

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

A GLOBAL & LOCAL EPIDEMIC

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE (also known as Intimate Partner Violence or Partner Abuse) is a pattern of coercive, controlling behavior that can include physical abuse, emotional or psychological abuse, sexual abuse or financial abuse (using money and financial tools) to impact someone else's thoughts, actions, and beliefs without their consent. Domestic violence is pervasive, life-threatening, and affects millions of individuals across the United States regardless of age, economic status, race, religion, education, gender identity, or sexual orientation. Disputes and disagreements that do not involve violence occur in healthy relationships. While factors such as substance abuse, financial stress and unemployment, and illness may exacerbate existing abusive behavior, they do not cause domestic violence and are often used as excuses to allow violent behavior to go unchecked - sometimes enough to result in fatalities.

HELPING SURVIVORS

In Massachusetts, more than 50 domestic violence programs provide a range of free and confidential individual and community emergency and advocacy services for survivors and their families.

Community-Based Programs

In FY17, Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) funded domestic violence programs served more than 36,821 adults and 3,710 children.

Refugee and immigrant specific services were provided to 1,151 survivors of domestic violence and human trafficking.

LGBTQ specific domestic violence programs provided advocacy to 500 survivors.

Residential Programs

In FY17, DPH funded emergency domestic violence shelters served more than 2,904 adults and 2,276 children. Transitional housing programs served more than 773 adults and 537 children.

Hotlines

In FY17, SafeLink - the statewide domestic violence hotline operated through Casa Myrna - received 28,012 calls, 21,654 of which were requests for shelter. Shelter was available for only 6% of callers. In addition, LGBTQ domestic violence hotlines received 4,809 calls.

SafeLink's multilingual advocates and secure, confidential translation service make hotlines accessible in more than 130 languages.

In addition, community based DV programs operate local hotlines

MASSACHUSETTS SNAPSHOT

In Massachusetts, **1 in 3 women & 1 in 5 men** reported having experienced rape, physical violence, or stalking by an intimate partner in their lifetime.

In Massachusetts, over 1/3 of trans people report threats of violence by an intimate partner compared to 13.6% of cis people, and LGBTQ adults experience a lifetime IPV rate of 29% compared to 11% of heterosexual adults.

In 2017, JDI identified 24 incidents of domestic violence homicide which 19 people - 14 women, 4 men and 1 child - were killed. An additional 7 perpetrators committed suicide and 2 were killed by police responding to the scene.

In one day in 2016, Massachusetts domestic violence programs served 1,834 victims and were unable to meet 389 requests, of which 85% were for housing.

NATIONAL SNAPSHOT

1 in 4 women and 1 in 9 men were victims of intimate partner violence resulting in impact such as injury, fear, concern for safety, and/or needing services.

Intimate partner violence, rape, and stalking is estimated to cost society \$8.3 billion annually.

Current or former intimate (romantic) partners commit 14% of all homicides in the US, with over 70% of the victims being female and disproportionately women of color.

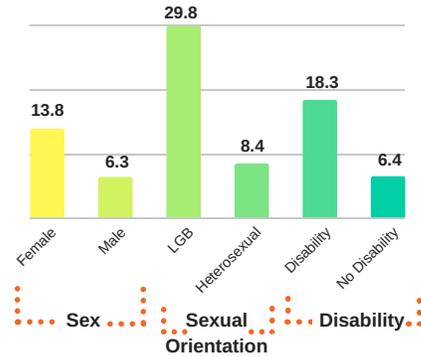
AT THE INTERSECTIONS

UNDERSTANDING THE MULTI-LAYERED OPPRESSION OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SURVIVORS

Anyone can be a victim or perpetrator of **domestic violence**, but the most marginalized members of our society - people of color, low income individuals and families, indigenous peoples, LGBTQ+ folks, mentally or physically disabled people, immigrants, refugees, women, and children - are at the greatest risk. Higher incidences of domestic violence in already-marginalized populations point to societal factors that reinforce social stratification, power, and control. Therefore, JDI engages in many areas of policy to address the root causes and persistent inequities that impact the lives of all survivors and their families.

CHILDREN & YOUTH

MA HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS RATE OF LIFETIME TEEN DATING VIOLENCE

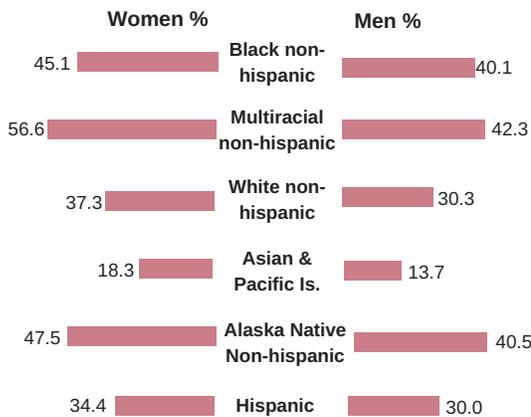


Among MA high school students who have been on a date, nearly one out of four (24%) have ever had their activities monitored by someone they were dating

Children who witness DV are 15x more likely to experience sexual/physical abuse than other kids

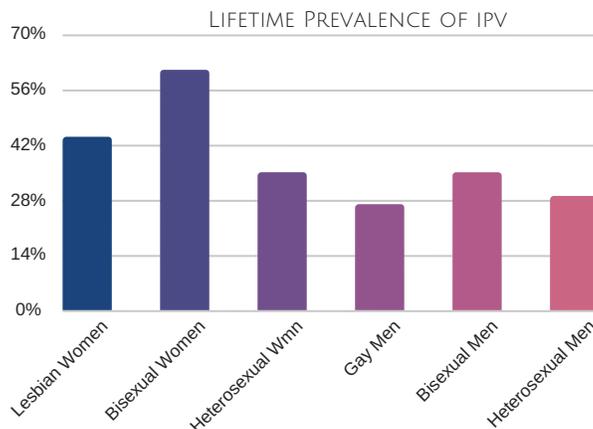
PEOPLE OF COLOR

INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE IN LIFETIME



Studies show that refugee and immigrant women experience domestic violence at rates between 30-50%.

SEXUAL ORIENTATION & GENDER IDENTITY



According to the 2015 Transgender Survey, 54% of trans people have experienced some form of intimate partner violence, including acts of coercive control and physical harm, in their lifetimes.

AMERICAN INDIAN & ALASKA NATIVE WOMEN

55.5% of American Indian and Alaska Native Women experience physical IPV in their lifetime,

66.4% experience psychological aggression

97% have experienced violence at the hands of at least one perpetrator of another race

There are **562** federally recognized tribes in the U.S.. As of 2015, there were only **26** culturally specific shelters

In a national study, 62% of LGBTQ survivors in 2011 reported being denied shelter than 45% in 2010. This continues a 2 yr trend of increases in shelter access denial

HOMELESSNESS & HOUSING INSECURITY

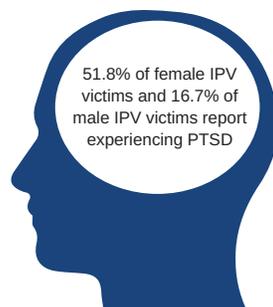
IN MASSACHUSETTS, 1 IN 5 PEOPLE REPORT DV AS A REASON FOR THEIR HOMELESSNESS



Nationally, 78% of homeless women have been subjected to rape, physical assault, or stalking at some point in their lives.

ILLNESS & DISABILITY

According to a 2008 national study, those with disabilities experience nearly double the lifetime risk of IPV victimization compared to those without disabilities.



51.8% of female IPV victims and 16.7% of male IPV victims report experiencing PTSD

SOCIOECONOMIC STATUS



Domestic violence rates are 5x greater in households with the lowest annual income compared with highest annual income

Frequency and severity of domestic violence increases with isolation and rurality. It becomes increasingly difficult to access direct services and community programs, and confidentiality is harder to maintain.