

Domestic Violence

The Silent Epidemic

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The Face Of Domestic Violence



Domestic Violence Definition

U.S. Dept. of Justice

- A pattern of abusive behavior in any relationship ...to gain or maintain power and control over another intimate partner...Physical, sexual, emotional, economic, or psychological.

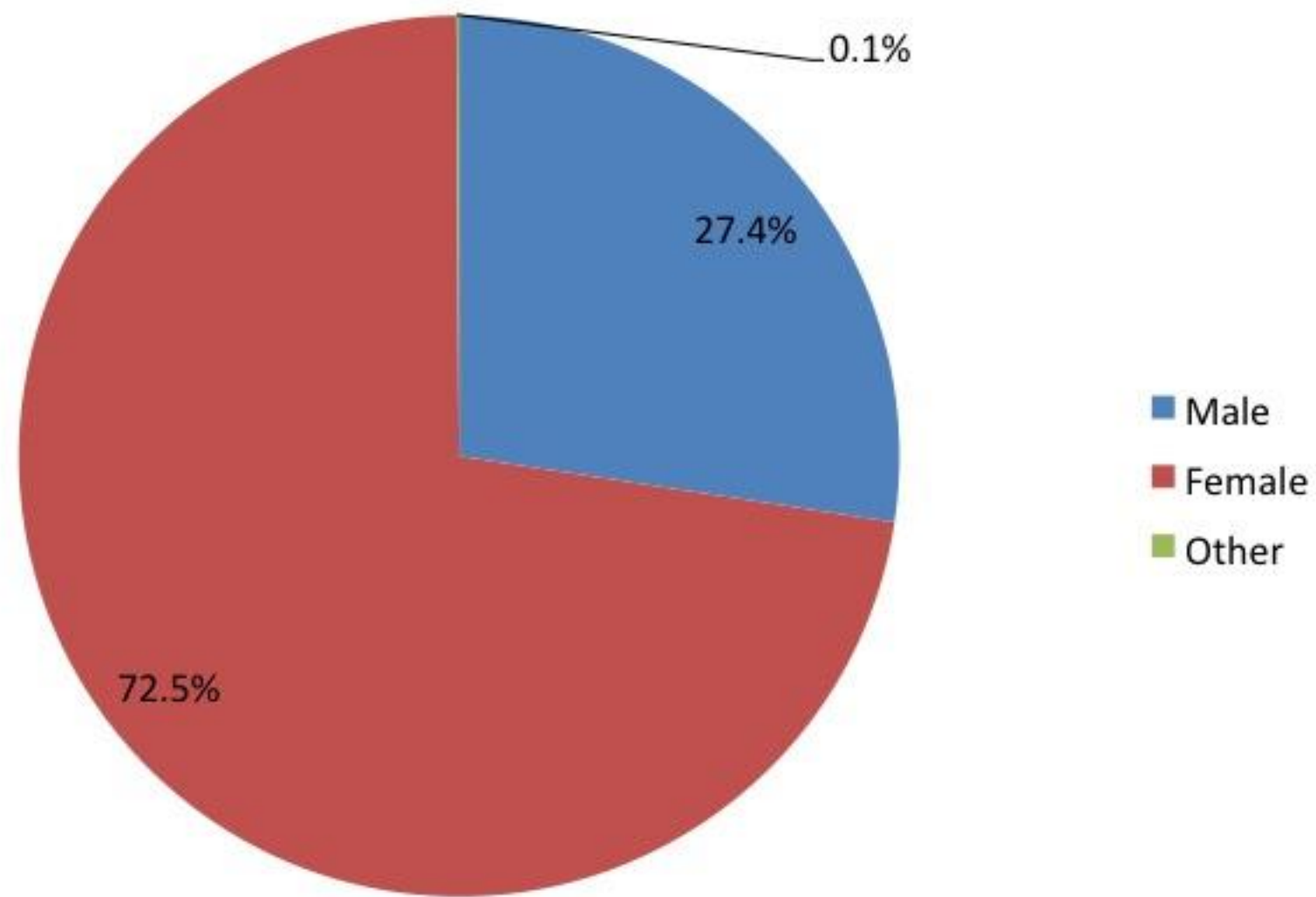
Statutory Definition

- Causing or attempting to cause physical or mental harm to a family or household member
- Placing a family or household member in fear of physical or mental harm

Prevalence

- Every 9 seconds in the US a woman is assaulted or beaten.
- 1.5 million women and 834,732 men annually in the United States.
- Male and Female Rates are Equivalent.

Domestic violence victims Michigan 2007



Reasons Studies of Prevalence Rates Differ

- Definition
 - Violence within an interpersonal relationship
 - Intimate partner violence

Reasons Studies of Prevalence Rates Differ

- Form of Violence
 - Physical
 - Psychological
 - Sexual
 - Economic
 - Threats

Reasons Studies of Prevalence Rates Differ

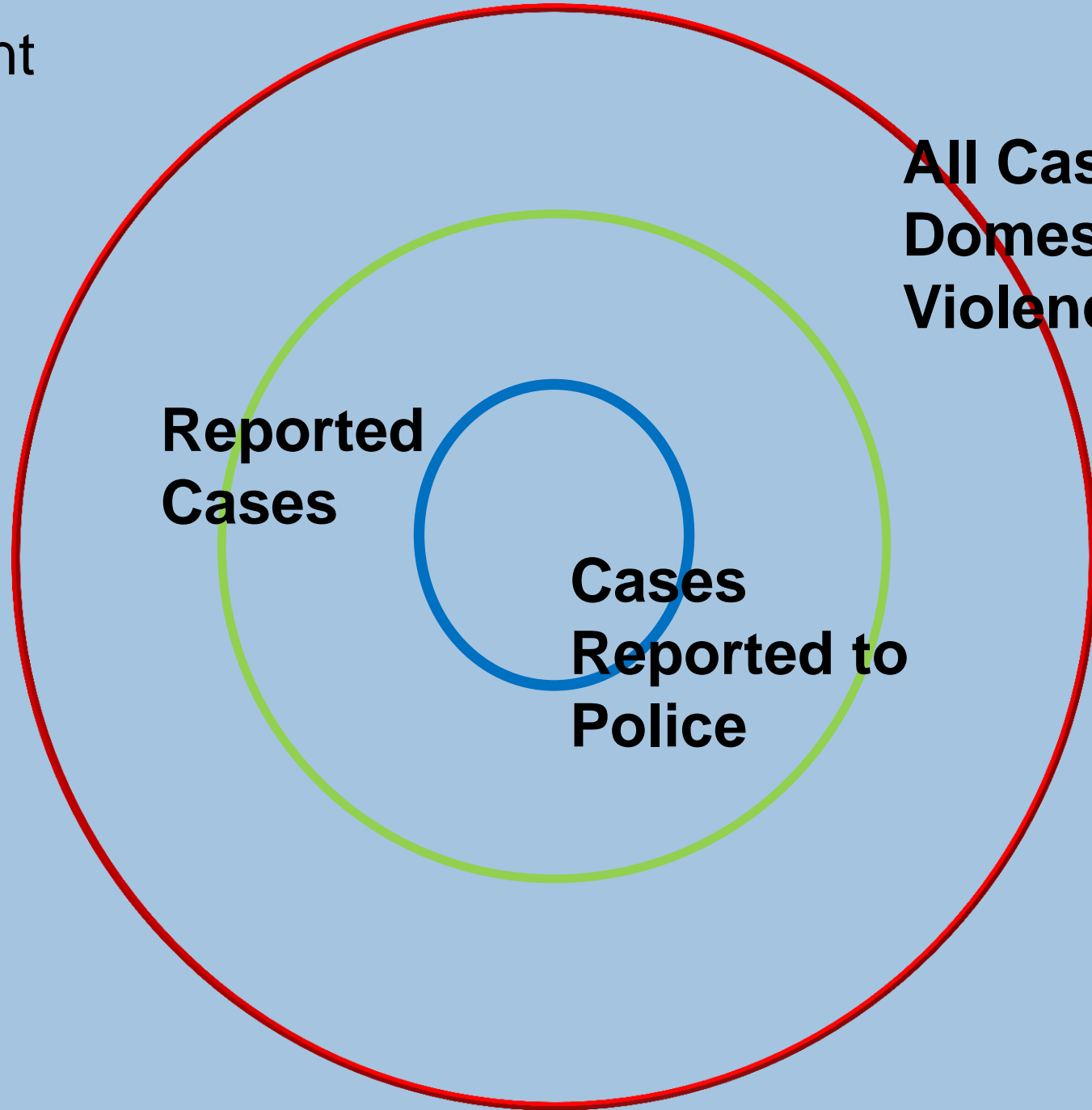
- Time Frame
 - Last 12 months
 - Lifetime
- Population Studied
 - Clinical
 - Community

How Prevalent
is
Domestic
Violence

**All Cases of
Domestic
Violence**

**Reported
Cases**

**Cases
Reported to
Police**



Risk Factors for Intimate Partner Violence

Individual Risk Factors

- . Low self-esteem
- . Low income
- . Low academic achievement
- . Young age
- . Aggressive or delinquent behavior as a youth
- . Heavy alcohol and drug use
- . Depression
- . Anger and hostility
- . Antisocial personality traits
- . Borderline personality traits

- . Prior history of being physically abusive
- . Having few friends and being isolated from other people
- . Unemployment
- . Emotional dependence and insecurity
- . Belief in strict gender roles (e.g., male dominance and aggression in relationships)

- . Desire for power and control in relationships
- . Perpetrating psychological aggression
- . Being a victim of physical or psychological abuse (consistently one of the strongest predictors of perpetration)
- . History of experiencing poor parenting as a child
- . History of experiencing physical discipline as a child

Domestic Violence in the Suburbs

- **Isolation**
- **High level of education.**
- **Elevated social status**
- **Elevated income**
- **Little support from family members**
- **System-phobia.**
- **Systems warfare**
- **Bizarre abuse**

- Wealthy Also Hit Hard By Domestic Violence
- Former Wall Street Executive On Surviving Domestic Violence
- Domestic Violence in the NFL
- Shame pressures affluent women to hide domestic violence, say experts
- Domestic Violence “Tiffany’s Style”

Case Example

Middle Class Family



Individual Risk Factors

- . Low self-esteem
- . Heavy alcohol Depression
- . Anger and hostility

Cycle of Violence



The impact of domestic violence goes well beyond the individual victim and perpetrator, affecting the family, community, and the greater society