



LINCOLN COUNTY DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Statistics and Interventions

By

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What defines Domestic Violence....

- o Violence and physical abuse that is directed toward your spouse or domestic partner
- o Usually it is defined as violence by men against women
- o Typically used as a method of control over the other partner or member of the relationship
- o Spans the scope of marriage, children, partnerships, relatives, and estranged relationships

General Statistics...

- o Females are most likely to be repeatedly attacked, raped, or injured
- o Age demographics
 - o Women age 16-24 are more likely to be abused at the hand of their partner than older women
 - o Women age 15-24 peak homicide rate
 - o As the age difference between spouses increases, so does the incidence of abuse

Mortality and Morbidity

- o Almost 2 million injuries occur annually due to domestic violence but only 1/3 will seek medical attention
- o Approximately 11% of homicide victims were killed by an intimate partner (approx. 1300 deaths)
 - o 76% women
 - o 44% had visited the ER within 2 years of their death (multiple general complaints).
 - o 93% had at least one visit due to injury
- o Most often, the perpetrator of the violence is male with a history of domestic violence

Causes....

- o Low income homes
- o Homes in which the wife holds a higher educational or occupational level than her spouse/partner
- o History of family violence or psychiatric history
- o Abuser is an “underachiever” with a lower occupational achievement than what is expected of them
- o Alcohol and drug abuse is commonly a factor

Nationwide Statistics...

According to 2010 reported statistics

- o Frequency of incidents of domestic violence in adults:
 - o 5.3 million incidents occur among women
 - o 3.2 million incidents occur among men
- o Victimization
 - o Most woman average 6.9 physical assaults from the same abuser/partner
 - o Most men average 4.4 physical assaults from the same abuser/partner
- o Stalking
 - o 1 million women file stalking reports annually
 - o 317,000 men file stalking reports annually

Missouri Statistics....

As reported by Missouri Law Enforcement Agencies in 2010

- o Every 19.4 minutes, a violent crime is committed in the state of Missouri
- o Total number of incidents reported – 36,943
 - o 7804 – Spousal
 - o 10,123 – Cohabitations
 - o 5,993 – Blood relatives
- o Total number of domestic related homicides – 45
 - o 48.8% - wives or girlfriends
 - o 17.8% - mothers or daughters

Lincoln County Statistics...

As reported by LCSD and MSHP in 2010

- o Total population: 51,445
- o Total number of incidents “reported” - 265:
 - o Spousal incidents - 95
 - o Couples with children in common - 20
 - o Cohabitation - 100
 - o Relatives - 50

Things to take into consideration when assessing the victim of abuse....

- o Batterer may accompany the victim and not leave his/her side, answer questions for them....
- o Ask direct questions regarding abuse (has your spouse hit/struck/bit/slapped/kicked you). Need to be very specific.
- o Use open ended questions
- o If interviewing an injured perpetrator, do not be judgmental or make statements of validation for his/her actions (causitive actions that led to the incident)
- o Historical data:
 - o Vague medical complaints related to stress or illness
 - o Multiple ER visits for illnesses and injuries (abrasions, burns, welts, etc.)

ER Management...

- o Provide a safe environment
- o Look for s/s of abuse throughout triage and care
- o Evaluate for and treat emotional and physical injury
- o Strong, documentation of findings
- o Evaluate additional risks, such as involvement of children, other family members, etc.
- o Offer counseling, legal intervention/assistance, social services referral, shelter/safe haven if needed.
- o Adherence to Joint Commission Standards