DATING AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

INVESTIGATOR TRAINING

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DATING VIOLENCE DEFINITION

Dating Violence defined as violence on the basis of sex committed by a person who is in or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the Complainant.

- The existence of such a relationship shall be determined based on the Complainant's statement and with consideration of the length of the relationship, the type of the relationship, and the frequency of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship. For the purposes of this definition
 - Dating violence includes but is not limited to, sexual or physical abuse or the threat of such abuse.
 - Dating violence does not include acts covered under the definition of domestic violence.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE DEFINITION

Domestic Violence defined as violence on the basis of sex committed by a current or former spouse or intimate partner of the Complainant, by a person with whom the Complainant shares a child in common, or by a person who is cohabitating with, or has cohabitated with, the Complainant as a spouse or intimate partner, or by a person similarly situated to a spouse of the Complainant under the domestic or family violence laws of the state of Idaho or by any other person against an adult or youth Complainant who is protected from that person's acts under the domestic or family violence laws of the state of Idaho.

Cycle of Violence

The more times the cycle is completed the less time it The takes to "Honeymoon" complete.

Abusers act differently after violent episodes. Some ignore or deny the violence. Some blame their "anger" on something you said or did. Some fear losing you and act

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genuinely sorry. This phase is often called the "honeymoon". The abuser will try to make up for his violence. He may act sorry, send cards and flowers, buy presents. help around the house.

> spend time with his kids, go to church, get counseling, or make promises. The abuser may seek pity. It's important to realize that this phase is an attempt to draw you back into the relationship. This phase is never a real "honeymoon".

As the cycle is repeated. the violence usually increases in **Tension** frequency and seventy.

This feels like walking on eggshells. Nothing is right. There is no way to predict what the abuser wants While there may not be Cycle of Violence physical violence (or at least physical violence is minimal), there is emotional abuse. intimidation and threats Fear of violence is often as coercive as violence itself.

Violence

This is the actual violent episode. It includes physical, emotional or sexual abuse. A crime is committed.

Partner Violence

Connected to target or the person exhibiting the concerning behavior or both

Harassment

Follows and frequently shows up uninvited. Calls/texts constantly. Spreads rumors. Tries to have contact after relationship has ended.

Isolation

Pressures victim to stay away from friends or family or pressures to quit job or other activities.

Humiliation

Calls victim names privately or in front of others. Puts down or makes fun of victim's race, religion, class or family. Inappropriately grabs or shows off

Limiting personal items Independence in public. Wants to control what victim wears and

overall look. Pressures to use cigarettes, alcohol, or other drugs. Wants to make all the decisions.

Intimidation

Tries to scare by smashing things, yelling, driving recklessly, or with looks and gestures. Threatens to cause trouble with family, friends, or work.

Violating Privacy

Reads victim's communications to or from other people. Goes through things without permission. Forces unwanted intimacy. Refuses to stop "wrestling" when asked.

Threats

Threatens to harm victim or her/his friends or family. Threatens suicide if left or not obeyed. Threatens to

Uses Sexist Stereotypes

Power &

Control

Acts like "the boss" in all situations. Says that men make all the decisions. Demands victim get permission to go somewhere or do something.

Partner Violence

EXAMPLES OF PHYSICAL ABUSE

Shoving

Kicking

Punching

Hair pulling

Slapping

Strangling

Pinching

Restraining

Hitting

EXAMPLES OF SEXUAL ABUSE

- Unwanted touching or kissing
- Forcing to have sex
- Not allowing birth control
- Forcing to do other sexual things

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COMPARISON

- There are elements of dating/partner/domestic violence that at first glance appear indistinguishable from common behaviors within a relationship.
- What approach (questioning) is needed during the investigation to identify the difference?

Partner Violence Behaviors	Common Behaviors within a Relationship
Feeling jealous and possessive	Feeling jealous and possessive
Wanting to be with the person all the time	Wanting to be with the person all the time
Spending less time with friends and family	Spending less time with friends and family
Checking in frequently to see where partner is	Checking in frequently to see where partner is

EXAMPLE SIGNS OF ABUSE

Bullying, threatening, or controlling behavior:

- Accuses you of having an affair
- Blames you for abuse
- Criticizes you
- Tells you what to wear and how you should look
- Threatens to kill you or someone close to you
- Throws things or punches walls when angry
- Yells at you makes you feel small

Controlling Money:

- Keeps cash and credit cards from you
- Puts you on an allowance and makes you explain every dollar you spend
- Keeps you from working whatever job you want
- Steals money from you or your friends
- Won't let you have money for basic needs like food and clothes

EXAMPLE SIGNS OF ABUSE

- Your partner cuts you off from family and friends:
 - Keeps close tabs on where you go and whom you go with
 - Makes you ask for an OK to see friends and family
 - Embarrasses you in front of others, and it makes you want to avoid people

- Your partner physically abuses you:
 - Abandons you in a place you do not know
 - Attacks you with weapons
 - Keeps you from eating, sleeping, or getting medical care
 - Locks you in or out of your house
 - Punches, pushes, kicks, bites, pulls hair

EXAMPLE SIGNS OF ABUSE

Your partner sexually abuses you:

- Forces you to have sex
- Makes you dress in a sexual way
- Makes you feel like you owe them sex
- Tries to give you an STD
- Won't use condoms or other birth control

Other general signs:

- An air of silence when a particular person is present
- Withdrawal or a change in the psychological state of the person
- Insomnia
- Low self-esteem
- Uncooperative and aggressive behavior
- Change in appetite, weight, loss/gain
- Signs of distress, anger

REFERENCES

- Edwards, D. J. (2009). Ending Violence One Green Dot At A Time: Instructor Manual. Alteristic.
- National Coalition Against Domestic Violence (NCADV)
- http://www.safespaceonline.org/