

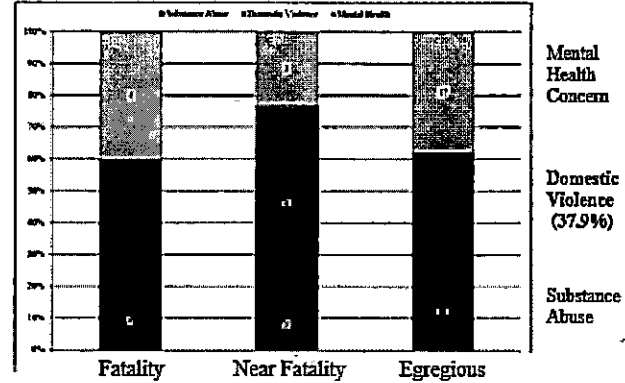


Why are we here?



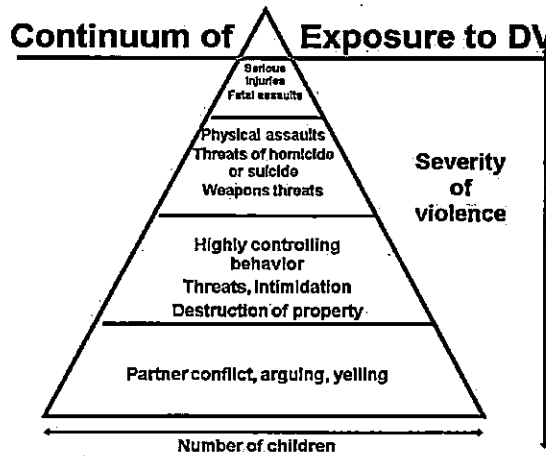
- One in four women (25%) experiences DV in her lifetime. —CDC, 2000
- 85% of domestic violence victims are women, and 15% are men. —Bureau of Justice Statistics, 2003
- Between 4.6 to 15.5 million children in the United States live in households where IPV has occurred in the last year. —Finkelhor, Turner, Ormrod, & Hamby, 2009; McDonald, Jouriles, Ramisetty-Mikler, Casetano, & Green, 2006
- Where there is spousal violence or child maltreatment present, in 30% to 60% of the cases both forms of abuse exist. —Edleson, 1999b; Appel & Holden, 1998 as cited in Jaffe, 2006
- In 2013, domestic violence was found in 39.7% of Colorado's substantiated child maltreatment fatalities, near fatalities, and egregious incidents reviewed. —2013 Child Maltreatment Fatality Review Report, CDHS

Chart 10: Other Family Stressors in Families of 76 Victims of Substantiated Child Maltreatment Fatalities, Near Fatalities, and Egregious Incidents



2013 Child Maltreatment Fatality Review
 Issued July, 2014 by the Colorado Department of Human Services' Child Fatality Review Team

Continuum of Exposure to DV



Susan Blumenfeld, MSW, LCSW www.nationalcenterdvtraumamh.org

Offenders Harm the Child/Caregiver Relationship Through Abuse

- 73% - the perpetrator used their children as a tool or pawn to get at the mother
- 88% - the perpetrator hurt the mother as punishment for their children's acts
- 1 in 5 - the perpetrator made the children watch him hit or sexually assault the mother
- 57% - the perpetrators blamed the mother for their own excessive punishment of the children

Edelson, Mbilinyi, Shetty, *Parenting in the Context of Domestic Violence*. Judicial Council of California, Administrative Office of the Courts (March 2003)

Underlying emotional responses

- “Underlying many of those problems are the children’s emotional responses to the violence, such as intense **terror**, **fear of death**, and **fear of loss** of a parent.
- In addition, children may harbor **rage**, feelings of **guilt**, and a sense of **responsibility** for the violence. ... [They] may feel **helpless** and see the world as unpredictable, hostile, and threatening.
- ... Children may experience feelings of **shame**, guilt, and **divided loyalties** to parents, as well as **fear of repercussions**, making it unlikely that they will disclose the violence to others.”

Groves (1999). Mental health services for children who witness domestic violence. *Future of Children*

Possible Reactions to Domestic Violence

Birth to age 5	Ages 6–11	Ages 12–18
Sleep or eating disruptions	Nightmares, sleep disruptions	Antisocial behavior
Withdrawal or lack of responsiveness	Aggression and difficulty with peer relationships in school	School failure
Intense and pronounced separation anxiety	Difficulty with concentration and task completion in school	Impulsive or reckless behavior, such as <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Truancy • Substance abuse • Running away • Involvement in violent or abusive dating relationships
Crying inconsolably	Withdrawal and emotional numbing	Depression
Developmental regression, loss of acquired skills such as toilet training, or reversion to earlier behaviors, such as asking for a bottle again	School avoidance or truancy	Anxiety
Intense anxiety, worries, or new fears	Stomachaches, headaches, or other physical complaints	Withdrawal
Increased aggression or impulsive behavior		Self-destructive behavior such as cutting
Acting out witnessed events in play, such as having one doll hit another doll		

It is important to remember that any of these symptoms can also be associated with other stress, traumas, or developmental disturbances. They should be considered in the context of the child's and family's functioning.

NCTSN The National Child Traumatic Stress Network

Protective Factors



The #1 factor determining children’s resiliency & healing is **an attached relationship to a caring adult**

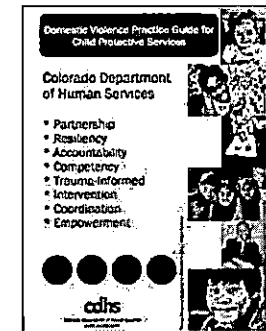
“Timely, appropriate and individually tailored responses need to build on the resilient blocks in the child’s life.”

Holt, S., Buckley, H., & Whelan, S. (2008). The impact of exposure to domestic violence on children and young people: A review of the literature. *Child Abuse & Neglect*, 32(8), 797-810.

The Domestic Violence and Child Protection Guiding Principle

When there is a co-occurrence of domestic violence and child maltreatment, the safety of children and youth is enhanced through

- promoting adult victim safety and empowerment,
- holding the perpetrator accountable, &
- engaging in community collaboration(s).”



Shortcut link:
tiny.cc/CPSGuide

—The Domestic Violence and Child Protection Services Coordinating Council