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Statistical Studies in Family Violence

February 1989

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Office of Human Development Services
Administration for Children, Youth and Families
Children's Bureau
National Center on Child Abuse and Neglect
P.O. Box 1182
Washington, DC 20013

Anger, Hostility, and Depression
in Domestically Violent Versus
Generally Assaultive Men and
Nonviolent Control Subjects.

Maiuro, R. D.; Cahn, T. S.;
Vitaliano, P. P.; Wagner, B. C.;
Zegree, J. B.

Washington Univ. School of
Medicine, Seattle. Dept. of
Psychiatry and Behavioral
Sciences.

Journal Article

Copyright February 1988

Journal of Consulting and Clinical
Psychology.

56(1):17-23.

Anger, hostility, and depression were examined across 4 groups: a clinical sample of domestically violent men, 2 samples of more generally assaultive men, and a nonviolent control group. All subjects (N=129) were assessed using the Buss-Durkee Hostility Inventory, the Hostility and Direction of Hostility Questionnaire, and the Beck Depression Inventory. The domestically violent men and the generally assaultive men evidenced significantly higher levels of anger and hostility than the control subjects. The anger and hostility scores were very similar in the domestically violent and the generally assaultive men. However, the domestically violent men were more likely to be significantly depressed. Findings support the idea that anger dyscontrol is a key issue in the psychological profile of domestically violent men and indicate the need for clinical attention to depression as well as anger. 48 references and 2 tables. (Author abstract modified)

Descriptors:

family violence research;
hostility; male batterers;
anger; depression; research
methodology; statistical data;
aggression

Battered and Pregnant: A
Prevalence Study.

Helton, A. S.; McFarlane, J.;
Anderson, E. T.

Texas Women's Univ., Houston.
Coll. of Nursing.

Journal Article

Copyright October 1987

American Journal of Public Health.
77(10):1337-1339.

Two hundred and ninety women randomly selected from public and private prenatal clinics, 80 percent of whom were at least 5 months pregnant, were interviewed.

Forty-two percent were Latino; 22 percent were black. The interviewees ranged in age from 18-43. Forty-four women reported physical abuse before their current pregnancies, 24 reported physical battering during their current pregnancies. Eight of these 24 women had sought medical treatment for their injuries. None of the abused women said they had been assessed by care providers for abuse. In this study, the primary predictor for battering during pregnancy was a history of prior abuse: 87.5 percent of the women battered during the pregnancy had been physically abused before the pregnancy. 1 table and 14 references. (Author abstract modified)

Descriptors:

violence toward pregnant women;
prevalence; battered women;
interviews; sampling studies

A Comprehensive Analysis of State
Policy and Practice Related to
Elder Abuse. A Focus on
Legislation, Appropriations,
Incidence Data and Special
Studies.

American Public Welfare
Association/National Association
of State Units on Aging,

Washington, DC. Elder Abuse
Project.

Technical Report
374 pp.

Distributed By:

American Public Welfare
Association
810 First St. NE
Suite 500
Washington, DC 20002
(202) 682-0100

This report presents the results of a survey of State social service and aging agencies conducted between October and December 1985. All 50 States, the District of Columbia, Guam, and Puerto Rico participated in the survey. The questionnaire was designed to gather descriptive and statistical information about State legislation, regulations, State appropriations, reporting requirements, incidence data, local agency programs, and special studies and research projects pertaining to elder abuse. Responses to the questionnaire are discussed, and State legislation is analyzed. The text of the questionnaire is included as an appendix. 18 tables and 4 exhibits. (Author abstract modified)

Descriptors:

elder abuse; state surveys;
state programs; elder abuse
reporting; legislation;
statistics; state laws;
incidence

The Costs of Family Violence.

Straus, M.; Gelles, R. J.
New Hampshire Univ., Durham.
Family Research Lab.
Journal Article
Copyright November-December 1987
Public Health Reports.
102(6):638-641.

This paper takes preliminary steps to establish the true cost of

family violence by providing estimates of the increased risk of psychological problems as a result of spouse and child abuse. It is proposed that an actual accounting must include the costs of mental health care and social services to victims and aggressors, items which have been overlooked in earlier assessments of the monetary cost of family violence. It is suggested that the cost of primary prevention programs to reduce the incidence of family violence would be a fraction of the cost to society of the continued abuse. 12 references and 4 figures.

Descriptors:

spouse abuse; child abuse;
costs; economic factors;
sequelae; incidence

Does Arrest Really Deter Wife
Battery? An Effort To Replicate
the Findings of the Minneapolis
Spouse Abuse Experiment.

Berk, R. A.; Newton, P. J.
California Univ., Santa Barbara.
Dept. of Sociology.
Journal Article
Copyright April 1985
American Sociological Review.
50():253-262.

In this paper an attempt is made to replicate the findings from the Minneapolis Spouse Abuse Experiment (Sherman and Berk, 1984). Using longitudinal data from the criminal justice system on 783 wife battery incidents, an ex post facto design coupled with a propensity score analysis reveals that arrests substantially reduce the number of new incidents of wife battery. In addition, reductions are greatest for batterers whom the police would ordinarily be especially inclined to arrest. Policy and theoretical implications are discussed. 18 references, 4 tables, and 1

figure. (Author abstract modified)

Descriptors:

wife abuse; police operating procedures; california; incidence; intervention; longitudinal studies; battering; arrests

Domestic Violence and Homicide Antecedents.

Straus, M. A.

New Hampshire Univ., Durham.

Family Research Lab.

Journal Article

Copyright June 1986

Bulletin of the New York Academy of Medicine.

62(5):446-465.

This paper presents significant statistical data on domestic violence and intrafamily homicides in the United States. The nature and extent of homicides between family members is analyzed, with information on trends since 1966. The extent of nonlethal violence within the family and its connection to homicide is discussed. Intrafamily violence is examined from a public health perspective; development of public health programs that will alter the social conditions that create violence and homicide within the family is proposed. 38 references, 2 tables, and 5 graphs.

Descriptors:

homicide; family violence; statistical data; family characteristics; primary prevention; physicians role; secondary prevention; family violence research

Elder Abuse: A Review of the Literature.

Giordano, N. H.; Giordano, J. A.
Manatee Mental Health Center,
Bradenton, FL.

Journal Article

Copyright May-June 1984

Social Work.

29(3):232-236.

This article reviews the literature on elder abuse and examines categories of abuse, the incidence of abuse, and characteristics of the typical elder abuse victim. Hypotheses are offered for the causes of abuse, and intervention strategies are suggested. It is concluded that more research is needed in this area, since there is little concrete data available for practitioners seeking to develop effective therapeutic approaches. 26 references.

Descriptors:

elder abuse; characteristics of abused; behavior theories; intervention strategies; literature reviews; incidence

The Etiology of Elder Abuse by Adult Offspring.

Anetzberger, G. J.

Cuyahoga County Dept. of Human Services, Cleveland, OH.

Book

130 pp.

Copyright 1987

Distributed By:

Charles C. Thomas

2600 S. First St.

Springfield, IL 62794

(217) 789-8980

This monograph examines the problem of physical abuse of elderly parents through indepth interviews conducted with a panel of abusing adult offspring. Interview schedules were specially developed for this study and included indices to measure social isolation, burden of elder caregiving, social intimacy, and

conflict tactics. The responses of the filial caregivers are analyzed, specific steps triggering abuse are identified, and implications of social policy and programming are discussed. Research findings include a profile of the typical abuser, a framework for explaining elder abuse, and distinct categories of abusers. 176 references. (Author abstract modified)

Descriptors:

elder abuse; statistical data; etiology; adult children; interviews; characteristics of abuser; family violence research

Family Training in Crime and Violence.

Straus, M. A.

New Hampshire Univ., Durham.

Family Research Lab.

Chapter in Book

pp. 164-185

Copyright 1985

Publication Source:

In: Lincoln, A. J. and Straus, M. A. (Editors). Crime and the Family. Springfield, IL., Charles C. Thomas,

Distributed By:

Charles C. Thomas

2600 S. First St.

Springfield, IL 62717

This chapter discusses a study which tested the hypothesis that intrafamily violence is associated with nonfamily violence and crime.

Two surveys indicate that children who have been hit by their parents have higher rates of vandalism and theft and higher scores on a standard delinquency scale. Boys, but not girls, had a greater likelihood of being expelled from school. Maritally violent couples had higher rates of criminal involvement than nonviolent couples. Two suggested factors that create such an effect are the role model of violent parents and the experience of

being a victim, although other factors may be equally important. 15 references, 2 tables, and 5 figures.

Descriptors:

incidence; research methodology; conflict tactics scales; sampling studies; spouse abuse; crime; juvenile delinquency; social factors

Family Violence. //Sage Library of Social Research//.

Gelles, R. J.

Rhode Island Univ., Kingston.

Family Violence Research Program.

Book

251 pp.

Copyright 1987

Distributed By:

Sage Publications, Inc.

2111 W. Hillcrest Dr.

Newbury Park, CA 91320

This collection of 13 essays on family violence research addresses child abuse, marital violence, elder abuse, other family aggression, research methodologies, and clinical applications of research. Statistical data from various research studies are included. 376 references, 3 figures, and 20 tables.

Descriptors:

family violence research; elder abuse; spouse abuse; child abuse; parent abuse; intergenerational abuse; statistical data; research methods

Has Family Violence Decreased? A Reassessment of the Straus and Gelles Data.

Stocks, J. T.

Florida State Univ., Tallahassee.

School of Social Work.

Journal Article

Copyright February 1988
Journal of Marriage and the
Family.
50(1):281-285.

family violence research;
research methodology; sampling
studies; interviews; national
surveys; statistical analysis

The methodology used in a national survey which seems to indicate a decline in family violence is questioned. Straus and Gelles (1986) compared results from the 1975 and 1985 national surveys on wife and child abuse and reported decreases in both categories of maltreatment. It is argued that problems in selection criteria and statistics suggest that the reduction is due to sampling bias and sampling error. 17 references and 3 tables.

Descriptors:

family violence research;
sampling studies; statistical
analysis; trend analysis;
behavior changes; national
surveys; research methodology

Has Family Violence Decreased? A
Response to J. Timothy Stocks.

Gelles, R. J.; Straus, M. A.;
Harrop, J. W.
Rhode Island Univ., Kingston.
Coll. of Arts and Sciences.
Journal Article
Copyright February 1988
Journal of Marriage and the
Family.
50(1):286-291.

Criticisms of research methodology used in a national survey on domestic violence are examined. The probability of sampling bias is rejected, while computational errors are found to be valid. It is argued that these errors do not affect the survey conclusions. The reasons it was decided not to control for Type I errors in the study are discussed. 14 references and 3 tables.

Descriptors:

Homicidal Wives. A Profile.

Goetting, A.
Western Kentucky Univ., Bowling
Green.
Journal Article
Copyright September 1987
Journal of Family Issues.
8(3):332-341.

This article describes a study of 56 women arrested in Detroit for killing their husbands during 1982 and 1983. Descriptions include demographic and social characteristics of offenders and victims and the circumstances of the offenses. Where feasible, comparisons are made with general populations of homicide offenders. 16 references. (Author abstract modified)

Descriptors:

conjugal homicide; michigan;
characteristics of abuser;
characteristics of abused;
statistical data; social
isolation

How Violent Are American Families?
Estimates From the National
Family Violence Resurvey and
Other Studies.

Straus, M. A.; Gelles, R. J.
New Hampshire Univ., Durham.
Family Research Lab.
Chapter in Book
pp. 14-36
Copyright 1988
Publication Source:
In: Hotaling, G. T.,
Finkelhor, D., Kirkpatrick J.
T., and Straus, M. A. (Editors).
Family Abuse and Its
Consequences. New Directions in
Research. Newbury Park, CA.,
Sage Publications, Inc.,

Distributed By:
Sage Publications, Inc.
2111 W. Hillcrest Dr.
Newbury Park, CA 91320

Rates of family violence from a 1985 national survey are presented and compared to the rates found in other studies of family violence. Results show that violent incidents occurred for 161 of every 1000 couples during 1985, and about 1.8 million women were severely assaulted by their partners that year. About 6.9 million children are severely assaulted each year, and children appear to be the most violent persons in American families. Rates for child abuse are about 16 times greater than the number of cases reported to Child Protective Services in 1985. Rates for spousal assault are roughly 50 times greater than the rate derived from the National Crime Survey. 65 references and 3 tables.

Descriptors:
family violence research;
incidence; prevalence; conflict
tactics scales; national
surveys; statistical data

The Incidence and Prevalence of
Woman Abuse in Toronto.

Smith, M. D.
York Univ., North York, Ontario
(Canada). Dept. of Sociology.
Journal Article
Copyright Fall 1987
Violence and Victims.
2(3):173-187.

This article analyzes the results of a telephone survey on the physical abuse of women by a male intimate. The sample was a representative group of 604 Toronto women. Results showed an annual incidence rate of 14.4 percent and a prevalence rate of 25 percent, based on the Conflict

Tactics Scales as the measure of abuse. Several additional measures increased the prevalence rate to 36.4 percent. These estimates, which are much higher than those obtained in a similar survey conducted 2 years earlier in Toronto, appear to be the result mainly of improved methodological procedures in the present study. 24 references, 9 notes, and 3 tables. (Author abstract modified)

Descriptors:
incidence; prevalence; woman
abuse; ontario; conflict tactics
scales; surveys; research
methodology

Is Violence Preventable?

Petrie, C.; Garner, J.
Technical Report
25 pp.

Distributed By:
National Institute of Justice
NCJRS
Rockville, MD
(301) 251-5500

The traditional view that society can only react to, and not prevent, violence is challenged in this analysis of extant data; it is argued that most instances of violence occur between persons who know each other, so such instances are preventable. It is suggested that the criminal careers framework can be applied to the analysis of family violence statistics. Such family dysfunction should be the focus of violence research and prevention. It is concluded that participation and frequency rates must be distinguished; prediction, prevention, and intervention are aided when distinction is made between male offending and female offending. 19 references, 5 tables, and 2 figures.

Descriptors:

violence; prevalence; incidence;
homicide; family violence
research; crime

Minnesota Institute on Black
Chemical Abuse Inc. Domestic
Violence Program 1985-1986
Client Profile.

Counts, H. E.
Minnesota Inst. on Black Chemical
Abuse, Inc., Minneapolis.
Domestic Violence Program.
Technical Report
14 pp.
Copyright 1986
Distributed By:
Minnesota Institute on Black
Chemical Abuse, Inc.
2616 Nicollet Ave. S.
Minneapolis, MN 55408
(612) 871-7878

This report contains a
sociodemographic profile of 86 new
clients assessed as abused by the
Minnesota Institute on Black
Chemical Abuse Domestic Violence
Program from July 1, 1985 through
June 30, 1986. Data were gathered
from intake forms and stored in a
computerized retrieval system.
Client characteristics, the
context of their abuse, and
characteristics of their homes and
relationships are charted. This
is the first of a series of
reports designed to provide human
service professionals with a
comprehensive understanding of the
critical issues affecting blacks.
21 tables.

Descriptors:
drug abuse; statistical data;
minnesota; blacks; family
characteristics; alcoholism;
battered women; environmental
stress

Physical Abuse and Pregnancy.
Hillard, P. J. A.

Cincinnati Univ. Coll. of
Medicine, Ohio. Dept. of
Obstetrics and Gynecology.
Journal Article
Copyright October 1988
Medical Aspects of Human
Sexuality.
22(10):30-31, 35-36, 39-41.

Violence against pregnant women is
reviewed from the viewpoint of the
treating physician. The incidence
of wife abuse is discussed.
Characteristics of the victims are
listed, and links between
pregnancy and violence are
examined. The causes and
consequences of abuse are
outlined. The importance of
detection and intervention in
cases of abuse is described, with
options for physician referral.
17 references.

Descriptors:
violence toward pregnant women;
physicians role; detection;
intervention; characteristics of
abused; incidence; medical
aspects of family violence

Preventing Domestic Violence
Against Women. //Bureau of
Justice Statistics Special
Report//.

Langan, P. A.; Innes, C. A.
Bureau of Justice Statistics
(DOJ), Washington, DC.
Technical Report
8 pp.
Distributed By:
Superintendent of Documents
U.S. Government Printing Office
Washington, DC

This report focuses on a study of
domestic violence victims and
examines the likelihood of repeat
attacks if the victims call the
police; the study is based on
semi-annual interviews with
128,000 people conducted over a
4-year span. Findings presented
suggest that calling police to

intervene lowers the risk of another assault. Several explanations are suggested for the decreased probability of a second assault. Significant statistical data is included. 7 tables.

Descriptors:

wife abuse; battered women; prevention; family disturbance calls; statistical data; family violence research; police role; recidivism

Societal Change and Change in Family Violence From 1975 to 1985 as Revealed by Two National Surveys.

Straus, M. A.; Gelles, R. J.
New Hampshire Univ., Durham.
Family Research Lab.
Journal Article
Copyright August 1986
Journal of Marriage and the Family.
48(3):465-479.

This article compares the rate of physical abuse of children and spouses from a 1975 study with the rates from a 1985 replication. Both studies used nationally representative samples (2,143 families in 1975 and 3,520 in 1985), and both found an extremely high incidence of severe physical violence against children and a high incidence of violence against spouses. However, the 1985 rates were substantially lower than in 1975: the child abuse rate was 47 percent lower, and the wife abuse rate was 27 percent lower. Possible reasons for the lower rates in 1985 are examined and evaluated, including: differences in the methods of the studies; increased reluctance to report; reductions in intrafamily violence due to 10 years of prevention and treatment effort; and reductions due to changes in American society that would have produced lower rates of intrafamily violence

without ameliorative programs. Policy implications of the decreases and of the continued high rates of abuse are discussed. 71 references and 3 tables. (Author abstract modified)

Descriptors:

child abuse; spouse abuse; family violence research; statistical surveys; national surveys; research methodology; incidence; followup studies

Strategies for Helping Victims of Elder Mistreatment. //Sage Human Services Guides//.

Breckman, R. S.; Adelman, R. D.
Elder Abuse Training and Resource Center, New York, NY.
Book
160 pp.
Copyright 1988
Distributed By:
Sage Publications, Inc.
2111 W. Hillcrest Dr.
Newbury Park, CA 91320

This book provides social service, legal, and health care professionals with a practical guide for dealing with the intentional physical, financial, and psychological maltreatment of the elderly. Guidelines and strategies are offered to detect, assess, and intervene with competent elderly victims within the context of geriatric practice, an interdisciplinary collaboration among medical, nursing, legal, and social work staff. Appendices include a protocol for identifying and assessing abuse, a dementia scale, and a short mental status exam. 33 references, 6 tables, and 1 figure.

Descriptors:

elder abuse; intervention strategies; detection; case assessment; incidence; case studies; interdisciplinary approach; prevalence

Termination or Resumption of
Cohabitation in Woman Battering
Relationships: A Statistical
Study.

Okun, L.

Livingston Area Council Against
Spouse Abuse, Inc., Howell, MI.

Chapter in Book

pp. 107-119

Copyright 1988

Publication Source:

In: Hotaling, G. T., Finkelhor,
D., Kirkpatrick, J. T., and
Straus, M. A. (Editors). Coping
With Family Violence. Research
and Policy Perspectives.
Newbury Park, CA., Sage
Publications, Inc.,

Distributed By:

Sage Publications, Inc.

2111 W. Hillcrest Dr.

Newbury Park, CA 91320

This chapter describes a study to determine how many women resumed cohabitation with their batterers after a shelter stay, using a sample of 300 residents of a Michigan shelter. Results clearly demonstrate the importance of economic considerations in shelter residents' decisions to terminate conjugal relationships. Findings also suggest that battered women who experience repeated conjugal separations and cohabitations are exerting increasing leverage upon their violent mates to change, while simultaneously becoming more competent at living on their own. It is concluded that battered women do tend to leave their abusers permanently. Over 30 percent of the women terminated their relationship beginning with their shelter stay, and over 43 percent left within 2 years of their stay. 16 references.

Descriptors:

battering relationships;
decision making; cohabitation;
divorce; economic factors;
statistical analysis

Use of Police Services by Battered
Women.

Abel, E. M.; Suh, E. K.

University of Central Florida,
Orlando. Dept. of Social Work.

Journal Article

Copyright November-December 1987

Social Work.

32(6):526-528.

This article describes research into why victims request police intervention in family violence situations. The study was based on intake data from all women entering a shelter in Orlando, Florida, from 1976 to 1986, a sample size of 300 cases. Specifically discussed are findings related to victim and abuser characteristics, variables that significantly correlate with the victims' contacting the police, and general patterns of police service use by victims. The duration of the abuse and the education level of the victim were strong indicators of whether the victim would contact police. Practice implications are discussed for police, social workers, and other professionals working with battered women. 19 references and 6 tables.

Descriptors:

battered women; family
disturbance calls; spouse abuse
reporting; police;
characteristics of abused;
intervention; statistical data;
characteristics of abuser

Victims and Aggressors in Marital
Violence.

Straus, M.

New Hampshire Univ., Durham.

Family Research Lab.

Journal Article

Copyright May/June 1980

American Behavioral Scientist.

23(5):681-704.

This article analyzes data from interviews with 2143 American couples to see how frequently each spouse occupies the role of victim and aggressor, and why women are violent within the family but seldom violent outside it.

Results show that there is little difference in overall violence rates of husbands and wives; wives attack nonviolent husbands roughly as frequently as husbands attack nonviolent wives. Causes of female family violence appear to be the same set of social-structural factors which account for the high rate of wife abuse. 23 references, 3 tables, and 2 figures.

Descriptors:

husband abuse; wife abuse;
incidence; severity; etiology;
sequelae; prevalence;
generational cycle of family
violence

Violence and Pregnancy: Are
Pregnant Women at Greater Risk
of Abuse?

Gelles, J. R.
Rhode Island Univ., Kingston.
Coll. of Arts and Sciences.
Journal Article
Copyright August 1988
Journal of Marriage and the
Family.
50(3):841-847.

This study examines whether pregnant women are at special risk of being victimized by their husbands and partners. The analysis is based on data from the Second National Family Violence Survey, in which telephone interviews were conducted with individuals in 6,002 nationally representative households. Violence and abuse were measured with the Conflict Tactics Scales. Pregnant women were found to experience minor, severe, and

overall violence at higher rates. However, when age was controlled, this relationship was found to be spurious. Findings indicate that women under 25 years of age are both more likely to be pregnant and to be abused by husbands and partners. It is concluded that although pregnant women are not a specially vulnerable group, pregnancy does not insulate them from the high rates of violence experienced by young women. 33 references and 2 tables. (Author abstract modified)

Descriptors:

violence toward pregnant women;
risk assessment; high risk
groups; family violence
research; incidence; research
methodology; national surveys

Violence in the American Family.

Gelles, R. J.; Straus, M. A.
Rhode Island Univ., Kingston.
Dept. of Sociology.

Chapter in Book

pp. 88-110

Copyright 1985

Publication Source:

In: Lincoln, A. J. and Straus,
M. A. (Editor). Crime and the
Family. Springfield, IL.,
Charles C. Thomas,

Distributed By:

Charles C. Thomas
2600 S. First St.
Springfield, IL 62717

This chapter reviews some of the problems in the research methodology used in family violence studies. Research on family violence is presented as a new and undefined area. It is postulated that available research evidence is marred by a lack of conceptualization of key terms, such as "child abuse" and "wife abuse." The lack of systematic study methods is demonstrated. Statistics are given from a major study on national violence, the first survey to use a nationally

representative sample of families.
53 references.

Descriptors:

family violence research; child abuse; spouse abuse; research methods; statistical studies; social factors; literature reviews

The Violent Home. //Sage Library of Social Research//.

Gelles, R. J.
Rhode Island Univ., Kingston.
Family Violence Research Program.

Book

231 pp.

Copyright 1987

Distributed By:

Sage Publications, Inc.
2111 W. Hillcrest Dr.
Newbury Park, CA 91320

This is the updated edition of a landmark study on spouse abuse, based on interviews of 80 couples in 2 New Hampshire cities; before its original publication in the early 1970's, no research had been done on wife battering. The meaning of family violence, the possible causes, and the social and family structures in which it occurs are discussed. Two appendices present a demographic profile of the respondents and information about the cities where the study took place. 148 references and 35 tables.

Descriptors:

family violence research; interviews; spouse abuse; etiology; child abuse; statistical data

Who Are Those Guys? Toward a Behavioral Typology of BATTERERS.

Gondolf, E. W.
Pittsburgh Univ., PA. Western Psychiatric Inst. and Clinic.

Journal Article
Copyright Fall 1988
Violence and Victims.
3(3):187-203.

This paper reviews a cluster analysis of batterer abuse and antisocial variables drawn from intake interviews with battered women in Texas shelters. A substantial portion of severely abusive and extremely antisocial batterers are identified in the cluster solution. A typology, based on cross-tabulations of the clusters and descriptive variables, includes 3 types of batterers: sociopathic, antisocial, and typical batterers. Findings suggest that research on batterer characteristics should direct attention to the differentiation of batterers, and that intervention with especially the sociopathic and antisocial batterers must go beyond court-mandated counseling and anger control treatment. 32 references and 6 tables. (Author abstract modified)

Descriptors:

male batterers; characteristics of abuser; behavior theories; statistical data; statistical analysis; texas; intervention strategies

Wife Abuse, Husband Abuse, or Mutual Combat? A Feminist Perspective on the Empirical Findings.

Saunders, D. G.
Wisconsin Univ., Madison. Dept. of Psychiatry.
Chapter in Book
pp. 90-113
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Publication Source:

In: Yllo, K. and Bograd, M. (Editors). Feminist Perspectives on Wife Abuse. Newbury Park, CA., Sage Publications, Inc.,

Distributed By:

Sage Publications, Inc.
2111 W. Hillcrest Dr.
Newbury Park, CA 91320

This chapter constructs a feminist framework for conceptual and empirical analyses. The literature on battered husband syndrome is critically reviewed. Conceptual problems with the notions of self-defense and retaliation are examined. An exploratory study of 52 battered women suggests that women use violence as frequently as men, but that they generally employ it in self-defense. The study methodology is described, in which feminist values were combined with quantitative research techniques. Implications for future research are included. 56 references and 4 tables.

Descriptors:

husband abuse; wife abuse; self defense; prevalence; behavior theories; research methodology