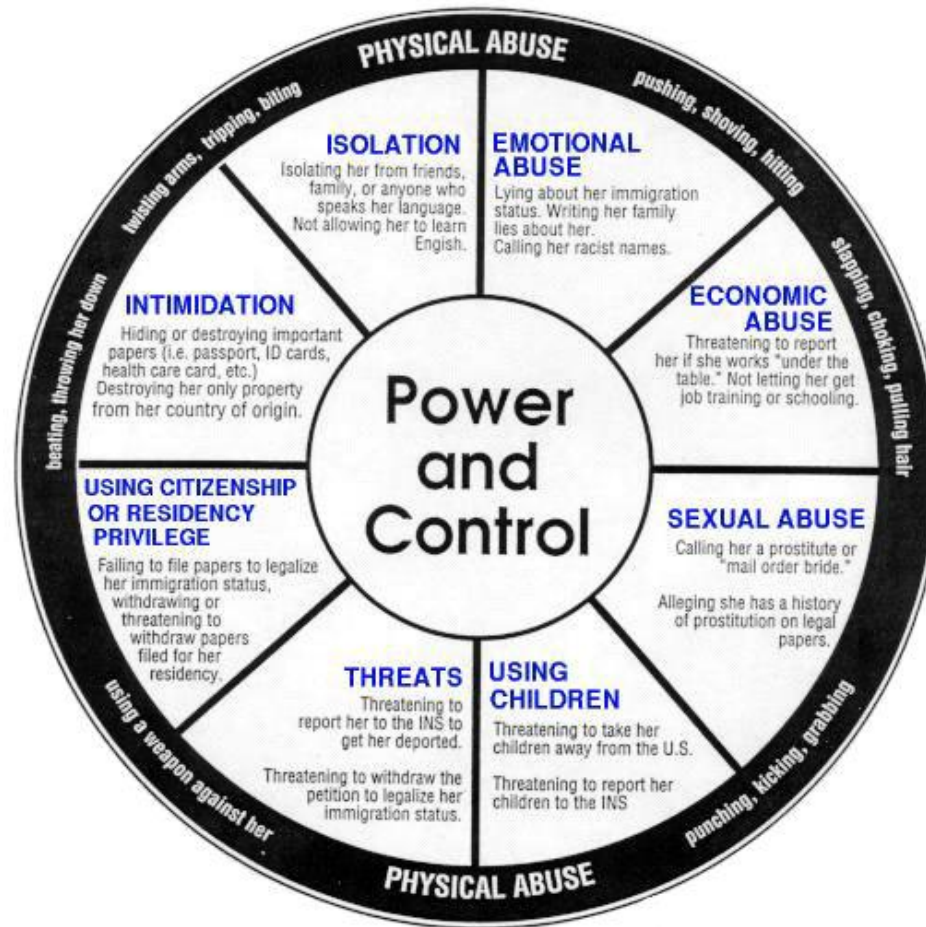
IPSV

- Intimate Partner Sexual Violence is both sexual assault and domestic violence.
- Survivors often have difficulty identifying this form of sexual violence as a crime, and they have special needs for assistance and recovery.
- IPSV often occurs repeatedly within a relationship.
- Sexual assault is common within violent relationships.
- IPSV affects people of all ages, ethnicities, sexual orientations and gender identities.
- IPSV has been overlooked by the criminal justice system until recent years.

IPSV

- Is jealous and assumes that she will have sex with anyone
- Calls her sexual names
- Pressures her to have sex when she says no
- Insists that she dresses in a more sexual way
- Coerces sex by threats/manipulation
- Inflicts injuries that are sex-specific
- Physically forces sex
- Use of pornography

Power & Control Wheel



Forms off IPSV

- Forced oral, anal,, or vaginal intercourse
- Forced participation in group sex, or sex with another person, or sex with partner watching or in front off children
- Unwanted sexual touching, being forced to touch,
- degrading sexual taunts
- Forced involvement in making or watching pornography
- forced prostitution
- Use of technology to victimize

IPSV

- “IPSV is a part of a bigger picture of violence, abuse, and control where-
“sexual assault and abuse get used as an additional form of battering”.

IPSV

- **“Because they were sexually assaulted or abused by an intimate partner, they frequently don’t identify as victims of rape or sexual assault, yet they are experiencing emotions as a survivor of sexual assault.”**

IPSV

- Risk Factors for Partner Rape
- Being physically abused
- Being pregnant
- Being ill or recently discharged from the hospital
- Attempting to leave a partner
- Being separated or divorced
- **WHY DO THESE FACTORS INCREASE RISK?**

Health Issues

- Unwanted pregnancy because of unanticipated intercourse or a partner's unwillingness to use birth control
- Repeated pregnancy "scares" related to the factors above
- Exposure to Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs) and HIV infection from
 - unprotected sexual activity, either from a partner who is unaware of his or her STI or HIV status or from deliberate non-consensual unprotected sex
 - acts by people who are using this very real threat to control and harm their partners
 - Issues around abortion – a woman may feel forced to obtain an abortion or may be prevented from having an abortion, or may be afraid to talk to her partner about this decision

Psychological Impact

- Humiliation /self blame/ shame
- Cognitive dissonance-believing two contradictory things at once
- Embarrassment/Self-esteem & self-image issues
- Isolation /Anxiety/Fear/Depression/Suicide Ideations

How would these impacts affect you and how would support a survivor?

IPSV

- Sexual Assault in the Context of Domestic Violence
- At least 60% off domestic violence survivors are also survivors off sexual assault..
- There are higher rates of severe injury and
- fatality when sexual assault is involved.
- Estimated that 25% to 30% off all rapes are committed by current or former husbands or intimate partners..

Differences

- Longer-lasting trauma
- Higher levels of physical injury
- Incidence of multiple rape
- Higher levels of anal and oral rape
- Advice to “put up with” rape
- Financial dependency on the rapist
- Safety issues
- Difficulty defining the act(s) as sexual assault
- A general climate of sexual assault/abuse

Is It Really Rape?

- Working in pairs, please answer these questions:

- 1. In order for someone to freely consent to a sexual activity, what are the necessary conditions?**
- 2. Is it possible to have consensual sex in an abusive relationship?**

- The CERTS Model for Healthy Sex
- **CONSENT**
- **EQUALITY**
- **RESPECT**
- **TRUST**
- **SAFETY**

IPSV

- What Do IPSV Survivors Think?
- It's not rape if...
- You are married..
- You have had sex with the person before..
- You sometimes enjoy sex with your partner..
- ?
- ?
- ?
- ?

What Women Do With Partner Rape

- Denial and repression
- “It didn't really happen.”
- Minimization “It wasn’t that bad.”
- Rationalisation “He was drunk and I must have teased him.””
- Dissociation “I just feel numb – like I'm not really there.”
- “Managing the sexual assaults-“I will just sleep with the kids so he'll leave me alone..”

Cultural Considerations and IPSV

- Cultural pressure to stay with abusive
- partner
- “Wifely duty” norm in some cultures
- Strict gender roles
- Isolation and language issues
- Justification of violence
- Economic and legal issues



Challenges for the Advocate

- Brainstorm obstacles to assisting survivors
 - Within yourself
 - In your agency
 - In the community



What Survivors Need

- Someone to listen and believe them
- Culturally sensitive assistance
- Help in negotiating the existing systems
- Practical resources to provide options



How Do You Ask About IPSV?

- Practice asking questions if you are
- uncomfortable
- Frame the questions sensitively
- Explain why you are asking
- State that this is unfortunately common
- Explain that it will help you to provide the best
- response and resources
- Tell the person that it is okay if they are not comfortable discussing this and want to bring it up at a later stage

Positive steps for Advocates

- Increase comfort level in talking about sex
- Learn about cultural issues
- Familiarise yourself with resources in your area
- Handle shame issues with sensitivity
- Create community partnerships
- **Any Other Ideas??**



IPSV

- **Know it exists**
- **Name it as rape**
- **Education on how to respond to women presenting with experiences of partner rape**
 1. **ASK:** Are you safe within your relationship?
 2. **NAME IT:** What you've just described to me is rape and it's a crime.
 3. **RESPOND:** Give contact details of the local services
 4. **FOLLOW UP:** Last time you spoke about your safety. I'd like to know how you are now
- **Hold men accountable for partner rape**
- **Prevent it through education**
- **Increase services to rural areas**

Remember

- You can make a huge difference through compassion & understanding
- Be patient & try to let go of specific expectations of survivors
- Prevention, system coordination and increased awareness are keys to change
- Get support for yourself!!

Next Step?

- What is the one thing you do with your new knowledge in the next week?

