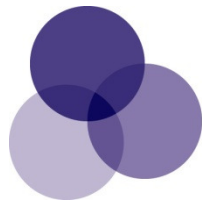




Overview of Domestic Violence

Deborah D. Tucker and Rhonda F. Gerson

May 25, 2010



NATIONAL CENTER
on Domestic and Sexual Violence
training • consulting • advocacy



This is your training

LISTEN with an open mind

ASK questions respectfully

SHARE what you know



Why is this Training Important?

- **PROVIDE** safety for victims
- **ENSURE** offenders' accountable
- **SUPPORT** culture of no violence
- **ENCOURAGE** collaboration



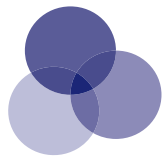
Responsibilities of the Movement to End VAW

- 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.



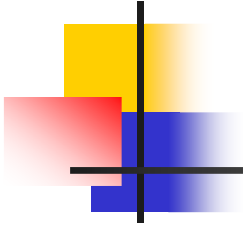
Interchangeable Terms

- Family violence
- Domestic violence
- Intimate partner violence
- Spouse abuse



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One person's systematic use of emotional, economic, and sexual abuse, as well as intimidation, manipulation, isolation, threats and actual physical violence is a means of maintaining power and control over another person in an intimate relationship.

Kathleen Carlin, Men Stopping Violence, Atlanta, GA



History of Defining Domestic Violence

- The Rule of Thumb (753 B.C.)
- The *Lawbook of Manu* states, “killing a woman, like the drinking of liquor, is only a minor offense.”



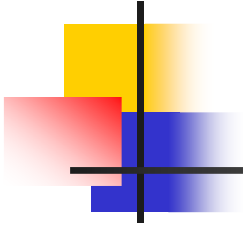
History of Defining Domestic Violence

- At end of Punic Wars (app. 202 B.C.), women are allowed to sue their husbands for unjustified beatings.
- Around 300 A.D., Romans reestablish patriarchal authority and the Roman Emperor, Constantine the Great, has his wife burned alive.



History of Defining Domestic Violence

- Civil Rights Movement / Women's Movement
- Domestic violence shelters / rape crisis programs
- Domestic violence and rape laws
- Violence Against Women Act

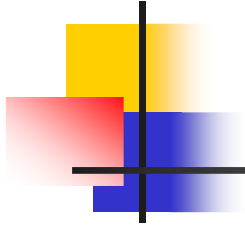


Early Years

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Since the 1970s when the first domestic violence shelters opened, as the needs of victims of domestic violence have changed so have the roles of advocates. Through the years, advocates and other professionals have puzzled their way through to advocate effectively.



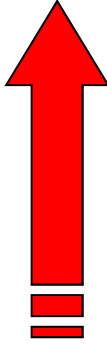


Advocacy

Helping battered women consider their **options**, devise **strategy**, make **decisions**, implement **plans** and **speak/advocate** for self and children.

All these puzzle pieces and more are necessary to assist individual battered women and to change system responses to them.



Growth of Domestic Violence Programs/Service Providers in US

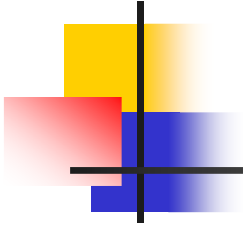
2010		5,000*
2000		4,000*
1999		1,800
1977		163
1974		2

* **National Domestic Violence Hotline** National Center on Domestic and Sexual Violence
May 25, 2010

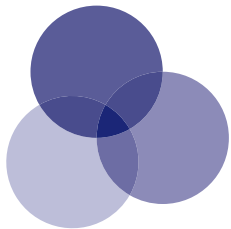


Domestic Violence Programs/ Service Providers in Early Years

- Ⓡ Emergency shelter, clothing and food
- Ⓡ Legal advocacy and court accompaniment
- Ⓡ Counseling
- Ⓡ Support groups
- Ⓡ Crisis hotlines
- Ⓡ Transportation
- Ⓡ Coordination with and referrals to other community services



What we've Learned



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Questions NOT to ASK a Domestic Violence Victim

- Why don't you just leave?
- Are you a battered woman/man?
- What did you do to make him/her mad?
- Why haven't you asked for help sooner?



Developed from
Domestic Abuse
Intervention Project,
Duluth, MN.
May 25, 2010

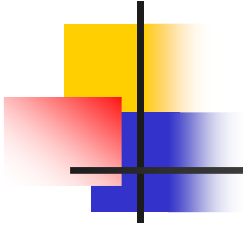


Empowerment Advocacy

“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



Advocates in Later Years

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Advocates in Later Years

Early Years – Ongoing

- ⌘ Options
- ⌘ Support
- ⌘ Information
- ⌘ Shelter
- ⌘ Referrals
- ⌘ Crisis intervention
- ⌘ Safety planning
- ⌘ Individual advocacy

Later Years – New

- ⌘ Advocating for laws and policies
- ⌘ Systems advocacy
- ⌘ Criminal/civil justice system
- ⌘ Other systems: welfare, housing, employment, education, child support, healthcare, etc.
- ⌘ Community outreach
- ⌘ CCR/coalition building

**Victims
working with
domestic
violence
programs**

**Victims working with the
criminal justice system**

**Victims NOT
using *either*
system**



Why do People Abuse?



Why do People Abuse Their Intimate Partners?

- People Learn to Abuse
- People Must Have the “Opportunity” to Abuse
- People Choose to Abuse



Why do People Abuse Their Intimate Partners?

1. People Learn to Abuse usually through their family of origin by:
 - Direct instruction
 - Modeling or learning through observation
 - Learning by reinforcement that violence is effective or rewarding



Why do People Abuse Their Intimate Partners?

2. People Must Have the “Opportunity” to Abuse
 - Abuse without suffering consequences
 - Abuser perceives that he or she can ‘get away with it’
 - Supportive environment of sexism, homophobia, racism, classism, anti-semitism, ageism and ableism



Why do People Abuse Their Intimate Partners?

3. People Choose to Abuse

- It's a conscious choice
- Abusers are able to learn and make different choices
- Abusers are solely responsible for their violence



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.



Developed by:
 Domestic Abuse Intervention Project
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 Duluth, MN 55802
 218.722.4134

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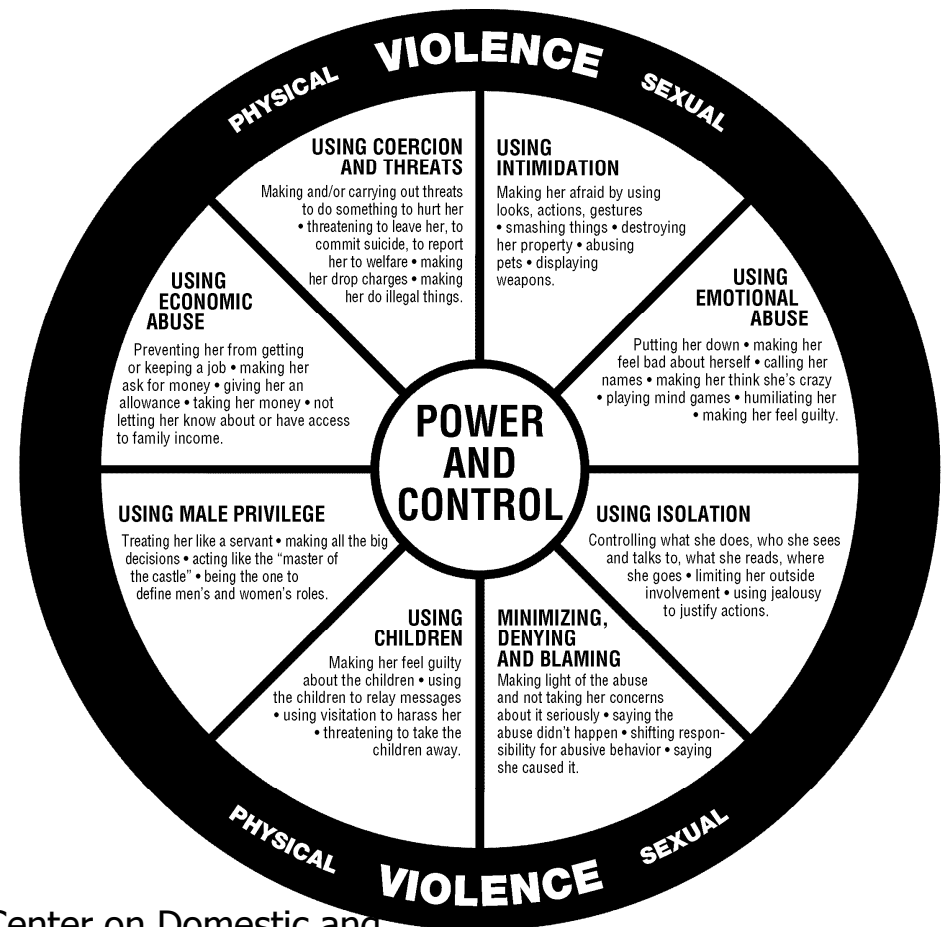


Use of Violence has Different Intents

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



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
- We must be thoughtful and vigilant to ensure the intervention fits the offense



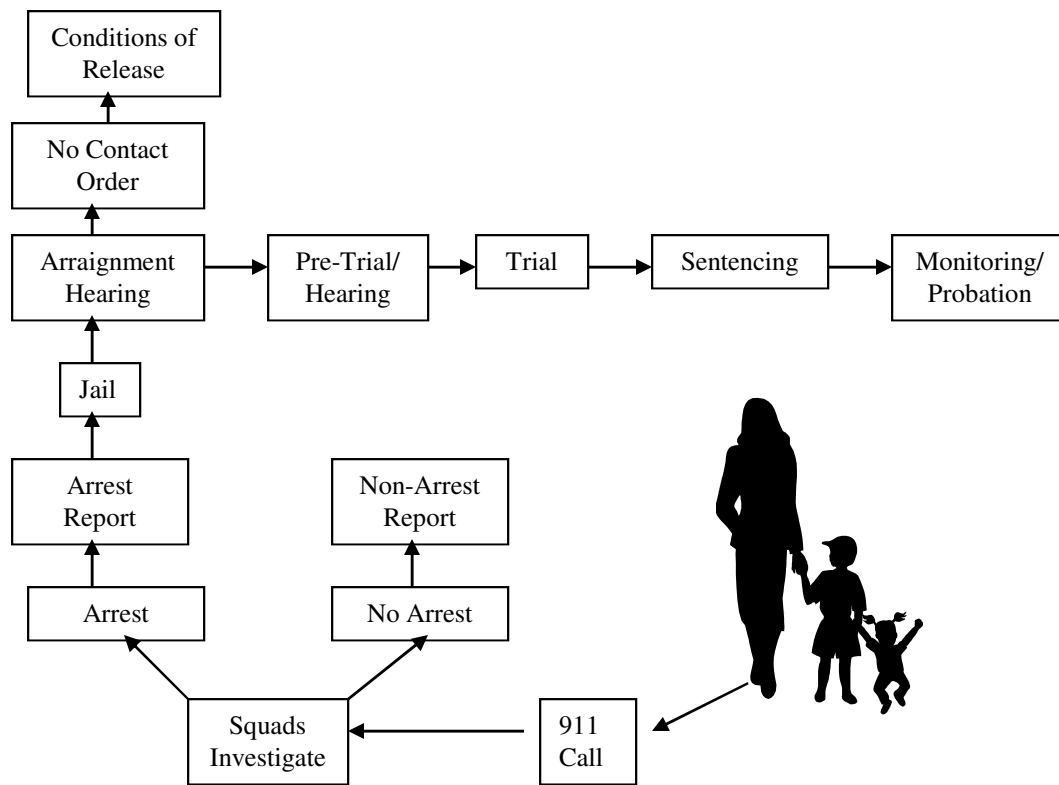
Principles of Intervention

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

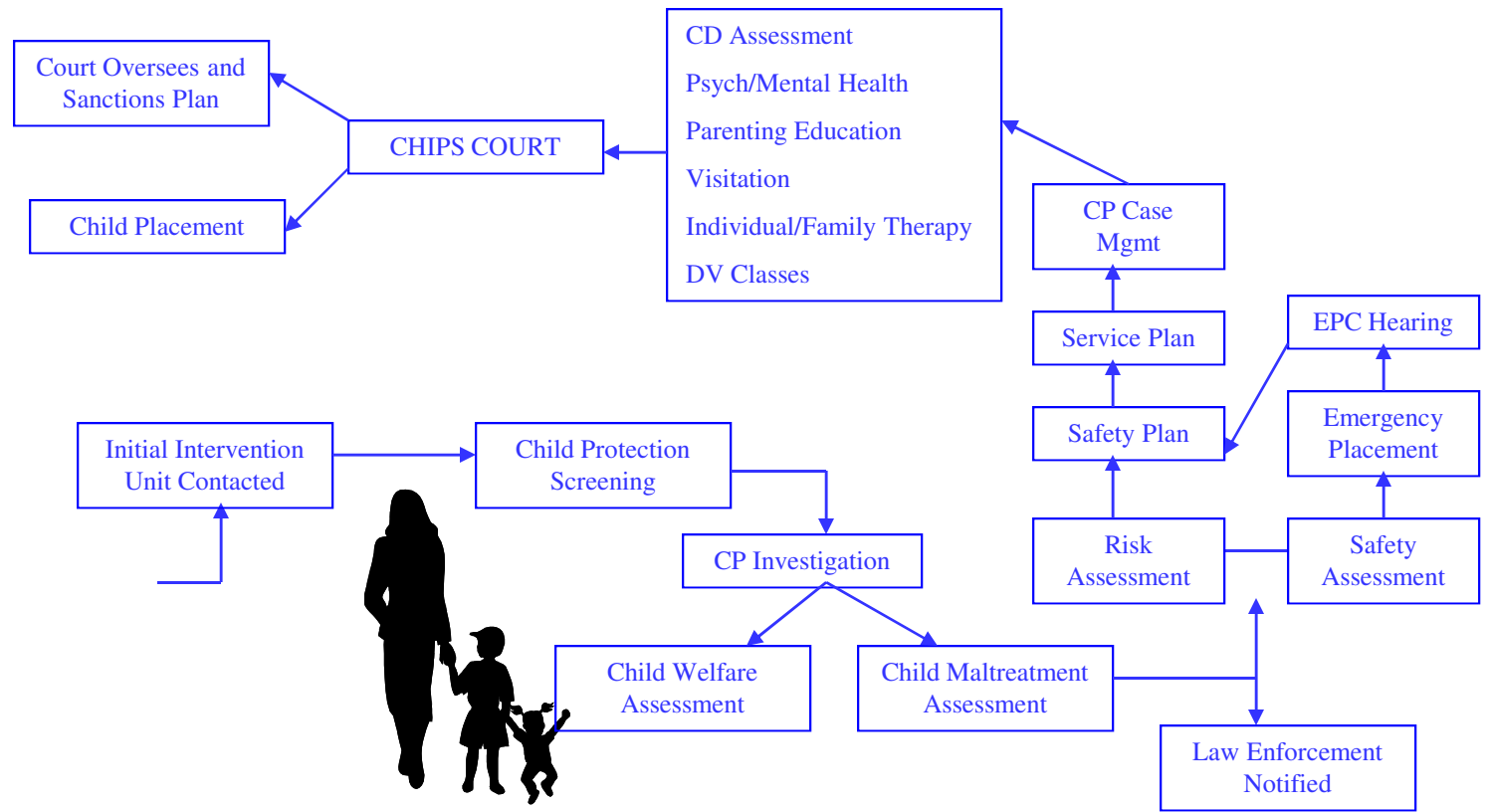
The logo consists of a vertical black line and a horizontal black line intersecting at the center. To the left of the intersection, there are three overlapping squares: a yellow one at the top, a red one in the middle, and a blue one at the bottom. The text "Maze Map" is written in a bold, blue, italicized serif font to the right of the vertical line.

Maze Map

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



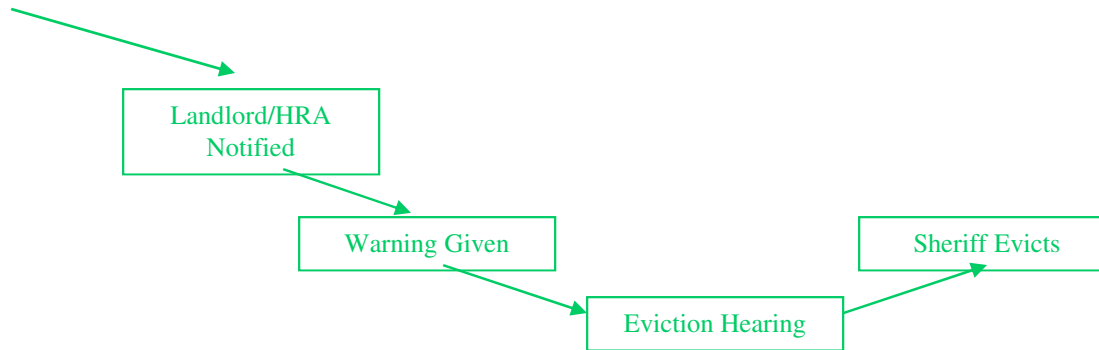
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE/ ARREST INCIDENT



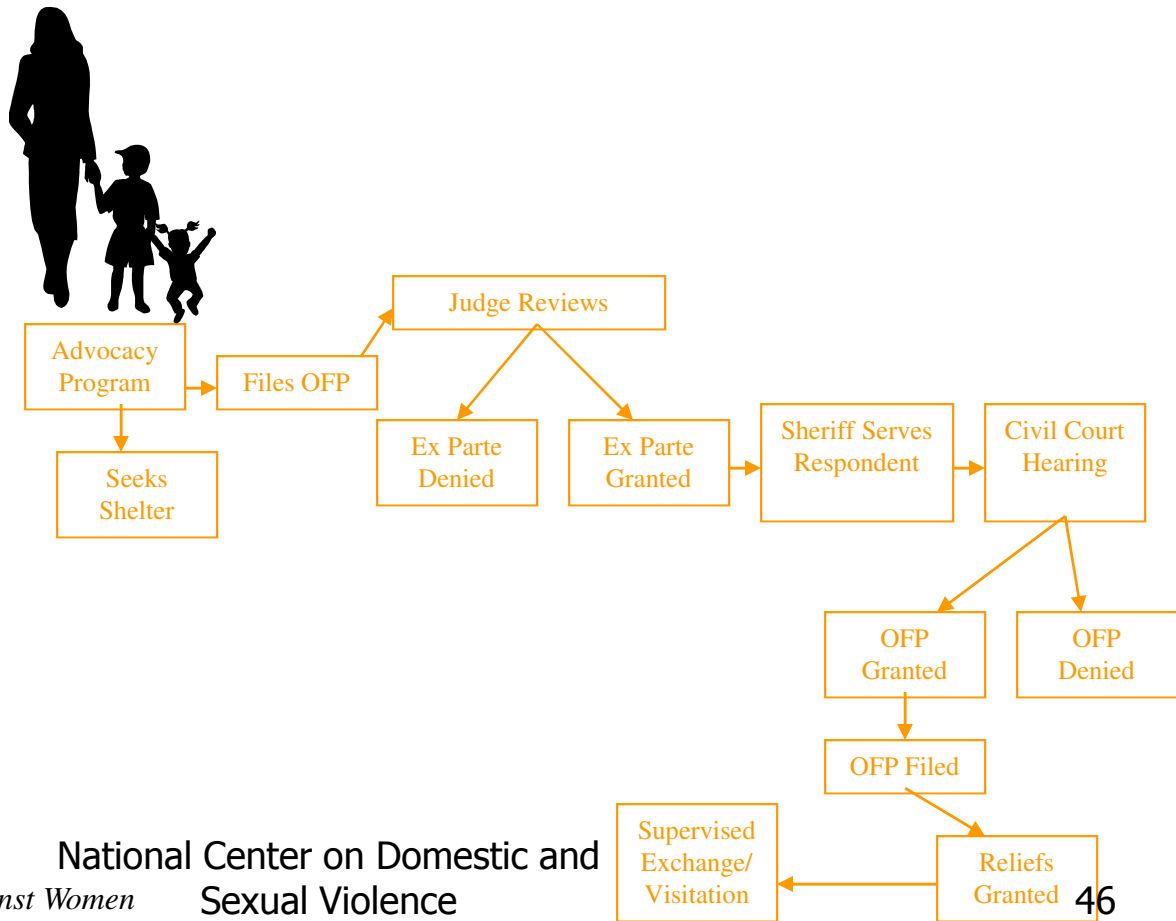
CHILD PROTECTION MAP

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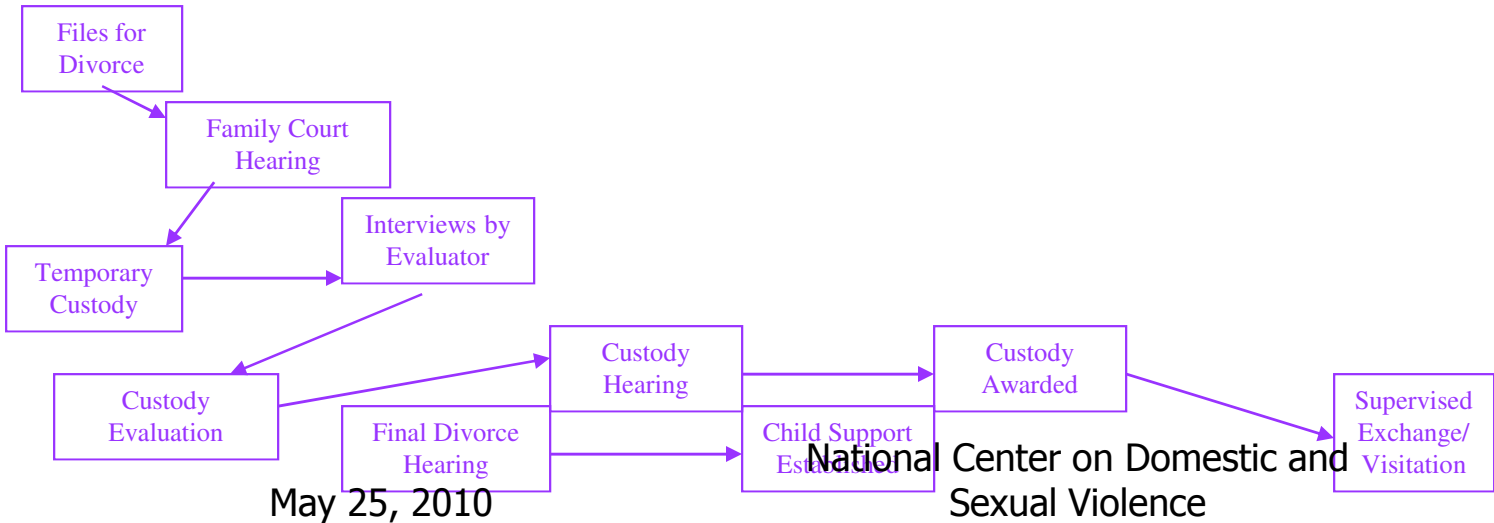
HOUSING MAP

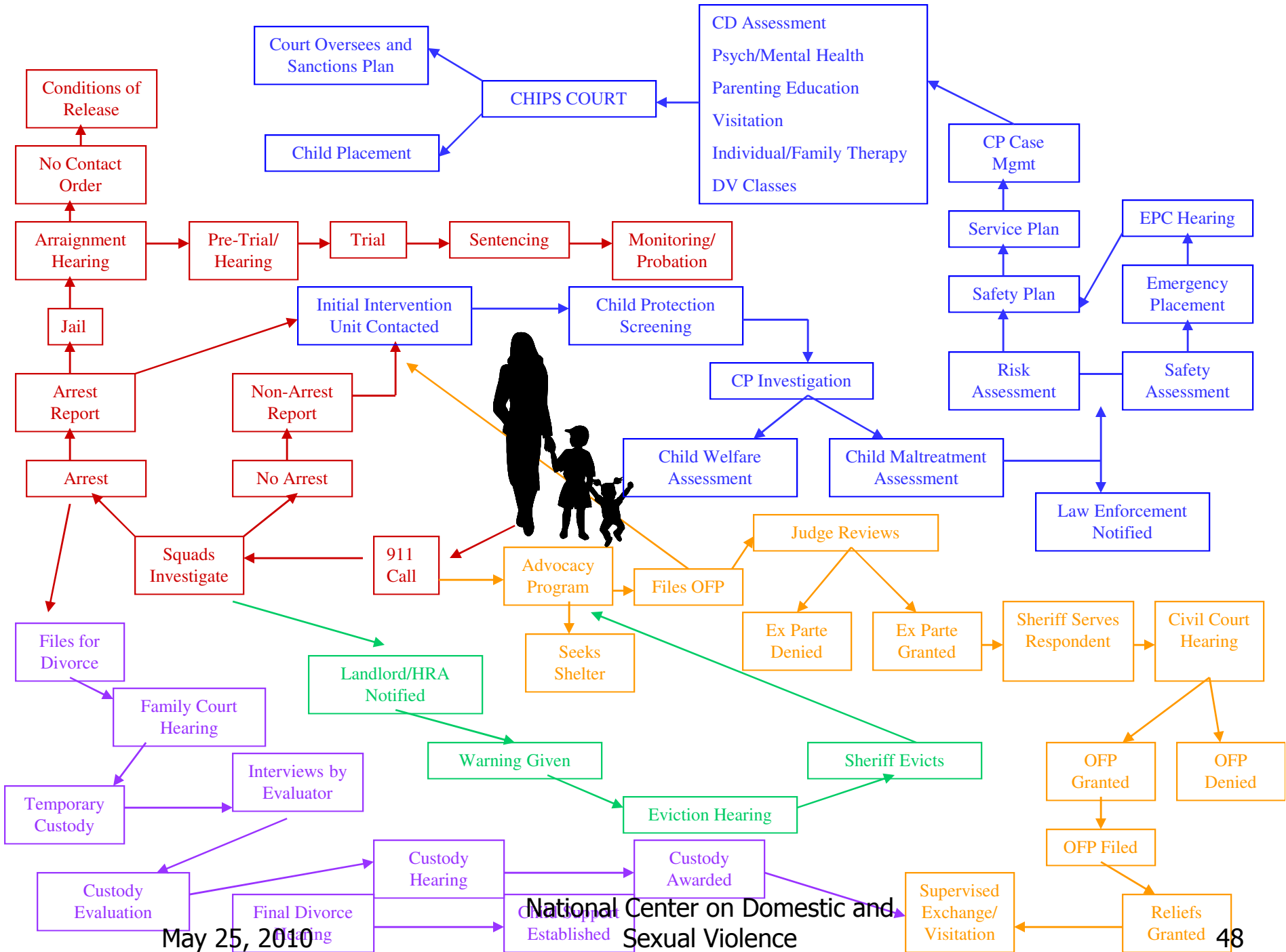


ORDER FOR PROTECTION – CIVIL COURT PROCESS



CUSTODY MAP

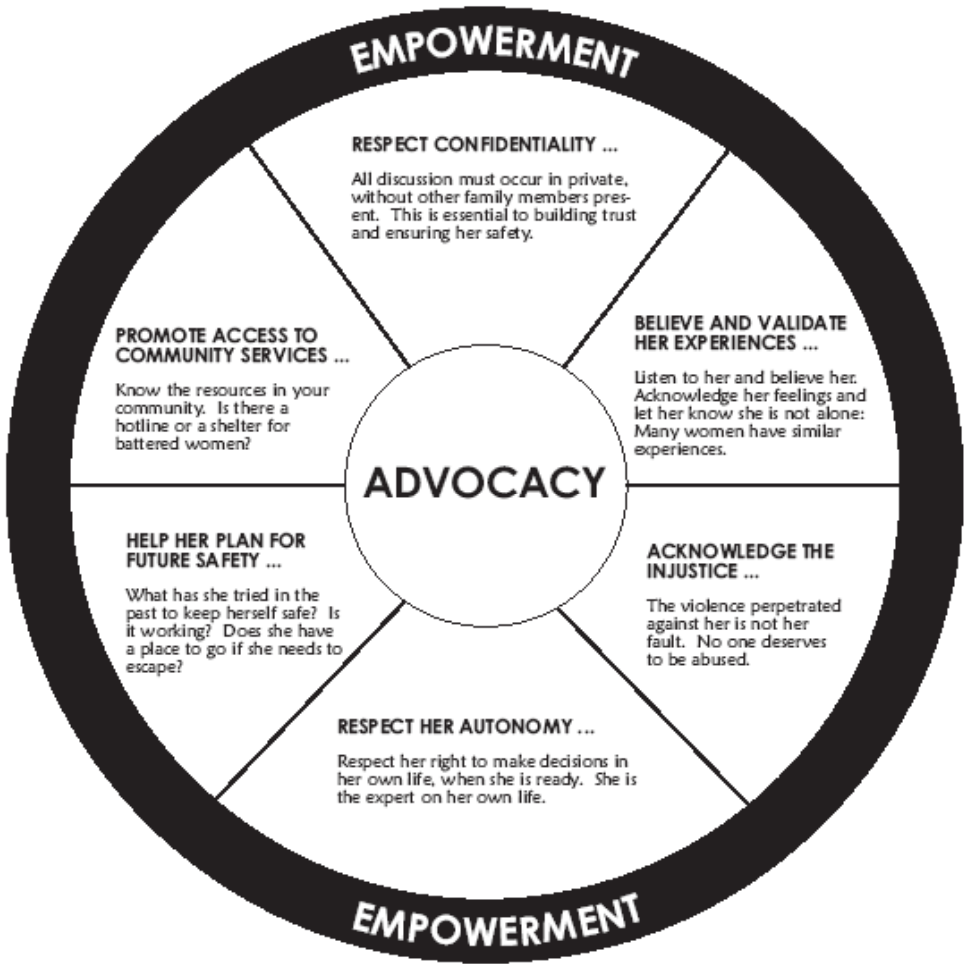




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ADVOCACY WHEEL



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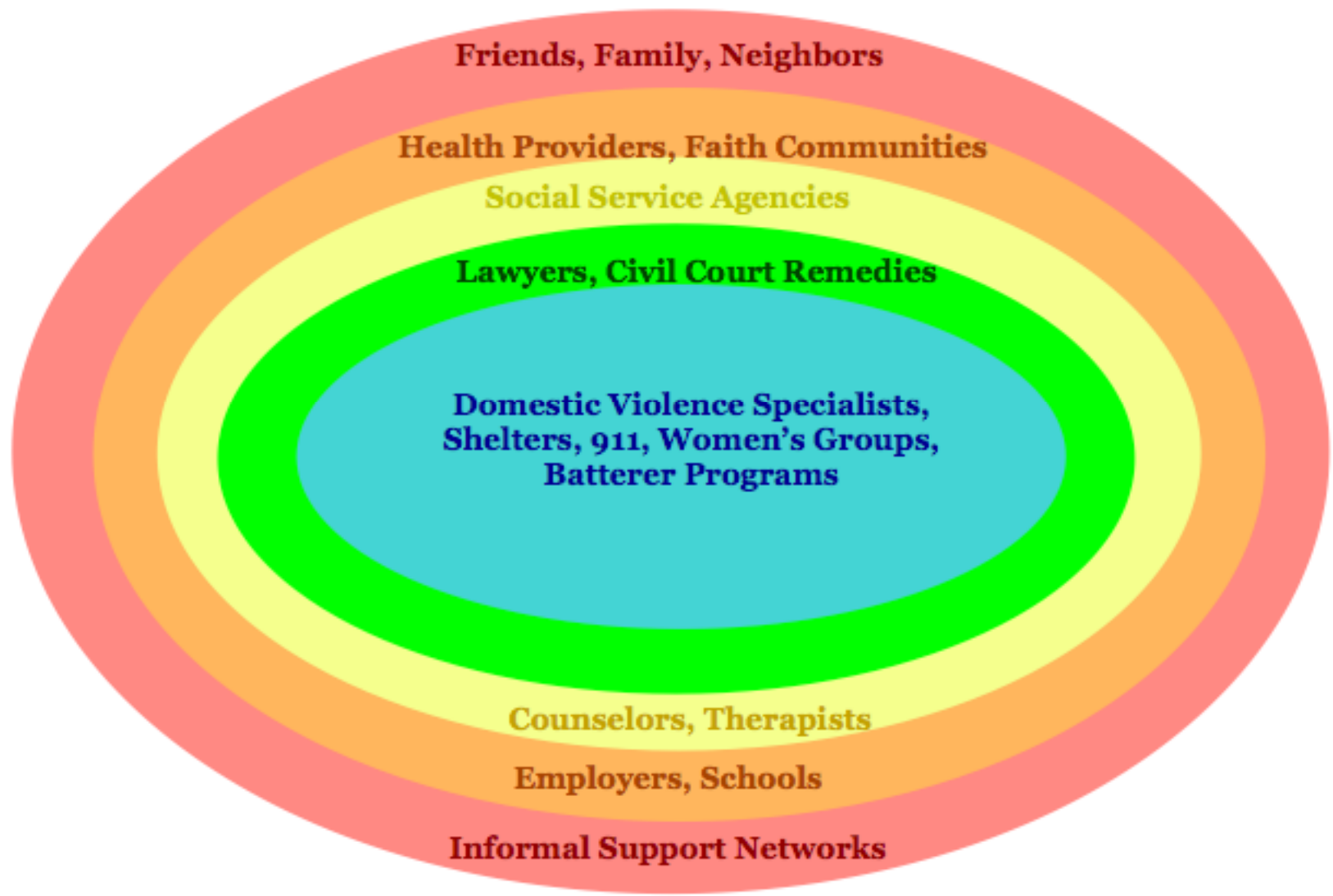
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*Where You **Stand** Depends on Where You **Sit***

- **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

Where do victims of domestic violence seek help?





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.



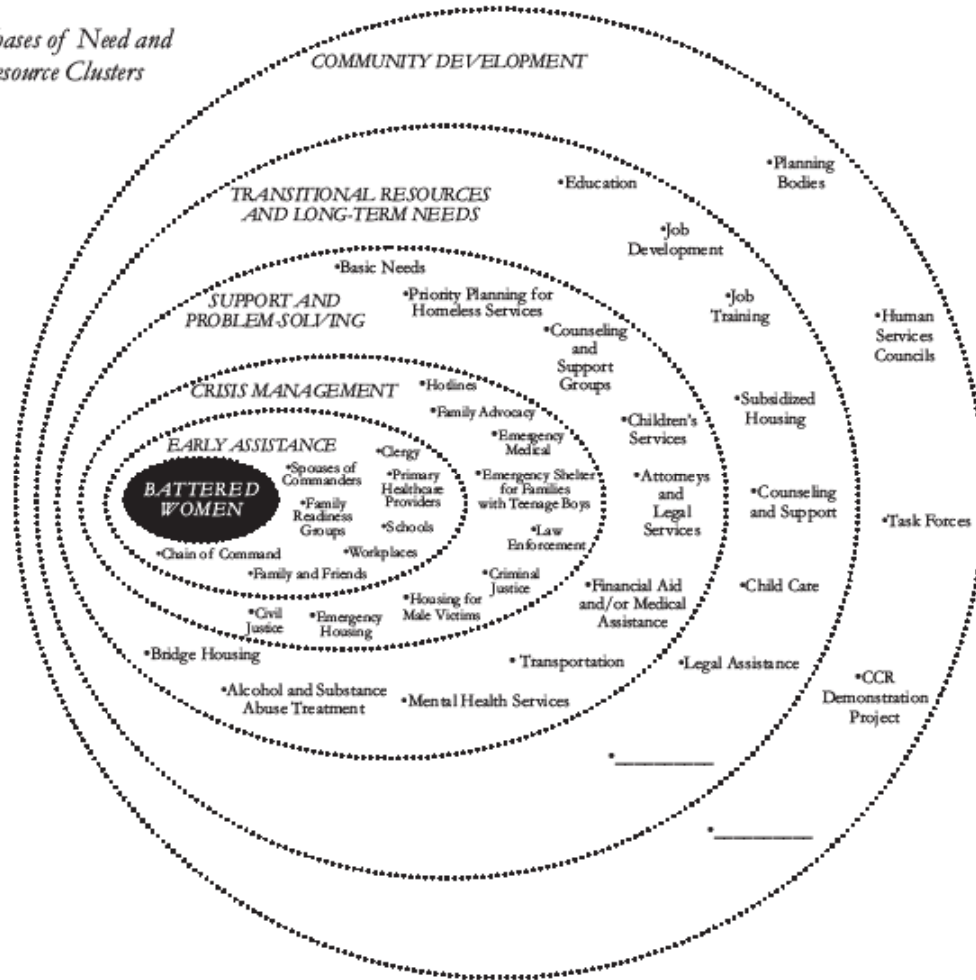
Five Things to Say to an Abuser

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.

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
Plan for Battered Women's Advocates,
The Kentucky Coalition Against Domestic Violence (1997)

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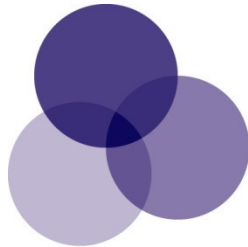
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