



Domestic Violence and the Military Services

Analyzing Acts of Violence

Family Violence Justice Center Alliance

Deborah D. Tucker

April 29, 2010



Responsibilities of the Movement to End VAW

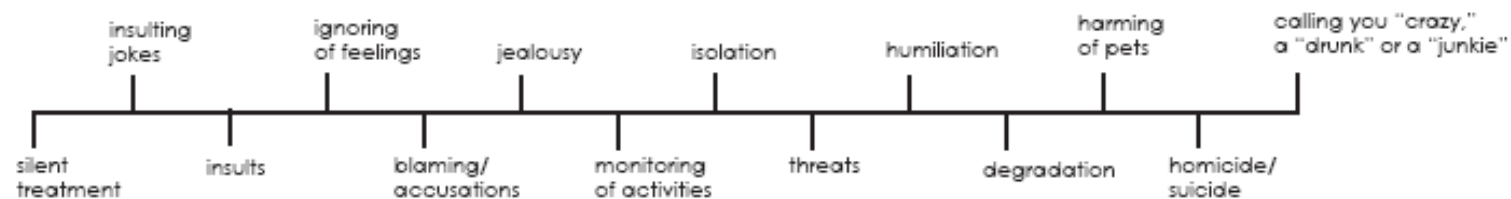
- Collaborate with battered women and victims of sexual assault.
- Build organizations that learn and are responsive.
- Create cooperation, coordination and collaboration in the community.
- Create a society and world without violence.

MANIFESTATIONS OF VIOLENCE

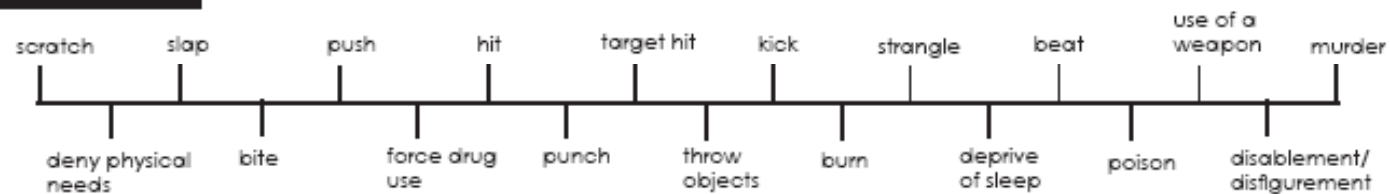
Abuse can occur in different forms. It can be physical, emotional, sexual, spiritual, social and/or economic. The diagrams below describe some of the abuse tactics batterers use as they attempt to gain or maintain power and control over their intimate partners. Abuse does not always progress in the steps shown here. Sometimes the abuse may advance from pushing or hitting directly to more severe physical violence such as the use of a weapon. Although each relationship is unique, any type of abuse must be considered a serious cause for concern. Despite different circumstances, it is important to remember that abuse can escalate (especially if there is no intervention). A coordinated community response holding batterers accountable for their abusive behaviors is essential, as is a response acknowledging and respecting the rights of victims of domestic violence.

Exercise: It is helpful to be aware of the different manifestations of domestic violence. Circle the type(s) of abuse you are now experiencing (or that you have experienced). Notice if the violence is increasing in intensity, severity or frequency. Talk to a domestic violence advocate to develop or review your current safety plan or explore your options. Remember, domestic violence is never your fault, even if you were drinking or using drugs.

EMOTIONAL ABUSE



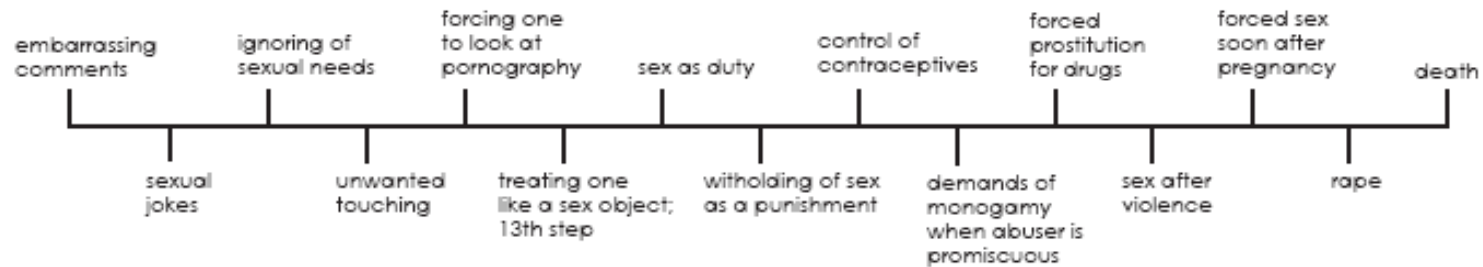
PHYSICAL ABUSE



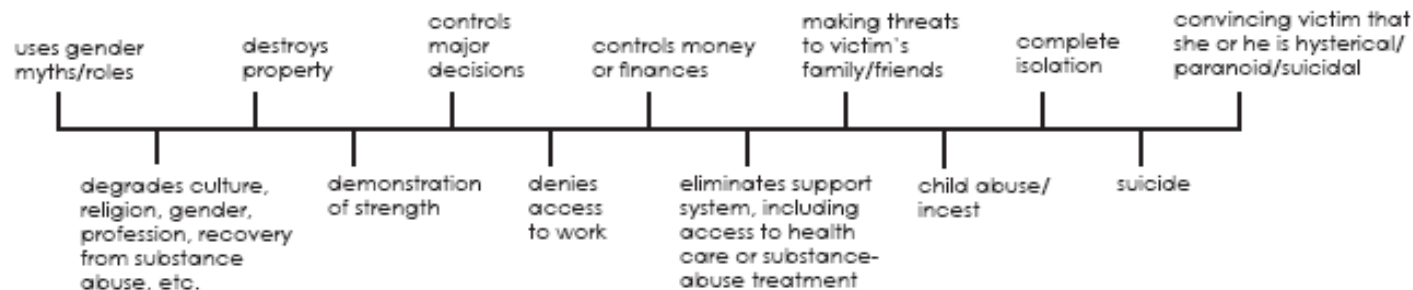
continued ...

*Manifestations of
Violence, continued*

SEXUAL ABUSE



SOCIAL/ENVIRONMENTAL ABUSE



Credit: Pam Blain, New Beginning for Battered Women and their Children, Seattle, WA, featured at the National Conference on Creating Individualized Services for Women Responding to Multiple Challenges of Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, Mental Health Concerns and Substance Abuse, hosted by the National Training Center on Domestic and Sexual Violence, Austin, Texas, September 10-12, 2001.

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Four theories: what causes domestic violence?

1. Individual pathology
2. Relationship dysfunction
3. Learned response to stress and anger
4. Theory of dominance



Individual Pathology

- The person using violence has some kind of illness or condition (mental, PTSD, TBI)
- Batterer is problem – not society
- Individual problem preferred way of thinking
- Individual psychiatric care, treatment for addiction, or counseling is a typical response



Relationship Dysfunction

- 'It takes two to tango'
- Couple is playing off of each other
- Either could stop the violence
- Both parties are responsible
- Couples counseling, or relationship counseling separately, is needed



Learned Response to Stress and Anger

- “Cycle of Violence” theory – Lenore Walker
 - tension-building phase
 - explosion of violence
 - honeymoon phase or respite
- Men socialized to use violence
- Increases in frequency and severity
- Popular theory
- Anger management is a typical response



Theory of Dominance

- System of power and control tactics
- Includes:
 - Physical violence
 - Sexual violence
 - Other tactics on Power and Control Wheel
- Battering comes from social conditions, not individual pathology
- Need to balance power differential by using power of the state
- Re-education and sanctions

POWER AND CONTROL WHEEL

Physical and sexual assaults, or threats to commit them, are the most apparent forms of domestic violence and are usually the actions that allow others to become aware of the problem. However, regular use of other abusive behaviors by the batterer, when reinforced by one or more acts of physical violence, make up a larger system of abuse. Although physical assaults may occur only once or occasionally, they instill threat of future violent attacks and allow the abuser to take control of the woman's life and circumstances.

The Power & Control diagram is a particularly helpful tool in understanding the overall pattern of abusive and violent behaviors, which are used by a batterer to establish and maintain control over his partner. Very often, one or more violent incidents are accompanied by an array of these other types of abuse. They are less easily identified, yet firmly establish a pattern of intimidation and control in the relationship.



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DoD Definition of Domestic Abuse and Violence

Two Levels

1. For use in intervention programs
2. For use in proceedings under the UCMJ or for prosecution on federal or state land



Domestic Abuse

Is (1) Domestic violence or (2) a pattern of behavior resulting in emotional/psychological abuse, economic control, and/or interference with personal liberty....



Domestic Violence

An offense under the United States Code, the Uniform Code of Military Justice, or State law that involves the use, attempted use, or threatened use of force or violence against a person of the opposite sex, or

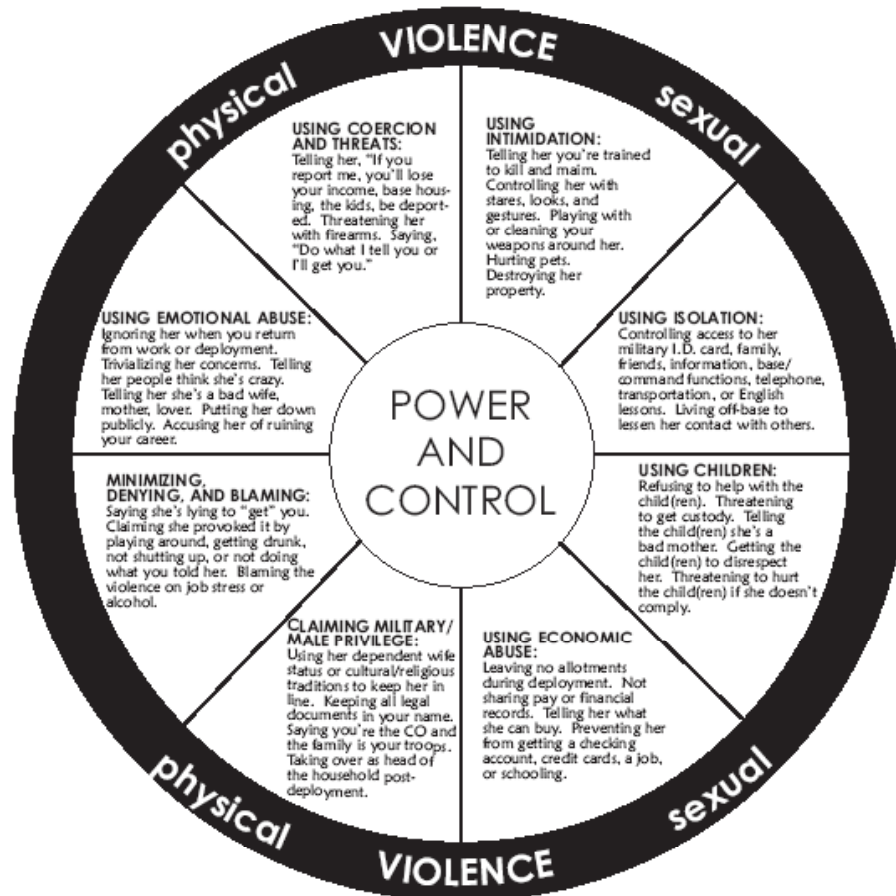


Domestic Violence

the violation of a lawful order issued for the protection of a person of the opposite sex who is:

- (a) A current or former spouse;
- (b) A person with whom the abuser shares a child in common; or
- (c) A current or former intimate partner with whom the abuser shares or has shared a common domicile.

MILITARY POWER AND CONTROL WHEEL



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Use of Violence has Different Intents

1. **Battering** – intends to control the relationship
2. **Resistive violence** – intends to stop the battering
3. **Situational violence** – intends to control a situation
4. **Pathological violence** – intent is controlled to some degree by pathology
5. **Anti-Social Violence** – abusive to many in public and private settings

Battering

- System of power and control
- Includes:
 - Fear
 - Threats
 - Intimidation
 - Coercion
- Belief in entitlement
- Social movement





Resistive Violence

- Substantial numbers of victims of battering use force against the batterer
- May not legally qualify as self-defense
- Victim's violence *usually* different
- Less sympathy from practitioners
- Different impact – individual and social



Situational Violence

- The violence is related to a situation
- Not part of a larger system of controlling tactics
- No pattern of dominance
- Battering looks like this if the pattern is invisible



Pathological Violence

- Violence is due to some kind of illness
 - Mental health
 - Alcohol
 - Drugs
 - Brain injury
 - PTSD
- Not typically part of system of controlling tactics
- Because a person's violence is linked to a pathology does not preclude that its intent can also be to batter, to resist battering, or to control a situation



Anti-Social Violence

- **Abusive in several settings: bars, work, home, sports field, etc.**
- **No empathy, shame, or remorse, and little understanding of consequences**
- **Not gendered – appears to be caused by childhood abuse, neglect and chaos**
- **Not amenable to change through self-reflection or therapy, may not benefit from existing batterer's programs (Gondolf, 1999)**
- **25% of men court ordered to batterer's programs could be 'anti-social' (Gondolf, 1999; Gondolf & White, 2001)**
- **Separate anti-social violence of individuals from group violence created by systematic oppression and domination**



Understanding Intent or "Cause" is Important

Why?

- Help us to differentiate between acts of violence
- Help us to determine most appropriate response
- Not getting it right could be dangerous



Pathological Violence, Military Context

Active Duty and Veterans

Post Traumatic Stress Disorder

Traumatic Brain Injury



Post Traumatic Stress Disorder

- Anxiety disorder after a traumatic event
- During event, your life or others' lives are in danger
- Feel afraid or that you have no control
- Anyone who has gone through a life-threatening event can develop PTSD



Post Traumatic Stress Disorder

- Events can include:
 - Combat or military experience
 - Child sexual or physical abuse
 - Terrorist attack
 - Sexual or physical assault
 - Serious accident, such as car wreck
 - Natural disasters, fire, tornado, etc.



Post Traumatic Stress Disorder

- Not clear, why some develop and others do not. Likelihood may depend upon:
 - Intensity and length of trauma
 - Whether someone dies or is badly hurt
 - Proximity to the event
 - Strength of reaction
 - Feelings of control
 - Help and support received afterwards



What to Look For?

Physical

Fatigue
Chest Pain
Weakness
Sleep Problems
Nightmares
Breathing Difficulty
Muscle Tremors
Profuse Sweating
Pounding Heart
Headaches

Behavioral

Withdrawal
Restlessness
Emotional Outbursts
Suspicion
Paranoia
Loss of Interest
Alcohol Consumption
Substance Abuse

Emotional

Anxiety or Panic
Guilt
Fear
Denial
Irritability
Depression
Intense Anger
Agitation
Apprehension



Traumatic Brain Injury

- Occurs if the head is hit or violently shaken (such as from a blast or explosion)
- Results in a concussion or closed head injury, not life-threatening but may have serious symptoms, worse if exposed more than once, behavior and personality changes possible



Common Symptoms of Brain Injury

- Difficulty organizing daily tasks
- Blurred vision or eyes tire easily
- Headaches or ringing in ears
- Feeling sad, anxious or listless
- Easily irritated or angered
- Feeling tired all the time



Common Symptoms of Brain Injury

- Trouble with memory, attention or concentration
- More sensitive to sounds, lights, or distractions
- Impaired decision-making or problem-solving
- Difficulty inhibiting behavior, impulsive



Common Symptoms of Brain Injury

- Slowed thinking, moving, speaking or reading
- Easily confused, feeling easily overwhelmed
- Change in sexual interest or behavior



Consider the Source of the Conduct

- Regardless of source, offender must be held accountable and victim protected
- Accountability strategy must take into account the source and how to intervene appropriately
- In other words, untreated TBI sufferer unlikely to be helped by battering intervention



Consider the Source of the Conduct

- Nor should a batterer escape appropriate consequences for conduct by alleging TBI or PTSD when those are NOT the cause
- We must be thoughtful and vigilant to ensure the intervention fits the offense



How do we determine the source?

- Is the conduct new?
- Have there been other incidents of violence directed to non-family?
- What other factors require attention?
- Does the offender avoid situations that remind him of the original trauma?
- Are power and control tactics more pronounced?



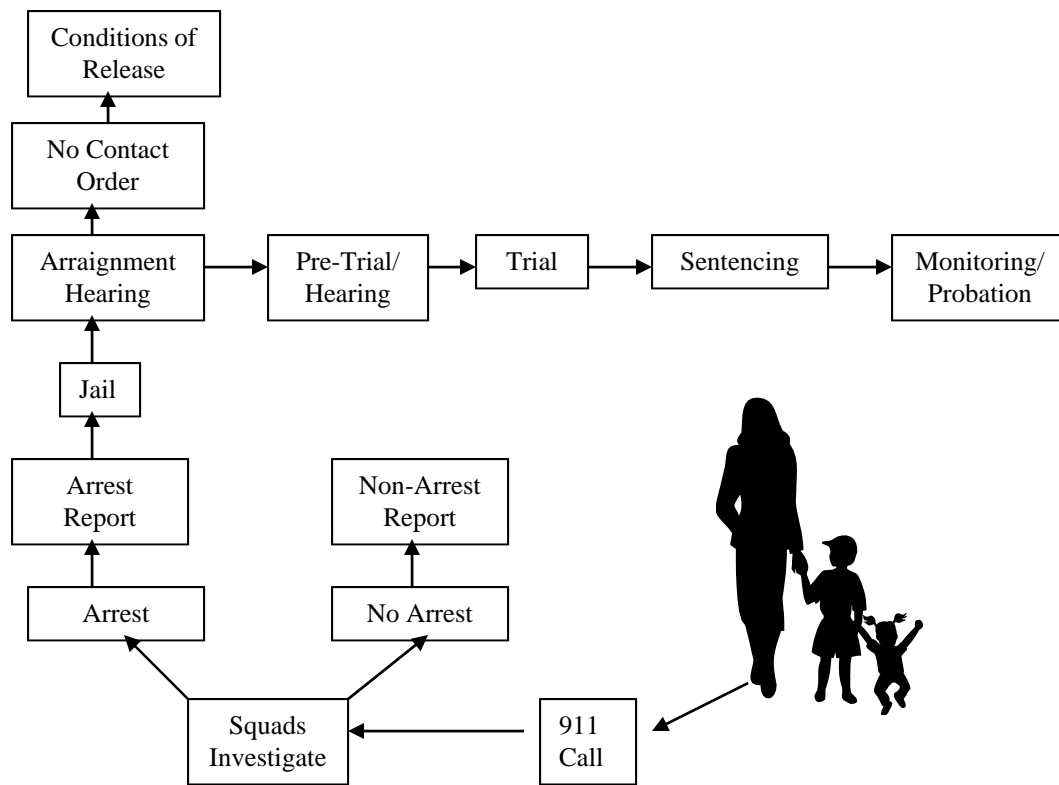
Principles of Intervention

- Victim Safety and Well-being
- Offender Accountability
- Changing the Climate of Tolerance to Violence in the Community

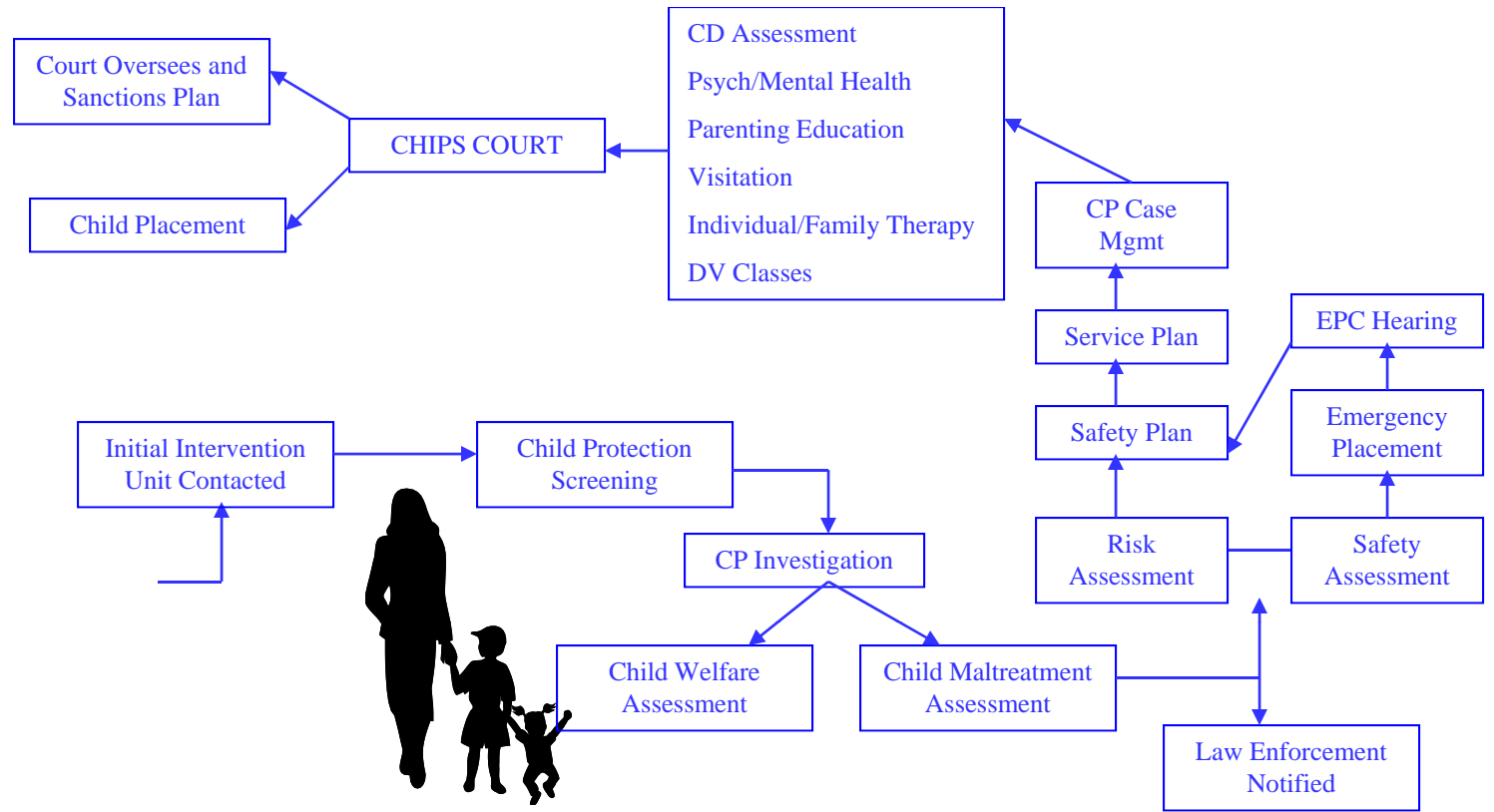


Maze Map

A few processes domestic violence victims may encounter when involved with child protection, civil and criminal justice systems, AND the military response.

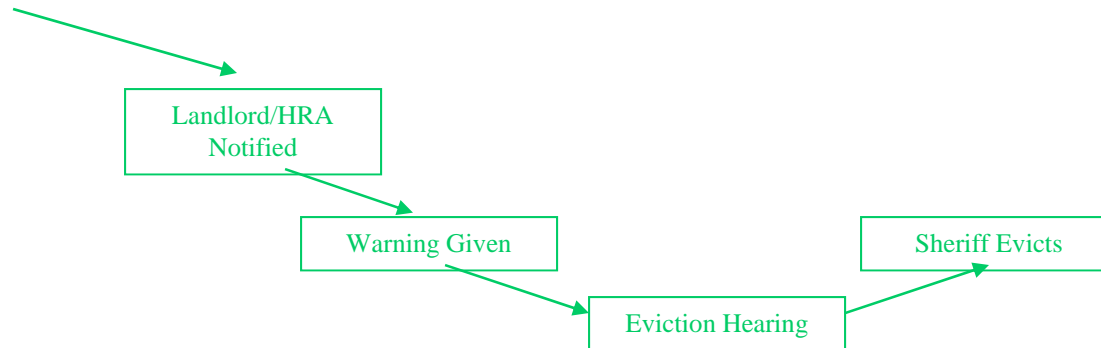


DOMESTIC VIOLENCE/ ARREST INCIDENT

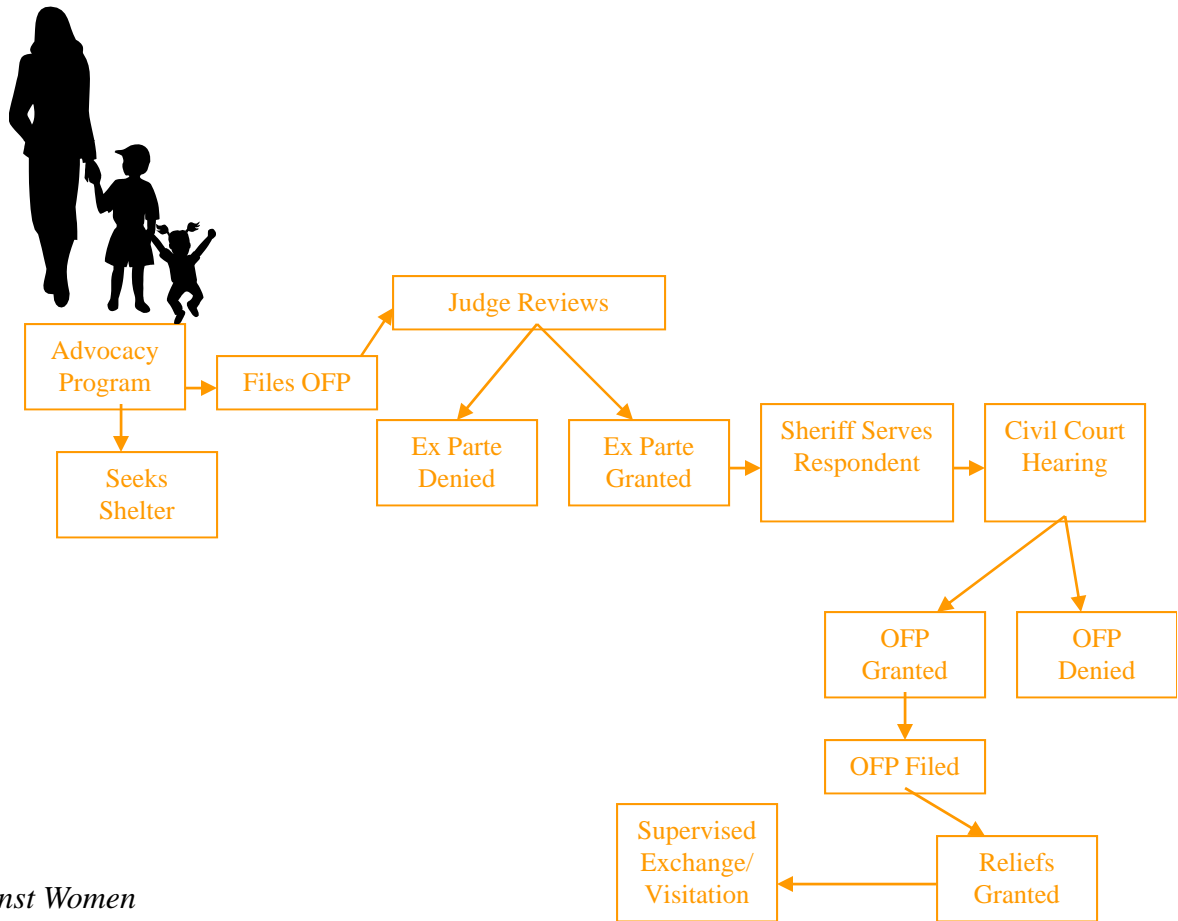


CHILD PROTECTION MAP

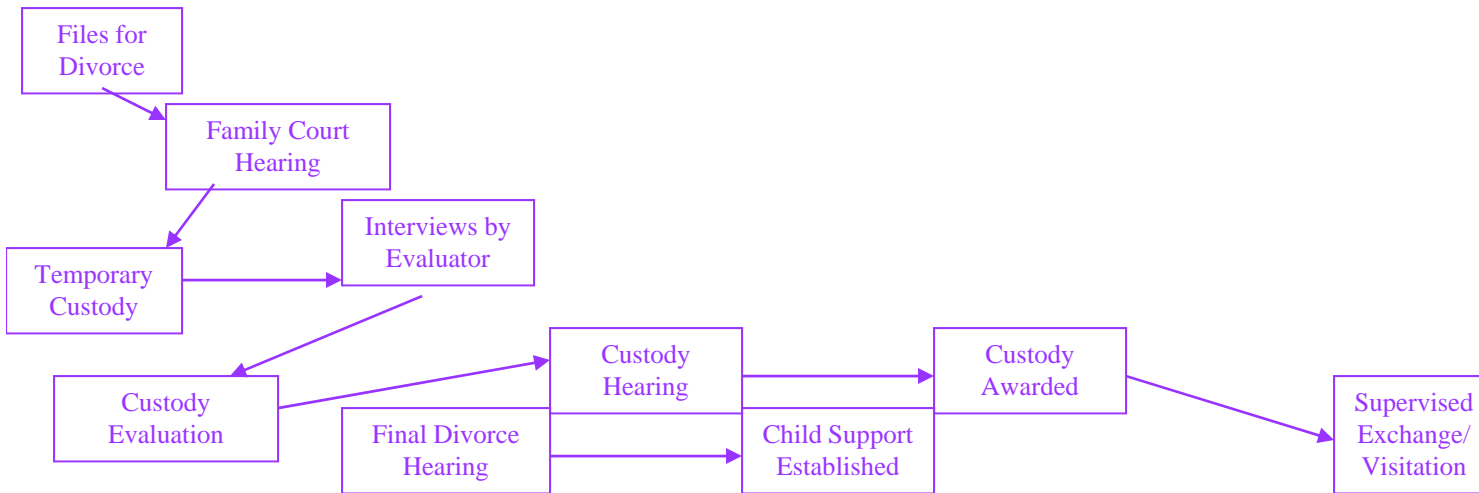
HOUSING MAP

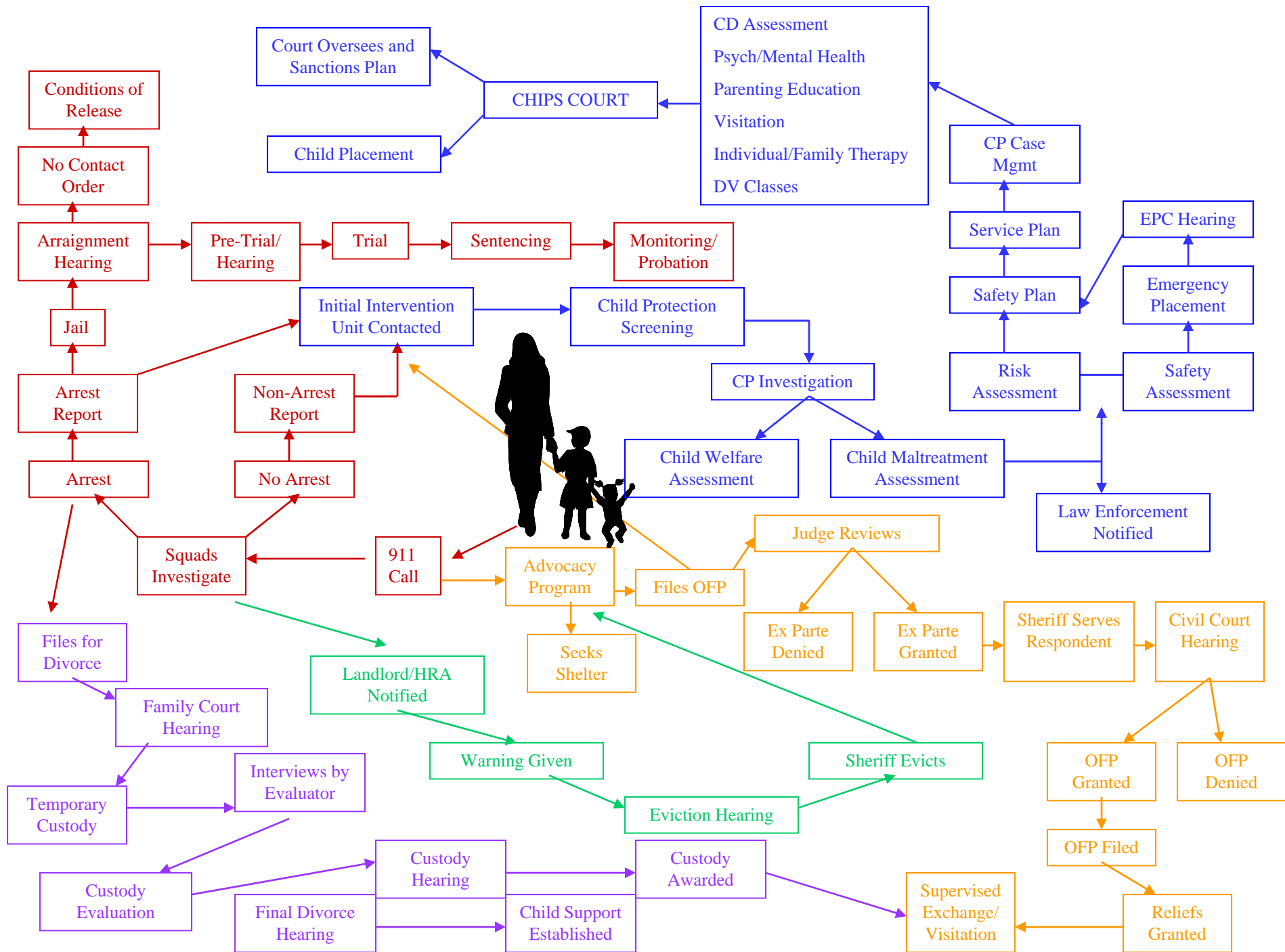


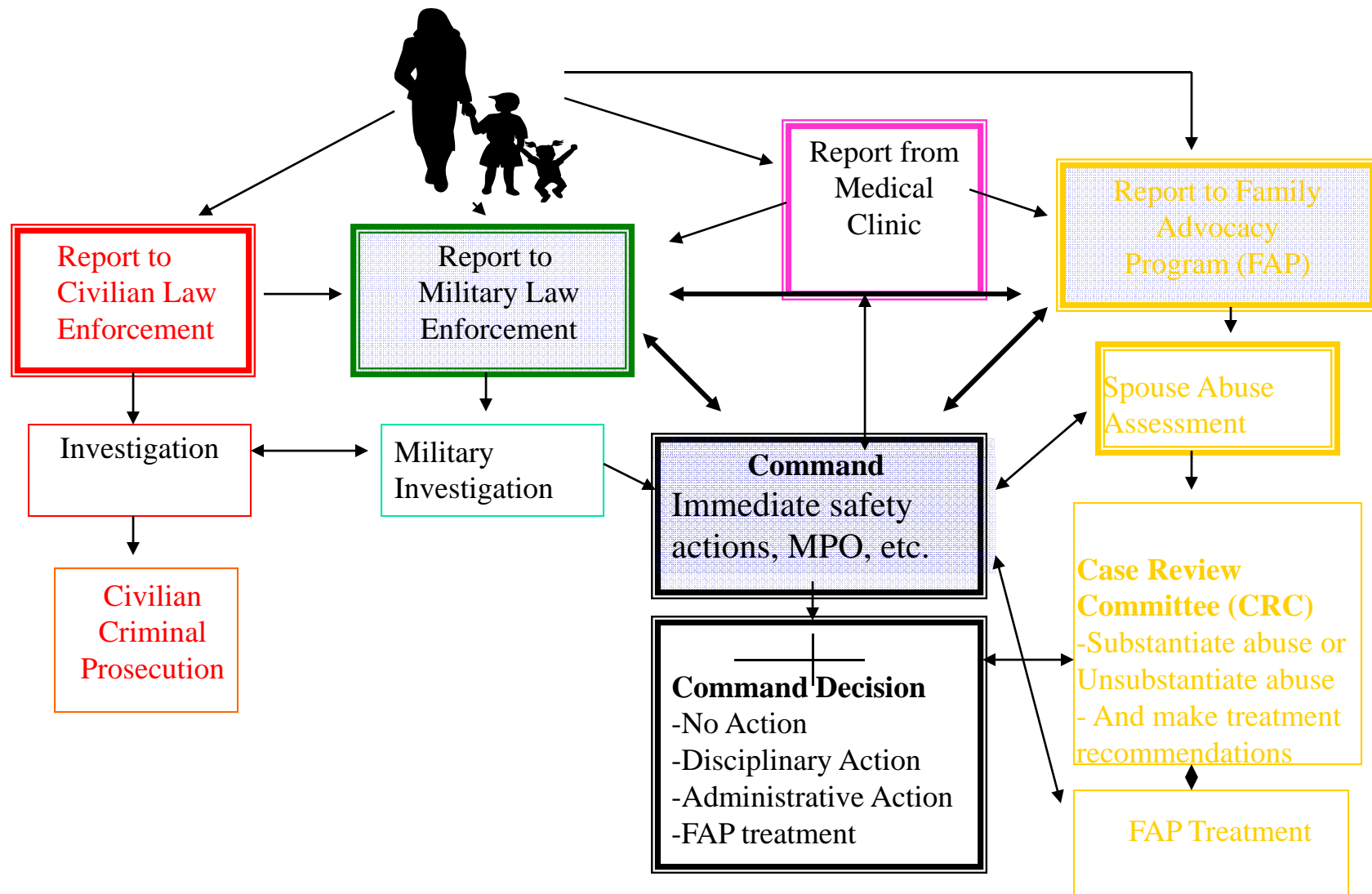
ORDER FOR PROTECTION – CIVIL COURT PROCESS



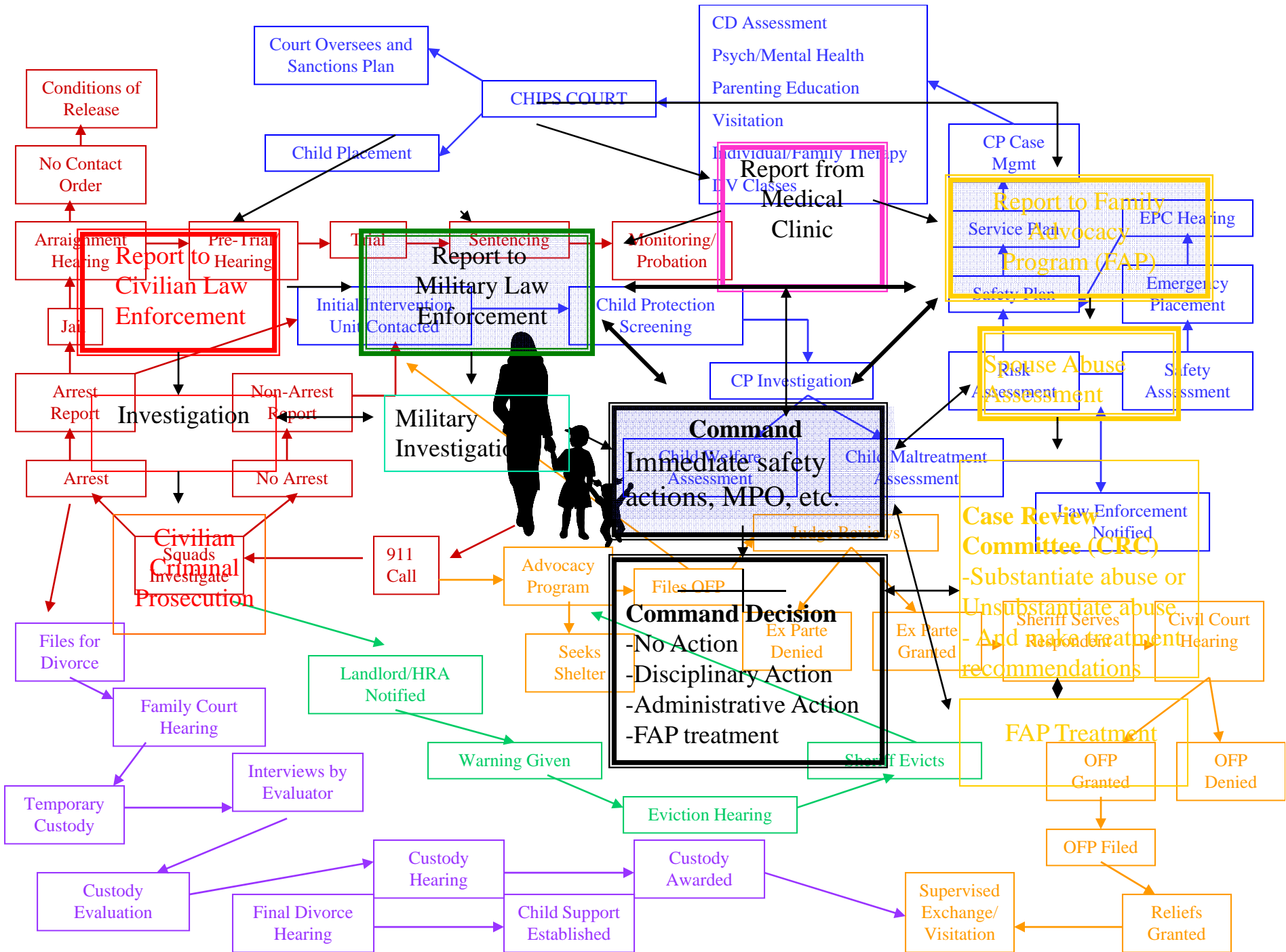
CUSTODY MAP

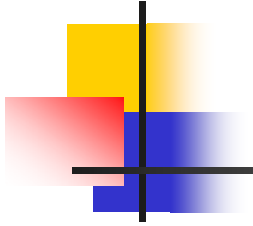






***Military Domestic Violence Incident Response
Report of incident may enter the system at several points***





Advocacy

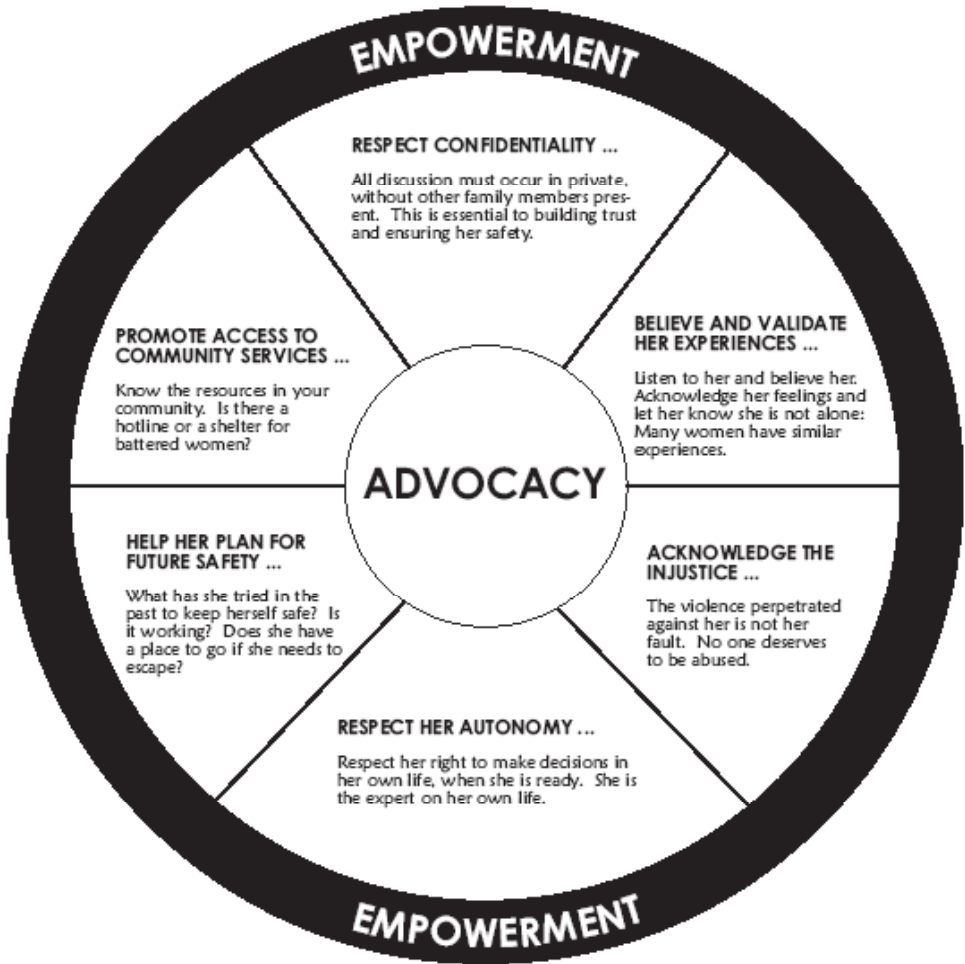


Usual Understanding of Advocacy

Helping Battered Women:

- Consider options
- Devise strategy
- Make decisions
- Implement justice
- Speak/advocate for self/children

ADVOCACY WHEEL



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Empowerment Advocacy

“Empowerment advocacy believes that battering is not something that happens to a woman because of her characteristics, her family background, her psychological “profile”, her family origin, dysfunction, or her unconscious search for a certain type of man.

*“Battering can happen to **anyone** who has the misfortune to become involved with a person who wants power and control enough to be violent to get it.”*

— Barbara J. Hart, JD, *Seeking Justice: Legal Advocacy Principles and Practice*,
Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence, Harrisburg, PA



*Where You **Stand** Depends on Where You **Sit***

- **Community-based Advocates** work in local shelters, domestic violence programs, rape crisis centers, coalitions and *can* be located inside the system
- **System Advocates** typically work in police/sheriff departments, DA's offices, hospitals and also the military



Goals of Community Advocacy

- Safety
- Agency/Authority/Autonomy
- Restoration/Resources
- Justice



Goals of System Advocates

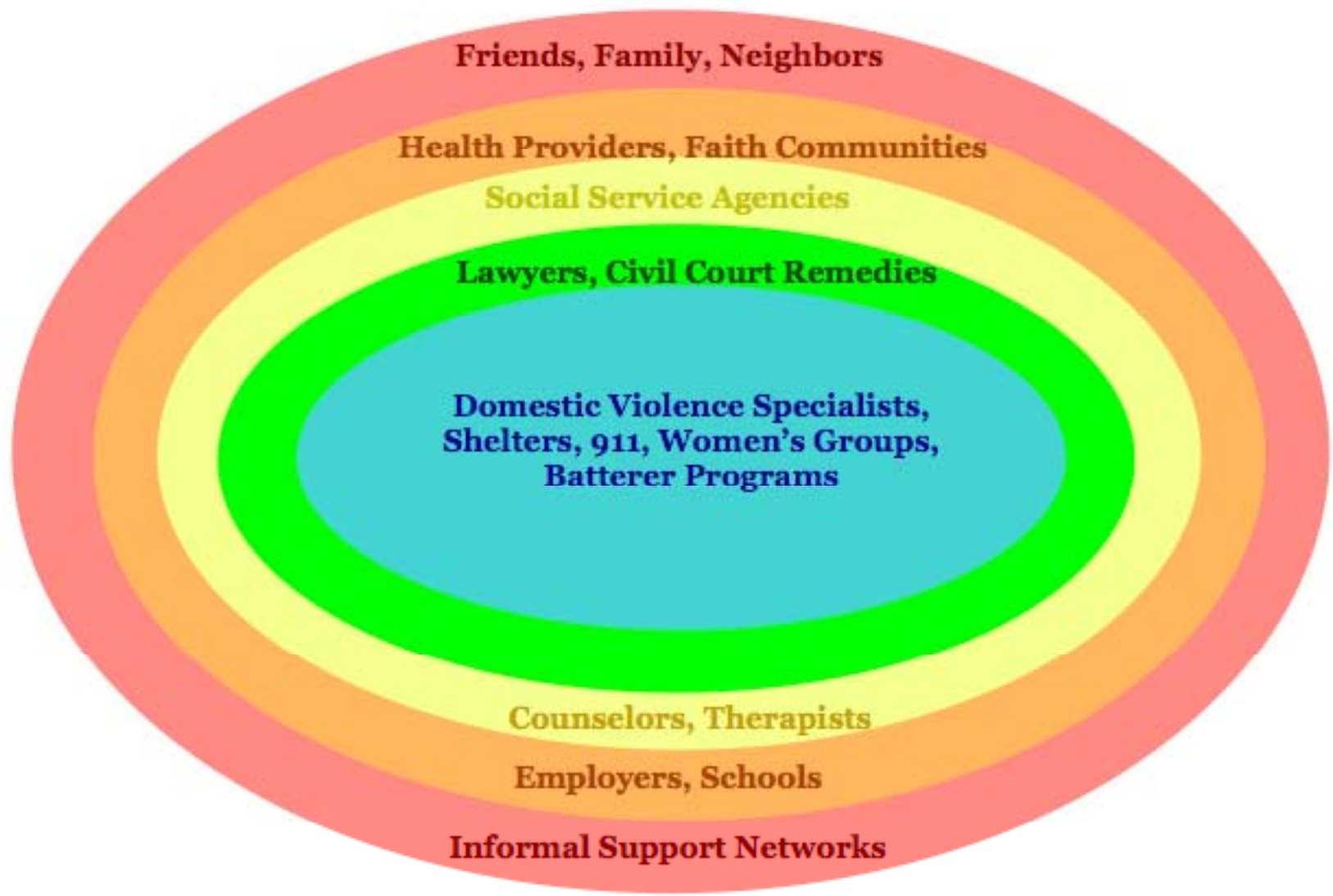
- Safety of victims
- Accountability of perpetrators
- Deterrence of perpetrators
- Services for victims
- Seamless response, cooperation with criminal justice and social service agencies



Advocates in the Military Community

- Meshing of roles, usually divided in civilian communities
- Bifurcated responsibilities the same
 - Individual Advocacy
 - Systemic Advocacy
 - Social/Cultural Change

Where do victims of domestic violence seek help?





Assessing Risks: Domestic Violence & Addiction

Both

- Involve power and control dynamics
- Impact entire families, often harming three or more generations
- Thrive in silence and isolation
- Carry great societal stigma and shame



Assessing Risks: Domestic Violence & Addiction

- Involve denial systems, including minimizing and rationalizing
- Despite some similarities, domestic violence and addiction are different problems requiring different interventions



Assessing Risks: Domestic Violence & Addiction

Denial Serves Different Purposes:

- Victims fear for their safety or may be coerced into denying the truth
- Batterers avoid accountability and may falsely blame their behavior on their partner, substance abuse or anger
- Alcoholics/addicts fear they won't survive without using and deny avoiding pain



Assessing Risks: Impact of Trauma/PTSD

- After 1980, when the efforts of combat veterans had legitimated the concept of post-traumatic stress disorder, it became clear that the psychological syndrome seen in survivors of rape, domestic battery, and incest was essentially the same as the syndrome seen in survivors of war.
- Traumatic events violate the autonomy of the person at the level of basic bodily integrity. The body is invaded, injured, defiled.



Assessing Risks: Impact of Trauma/PTSD

- Helplessness and isolation are the core experiences of psychological trauma.
- Traumatic reactions occur when neither resistance nor escape is possible. The human system of self-defense becomes overwhelmed and disorganized and impacts the ordinary human adaptations to life that give people a sense of control, connection, and meaning.



Assessing Risks: Impact of Trauma/PTSD

- Traumatic events destroy the belief that one can “be oneself” in relation to others. The individual’s point of view counts for nothing, and shame, doubt, and guilt appear in the aftermath of the traumatic events.



Assessing Risks: Impact of Trauma/PTSD

- Observers who have never experienced prolonged terror or traumatic events and who have no understanding of coercive methods of control presume that they would show greater courage and resistance than the victim in similar circumstances.



Assessing Risks: Impact of Trauma/PTSD

- Therefore, the common tendency is to account for the victim's behavior by seeking flaws in her personality or moral character.

– *Violence and Recovery*, Judith Lewis Herman



Assessing Risks: Impact of Trauma/PTSD

- Victims experience PTSD after the violence
- Those who use violence MAY be experiencing PTSD from prior victimization, or
- As a result of trauma in combat.



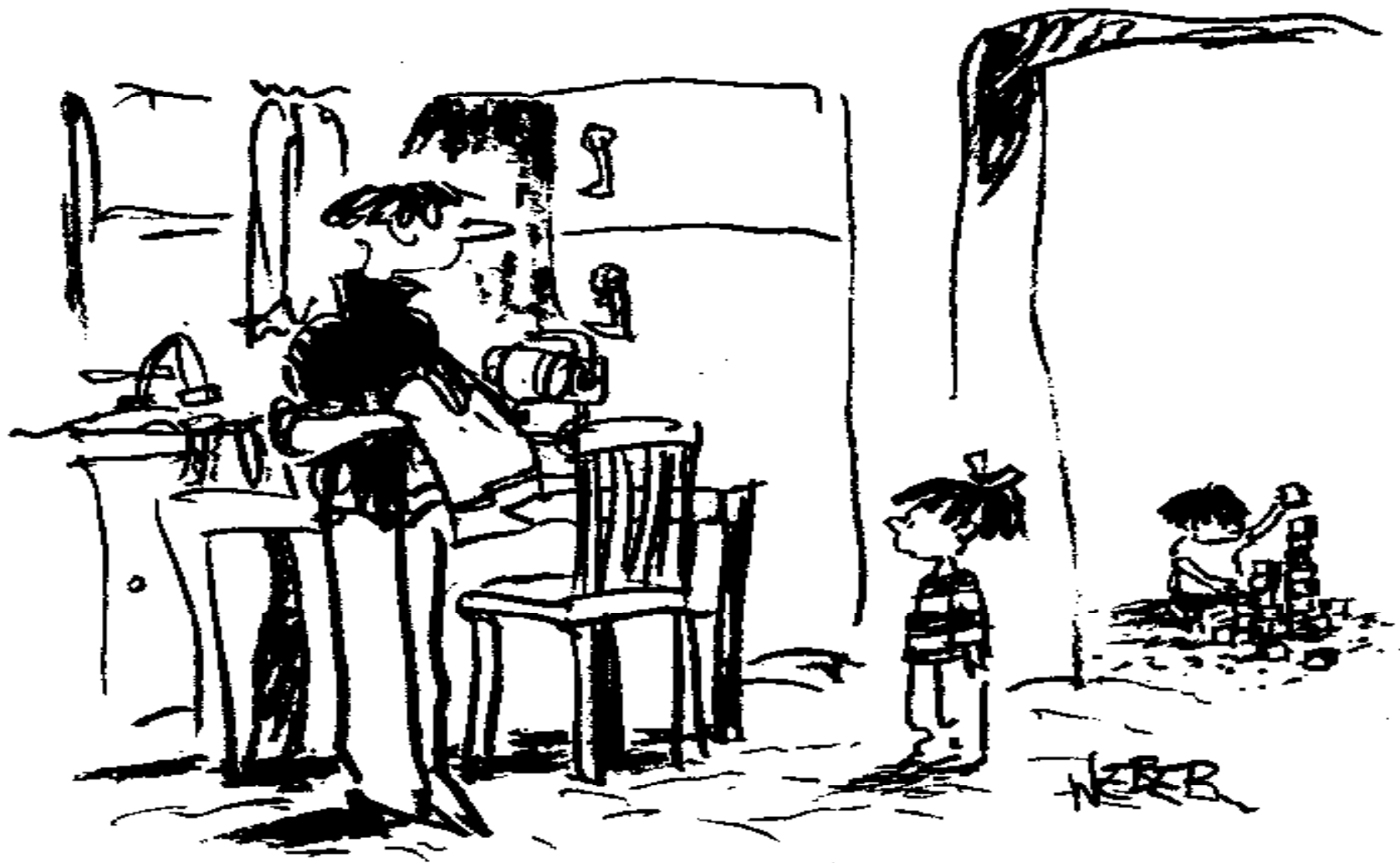
Five Things to Say to a Battered Woman

- I am afraid for your safety.
- I am afraid for the safety of your children.
- It will only get worse.
- I am here for you when are ready for change.
- You don't deserve to be abused.



Five Things to Say to an Abuser

1. I'm afraid you'll really hurt her badly or kill her next time.
2. I'm afraid you'll hurt your children.
3. It will only get worse.
4. I'm here for you when you're ready to change.
5. No one, including you, has the right to abuse/hurt another person.



"Norman won't collaborate."

• •



Challenges...

*...to Coordinate a
Community Response*



Coordinated Community Response Challenges

1. Keeping a shared focus on victim safety
2. Maintaining trust and information exchange between agencies
3. Building effective child protection into domestic violence response
4. Reviewing policies and procedures using interagency working groups
5. Holding each other accountable while maintaining effective working relationships

COMMUNITY ACCOUNTABILITY WHEEL

This wheel *begins* to demonstrate the ideal community response to the issue of domestic violence. Community opinion, which strongly states that battering is unacceptable, leads all of our social institutions to expect full accountability from the batterer by applying appropriate consequences. This wheel was developed by Mike Jackson and David Garvin of the Domestic Violence Institute of Michigan (P.O. Box 130107, Ann Arbor, MI 48113, tel: 313.769.6334).



Inspired and adapted from the "Power & Control Equality Wheel" developed by Domestic Abuse Intervention Project
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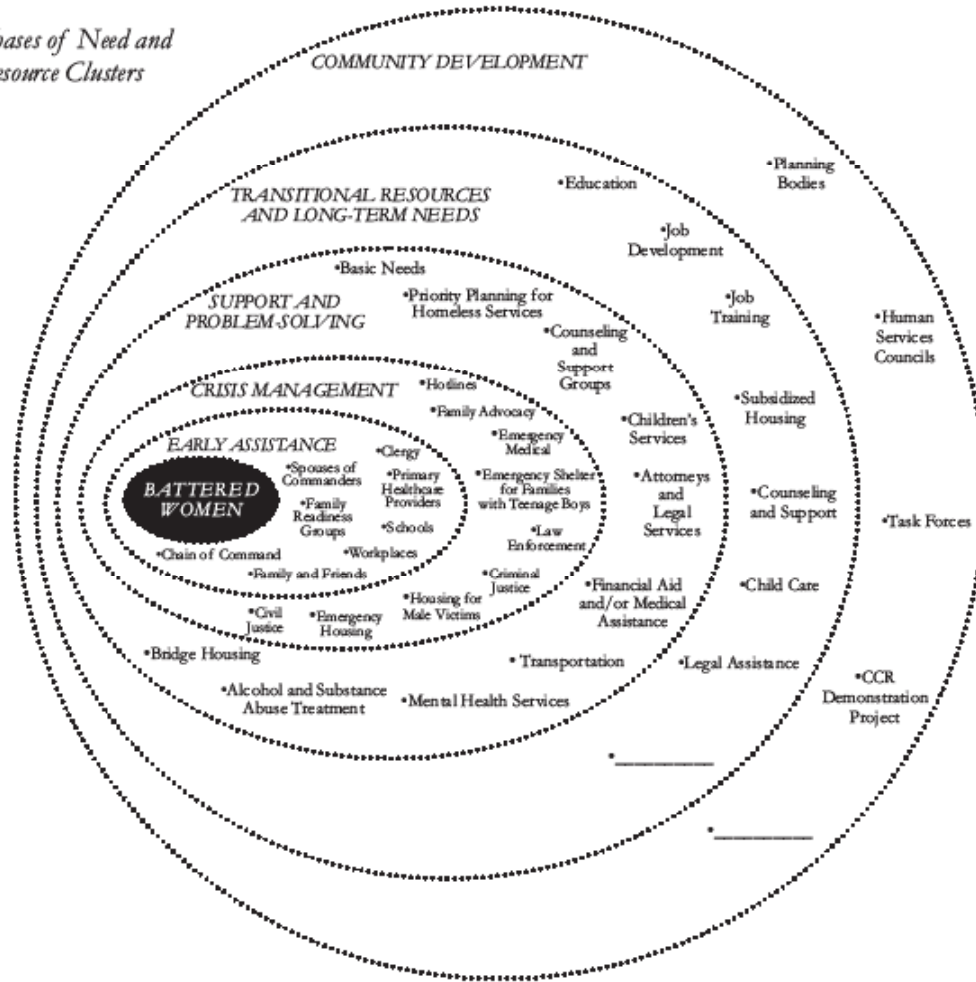


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CONTINUUM OF CARING: COMMUNITY RESOURCE CLUSTERS

*Coordinated Community Response Demonstration Project 2006
Fort Campbell Army Installation with Christian County, KY and Montgomery County, TN*

*Phases of Need and
Resource Clusters*



*Developed for the Coordinated Community
Response Demonstration Project from
The Coordinated Action:
A Resource for Battered Women's Advocates,
Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence (1997)*

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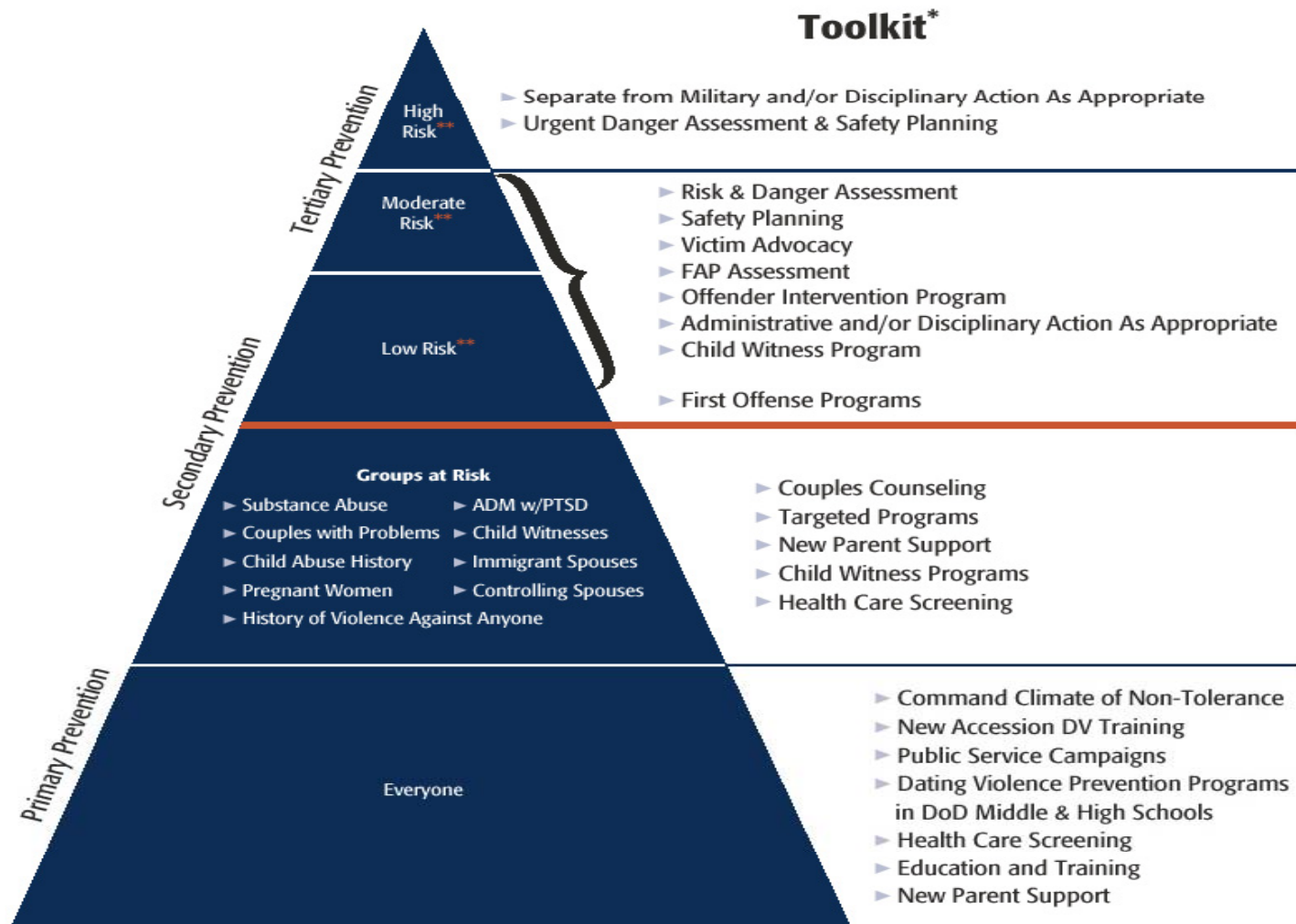


DTFDV Reports

www.ncdsv.org

- Military Tab
 - DTFDV
 - DTFDV Implementation
 - Other Tools
 - TFCVSA Implementation
 - News Accounts
 - Stats/Research
 - Sexual Violence Issues
 - Congressional Testimony.....and more

Domestic Violence Prevention Conceptual Model



* Not all inclusive

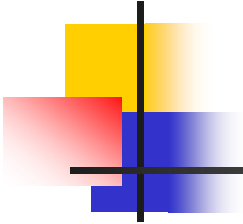
** Risk for reoccurrence and danger/lethality



Resources *(see full listing)*

- **Battered Women's Justice Project**
www.bwjp.org
- **Domestic Abuse Intervention Project**
www.duluth-model.org
- **National Center on Domestic and Sexual Violence**
www.ncdsv.org
- 1. **National Council on Juvenile and Family Court Judges**
www.ncjfcj.org
- **Mending the Sacred Hoop**
www.msh-ta.org
- **Praxis International**
www.praxisinternational.org

Ten Commitments of Leadership



PRACTICES

Challenge the process.

COMMITMENTS

1. Search out challenging opportunities to change, grow, innovate and improve.
2. Experiment, take risks, and learn from the accompanying mistakes.

Ten Commitments of Leadership



PRACTICES

Inspire a shared vision.

COMMITMENTS

3. Envision an uplifting and enabling future.
4. Enlist others in a common vision by appealing to their values, interests, hopes, and dreams.

Ten Commitments of Leadership



PRACTICES

Enable others to act.

COMMITMENTS

5. Foster collaboration by promoting cooperative goals and building trust.
6. Strengthen people by giving power away, providing choice, developing competence, assigning critical tasks, and offering visible support.



Ten Commitments of Leadership

PRACTICES

Model the way.

COMMITMENTS

7. Set the example by behaving in ways that are consistent with shared values.
8. Achieve small wins that promote consistent progress and build.

Ten Commitments of Leadership

PRACTICES

Encourage the heart.

COMMITMENTS

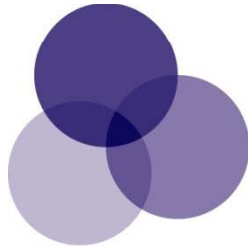
9. Recognize individual contributions to the success of *every* project.
10. Celebrate team accomplishments, *regularly*.

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