

Building a Coordinated Community Response to IPSV

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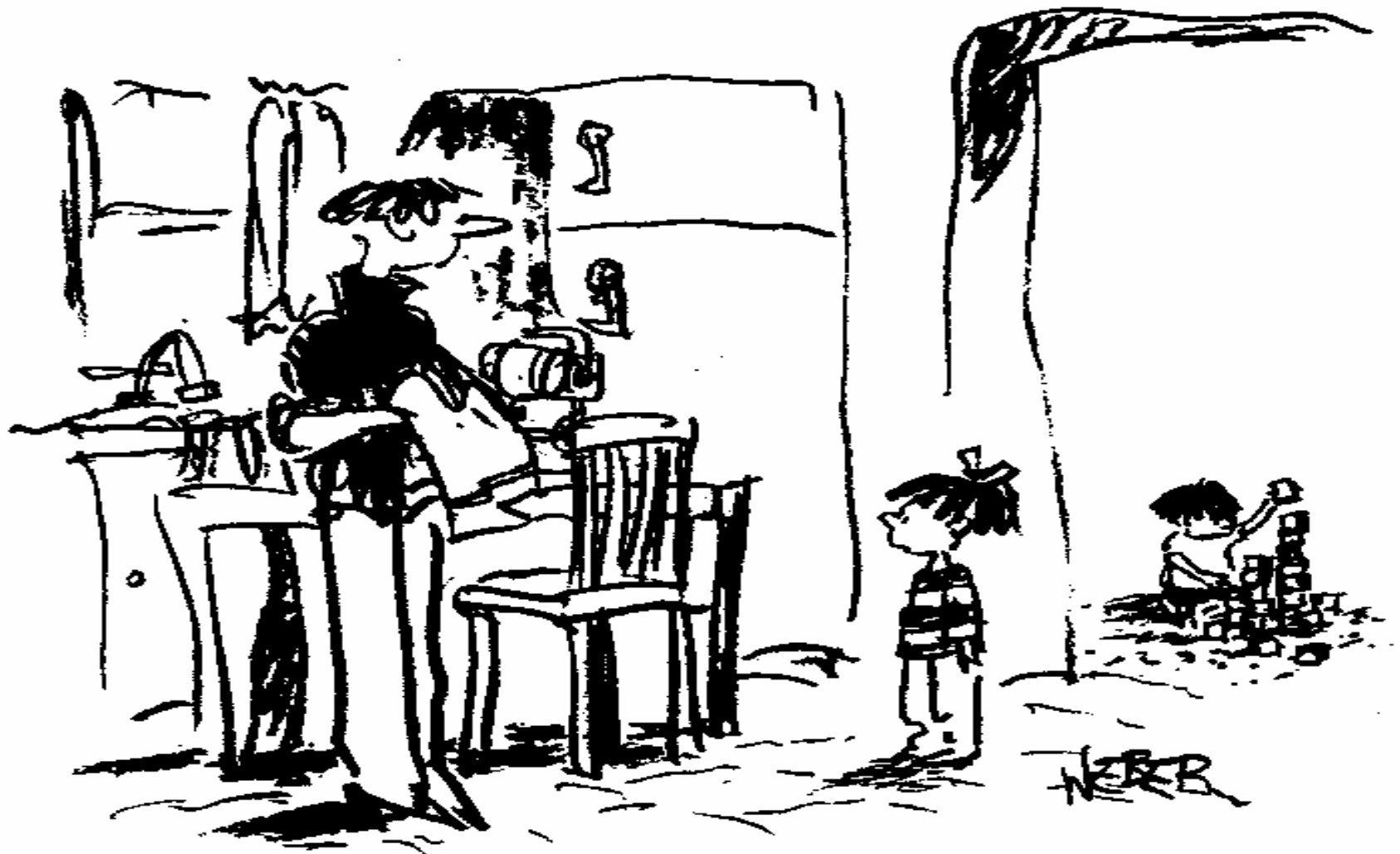
Deborah D. Tucker

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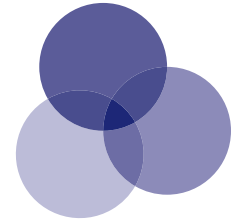
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"Norman won't collaborate."

Change Ain't New



“Insanity is doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results.”

— Sir Winston Churchill

Responsibilities of the Movement

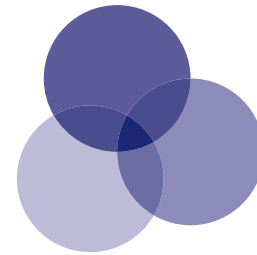


- ⌘ Collaborate with battered women.
- ⌘ Build organizations that learn and are responsive.
- ⌘ Create cooperation, coordination and collaboration in the community.
- ⌘ Create a society and world without violence.

— Debby Tucker

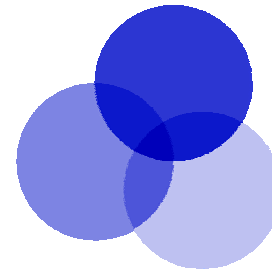
What do victims of IPSV need?

- ⌘ Safety
- ⌘ Resources
- ⌘ Connection
- ⌘ Power/authority/agency
- ⌘ Restoration (of spirit, health, and community)
- ⌘ Hope



What do victims of IPSV need?

*These can best be achieved through building community in **advancing** the movement.*



Advancing the Movement



“To advance the battered women’s movement today, we must create room for **all** the voices of those joining us, learning from their experiences while representing well our own experience to shape, with them, what the movement will ask for in the future.

— Barbara J. Hart, JD

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

ADVOCACY WHEEL



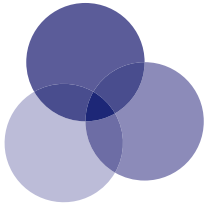
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Advocacy is a Process



*Be proud to be an advocate
and an ally working to end
violence against women.*

Advocacy is a Process



- ⌘ **Enhances** the safety of battered women and children
- ⌘ **Ensures** the responsiveness of all community systems to the needs of battered women
- ⌘ **Holds** abusers accountable
- ⌘ **Ends** violence against women

Mindset for Successful Collaboration



- ⌘ **Define your vision and goals** — what you want to accomplish to achieve a successful outcome.
- ⌘ **Focus on possibilities** — what you can do together, while understanding limitations that may exist. Avoid being cynical — don't decide in advance that nothing can work.

Mindset for Successful Collaboration



- ⌘ **Create** a recommendation, agreement and/or plan of action with the other parties involved.
- ⌘ **Be open to being influenced by others.** There may be more than one right way. Be neither doormat, nor immovable object.

Mindset for Successful Collaboration



- ⌘ **Have a curious/investigating attitude** about others' needs, power, mandates, mission, barriers, and opportunities to move forward.
- ⌘ **Avoid blaming, "shoulding,"** and/or making assumptions about others' motives and meaning.

Mindset for Successful Collaboration

- ⌘ **Look for connections** rather than differences — the “fit” — meeting your needs and others’ needs.
- ⌘ **See yourself as a significant partner** with confidence in your ability to “hold your own” when situations are confusing and complex.

— Battered Women’s Justice Project, *Advocacy Institute: Building Comprehensive Solutions to Domestic Violence*, Philadelphia, PA, May 1999

Catalyst for Change



“... we need to **reexamine** our strategies and shift our priorities to take this work outside of the legal and refuge, shelter, social, medical systems into community.

I am not asking us to abandon our current strategies, but to **examine, embrace** and **evaluate** others. I want to commend community building as a strategy worthy of our careful consideration.”

— Barbara Hart, JD, Legal Director, Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence, Harrisburg, PA

Community Building



A way to address the failure of community, the shortfalls of our responses to date and be a catalyst for change

Community Building



- ⌘ Violence against women happens because communities tolerate it.
- ⌘ It will only **end** when communities **organize** and **act** to end these tyrannical attacks on the liberty, dignity and humanity of women.
- ⌘ Violence terrorizes, compromises, and immobilizes abused women and their children.

Community Building

We as communities fail to offer battered women and their children:

- ☒ fierce and reliable alliances that can put an end to men's violence against women
- ☒ the full measure of protection, resources, agency, connection and power that they require to escape violence, to establish safe, nurturing, stable, and economically viable homes free of coercive tyranny and life-imperiling violence.

Community Building

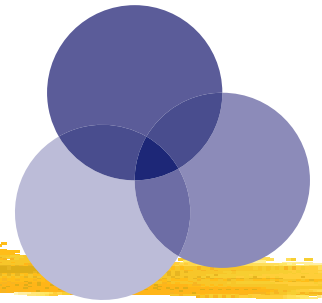
- ⌘ The very best we offer is a legal system that:
 - ☑ too often does not deliver on its promises
 - ☑ seems to increasingly penalize rather than protect women and children seeking respite and resources.
- ⌘ We provide transitional refuge that offers shelter and food for only several weeks.

Community Building



- ⌘ The economic support net that we used to provide women and parents has almost disappeared.
- ⌘ Access to the courts and services is constrained by barriers of language, culture, race and poverty.

Eight Steps...



*...to Building Effective
Collaborations*

Eight Steps to Building Effective Collaborations



1. **Analyze** the program's objectives and determine whether to form a collaborative.
2. **Recruit** the right people.
3. **Devise** a set of preliminary objectives and activities for the coalition.
4. **Convene** the collaborative.

Eight Steps to Building Effective Collaborations

5. **Anticipate** the necessary resources.
6. **Define** elements of a successful collaborative structure.
7. **Maintain** collaborative vitality.
8. **Improve** through evaluation.

— *Violence Prevention News*, Winter 2002, Vol 9, No 1, Illinois Center for Violence Prevention

Challenges...



*...to Coordinated
Community Response*

Challenges to Coordinated Response

⌘ “Turf” battles due to:

- ☑ Perceived competition for funding
- ☑ Role misunderstandings (including confidentiality restraints)
- ☑ “My victim” mindset
- ☑ Lack of trust
- ☑ Lack of training

Challenges to Coordinated Response



- ⌘ **Loss of Interest- Not a priority**
- ⌘ **Failure to groom new leaders**
- ⌘ **Not including enough diversity**
- ⌘ **Not researching other communities' responses**
- ⌘ **Not planning!**

Overcoming Challenges



- 1. Meet to Plan**
- 2. Work the Plan**
- 3. Evaluate the Plan**
- 4. Revise the Plan**

Action Planning Steps



Vision the desired change

⌘ Who:

- Are our allies?
- Will be opposed?
- Will we need to recruit?
- Will be our strongest collaborator?

Action Planning Steps



⌘ What:

- ☑ Will need to change?
- ☑ Tells us the change is desirable?
- ☑ Advocacy will be required and with whom?
- ☑ Will we bring to the effort?
- ☑ Does our strongest collaborator bring?

Action Planning Steps



⌘ Where:

- ☑ Are the resources we need?
- ☑ Can power be best organized to bring about change?
- ☑ Are other communities that have achieved the change we want?

Action Planning Steps



⌘ When:

- ☑ Is this the best time to push for this change?
- ☑ Do we want to achieve the change?
- ☑ Can we expect results?

Action Planning Steps



⌘ How:

- ☑ Do we obtain our own organizational commitment to the effort?
- ☑ Will we organize to be effective in managing the new initiatives?
- ☑ Do we define success?

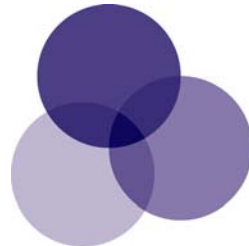
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