

Chapter 13: Intimate Partner Violence

Intimate Partner Violence

Domestic Violence: Any Violence occurring between family members

Intimate Partner Violence: Any violence occurring between intimate partners who are living together or separated. Also known as spousal violence.

Types of Violence and Measurement

-Violence against partners varies in terms of types and severity and include physical violence, sexual, financial, and emotional abuse.

- The most common used scale used to measure domestic assault has been the conflict tactics scale or the recently updated version the CTS-2. The CTS-2 Measures 39 items divided into 5 sales.

Intimate Partners: Risky Relationships

-Violence was more common in previous parters than in current relationships and in younger couples (age 25-35). Younger couples were 3 times more likely to experience violence compared to older couples.

-Gays, lesbians and bisexuals were at greater risk for partner violence.

-Results of many studies indicate that both men and women experience violence, although women report experiencing more severe forms of violence (34% of women vs 10% of men).

-Women more likely to report to police (23%) than men (7%)

-The most common reason for not reporting is that victim felt it was a personal matter to try to resolve.

Prevalence of Dating Violence in University Students

- Men and women were almost equal perpetrators of violence (25.1% vs 23.6%)
- Men more likely to be victims of serious assault (15.3% vs 3.7%)
- Men and women were almost equal victims of sexual coercion (27.9% vs 28.6%)
- One variable that is strongly linked to dating violence in university students is substance abuse. Both Alcohol and drug use increase the risk of perpetrating dating violence.

Theories of Intimate Violence

Patriarchy: Refers to a broad set of cultural beliefs and values that support the male dominance of women.

-States with male dominant norms had much higher rates of spousal assault than those with more egalitarian norms

-There are three main components to social learning theory with respects to intimate partner violence: Origins of aggression, instigators of aggression, regulators of aggression. People develop new behaviours via Observational learning.

-Observational Learning: Learning behaviours by watching others perform these behaviours.

- Three major sources for observational learning: Family origin, the subculture the person lives in, and televised violence.

-Social learning theory maintains that for a person to acquire a new behaviour it must have functional value for him or her. Behaviour that is rewarded increases likelihood of re-occurrence, behaviour that is punished decreases the likelihood of occurrence.

-A stimuli must be presented to the individual for behaviour to arise, these are called **instigators**
-Social Learning theory maintains behaviour is regulated by consequences, These are called **regulators**.

Instigators: Dutton Described two types of Instigators in domestic assault. Aversive instigators and incentive instigators.

- Aversive = production of emotional arousal, how the person labels that emotional arousal will influence how he or she responds.

- Incentive= these are perceived rewards for engaging in aggression. When people believe they can satisfy their needs by using aggression, they may decide to be violent.

Regulators: In social learning theory these are consequences of behaviours. They include external punishment and self Punishment. (External punishment= arrest) (Self punishment= feeling remorse)

Duttons Nested Ecological Model

This model focuses on the relationship among the multiple levels that influence intimate violence. Dutton's models is useful because it recognizes the importance of various level of explanations regarding violence.

- **Macrosystems:** Takes into account societal and cultural beliefs. Ex: Patriarchal norms, that condone or promote gender inequality, male domination, or aggression.

-**ExoSystems:** This level Consider the social structures that connect the individual to the wider society (Employment, peers) that can influence the likelihood of intimate violence.

-**MicroSystems:** This level focuses on the immediate environment in which abuse occurs— For example the way a couple communicates/ conflict resolution.

-**Ontological Level:** This level focuses on psychological and biological features of the individual —for example individuals abuse history, violent role models etc.

Why do battered women Stay?

Walker proposed there is a three stage cycle of abuse that occurs.

- 1) Tension building phase before fight prior to assault increasing conflict and stress between partners.
- 2) Acting out phase when the batterer engages in intimate partner violence.
- 3) There is a honeymoon phase when the batterer apologizes and often promises not to engage in future violence.

Heterogenous Population: Typologies Of Male Batterers

The Family Only Batterer

- Of all types engages in the least amount of Violence
- Is the most common type, with 50% of batterers being this type
- Does not exhibit violence outside the home

The Dysphoric/Borderline Batterer

- Engages in moderate to severe violence
- Makes up 25% of batterers
- Jealous Tendencies/ moderate problems with alcohol and impulsivity.
- Exhibits some extra familial violence and criminal behaviour.

The generally violent/Antisocial Batterer

- Engages in moderate to severe violence
- Makes up 25% of batterers
- Of all batterers exhibits most violence outside of home and criminal behaviour.

Criminal Justice Response

Mandatory Charging Policies: Gives the police authority to lay charges against a suspect when there are reasonable and probable grounds to believe that an assault has occurred.

Studies have proven that arrest doesn't typically work for offenders who are unemployed. Arrest only worked as a deterrent for those who had something to lose.

-One outcome of mandatory charging policies is the increase in dual arrests. If the police are unable to determine the primary aggressor and if there are minor injuries to both parties then the police will charge both the man and woman.

Does treatment of Male Batterers Work?

- Two most common forms of intervention are feminist Psycho-educational group therapy And Cognitive-Behavioural Therapy.
- Group therapy challenges the males patriarchal ideologies.
- Feminist group therapy has a 75% drop out rate. Duluth model or feminist group therapy isn't very affective.
- Cognitive behavioural therapy is another form of intervention. Maintains that violence is a learned behaviour and that use of violence is reinforcing for the offender because he or she obtains the victims compliance and reduces feelings of tension.
- A meta analysis of 22 studies concluded that there was no difference in efficacy between types of treatment in terms of recidivism. The effects of recidivism remains in the small range.

Stalking

- Stalking is a form of violence recognized under the Criminal Code Of Canada as Criminal Harassment.

-Criminal Harassment: Crime that involves repeatedly following, communicating with, watching, or threatening a person both directly and indirectly. The person being stalked must fear for his or her own safety or the safety of someone they know for the police to charge someone.

-The most common type of stalking was romantic stalking (49%) this is stalking after a relationship has ended between the perpetrator and the victim.

Stalker Typologies

The Ex-Intimate Stalker:

- Most common type of stalker
- Stalks post breakup
- Unable to let go of his or her partner.
- Has a history of domestic violence in intimate relationships

The Love Obsessional Stalker:

- Rare type
- Individual who has never had an intimate relationship with the victim but is an acquaintance or coworker. Has intense feelings towards the victim
- Does not have symptoms of depression or psychosis

The Delusional Stalker:

- Rare type
- Never has had relationship with victim but believes that a relationship exists.
- Often diagnosed with delusion disorders, schizophrenia or bipolar disorder.

The Grudge Stalker

- Rare type
- Individual knows the victim but has not had intimate relationship with victim
- is angry individual seeking revenge for a perceived injustice.