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Family Violence Research

February 1989

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Office of Human Development Services
Administration for Children, Youth and Families
Children's Bureau
National Center on Child Abuse and Neglect
P.O. Box 1182
Washington, DC 20013

Affective Responses to Conflictual
Discussions in Violent and
Nonviolent Couples.

Margolin, G.; John, R. S.;
Gleberman, L.
University of Southern California,
Los Angeles. Dept. of
Psychology.
Journal Article
Copyright February 1988
Journal of Consulting and Clinical
Psychology.
56(1):24-33.

This study compares the affective responses of physically aggressive (PA), verbally aggressive (VA), withdrawing (WI), and nondistressed/nonaggressive (ND) couples during 2 10-minute problem-oriented discussions. Coding by outside observers was used to evaluate the motor-expressive components of spouses' emotions. Self-reports immediately following each discussion assessed physiological and phenomenological experiences during the discussion, and evaluated the external validity of the discussions. In 3 planned comparisons, PA spouses were compared with other conflictual but nonviolent spouses, all 3 groups of conflictual spouses were compared with ND spouses, and WI spouses were compared with VA spouses. PA husbands, compared with VA and WI husbands, exhibited more overtly negative behaviors and reported a more negative emotional state as well as somewhat more physiological arousal. The PA wives differed from the VA and WI wives in their escalating and then deescalating pattern of overt negative behaviors. Both ND wives and husbands were differentiated from all 3 conflictual groups by their low levels of negative affect, high levels of positive affect, and low levels of reported physiological arousal. In most respects, VA and WI spouses were quite similar. Discussion focuses

on how these comparatively innocuous affective patterns might be related to extreme expressions of aggression. 40 references, 1 table, and 3 figures. (Author abstract modified)

Descriptors:

family violence research;
communication techniques;
conflict theories; battering
relationships; problem solving;
behavior patterns; affective
behavior

After the Refuge: Methodological
Issues in Follow Up Survey.

Healy, J.
Flinders Univ., Bedford Park,
South Australia (Australia).
Proceedings Paper
pp. 229-239
Copyright 1986
Publication Source:
In: Hatty, S. E. (Editor).
National Conference on Domestic
Violence, Volume 1, Canberra
(Australia), November 11-15,
1985. Phillip, A.C.T.
(Australia), Australian Inst. of
Criminology,
Distributed By:
Australian Institute of
Criminology
10-18 Colbee Ct.
Phillip, A.C.T. Australia 2606

This paper reports on a followup survey of women who had lived in a shelter for a time but had subsequently attempted to establish a life outside. Information on how the women managed once they left the shelter is given. The women's attitudes toward the services they received at the shelters are also analyzed. This research is placed within a political context, since the emergence of budgetary restraint develops the need for program evaluation. The problems of definition and sample bias, the complexities of measuring attitudes of abused women, the

difficulties in locating the women, and the potential violation of confidentiality are considered. 26 references.

Descriptors:

research methodology; followup studies; family violence research; program evaluation; shelter programs; battered women

Anger, Hostility, and Depression in Domestically Violent Versus Generally Assaultive Men and Nonviolent Control Subjects.

Maiuro, R. D.; Cahn, T. S.; Vitaliano, P. P.; Wagner, B. C.; Zegree, J. B.

Washington Univ. School of Medicine, Seattle. Dept. of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences.

Journal Article

Copyright February 1988

Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology.

56(1):17-23.

Anger, hostility, and depression were examined across 4 groups: a clinical sample of domestically violent men, 2 samples of more generally assaultive men, and a nonviolent control group. All subjects (N=129) were assessed using the Buss-Durkee Hostility Inventory, the Hostility and Direction of Hostility Questionnaire, and the Beck Depression Inventory. The domestically violent men and the generally assaultive men evidenced significantly higher levels of anger and hostility than the control subjects. The anger and hostility scores were very similar in the domestically violent and the generally assaultive men. However, the domestically violent men were more likely to be significantly depressed. Findings support the idea that anger dyscontrol is a key issue in the psychological profile of

domestically violent men and indicate the need for clinical attention to depression as well as anger. 48 references and 2 tables. (Author abstract modified)

Descriptors:

family violence research; hostility; male batterers; anger; depression; research methodology; statistical data; aggression

Assertion and Family Violence: Correlates of Spouse Abuse.

O'Leary, K. D.; Curley, A. D. State Univ. of New York, Stony Brook. Dept. of Psychology.

Journal Article

Copyright July 1986

Journal of Marital and Family Therapy.

12(3):281-289.

Abusive couples, discordant couples, and satisfactorily married couples were compared on self-report measures of general assertion, spouse-specific assertion, spouse-specific aggression, and spousal physical aggression in their families of origin. Men and women in abusive relationships as well as those in discordant, but non-abusive, relationships were found to have lower levels of spouse-specific assertion than satisfactorily married couples. However, men and women in abusive relationships did not differ from discordant, non-abusive men and women, on these measures. Low levels of spouse-specific assertion were characteristic of all discordant couples. Spousal violence in the family of origin was a critical distinguishing factor of physically abusive men versus discordant, but non-abusive, men. Violence in the family of origin was not a critical distinguishing characteristic of women in abusive

relationships. 26 references, 1 table, and 2 notes. (Author abstract modified)

Descriptors:

self report inventories; family violence research; aggression; battering relationships; etiology; spouse abuse; communication techniques; assertion

Assessment of Assertion and Problem-Solving Skills in Wife Abusers and Their Spouses.

Morrison, R. L.; Van Hasselt, V. B.; Bellack, A. S.

Pittsburgh Univ., PA. Dept. of Psychology.

Journal Article

Copyright 1987

Journal of Family Violence.

2(3):227-238.

This article presents the results of a study on assertion and problem-solving skills in couples characterized by wife abuse. A role play test and problem-solving interaction task were administered to couples in the following groups: physically abusive, maritally discordant but nonviolent, and satisfactorily married. Results indicated that members of abusive dyads exhibited deficits on selected behavioral components of assertion. However, few differences were observed between these dyads and the maritally discordant, nonviolent couples. The need for further evaluation of interpersonal skill variables in physically abusive males is discussed. The possible interactive effects of multiple factors in family violence research is examined. 45 references and 2 tables. (Author abstract modified)

Descriptors:

wife abuse; problem solving; communication; family violence

research; verbal ability; marital conflicts; assertion; abusive husbands

The Battered Woman Syndrome.

Douglas, M. A.

Nova Univ., Fort Lauderdale, FL.

Dept. of Clinical Psychology.

Chapter in Book

pp. 39-54

Copyright 1987

Publication Source:

In: Sonkin, D. J. (Editor).

Domestic Violence on Trial.

Psychological and Legal

Dimensions of Family Violence.

New York, Springer Publishing

Company, Inc.,

Distributed By:

Springer Publishing Company, Inc.

536 Broadway

New York, NY 10012

This article discusses the battered woman syndrome (BWS), a collection of characteristics and effects of abuse that results in the decreased ability to respond effectively to violence. Arguments of detractors of the BWS are presented, which say that it designates battered women as pathological or individualizes the responsibility for stopping the violence. However, it is argued that BWS is a natural reaction to abuse and that women recover once they are separated from the abuser or he changes his behavior. A discussion of intervention methods is provided. 20 references.

Descriptors:

battered woman syndrome; family violence research; characteristics of abused; clinical intervention

The Battered Woman Syndrome.

//Springer Series: Focus on Women, Volume 6//.

Walker, L. E.

Walker & Associates, Denver, CO.
Book
256 pp.
Copyright 1984
Distributed By:
Springer Publishing Company,
Inc.
536 Broadway
New York, NY 10012

This book is based on a study of over 400 battered women of the Rocky Mountain region, conducted from July 1978 through June 1981 at the Battered Women's Research Center at Colorado Women's College in Denver. The book provides a comprehensive examination of the battered woman syndrome, its characteristics, and implications for the mental health worker. Data from this project is integrated with other research and the most important psychological issues of domestic violence are discussed. Psychosocial characteristics of the women, their children, and their batterers; the role of substance abuse; and links between spouse abuse and other forms of interpersonal violence are included. A description of the theories tested in this research project is included. Study findings are applied to the legal and clinical psychology fields. Appendices include procedures for selection of the study sample, a description of staff selection and training, the type of study participant interview, a description of standardized scales used in the study, and data reduction methodology. 173 references and 36 tables.

Descriptors:

battered woman syndrome; family violence research;
characteristics of abused;
characteristics of abuser; child witnesses of family violence;
therapy

Battered Women as Consumers of
Legal Services: Reports From a
National Survey.

Bowker, L. H.
Augustana Coll., Sioux Falls, SD.
Journal Article
Copyright 1987
Response.
10(1):10-17.

An article in Woman's Day magazine contained a questionnaire that asked if the respondent had sought formal assistance due to an incident of spouse abuse, and how satisfied she was with the help she received. The findings indicate that of nearly all sources, battered women were more satisfied with the help they received from lawyers. The only formal help sources rated higher were women's groups and shelters. District attorneys were rated the least helpful in the criminal justice system. The findings show that the more rigid the help source system, the less effective it is perceived to be by the battered wife who attempts to use it. Analysis further substantiates the need for a realignment of legal services for abused wives. 30 references and 2 tables.

Descriptors:

battered women; legal services;
use studies; services delivery;
surveys

Building Bridges Between
Activists, Professionals, and
Researchers.

Schechter, S.
Massachusetts Coalition of
Battered Women Service Groups.
Chapter in Book
pp. 299-312
Copyright 1988
Publication Source:
In: Yllo, K. and Bograd, M.
(Editors). Feminist
Perspectives on Wife Abuse.

Newbury Park, CA., Sage
Publications, Inc.,
Distributed By:
Sage Publications, Inc.
2111 W. Hillcrest Dr.
Newbury Park, CA 91320

This chapter offers professionals and researchers a bridge into the battered women's movement by outlining the concerns of those involved in feminist services for women. Causes of the distrust and caution that activists maintain toward professionals and researchers are explored. Recommendations are offered for activists and researchers to work together more productively. 3 references.

Descriptors:

battered women; womens movement;
shelters; family violence
research; interagency
cooperation; womens advocacy

Changing the Domestic Violence
Policies of Urban Police
Departments: Impact of the
Minneapolis Experiment.

Cohn, E. G.
Cambridge Univ. (England). Inst.
of Criminology.
Journal Article
Copyright 1987
Response.
10(4):22-24.

The Crime Control Institute's telephone survey in 1986 of 176 urban police departments is examined. Respondents who knew about the Minneapolis Domestic Violence Experiment doubled from 32 percent in 1984 to 68 percent in 1985 and 1986. Police departments where practices had changed as a result of the Minneapolis Experiment increased from 3 percent in 1984 to 30 percent in 1986. Forty-six percent of respondents preferred to arrest the abuser in minor

domestic assault cases, up from 10 percent in 1984 and 31 percent in 1985. Survey responses indicate that police training programs now include more coursework on domestic violence. The National Institute of Justice's program to replicate the Minneapolis Experiment in 6 cities around the United States is mentioned. 8 references.

Descriptors:

police attitudes; family
disturbance calls; police
operating procedures; policy
formation; family violence
research

Children in Shelters.

Layzer, J. I.; Goodson, B. D.;
deLange, C.
Apt Associates, Inc., Cambridge,
MA.
Journal Article
Copyright March-April 1986
Children Today.
15(2):cover, 6-11.

This article summarizes findings of research on children who come to battered women's shelters and offers recommendations for improving services to victims of family violence. Data were gathered from 5 shelters originally funded as demonstration projects by the National Center on Child Abuse and Neglect. Women and children who came to these shelters were found to have experienced physical and emotional abuse over an extended period of time. The average mother was married, between 20 and 35 years of age, unemployed, and had little education and 2 or 3 children. More than half of the victims had a family income below the poverty level. While few of the children had chronic mental or physical health problems, most exhibited mood problems, sleep disturbances, and similar difficulties. Fewer

than 20 percent of these families were being seen by protective agencies. Projects offered a structured daily program with group counseling for resident children. Parenting education was available to the mothers. Advocacy services were identified.

The study's recommendations include medical screening and treatment for children in shelters and closer working relationships between child protective services agencies and shelter programs.

Descriptors:

children in shelters; shelter programs; child witnesses of family violence; family services; family violence research; child abuse; demonstration programs

Collaborative Feminist Research and the Myth of Objectivity.

Hoff, L. A.
Northeastern Univ., Boston, MA.
Life Crisis Inst.

Chapter in Book
pp. 269-281

Copyright 1988

Publication Source:

In: Yllo, K. and Bograd, M.
(Editors). Feminist Perspectives on Wife Abuse.
Newbury Park, CA., Sage Publications, Inc.,

Distributed By:

Sage Publications, Inc.
2111 W. Hillcrest Dr.
Newbury Park, CA 91320

This chapter examines methodological issues that emerged during a 1-year field study on violence against women, in which feminist activists and academic researchers found themselves at odds. The importance of making values explicit when studying a sensitive topic with political and ethical ramifications is discussed. Evidence from this study disproves the myth of objectivity in research and

supports the counterclaim that research is intervention. 26 references.

Descriptors:

family violence research; womens movement; research methodology; battered women; intervention

Community Consultations in Country Areas. Experiences of the Domestic Violence Task Force in Western Australia.

Shatfan, N.

Domestic Violence Task Force,
Perth (Australia).

Proceedings Paper

pp. 241-247

Copyright 1986

Publication Source:

In: Hatty, S. E. (Editor).
National Conference on Domestic Violence, Volume 1, Canberra (Australia), November 11-15, 1985. Phillip, A.C.T. (Australia), Australian Inst. of Criminology.

Distributed By:

Australian Institute of Criminology
10-18 Colbee Ct.
Phillip, A.C.T., Australia 2606

This paper examines the difficulties encountered by members of the Domestic Violence Task Force in Western Australia in the execution of their mission. Given the extensive area of Western Australia, the attempt to assess the effectiveness of legal and social responses to domestic violence is compounded by community isolation. Limitations imposed upon financial resources and the amount of time spent in each location were additional burdens. Particular difficulties were interviewer variability, personnel availability, confidentiality, and local skepticism. Recommendations for the reduction of some of these problems are given. 10 references.

Descriptors:

rural environment; australia;
wife abuse; national surveys;
data collection; family violence
research

A Comprehensive Analysis of State
Policies and Practices Related
to Elder Abuse. Report No. 3.
A Focus on Roles and Activities
of State-Level Agencies
Pertaining to Elder Abuse.
State-Level Interagency
Coordination Efforts Addressing
Elder Abuse. State-Level Public
Education/Information Campaigns
for Elder Abuse.

American Public Welfare
Association/National Association
of State Units on Aging,
Washington, DC. Elder Abuse
Project.

Final Report

176 pp.

Distributed By:

American Public Welfare
Association
810 First St. NE
Suite 500
Washington, DC 20002
(202) 682-0100

Presented are the results of a survey of State social service and aging agencies. All 50 States, the District of Columbia, Guam, and Puerto Rico returned completed questionnaires. The intent of the survey was to gather descriptive data to promote exchange and collaboration among social service and aging agencies. The roles and activities of State agencies in dealing with elder abuse are discussed. State-level interagency coordination efforts and public awareness campaigns on elder abuse are described. Appendices contain the text of the questionnaire, samples of interagency coordination agreements, and a list of Administration on Aging elder abuse grantees for FY 1986. 10 tables.

Descriptors:

elder abuse; state social
service agencies; state
programs; interagency
cooperation; public awareness;
final reports; national surveys;
adult protection services

A Comprehensive Analysis of State
Policy and Practice Related to
Elder Abuse. A Focus on
Legislation, Appropriations,
Incidence Data and Special
Studies.

American Public Welfare
Association/National Association
of State Units on Aging,
Washington, DC. Elder Abuse
Project.

Technical Report

374 pp.

Distributed By:

American Public Welfare
Association
810 First St. NE
Suite 500
Washington, DC 20002
(202) 682-0100

This report presents the results of a survey of State social service and aging agencies conducted between October and December 1985. All 50 States, the District of Columbia, Guam, and Puerto Rico participated in the survey. The questionnaire was designed to gather descriptive and statistical information about State legislation, regulations, State appropriations, reporting requirements, incidence data, local agency programs, and special studies and research projects pertaining to elder abuse. Responses to the questionnaire are discussed, and State legislation is analyzed. The text of the questionnaire is included as an appendix. 18 tables and 4 exhibits. (Author abstract modified)

Descriptors:

elder abuse; state surveys;
state programs; elder abuse
reporting; legislation;
statistics; state laws;
incidence

A Comprehensive Analysis of State
Policy and Practice Related to
Elder Abuse. A Focus on State
Reporting Systems. Report 2.

American Public Welfare
Association/National Association
of State Units on Aging,
Washington, DC. Elder Abuse
Project.

Technical Report
100 pp.

Distributed By:
American Public Welfare
Association
810 First St. NE
Suite 500
Washington, DC 20002
(202) 682-0100

This report presents the results
of a review of the elder abuse
reporting system forms,
instructions, and procedures used
by States in managing elder abuse
information. State social service
and aging agencies submitted
copies of their forms,
instructions for using them,
procedures followed in elder abuse
cases, and statistical reports
produced by their elder abuse
reporting systems. Data items
collected by all respondents are
analyzed and the operation of
elder abuse reporting systems in 5
States is described. Appendices
include the forms from these 5
States and the interview schedule
for the State profiles. 7 tables.

Descriptors:

elder abuse; state surveys;
state programs; administrative
policies; information systems;
data collection

A Conceptual Framework for
Understanding Crime and the
Family.

Straus, M. A.; Lincoln, A. J.
New Hampshire Univ., Durham.

Family Research Lab.

Chapter in Book

pp. 5-23

Copyright 1985

Publication Source:

In: Lincoln, A. J. and Straus,
M. A. (Editors). Crime and the
Family. Springfield, IL.,
Charles C. Thomas,

Distributed By:

Charles C. Thomas
2600 S. First St.
Springfield, IL 62717

This chapter outlines a conceptual
framework for studying the family
and its relationship to crime,
based on ideas from the fields of
criminology, victimology, and
family studies. Based on
preliminary studies, it is
suggested that crime in the family
is more common than crime in any
other setting. Family crime is
defined and a taxonomy of family
crime is presented. The key
issues to the study of crime and
the family are postulated as
incidence, cause, consequence,
socialization, prevention and
treatment. 18 references and 2
figures.

Descriptors:

crime; family structure; family
violence research; research
methodology

A Conflict Theory of Family
Violence.

Witt, D. D.

Akron Univ., OH. Dept. of Home
Economics and Family Ecology.

Journal Article

Copyright 1987

Journal of Family Violence.

2(4):291-301.

This article makes a theoretical

accounting of family violence in terms of the antagonistic elements in our culture and society that serve to irritate family relationships. Using conflict theory as the interpretive tool, the existence of family violence is explained as a direct effect of the economic values of the culture. To further strengthen this theoretical position, portions of other theories are included, such as some of the feminist arguments dealing with the historical development of patriarchy, and a symbolic interaction perspective on the process of socialization for the use of violence in stressful situations. 36 references. (Author abstract modified)

Descriptors:

family violence research;
conflict theories; womens
movement; sociocultural
dimensions; family structure;
marital dependency

Contributions of Family Violence
Research to Criminal Justice
Policy on Wife Assault:
Paradigms of Science and Social
Control.

Fagan, J.
Criminal Justice Center, New York,
NY.

Journal Article
Copyright 1988
Violence and Victims.
3(3):159-186.

This article examines the evolution of criminal justice policy on family violence, formed over the past 2 decades by political theory from divergent and often competing perspectives. Experimental research on mandatory arrest of wife batterers, policy research on special prosecution programs, and the development of treatment programs for batterers are discussed. It is suggested

that critical research on family violence has not been integrated into criminal justice policy, limiting policy development and intervention strategies to practices which reflect contemporary models of sanctions and social control. The limited contributions of family violence research to criminal justice policy reflect competing paradigms of social science, the challenge of family violence cases to the social organization of the criminal courts, and divergent perspectives on social control of offenders in family and stranger violence cases. Strategies for integrated policy development are suggested. 120 references. (Author abstract modified)

Descriptors:

family violence research; policy
formation; law enforcement;
courts role; judicial decisions;
family violence laws

Coping With Family Violence.
Research and Policy
Perspectives.

Hotaling, G. T., (Editor).;
Finkelhor, D., (Editor).;
Kirkpatrick, J. T., (Editor).;
Straus, M. A., (Editor).
Lowell Univ., MA. Dept. of
Criminal Justice.

Book
323 pp.
Copyright 1988
Distributed By:
Sage Publications, Inc.
2111 W. Hillcrest Dr.
Newbury Park, CA 91320

This volume contains papers presented at the Second National Conference for Family Violence Research held at the University of New Hampshire. Theories of violence, personal strategies for dealing with violence, shelter programs, programs for male batterers, the criminal justice system, medical and mental health

services, protective services, and prevention of violence are discussed. Numerous references.

2(1):5-23.

Descriptors:

medical services; family violence research; policy formation; child abuse; legal processes; spouse abuse; child protection services; prevention

Crime and the Family.

Lincoln, A. J., (Editor).; Straus, M. A., (Editor).

Lowell Univ., MA.

Book

264 pp.

Copyright 1985

Distributed By:

Charles C. Thomas

2600 S. First St.

Springfield, IL 62717

This book is a collection of 15 articles on the family and its relationship to crime. A conceptual framework for studying crime and the family is presented, based on ideas from criminology, victimology, and family studies. Crime in the family, crime by the family, and crime against the family are all examined. Both a subject and a name index are included. Numerous references and tables.

Descriptors:

family violence research; crime; family problems; child abuse; marital rape; generational cycle of family violence; family structure; victims

Crime at Home and in the Streets:

The Relationship Between Family and Stranger Violence.

Fagan, J.; Wexler, S.

New York City Criminal Justice Agency, NY.

Journal Article

Copyright Spring 1987

Violence and Victims.

This article examines the correlation among the causes of domestic violence and violence toward strangers. Research and theory on violent behavior have treated aggression between intimates and aggression between strangers as separate phenomena. Major criminological works on violence and aggression have generally overlooked violence in the home. As a result, independent and distinct bodies of theoretical and practical knowledge exist regarding family violence and aggression toward strangers, and the relationship between family violence and violence directed against strangers is little understood. Estimates of the intersection of these behaviors vary extensively. Severity of domestic violence is associated with violence outside the home. Exposure to violence as a child consistently emerges as a strong explanatory factor for both domestic violence and the behavior of generally violent men. Behavior patterns appear to shift over time, from domestic violence only to violence toward both strangers and family members. However, an integrated theory of violent behavior by males provides explanations of both stranger and family violence. Early childhood socialization toward violence, modified by social and cultural supports during adolescence and adulthood, suggests a social learning paradigm. Hypotheses are developed that integrate and unify theories of stranger and family violence. Numerous references. (Author abstract modified)

Descriptors:

family violence research; crime; aggression; behavior patterns; sex roles; violence; generational cycle of family violence; child witnesses of family violence

Domestic Violence and Homicide
Antecedents.

Straus, M. A.

New Hampshire Univ., Durham.

Family Research Lab.

Journal Article

Copyright June 1986

Bulletin of the New York Academy
of Medicine.

62(5):446-465.

This paper presents significant statistical data on domestic violence and intrafamily homicides in the United States. The nature and extent of homicides between family members is analyzed, with information on trends since 1966. The extent of nonlethal violence within the family and its connection to homicide is discussed. Intrafamily violence is examined from a public health perspective; development of public health programs that will alter the social conditions that create violence and homicide within the family is proposed. 38 references, 2 tables, and 5 graphs.

Descriptors:

homicide; family violence;
statistical data; family
characteristics; primary
prevention; physicians role;
secondary prevention; family
violence research

Domestic Violence on Trial.
Psychological and Legal
Dimensions of Family Violence.

Sonkin, D. J., (Editor).

Book

254 pp.

Copyright 1987

Distributed By:

Springer Publishing Company,
Inc.

536 Broadway

New York, NY 10012

This book describes the connection between domestic violence and the courts. The book is divided into

4 sections, each of which focuses on a particular aspect of the issue of domestic violence: the historical roots of domestic violence are examined, characteristics of battered women are discussed, the issue of children is addressed, and batterers' therapy is included. Articles which address subjects such as the criminalization of family violence are included: its impact on children within the context of the legal system; the battered woman syndrome; providing testimony as an expert witness on behalf of battered women; assessing and counseling male batterers in court-mandated programs; and the legal responsibilities of counselors with violent clients. The prologue is a personal account of a victim's experience in the legal system, and the epilogue addresses justice-making for battered women. Numerous references.

Descriptors:

battered women; court ordered
therapy; family violence
research; male batterers; child
witnesses of family violence;
courts; law enforcement;
battered women syndrome

The Etiology of Elder Abuse by
Adult Offspring.

Anetzberger, G. J.

Cuyahoga County Dept. of Human
Services, Cleveland, OH.

Book

130 pp.

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Distributed By:

Charles C. Thomas

2600 S. First St.

Springfield, IL 62794

(217) 789-8980

This monograph examines the problem of physical abuse of elderly parents through indepth interviews conducted with a panel of abusing adult offspring.

Interview schedules were specially developed for this study and included indices to measure social isolation, burden of elder caregiving, social intimacy, and conflict tactics. The responses of the filial caregivers are analyzed, specific steps triggering abuse are identified, and implications of social policy and programming are discussed. Research findings include a profile of the typical abuser, a framework for explaining elder abuse, and distinct categories of abusers. 176 references. (Author abstract modified)

Descriptors:

elder abuse; statistical data; etiology; adult children; interviews; characteristics of abuser; family violence research

Family Abuse and Its Consequences.
New Directions in Research.

Hotaling, G. T., (Editor).;
Finkelhor, D., (Editor).;
Kirkpatrick, J. T., (Editor).;
Straus, M. A., (Editor).

New Hampshire Univ., Durham.

Family Research Lab.

Book

318 pp.

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Sage Publications, Inc.

2111 W. Hillcrest Dr.

Newbury Park, CA 91320

This monograph discusses research trends in various major areas: physical child abuse, spouse abuse, elder abuse, sexual abuse, and dating violence. Common themes, issues, and controversies that cut across all these problems are discussed. The consequences of such abuse are detailed, and characteristics of the perpetrator are examined. Implications for future research are included. Numerous references.

Descriptors:

family violence research; spouse abuse; child abuse; sequelae; characteristics of abuser; elder abuse; sexual abuse

Family Training in Crime and Violence.

Straus, M. A.

New Hampshire Univ., Durham.

Family Research Lab.

Chapter in Book

pp. 164-185

Copyright 1985

Publication Source:

In: Lincoln, A. J. and Straus, M. A. (Editors). Crime and the Family. Springfield, IL.,

Charles C. Thomas,

Distributed By:

Charles C. Thomas

2600 S. First St.

Springfield, IL 62717

This chapter discusses a study which tested the hypothesis that intrafamily violence is associated with nonfamily violence and crime.

Two surveys indicate that children who have been hit by their parents have higher rates of vandalism and theft and higher scores on a standard delinquency scale. Boys, but not girls, had a greater likelihood of being expelled from school. Maritally violent couples had higher rates of criminal involvement than nonviolent couples. Two suggested factors that create such an effect are the role model of violent parents and the experience of being a victim, although other factors may be equally important. 15 references, 2 tables, and 5 figures.

Descriptors:

incidence; research methodology; conflict tactics scales; sampling studies; spouse abuse; crime; juvenile delinquency; social factors

Family Violence. //Sage Library
of Social Research//.

Gelles, R. J.

Rhode Island Univ., Kingston.

Family Violence Research
Program.

Book

251 pp.

Copyright 1987

Distributed By:

Sage Publications, Inc.

2111 W. Hillcrest Dr.

Newbury Park, CA 91320

This collection of 13 essays on family violence research addresses child abuse, marital violence, elder abuse, other family aggression, research methodologies, and clinical applications of research. Statistical data from various research studies are included. 376 references, 3 figures, and 20 tables.

Descriptors:

family violence research; elder abuse; spouse abuse; child abuse; parent abuse; intergenerational abuse; statistical data; research methods

Feminist Perspectives on Wife
Abuse.

Yllo, K., (Editor).

Bograd, M., (Editor).

Wheaton Coll., Norton, MA. Dept.
of Sociology.

Book

318 pp.

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Newbury Park, CA 91320

This collection offers a feminist perspective on the problems of researching, treating, and preventing woman abuse. The political aspects of research, intervention with victims and abusers, and the integration of

feminist theory and practice are addressed. Numerous references.

Descriptors:

woman abuse; womens movement; family violence research; intervention strategies; child abuse; behavior theories

Feminist Perspectives on Wife
Abuse. An Introduction.

Bograd, M.

Kantor Family Inst., Cambridge,
MA.

Chapter in Book

pp. 11-26

Copyright 1988

Publication Source:

In: Yllo, K. and Bograd, M.

(Editors). Feminist Perspectives
on Wife Abuse. Newbury Park,
CA., Sage Publications, Inc.,

Distributed By:

Sage Publications, Inc.

2111 W. Hillcrest Dr.

Newbury Park, CA 91320

The introduction to this volume of articles on feminism and wife abuse offers a rationale for focusing on wife abuse, as opposed to the broader concept of family violence. Feminist perspectives are outlined and clarified through brief critical analyses of mainstream approaches to wife abuse. These perspectives question the traditional research process, which is also discussed. The necessity and difficulty of integrating academic research with social activism is reviewed. 24 references.

Descriptors:

woman abuse; womens movement; social attitudes; behavior theories; family violence research; sociology; womens advocacy

The Frequency of Interpersonal
Violence. What Do the Studies
Tell Us? (Editorial).

Berliner, L.

Sexual Assault Center, Seattle,
WA.

Journal Article

Copyright June 1987

Journal of Interpersonal Violence.

2(2):223-224.

This brief editorial discusses the difficulty of conducting a scientific study on family violence, while citing the importance of such work in changing public and professional awareness of the problem. Some of the difficulties are: problem of definition, which changes as societal norms change; obtaining information from those involved; the questionable accuracy of data, once obtained; and the inadequacies of medical and judicial reporting systems. The need for the development of research methodologies that will achieve scientific reliability and the dangers of methodologies that yield disparate or conflicting findings are discussed. 3 references.

Descriptors:

family violence research;
methodology; data collection;
data analysis; therapeutic
effectiveness

Has Family Violence Decreased? A
Reassessment of the Straus and
Gelles Data.

Stocks, J. T.

Florida State Univ., Tallahassee.
School of Social Work.

Journal Article

Copyright February 1988

Journal of Marriage and the
Family.

50(1):281-285.

survey which seems to indicate a decline in family violence is questioned. Straus and Gelles (1986) compared results from the 1975 and 1985 national surveys on wife and child abuse and reported decreases in both categories of maltreatment. It is argued that problems in selection criteria and statistics suggest that the reduction is due to sampling bias and sampling error. 17 references and 3 tables.

Descriptors:

family violence research;
sampling studies; statistical
analysis; trend analysis;
behavior changes; national
surveys; research methodology

Has Family Violence Decreased? A
Response to J. Timothy Stocks.

Gelles, R. J.; Straus, M. A.;

Harrop, J. W.

Rhode Island Univ., Kingston.

Coll. of Arts and Sciences.

Journal Article

Copyright February 1988

Journal of Marriage and the
Family.

50(1):286-291.

Criticisms of research methodology used in a national survey on domestic violence are examined. The probability of sampling bias is rejected, while computational errors are found to be valid. It is argued that these errors do not affect the survey conclusions. The reasons it was decided not to control for Type I errors in the study are discussed. 14 references and 3 tables.

Descriptors:

family violence research;
research methodology; sampling
studies; interviews; national
surveys; statistical analysis

The methodology used in a national

How Theoretical Definitions and Perspectives Affect Research and Policy.

Dobash, R. E.
Stirling Univ., (Scotland). Dept.
of Sociology and Social Policy.
Proceedings Paper

28 pp.

Copyright March 21-23, 1988

Publication Source:

American Enterprise Inst. for
Public Policy Research
Conference on Research on Family
Violence: Identifying and
Answering the Public Policy
Questions, Washington, DC.,

Distributed By:

American Enterprise Institute
1150 17th St. NW
Washington, DC 20036
(202) 862-5800

The findings and solutions that result from studies of family violence depend in part on the theoretical perspectives of the researchers--the questions they choose to ask, the factors they choose to address, and the definitions they accept of such terms as violence and abuse. Focusing on violence committed by males against their female partners, this paper examines the different research perspectives that have been adopted over the years and discusses the validity and social consequences of each. Biological explanations have been put forward: the inevitability of patriarchy, or the violence-prone woman. Individualistic studies have attempted to find out which individuals are outside the norm, either due to class, race, sex, age, or personality traits. Another approach has been to examine the dynamics of social interaction; this is the method that includes cycles of violence in its paradigm. The sociocultural view sees family violence as part of the violent world in which we live. The institutional approach examines the reactions of organizations and agencies, and the formation of

policies and practices; this approach often focuses on outcomes (such as arrest numbers). The contextual approach explains social actions by placing them in the numerous contexts within which they actually occur; this perspective has often been associated with a feminist ideology, and stresses male domination in the use of violence.

Multiagency response fits this perspective: the needs of the woman become paramount, and the goal is to end the violence. 18 references.

Descriptors:

family violence research;
individual characteristics;
sociocultural dimensions;
theories; woman abuse;
interaction process analysis;
institutions

How Violent Are American Families?
Estimates From the National
Family Violence Resurvey and
Other Studies.

Straus, M. A.; Gelles, R. J.
New Hampshire Univ., Durham.
Family Research Lab.

Chapter in Book

pp. 14-36

Copyright 1988

Publication Source:

In: Hotelling, G. T.,
Finkelhor, D., Kirkpatrick J.
T., and Straus, M. A. (Editors).
Family Abuse and Its
Consequences. New Directions in
Research. Newbury Park, CA.,
Sage Publications, Inc.,

Distributed By:

Sage Publications, Inc.
2111 W. Hillcrest Dr.
Newbury Park, CA 91320

Rates of family violence from a 1985 national survey are presented and compared to the rates found in other studies of family violence. Results show that violent incidents occurred for 161 of every 1000 couples during 1985,

and about 1.8 million women were severely assaulted by their partners that year. About 6.9 million children are severely assaulted each year, and children appear to be the most violent persons in American families. Rates for child abuse are about 16 times greater than the number of cases reported to Child Protective Services in 1985. Rates for spousal assault are roughly 50 times greater than the rate derived from the National Crime Survey. 65 references and 3 tables.

Descriptors:

family violence research;
incidence; prevalence; conflict
tactics scales; national
surveys; statistical data

Husbands Who Harm: Predicting Spousal Violence by Men.

Howell, M. J.; Pugliesi, K. L.
Trinity Coll., Burlington, VT.
Journal Article
Copyright March 1988
Journal of Family Violence.
3(1):15-27.

This study utilizes a multivariate approach to explore the independent and combined effects of several variables derived from the social learning and the frustration/strain perspectives on self-reported violence by husbands against wives. Previous research on spouse abuse has frequently focused on bivariate relationships between theoretically derived variables and marital violence. Data for married and/or cohabiting males are derived from a national stratified random sample of couples in the United States. Log-linear analysis is used to identify the main and interactive effects of age, occupational status, employment status, subjective economic strain, and observation of parental violence

on reports of conjugal violence. Age, occupational status, parental modeling, and employment status affect the likelihood of violence.

Employment status more strongly increases the likelihood of violence for younger men, as opposed to older men, which supports the strain perspective. The independent effect of the observation of parental violence lends support to the social learning approach. Social policy implications are discussed. 16 references and 4 tables. (Author abstract modified)

Descriptors:

male batterers; spouse abuse;
family violence research; self
report inventories; generational
cycle of family violence;
sociocultural dimensions;
socioeconomic stress

The Impact of Research on Legal Policy: A Case Study of the Minneapolis Domestic Violence Experiment.

Sherman, L. W.; Cohn, E. G.
Maryland Univ., College Park.
Technical Report
44 pp.

Publication Source:

Supported by: National Inst. of
Justice (DOJ), Washington, DC.,

This paper refutes an assertion by a family violence researcher that policy reform should not be based on the outcome of 1 experiment, but should be held in abeyance until the experiment is replicated. A panel survey of police departments in 146 cities of over 100,000 people suggests that the Minneapolis Domestic Violence Experiment has had a substantial impact on police policy. Almost half of the respondents adopted an arrest policy for misdemeanor domestic violence within 2 years of the release of the experiment's results. One-third of those

surveyed said their policy had been influenced by the experiment.

Although this impact may be premature and inappropriate until replications are complete, it is argued that publicity and policy influence should be used for the best evidence available about policies for ongoing social problems, however provisional that evidence might be. 62 references and 2 tables. (Author abstract modified)

Descriptors:

minnesota; family violence research; policy formation; police operating procedures; law enforcement; arrests; family disturbance calls

The Impact of Research on Police Practices. A Case Study of the Minneapolis Domestic Violence Experiment.

Sherman, L.; Garner, J.; Cohn, E.; Hamilton, E.

Maryland Univ., College Park.

Proceedings Paper

pp. 145-173

Copyright 1986

Publication Source:

In: Hatty, S. E. (Editor).

National Conference on Domestic Violence, Volume 1, Canberra (Australia), November 11-15, 1985. Phillip, A.C.T.

(Australia), Australian Inst. of Criminology,

Distributed By:

Australian Institute of Criminology

10-18 Colbee Ct.

Phillip, A.C.T., Australia 2606

This paper reviews the Minneapolis Domestic Violence Experiment and addresses the relationship between research and policy. The impact of the experiment on police policy was so great that some critics have charged that research exerts too great an influence on policy. That criticism is evaluated in terms of the methodology used in

the experiment. Results of a telephone survey of police departments across the nation are reported; results indicate that the Minneapolis experiment had a profound effect on the formulation of police policy throughout the country. 42 references and 2 tables.

Descriptors:

family violence research; policy formation; police operating procedures; mandatory arrest; publicity; law enforcement; minnesota; experimental programs

The Incidence and Prevalence of Woman Abuse in Toronto.

Smith, M. D.

York Univ., North York, Ontario

(Canada). Dept. of Sociology.

Journal Article

Copyright Fall 1987

Violence and Victims.

2(3):173-187.

This article analyzes the results of a telephone survey on the physical abuse of women by a male intimate. The sample was a representative group of 604 Toronto women. Results showed an annual incidence rate of 14.4 percent and a prevalence rate of 25 percent, based on the Conflict Tactics Scales as the measure of abuse. Several additional measures increased the prevalence rate to 36.4 percent. These estimates, which are much higher than those obtained in a similar survey conducted 2 years earlier in Toronto, appear to be the result mainly of improved methodological procedures in the present study. 24 references, 9 notes, and 3 tables. (Author abstract modified)

Descriptors:

incidence; prevalence; woman abuse; ontario; conflict tactics

scales; surveys; research
methodology

Is Violence Preventable?

Petrie, C.; Garner, J.

Technical Report

25 pp.

Distributed By:

National Institute of Justice

NCJRS

Rockville, MD

(301) 251-5500

The traditional view that society can only react to, and not prevent, violence is challenged in this analysis of extant data; it is argued that most instances of violence occur between persons who know each other, so such instances are preventable. It is suggested that the criminal careers framework can be applied to the analysis of family violence statistics. Such family dysfunction should be the focus of violence research and prevention. It is concluded that participation and frequency rates must be distinguished; prediction, prevention, and intervention are aided when distinction is made between male offending and female offending. 19 references, 5 tables, and 2 figures.

Descriptors:

violence; prevalence; incidence;
homicide; family violence
research; crime

Learned Helplessness, External
Locus of Control, and Passivity
in Battered Women.

Launius, M. H.; Lindquist, C. U.

Louisiana State Univ., Baton

Rouge. Dept. of Psychology.

Journal Article

Copyright September 1988

Journal of Interpersonal Violence.

3(3):307-318.

This study examines learned helplessness in battered women. It is predicted that battered women would have poorer problem-solving skills, have a more external locus of control, and be more passive than nonbattered women. Multivariate analysis of variance conducted on scores for the dependent measures indicated that battered women did exhibit significantly poorer problem-solving skills and were more passive with their partners than nonbattered women. There was no difference between the groups on general passivity or external locus of control. Findings were discussed in relation to the learned helplessness theory of battered women and research involving problem-solving deficits. 30 references and 1 table. (Author abstract modified)

Descriptors:

battered woman syndrome; problem
solving; battered women; family
violence research; assertion;
analysis of variance; marital
dependency

Legal Remedies for Spousal Abuse:

Victim Characteristics,
Expectations, and Satisfaction.

Horton, A. L.; Simonidis, K. M.;

Simonidis, L. L.

Brigham Young Univ., Provo, UT.

School of Social Work.

Journal Article

Copyright 1987

Journal of Family Violence.

2(3):265-279.

Since 1980 legal remedies for spouse abuse have been established in various forms in every State. Social service agencies and shelters currently encourage victims to use restraining orders, which now carry criminal consequences for the batterer, yet few empirical data have been

reported concerning their use. This article describes 2 research studies, 1 conducted in Dane County (Madison area), Wisconsin, the other in Sacramento County, California. The studies provide new helpful information for referring agencies and indicate which victims use these legal remedies, what their expectations are and how satisfied they are with the results. A final section discusses implications for change or clarification in policy, process, and education on the use of these legal remedies. 28 references, 1 figure. (Author abstract modified)

Descriptors:

characteristics of abused;
spouse abuse; spouse abuse laws;
law enforcement; protection
orders; injunctions; family
violence research

The Male Batterer: Clinical and Research Issues.

Sonkin, D. J.

Journal Article

Copyright Spring 1988

Violence and Victims.

3(1):65-79.

This article discusses treatment and education programs for male batterers, and the treatment philosophies used in such programs. It is suggested that some early intervention strategies were based on clinical intuition or a personal understanding of family violence rather than on research data. Various treatment approaches are discussed, and ways to evaluate these therapeutic strategies are suggested. It is concluded that more dialog between service providers, policymakers, and researchers would facilitate better understanding of the psychology of batterers and the etiology of spouse abuse. 77 references. (Author abstract

modified)

Descriptors:

male batterers; family violence research; intervention strategies; characteristics of abuser; batterers therapy; program evaluation; therapeutic effectiveness; etiology

Methodological Issues and New Directions for Research Regarding Violence in Relationships.

Follingstad, D. R.

South Carolina Univ., Columbia.

Technical Report

25 pp.

Distributed By:

University of South Carolina
Columbia, SC

This paper discusses the problems characteristic of family violence research, addressing the major roadblocks, the unique difficulties, and the best possibilities for research. Ideas for enhancing the value of questionnaires and interviews are offered, as most data collection in family violence research uses these methods. Finally, examines the reasons why this research does not easily lend itself to public policy formation. Alternatives and models for rectifying the problem are included. Points out that useful research is expensive to perform, but is essential for developing intelligent, meaningful policies on family violence. 15 references.

Descriptors:

family violence research;
research methodology; evaluation
methods; battering relationships

Methodological Issues in Marital Violence Research.

Rosenbaum, A.

Massachusetts Univ. Medical
Center, Worcester. Dept. of
Psychiatry.
Journal Article
Copyright June 1988
Journal of Family Violence.
3(2):91-104.

This paper discusses the methodological issues that may contribute to some of the inconsistencies in the marital violence literature and makes suggestions for the design and interpretation of research. Various research problems are examined: political implications; sampling and design issues; informant selection and reliability; comparison groups; surveys vs. true experiments; and ethical considerations. Problems in measuring outcomes are discussed. Implications for future research direction are included. 29 references. (Author abstract modified)

Descriptors:
family violence research;
research methodology; research
needs; spouse abuse

Methodological Perspectives on
"Domestic Violence".

Knight, R.; Hatty, S.
ACT Health Authority, Canberra
(Australia).

Proceedings Paper
pp. 215-227

Copyright 1986

Publication Source:

In: Hatty, S. E. (Editor).
National Conference on Domestic
Violence, Volume 1, Canberra
(Australia), November 11-15,
1985. Phillip, A.C.T.
(Australia), Australian Inst. of
Criminology,
Distributed By:
Australian Institute of
Criminology
10-18 Colbee Ct.

Phillip, A.C.T., Australia 2606
This paper examines the
theoretical and pragmatic
influences on the research agenda.
The theoretical framework adopted
by researchers is said to
determine the use of measurement
techniques, regardless of the
setting or opportunity for social
action. Some methodologies and
their attendant drawbacks are
outlined. It is held that
discrepancies in professional
approach impair the potential for
effective social remedy. 47
references.

Descriptors:
family violence research;
research methodology; models;
behavior theories

The Minneapolis Domestic Violence
Experiment.

Sherman, L. W.; Berk, R. A.
Maryland Univ.
Journal Article
Copyright April 1984
Police Foundation Reports.
():1-8.

Under a grant from the National
Institute of Justice, the
Minneapolis Police Department and
the Police Foundation conducted an
experiment from early 1981 to
mid-1982 testing police responses
to domestic violence; this report
summarizes the findings and
implications of the experiment and
explains how it was designed and
conducted. The study found that
arrest was the most effective of 3
standard methods police use to
reduce and deter domestic
violence. The other methods,
attempting to negotiate peace and
sending the assailant away from
home for a few hours, were found
to be considerably less effective.

While the results cannot be
considered conclusive because they
are the result of only a single
experiment, they do strongly

suggest that police should use arrest as the preferred method for dealing with domestic violence cases. 20 references, 3 graphs, and 2 tables.

Descriptors:

police action; family disturbance calls; arrests; family violence research; minnesota; experimental programs; law enforcement

More Than a Method: Qualitative Research on Spouse Abuse.

Eisikorits, Z.; Peled, E.
Haifa Univ. (Israel).
Proceedings Paper
22 pp.

Publication Source:

AEI Conference on Research on Family Violence: Identifying and Answering Public Policy Questions,

Distributed By:

American Enterprise Institute
1150 17th St. NW
Washington, DC 20036
(202) 862-5800

This paper joins the ongoing debate between qualitative (naturalistic) research and quantitative (positivistic) research on spouse abuse. In a review of current research, the 2 outlooks are compared. Quantitative researchers see a single, tangible reality that can be broken down and measured in its components. Qualitative research accepts the existence of multiple realities in an unstructured environment, such as might exist in a violent home. Quantitative research looks for regularity and predictability, while qualitative research accepts variation in time and context. Since family violence is subjective and emotional, it is argued that the study of family violence is particularly amenable to the qualitative approach. 31 references.

Descriptors:

family violence research; spouse abuse; research reviews; research methodology

Motivational Needs for Power and Spouse-Specific Assertiveness in Assaultive and Nonassaultive Men.

Dutton, D. G.; Strachan, C. E.
British Columbia Univ., Vancouver (Canada). Dept. of Psychology.
Journal Article
Copyright Fall 1987
Violence and Victims.
2(3):145-156.

This article details a study in which men who had assaulted their wives were compared to control groups of maritally conflicted (but nonassaultive) and satisfactorily married men through the use of Thematic Apperception Test stories scored for the need for power. When the stimulus pictures showed ambiguous male-female relationships, the assaultive men generated higher need-for-power scores than the average of both control groups combined but did not differ from the maritally conflicted group on need for power. The assaultive men had lower spouse-specific assertiveness scores than either control group, however. A discriminant analysis based on need-for-power and assertiveness scores correctly classified the wife assaulters and maritally conflicted males 90 percent of the time. The resulting profile of assaultive men was of a group high in the desire to exert power in relationships with women but lacking in the verbal resources to do so. It was hypothesized that this combination of a high desire for power and a deficit in verbal ability to generate influence produces chronic frustration, which may increase the risk of violence when combined with other

factors. Implications for treatment are discussed. 31 references, 2 tables, and 2 notes. (Author abstract modified)

Descriptors:

abusive husbands;
characteristics of abuser;
conflict theories; family
violence research; verbal
ability; control groups

National Conference on Domestic
Violence, Volume 1. //Australian
Institute of Criminology Seminar
Proceedings No. 12//.

Hatty, S. E., (Editor).

Australian Inst. of Criminology,
Canberra (Australia).

Proceedings Paper
339 pp.

Copyright 1986

Publication Source:

Australian Inst. of Criminology,
Canberra (Australia),

Distributed By:

Australian Institute of
Criminology
10-18 Colbee Ct.

Phillip, A.C.T., Australia 2606

This collection of 27 papers was presented at the National Conference on Domestic Violence hosted by the Australian Institute of Criminology on November 11-15, 1985, in Canberra, at the request of the Attorney General. The papers are grouped around the themes of individual experiences, societal institutions and domestic violence, women of ethnic groups and battering, the role of sexuality in violence, family violence research, and mental health services for victims and perpetrators. Over 300 individuals from government agencies, women's shelters, police departments, counseling centers, community health organizations, and migrant resources agencies participated in the conference. Numerous references.

Descriptors:

australia; conferences; battered women; family violence research; clinical intervention; courts; police role; ethnic groups

Non-Violent Crime Within the
Family.

Straus, M. A.; Lincoln, A. J.
New Hampshire Univ., Durham.

Family Research Lab.

Chapter in Book

pp. 71-87

Copyright 1985

Publication Source:

In: Lincoln, A. J. and Straus,
M. A. (Editors). Crime and the
Family. Springfield, IL.,
Charles C. Thomas,

Distributed By:

Charles C. Thomas
2600 S. First St.
Springfield, IL 62717

This chapter describes a pilot study on property crimes within the family, an area which has not been previously investigated. Questionnaires were given to 450 students and 437, or 97 percent, were completed. Respondents were asked 8 questions about the frequency with which forgery, larceny, robbery, vandalism, fraud, or extortion took place in their families during a specified year. A property crime was reported in 73 percent of the families studied. Multiple offenses were the norm rather than the exception; over 15,000 crimes were reported for the 437 families. The perpetrator-victim relationship is analyzed and demographic information on the families is presented. 14 references and 3 tables.

Descriptors:

crime; family; research
methodology; sampling studies;
financial abuse; material abuse

Nonrespondent Characteristics and
Bias in a Study of Batterers.

DeMaris, A.; Jackson, J.
Maryland Univ., Baltimore.
Journal Article
Copyright September 1986
Social Service Review.
60(3):460-474.

This article examines the survey response of former clients of a spouse batterers' counseling program to assess the efficacy of the mailed questionnaire in eliciting followup data. A comparison of respondent to nonrespondent characteristics revealed that those who were Protestants, those with alcohol problems, those whose parents had been violent with each other, and those who had abused their partners were significantly less likely to respond to a followup survey than others. Further analyses suggest that the sample somewhat overrepresents the batterers who had improved in the client population. 45 references and 2 tables. (Author abstract modified)

Descriptors:

surveys; male batterers;
questionnaires; research
methodology; followup studies;
family violence research;
characteristics of abuser

On the Relationship Between Wife
Beating and Child Abuse.

Bowker, L. H.; Arbitell, M.;
McFerron, J. R.
Augustana Coll., Sioux Falls, SD.
Chapter in Book
pp. 158-174
Copyright 1988
Publication Source:
In: Yllo, K. and Bograd, M.
(Editors). Feminist
Perspectives on Wife Abuse.
Newbury Park, CA., Sage
Publications, Inc.,
Distributed By:

Sage Publications, Inc.
2111 W. Hillcrest Dr.
Newbury Park, CA 91320

This chapter challenges the assumption that battered women abuse their children and suggests instead that men who beat their wives also beat their children. Questions of sample selection and methodology in the field of family violence research are discussed. The issue of institutionalized structures determining which research is published is discussed; it is argued that such structures work against the dissemination of feminist research on wife abuse. Implications for understanding wife abuse, for clinical intervention, and for social policy are suggested. 17 references and 3 tables.

Descriptors:

wife abuse; child abuse;
research methodology; children
at risk; parent child relations;
womens movement; etiology

Other "Truths" About Domestic
Violence: A Reply to McNeely
and Robinson-Simpson.

Saunders, D. G.
Wisconsin Univ., Madison. Dept.
of Psychiatry.
Journal Article
Copyright March-April 1988
Social Work.
33(2):179-183.

This article criticizes an earlier article published in the same journal, which suggested that husband abuse was as severe a problem as wife battering. Fallacies in reasoning and omissions in research are presented which flaw the premise of the earlier article. It is argued that the previous article is unfair to battered women and may lead to the curtailment of much needed services as a result

of erroneous findings. 49
references.

Descriptors:

family violence research;
research methodology; husband
abuse; evaluation; abusive
wives; spouse abuse; literature
reviews; research needs

Personality Characteristics of
Spouse Abusers: A Controlled
Comparison.

Hastings, J. E.; Hamberger, L. K.
Zablocki Veterans Administration
Medical Center, Milwaukee, WI.
Journal Article
Copyright Spring 1988
Violence and Victims.
3(1):31-48.

This study compares male spouse abusers, with and without alcohol problems, with age-matched, nonabusive males on measures of personality style, personality disorder, dysphoria, and a number of demographic measures. There were no differences among the groups in racial composition, religious preference, or religious devoutness. Male abusers were less likely to be employed, to be in intact relationships, and were less well educated. They were more likely to have witnessed abuse or experienced abuse as children, although that observation is more characteristic of abusers with alcohol problems. Measures of personality and psychopathology generally supported the hypothesis that abusive males would show greater elevations on test scales reflecting personality disorder and dysphoria and less conformity than nonbatterers. Alcohol abuse was related to greater batterer-nonbatterer differences. Implications of these findings and methodological concerns for future research are discussed. 37 references and 4 tables. (Author

abstract modified)

Descriptors:

male batterers; characteristics
of abuser; personality tests;
family violence research;
behavior theories; alcoholism;
personality disorders

Physically Abused Parents.

Charles, A. V.
Journal Article
Copyright 1986
Journal of Family Violence.
1(4):343-355.

A review of 300 inpatient and outpatient cases was performed to assess the incidence of physical abuse of young healthy parents by their children. A higher than expected incidence was found. Four general areas of symptomatology are described. The greatest number of cases seems to arise in well-educated, white, nonpathological family situations, rather than in disturbed situations seen with other types of family violence. Suggestions are made as to sociologic and child rearing philosophies which may contribute to the development of this phenomena. 14 references and 5 tables. (Author abstract modified)

Descriptors:

parent abuse; abusive children;
family violence research;
etiology; case studies;
literature reviews

Policy and Practice: How Research
Makes a Difference.

Dobash, R. P.
Stirling Univ., (Scotland). Dept.
of Sociology and Social Policy.
Proceedings Paper
30 pp.
Copyright March 21-23, 1988
Publication Source:

American Enterprise Inst. for
Public Policy Research.
Conference on Research on Family
Violence: Identifying and
Answering the Public Policy
Questions, Washington, DC,
Distributed By:
American Enterprise Institute
1150 17th St. NW
Washington, DC 20036
(202) 862-5800

This conference paper argues that research is only a part of the policy-making process, and that daily clinical experience with family violence should be considered when policy is formed. Three research methodologies are examined: empiricist, instrumental positivist, and interpretative-contextual approaches. The limitations of certain ratings scales are discussed. The danger of extrapolating from small samples to larger populations is mentioned. Contextual and interpretative analyses are offered as more relevant to policy formation than abstract or empiricist studies.

Descriptors:
policy formation; research
needs; family violence research;
research methodology;
conferences

Political and Methodological
Debates in Wife Abuse Research.

Yllo, K.
Wheaton Coll., Norton, MA. Dept.
of Sociology.

Chapter in Book
pp. 28-50

Copyright 1988

Publication Source:

In: Yllo, K. and Bograd, M.
(Editors). Feminist
Perspectives on Wife Abuse.
Newbury Park, CA., Sage
Publications, Inc.,

Distributed By:
Sage Publications, Inc.

2111 W. Hillcrest Dr.
Newbury Park, CA 91320

This chapter explores the methodological debates between mainstream and feminist researchers and activists, identifies major points of contention, and considers possible resolutions. Both quantitative and qualitative research methods are critiqued from a feminist viewpoint. 30 references.

Descriptors:
wife abuse; womens movement;
family violence research;
research methodology; conflicts;
sex roles

Predicting Child Behavior Problems
in Maritally Violent Families.

Jouriles, E. N.; Barling, J.;
O'Leary, K. D.

State Univ. of New York, Stony
Brook. Dept. of Psychology.

Journal Article

Copyright June 1987

Journal of Abnormal Child
Psychology.

15(2):165-173.

Research indicates that children from violent marriages are more likely to suffer from conduct problems and anxiety disorders than children from nonviolent, satisfactory marriages. However, knowledge regarding specific factors in violent marriages relating to child problems is limited. This article describes a study of the relationships involving interspousal aggression, parent-child aggression, and child behavior problems in a sample of 45 children from maritally violent families. Mothers indicated how often their children witnessed interspousal aggression and were victims of parent-child aggression. Mothers also rated their children's problem behaviors while children reported on their

own depressive symptoms. The witnessing of interspousal aggression was highly associated with parental aggression directed toward children. Parent-child aggression was related to attention problems, anxiety withdrawal, motor excess, and conduct problems in children. However, the witnessing of interspousal aggression was not significantly related to child behavior problems. These results are consistent with theoretical predictions linking marital problems to child behavior by virtue of their association with parenting. 20 references and 2 tables. (Author abstract modified)

Descriptors:

child witnesses of family violence; family violence research; child behavior; parent child relations; behavior problems; spouse abuse; marital conflicts; behavior theory

Predicting Self-Reported Likelihood of Battering: Attitudes and Childhood Experiences.

Briere, J.
California Univ., Los Angeles.
Dept. of Psychiatry.
Journal Article
Copyright March 1987
Journal of Research in Personality.
21(1):61-69.

This study tests the hypothesis that self-reported likelihood of wife battering is related to childhood experiences of violence and attitudes supportive of family violence. One hundred ninety-one male university students were administered 3 attitude measures and a survey of childhood experiences, and were asked to rate their potential likelihood of wife battering (LB) in a variety

of situations. Most subjects (79 percent) indicated some likelihood of battering. This likelihood covaried with violent Attitudes Toward Wife Abuse (AWA), conservative Attitudes Toward Women (AWS), Acceptance of Interpersonal Violence (AIV), and, to a lesser extent, physical abuse as a child and witnessing one's mother being battered. 27 references and 3 tables. (Author abstract modified)

Descriptors:

battering; etiology; self report inventories; social attitudes; family violence research; prediction

Preventing Domestic Violence Against Women. //Bureau of Justice Statistics Special Report//.

Langan, P. A.; Innes, C. A.
Bureau of Justice Statistics
(DOJ), Washington, DC.
Technical Report
8 pp.

Distributed By:

Superintendent of Documents
U.S. Government Printing Office
Washington, DC

This report focuses on a study of domestic violence victims and examines the likelihood of repeat attacks if the victims call the police; the study is based on semi-annual interviews with 128,000 people conducted over a 4-year span. Findings presented suggest that calling police to intervene lowers the risk of another assault. Several explanations are suggested for the decreased probability of a second assault. Significant statistical data is included. 7 tables.

Descriptors:

wife abuse; battered women; prevention; family disturbance calls; statistical data; family

violence research; police role;
recidivism

male batterers; etiology;
characteristics of abuser;
family violence research;
literature reviews; behavior
theories

Profiling of Wife Assaulters:

Preliminary Evidence for a
Trimodal Analysis.

Dutton, D. G.
British Columbia Univ., Vancouver
(Canada). Dept. of Psychology.
Journal Article
Copyright Spring 1988
Violence and Victims.
3(1):5-29.

This article reviews the experimental literature on wife assault causation which indicates that differing profiles of wife assaulters have been developed by different research strategies. Profiles based on interviews with victims suggest a tyrannical, personality-disordered type of wife assaulter. Clinical assessments reveal several profiles, only 1 of which is consistent with this view. Other types of wife assaulters appear dependent and unassertive. By comparing the emerging data on wife assaulters with the initial clinical descriptions, an assessment is made of the contribution of empirical studies to date. While the potential for a major contribution to our understanding of wife assaulters exists through use of systematic empirical methods, it is concluded that this potential has not yet been fulfilled. Suggestions are made for future research strategies to improve empirical capabilities, including a more thorough assessment of early trauma as a major causative factor affecting a large subcategory of wife assaulters and greater attention to the self-selection of wife assault samples. 108 references. (Author abstract modified)

Descriptors:

Psychosocial Factors Related to
Wife Abuse.

Lewis, B. Y.
University of South Florida,
Tampa. Dept. of Social Work.
Journal Article
Copyright 1987
Journal of Family Violence.
2(1):1-10.

This paper reports the findings of a study that compared 94 physically abused women and 110 nonabused women. Social class was controlled. Physical abuse was defined as assault by husband or male cohabitant such that injury was suffered and placement in a shelter ensued. The study was conducted to validate an instrument called the Wife Abuse Inventory, which is a screening device intended to identify abused women or women at risk of being abused. The study was designed to describe individual and psychosocial factors associated with wife abuse and distinguish abused women from nonabused women based on these factors: race, age, income, employment, education, and history of physical abuse in the family of origin. 17 references and 5 tables.

Descriptors:

wife abuse; family violence
research; socioeconomic
influences; identification;
characteristics of abused;
battering relationships;
families at risk; psychological
characteristics

A Reexamination of the Effects of
Race and Social Class on the

Incidence of Marital Violence:
A Search for Reliable
Differences.

Lockhart, L. L.
 Georgia Univ., Athens. School of
 Social Work.
 Journal Article
 Copyright August 1987
 Journal of Marriage and the
 Family.
 49(3):603-610.

Effects of race and social class were examined in a comparative study of wife abuse experienced by 307 black and white women across 3 social class positions in a southeastern metropolitan city. Questionnaires were administered to collect data on demographics, incidence of violence from childhood, and the extent of current marital conflict. In contrast to previous characterizations of marital violence among black couples, the results of this research reveal no significant differences between the proportion of black and white women who were victims of marital violence. The data do suggest that when social class positions are controlled, black middle class women experienced more violence than their white counterparts. This comparative investigation highlights implications for theory development and future research. 25 references and 4 tables.
 (Author abstract modified)

Descriptors:

marital conflicts; racial factors; social class; cross cultural studies; surveys; blacks; comparative analysis; wife abuse

Research as Social Action. The
Struggle for Battered Women.

Dobash, R. E.; Dobash, R. P.
 Stirling Univ., Scotland. Dept.
 of Sociology.
 Chapter in Book

pp. 51-74

Copyright 1988

Publication Source:

In: Yllo, K. and Bograd, M.
 (Editors). Feminist
 Perspectives on Wife Abuse.
 Newbury Park, CA., Sage
 Publications, Inc.,

Distributed By:

Sage Publications, Inc.
 2111 W. Hillcrest Dr.
 Newbury Park, CA 91320

This chapter considers specific issues and problems of the relationship between social science and social action, in the context of research on family violence. A brief history of wife abuse in Britain is provided. Existing proposals in social science research are examined. Three fundamental aspects of action research are developed: the methodology, the message, and the relationship between social scientists and community organizations. Comparisons are drawn to traditional approaches not oriented to action research. 88 references.

Descriptors:

battered women; research methodology; social problems; action programs; behavior changes; theories

Societal Change and Change in
Family Violence From 1975 to
1985 as Revealed by Two National
Surveys.

Straus, M. A.; Gelles, R. J.
 New Hampshire Univ., Durham.
 Family Research Lab.
 Journal Article
 Copyright August 1986
 Journal of Marriage and the
 Family.
 48(3):465-479.

This article compares the rate of physical abuse of children and spouses from a 1975 study with the

rates from a 1985 replication. Both studies used nationally representative samples (2,143 families in 1975 and 3,520 in 1985), and both found an extremely high incidence of severe physical violence against children and a high incidence of violence against spouses. However, the 1985 rates were substantially lower than in 1975: the child abuse rate was 47 percent lower, and the wife abuse rate was 27 percent lower. Possible reasons for the lower rates in 1985 are examined and evaluated, including: differences in the methods of the studies; increased reluctance to report; reductions in intrafamily violence due to 10 years of prevention and treatment effort; and reductions due to changes in American society that would have produced lower rates of intrafamily violence without ameliorative programs. Policy implications of the decreases and of the continued high rates of abuse are discussed. 71 references and 3 tables.

(Author abstract modified)

Descriptors:

child abuse; spouse abuse;
family violence research;
statistical surveys; national
surveys; research methodology;
incidence; followup studies

Stopping Family Violence.

Research Priorities for the Coming Decade.

Finkelhor, D.; Hotelling, G. T.;
Yllo, K.

New Hampshire Univ., Durham.
Family Research Lab.

Book

127 pp.

Copyright 1988

Distributed By:

Sage Publications, Inc.
2111 W. Hillcrest Dr.
Newbury Park, CA 91320

This book suggests priorities for
research on family violence for

the coming decade. Over 48
researchers, practitioners, and
policymakers were asked what they
thought were the most important
arenas for future research. From
this survey, 35 high-priority
areas were pinpointed in the areas
of physical abuse, sexual abuse,
and spousal abuse. Each of the 35
possible research strategies is
offered in some detail; need and
rationale, goals, design
considerations, and rough cost
estimates are some of the aspects
described. Most of the proposals
are quite extensive in scope.
Numerous references.

Descriptors:

research needs; sexual abuse;
spouse abuse; physical abuse;
family violence research;
research methodology; ethics

A Structural Family Systems Approach to Intervention in Cases of Family Violence.

Gelles, R. J.; Maynard, P. E.
Rhode Island Univ., Kingston.

Dept of Sociology.

Journal Article

Copyright July 1987

Family Relations.

36(3):270-275.

This article applies a structural
family systems perspective to
clinical intervention in violent
families. This strategy seeks to
bridge the gap between research
and clinical intervention.
Theoretical and empirical work on
family violence that has employed
a systems conceptual framework is
reviewed. Intervention using a
structural family systems approach
may be more effective than the
typical individual level
interventions based on medical or
psychopathological views of the
causes of domestic violence.
Structural family therapy
techniques are described which
were used with a family whose many

problems included family violence. Cooperation needed among researchers, therapists, and therapy trainers who would use a systems approach to analyze and treat domestic violence and abuse is discussed. Numerous references. (Author abstract modified)

Descriptors:

family therapy; systems analysis; family relations; family violence; case reports; family violence research; models; intervention

Structure and Ideology of Shelters for Battered Women.

Epstein, S. R.; Russell, G.; Silvern, L.
Colorado Univ., Boulder.
Journal Article
Copyright June 1988
American Journal of Community Psychology.
16(3):345-367.

In the present study both ideology and organizational age were studied as predictors of a shelter organization's structure; a nationwide survey of 111 women's shelters provided the data. Recent literature concerning shelters includes untested suggestions that shelters can be categorized by their ideological differences and that their ideologies predict their organizational structures. However, widely accepted principles of organizational theory predict that older shelters would have a different structure than newer shelters. This survey found that feminist versus other ideologies were associated with a distinctive pattern of priorities for the shelters. However, organizational age was found to be more important than ideology in predicting structural variables. 32 references and 2 tables. (Author abstract modified)

Descriptors:

shelters; shelter policies; shelter management; surveys; administrative policies; womens movement

Studies of Victims of Violence.

Sargent, M.
National Inst. of Mental Health (DHHS), Rockville, MD. Office of Scientific Information.
Journal Article
Copyright November 1987
Hospital and Community Psychiatry.
38(11):1143-1144.

This report from the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) summarizes several NIHM-funded studies on the victims of violence. The prevalence of sexual assault differed in 2 geographically and culturally dissimilar areas of the country, but the victims in the 2 areas reacted in similar ways. Income rather than race was found to be the predictor of vulnerability to injury by assault in a study in Cleveland. Nonwhites and whites had similarly high rates of injury, which fell as income levels rose. Between 15 and 20 percent of women visiting hospital emergency rooms were found to have a history of battering. These women account for 40 percent of all trauma visits to hospitals by women. Only 1 in 25 of the patients were identified in medical records as battered victims, and several emergency room staff were found to be unresponsive to the problem of the battered woman. Details on obtaining more complete information on the studies are provided. 3 references.

Descriptors:

victims; violence; research reviews; assault; sexual assault; battered women

Summary of National Hearings for
the White House Conference on
Families.

National Inst. for Advanced
Studies, Washington, DC.

Legislation/Hearing
93 pp.

Publication Source:

National Inst. for Advanced
Studies, Washington, DC,

This report presents a summary of the testimony delivered at the 7 preconference hearings of the White House Conference on Families. Hearings were held between September 28, 1979 and January 12, 1980 in Kansas, Tennessee, Colorado, Connecticut, the District of Columbia, Michigan, and Washington. Participants included representatives of local governments, professional organizations, advocacy groups, service providers, academic institutions, religious organizations, "grass roots" organizations, and individuals representing themselves. The issues and recommendations are organized according to the 4 major areas of need identified by the White House Conference on Families: families and economic well-being, families and human needs, families and major institutions, and family challenges and responsibilities. The appendix includes a sample topic outline, a sample review form, and the conference participants list. 16 exhibits.

Descriptors:

family problems; family life;
conference reports; social
problems; policy formation;
national surveys; public
opinion; hearings

Surgeon General's Workshop on
Violence and Public Health
Report.

Public Health Service (DHHS),
Rockville, MD. Health Resources
and Services Administration.

Technical Report

101 pp.

Distributed By:

Health Resources and Services
Administration

U.S. Public Health Service
5600 Fishers Ln.

Rockville, MD 20850

This report from a workshop held October 27-29, 1985 in Leesburg, Virginia, offers presentations on such subjects as interpersonal violence and public health care, interpersonal violence and homicide among black youth, and the epidemic of family violence. Work groups met to discuss assault and homicide, child abuse, sexual abuse, elder abuse, and spouse abuse; the recommendations of each work group are summarized and the Surgeon General, C. Everett Koop, gives a response to the recommendations. The results of a Delphi survey of the participants taken prior to the meeting are included, and a list of participants is given.

Descriptors:

elder abuse; spouse abuse;
violence; sexual abuse; family
violence research; prevention;
education; child abuse

The Truth About Domestic Violence
Revisited: A Reply to Saunders.
McNeely, R. L.; Robinson-Simpson,
G.

Wisconsin Univ., Milwaukee.
School of Social Welfare.

Journal Article

Copyright March-April 1988

Social Work.

33(2):184-188.

This article responds to another article in the same journal which criticizes an earlier paper by the authors. Domestic violence is

described as a human issue in which men and women alike are victimized. Criticism of the original paper is refuted with substantive evidence to support the contention that husband abuse is a real but often-ignored problem. 6 references.

Descriptors:

research needs; family violence research; husband abuse; literature reviews; research methodology; abusive wives; spouse abuse; evaluation

The Use and Enforcement of Civil Protection Orders for Domestic Violence Cases.

Response.

Journal Article

Copyright 1986

Response.

9(4):24.

This article announces a comprehensive study of the use and enforcement of civil protection orders in domestic violence cases in all 50 States. The product of the investigation will be an issues and practices report that summarizes where and how civil protection orders have proved helpful. Recommendations to increase the effectiveness of civil protection orders will be developed. Persons with relevant statistical or legislative information are asked to contact Abt Associates, the research firm working on the study.

Descriptors:

family violence research; protection orders; legal processes; use studies; law enforcement

Violence and Pregnancy: Are Pregnant Women at Greater Risk of Abuse?

Gelles, J. R.
Rhode Island Univ., Kingston.
Coll. of Arts and Sciences.
Journal Article
Copyright August 1988
Journal of Marriage and the Family.
50(3):841-847.

This study examines whether pregnant women are at special risk of being victimized by their husbands and partners. The analysis is based on data from the Second National Family Violence Survey, in which telephone interviews were conducted with individuals in 6,002 nationally representative households. Violence and abuse were measured with the Conflict Tactics Scales. Pregnant women were found to experience minor, severe, and overall violence at higher rates. However, when age was controlled, this relationship was found to be spurious. Findings indicate that women under 25 years of age are both more likely to be pregnant and to be abused by husbands and partners. It is concluded that although pregnant women are not a specially vulnerable group, pregnancy does not insulate them from the high rates of violence experienced by young women. 33 references and 2 tables. (Author abstract modified)

Descriptors:

violence toward pregnant women; risk assessment; high risk groups; family violence research; incidence; research methodology; national surveys

Violence in the American Family.

Gelles, R. J.; Straus, M. A.
Rhode Island Univ., Kingston.
Dept. of Sociology.
Chapter in Book
pp. 88-110
Copyright 1985
Publication Source:

In: Lincoln, A. J. and Straus,
M. A. (Editor). Crime and the
Family. Springfield, IL.,
Charles C. Thomas,
Distributed By:
Charles C. Thomas
2600 S. First St.
Springfield, IL 62717

This chapter reviews some of the problems in the research methodology used in family violence studies. Research on family violence is presented as a new and undefined area. It is postulated that available research evidence is marred by a lack of conceptualization of key terms, such as "child abuse" and "wife abuse." The lack of systematic study methods is demonstrated. Statistics are given from a major study on national violence, the first survey to use a nationally representative sample of families. 53 references.

Descriptors:

family violence research; child abuse; spouse abuse; research methods; statistical studies; social factors; literature reviews

Violence in the Family.

Jacobsen, J. J.
Family Support Child Crisis
Center, Indianapolis, IN.
Chapter in Book
46 pp.
Copyright 1986
Publication Source:

In: Jacobsen, J. J. (Editor).
Psychiatric Sequelae of Child
Abuse. Reconnaissance of Child
Abuse and Neglect Evaluation,
Prospects, Recommendations.
Springfield, IL., Charles C.
Thomas,
Distributed By:
Charles C. Thomas
2600 S. First St.
Springfield, IL 62717
(217) 789-8980

This chapter examines the origins of family violence in America, particularly child abuse. Consequences are reviewed for the child who witnesses or experiences violence at any of 8 developmental stages. Methods of intervention, education, and prevention at all levels of society are discussed. Findings of 17 studies on the effects of child abuse are tabulated. 214 references.

Descriptors:

child abuse; family violence research; child witnesses of family violence; etiology; sequelae; child psychiatry

The Violent Home. //Sage Library
of Social Research//.

Gelles, R. J.
Rhode Island Univ., Kingston.
Family Violence Research
Program.

Book
231 pp.
Copyright 1987
Distributed By:
Sage Publications, Inc.
2111 W. Hillcrest Dr.
Newbury Park, CA 91320

This is the updated edition of a landmark study on spouse abuse, based on interviews of 80 couples in 2 New Hampshire cities; before its original publication in the early 1970's, no research had been done on wife battering. The meaning of family violence, the possible causes, and the social and family structures in which it occurs are discussed. Two appendices present a demographic profile of the respondents and information about the cities where the study took place. 148 references and 35 tables.

Descriptors:

family violence research;
interviews; spouse abuse;

etiology; child abuse;
statistical data

What a Difference a Day Makes: An
Empirical Study of the Impact of
Shelters for Battered Women.

Berk, R. A.; Newton, P. J.; Berk,
S. F.

California Univ., Santa Barbara.

Dept. of Sociology.

Journal Article

Copyright August 1986

Journal of Marriage and the
Family.

48(3):481-490.

This article evaluates the impact of shelters for battered women on spousal violence. Drawing on formal, hybrid theory from economics and sociology, it is predicted that shelters will have beneficial effects only for battery victims who are already taking control of their lives. For other women, a shelter stay may in the short run encourage retaliation. Using a 2-wave panel of wife-battery victims, the research results show that these hypotheses are by and large supported. Some policy implications are briefly discussed. 40 references and 3 tables. (Author abstract modified)

Descriptors:

battered women; shelter programs; family violence research; outcomes; recidivism; factor analysis; sequelae; wife abuse

Wife Abuse, Husband Abuse, or
Mutual Combat? A Feminist
Perspective on the Empirical
Findings.

Saunders, D. G.

Wisconsin Univ., Madison. Dept.
of Psychiatry.

Chapter in Book

pp. 90-113

Copyright 1988

Publication Source:

In: Yllo, K. and Bograd, M.
(Editors). Feminist

Perspectives on Wife Abuse.

Newbury Park, CA., Sage

Publications, Inc.,

Distributed By:

Sage Publications, Inc.

2111 W. Hillcrest Dr.

Newbury Park, CA 91320

This chapter constructs a feminist framework for conceptual and empirical analyses. The literature on battered husband syndrome is critically reviewed. Conceptual problems with the notions of self-defense and retaliation are examined. An exploratory study of 52 battered women suggests that women use violence as frequently as men, but that they generally employ it in self-defense. The study methodology is described, in which feminist values were combined with quantitative research techniques. Implications for future research are included. 56 references and 4 tables.

Descriptors:

husband abuse; wife abuse; self defense; prevalence; behavior theories; research methodology

Wife Battering. A Systems Theory
Approach. //Perspectives on
Marriage and the Family//.

Giles-Sims, J.

Texas Christian Univ., Fort Worth.
Book

207 pp.

Copyright 1983

Distributed By:

The Guilford Press

200 Park Ave. S.

New York, NY 10003

In this book, the interaction between individuals in a battering situation is analyzed using a systems theory approach. In depth

interviews, tracing the history of the women and their relationships with their batterers, were conducted with 31 women who voluntarily sought help at a shelter. After several months, followup interviews were held with 24 of the women to examine their circumstances after leaving the shelter. Using this admittedly small clinical sample, a general systems model of wife battering was constructed. Six stages are formulated in this model: establishment of family, first violent incident, stabilization, choice point, leaving the system, and resolution. The systems theory approach offers a long term view of the violent situation, as it changes over time. Appendices include descriptions of the research process and copies of the interview forms. Numerous references, 7 tables, and 2 figures.

Descriptors:

battered wives; longitudinal studies; behavior theories; case studies; systems analysis; models; family violence research; battering relationships

empirical and theoretical literature on conjugal abuse. Wife abuse is compared to the brainwashing experienced by political prisoners. A study of women in a shelter and batterers in a therapy program is reported and tabulated. Four appendices provide the forms used and variables collected from this study. 124 references and 11 tables.

Descriptors:

family violence research; battered women; research methodology; literature reviews; myths; woman abuse; control

Woman Abuse. Facts Replacing
Myths. //SUNY Series in
Transpersonal and Humanistic
Psychology//.

Okun, L.

Ypsilanti Regional Psychiatric
Hospital, MI.

Book

298 pp.

Copyright 1986

Distributed By:

State University of New York
Press

State University Plz.

Albany, NY 12246

This book gives the historical context of wife battering and reviews extensively the existing