

CHILD ABUSE FAMILY VIOLENCE



*An Annotated Bibliography from the National
Center on Child Abuse and Neglect*

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Family violence, or violence between family members, is a subject which has recently received the attention of researchers and government agencies. The National Center on Child Abuse and Neglect is concerned with a specific kind of family violence, child abuse, and its connections with other types. The 63 items listed in this annotated bibliography place child abuse in the broader context of family violence and explore some of the interrelationships between child abuse and other forms of intrafamily violence.

Family violence can occur between husband and wife, parent and child, or between siblings. It includes a broad range of actions, from shoving or slapping at the mildest extreme to brutal beatings, torture, or murder. Wife beating and child beating were considered a father's prerogative in the not-too-distant past, and some researchers point out that traces of this ethos persist in both popular sentiment and the law today. Corporal punishment, although considered by some to be a legitimate technique of parental control of children, is nonetheless a form of family violence.

Research on the prevalence of family violence has been problematic and often inconclusive. The difficulty of estimating actual incidence from data derived from reported incidents has hampered attempts to discover the extent of family violence. The data that are available, however, suggest that violence between family members is not a rare occurrence. Studies on intrafamily murder (on which the data are reliable, due to the nature of the violent incident) show that it is not atypical for these murders to comprise 30 percent or more of all homicides in specific locales.¹ The data on nonlethal intrafamily violence are less reliable because the extent of under-reporting of such incidents to police or other authorities, while thought to be large, is not known. In one study of applicants for divorce, 23 percent of middle-class couples and 40 percent of working-class couples studied gave "physical abuse" as a major complaint.² Another study, which used an in-depth interview technique, showed that 54 percent of the couples studied had used physical force on each other at some time.³ The incidence of child abuse has recently

1. Straus, M. A.; Gelles, R. J.; Steinmetz, S. K. Violence in the family: an assessment of knowledge and research needs. Paper presented at a conference of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, Boston, February 23, 1976, 51 pp.

2. Levinger, G. "Sources of marital dissatisfaction among applicants for divorce." American Journal of Orthopsychiatry 36:803-807, October 1966.

3. Gelles, R. J. The violent home: a study of physical aggression between husbands and wives. Beverley Hills, Calif.: Sage Publications, 1972, 230 pp.

become the subject of a number of studies, including a major one funded by the National Center on Child Abuse and Neglect. Estimates from completed studies have ranged from 200,000 to over 3,000,000 per year in the U.S.⁴

There is a considerable body of evidence, both empirical and clinical, that child abuse and spouse abuse are often intimately related. In one study of battered wives, 29 percent had been exposed as children to family violence; 51 percent of the husbands in the same series had a similar background.⁵ A number of researchers have noted a generational cycle of child abuse and neglect, whereby children who have been abused grow up to abuse their own children. In families where violence between husband and wife is common, the children are often in danger. This may be especially likely where violence is associated with heavy drinking or alcoholism. Child abuse may also be a causal factor in wife beating: a woman from an abusive home background may flee into a marriage with a potentially violent husband; moreover, once there, she may accept violence as her lot in life.

It is not clear what changes will be necessary to bring about a broad reduction in the level of intrafamily violence. While the achievement of sexual equality may bring about changes in society and in family structure and dynamics which reduce the incidence of family violence in the long run, in the short run it may actually increase it by intensifying husband-wife power conflict. On another level, increased reporting of child abuse and a willingness on the part of battered women to identify themselves as such may bring more violent families into treatment. The recent trend toward the establishment of shelters or refuges for wives and children is an encouraging sign; for many women, escape would not be possible without them.

The following citations, abstracts, and research project descriptions indicate the many aspects of family violence and child abuse now being studied. This information was selected from the data bases of the following organizations: National Center on Child Abuse and Neglect; American Psychological Association; Educational Resources Information Center; Law Enforcement Assistance Administration; National Clearinghouse for Mental Health Information; and Sociological Abstracts, Inc. Abstracts from a bibliography produced by the Center for Advanced

4. Zalba, S. R. "The abused child: I. A survey of the problem." Social Work 66:3-16, 1966; and Gil, D. G.; Noble, J. H. "Public knowledge, attitudes, and opinions about physical child abuse in the U.S." Child Welfare 47(7):395-401,426, July 1969.

5. Gayford, J. J. "Battered wives. A. Research on battered wives." Royal Society of Health Journal 95(6):288-289, 1975.

Studies in Human Services, University of Wisconsin, were also used.⁶ Duplicate abstracts of items included in more than one source have been eliminated. These materials were assembled in the hope that their dissemination will contribute to a broader understanding of child abuse and family violence and will stimulate further research.

6. McShone, C. Annotated bibliography on woman battering. Milwaukee, Wis.: Center for Advanced Studies in Human Services, Midwest Parent Child Welfare Resource Center, School of Social Welfare, University of Wisconsin, July 1977.

APPENDIX

Excerpt from Testimony of Douglas J. Besharov,
Director, National Center on Child Abuse and Neglect,
before the Committee on Science and Technology
(DISPAC Subcommittee), U.S. House of Representatives,
February 14, 1978

It is now apparent from the research we are doing and our treatment projects that the injury of spouses (predominately women) and the injury of children are somewhat overlapping syndromes. Indeed, we can now document, at least partially, their relationship. Of the validated cases of officially reported child abuse and neglect from 25 states analyzed by the American Humane Association, the child protective investigation revealed that the spouse was also assaulted in almost 20 percent of the cases, though not necessarily in the same incident.

I should caution that these data should in no way be interpreted to indicate the incidence of spouse abuse, nor should it be taken to establish a causal relationship between spouse abuse and child abuse. Nevertheless, the data do suggest some issues needing further research. While males are the child abuse perpetrators in only 40 percent of all officially reported child abuse and neglect cases, males are 70 percent of the child abuse perpetrators in cases where there is also an incident of spouse abuse. In these cases it appears that the violence of the male is directed at all members of the family. (Many of our treatment demonstration projects report that children are often the accidental victims of intended spouse abuse or that a number of wives -- as they are being attacked by their husbands -- pick up their child as a shield from the attack.) Our data also indicate that in the other 30 percent of officially reported cases, in the same household in which the male is assaulting the mother, the mother is assaulting the children. We are not yet able to say whether or not the mother's abusive behavior is part of a chain reaction, as some researchers have suggested.

Although it will be difficult to say a great deal more about these families until our data become more refined, it does appear that, while cases in which there is spouse abuse as well as child abuse (or neglect) were demographically similar to the rest of the reported cases, they were given almost four times as many services. Thus, although these data are tentative, they do strongly suggest that there is a subgroup of child abuse cases in which there is an environment of family violence that can be identified and that these cases require an unusually high degree of services.

In any event, in part -- but I should emphasize that only in part -- we seem to have overlapping syndromes of child maltreatment and spouse abuse. The child abuse field seems to be recognizing this relationship. For example, in September of 1977, the New Jersey Division of Youth and Family Services sponsored a conference entitled "Violence in the Family." Although the Division is the State's child protective agency, it broadened the focus of the conference to include wife (and husband) battering and rape, in addition to child abuse. Two themes ran through the Conference's presentations: first, that the dynamics of the various forms of abuse within families were interrelated; and second, that the agencies providing services to such families must broaden their approach to look for patterns of intrafamilial violence against both children and adults. Similarly, as an

unforeseen component of their family-oriented services to abused and neglected children, all of the 20 NCCAN Demonstration Treatment Centers provide some services which either directly or indirectly assist abused spouses. For example:

Our San Diego project amended its intake policy eight months ago to accept referrals of spouse abuse in families with small children. It did so because staff had found that there was a significant incidence of children being hurt "accidentally" in situations when the spouse was the target of the assault. In addition, the project had discovered a clear pattern of childhood histories involving intrafamilial violence in cases of spouse abuse, as well as battering. That is, they found that the perpetrator or the victim had experienced violence either as victims or as witnesses in his/her own childhood. I should mention that in taking family histories, the project found the same patterns in spouse cases that we find in classical battered child cases, that is: isolation, situational stress, childhood histories of abuse, and poor impulse control. It is the project's conclusion that, in many cases of family violence, the victim is the family member who happens to be available.

Our Honolulu project has established an emergency shelter which is used exclusively to provide safe lodging to abused spouses and their children. A high percentage of the people served by this refuge are military families. The objectives of the project are: (1) to provide parents with children a temporary safe respite until the conflict between the parents can be resolved; (2) to assist families through periods of crisis with coordinated social services, and (3) to help women in their efforts to develop independent living situations or, when they desire it, to help women return to their husbands. In 1977, the project provided room and board and information and referral assistance to over 200 families. Families usually stay for a few days to as long as two weeks. During this time, the shelter provides assistance in obtaining medical services, food, clothing, financial assistance (if needed), and permanent shelter (if desired). Eligibility to enter the shelter is not restricted by income or marital status; any parent and child involved in actual or potential abuse is welcome.

Our project in Toppenish, Washington, operated by the Yakima Indian Nation, also provides emergency shelter to abused spouses and works with families to reduce the incidence of abuse. Located in a large turn-of-the-century house, the project provides nursery/day care/emergency shelter facilities 24 hours a day, seven days a week for tribal members who need help. Wives frequently bring their children in the middle of the night seeking temporary shelter while tempers are cooled and issues are resolved. Thus, the project has provided a haven from further

family conflict, where the wife and children can be relieved of an atmosphere of fear and can be protected.

Parents Anonymous reports that in almost every one its over 750 chapters, there are mothers who are victims of spouse abuse. (Similar to our other treatment projects, Parents Anonymous reports that in some instances child abuse is a matter of physical proximity, that is, that the child receives the abuse that was intended for the spouse.) A number of chapters are attempting to deal with the special issues of spouse abuse by holding separate weekly meetings for battered spouses, in addition to regular chapter meetings. Many mothers in these groups are concerned about the traumatic effects on children of witnessing assaults and other abusive behavior between parents. They recognize that many children experience guilt for the spouse abuse, feeling somehow responsible for it. They also recognize that spouse abuse creates a bad role model for children; they sense that some boys develop patterns of violence toward females and that some girls develop an expectation of attack and exploitation by males, thus hurting their chances for healthy relations with members of the opposite sex in adult years. As a result of numerous requests, the national office of Parents Anonymous is now considering the development of specific self-help programs for the victims of spouse abuse.

Our Philadelphia Project provides psychiatric counseling to abused spouses and integrates its efforts with the Women-In-Transition Center, a local program designed especially for abused spouses.

Two Chicago projects coordinate community services such as legal aid to the abused spouse, couples counseling when appropriate, and emergency shelter (utilizing the Salvation Army) when needed.

Moreover, a number of the NCCAN projects, although they do not have an inhouse capability to provide emergency shelter, arrange for families to be accepted by such shelters and often provide transportation to them.

NCCAN demonstration efforts are showing that successful prevention, identification, and treatment of child abuse and neglect require that services must be available to all members of the family unit in need of help and protection. Besides emergency shelters for abused spouses, which, like the provision of emergency protection for children, must be a first priority, all the NCCAN demonstration projects report that one of their most successful interventions in cases of both spouse abuse and child maltreatment is in the

area of improved socialization. Some examples of the services provided in these situations are: individual and adult counseling, couples/family counseling, group counseling/therapy, marital counseling, parent aid/lay therapy, Parents Anonymous participation, education services, homemaker services, day care, babysitting, and a whole range of legal and "advocacy" services for employment, housing, and other concrete needs.

But the mere fact that spouse abuse and child abuse seem to be somewhat related problems should not lead to the assumption that they necessarily should be treated together or in the same way. For example, in child abuse cases the victim need not seek protection on his or her own, and properly so. We have devised a system in which third parties, primarily concerned professionals and friends, can take child protective action. In cases of spouse abuse, however, it is the victim, usually the abused woman, who must seek out help for herself -- against many odds.

In an article soon to appear, Dr. Frank Schneiger, Director of the NCCAN Region II Resource Project, has raised the following germane questions:

If our intention is to shift in the direction of an approach based on family dynamics to deal with familial violence, there are some hard questions which should be addressed before moving hastily ahead. First, are the dynamics of child abuse, wife and husband beating, and rape interrelated in ways which lend themselves to a common form of intervention, whether extant or still on the horizon? The answer to this question will require a systematic examination of the research which has been done and, in all likelihood, the undertaking of a number of new studies. If the answer to the above question is "yes," then there will be a need to examine the implications of pursuing what will have become an important new policy direction.

Most immediately, any movement toward a systematic family violence approach will confront us with a needs-resource problem. At present, questions of adequacy or effectiveness aside, there is a significant child protective network in this country. Having only recently attained visibility, spouse abuse and, to an even greater extent, violence among siblings, are problems to which there has been no substantial institutional response to date. Can we assume that new funding on a relatively large scale will be forthcoming? If not, we should probably begin asking who will see themselves as winners and who as losers, since it will become necessary to redistribute a limited pie. That redistribution will obviously be at the perceived expense

of child abuse and neglect agencies, since they currently receive the bulk of the funding.

To move from political-organizational considerations to programmatic ones, we should ask whether the conceptual joining of these problems is likely to affect the nature of the approach to families in which violence occurs. This question relates to the similarities or dissimilarities between the dynamics of child abuse and neglect, and violence which occurs between adults. At a time when a concerted effort is underway to move away from a punitive approach to parents who maltreat their children, one must ask whether a similar emphasis on understanding and a helping attitude is being advocated (or is appropriate) toward those who beat their spouses. Is there a view that violence against spouses is essentially a police problem; if so, is it likely to affect the handling of child abuse and neglect cases? In particular, will it result in both an attitudinal and institutional retrogression to a reliance on punishment?

We need also to look at the potential benefits of a broadened approach. For example, it is quite possible that such an approach would not only benefit the attempts to deal more effectively with adult abuse, but would also shed some light on the efficacy of the interventions which are currently used in child abuse and neglect cases.

Finally, the search for linkages is unlikely to end with a discussion of the intrafamilial dynamics of violence. It will almost certainly be extended to a systematic examination of the social causation of all forms of family violence. For example, what role do joblessness and underemployment play in the physical abuse of family members? This expanded view will almost certainly bring us closer to a real test of the national commitment to address basic social problems affecting families.

Ultimately, then, we must develop an approach to the prevention of domestic violence which lowers the level of violence and aggression against all family members before family life deteriorates to unre-remediable breakdown beyond the reach of any number of social agencies. But in the meantime, we need to address the immediate needs of battered spouses. Unfortunately, in many communities, the unresponsiveness of community human service agencies toward the victims of spousal battering seems to be as great as it used to be toward the victim of child abuse. Hence, a first priority toward the goal of aiding battered spouses must be to develop public awareness and support for their protection by convincing the public that spouse

abuse is a critical problem. A second priority must be the development of protective measures, especially shelters. But in the long run, any effort to deal with spouse abuse, like efforts to deal with child abuse, must entail a comprehensive approach to all of the pressing needs of its victims. These needs include the need for legal protection, permanent safe shelter, emotional and financial support, and concrete help ("advocacy") in seeking housing, employment, and, when necessary, a new life.

NATIONAL CENTER ON CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

CD-00051

City Univ. of New York, N.Y. Graduate Center.
The Prevention of Family Violence: Dilemmas of Community Intervention.
Bard, M.; Zacker, J.
Journal of Marriage and the Family 33(4):677-682, 1974.

Efforts to prevent intrafamilial violence (which accounts for between 35 and 50 percent of all homicides) have been thwarted by the absence of effective intervention programs. Lower class families, for whom intrafamilial violence presents the greatest problem, will generally not seek out a social agency for long-term treatment of their difficulties; they tend instead to wait until a violent situation arises and call the police. The police, limited by civil libertarian considerations and lack of relevant training, cannot generally offer the kind of preventive measures that are desired. Police cannot arrest an individual merely because they suspect that intrafamilial violence will eventually occur, and they are seldom trained to mediate family disputes without causing further friction. The result is that many foreseeable homicides and assaults are not prevented and many intervening police officers are needlessly injured. A program in which 18 police officers serving an inner city received special training from a university psychological center in mediating family disputes resulted, during a 22 month period, in 1,388 interventions involving 962 families (a control unit made 492 interventions during the same period). No homicides occurred among the 962 families nor were any of the specially trained officers assaulted despite the high statistical probability of injury. The special unit seemed well received by the community. In one case, unit officers were called on several occasions by a woman whose estranged husband was jealous of her dating other men; the man had threatened and assaulted both the wife and a daughter during family arguments. The unit persuaded the woman to obtain a protective order for herself and her children but had no justification for detaining the husband. The husband subsequently killed a man he suspected of being his wife's lover. 15 references.

CD-00360

Westminster Hospital, London (England). Dept. of Psychiatry.
Wife Battering: A Preliminary Survey of 100 Cases.
Gayford, J. J.
British Medical Journal 1(5951):194-197, January 25, 1975.

A survey of 100 battered wives is presented. All subjects had bruising, and in 44 this was associated with lacerations; 36 suffered fractured bones. Violence was prominent in the histories of both partners of the marriage, and drunkenness and previous imprisonment were common among the husbands. The educational background of the women was varied and included 27 with grammar or private school education, 32 with some kind of certificate, and 30 who went on to further education after leaving school. In most cases the violence was repeatedly inflicted. In 54 cases the women charged that the husband had extended the violence to the children, and 37 mothers admitted that they were discharging frustration on their offspring. There is a need for a place of sanctuary where a woman can take her children when violence gets out of control. 9 references.

CD-00363

Rhode Island Univ., Kingston. Dept. of Sociology.
Toward an Integrated Theory of Intrafamily Violence.
Gelles, R. J.; Straus, M. A.
Rhode Island Univ., Kingston. Dept. of Sociology. 23 pp.,
September 24, 1974.

Thirteen theories of interpersonal violence are reviewed, and the proposal is advanced that violence between family members is a special case of violence which requires its own theoretical explanation due to the extent of intrafamily violence and the special and unique characteristics of the family as a social group and institution. A theory of family violence has begun to be developed by integrating theories of interpersonal violence with empirical knowledge about the family. A matrix of theories of violence and the major concepts used in these theories is presented, and projected steps toward developing an integrated theory of family violence are explained. 65 references.

CD-00387

Columbia Univ., New York, N.Y. Dept. of Sociology.
Force and Violence in the Family.
Goode, W. J.
Journal of Marriage and the Family 33(1):624-636, February 1971.

Force and the threat of force, despite their general disrepute in society, play an integral role in the functioning of all social systems including the family. Under most circumstances, the family is governed by patterns of custom and tradition motivated by a sense of fair exchange between family members. When a family member rejects these patterns, the threat of force either by another family member or an outside agency is ever present and understood. Force also holds a fundamental position in the socialization of children. They learn to recognize that force is a quick, effective means of control, which, however, tends to produce general anxiety. In one form or other, force has been indispensable to child rearing. On the other hand, harsh punishment is more often employed by lower class families and others who lack social resources and correlates with a number of traits, many of them undesirable. As long as a sense of fair exchange prevails among the family members, and other resources, notably money, prestige, and love exist to rectify any imbalances, a general sense of harmony can be maintained. However, when a family member feels injustice, the conflict that ensues may well lead to violence. Such a conflict cannot be readily terminated, since the cost of sacrificing position within an intimate relationship is great and there is no escape from the relationship itself. Opportunities for police accommodation or substitute sources of gratification are not readily available in the family relationship. Furthermore, the restraint of violence as opposed to its initiation is not well socialized. Child abuse represents a subset of these dynamics. Abusers typically are people who were treated harshly as children and consequently expect an inordinate amount of love and obedience from their own children. When this is not forthcoming, no alternative resources exist for either ameliorating or terminating the conflict. Eventually, the use of force, unsatisfactory though it is, becomes the only answer. 17 references.

CD-00437

Uffculme Clinic, Moseley (England).

Violence: A Clinical Viewpoint.

Harrington, J. A.

British Medical Journal 1:228-231, January 22, 1972.

A review briefly covers various psychological, psychodynamic, personality, and biological theories on the nature of violent behavior and neurophysiological, group, and imitative factors involved in the expression of violence. A discussion of violence toward children and babies includes brief descriptions of the child likely to be battered (premature, hypersensitive or colicky, and unresponsive children, 5 years old or less) and of the parents likely to batter (fathers with crime or poor work records, and mothers between 20-30 years old, with unresolved dependency needs, a strong tendency to morbid jealousy, or a history of being beaten themselves). 11 references.

CD-00637

National Inst. of Mental Health (DHEW), Rockville, Md.

Violence at Home: A Review of the Literature.

Lystad, M. H.

American Journal of Orthopsychiatry 45(3):328-345, April 1975.

Literature on violence in the home is reviewed, and it is concluded that a comprehensive theory must take into account factors at the psychological, social, and cultural levels, placing individual functioning within the social group and within the cultural norms by which the group operates. Violence at home occurs when social needs and expectations of the individual are unsupported by either the family or by other social institutions, and when such a mode of expression seems eminently available and legitimate to the individual. A special section devoted to child abuse gives a compact review of this subject. 162 references.

CD-00642

Legacy of Battering.

MacLeod, C.

Nation 719-722, June 8, 1974.

Many aspects of child abuse and its treatment are covered in this wide ranging article, including the familiar characteristics of the abuser and the team approach to the disorder. Parents Anonymous has been successful in dealing with many patients, and there are now 110 chapters throughout the country. Children's Abuse Listening Mediation in Santa Barbara, California, has also been effective. Many writers have pointed out the influence of childhood abuse on the development of the violent adult personality.

CD-00967

Delaware Univ., Newark.

Violence in the Family.

Steinmetz, S. K.; Straus, M. A.

New York, Dodd, Mead and Co., 337 pp., 1974.

A collection of 38 papers explores several aspects of familial violence. An overview of the subject is followed by sections on violence between spouses and kin, violent parents (child abuse), and the influence of familial violence on societal violence. Each section describes the nature and extent of the violence, theories of causation, legal aspects, and possible methods of control. Articles comprise several types including research reports, reviews, and personal speculation.

CD-00968

Delaware Univ., Newark.

Violent Parents. Part Three.

Steinmetz, S. K.; Straus, M. A.

In: Steinmetz, S. K.; Straus, M. A. (Editors). *Violence in the Family*. New York, Dodd, Mead, and Co., pp. 141-147, 1974.

The notion that child abuse has its roots in normal or ordinary physical punishment is advanced. The entire history of the American people has been characterized by a propensity to use violence to achieve national and personal goals. In the interest of reducing the level of violence, we should develop both informal and legal prohibitions of physical punishment and replace the use of physical force in child rearing with nonviolent, constructive modes of parental influence. A beginning has been made in the enactment of antipoverty and child protection legislation of the past decade, but the fundamental problem of the legality of physical punishment is not covered in these laws. While the law can exert important influences on social patterns, it is ineffective if it is too far ahead of the population. 14 references.

CD-00969

Intra-family Violence. 1. General Introduction: Social Myth and Social System in the Study of Intra-family Violence.

Steinmetz, S. K.; Straus, M. A.

In: Steinmetz, S. K.; Straus, M. A. (Editors). *Violence in the Family*. New York, Dodd, Mead and Co. pp. 3-25, 1974.

Common notions about violence in the family remain permeated by myth and stereotype. Society holds as its ideal a family governed by love and gentleness and yet surveys indicate that most people approve and use violence in the family, and that the family is a principal source of criminal violence. To understand the phenomenon of familial violence, it is necessary to reject certain myths. The first is the consensus view of society, which sees all conflict as a deviation from the norm and hence an abnormality; conflict must be seen as an integral part of the social process. Myths of causation must also be discarded because despite their kernel of truth, most are oversimplifications. While it is true, for example, that mixed evidence may indeed show that greater violence exists in lower class families than middle class families it must not be assumed that the lower classes represent a culture of violence to be contrasted with a middle class culture of repression. Rather, one must look to factors such as the lower class individual's lack of alternate resources and higher degree of frustration. Similarly, violence in the family may well be linked to the family's role as the main arena for sexual contact. Nevertheless, the relation between sex and violence may be influenced by such diverse factors as biological drives, general societal attitudes repressing both sex and violence, and antagonisms arising from the definitions of sex roles. The least reliable of the common myths is the catharsis theory, which states that the expression of approved forms of violence prevents the occurrence of more tragic forms. This theory persists despite persuasive empirical and theoretical arguments to the contrary. Violence must be seen as arising from a combination of interacting individual, familial, and societal variables, and precipitating circumstances, including the intense nature of the family relationship. Scientific research must be conducted to delineate the causes and consequences of familial violence. 44 references.

CD-00978

Cultural and Social Organizational Influences on Violence Between Family Members.
Straus, M. A.

Mental Hygiene Institute Conference on Sex, Marriage and the Family, Montreal, 23 pp., November 30, 1972.

Violence, defined as the use of physical force, is so widespread among American families as to be nearly universal. In fact, it is likely that a majority of all violence occurring within American society occurs between family members. Thus, familial violence must be considered as a result of cultural norms and values and social organization as well as more frequently considered psychological influences. Despite the fact that family peacefulness and love are held as cultural values, most Americans consider violence as an inevitable and even desirable fact of society. War, violence in law enforcement, violence in entertainment, and violence as a sign of manliness seem generally to be approved. Within a family, cultural and organizational influences may combine to enhance the level of violence. For example, it is a cultural norm that a husband should be the leader of a household. Where economic factors deprive him of this role, he is under cultural pressure to assert his status in other ways—including by violence. The number of children within a family provides an example of social organization. Large families tend to exhibit more violence than small families particularly within the lower classes. This may be due to the generally higher level of stress generated within a large family and the difficulty of applying any means of punishment besides physical force under such conditions. Thus, cultural and social organizational factors may play a decisive role in determining the incidence of familial violence. 24 references.

CD-01183

Rhode Island Univ., Kingston. Dept. of Sociology.
Violence and Pregnancy: A Note on the Extent of the Problem and Needed Services.
Gelles, R. J.
Family Coordinator 81-86, January 1975.

The phenomenon of violence toward pregnant wives is common enough to be considered an important issue. Members of 80 families were interviewed by using an unstructured informal procedure. In 55 percent of these families at least one incident of conjugal violence was discussed. In 10 of these 44 families, respondents discussed incidents of violence occurring while the wife was pregnant. Five major factors are proposed which contribute to pregnant wives being assaulted by their husbands: (1) sexual frustration; (2) family transition, stress, and strain; (3) biochemical changes in the wife; (4) prenatal child abuse; and (5) defenselessness of the wife. The generative sources of violence toward a pregnant spouse may be similar to the sources of conjugal violence and child abuse. Family counseling and educational services are important methods for preventing such conjugal violence. In terms of providing family services and for developing policies of intervention in families where violence occurs, it is important to realize that the crisis and transitions of parenthood begin during the pregnancy and not only after the child is born. 19 references.

CD-01184

Rhode Island Univ., Kingston. Dept. of Sociology.
The Violent Home. A Study of Physical Aggression Between Husbands and Wives.

Gelles, R. J.

Sage Library of Social Research, Volume 13, Beverly Hills, Calif., Sage Publications, Inc., 230 pp., 1972.

A discussion covers the social meaning of physical aggression between husbands and wives; the locus of these events in time and space; the way the family serves as a training ground for violent behavior; and the role structure of individual families. Statistics are cited which demonstrate the extent of intrafamily violence. In 25 to 30 percent of all homicides, both the victim and the offender were members of the same family. Familial assaults constitute 20 to 25 percent of all aggravated assault. Child abuse is cited as another frightening consequence of intrafamily violence, with an estimated 60,000 occurrences per year in the U.S. The causes, incidence, and types of physical violence used by spouses on each other were determined through interviews with 80 subjects. Descriptive data concerning the nature and extent of violence between family members are presented, and an 8-fold typology of violence is developed around 3 dimensions of physical violence: (1) instrumental-expressive, (2) legitimate-illegitimate, and (3) victim-precipitated-not-victim-precipitated. The violent situation is examined by focusing on temporal patterns, spatial patterns, and presence or absence of other people. The violent family's location in the social structure and the structure of the violent family are analyzed. Finally, a unified theoretical model of intrafamily violence is presented. 148 references.

CD-01186

London Univ. (England). Inst. of Psychiatry.
Violence in the Family.

Gibbens, T.C.N.

Medico-Legal Journal 43(Part 3):76-88, 1975.

The problem of violence in the family is examined. Violence in the family unit is a complex problem involving overlap between many factors. It is difficult to distinguish between causal factors in those cases serious enough to reach the courts and those which are not. The characteristics of abusive parents and their children are explored at length. The parents, particularly the fathers, had experienced abuse in their own childhoods. The children were younger than others admitted as emergencies, had lower birth weights, and markedly slower physical and mental development compared with other children. The battered children were less wakeful at night, less lively and more fatigued in the day; their mothers complained of excessive clinging and whining behavior. In fathers, alcohol plays a major part in wife beating, but little in baby battering. In women who kill their husbands, drugs play an important part, particularly the paradoxical effects of antidepressants and tranquilizers. Psychiatric hypotheses regarding the origins of family violence are considered, and the role of the social class is also explored. The problem of prevention and treatment is also examined, surveying the roles of the courts, police, doctors, and health visitors. A brief discussion by members of the Medico-Legal Society regarding particular aspects of family violence is appended.

NATIONAL CENTER ON CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

CD-01250

National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children,
London (England).

The Yo-Yo Syndrome: A Matter for Interdisciplinary
Concern.

Moore, J. G.

Medicine, Science, and the Law 15(4):234-236, 1975.

The effects of violent domestic situations on children are examined. Such families are not easy to help; the parents are separated by the police during a violent confrontation; only to reunite a few days or weeks later, beginning the process again. Such a pattern of frequent splits and reconciliations is termed the yo-yo syndrome. The families are distinguished by the interactive quality of violence and restlessness, and by the extremes of violence. The effect upon the children is divided into four categories: (1) turned against self, (2) school problems, (3) scapegoating, and (4) pawns. Children turned against self express their tension in physical symptoms or in some way try to absorb the family's aggression. Those who become school problems exhibit poor attendance and varying degrees of antisocial or attention-seeking behavior. In scapegoating, children most favored by one parent are rejected by the other and are either physically or verbally attacked. As pawns, the children are perceived as irrelevant to the central conflict, and are used as weapons in the marital war. The parents tend to be inadequate individuals who have considerable feelings of low morale. The violence is symptomatic of acute fear and panic. Efforts to establish specialized yo-yo training units to accumulate knowledge about the psychopathology of these parents and to develop methods that are effective with those families are encouraged. It is especially important to develop new skills to help the children concerned. 4 references.

CD-01317

New Hampshire Univ., Durham. Dept. of Sociology.

Theories, Methods, and Controversies in the Study of
Violence Between Family Members.

Strauss, M. A.; Gelles, R. J.; Steinmetz, S. K.

American Sociological Association Meeting, 73 pp., June
1973.

Violence between family members was investigated by examining the types, frequency, theory, and controversial aspects of family violence. Violence in the family is a unique and important phenomenon requiring much sociological research. While the fact of family violence is obvious, family nonviolence is perpetuated as a myth. Consideration is given to what constitutes legitimate and illegitimate violence in the family, dividing these two forms along the dimensions of expressive and instrumental violence. Estimates of the prevalence of family violence indicate that it results in more police calls than all criminal incidents. In fact, police calls represent only the most glaring cases, and many cases go unreported. National surveys not only confirm the widespread existence of family violence, but confirm that many persons condone violence in the family. Children mimic the behavior of their parents, and the pattern of violence is perpetuated. Consideration is given to intraindividual, sociopsychological, and sociocultural theories of violence. The legitimacy of violence is used to distinguish between the various theories. The present state of theoretical knowledge concerning the cause of intrafamilial violence offers a rich but confusing variety. Both intensive empirical research and careful theoretical synthesis are urgently needed to bring order to this array. 100 references.

CR-00127

New Hampshire Univ., Durham. Dept. of Sociology.

Durham, NH 03824

Physical Violence in American Families.

Straus, M. A.; Gelles, R. J.; Steinmetz, S. K.

Jul 75-Sep 78

National Inst. of Mental Health (DHEW), Rockville, Md.

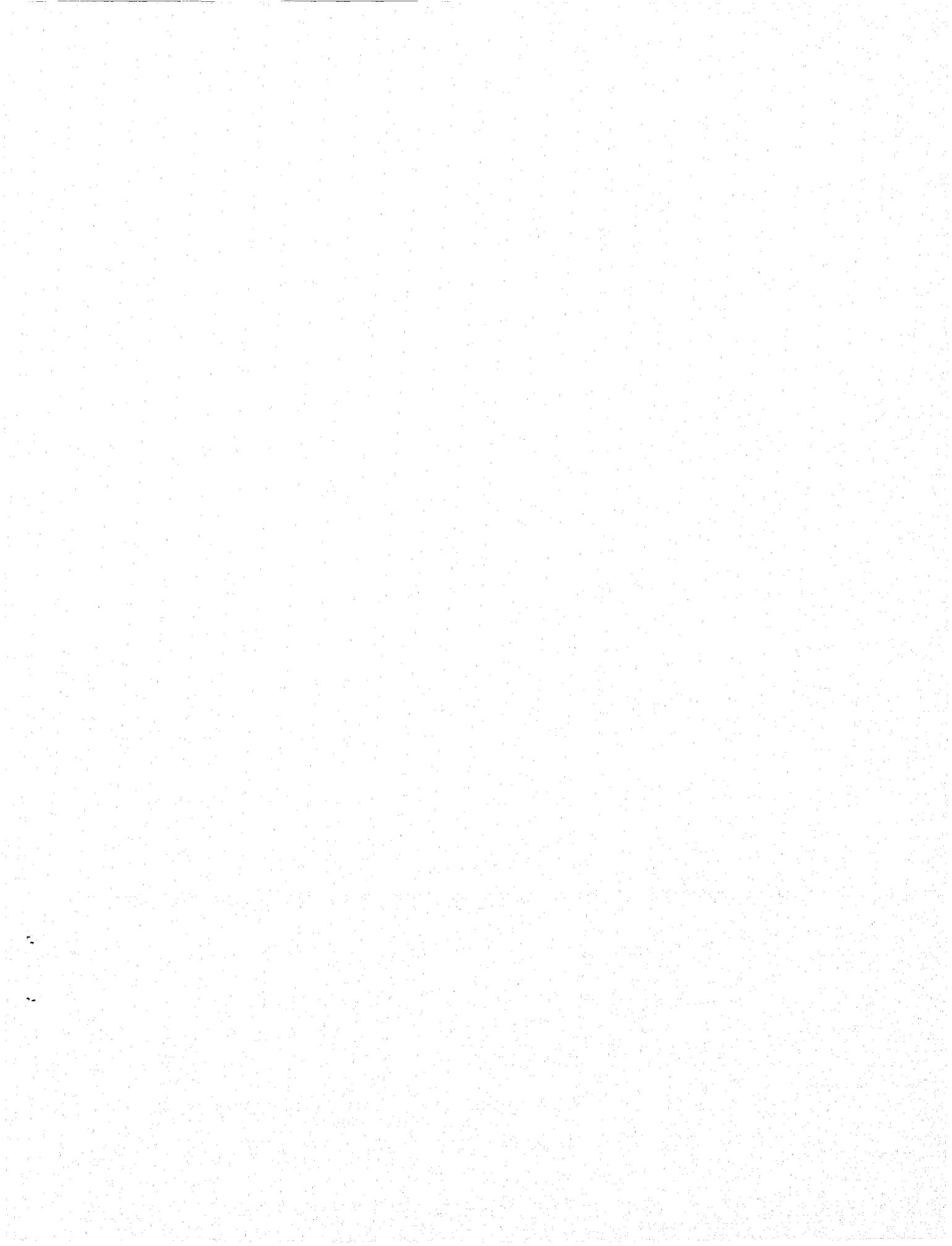
Research Purpose: To (1) place the study of child abuse within the context of all uses of physical violence within the family; (2) test the subjective meaning of acts of violence to those involved; and (3) test certain theories about the etiology of intrafamily violence.

Research Methodology: All forms of violence within the family are being studied. Data are being gathered on the frequency and modality of violence. A national sample of approximately 2,500 families has been interviewed. Comparisons will be drawn between families which use a high level of violence and those which do not, particularly as it affects the children in these families.

Research Results: The study is still in preliminary stages.

Publications: (1) Gelles, R. J. "The Violent Home: A Study of Physical Aggression Between Husbands and Wives." Beverly Hills, Calif., Sage Publications, 1974.

(2) Steinmetz, S. K.; Straus, M. A. (Editors). "Violence in the Family." New York, Harper and Row, 1974.



CD-01419

/ti Violence in the Family.

/au Borland, M.

/so Atlantic Highlands, N.J., Humanities Press, Inc.,

/pa 148 pp.,

/da 1976.

/ab In a multidisciplinary examination of child abuse and other forms of intratamily violence, a psychiatrist discusses the kinds of people who are likely to vent their frustrations on children and their underlying motives; a sociologist examines societal attitudes toward violence; a pediatrician points out the clinical signs and symptoms of physical abuse in children; a treatment team leader explains the role of his voluntary agency in abuse cases; a lawyer presents the legal position of battered children; a chief of police explains the police point of view; and a social worker expands upon the obstacles facing more productive interagency cooperation. Numerous references.

/is interdisciplinary approach; violence; etiology; multidisciplinary teams; childrens rights; interagency cooperation; police role; diagnoses; social attitudes

CD-01424

/ad Leicester Univ. (England). Dept. of Psychiatry.

/ti Physical Violence in the Family: An Overview.

/au Brandon, S.

/so In: Borland, M. (Editor). Violence in the Family. Atlantic Highlands, N.J., Humanities Press, Inc.,

/pa pp. 1-25,

/da 1976.

/ab Violence within the family is a relatively common occurrence, and child abuse is a significant component of intrafamilial violence. Extreme violence and death more often involve the father or male custodian of the child than the mother, although any assault, even a minor one, on a child may be fatal. Mothers who intentionally kill their children are often depressed and commit suicide after killing their children as a type of extended suicide. These situations represent only the extremes and many parents who abuse their children are normal people who are unable to cope. One of the most common types of abusive parents seen is the young woman who was deprived of love and parental approval as a child, or perhaps was maltreated herself. Such parents have a craving for affection and yet little capacity for love. The mothers often have unrealistic expectations for the child and cannot cope with his shortcomings. Many types of abusive parents and situations are described, as are other types of familial violence. 40 references.

/is violence; abusive parents; family relations; precipitating factors; suicide; maternal behavior

CD-01553

/ad Wisconsin Univ., Madison.

/ti Social Class and Corporal Punishment in Childrearing: A Reassessment.

/au Erlanger, H. S.

/jt American Sociological Review

/pa 39(1):68-85,

/da February 1974.

/ab Interpretations of numerous studies on corporal punishment and social class performed since 1932 have indicated a strong link between the working classes and the use of corporal punishment. Evidence indicates that this link, at best, is tenuous; there are data showing that those in the middle class and those with higher education have a greater tendency to approve and use corporal punishment. A review of earlier studies reveals some discrepancy in the results. Comparisons between the studies are difficult since some questioned adults about their treatment as children; some questioned the adults about treatment of their own children; and some asked both. In one study the social class of the group was simply assumed without identifying the group analytically. Certain factors were not corrected in the studies, such as the circumstances under which the child might be punished and at what age corporal punishment would be acceptable. There are also problems in population sampling and the nature of the indicators. Working class authoritarianism, the tendency toward physical violence, the relationship to child abuse, a subculture of violence, and other qualifying factors are discussed as they relate to corporal punishment and class.

/is corporal punishment; social class; social values; violence; child rearing; parents attitudes

CD-01557

/ad New Hampshire Univ., Durham.

/ti Toward a General Stress Theory of Intra-Family Violence.

/au Farrington, K.

/so National Council on Family Relations Annual Meeting, Salt Lake City, Utah,

/pa 49 pp.,

/da August 1, 1975.

/ab A general stress framework consists of (1) the stress stimulus; (2) objective demand; (3) subjective demand; (4) response capabilities; (5) choice of response; and (6) stress level. These variables can be applied to intra-family violence including instances of child abuse. The greater the number and intensity of stress stimuli encountered by an individual or family, the greater the demands with which that individual or family will have to deal. Furthermore, the greater the demands facing an individual or family, the greater the likelihood that some response will have to be made in attempt at mastery. When fewer resources are available, the likelihood of use of violence, especially if it is culturally or socially sanctioned will increase. These and 15 other related propositions demonstrate that child abuse can be the result of different stress perceptions. It can be an assertive response directed at the cause of a certain problem, or it can be a reaction to frustration. The incidence of both of these categories of violence increases as one moves down the ladder of socioeconomic status. 40 references.

/is stress; violence; parents reactions; frustration; socioeconomic status; cultural values; stimulus behavior; family problems

CD-01567

/ad Western Michigan Univ., Kalamazoo. School of Social Work.

/ti Recent Findings Related to Wife Abuse.

/au Flynn, J. P.

/jt Social Casework

/pa 58 (1):13-20,

/da January 1977.

/ab A 2-month research project on spouse assault conducted in Kalamazoo, Michigan, in 1975 is summarized. The data collected indicate that the primary problem is wife abuse. The few previous studies covering wife abuse are outlined. The available literature on child abuse, alcoholism, marriage and family, violence, homicide, criminal assault, and gun control is reviewed. Fifty-four professional persons from 52 community agencies were interviewed; 19 cases of spouse abuse were identified. An additional 14 victims were interviewed face-to-face for a total of 33 victims. Data collection instruments included (1) a form on which agency identifying data, service information, and incidence estimates were recorded; (2) an interview guide to obtain general impressions from professionals; and (3) an interview guide used to obtain information regarding a particular person or family. No assaulters were interviewed. Ten percent of the families in the catchment area are estimated to have experienced some form of conjugal violence. Wife beating seems to occur at all socioeconomic, educational, and age levels. One-third of the professionals and victims interviewed reported either that victims had been abused as children or that the assaulter had been an abused child. Almost all the victims sought help from outside sources. Recommendations for further community action suggest development of a community task force to determine new ways of dealing with the problem of spouse assault and the establishment of a spouse assault resource service.

/is marital conflicts; violence; community surveys; interviews; parents background; community action; sequelae

CD-01597

ad Rhode Island Univ., Kingston. Dept. of Sociology and Anthropology.
ti Famil- Experience and Public Support of the Death Penalty.

au Gelles, R. J.; Straus, M. A.

jt Americal Journal of Orthopsychiatry

pa 45(4):596-613,

da July 1975.

ab An integration of data on the characteristics of death penalty supporters with data on violence within the family suggests that experience with violence in the family, and the meaning and moral evaluation of punishment and violence learned thereby, lead to support for the death penalty. Studies of the characteristics of death penalty supporters portray them as relatively punitive and authoritarian. A review of research on family violence shows that the more violence is present in the family, the more likely is a person reared in that context to accept the normalcy and probable occurrence of all types of violence. The family is a primary place in which both approval of violence and fear of victimization is learned. The greater the fear of being a victim of violence, the greater the support for the death penalty. The more offenses within the family are punished in proportion to the severity of the offense and in relation to the circumstances and characteristics of the offender, the more likely is the person to believe that all offenses should be dealt with according to the principles of retribution tempered by discretion in relation to the circumstances, the offense, and the character of the offender. Because punitive child rearing methods are associated with the personality factors that are associated with support for the death penalty, the high level of punitiveness typically experienced by children in the family is a part of the explanation for the high level of public support for the death penalty. Numerous references.

/is corporal punishment; violence; family environment; personality patterns; research reviews

CD-01977

/ad New Hampshire Univ., Durham. Dept. of Sociology.

/ti A General Systems Theory Approach to a Theory of Violence Between Family Members.

/au Straus, M. A.

/jt Social Science Information

/pa 12(3):105-125,

/da 1973.

/ab General systems theory is used to formulate a theory accounting for the presence of violence as a continuing element in the social interaction of the nuclear family. The family is generally seen as a social group committed to nonviolence between its members. However, a review of the relevant theory and empirical evidence indicates that intrafamily violence is almost universal. Family organization, family socioeconomic status, individual personality traits, psychopathological traits, occupational roles, precipitating crises, societal opportunities, and deprivations are variables relevant to family violence.

The relationships and assumptions implicit in the variables form a set of interlinked propositions accounting

for stabilization of violence in the family system. Labeling, secondary conflict, reinforcement, self-concept formation, and role expectations are key aspects in the process. Specific propositions about family violence include the following: (1) most violence is either denied or not labeled deviant; (2) stereotyped imagery of family violence is learned in early childhood from parents, siblings, and other children; (3) stereotypes of family violence are continually reaffirmed for adults and children through ordinary social interaction; (4) violent persons may be rewarded for violent acts if these acts produce the desired results; (5) use of violence, when it is contrary to family norms, creates conflict over the use of violence to settle the original conflict; and (6) persons labeled as violent may be encouraged to play out the role via development of an aggressive self-concept. The utilization of systems theory in research methodology is briefly discussed. 29 references.

/is systems analysis; theories; violence; family relations; etiology; predictor variables; research methodology; family characteristics

GD-1969

/ad Colorado Univ., Denver. Dept. of Psychiatry.

/ti Violence Within the Family.

/au Steele, B. F.

/so In: Helfer, R. E. and Kempe, C. H. (Editors). Child Abuse and Neglect. The Family and the Community. Cambridge, Mass., Ballinger Publishing Co.,

/pa pp. 3-23,

/da 1976.

/ab The frequency, causes, and results of violence within the family are discussed. Violence within the family has been part of the human condition throughout the recorded history of man. Most murders are committed within the confines of kinship. In some cases, high levels of androgen, a male sex hormone, have been associated with increased violent behavior. The XYY genotype has also been implicated. In general, men are more violent than women, but more women than men commit infanticide. There are many complex psychological, social, and cultural factors involved in the generation of violence. The most common element in the lives of violent or abusive adults is the history of having been neglected or abused to some extent in their own childhood. Abuse or neglect early in childhood predisposes an individual to use aggression as a means of solving problems. This is accompanied by a lack of empathy for other human beings, decreased ability and diminished mechanisms to cope with stress, and vulnerability to the examples of aggression and violence presented by society and culture.

/is generational cycle of child abuse; etiology; violence; family characteristics

CD-01978

/ad New Hampshire Univ., Durham.

/ti Societal Morphogenesis and Intrafamily Violence in Cross-Cultural Perspective.

/au Straus, M. A.

/jt Annals of the New York Academy of Sciences

/pa 285:717-730,

/da 1977.

/ab Conjugal violence in various cultures is briefly analyzed, and similarities with parent-child and sibling-sibling violence are considered. Intrafamily conflict is common to all cultures. Several theoretical conclusions illustrate the fact that human societies are cybernetic and morphogenic systems operating as part of a larger ecological system: (1) as societal violence increases, there is a tendency for intrafamily violence to increase, which in turn tends to increase societal violence even more; (2) there is a link between violence in one family role with violence in other family roles; (3) intrafamily violence may contribute to maintaining a system such as male dominance; (4) the change from a nonviolent to a violent style of interaction may represent an adaptation to changes in the substance basis of the society; and (5) a changed structure of interaction effects changes in actors and other spheres of interaction. In the history of a society external changes and internal conflicts can lead to changes in the structure of the society itself as a result of cybernetic processes by which events are monitored and controlled in a social system. 71 references.

/is violence; marital conflicts; family relations; sociocultural patterns; social change; social environment; theories

CD-01979

/ad New Hampshire Univ., Durham.

/ti Violence in the Family: An Assessment of Knowledge and Research Needs.

/au Straus, M. A.; Gelles, R. J.; Steinmetz, S. K.

/so American Association for the Advancement of Science Session on "Crime: What We Know and What We Need to Know," Boston,

/pa 51 pp.,

/da February 23, 1976.

/ab A brief review of research in intrafamily violence indicates the state of knowledge about the frequency and etiology of such violence, especially violence between husbands and wives. Because the family is the social setting within which a citizen is most likely to be a victim of physical attack, criminologists should focus on violence in the home. Child abuse and wife beating have received some attention but have largely been studied as medical entities. Much could be gained by treating these problems and other family violence as social problems. General theories of interpersonal violence which need to be tested in relation to the specific issue of intrafamily violence are outlined. A series of characteristics which distinguish the family from other small groups and which seem to account for higher violence in the family are presented. Seventeen specific controversies concerning the nature and causes of intrafamily violence are identified. The confusing variety of theoretical knowledge on intrafamily violence calls for intensive empirical research and careful theoretical synthesis. Standard methods of sociological research could be used in such research. 76 references.

/is research reviews; violence; marital conflicts; interpersonal relations; etiology; theories; social problems; family relations

AMERICAN PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

DOC YEAR: 1977 VOL NO: 57 ABSTRACT NO: 10049

Report on National Conference on Crime and Violence in Modern Society.

Brain, Paul

U Coll Swansea, Wales

Aggressive Behavior 1976 Vol 2(3) 233-235

Briefly describes the papers at a conference on crime and violence held in London in 1976. Topics included anthropological perspectives of violence, how moral judgments influence perceptions of violence, the relationship between food impurities and violence, social coherence and new towns, violent sex crimes, corporal punishment in education, battered wives, and concepts of social control.

LANGUAGE: Engl CLASSIFICATION: 29

SUBJECT TERMS: CRIME, VIOLENCE, PROFESSIONAL MEETINGS AND SYMPOSIA; 12430, 55770, 40740

INDEX PHRASE: crime & violence, description of conference papers, London, 1976

DOC YEAR: 1977 VOL NO: 57 ABSTRACT NO: 12634

Abused wives: Why do they stay.

Gelles, Richard J.

U Rhode Island

Journal of Marriage & the Family 1976 Nov Vol 38(4) 659-668

Attempted to determine why a woman who had been physically abused by her husband would remain with him. Interviews were conducted with members of 41 families in which women had been beaten by their husbands. Nine of these women had been divorced or separated from their husbands; 13 had called the police; 8 had sought counseling from a private social service agency; and 11 had sought no outside intervention. Three major factors influence the actions of the abused wives: The less severe and less frequent the violence, the more a wife remained with her husband. Secondly, the more a wife was struck as a child by her parents, the more likely she was to remain with her abusive husband. Finally, the fewer resources a wife had and the less power she had the more likely she was to stay with her violent husband. In addition, external constraint influenced the actions of abused wives. (39 ref)

LANGUAGE: Engl CLASSIFICATION: 29

SUBJECT TERMS: WIVES, VIOLENCE, HUSBANDS, MARITAL CONFLICT, AGGRESSIVE BEHAVIOR; 56900, 55770, 23590, 29620, 01390

INDEX PHRASE: factors influencing remaining with violent husbands, abused wives

AMERICAN PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

DOC YEAR: 1973 VOL NO: 49 ABSTRACT NO: 04716

Youth, violence, and the nature of family life.
havens, Leston L.

Massachusetts Mental Health Center, Boston

Psychiatric Annals 1972 Feb Vol. 2(2) 16-29

Compared the current reorientation of attitudes toward the family with the changes in thinking which occurred with Freud's studies. Both revolutions are associated with a sharp shift in expectations, but the changes in family attitudes lead to more concern with actualities rather than fantasies, with violence rather than sexuality. The idealized image of the family has fallen beneath data from studies of family violence and family contributions to mental illness. Family violence is discussed, including the battered and murdered child, child murder, sibling murder, matricide and patricide, spouse murder, and murder due to disappointed love. The contributions of genetics, psychological identification, and environment to familial patterns of violence are considered. The family contribution to mental illness is discussed with special emphasis on criminality, psychopathy, sociopathy, and schizophrenia. It is concluded that current studies on the complexities of the maturation process have led to a new appreciation for the dangers and responsibilities of parenthood.

CLASSIFICATION: 14

SUBJECT TERMS: FAMILY RELATIONS, CHILDCARE ATTITUDES, CHILD ABUSE, VIOLENCE, MENTAL DISORDERS/; 19250, 08810, 08850, 55770, 30740

INDEX PHRASE: change in family & childrearing attitudes, intrafamily violence & mental illness

11/5/77

DOC YEAR: 1977 VOL NO: 57 ABSTRACT NO: 05630

Rage-hate-assault and other forms of violence.

Madden, Denis J.; Lion, John R.

U Maryland Medical School, Inst of Psychiatry & human Behavior, Baltimore

New York, NY: Spectrum, 1976. 265 p. \$20

Uses clinical and scholarly perspectives to examine the problem of increasing violence, and indicates the need for theories and practices with lasting effects. Topics discussed include child abuse, violence in the family, violence in the media, predicting dangerousness, national and international violence, psychological approaches to violence, suicide and self-destructive behavior, nonhuman aggressive behavior, epilepsy and violence, and treatment of the aggressive patient.

LANGUAGE: Engl CLASSIFICATION: 29

SUBJECT TERMS: BOOK, VIOLENCE; 06590, 55770

INDEX PHRASE: problem of increasing violence, book

AMERICAN PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

11/5/6

DOC YEAR: 1977 VOL NO: 57 ABSTRACT NO: 08464

battered wives.

Martin, Del

San Francisco, CA: Glide, 1976. xvii, 269 p. \$6.95

The problem of wife-battery is discussed within the framework of sex-role stereotypes, using victim self-reports to elucidate this prevalent, but frequently overlooked form of violence. The failures of the legal system and social service agencies to deal with the problem are considered, and survival tactics, legislative proposals, and refuges for the victims are cited.

LANGUAGE: Engl CLASSIFICATION: 32

SUBJECT TERMS: BOOK, SEX ROLES, STEREOTYPED ATTITUDES, COMMUNITY SERVICES, LEGAL PROCESSES, ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOR, MARITAL RELATIONS; 00590, 46940, 49790, 10690, 28110, 03230, 29640

INDEX PHRASE: sex roles stereotypes & social services & legal system & survival tactics & legislative proposals & refuges for victims, wife battery, book

DOC YEAR: 1974 VOL NO: 51 ABSTRACT NO: 01359

Social networks and deviance: A study of lower class incest, wife beating, and nonsupport offenders.

Scheurell, Robert P.; Rinder, Irwin D.

U. Wisconsin, Milwaukee

Wisconsin Sociologist 1973 Spr Vol. 10(2-3) 56-73

Selected 10 incest offenders, 10 wife beaters, and 10 nonsupporters from the white male population of a prison. It was hypothesized that (a) all 3 groups have a close-knit social network and a segregated pattern of conjugal role performance, (b) the incest offender would be more socially isolated (lower frequency of social contacts) and maintain role segregation between himself and his spouse through the female children assuming some of the household tasks, and (c) there would be more task sharing in the household of the incest offender. Since the bulk of this sharing of household tasks would be between the offender and female children or the spouse and female children, the role segregation would be maintained between the offender and his spouse. Results of interviews tend to support these expectations but the small sample size and biased sample minimize the significance for generalization. An unexpected finding was the perception of role disharmony for the offender groups. The incest offender had a greater incongruity between the behavioral and normative definitions of conjugal roles than the other offenders. He perceived greater role disharmony and desired a more segregated role behavior pattern. (28 ref.)

CLASSIFICATION: 14

SUBJECT TERMS: SEX ROLES, MARITAL RELATIONS, INCEST, ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOR, LOWER INCOME LEVEL; 46940, 29640, 24693, 03230, 28870

INDEX PHRASE: social networks & deviance in behavioral & normative conjugal role definitions, lower class incest vs wife beating vs nonsupport offenders

AMERICAN PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

DOC YEAR: 1975 VOL NO: 53 ABSTRACT NO: 11931

battered wives.

Scott, P. D.

Maudsley Hosp, London, England

British Journal of Psychiatry 1974 Nov Vol 125 433-441

Defines the battered wife as a woman who has suffered serious or repeated injury from the man with whom she lives. The phenomenon is described as a failure in adaptation rather than a disease entity, or as a failure to acquire adequate social learning. Among the arbitrary types of wife battering which are described, apart from the probably major cultural type, are men with (a) immature personalities; (b) other personality disorders, including the dependent and aggressive types; (c) jealousy reactions; and (d) addictions. Previous studies of small samples of child-battering fathers suggest that at least 25% of them also batter their wives.

CLASSIFICATION: 14

SUBJECT TERMS: WIVES, MARITAL CONFLICT, BEHAVIOR DISORDERS, ETIOLOGY ; 56900, 29620, 05630, 16190

INDEX PHRASE: etiology & definition & types of men, wife battering

11/5/2

DOC YEAR: 1977 VOL NO: 58 ABSTRACT NO: 03179

violence.

Tutt, Norman

Dept of Health & Social Security, Social Work Service Development Group, London, England

London, England: Dept of Health & Social Security, 1976. 278 p.

Presents a collection of 13 papers on violence and its effects which resulted from a series of seminars sponsored by the Social Work Service Development Group of the Department of Health and Social Security in England. Topics include historical studies of violence, aggressive behavior in animals, relationships between young children and adults in normal families, problems of group violence, how violence can occur in social service settings, and problems of social and family violence.

LANGUAGE: Engl CLASSIFICATION: 29, 00

SUBJECT TERMS: SELECTED READINGS, VIOLENCE, ANIMAL AGGRESSIVE BEHAVIOR, AGGRESSIVE BEHAVIOR; 46150, 55770, 02500, 01390

INDEX PHRASE: violence & its effects in animals & humans, book of readings

Dewsbury, A. R. "Battered Wives: Family Violence Seen in General Practice," in Royal Society of Health Journal, Vol. 95, No. 6, December, 1975. pp. 290-294.

A survey of an "at risk" patient population of 13,000 revealed 15 battered wives, or 1.5 per thousand. Types of violence suffered included fractures, attempted strangulation, threats with a knife, and bruising. Characteristics found in the husbands and mates included extreme jealousy and an aggressive temperament. The assault frequently followed drinking by the male, although alcoholism was present in only 2 cases. Two children in the families surveyed had been battered, 12 had been temporarily taken into care by local authorities or relatives, and 8 showed evidence of serious neurotic disturbance. In one case, a mother assaulted her children after being beaten by her husband. Many of the battered women found that attempts at separation from their spouses lead to extreme anxiety and subsequent reunion. In more than half of the cases, the woman's choice of a husband was related to childhood experience.

Gelles, Richard J. "Abused Wives: Why Do They Stay?," in Journal of Marriage and the Family, November, 1976. pp. 659-668.

The author reviews statistical data from a prior study of 80 families and reports three major factors which influence a battered woman's decision to remain with her husband. The factors he explores are frequency and severity, abuse of the woman as a child, and lack of resources and power. Gelles focuses on the complexity of the issue and admits that he has only touched upon a few of the relevant factors. He mentions that external constraints also play a part in perpetuating domestic violence and lists the police, courts and social service agencies as examples. As this is a research report, it may be more valuable to professionals who are interested in theories pertaining to wife abuse and who are familiar with statistical data.

Goode, William. "Force and Violence in the Family," in Journal of Marriage and the Family, November, 1971. pp. 624-636.

Goode discusses the use of force in all social systems and particularly within the family. He explores the role of force in the socialization process of individuals. There is a section which covers violence within the family and discusses the roles of persons engaged in the violent action from an exchange perspective.

Hanks, Susan E., and C. Peter Rosenbaum. "Battered Women: A Study of Women Who Live with Violent Alcohol-Abusing Men," in American Journal of Orthopsychiatry, Vol. 47, No. 2, 1977. pp. 291-306.

The authors present data on case histories of 22 women living with violent alcohol-abusing men. They establish a typology of families of origin and compare the present relationship of the women with their parental background. Data indicates that there is a high correlation to parallels in childhood. It is suggested that self-awareness of the woman can help her to protect herself within the relationship, and insight can help her to avoid reestablishment of another abusive relationship. The authors do not give data on the backgrounds of the men. This article may be useful to clinicians.

Kobus, Elisabeth. "Stay Away from My Body," in Vrij Nederland, July 19, 1975. Translated by Janice Weiss. (Obtain from Janice Weiss, 1743 Fox St., South Bend, Ind. 46613.)

The article includes narrative descriptions of individual abusive cases in an attempt to illustrate the realities of wife abuse. It is written non-scientifically and the author claims that they chose to avoid "scientific" studies and requested no subsidies or grants to fund their shelter in the Netherlands. Kobus explores various service agencies and their functions and limitations in dealing with physically abused women. Her discussion includes police, doctors, lawyers, child protective services, familial and neighbor support. The article states the position the group holds on limiting the shelter to physically abused women and lists its operational principles for running the house. Included is a look at community reaction to the development and maintenance of the shelter. The article is an excellent resource for those actively working on woman abuse and is interesting for its European authorship.

Lystad, Mary Hanemann. "Violence at Home: A Review of the Literature," in American Journal of Orthopsychiatry, Vol. 45, No. 3, 1975. pp. 328-345.

The author cites 162 references in her review of the literature. She examines psychological, social and cultural perspectives of family violence. The review encompasses theoretical issues, incidence of family violence, violence between spouses, abuse of and by children, and other related topics. A theory of violence in the home is offered. This is a comprehensive article.

Owens, David J., and Murray A. Straus, "The Social Structure of Violence in Childhood and Approval of Violence as an Adult," in Aggressive Behavior, Vol. 1, 1975. pp. 193-211.

Data was analyzed from a national survey and three aspects of violence were investigated. The authors studied the relationship of observing violence, of being a victim of violence, and of committing a violent act as a child with approval of violence as an adult. Findings show that those who experience violence as a child tend to favor the use of violence as an adult.

Pizzey, Erin. "Battered Wives: Chiswick Women's Aid - A Refuge from Violence," in Royal Society of Health Journal, Vol. 95, No. 6, December, 1975. pp. 297-298; 308.

The founding and operation of the Chiswick Womens' Aid refuge for battered wives and the situation which led to its establishment are described. Shelter residents are largely responsible for the facility's day-to-day operations and participate in refuge decision-making. Most mothers join in the center's community life and form friendships with other women, often for the first time in their lives. Many mothers and their children stay in the intensive care atmosphere of the central refuge for three months and then move to a smaller shelter-sponsored community house where they live with three or four other battered families. Programs are being established to train battered wives to enter the work force and become financially self-supporting and emotionally self-sufficient.

Pizzey, Erin. Scream Quietly or the Neighbors Will Hear. London, Penguin Special, 1974.

The author is the founder of Chiswick Women's Aid, an emergency shelter for battered women. The experiences of the shelter are recorded in this book along with some views of the nature of the problem and solutions. Much success of the shelter is attributed to the willingness to accept all women, to respond quickly and to provide a safe place for women to sort out their lives. This short, easy-to-read paperback is excellent for all who have an interest in understanding the severity of the problem and the need for services.

Van Stolk, Mary. "Battered Women, Battered Children," in Children Today, March-April, 1976. pp. 8-12.

The author researched the extent of child abuse in Canada and discovered that many children were being beaten in the wombs of their mothers. In an effort to uncover statistics related to prenatal child abuse, she attempted to uncover Canadian records of beaten pregnant women. Van Stolk draws parallels between beaten women and beaten children. She looks at historical evidence of mistreatment of women and children. This article supports the high incidence of violence in pregnancy as stated by Richard Gelles and others.

Wilson, E. "Battered Wives: A Social Worker's Viewpoint," in Royal Society of Health Journal, Vol. 95, No. 6, December, 1975. pp. 294-297.

The historical relationship of social work to wife battering is described, along with the way it has been largely ignored in comparison to other family problems. Because of statutory provisions and the high value placed on children by society, battered children rather than battered women have received priority. Traditional ideas of male and female roles within a marriage have also affected the profession's response to battering. Social workers are starting to recognize the extent of the wife battering problem, but until society's attitude towards the marriage relationship changes, that of social workers will be slow to evolve.

Woods, Frances, and Miriam Habib. "Strategies for Working with Assaulted Women, Their Families, and the Systems Around Them." Women Helping Women, Metuchen, N.J., 1976.

The outline lists important intervention areas when working with individual battered women, with children of battered women, and with social systems that encounter battered women. This four-page guide is itemized and may be used as a checklist by those working with abused women. It is sensitive to the emotional as well as the practical problems faced by battered women. This is also a good resource to help in the training of crisis counselors.

EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER

10/5/5

ED130530 S0010009

The Status of Women in Alaska, 1977. A Preliminary Study.

Jones, Dorothy M.; And Others

Alaska State Commission on Human Rights, Anchorage.; Alaska Univ., Anchorage.

Jan 77 341p.; Some tables may be marginally legible due to small type; Compiled by the Institute of Social and Economic Research of the University of Alaska

EDRS Price MF-\$0.63 HC-\$18.07 Plus Postage.

To determine the precise nature and extent of the problem confronting Alaskan women, the Legislature in 1976 directed the Human Rights Commission to conduct a study on the status of women in education, employment, health, and the justice system. This publication contains the results of that study. Data for the study were secured through interviews with experts, administrators and staff of services for women, and with users of services; analysis of available statistical data; and when possible, collection and analysis of original data such as surveys of housewives, battered wives, and lawyers, respectively. Some of the issues that were explored in the field of education include sex bias in curriculum materials, athletics, counseling, and vocational training. Employment research centered on sex segregation in occupations, inequality in income, and the needs of working mothers. The health study focused on the special emotional crises occasioned by divorce and wife battering and on the difficulties in obtaining access to abortions and family planning services. The handling of rape cases, the dehumanizing treatment of women in prisons, the insufficient response to wife beatings, the difficulties faced by women undergoing divorce, and the inequalities found in the legal profession were examined in the context of the justice system. (Author/RM)

Descriptors: bias/ *Civil Liberties/ Divorce/ Education/ Employment/ Family Planning/ *Females/ *Feminism/ health/ Justice/ Laws/ Needs/ *Sex Discrimination/ Social Science Research/ Status/ *Study/ Textbook bias

Identifiers: *Alaska

10/5/1

EJ109223 CG512426

Marital Violence: Dimensions of the Problem and Modes of Intervention

Saunders, Daniel G.

Journal of Marriage and Family Counseling, 3, 1, 43-51 Jan 77

This paper reviews data on the incidence of marital violence and recommends methods of intervention on a family and social level. Myths which may block awareness of this widespread problem are briefly described. Particular attention is given to the inadequacy of the catharsis hypothesis in explaining and treating marital violence. (Author)

Descriptors: *Intervention/ *Marriage Counseling/ *Violence/ *Aggression/ *Family Relationship/ *Behavior Problems/ Case Studies/ State Of The Art Reviews/ Helping Relationship/ Interaction Process Analysis

LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE ADMINISTRATION

09900 00 029862

Battered Wives

Medicine, Science and the Law, V 15, N 4 (October 1975), P 237-245

Publication Date: 1975 Pages: 8

Gayford, J J

John Wright and Sons, LTD

42-44 Triangle West

Bristol BS8 1EX

England

Article

Some of the details of a survey of 100 battered wives are presented, including the types of injuries seen and the backgrounds to the cases.

A woman who is reportedly assaulted by her marital partner experiences considerable difficulty in finding a safe place to escape to with her disturbed children. Unless she can find sanctuary, the law can be circumvented by further violence from her husband. A woman can easily enter into a second violent relationship, not because she chooses a violent partner, but because such men are the few readily available in her subculture. The example given to the children prepares the ground for them to enter into the same type of relationships in the next generation. (Author Abstract)

09900 00 039992

Women and Crime (1976 Congress of Cities Cassettes)

Publication Date: 1976

Gates, M Kojack, K Hume, N

National League of Cities

1620 I Street, NW

Washington, DC 20006

Eastern Audio Associates

150 Washington Boulevard

Laurel, MD 20810

Audio Cassette

120 Minutes, 1976 \$13.00

A national league of cities conference panel discusses rape, wife beating, and child abuse.

The panelists, attorneys and women's rights advocates, discuss each of the three subjects. Their presentations are aimed at encouraging public officials to adopt measures to ensure the safety of women and children against such crimes. They call for changes in the laws where necessary, public awareness, and victim advocate programs. In some instances, they debate. A new awareness on the part of police and criminal justice officials will help...BS

LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE ADMINISTRATION

09900 00 040584

Social Context of Violent Behaviour - A Social Anthropological
Study in an Israeli Immigrant Town

Publication Date: 76 Pages: 145

Marx, E.

Routledge and Kegan Paul Ltd.

Broadway House

68-74 Carter Lane

London

England

Paperback 3.500 Pound

Conclusions from the study indicate that violence is purposeful behavior that occurs in specific situations, and that the violent person is cognizant of his acts geared to inform the public in a dramatic manner.

These conclusions are the outcome of findings after two years anthropological fieldwork in a community of Moroccan immigrants in an Israeli new town. Focusing on some of the most common kinds of personal violence observed during that time, the author examines in detail incidents of wife and child beating, threats, assaults, shopwrecking and attempted suicide. From particular observation of these, he moves to comment on the general social background of violence and presents his theories on violent behavior. In conclusion the author shows that there are different kinds of violence, and that frustration/aggression theories can explain only a limited range of violence. He contends that there is a marked correlation between the situation and the type of violence which it produces, and from this observation forms a general social-anthropological theory about the connection between types of violent behavior and their social relationships. (Author Abstract)

LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE ADMINISTRATION

09900 00 019416

Memorandum on Battered Wives

Publication Date: 74 Pages: 22

Anon

Royal College of Psychiatrists

Chandos House

2 Queen Anne Street

London W1

England

Document

Overview of the problems and incidence of wife battering, with discussion of its various social, psychological and psychiatric causal factors and its relationship to child battering and wife killing.

Using case histories to describe varied patterns of wife battering, the authors demonstrate the complexity of home and marital factors involved in this condition, which is regarded as a failure in adaptation or a failure to acquire adequate social learning. They find that classification is both possible and necessary, and that many battered wives make use of help when it is available. Child battering by both parents is found in some frequency in homes where the wife is also assaulted. Police protection is recognized as effective in only the mildest cases. Recommended measures include the need for more descriptive research, the promotion of close liaison between the appropriate governmental and voluntary service agencies, the creation of 24-hour advisory services, the creation of more short-term accomodation projects for battered wives and children, and a continuing program of local and national education, particularly in the schools.

NATIONAL CLEARINGHOUSE ON MENTAL HEALTH INFORMATION

75-16261 L3
 AUTHORS: Daly, Liam.
 ADDRESS: no address
 TITLE: Family violence: a psychiatric perspective.
 SOURCE: Journal of the Irish Medical Association (Dublin).
 SOURCEID: 68(18):450-453, 1975.

Types of violence occurring in the family are reviewed. Three categories of particular interest to a forensic psychiatrist are homicide, infanticide, and child or wife battering. It is recommended that, in dealing with problems of family violence in the community, services be provided by a specialized team, preferably including a psychiatrist, social worker, psychologists, community nurse, and occasionally representatives of other relevant agencies such as the clergy, police and the courts. Therapy focusing on the options to violence is advocated. 8 references.

75-20884 -
 AUTHORS: Lund, Susan Jo Nelson.
 ADDRESS: University of Minnesota
 TITLE: Personality and personal history factors of child abusing parents. (Ph.D. dissertation).
 SOURCE: Dissertation Abstracts International.
 SOURCEID: Ann Arbor, MI, Univ. M-films, No. 75-27202 HC\$18.00 MF\$7.50
 231 p.

The background and personality characteristics of parents whose children had been abused were examined through a series of comparisons using data from mental health center files, county welfare and hospital facilities, and the pediatric services of a general hospital. Results suggest that abusing parents generally have more deviant background characteristics, particularly marital difficulties and wife beating. Physical abuse as a child, previous psychiatric treatment, and alcoholic abuse were also more characteristic of this group. Results of psychological tests suggest, that abusing parents are more deviant in terms of poor impulse control, poor judgment, dissatisfaction with family and social life, communication, empathy, and interpersonal difficulties. The parent who actually abuses his child appears more deviant in terms of personality functioning than the nonabusive parent of the child. It is concluded that psychological tests may be useful in differentiating actual abusers from comparison group parents, even in populations where most parents are fairly deviant in terms of personality functioning, a finding which disagrees with suggestions of other researchers. (Journal abstract modified)

75-7080 L3
 AUTHORS: Lystad, Mary Hanemann.
 ADDRESS: National Institute of Mental Health, Rockville, MD 20852
 TITLE: Violence at home: a review of the literature.
 SOURCE: American Journal of Orthopsychiatry.
 SOURCEID: 45(3):328-345, 1975.

NATIONAL CLEARINGHOUSE ON MENTAL HEALTH INFORMATION

Psychological, social and cultural perspectives of family violence are examined in a review of the literature. Studies are reviewed which relate to theoretical issues, incidence of family violence, violence between husbands and wives, abuse of children, abuse by children, violence related to social structure, and services to discordant families. Findings suggest that a comprehensive theory of violence at home must take into account factors at several levels, placing individual functioning within the social group and within the cultural norms by which the group operates. A theory of violence at home is offered, and suggestions are made for further research. 162 references. (Author abstract modified)

AUTHORS: Tahourdin, Betty.
ADDRESS: 2 Twyford Avenue, London W3 9QA, England
TITLE: Battered wives: "only a domestic affair."
SOURCE: International J. of Offender Therapy and Comparative Criminology (London).
SOURCEID: 20(1):86-88, 1976.

The function of the Cheswick (England) Women's Aid, a home run by volunteers providing refuge for the victims of domestic violence, the battered wives and their children, is discussed. It is noted that invasion of privacy laws render police ineffective in such cases, and that definitions of "homeless" as they entitle people to welfare care render social services equally ineffective. That women must have an escape from husbands who are bullies, drunkards or psychotics is emphasized. For her physical well-being and for the physical and psychological well-being of their children, more homes of refuge should be a demand of Women's Lib and all women in general.

AUTHORS: Wehner-Davin, Wiltrud.
ADDRESS: Muhlbach, West Germany
TRTITLE: /Sexual child murder by an unsuspected villager./
TITLE: Nicht vermisst -- ermordet von einem Unverdachtigen.
SOURCE: Kriminalistik (Hamburg).
SOURCEID: 30(6):248-250, 1976.

The case of a man who raped and murdered an 8-year-old girl is reported. The murder took place in a small German farming town where all residents were long-term acquaintances. On Sunday afternoon, the little girl went to visit her best friend and playmate, another 8-year-old girl in the village. She was invited in by her playmate's father, raped and killed with a rake. The murderer's family had a reputation in the village of being diligent and upright people, the children were always clean, orderly, and punctual. The murderer was a simple, quiet man who had moved there from Belgium and married a local woman. After his initial arrest the murderer's wife gave a history of her relationship with her murderer husband, describing his perversity and brutality. For the sake of her children and the other people in the village she had borne his brutality and abuse in silence. No one suspected there was anything amiss in this model family. On the first day of his investigatory imprisonment the murderer committed suicide by hanging.

13/5/8

75h4313-0

Iatrogenic and Preventive Intervention in Police-Family Crisis Situations

Barocas, Harvey A.

Bernard M. Baruch Coll, City U New York NY 10021

the International Journal of Social Psychiatry, 1974, 20, 1-2, Spr-Sum, 113-121. Coden:ijsp-a

18 Park Ave., London NW11 7SJ, England

Area/Section: 1900/41

Descriptors: PSYCHOLOGY; POLICE; MENTAL HEALTH; CRISIS

Index Phrase: urban police & psychological training for crisis situations;

Abstract: Despite the growing importance of paraprofessional mental health services, little has been done to include the Ur policeman in such health services. The abrasive relationship between the police & the minority communities has been a major & explosive source of grievance, tension, & disorder. Frequently violence is triggered by authority. Iatrogenic intervention is frequent in the police & medical professions. (the term iatrogenic is usually used in a medical context to mean an ailment caused by the MD's intervention in an effort to facilitate the healing process.) Police must realize that the prevention of violence is a mental health problem. A person resorts to violence because he sees no other alternatives; the policeman must aid in seeking alternatives. The essence of a crisis is a struggle to master an upsetting situation & regain a state of balance. The individual in a crisis loses his ability to control his own behavior & is especially susceptible to therapeutic invention with a lasting effect. Family disturbance calls currently represent the single most frequent source of injury & death to police officers by national statistics especially in cases of wife-beating, infidelity, child abuse, & incest. Policemen need psychological training to be a positive rather than a negative force in situations of psychological crisis. L. DeForge

13/5/2

77So907-0

Family Violence and Household Density: Does the Crowded Home Breed Aggression?

Farrington, Keith

Whitman Coll, Walla Walla WA 99362

Descriptors: VIOLENCE; STRESS; THEORY; HOUSEHOLD; FAMILY; GENERAL; DENSITY

Index Phrase: family violence vs household density; data source, Pearson product-moment correlation, support, general stress theory;

DOC TYPE: SSSP1977758

Abstract: An examination of the relationship between household density & family violence. The sample utilized consists of 190 Coll students interviewed via questionnaire. The primary hypothesis -- that households characterized by a high degree of density will be more likely to have higher levels of violence between family members -- is tested via Pearson product-moment correlation. The hypothesis is supported by the data, & this bivariate relationship remains unchanged when elaborated in terms of several relevant control variables -- SES & type of community. This relationship is explained in terms of a 'general stress theory' of family violence.

13/5/9

74H0093-0

Marital violence and the Criminal Process: Neither Justice nor Peace
Field, Martha M.; Field, Henry F.

4930 South Greenwood, Chicago, Ill & Mayer, Brown & Platt, Chicago,
Ill

Social Service Review, 1973, 47, 2, Jun, 221-240. Coden:ssrv-a

Area/Section: 2800/58 Country:USA

Descriptors: MARRIAGE; FAMILY

Index Phrase: A critique of dealing with marital violence in a
criminal-justice system

Abstract: An examination of the human costs that accrue from the
current policy of dealing with marital violence exclusively in the
context of the criminal-justice system. It suggests the need for soc
policies & services that would more effectively prevent the occurrence
or recurrence of violent acts between man & wife. AA

13/5/5

70H9011-0

The Jekyll and Hyde Marriages

Marsden, Dennis; Owens, David

U Essex, Warehoe Park Colchester CO4 3SQ England & U Cardiff, Wales

New Society, 1975, 32, 657, May 8, 333-335. Coden:nwso-a

IPC Magazines, 128 Long Acre, London WC2E 9QH, England

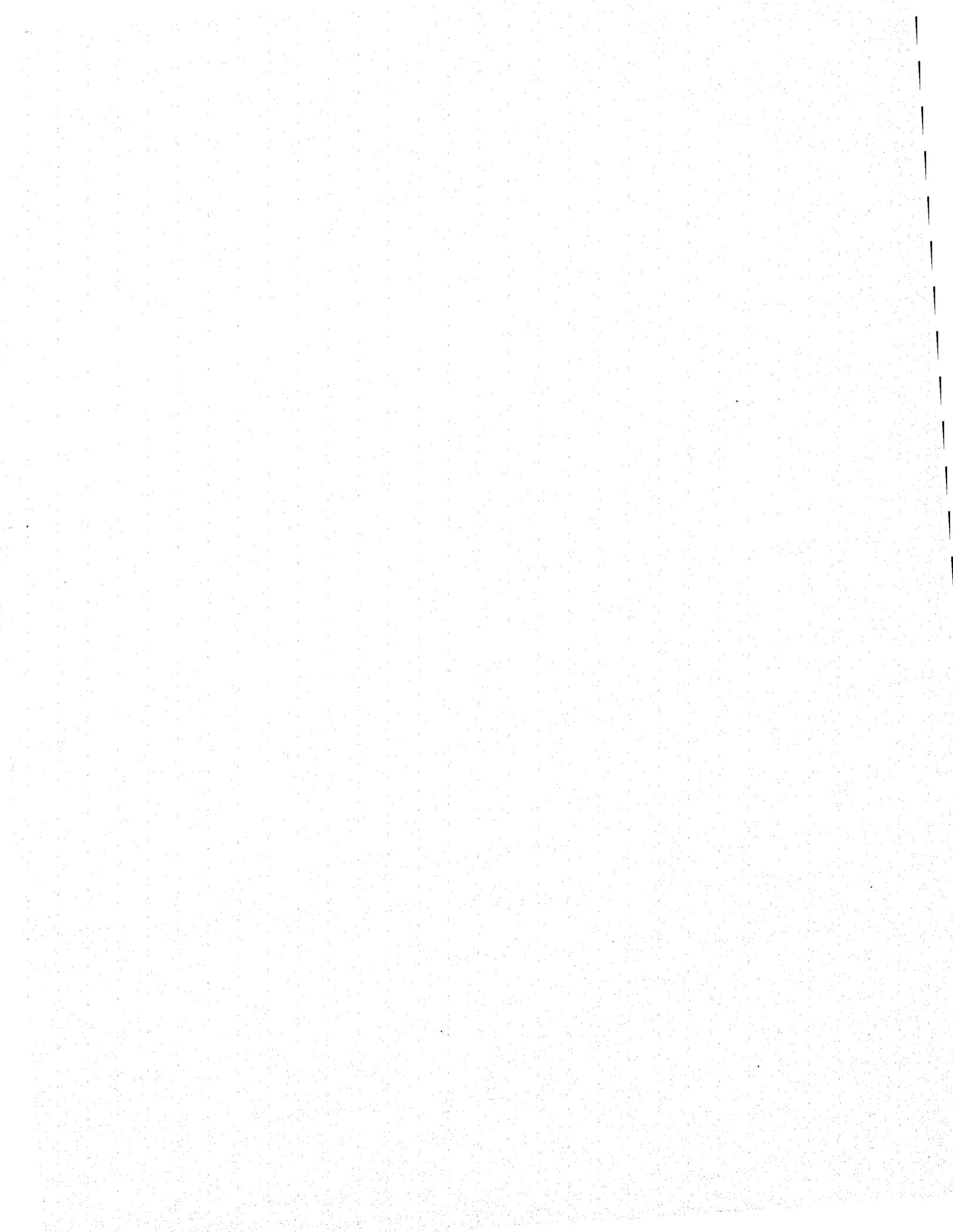
Area/Section: 1900/41

Descriptors: VIOLENCE; MARRIAGE

Index Phrase: patterns of marital violence;

Abstract: John Gayford, in a study (''wife Battering: A Preliminary
Survey of 100 Cases,'' British Medical Journal, 1975, 5951, 1) of 100
battered wives from Chiswick, found that many husbands & some wives
had suffered parental violence as children, some men had records of
violent offences, many women had become pregnant out of wedlock, most
men were intensely sexually jealous, & many marriages ended when the
men became violent toward the children. The pattern of marital
violence differed for 19 women studied in one small town. Few of
these women came from violent homes or were pregnant at time of
marriage. In most families with children, the mother claimed that the
father was good with them, & though many wives felt they could support
themselves, all were living with their husbands. The wives thought
the men's violence had a Jekyll & Hyde quality, but was not
symptomatic of a complete relationship breakdown. The few patterns of
marital violence in these 19 cases indicates one should not take a
simple view of violence in the general population. This small sample
seemed worth reporting because of the lack of research on the issue.

L. Foster



END