

## **Statistics and Interventions**

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## What defines Domestic Violence....

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



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



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



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



## According to 2010 reported statistics

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

## Missouri Statistics....

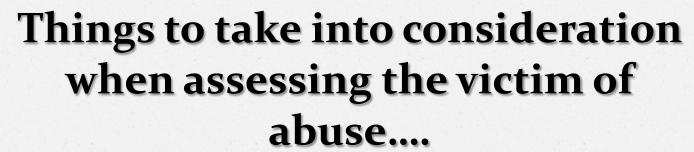
As reported by Missouri Law Enforcement Agencies in 2010

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



As reported by LCSD and MSHP in 2010

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



- Batterer may accompany the victim and not leave his/her side, answer questions for them....
- Ask direct questions regarding abuse (has your spouse hit/struck/bit/slapped/kicked you). Need to be very specific.
- Use open ended questions
- 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)
- Historical data:
  - Vague medical complaints related to stress or illness
  - Multiple ER visits for illnesses and injuries (abrasions, burns, welts, etc.)



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