

Innovative health systems responses to victims of DV with disabilities

- Presenter:
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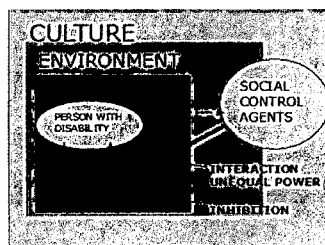
Dependency-Stress Model

- Children with Disabilities are more dependent on their caregivers
- Increased dependency increases demands on caregiver
- Increased demands lead to increased stress
- Caregivers abuse their children because they can't cope with increased stress

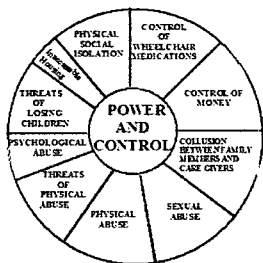
Duluth Power and Control Wheel



Multifactorial Model



Power and Control Wheel For People with Disabilities



People with Disabilities have a Higher Rate of Abuse

- Women with disabilities have a 40% greater risk of experiencing violence than women without disabilities.
- Women with developmental disabilities have among the highest rates of physical, sexual and emotional violence perpetrated by intimate partners and family members.
- Studies estimate that 80% of women of have disabilities have been sexually assaulted.
- Studies estimate that between 70% and 85% of cases of abuse against adults with disabilities go unreported.
- Children with disabilities are more than twice as likely as children without disabilities to be physically abused, and almost twice as likely to be sexually abused.

* National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, Barranti & Yuen, 2008, Young et al 1997

People with Disabilities stay in Dangerous conditions significantly longer

- 11.3 years vs. 7.1 years in situations of physical abuse
- 8.3 years vs. 4.1 years in situations of sexual abuse (Baylor University Study)

The Traumatic Experience

- Overwhelming senses
- Overwhelming Sense of Meaning
- Overwhelming Defenses
- Disempowerment

Need for Targeted Screening by Health Care Providers

- Ask the question as a routine part of health intake
- CDC Emergency Room Study found that Intimate Partner Violence focused on eye area, cheekbones and intracranial (brain) injuries.
- Stranger violence focused on the jaw

The Major Symptoms of PTSD

- **Re-experiencing**
- **Numbing**
- **Arousal**

Self Injury is also a product of Domestic Violence

- Gives victims a sense of control over their bodies
- The physical pain causes the bodies endorphins to block out the psychological pain

Barrier Free Living's Model

- Nursing Component
 - Addressing Healthcare Needs
- Psychiatry/Social Work Component
 - Addressing the Trauma
- Occupational Therapy Component
 - Capacity Building

Health Care Coordination

- Prior health care providers are the first place and abuser will look
 - Establishing new medical relationships
 - Safety Planning with specialized services

Positive Parenting Intervention

- Orientation to Childhood Development
- Positive Discipline Techniques
- Negotiating Skills
- Building Strong Parent-Child Relationships
- Establishing Boundaries
- Managing Daily Frustrations
- Increasing a child's self esteem
- Creating/Maintaining Family Traditions

Addressing Trauma

- Establishing Trust
 - Worker as Caregiver
- Psychoeducation
 - Worker as Teacher
- Psychotherapy
 - Worker as Midwife

Concepts of Interdependent Living

- No one lives independently
- Those who consider themselves "independent" negotiate their dependencies over a larger group of people or systems
- Reciprocity is a key part of Interdependence
 - I'm dependent on others
 - Others are dependent on me

Our Habilitation Model

- Money Management
- Time Management
- Travel Training
- Shopping and Cooking Skills; Nutrition Education
- Health Care Management; Home Care Management
- Advocacy with support systems
- Stress Management

Helper Therapy

- Moving from being a recipient of help to a giver of help is a transformative experience.
 - Self Image
 - Empowerment