

Life Course Analysis of the Relationship Between Intimate Partner Violence and Mental Health Among Rural Pregnant Adolescents

Domestic Violence Enhanced Home Visitation Program: DOVE

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Purpose

- Describe patterns of IPV among pregnant adolescents.
- Use life course analysis to examine the relationship between intimate partner violence and mental health among teens.
- Describe factors that place pregnant adolescents at risk for IPV and poor mental health outcomes.

Hypothesis

- Patterns of increased frequency and severity of IPV and trauma will be associated with an increase in mental health problems.

Violence Against Women

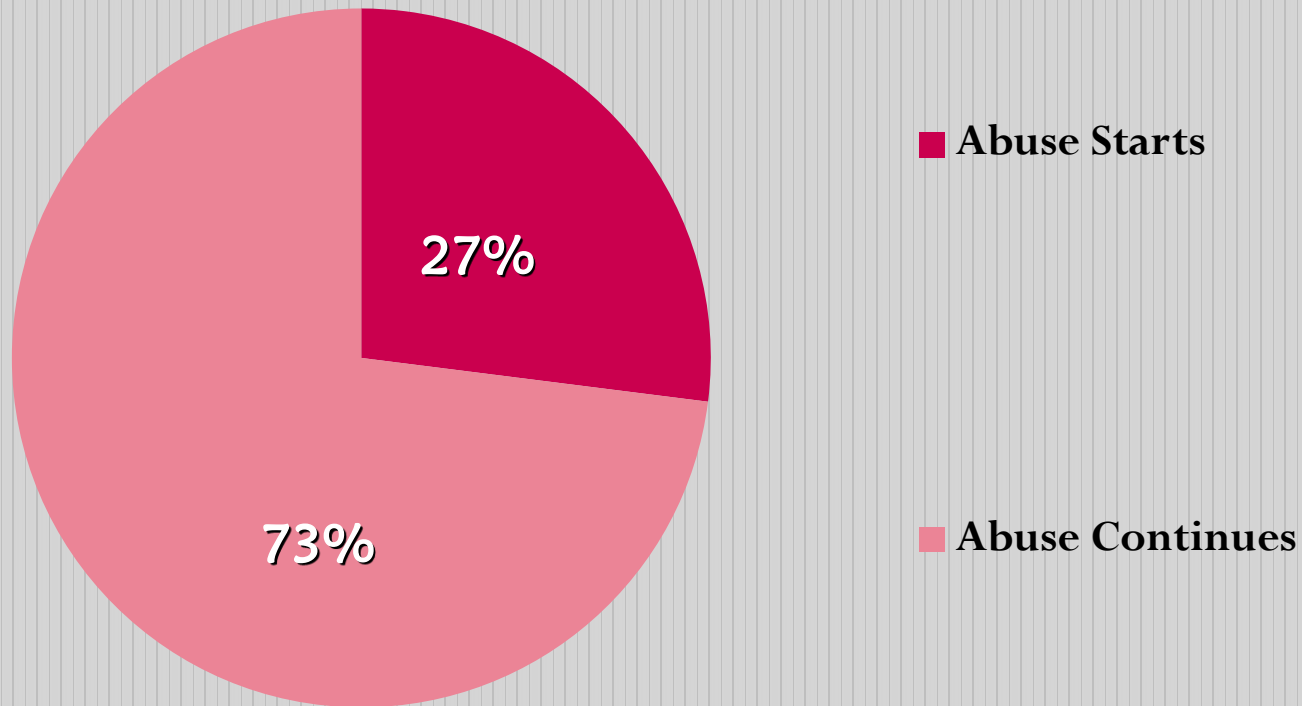
- **Violence Against Women is a complex problem**
 - Social problem
 - Criminal problem
 - Health Problem
- **Rates of Violence Against Women**
 - Lifetime prevalence = 33% - 37% of women
 - Annual prevalence = 3 – 12% of women

IPV AND PREGNANCY

- **Defined as**
 - **Battering during the childbearing year**
 - before the pregnancy
 - during the pregnancy
 - around the pregnancy
 - **Perpetrator is an intimate or former intimate partner**
- **Changes in pattern or type of abuse**
 - **During pregnancy**
 - **May change from physical to verbal or emotional**

Patterns of IPV During Pregnancy

(Saltzman, Johnson, Gilbert & Goodwin'03)



N= 65,000

IPV AND PREGNANCY

- **Associated with poor outcomes**
 - **Late entry into prenatal care**
 - **Increased low birth weight birth**
 - **Poor maternal weight gain**
 - **Increased preterm delivery**
 - **Poor adherence to medications**

IPV and Mental Health

- **Associated with poor outcomes**
 - **Depression**
 - **Posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD)**
 - **Phobias, anxiety, panic disorders**
 - **Substance abuse disorders**
 - **Post partum depression**

IPV and Pregnancy among Teens

- **Few studies have examined the patterns of IPV for teens during the childbearing year**
 - Prenatal
 - Delivery
 - Postpartum
- **Unique problems for teen moms**
 - Increased partner conflict
 - Co-habitation
 - Low socioeconomic status

Domestic Violence Enhanced Home Visitation Program: DOVE

- **Evaluation of a structured IPV Intervention**
- **Mothers and Infants**
- **2 Study Sites: Missouri (Rural/Urban) and Baltimore (Urban)**
 - **Urban: Baltimore City HD**
 - **Urban: Missouri HD**
 - **Rural: Missouri HD**
- **Randomized clinical case control trial**

Methods

- ✓ **Study Design: Mixed Methods**
- ✓ **Recruit pregnant women w/ IPV exposure**
 - ✓ Up to 31 weeks gestation
- ✓ **Intervention: DOVE (Structured IPV Pamphlet)**
 - ✓ Nurse home visit intervention + DOVE
- ✓ **DOVE Intervention Sessions**
 - 3 prenatal sessions
 - 3 postpartum sessions (up to 12 weeks)
- ✓ **Collect Data**
 - ✓ Baseline, Delivery
 - ✓ Postpartum: 3, 6, 12, 18, 24 months
- ✓ **Qualitative Interviews**

Methods: Qualitative Study

- Qualitative study is a part of the larger randomized controlled trial
- A series of semi-structured qualitative interviews at baseline, delivery, 3, 6, 12, 18, and 24 months postpartum
- Conducted with a sub-sample of 13 pregnant teens from the Missouri site
- In depth face to face interviews lasting approximately one and one-half hours

Methods: Interview Guide

- **Qualitative Interview Guide had 6 major sections to examine the patterns of abuse**
 - **Dealing with problems such as conflict, anger**
 - **IPV experiences before pregnancy**
 - **Her experiences of IPV during pregnancy**
 - **Family context of abuse**
 - **Responses to abuse**
 - **Barriers of the setting**

Measures

1. **IPV (AAS, WEB, CTS, SVAWS)**
2. **Maternal Mental Health**
 - a. **Depression: Edinburgh Depression Scale**
 - b. **PTSD: Davidson Trauma Scale**
 - c. **Self Esteem/Social Support: Prenatal Psychosocial Profile**
3. **Parenting**
 - a. **Parenting Stress Index**
 - b. **HOME : Stimulation**
4. **Infant Growth & Development**
5. **Use of Community Resources**

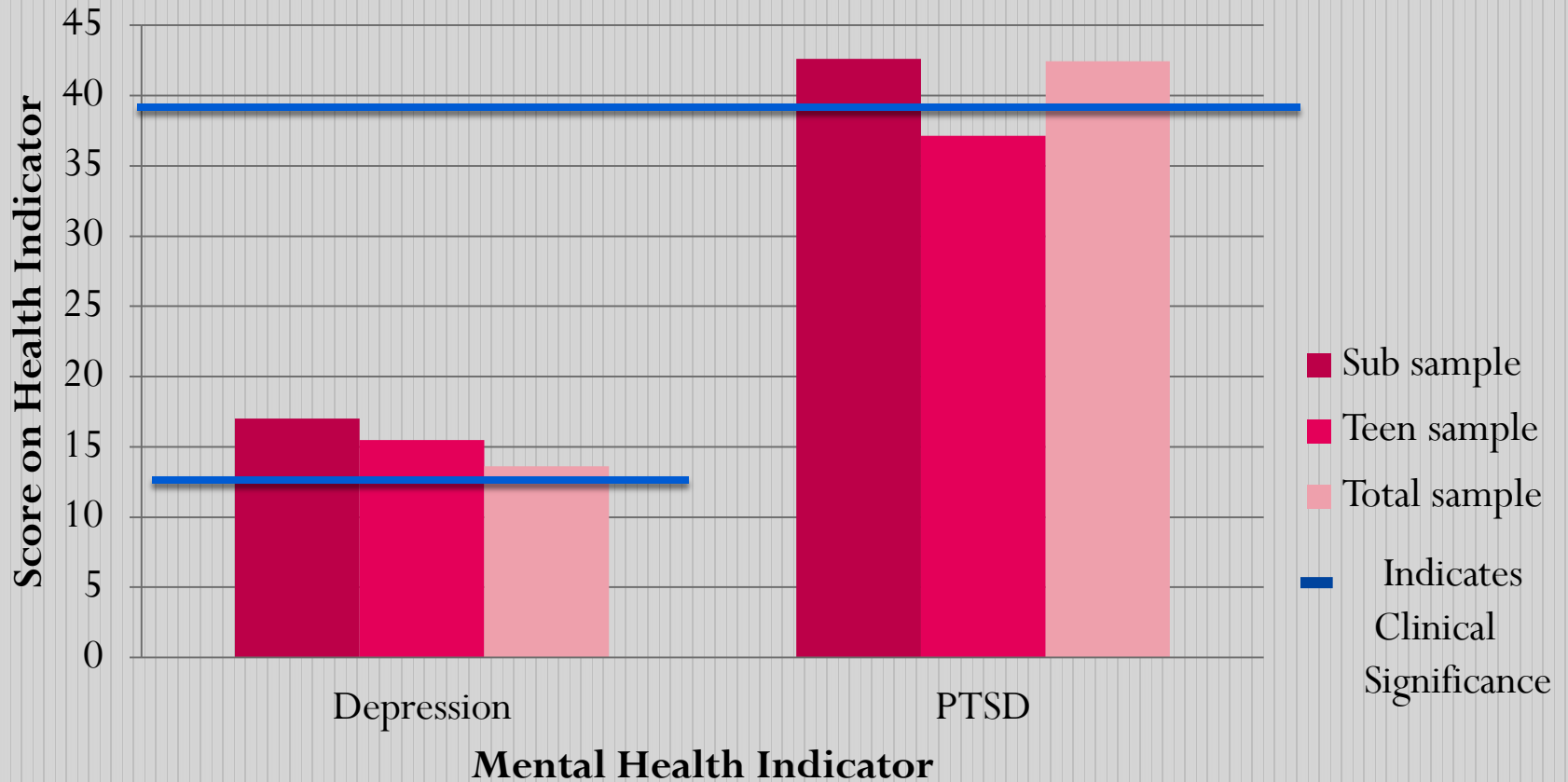
Baseline Demographics

Demographic Characteristics	Sub Sample N= 13	Teen Sample N= 23	Total Sample N=236
Mean Age	16.3		23.2
Racial Background:			
African American	30.7%	46%	48%
White	46.1%	37%	42%
Latina	0%	3%	4%
Other	23%	14%	10%
Education:			
Less Than High School	100%	53%	40%
HS/GED	0%	35%	25%
Some College/Trade	0%	9%	22%
Trade/Community College Grad	0%	3%	11%
College Grad	0%	0%	0%
Marital Status:			
Single	53.8%	40%	50%
Partnered/Not Married	46.2%	57%	25%
Married	0%	3%	12%
Divorced	0%	0%	6%
Other	0%	0%	7%
Employment Status:			
Employed	0%	94%	29%
Unemployed	100%	6%	71%

Health Indicator	Sub Sample N= 13			Teen Sample N= 23			Total Sample N= 236		
	Baseline	3 Months	12 Months	Baseline	3 Months	12 Months	Baseline	3 Months	12 Months
Conflict Tactics Scores (CTS)	81.46	40.5	36.5		41.65	35.43	80.33	23.35	25.67
Severity of Violence Against Women Scales (SVAWS)	90.1	70.67	41.67		68	42.33	81.94	63.5	33.56
Women's Experience With Battering (WEB)	29						36.78		

Baseline Mental Health Scores

Comparison of Mental Health Indicators



Psychosocial Indicators at Baseline

Prenatal Psychosocial Profile	Sub Sample n= 5	Teen Sample N= 13	Total Sample N= 236
Perceived Stress Scale	23.6	21.84	24.75
Support Behaviors Inventory	41.6	34	40.22
Rosenberg Self Esteem Scale	31.2	29.3	31.45

Life Course Analysis: Participant 1

Age	Living Situation	Violence	Mental Health/ Behavior Issues	Substance Use
<6 years	Lived with both parents until mother left father at the age of 6.	Physically, sexually, and emotionally abused by biological father.	No significant history	No significant history
10-13	Living with mom	Sexually abused by her cousin's husband.	Diagnosed with depression, began counseling, and started on Zoloft.	Alcohol given by abuser and tobacco
15	Living with mom	Physically abused by a boyfriend.	Still receiving counseling.	Tobacco
16-18	Moved in with boyfriend at 17, then moved back in with mom and stepfather.	Emotionally abused by boyfriend and FOB.	Stopped going to counseling at 16.	Tobacco, including during pregnancy

Life Course Analysis: Participant 2

Age	Living Situation	Violence	Mental Health/ Behavior Issues	Substance Use
< 11	Live with grandma	“Hurt” by the men who stayed around her mom	No significant history	Mother was “somewhere getting high”
11-14	History of running away from grandma’s home and being put in foster care	At 12, was physically and sexually abused by 31 y/o boyfriend and became pregnant.	“I got put out of like three different schools” for behavior problems	No significant history
15-16	Stayed in a residential treatment center	Emotionally and physically abused by boyfriend	Stayed in a residential treatment center for behavior issues	No significant history
16-17	Group home then foster home	No history of abuse with current boyfriend	Family counseling and seeing a therapist	No significant history

Life Course Analysis: Participant 3

Age	Living Situation	Violence	Mental Health	Substance Use
< 4	Live with mom, grandma, and sister	No significant history	No significant history	No significant history
4-14	Live with mom, grandma, and sister	Sexually abused by step-grandfather from ages 4-12	No significant history	No significant history
15-16	Moved out at 16 and lived with friend, then aunt, then boyfriend (abuser)	Physically and emotionally abused by boyfriend and boyfriend's mom	No significant history	Overdosed on a drug called "Somas" given to her by boyfriend's mom. Thought it was Tylenol.
17	Live with grandma and mom with sister visiting on the weekends	Unsure if pregnancy was a result of forced sex because she was "drunk" No abuse with new boyfriend.	No significant history	Alcohol

Life Course Analysis: Participant 4

Age	Living Situation	Violence	Mental Health	Substance Use
< 13	Was adopted at two and lives with adoptive mom and aunt	No significant history	No significant history	No significant history
13-14	Live with adoptive mom and aunt	History of physical abuse by several boyfriends	Diagnosed with depression, history of cutting and overdosing on pills, started counseling and medications	No significant history
15	Live with adoptive mom and aunt	Physically and emotionally abused by FOB	Admitted to a psych ward and changed medications	No significant history
16	Live with adoptive mom and aunt	No abuse with current boyfriend	Stopped counseling. No longer cutting	No significant history

Life Course Analysis: Participant 5

Age	Living Situation	Violence	Mental Health	Substance Use
< 12	Live with mom	Sexually abused by mother's various boyfriends from the age of 2	Counseling when she was "very young"	No significant history
12-15	Live with mom and then dad at some point	At 12, mother's boyfriend masturbated over her head while sleeping	No reported history	No significant history
15	Live with mom	Sexually abused by brother's friend	No reported history	No significant history
16-17	Lives with woman she calls her "aunt," the woman's husband and son, two little kids, and her ex-boyfriend	Sexually and physically abused by a friend she met online. Sexually abused by FOB while "drunk"	On Prozac	Alcohol

Life Course Analysis: Participant 6

Age	Living Situation	Violence	Mental Health/Behavior Issues	Substance Use
< 13	Lived with mom and dad until father ran away after hitting mom with a bat	Witnessed mother being physically abused by her father, being hit with an “iron bat”	No significant history	No significant history
13-16	Ran away from home at 14 to live with boyfriend	Physically abused by boyfriend “every day” and sexually abused by stepfather	Regularly skipping school. Talked to a counselor about abuse.	No significant history
16-17	Was living with sister but now lives with mom, stepfather, and two brothers	Physically and verbally abused by FOB, continuing through pregnancy	No significant history	No significant history

Life Course Analysis: Participant 7

Age	Living Situation	Violence	Mental Health/Behavior Issues	Substance Use
7-8	Live with mom, dad, sister, and two older brothers	No reported abuse	Went to counseling with family when grandfather passed away	No significant history
15	Live with mom, dad, and sister	Physically and verbally abused by father and FOB	Talked to a counselor about abuse	No significant history
16	Lives with mom, mom's new boyfriend, and sister	No abuse with current boyfriend	No significant history	No significant history

Life Course Analysis: Participant 8

Age	Living Situation	Violence	Mental Health/Behavior Issues	Substance Use
<12	Live with mom and two brothers. Father passed away when she was 3	Abuse by brother and brother's friend but did not report specifics	No significant history	No significant history
12-13	House burned down at 13 so lived with great uncle and then friend	Physically abused by boyfriend	Was seeing a counselor but had to stop because "he started to make us pay fees"	No significant history
14	Lives with mom, two brothers and FOB	Physically and emotionally abused by FOB, but only emotional abuse during pregnancy	No significant history	No significant history

Life Course Analysis: Participant 9

Age	Living Situation	Violence	Mental Health/Behavior Issues	Substance Use
<14	Lives with mom, dad, sister, and two brothers; was adopted	Previous boyfriend was controlling	No significant history	No significant history
14-15	Lives with mom, dad, two brothers, brother's girlfriend, nephew, and niece. Sister moved out	Verbally and emotionally abused by FOB. Sister hit her in her stomach during pregnancy	Talks to counselor at school	No significant history

Life Course Analysis: Participant 10

Age	Living Situation	Violence	Mental Health/Behavior Issues	Substance Use
No specific age was reported	Lived with parents, brother, and sister, but sister moved out four years ago with an older man	Physically and emotionally abused by boyfriend	No significant history	No significant history
17	Moved out of parents' house to live with FOB	No current abuse with FOB	Dropped out of school	No significant history

Life Course Analysis: Participant 11

Age	Living Situation	Violence	Mental Health/Behavior Issues	Substance Use
>15	Lives with mom and dad	No significant history	No significant history	No significant history
15-17	Lives with mom and dad	Physical and verbal violence with FOB, continuing throughout pregnancy. Participant reports initiating violence sometimes	No significant history	No significant history

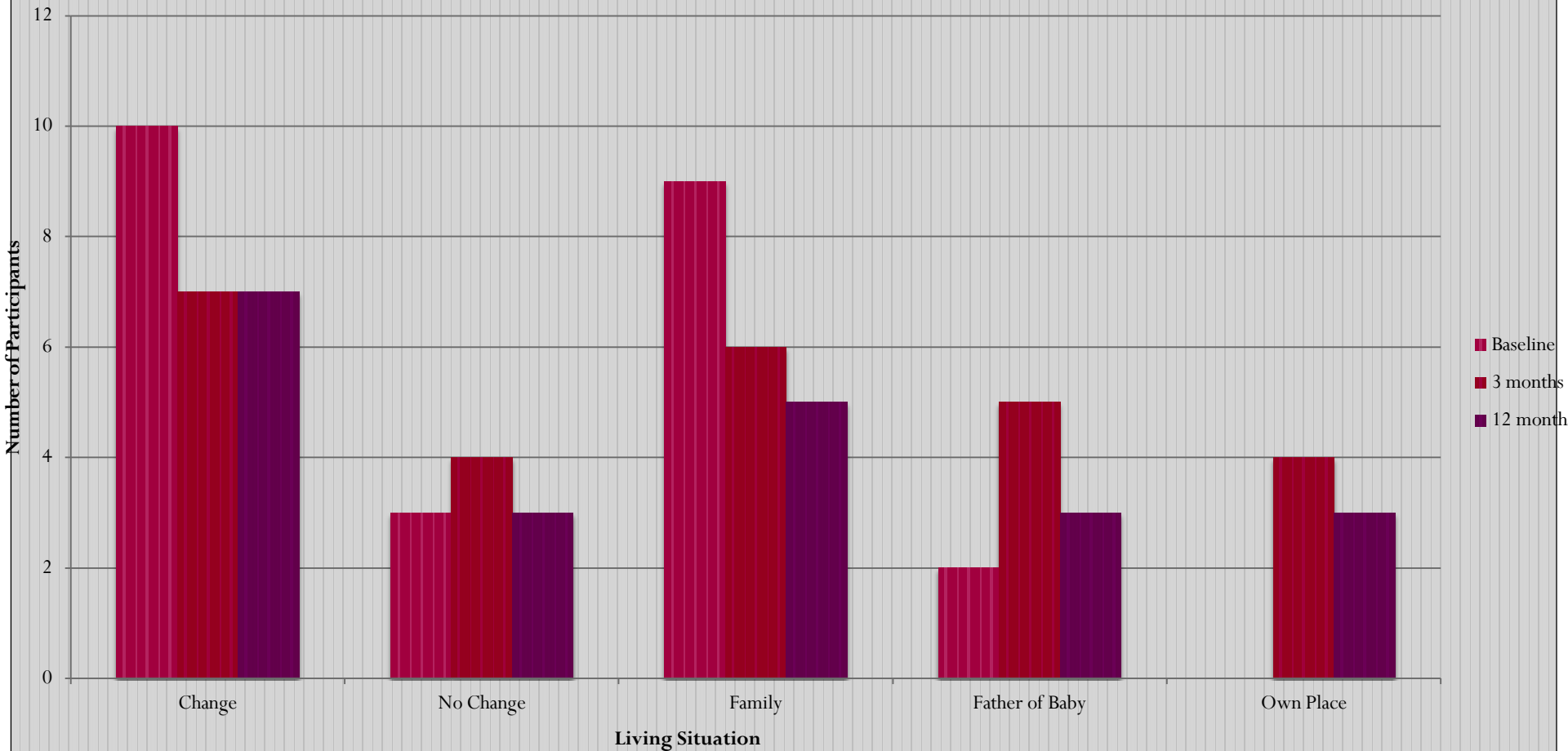
Life Course Analysis: Participant 12

Age	Living Situation	Violence	Mental Health/Behavior Issues	Substance Use
Younger years (no ages specified)	Lived with mom and dad until 2. Then moved in with the father of her siblings.	Physically, verbally, and emotionally abused by boyfriend for four years	No significant history	No significant history
Have to get teen's age at the time of interview	Lives with mom and brother at Salvation Army Shelter. They were evicted because the mom's boyfriend sold drugs	Emotional abuse with FOB once pregnancy was confirmed	No significant history	No significant history

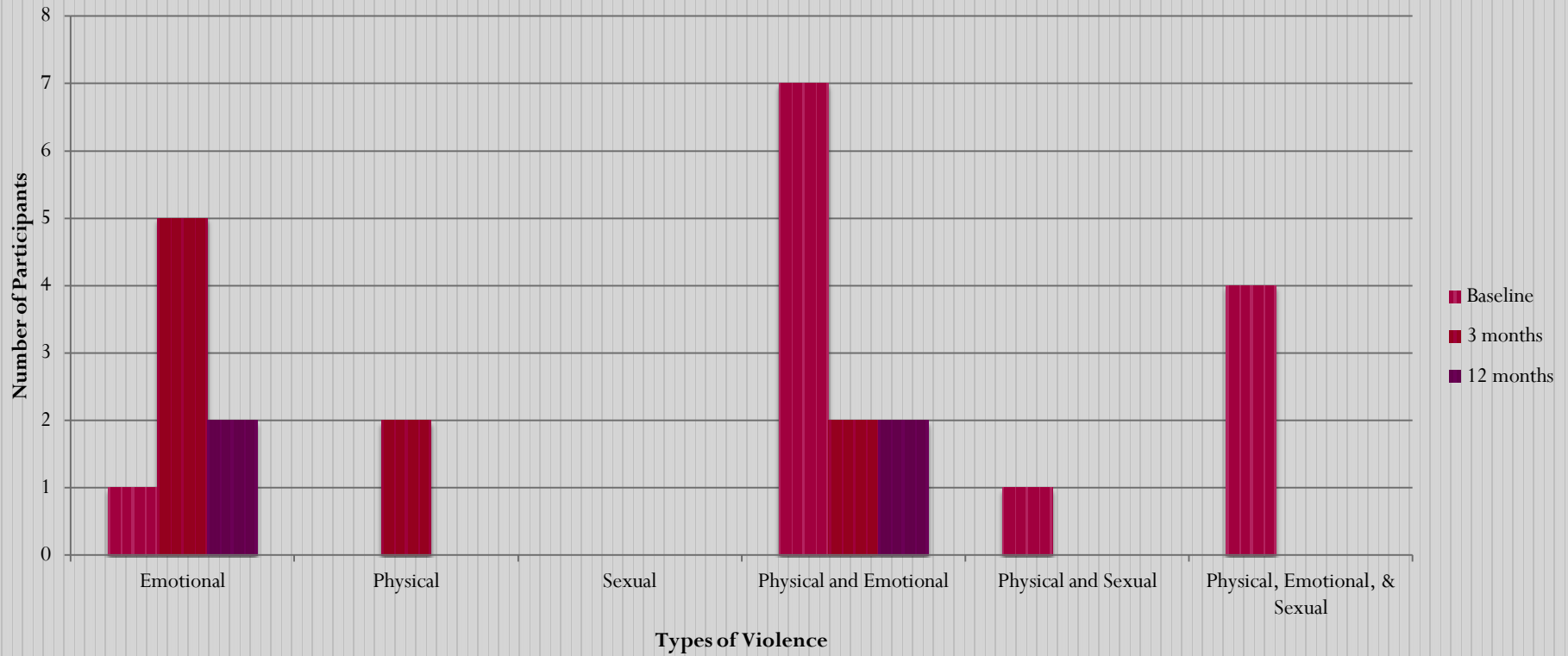
Life Course Analysis: Participant 13

Age	Living Situation	Violence	Mental Health/Behavior Issues	Substance Use
>12	Lived with biological family	Grew up with an abusive family, both physically and emotionally.	Got into a lot of physical fights at school.	No significant history
12-13	Lived in a foster home	Both participant and boyfriend were physically violent. Developed a pattern of entering controlling relationships with boyfriends.	Mom committed suicide when participant was 12. Was arrested at 13 for assaulting a student who had to seek care in the hospital. Receiving counseling and anger management classes.	No significant history
16	Lives with foster parents, four sisters, two foster sisters, a niece, and a nephew. Will be adopted soon. Lives in a community where intimate partner violence is common	Verbal and emotional abuse from FOB, who is controlling. She is verbally and physically violent towards FOB. Her physical violence stopped during pregnancy	In counseling	No significant history

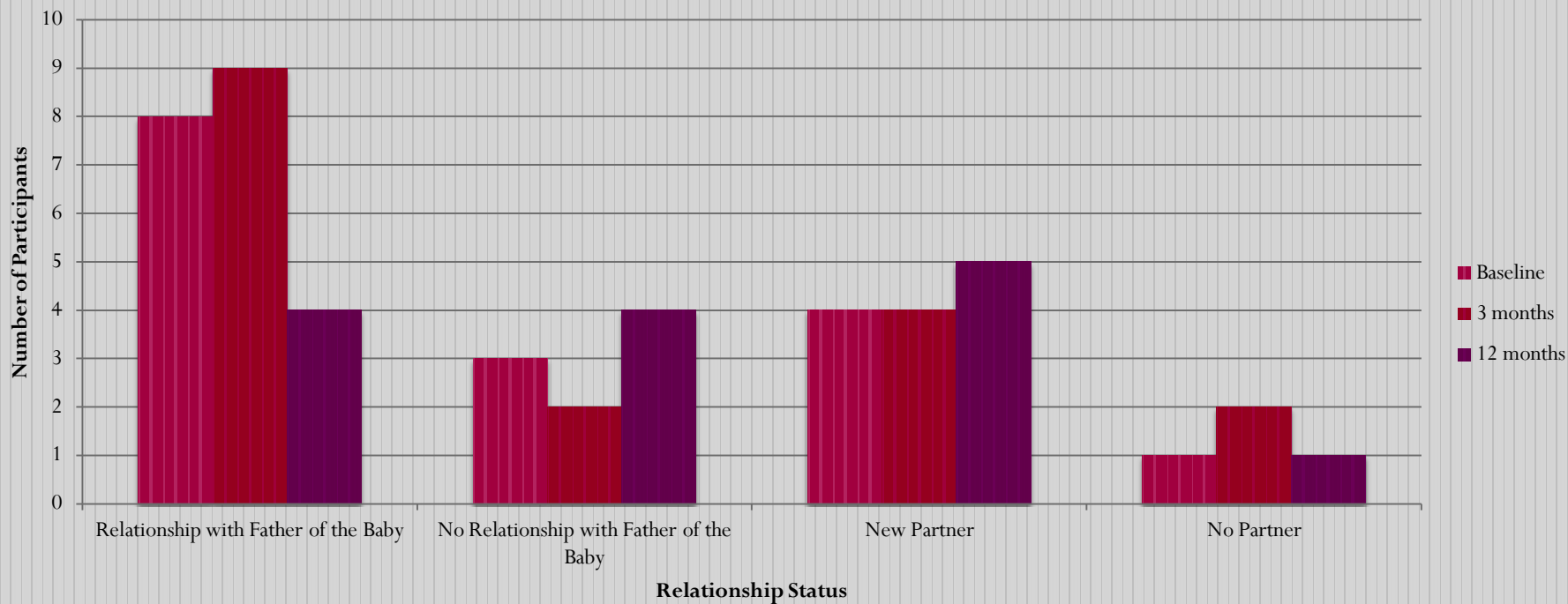
Living Situation at Baseline, 3 Months Postpartum, and 12 Months Postpartum



Violence at Baseline, 3 Months Postpartum, and 12 Months Postpartum



Relationship Status at Baseline, 3 Months Postpartum, and 12 Months Postpartum



Common Characteristics

- **Instability with living situation (10/13 of the teens)**
 - Absent father; sometimes absent mother
 - H/O running away
 - Foster care
 - Live with partner
- **Abuse as a young child (8/13 of the teens)**
 - Sexual and physical
 - Family member or mother's partner
- **Early mental health diagnosis/treatment and behavior problems (9/13 of the teens)**
 - Diagnosed with depression
 - Treated with meds
 - Counseling
 - Behavior problems in school
- **Given drugs/alcohol by abuser (3/13 of the teens)**
 - Most did not report substance abuse

IPV Screening by Healthcare Provider

- **5/12 of the teens in the sub sample were screened (1 teen was not asked my interviewer)**
 - Two were asked about current IPV, not past experiences
 - One reported abuse in the past, but the healthcare provider did not ask any further once the teen reported she felt safe now
 - One was only asked about sexual violence, not emotional or physical
- **Advice from teens in the sub sample**
 - “Don’t harp on one specific subject all the time...bounce around from different subject to subject to where they’re not just so overwhelmed.”
 - “A lot of places will do question after question...when really all the person wants is for you to listen to them.”
 - “Don’t judge nobody.”
 - “I’d probably just ask them if there was any situation that they felt uncomfortable in with their home life and if so, if there is any way that somebody can help, cause a lot of times people don’t think of it as something they need help with.”

Discussion

- **Common characteristics to look for**
 - Instability with living situation, physical/sexual abuse as a young child, early mental health diagnosis/treatment, and early behavior problems.
- **Screening**
 - Ask about past experiences as well
 - Listen without being overbearing or judgmental

Further Directions

- **Examine changes in mental health and violence over time**
 - 3mo, 6mo, 12mo, 18mo, 24mo
- **Signs for health care providers to look for when treating pregnant adolescents**
 - Existing mental health diagnoses and treatments
 - Living situation
 - History of abuse

DOVE WEBSITE



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Thank You !!!