



U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Administration for Children and Families
Office of Family Assistance

National Responsible Fatherhood Clearinghouse (NRFC) Technical Assistance Webinar

Tuesday April 20, 2010 ~ 2:00 – 3:45 EDT

**Beyond the Protocol: Domestic and Intimate Partner
Violence Intervention**

Moderator:

Nigel Vann: NRFC Director of Training & Technical Assistance

Presenters:

Fernando Mederos: Massachusetts Department of Children and Families, Boston, MA

Celeste Tavera: Goodwill Industries of Central Texas, Austin, TX

Karen Wilson: SafePlace, Austin, TX

Tyler Osterhaus: Weld County Department of Human Services, Child Welfare Division, Greeley, CO.





How To Ask A Question

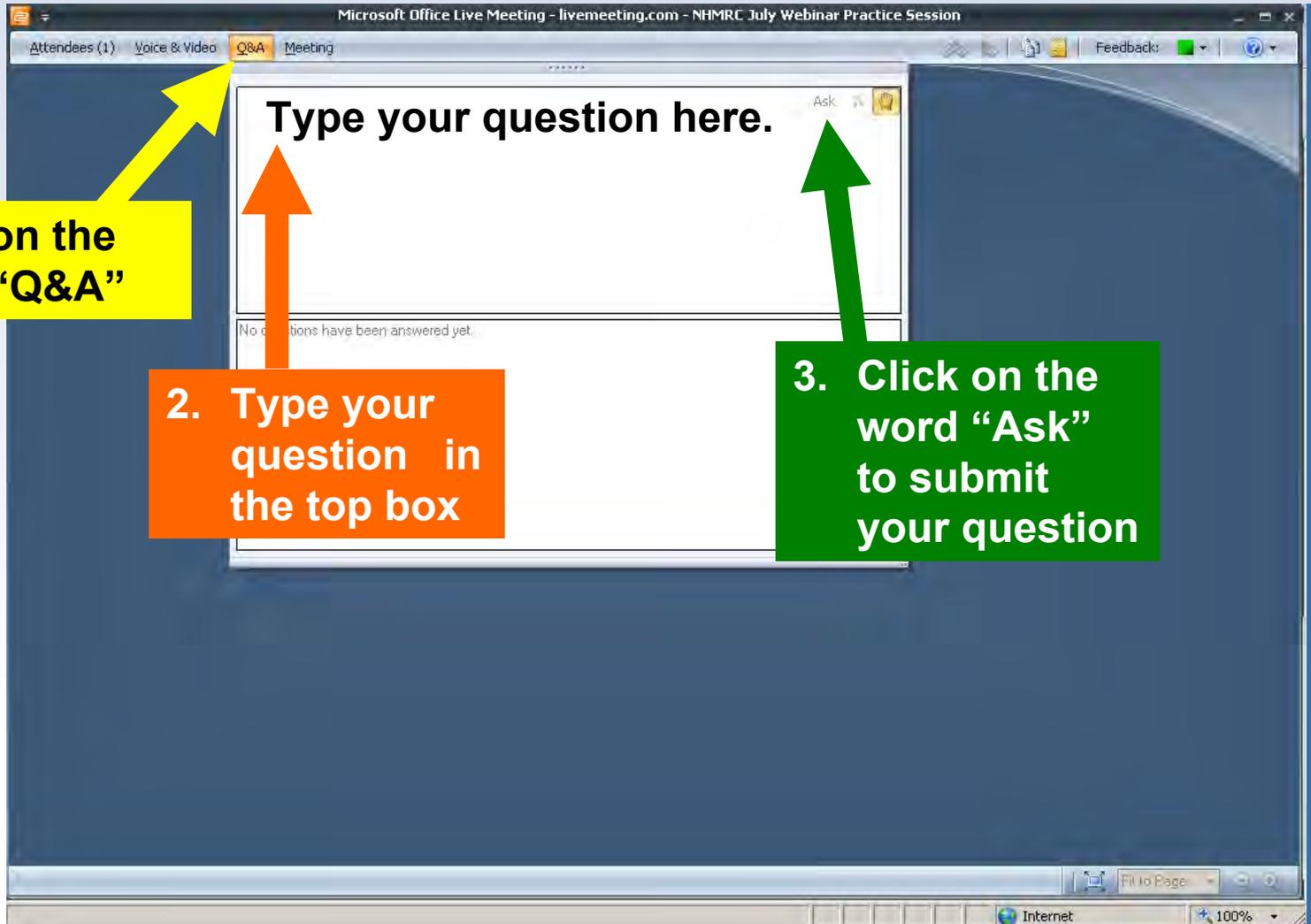
- A question can be asked by typing it in at **any** time during a presentation.
- You'll receive a standard answer to let you know that your question has been received and will be submitted to Nigel to ask the presenters during the Q&A
- If your question does not get answered due to time, please email your FPO

How To Ask A Question

1. Click on the word "Q&A"

2. Type your question in the top box

3. Click on the word "Ask" to submit your question



The screenshot shows a web browser window titled "Microsoft Office Live Meeting - livemeeting.com - NHMRC July Webinar Practice Session". The browser's address bar and tabs are visible. The main content area is the Q&A interface, which includes a navigation bar with "Attendees (1)", "Voice & Video", "Q&A", and "Meeting". Below the navigation bar is a large text input field with the placeholder text "Type your question here." and an "Ask" button to its right. A status bar at the bottom of the Q&A section reads "No questions have been answered yet." Three colored callout boxes with arrows point to specific elements: a yellow box points to the "Q&A" tab, an orange box points to the text input field, and a green box points to the "Ask" button. The Windows taskbar at the bottom shows the "Internet" icon and a 100% zoom level.



Technical Issues

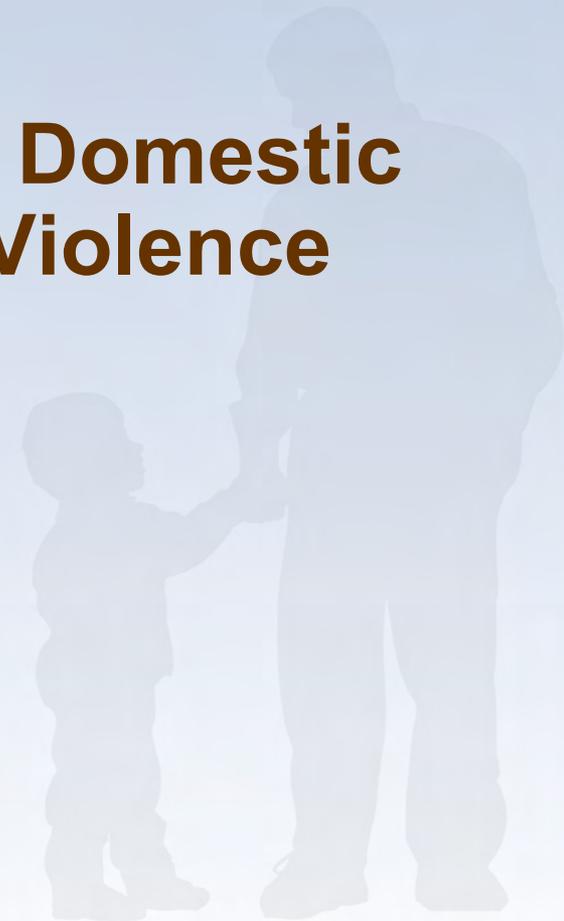
- Screen too small? Hit F5
- Want to ask a question? Hit F5 or Esc to bring you back to the original view to type in your question
- Trouble hearing? Send us a message via the Q&A tool
- Interested in slides? If you did not receive the Presentation in PDF format prior to the Webinar email: info@fatherhood.gov



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Beyond the Protocol: Domestic and Intimate Partner Violence Interventions

NRFC Webinar, April 20, 2010
Introduction: Nigel Vann





Definition

- Domestic Violence is a pattern of coercive behavior in which one person attempts to control another through threats or actual use of physical violence, sexual assault, verbal and psychological abuse and/or economic coercion.
 - Juan Carlos Arean, FVPF, NRFC webinar April 25, 2007
- Domestic violence is a pattern of behavior used to gain or maintain power and control over an intimate partner.
 - SafePlace, Austin, TX



Implications for Fatherhood Programs

- It's very likely that some participants will be actively abusive with their partners and children.
- It's very likely that some participants will be survivors of childhood or adult abuse.
- All participants have a role to play in preventing domestic violence.

Juan Carlos Arean, FVPF, NRFC webinar April 25, 2007



Intimate Settings

- We are talking about violence and control by one individual over another in the most intimate of settings
- Where the parties spend a lot of time together under one roof.
- Where children may well be present.
- And where others are not.
- Although others (family, friends, neighbors, co-workers) may well have some awareness of what is going on, they often say nothing.



Impact on Children

Emotional Effects

- Feelings of powerlessness in relationships
- Feelings of worthlessness
- Feeling unsafe
- Lack of emotion or withdrawal
- Depression, sadness
- Frozen watchfulness
- Self-blame

Behavioral Effects

- Poor impulse control
- Preoccupied
- Tired, hungry
- Whining, whimpering, of being comforted
- Aggressiveness
- Parentification
- Regression
- Exhibits fear of people
- Belief systems



What can fatherhood practitioners do?

- Develop and sustain partnerships with domestic violence organizations
- Develop protocols for handling specific situations
- Train staff on how to identify situations where intervention or referrals may be appropriate
- Provide awareness building activities for participants
- Engage fathers in prevention of DV



Caveats and Opportunities

- The 2005 Deficit Reduction Act (DRA) and the 2006 Funding Opportunity Announcement state: *Grantees must “consult with one or more experts on domestic violence prevention or with domestic violence coalitions in developing activities or materials [so that] programs or activities will address issues of domestic violence.”*
- No stipulation on how to do this; you have some flexibility.
- You may not be able to do everything we are talking about today within your grant parameters.
- But, moving forward beyond the grant you may want to consider doing more prevention and/or intervention work; perhaps by developing more in-depth partnerships with DV agencies, Batterers Intervention Programs, Child Welfare agencies, etc.
- Before changing anything you are doing under the grant, consult with your FPO!



Our Focus Today

- Sustaining meaningful partnerships between fatherhood and domestic violence organizations;
- Identifying situations where domestic and intimate partner violence may arise;
- Developing and implementing appropriate interventions with program participants;
- Engaging fathers in prevention of domestic and intimate partner violence; and
- Reducing incidences of domestic and intimate partner violence in the community.



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THE ELEPHANT IN THE ROOM: ADDRESSING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IN FATHERHOOD GROUPS

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Violence (www.dvalianza.org)





Objectives

- Addressing DV in Responsible Fatherhood groups makes sense—for men who batter and for men who may move in that direction
- Two essential tasks for RF groups:
 - 1) *Motivate* men who batter to seek help.
 - 2) *Educate* men who are at risk of battering partners & children (prevention).
- Pathways for strength-based and respectful ways to engage both types of men around these issues.



MWB ARE A DIVERSE GROUP

- 40→60% moderately violent: low violence / Low control
- 20→40% ongoing reassaulters: low - moderate violence / high control, unstable, substance abuse
- 5% or less highly violent, and/or highly controlling, potentially lethal
- A lot of men in 1st group and some in 2nd group can benefit from RF program



OPPORTUNITY

- Within the population of Men Who Batter (MWB) there is a sizable group of men who are:
 - Less dangerous: low violence / low control
 - Have higher potential to change
 - Can be recovered as fathers
 - Can be motivated to seek other help
 - ... Many of these men end up in RF groups
- Within fatherhood groups, there are a lot of men who batter (who have been physically abusive to partners), who have never been adjudicated or compelled to attend a Batterers Intervention Program (BIP). This is an opportunity to begin some work!



PREVENTION: Openings For Change: Internal

- **Positive fatherhood visions:** how do you want your children to remember you? You have a powerful impact as a father. Even toxic men...
- **Concern for children:** what you do will stay with your children. You cannot disrespect or hurt their mother without hurting your children.

THESE ARE STRENGTHS THAT WE CAN USE



ASSETS OF RF PROGRAMS: More Openings For Change

- Focus on showing respect for mother, acknowledging her contributions
- Focus on supportive co-parenting:
 - re-emphasize respect & responsibility
- Focus on responsibility: financial contribution, caretaking, fathering w/in poverty
- Education on children's development

STRATEGY IS TO BUILD ON THIS BASE



Pathway I: Education and Prevention

Reflecting on childhood experiences of being fathered

- What did you go through as a child? What did you witness?
- What messages did you get? What feelings were you left with?
- How do you carry that now? Are you making people pay for what you went through?



Pathway 2: Education about Child Development and the Impact Of DV

Impact on Children who have witnessed DV

- Describe developmental impacts on children who witness at different stages
- One cannot engage in partner abuse without influencing or scarring children



Pathway 3: Connecting with Positive Cultural Values

Research indicates that men from different cultural backgrounds have different positive fatherhood values/models

- Dar buen ejemplo (set a good example)
- Stand up to oppression / follow up if not together
- Protect / uphold your lineage



Pathway 4: Educate Deepen Understanding of DV

- If you focus on violence, a few men will admit to DV;
- If you also talk about coercive control and give examples, many more will acknowledge.

For example, do you ever..

Give her orders? Act angry all the time? Ignore her? Yell at her, put her down, call her names, belittler her, make fun of her in front of children?

Do you always have another woman? Sometimes?



RESOURCES

Gondolf, E. (2002). *Batterer Intervention Systems*. CA: Sage Publications.

Campbell, J. C., Webster, D., Koziol-McLain, J., Block CR, Campbell, D., Curry, MA, Gary, F, Sachs, C. Sharps, PW, Wilt, S., Manganello, J., Xu, X. (2003). Risk factors for femicide in abusive relationships: Results from a multi-site case control study. *American Journal of Public Health*, 93, 1089-1097.

Collaboration and Partnership: Fatherhood Practitioners and Advocates Against Domestic Violence Working Together to Serve Women, Men, and Families. June 2007. Jacquelyn Boggess, Rebecca May, Marguerite Roulet. Center for Family Policy and Practice. Available through <http://www.cffpp.org> and www.fatherhood.gov.

Fleck-Henderson, A. & Arian, J.C. (2004). *Breaking the Cycle—Fathering After Violence: Curriculum Guidelines and Tools for Batterer Intervention Programs*. Family Violence Prevention Fund. 383 Rhode Island Street, Suite 304, San Francisco, CA 94103-5133. Downloaded 4-16-10 from: http://endabuse.org/section/programs/children_families/_breaking_cycle



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Grantee Perspective – How the Fatherhood Works program has approached DV issues

Celeste Tavera, Goodwill Industries of Central Texas, Austin, TX
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Karen Wilson, SafePlace, Austin, TX
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Partnership: Fatherhood and DV

- How did you form your partnership?
- What has been key to sustaining the partnership?
- What have been the benefits of the partnership for each of you?
- How do you see the partnership after the end of the federal grant? Have you considered possibilities for joint funding moving forward, perhaps involving other community partners?



Staff Training

- SafePlace provided training for all fatherhood staff – what did that entail?



Examples of Situations Encountered (Intervention Role)

- Describe some situations that have arisen concerning DV with program participants.
- How did you handle these?



(Prevention Role) Society & You: A 1 ½ Hour Workshop for Men

- SafePlace invites you to join our confidential discussion as we explore some of today's challenges that men are faced with.
- Help us to take a close look at popular culture and identify some of the roadblocks to being a positive male role model in our society.
- Identify how men can be allies for women and positive role models for their children.
- We look forward to working with you as we join together to create a community of respect and openness.



Changing the way the community sees and thinks about DV, Healthy Relationships

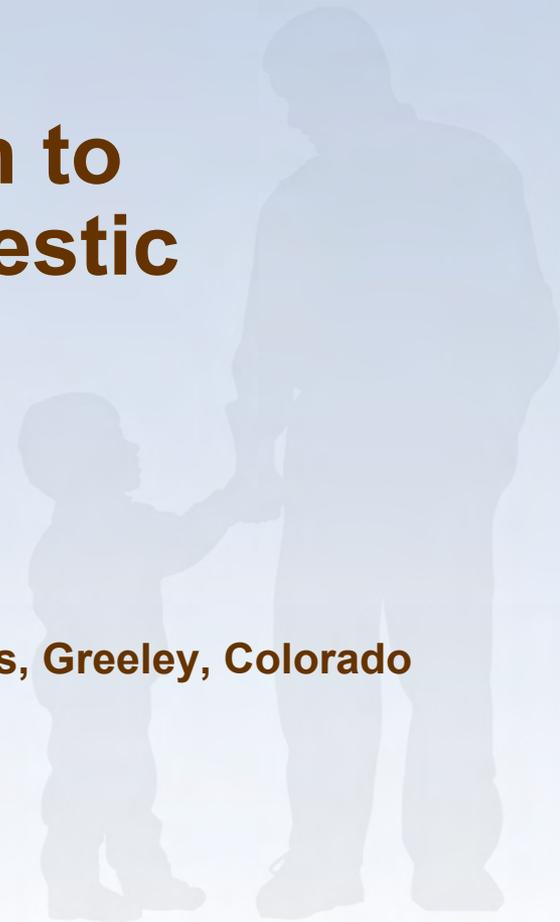
- Do you think your Fatherhood Works participants talk about any of these issues with family/friends/neighbors?
- (i.e. do they go out and help change the way others think?)
- Have you taken other steps to try and change the “community conversation?”



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A Proactive Approach to Fatherhood and Domestic Violence Issues

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Beyond Screening



Colorado Fatherhood Council – DV Work Team

- ◆ A diverse group of fatherhood stakeholders.

Colorado Men Against Domestic Violence (CMADV)

- ◆ We envision the largest statewide community of men in the nation who work to prevent domestic violence and promote healthy relationships.
- ◆ Our mission is to champion, mobilize and equip networks of men to prevent domestic violence and promote healthy relationships.

The Positive Masculinity Project

- ◆ “Men’s Group” with a healthy relationship focus supported by local division of Child Welfare.



Engaging Men as Allies

- ◆ Approach gender violence as a **MEN'S** issue.
- ◆ Engage men where they are at. Help them to move beyond their comfort level and work through their defensiveness about this issue.
- ◆ Use concrete interactive activities and exercises. Don't get too caught up in theory. Engage them on a heart level.
- ◆ Keep the focus on the kids. Responsible fathers model a non-violent lifestyle.
- ◆ Coordinate with DV providers. Get their blessing and learn from their wisdom. Don't be a maverick!



Resources to Get Started

1. Jackson Katz www.jacksonkatz.com

- © Tough Guise
- © The Macho Paradox

2. Media Education Foundation www.mediaed.org

- © Beyond Beats and Rhymes
- © Generation M

3. Family Violence Prevention Fund: Toolkit for Working with Men and Boys. www.higheredcenter.org/resources/toolkit-working-men-and-boys-prevent-gender-based-violence

- © The Gender Box - Act Like a Man
- © Continuum of Harm to Women
- © A Tool Box of Intervention Strategies



Brochure from Our Sister's Keeper Coalition www.oursisterskeeper.org

The brochure cover has a warm, orange-toned background. At the top left, the word "sage" is written in a cursive font, with "Sexual Assault Generator Educators" in a smaller, sans-serif font below it. The main title "Can You Say?" is in a large, bold, white font. Below it, two quotes are listed: "Women are Sacred" and "Sexual Assault is Not". The central image shows a woman with long dark hair, looking down at a bundle of sticks she is holding in her hands. A green circular sticker is overlaid on the image, containing the text "S.A.G.E. Sexual Assault Generator Educators Need Help? 24 hr. Hotline (970) 247-7688". At the bottom, a dark orange banner contains the text "YOU Can Prevent Sexual Assault. WE Can Help." in white, bold, sans-serif font.

sage
Sexual Assault Generator Educators

Can You Say?

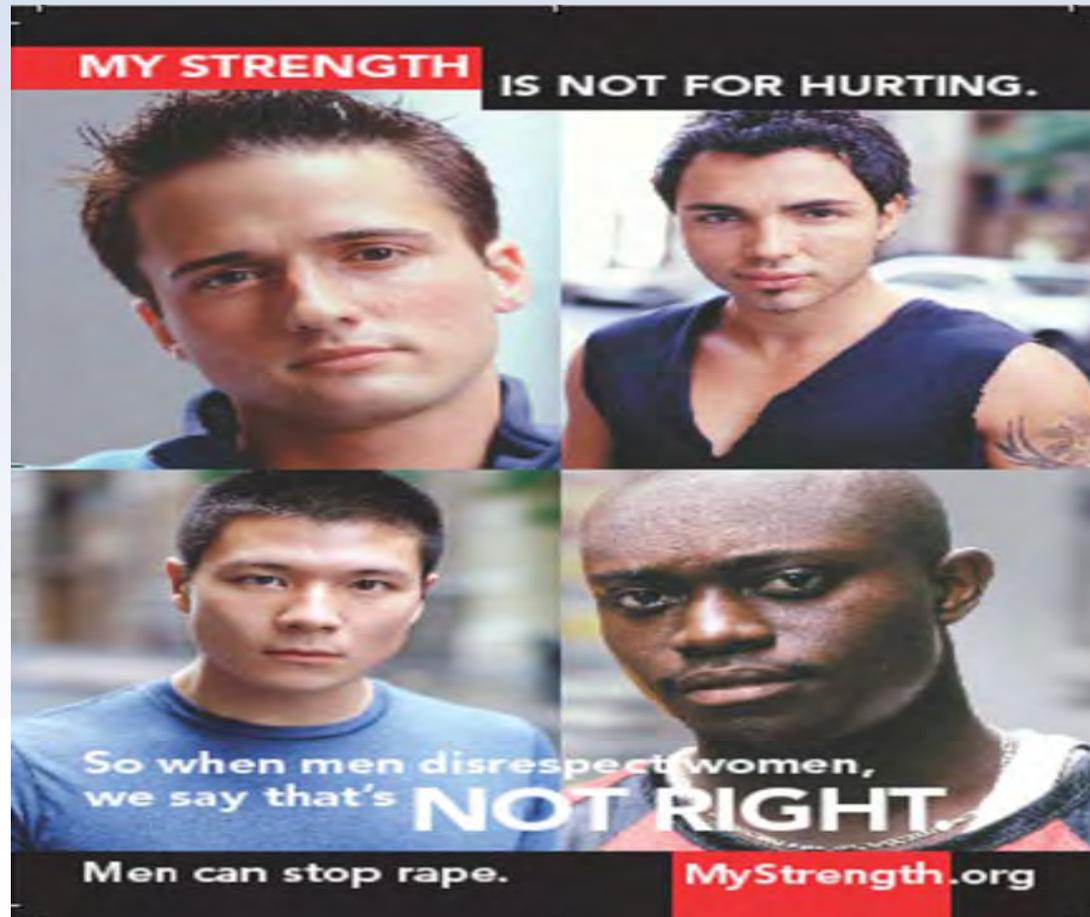
"Women are Sacred"
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**YOU Can Prevent Sexual Assault.
WE Can Help.**



Poster from www.mystrength.org





Poster from FVPF

www.endabuse.org

**Eat your
vegetables.**

**Don't play
with matches.**

**Finish your
homework.**

**Respect
women.**



Violence against women is a tragic reality. We must teach our sons early and often what it means to be a real man – that women deserve honor and respect, and that violence never equals strength. A safer world is in their hands. Help them grasp it.



Family Violence
Prevention Fund
www.endabuse.org



Recommendations from FVPF – www.endabuse.org

- ◆ **Focus on Primary Prevention that Engages Men and Boys**

Violence against women will never end unless we change the social norms that make violence acceptable and encourage boys to see physical aggression and sexual prowess as integral parts of manhood. We must teach them early that violence against women does not equal strength and provide social supports throughout their lives to reinforce those messages.

- ◆ **Increase Early Interventions for Children Exposed to Violence that Support the Health and Care-giving Ability of all Family Members**

Research has helped us identify those most at risk of becoming both perpetrators and victims of violence. While we would never argue that a child's exposure to violence means he or she will go on to perpetrate or experience violence, children who witness and experience physical and sexual violence are at much greater risk for future victimization and perpetration, as well as delinquency, school failure, substance abuse, illness and early mortality. Effective early intervention can only occur if we identify children in need and make services available to them. It is critical that we teach those who interact with children and youth - such as pediatricians, child care providers, Head Start workers, and others – to understand how family violence affects children's lives, and also that we make services available to both children and their parents or caregivers.



Non-violent strategies *

- Valuing others' opinions
- Expressing empathy
- Being emotionally affirming
- Accepting responsibility for one's actions
- Communicating openly and truthfully
- Being a positive and non-violent role model for the children
- Sharing parental responsibilities
- Sharing equal responsibility in household financial decisions
- Being willing to compromise and resolve disagreements in a mutually satisfying manner

*

Excerpted from *Domestic Violence Awareness: A Module for 24/7 Dad™ and Other Fathering Programs*.
Primary Author: Leonel E. Mesa, Jr. Psy.D., LMHC. Contributing Authors: Erik Vecere and Christopher Brown,
National Fatherhood Initiative. ©2009 National Fatherhood Initiative.



Strategies for dads to use *

- Educate your children about healthy equal relationships.
- Accept your role as a man promoting gender equality.
- Listen to women...learn from women.
- Be a good role model.
- Demonstrate that you value women as equals and believe in healthy relationships.
- Don't laugh at sexist jokes or otherwise objectify women.
- Speak of the men and women who made a difference in your life.
- Speak out about violence against women and other injustices.

* suggested by the White Ribbon Campaign (Men working to end men's violence against women)

www.whiteribbon.ca



WOMEN ARE SACRED ...

**... DOMESTIC AND INTIMATE
PARTNER VIOLENCE ARE NOT.**

**WE MUST EXPAND THE
COMMUNITY CONVERSATION.**



Question & Answer

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Thank you for participating in our poll!

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for future Webinars:

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Or provide your feedback to your Federal Project Officer.



Visit us online: www.fatherhood.gov

If you have questions that were not addressed during this Webinar, please submit them to your Federal Project Officer.

Thank you and have a great afternoon!