

Understanding Teen Victimization

Mitru Ciarlante

Director of the Teen Victim Initiative



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Community Youth Development

1. Youth serve as resources to the community.
2. Youth have real decision-making power.
3. Youth work in partnership with adults.

Victim Assistance and Advocacy

- 1. Victims and survivors part of the solution.**
- 2. Victims and survivors regain control by making their own decisions.**
- 3. Victims and survivors work in partnership with criminal justice and advocates.**

<i>CONCEPT</i>	YOUTH DEVELOPMENT APPROACH	VICTIMS' RIGHTS APPROACH
ADVOCACY	Youth as resources.	Survivor's strengths integral to solutions.
DECISION MAKING	Youth have decision-making power.	Survivor regains control by making decisions: options counseling, self-advocacy.
PARTNERSHIP	Youth & adults work in partnership.	Survivors & helpers work in partnership.

Who advocates for children?

Violence in Teens' Lives

A violent event is an action initiated by a human being that makes a child feel

- threatened
- unsafe
- results in harm to another being

The Scope of Victimization Against Children & Youth

Comprehensive National Survey by David
Finkelhor, et al., 2005

<http://www.unh.edu/ccrc/pdf/CV74.pdf>

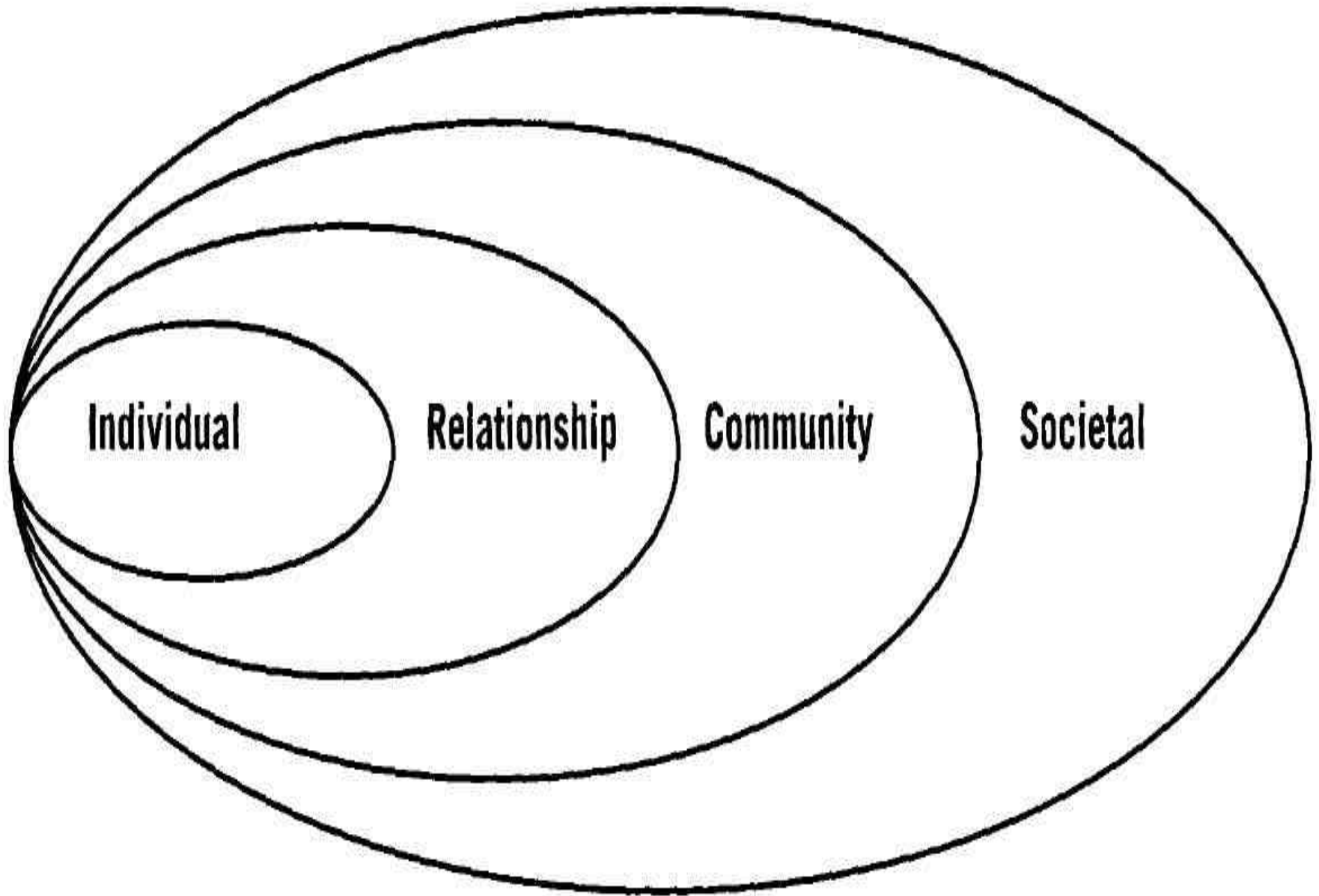
- 71% were victimized in the 12 month period
- Average victimized child, victimized three times
- Only 29% denied victimization

Who abuses children & teens?

- People known and trusted by parents.
- People known and trusted by children.
- People who are supposed to love and protect children.

Why are teens vulnerable?

Ecological Framework

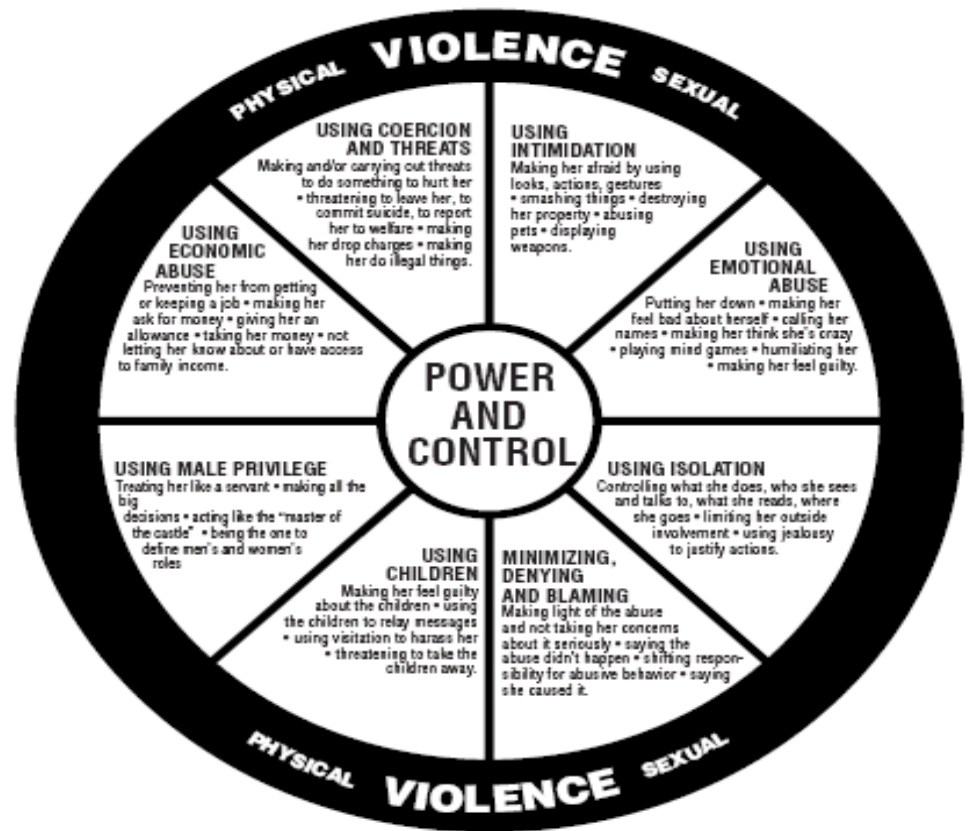


Exercise: Building the Wheels

Abuse of Power and Control in Teens' Lives

Domestic Abuse Intervention Project

<http://www.duluth-model.org>



DOMESTIC ABUSE INTERVENTION PROJECT
202 East Superior Street
Duluth, Minnesota 55802
218-722-2781

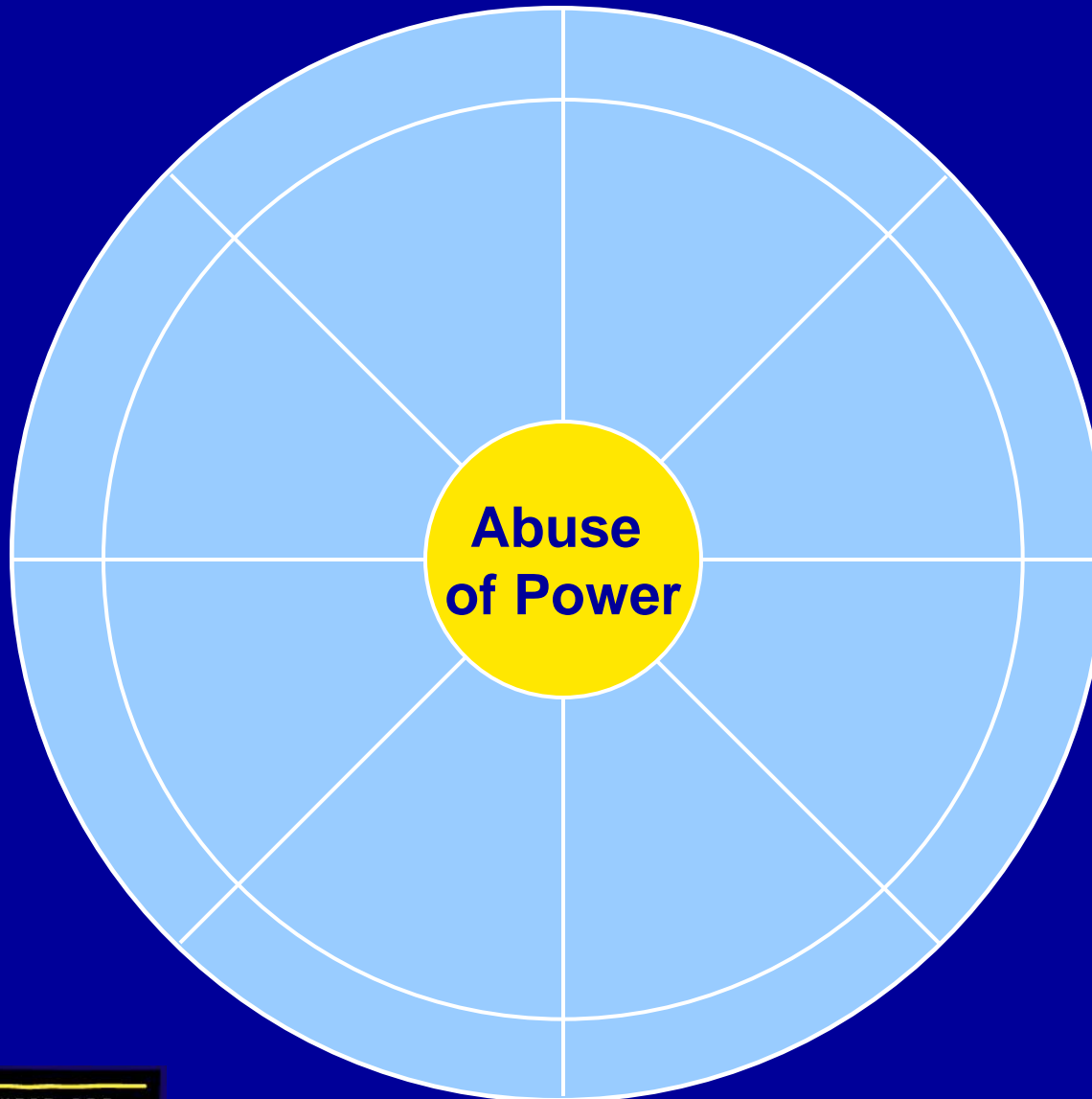
USING CHILDREN

TYPE OF ABUSE

Examples of individual tactics
used

- Telling children
separation is Mom's
fault

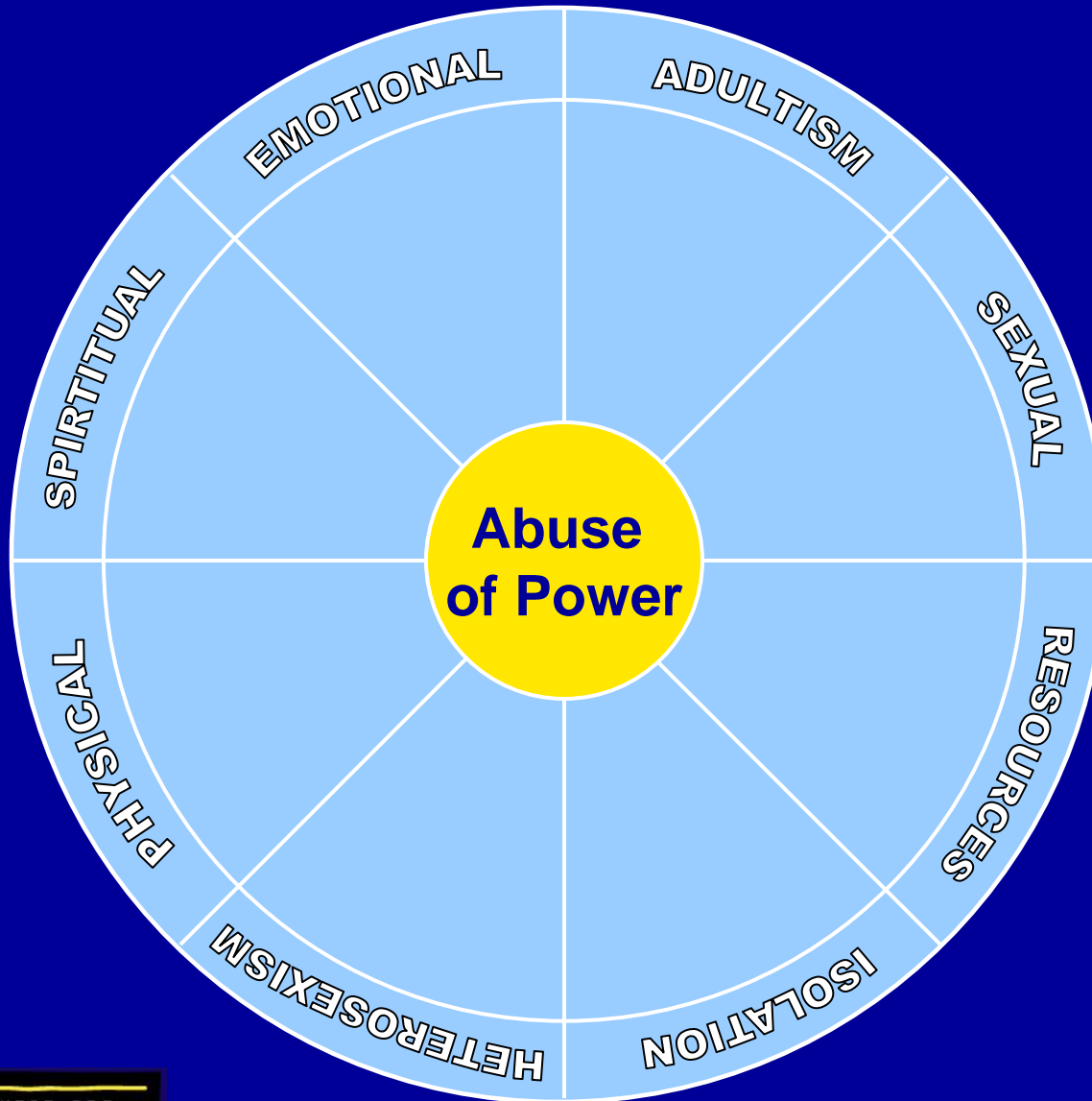
In Children and Teens' Lives



Types of abuse of power over youth



In Children and Teens' Lives



PHYSICAL ABUSE

EMOTIONAL ABUSE

SEXUAL ABUSE

SPIRITUAL ABUSE



HETEROSEXISM
RIGID GENDER ROLE STEREOTYPES

CONTROLLING RESOURCES



**ADULTISM:
USING ADULT PRIVILEGE**

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Additional Struggles for Marginalized Youth

- Runaway, thrown away and homeless youth
- Out-of-home placement
- Youth of Color
- Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender youth
- Teens with prior victimization
- Teens living in poverty
- Isolated rural areas
- Addicted teens
- Youth with disabilities
- Pregnant and parenting teens
- Immigrant youth
- Teens who drop out or are pushed out of school

Scope of Victimization Against Youth

- Youth ages 12 – 19 had the second highest rate of violent victimization in 2005.
- 1.5 million crimes against teens in 2005
 - 175,392 robberies
 - 73,354 rapes and sexual assaults

Teens accounted for 12% of murder victims
in 2005.

Child Sexual Victimization

- **1 in 6 boys** is sexually abused by age 18
- **1 in 3 girls** is sexually abused by age 18
- **75%** of teen girls who experienced sexual intercourse before age 14 were forced (raped)
- **60%** of teen girls who experienced intercourse before 15 were forced (raped)

Child Sexual Exploitation

50% of babies born to teen mothers were fathered by *adult* men.

Domestic Violence

Fatal &
serious assault

Threats, physical
& sexual assaults

Highly controlling behavior &
destructiveness: 60-80% exposed

Non-abusive conflict: arguments and yelling

People are most likely to victimize teens between
3 p.m. and 7 p.m.

53% of reported victimizations of youth ages 12-14 occurred at school.

Percent of Victimizations Reported to the Police by Age

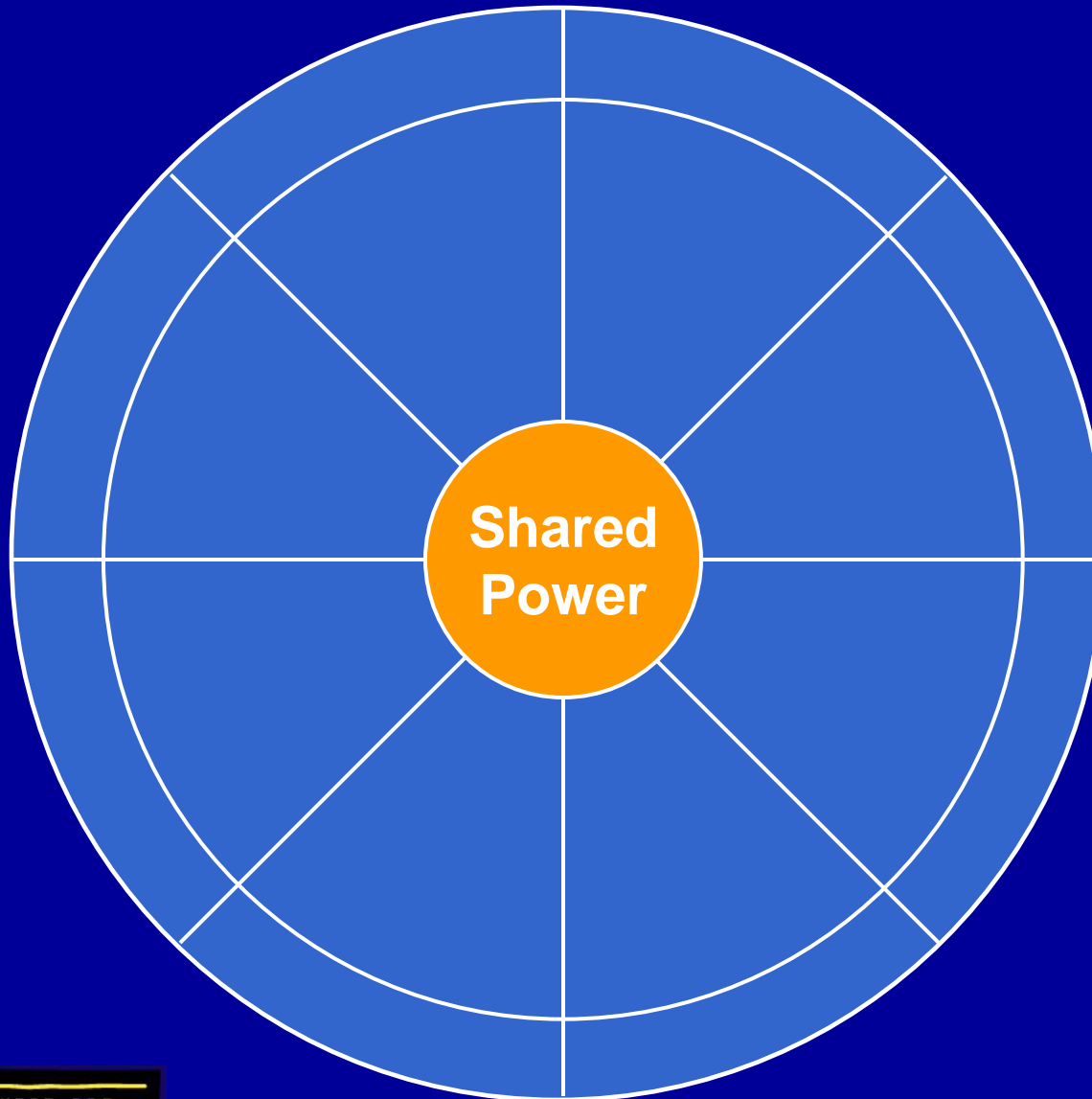
<u>Age Group</u>	<u>% Reported</u>
12-19	36.0%
20-34	47.5%
35-49	58.9%
50-64	49.4%
65+	66.1%

What do teen victims need?

Exercise: Building the Wheels

Shared Power & Control in Teens' Lives

In Children and Teens' Lives



- Adult Protection / Safety
- Legal Rights
- Basic needs met
- Safe places & services
- Information
- Vocabulary
- To be heard / advocacy
- Accountability
- Parental warmth, involvement
- Empathy
- Resilience and hope

We not only believe you, we believe *in* you.*

- Early, strong, interpersonal relationships
- Freedom to develop as a whole person
- Cultural education about gender roles
- Psycho-ed support for exposure to violence
- Media literacy

What do teen
victims need
from me --in my
role?

Mitru Ciarlante, mciarlante@ncvc.org

2000 M Street, NW, Suite 480

Washington, DC 20036

202-467-8700, www.ncvc.org

1-800-FYI-CALL

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