The Partnership for Domestic Violence Prevention: Preventing Intimate Partner Violence Among Hispanics

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Objectives
At the end of this session, participants will:

1. Describe the development of a community-based participatory research study aimed at assessing the needs and preferences for preventing intimate partner violence (IPV) among Hispanics in South Florida

2. Identify risk and protective factors for IPV among Hispanics

3. Describe cultural considerations that should be integrated into IPV prevention programs specifically targeting Hispanic youth
Why Focus on Hispanics?

“The future health of the nation will be determined to a large extent by how effectively we work with communities to reduce and eliminate health disparities between non-minority and minority populations experiencing disproportionate burdens of disease, disability, and premature death.”

Office of Minority Health, CDC (2009)

IPV Health Disparities Among Hispanics

- Hispanics are:
  - 2 times more likely to report IPV
  - More likely to report negative psychological outcomes
  - More likely to report severe forms of abuse

(Caetano et al., 2005; Gonzalez-Guarda et al., 2008, 2009)
Teen Dating Violence Among Youth

Data from the 2009 Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System (YRBSS), CDC [2012]

The Partnership For Domestic Violence Prevention (PDVP)

Coordinated Victim Assistance Center (CVAC), MDC Department of Human Services

Study Personnel

- Investigators
  - Principal Investigator: Rosa M. Gonzalez-Guarda, PhD, MPH, RN, CPH
  - Co-Investigators: Etiony Aldarondo, PhD & Iven Mesa, CPA
- Domestic Violence Research Advocate (DVRA)
  - Maria Becerra, BA
- Trust Specialist
  - Karen Pino, MS
- Graduate Assistants
  - Amanda Cummings, Melanie Kempf, Elizabeth Lipman Díaz, Michelle Castro Fernandez, Krithika Mahotra
- Research Assistants
  - Taylor Ann Biancone, Melissa Gutierrez, Jessica E. Lopez, Brianne Neuburger, Shanesa Thompson
- Volunteers
  - Wendy Shoul, Aynar Alvaro, Ana Martinez, Yenfer Sanchez, Yanet Castellanos
Community Advisory Board (CAB)

- Juanita Cendar - Legal Aid Society
- Marcia Ocio - Sisterhood of Survivors (SOS)
- Belinda Paulcin - BFC/Advocate Program
- Carrie Soubal - State Attorney’s Office
- Teresa Descilo - Trauma Resolution Center
- Juan Ferreiro - State Attorney’s Office
- Heather Winters - Family Counseling Center/ The Journey Institute
- Rosa Placencia - Amigos for Kids
- Maria Jose Fletcher - Florida Immigrant Advocacy Center
- Robert Morgan, Ph.D. - The University of Miami Mailman Center

Specific Aims of the PDVP

1. To lay the groundwork for an enduring community-academic partnership to promote the prevention of domestic violence among Hispanics in MDC

2. To assess specific needs and preferences for prevention with regard to domestic violence among Hispanics in MDC

Methods

- Community-Based Participatory Research (CBPR)
- 9 Focus Groups (N = 76)
- Community Forum (N = approx. 150)
- Secondary Data Analysis (N = 407)
Overview of Major PDVP Activities

Focus Group Participant Characteristics (N = 76)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>Missing (mean)</th>
<th>SD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Age</td>
<td>42 (19-72)</td>
<td>13.04</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Years in the US</td>
<td>23 (1-64)</td>
<td>15.49</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>14 (2-23)</td>
<td>4.03</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monthly Family Income</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&lt;$500</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$500 - $999</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$1,000 - $1,999</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$2,000 - $2,999</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$3,000 - $3,999</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$4,000 - $4,999</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$5,000 - $5,999</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&gt;$6,000</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Insurance</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</table>

Focus Group Participant Characteristics (N = 76)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>93%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Race</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>68%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biracial/Multracial</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Country of Origin</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>US</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cuba</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colombia</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nicaragua</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All countries in Latin America were identified</td>
<td>≤5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haiti</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Focus Group Participant Characteristics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marital Status</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Married</td>
<td>37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Divorced</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Separated</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In relationship, not legally married</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Widowed</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employed</td>
<td>68%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service Provider</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personally Affected by Domestic Violence</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Focus Group Results

*There was a 4th, but not as relevant to prevention and hence not discussed here*
Culture as a Double-edged Sword

- Family Upbringing
  - Protection of the family
  - In the interest of the family
  - Isolated from the family
  - Loss of family
  - Repeating patterns of domestic violence

- Faith
  - Importance of faith in marriage
  - Expectations of faith leaders
  - Faith as a tool for domestic violence prevention

- Gender Roles
  - Men: Provider, aggressiveness, possessiveness
  - Women: Homemaker, submissive, lack of assertiveness

- Relating to American Culture
  - Promotes inequitable gender roles
  - Churches as a good venue for intervention

- Community
  - Faith leaders mishandle families affected by DV

Rompiendo el Patron-Breaking the Pattern

- Community-wide Response
  - Social marketing
  - Engaging the community
  - Developing an intervention for DV

- Teen Dating Violence (TDV) Prevention
  - Communicating more effectively
  - Making current programs more consistent and accessible

- Empowering Vulnerable Women
  - Universal DV interventions
  - Including men

Community Forum Results:

- Highest Priority Subgroups

- Immigrants: 3.8%
- Youth: 3.8%
- Low Income Families: 5.6%
- Men: 30.2%
- Gay & Transgendered community: 35.8%
### Community Forum Results:
Percentage of participants that strongly agreed (SA) or strongly disagreed (SD) that specific cultural factors should be included in a prevention program for youth.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cultural Factor</th>
<th>SA (%)</th>
<th>SD (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Family (n=44)</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gender Roles (n=49)</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faith (n=46)</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adapting to American culture (n=44)</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Ties (n=44)</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Project JOVEN(YOUTH):
*Juntos Opuestos a la Violencia Entre Novios*/
Together Opposed to Teen Dating Violence

**Specific Aims:**
1. Develop, refine and manualize a culturally-specific, school-based and theoretically grounded TDV prevention program, JOVEN, for Hispanic 9th graders, including components for parents and school personnel (Phase I)
2. Pilot test the JOVEN program to assess its feasibility & acceptability (Phase II)
3. Evaluate the preliminary efficacy of the JOVEN program when compared to a no-intervention control group in preventing and reducing the occurrence of TDV and affecting mediators or moderators found to be risk or protective factors for TDV (Phase II)

### Timeline for Project JOVEN
(Not to Scale)

**Phase I (2011-2012)**
- Study set-up, IRB approval, meetings with CAB (Sept ‘11 – Jan ‘12)
- Community Forum (Mar ’12)
- 8 Focus Groups (Mar ’12)
- Intervention (May – Aug ’12)

**Phase II (2012-2013)**
- Baseline Assessment (Aug ’12)
- JOVEN Intervention
  - 6 Sessions for Youth (Sep – Nov)
  - 2 Sessions for Parents (Sep – Oct)
- ROI Assessment (Sep ’12)
- F/U Assessment (Dec ’12)
- Analysis & Dissemination
Discussion

- CBPR empowers and motivates communities towards action
- TDV prevention targeting youth is of high priority
- Interventions that promote positive aspects of Hispanic culture are needed to target specific Hispanic sub-groups
- These should be evaluated and disseminated

Contact Information

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