



Domestic Violence

Kevin Berardi, Ashley John, Ryan Moran, and Steph Perella



Background

Domestic violence, intimate partner violence, or domestic abuse, is defined as *a pattern of behaviors used by one partner to maintain power and control over another partner in an intimate relationship*. These behaviors include physical acts and nonphysical acts, including using (a) intimidation, (b) coercion, (c) threats, (d) isolation, and (e) finances to maintain power. Domestic abuse occurs regardless of (a) race, (b) gender, (c) age, (d) sexual orientation, and (e) socioeconomic status.

Methods

A comprehensive search was conducted using Google and Google Scholar, utilizing the search terms (a) domestic abuse statistics, (b) domestic violence, and (c) intimate partner violence, for the years 2011 through 2018 and in English.

Complications

The immediate effects of domestic violence manifest in the form of physical injuries, including (a) cuts, (b) bruises, (c) bitemarks, (d) concussions, and (e) sexually transmitted diseases. Long term and repetitive abuse leads to chronic emotional and psychological problems, including (a) depression, (b) post-traumatic stress disorder, and (c) alcohol and substance abuse.

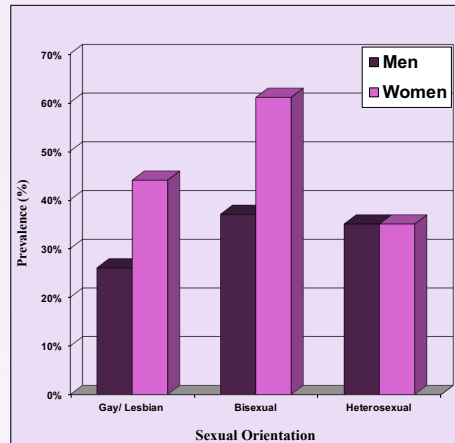
Epidemiology

Within the United States, greater than 12 million people are victims of intimate partner violence annually. Greater than 1 in 4 women and 1 in 9 men have been victims of rape, physical violence or stalking in their lifetime resulting in a negative impact such as (a) injury, (b) fear, (c) concern for safety, or (d) needing support services. Additionally, nearly half of Americans have reported experiencing emotional abuse by a partner at some point in their lifetime.

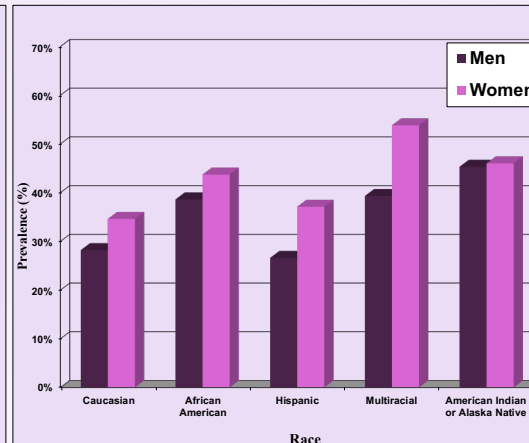


Results

Prevalence Across Sexual Orientation



Prevalence Across Race



Conclusions

Recommendations are focused on (a) prevention of domestic violence, (b) raising awareness, specifically for men and the LGBTQ community who are victims of domestic violence, (c) decreasing victim shame, and (d) disseminating information and statistics to the public that are informative, but not misleading. Prevention begins at an early age *by promoting healthy, respectful relationships in families*.

Resources

National Domestic Abuse Hotline:
1 (800) 799 7233
To Find a Shelter Near You:
www.domesticshelters.org

References

- Alejo, K. (2014) *Long-term physical and mental health effects of domestic violence*. Themis: Research Journal of Justice Studies and Forensic Science: Vol. 2: Iss. 1, Article 5.
- Black, M.C., Basile, K.C., Breiding, M.J., Smith S.G., Walters M.L., Merrick, M.T., ... Stevens, M.R. (2011). *The national intimate partner and sexual violence survey (NISVS): 2010 summary report*. National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Retrieved from https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/nisvs_report2010-a.pdf
- Breiding, M., J., Smith, S. G., Basile, K. C., Walters, M. L., Chen, J., & Merrick, M. T. (2014). *Prevalence and characteristics of sexual violence, stalking, and intimate partner violence victimization: National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey, United States, 2011*. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Retrieved from <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/ss6308a1.htm>
- Burnett, L. B. (2018). *Domestic violence* (B. E. Brenner, Ed.). Retrieved from <https://medicine.medscape.com/article/805546-ovrview#a6>
- Campaign, H. R. (n.d.). *Sexual assault and the LGBTQ community*. Retrieved from <https://www.hrc.org/resources/sexual-assault-and-the-lgbt-community>
- Karakurt, G., & Silver, K. E. (2013). Emotional abuse in intimate relationships: The role of gender and age. *Violence and victims*, 28(5), 804–821.
- National Domestic Violence Hotline.(n.d.). *Abuse defined*. Retrieved from <http://www.thehotline.org/is-this-abuse/abuse-defined/>
- Wheaton, O. (2016). *Woman hitting a man gets no reaction in shocking social experiment*. Retrieved from <http://metro.co.uk/2015/11/10/shocking-social-experiment-shows-people-failing-to-react-to-a-woman-hitting-a-man-5491653/>