



GROUNDBREAKING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE EDUCATION & TRAINING DVDs

*The most extensive DVD Library of its type available anywhere
45 Hours of Material*

Made Possible in Part Through Funding Provided by
The Saxton Family Foundation

**Dedicated to improving
education and policies that meet
the needs of 21st century children
and families**

**A remarkable series, featuring
the pioneers and today's most respected
experts in the field of family violence
Including Members of the Peer-Review Journal
"Partner Abuse" Editorial Board**

Donald Dutton * Linda Mills * Erin Pizzey * Murray Straus * Richard Gelles
K. Daniel O'Leary * Marlene Moretti * Jennifer Langhinrichsen-Rohling
Sandra Stith * Deborah Capaldi * Ellen Bowen * Wendy Bunston * Michelle Carney
Ken Corvo * Christina Dalpiaz * Richard Davis * Christopher Eckhardt * Lynette Feder
Richard Felson * Kimberly Flemke * Nicola Graham-Kevan John Hamel
Lonnie Hazelwood * Denise Hines * Janet Johnston * Jodi Klugman-Rabb
Christopher Maxwell * R.L. McNeely * Greg Merrill * Tonia Nicholls
Moises Prospero * Amy Slep Daniel Sonkin * Arlene Vetere * Carolyn West

36 Presentations. Topics Include:

General Overviews * Public Policy and Law Enforcement Responses
Batterer Intervention * Working with Female Perpetrators
Victims * Systems Approaches: Working with Couples and Families
Domestic Violence and Children * Ethnic Minority and LGBT Populations

Ideal for Professional Training and Education

**Mental Health Professionals
Victim Advocacy Organizations
Law Enforcement and the Courts
Social Service & Educational Organizations**

Each DVD Comes with a PRINT MATERIALS FILE that you can use to print
all of the presentation materials and handouts right from your computer

Additional information including Testimonials can be seen
at our Website www.cafcusa.org or [HERE](#)

DVD Abstracts in Following Pages

© 2009 California Alliance for Families & Children
ALL RIGHTS RESERVED

DVD abstracts in following pages

Ordering and pricing will soon be available

For more information call (916) 415-7095 or send email to info@cafcusa.org

The Conferences That These DVDs Were Produced From Was Approved For Continuing Education Credits As Follows

MFTs & LCSWs, including one-time domestic violence course as required by the California Board of Behavioral Sciences (FAVTEA PCE 3921)

Psychologists (Course Code: FAV 001-0004-000 for 2008, and Course Code: CALI29-0001-000 for 2009)

Continuing Education Requirement for Batterer Intervention Providers

MCLE's for Attorneys. State Bar of California MCLE Provider Approval No. 14233, for 2008, and Approval No.15009, for 2009.

Credits for Child Custody Mediators and Evaluators, 4 hours Domestic Violence Update Training and 12 hours Advanced Domestic Violence Training Credits for Child Custody Mediators and Evaluators, as approved by California Judicial Council.

(The course outlines or agenda of the actual conference training was approved as corresponding to subject areas in California Rules of Court, rule 5.230(d)(2). The views expressed in this training are those of the trainer and do not necessarily represent the official positions or policies of the Judicial Council of California of the Administrative Office of the Courts.)

Featuring Speakers From:

The Peer-Review Journal *Partner Abuse*, published by [Springer Publishing](http://SpringerPublishing.com)

DVDs Made Possible in Part Through Funding Provided by:



Family Violence Training DVDs

From Ideology to Inclusion Conferences

GENERAL OVERVIEWS

- 08-F5** Murray Straus - *30 Years of Research on Partner Violence: Denials and Distortions of the Evidence and What to do About it*



In this presentation, one of the most significant and respected figures in the field debunks a number of established myths about intimate partner violence. Part 1 summarizes results from many studies which show that: (1) Women perpetrate and initiate physical attacks on partners at the same or higher rate as men. (2) Most partner violence is mutual. (3) Partner violence has multiple causes, only one of which is to preserve a patriarchal societal and family system. (4) Motives for partner violence are parallel for men and women. (5) Self-defense explains only a small percent of partner violence by women. (6) Men cause more fear and injury, but about a third of the injuries and deaths are inflicted by female partners. Part 2 provides empirical evidence that these research results are often denied, suppressed or misrepresented. This includes publications of the National Institute of Justice and scientific journals. Part 3 argues that ignoring this overwhelming evidence has crippled prevention and treatment programs and suggests ways in which prevention and treatment efforts might be improved by changing ideologically-based programs to programs based on evidence from the past 30 years of research.

RUNNING TIME: 55 minutes

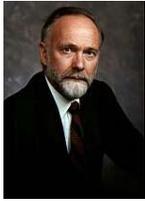
- 08-S1** Don Dutton - *Biased Assimilation, Belief Perseverance, Groupthink and the Social Psychology of the Domestic Violence Movement*



Social psychological studies of groups and individuals reveal how both ward off ideas and data that disconfirm strongly held beliefs. Biased assimilation and belief perseverance refers to the differential processing of belief consonant and belief dissonant data. Groupthink refers to how social influence factors enhance this assimilation bias. We examine, with several examples, this processing feature both in social science studies of domestic violence and in government responses to the problem. All bias exists in one direction and is not, therefore, simply random error. It exists in the direction of the “paradigm” of domestic violence (i.e. male = perpetrator, female= victim) which has its roots in Mackinnon’s Marxist notion of gender relations, and hence, associates maleness with oppression and domination and femaleness with victim-hood. These broad associative complexes color all perceptions of intimate violence as being instrumental and dominating for males, and self defensive and acceptable for females. The numerous shortcomings of this view are discussed with examples.

RUNNING TIME: 1 hour 20 minutes

09-SA4 Daniel K. O’Leary – *Multivariate Models of Intimate Partner Aggression*



Intimate partner aggression has many significant correlates and causes. They include socioeconomic, cultural, genetic, family of origin, neurological, personality, substance abuse, and relationship variables. Risk factor analyses as well as tests of multivariate models of intimate partner aggression by different investigators are presented. The multivariate models add to the risk factor analyses by allowing one to discern distal and proximal causes. Commonalities across these risk factor models are discussed along with associated intervention implications.

RUNNING TIME: 1 hour 15 minutes

09-F1 Deborah Capaldi – *Gender and the Dynamics of Intimate Partner Violence*



The majority of our information about intimate partner violence comes from taking a “snapshot” in time – or cross-sectional studies. Further, most work has involved interviewing either the man or the woman, but not both partners in the couple. Much can be learned about IPV from taking a longer perspective and (1) examining romantic relationships as a dynamic system that is affected by the prior histories, mental health issues, and behavior of both partners, and (2) examining factors related to change over time in IPV. In this presentation evidence regarding men’s and women’s IPV within a long-term study of at-risk early adult couples is presented with relation to these issues. Observations over time of male and female initiation and reciprocity of aggression, predictors of the course of aggression over time, and the association of such aggression to arrests for domestic violence are discussed.

RUNNING TIME: 1 hour 15 minutes

09-SA1 Murray Straus – *Gender Symmetry in Dominance and Other Risk Factors for Partner Violence: Results from the 32 Nations in the International Dating Violence Study*



This talk addresses three of the most prevalent beliefs about the causes of physical violence between married, cohabitants or dating partners (partner violence or PV); the belief that : (1) PV is almost exclusively perpetrated by men. (2) That the predominate risk factor is male-dominance in the relationship. (3) That when women physically attack a partner, it is an act of self-defense or a reaction to an intolerable continuing pattern of dominance and physical victimization. Results from a study of 14,252 university students in 32 nations do not support any of these beliefs. The results show that: (1) When PV occurs, it is typically mutual rather than perpetrated only by men. (2) Male-dominance in the relationship is an important risk factor, but dominance by the female partner occurs just as often as by the male partner, and is as likely as male-dominance to result in violence. (3) Many other risk factors are as important, or more important than male dominance; for example: Antisocial Personality, inadequate anger management skills, inadequate communication skills, and stressful life circumstances. These results suggest that both prevention and treatment efforts must take into account the similarity between men and women in perpetration rates and in and risk factors for PV.

RUNNING TIME: 1 hour 15 minutes

09-SA5 *New Directions in Domestic Violence Research and Intervention, a Q & A with the experts,*
John Hamel, moderator

Some of the world's most renowned family violence experts made themselves available for a lively, informative and memorable hour. This was a rare opportunity for conference attendees to ask about and discuss a multitude of issues related to family violence, including new directions in research, intervention and policy.

RUNNING TIME: 1 hour

PUBLIC POLICY AND LAW ENFORCEMENT RESPONSES

08-F0/F1 John Hamel - *Introductory Remarks*; Linda Mills - *The Dynamics of Intimate Abuse: A New Paradigm*

John Hamel, LCSW, Conference Co-Chair



The conference Co-Chair, a family violence researcher and court-approved batterer intervention provider, summarizes the history of domestic violence policy and legislation in California and the United States, beginning with the landmark *Thurman v. City of Torrington* case. After acknowledging the important accomplishments that followed, including passage of the Violence against Women Act, Mr. Hamel discusses some of the shortcomings of current policy on domestic violence. Setting the tone for the presentations that follow, Mr. Hamel argues that current policy has been limited largely because of its dependence on ideologically-based, rather than research-based, models of education, prevention and intervention.

RUNNING TIME: 17 minutes

Linda Mills, Ph.D, JD



Challenging every assumption we make about the problem of domestic violence and how we treat it, Mills refutes with research, how we, as a society, think about this widespread problem and what we are doing about it. Through a survey of the images that dominate our current approach to domestic violence, Mills recasts the problem in a new light, radically reframing the issue by recognizing the importance of the intimate, dynamic, and relational nature of this problem. A new paradigm is presented for policymakers and treatment providers--both in how the problem is conceptualized and how it should be addressed.

RUNNING TIME: 59 minutes

09-F5 Christopher Maxwell and Joel Garner – *The Evolution of Public Policy on Partner Violence: Current Knowledge and How We Can Improve Our Responses to the Problem*



This presentation is in two parts. First, Dr. Maxwell surveys the past 80 years of public policy scholarship regarding the prevention and control of violence between intimates. The presentation highlights both local and national initiatives including those that were intended to highlight the problems of domestic violence and those that prescribed remedies for the violence. The second part of the presentation then focuses on assessing the more recent policies that further criminalize intimate partner violence, particularly those mandating that police expand arrests and serve victims, that prosecutors more frequently process, convict, and sanction offenders, and that the community deliver more intensive oversight and accountability of offenders through therapeutic programs. This assessment includes both an examination of the underlying theoretical underpinnings of these programs and empirical analyses of data collected to test their efficacy. The presentation concludes with a discussion of what we have learned and how can we can apply this knowledge towards improving policies and programs that address intimate partner violence.

RUNNING TIME: 1 hour 15 minutes

09-F3 Lynette Feder – *Time to Get It Right: Why Our Field Needs More Rigorous Research Methods*



Researchers and practitioners seem to have built a rocky relationship where distrust seems to be the rule rather than the exception. Unfortunately, this has hindered our ability to more fully understand the many social ills that afflict families in crisis, thereby limiting our capacity to develop and implement programs that might change lives for the better. What is necessary is for practitioners and researchers to enter into a dialogue so that each can better understand the other and both can use their skills to improve their ability to effectively assist these families. In an effort to begin this dialogue, Dr. Feder provides an overview of important research results in the area of intimate partner violence (IPV) interventions as well as the specific steps that researchers and practitioners can take to work together more harmoniously and effectively

RUNNING TIME: 1 hour 15 minutes

09-SA3 Richard Felson – *Is Violence Involving Intimate Partners Special?*



The presenter compares violence committed by men and women against their intimate partners to other forms of violence to determine how it is different. When one makes comparisons, one comes to some surprising conclusions. For example, the evidence does not support the idea that the most violent husbands are particularly likely to have a control motive. In addition, men's violence against their partners is just as likely to be reported to the police as many other types of violence. He argues that we should rely on theories of violence, not theories of sexism, to explain intimate partner violence.

RUNNING TIME: 1 hour 15 minutes

08-F4 Linda Mills, Richard Davis and Laura P - *Mandatory Arrest: Professional and Personal Perspectives*

Part One: *Alternatives to Mandatory Interventions*

Linda Mills, Ph.D, JD



Mills argues that we need to reconsider the mainstream feminist position that mandatory arrest and other interventions in domestic violence cases always serve the best interests of victims of domestic violence. Drawing on empirical evidence from numerous fields, Mills contends that our reliance on criminal justice has had several unintended consequences that have not always been responsive to the people involved. Indeed, mandatory interventions come dangerously close to replicating the dynamics in the abusive relationship and therefore should be used with caution and with a sensitivity to the parties involved.

Part Two: *The Unintended Consequences of Mandatory Arrest: Does the Justice System Help or Harm Families?*

Laura P.

Laura P., an educated, professional career woman in a stable, long-term marriage, tells her own story of the impact that California's pro arrest policy has had on her and her family. Due to an unfortunate accident, and the need for her to seek immediate medical treatment for an injury, Laura's husband was arrested against her wishes, put in jail, and charged by the District Attorney with a felony. Laura explains the terrible impact that this experience has had on her personally, as well as on her entire family. Nearly three years later, the negative ripple effects are still evident: emotionally, financially and career-wise. Laura P. is a trained marriage and family therapist, feminist, and is well aware of the need for help and protection for true victims of family violence. However, she uses her story as a plea for legal and justice system reform, in order that families like hers do not have to suffer unnecessarily, while women and families who are most in need of help can receive it.

Part Three: *Mandatory Polices: A False Premise*

Lt (ret.) Richard Davis



Some domestic violence advocates suggest that law enforcement officers are indifferent to the plight of domestic violence victims. These allegations, however, are most often based on anecdotal evidence or data from clinical subgroups of battered women which is then generalized to the general population. In all assault cases, regardless of relationship, law enforcement officers must be trained to recognize the *context* and *circumstances* of individual incidents. While a single push or chronic battering *are* both assaults, logic, reason and contemporary research dictate that there is a dramatic diversity of the *needs for* and *requests from* those who are assaulted. In this presentation, Lt. Davis shows how mandatory and preferred arrest policies, by designating every act of family conflict the same as violent battering, by their very nature exclude context, circumstances, impartiality and common sense – all of which are the foundational cores of judicious community policing.

RUNNING TIME: 59 minute

BATTERER INTERVENTION

09-SA7 Ken Corvo and Christopher Eckhardt – *Batterer Intervention: Failure, Limitation and Promise*

Part 1: How Duluth-Model Interventions Violate Mental Health Professional Ethics: Ignoring Science and Ethical Practice
Ken Corvo, Ph.D.



In spite of numerous studies of program outcomes finding little or no positive effect on violent behavior, the Duluth model remains the most common program type of interventions with perpetrators of domestic violence. Based in ideology, not science, Duluth model programs often ignore important risk factors including serious mental health and substance abuse issues present in perpetrators. These and other issues of possible threat to mental health professional ethics are reviewed in light of the court-mandated, compulsory nature of most Duluth model programs and client and victim expectations for program efficacy.

Part 2: Batterer Intervention Programs: Presumed and Actual Mechanisms of Change
Christopher Eckhardt, Ph.D.



In addition to the question of whether batterer intervention programs are effective at preventing future acts of intimate partner violence, many questions remain concerning how such programs promote behavior change. Dr. Eckhardt reviews the assumptions that underlie cognitive behavioral interventions for partner assaultive men and discuss the evidence concerning the validity of these claims.

RUNNING TIME: 1 hour 30 minutes

09-SU5 Lonnie Hazelwood and Michelle Carney – *Batterer Intervention for Men and Women*

Part 1: Gender Inclusive Principles in Batterer's Intervention Programs
Lonnie Hazelwood, MSHP, LCDC, CCCJS



The presenter gave participants a historical and sociopolitical perspective of the development of BIPs and explores a range of basic gender inclusive principles, strategies and skills that he developed over three decades of direct clinical work with abusers, victims and couples. The male perpetrator stage of the developing family violence field emerged from the victim stage, which was dominated by the shelter movement's political construct that the cause of family violence - i.e., violence against women and children - was a patriarchal culture that taught men to exercise power and control over women. Those who questioned this paradigm were seen as blaming the victim, and even of being themselves misogynous and oppressing women. In the system phase, as male perpetrator programs proliferated and diversified, research-minded clinicians began to critically examine the data while gaining valuable practice knowledge directly from their clients. This led to a number of promising new perspectives and treatment approaches, which the presenter discusses. These include compassionate confrontation, the role of alcohol and drugs, partner contact monitoring, respect for clients, developing empathy, dealing with different forms of anger and mutual dependency, along with other basic principles in work with abusers and batterers.

Part 2: Female Partner Violence Offenders: Current Research and Practice Implications

Michelle Carney, Ph.D.



This presentation reviews the literature on women as perpetrators of violence in their intimate relationships and summarizes the scant literature on intervention programs for these women. Particular attention is paid to the cultural influences that shape our conceptualization of “domestic violence” as exclusively male initiated violence as well as a discussion of the similarities and differences between male and female domestic violence offenders.

RUNNING TIME: 1 hour 30 minutes

08-S3 Nicola Graham-Kevan - Research-based Interventions for Partner Violence Perpetrators



The literature on violence tells us that for interventions to be effective they must address individual offence-related risk factors such as hostile attribution bias and poor emotional regulation. Therefore perpetrator treatment should be preceded by a thorough assessment of the risk and needs of the individual. The range of potential risks and needs to be assessed should be informed by both-the partner violence and the general aggression literature, as well as a functional assessment. Only then can the treatment be tailored to meet individual perpetrator needs. An award winning program from the UK developed for habitually violent men will be used to illustrate how these principals can be put into practice. A checklist for policy makers and clinicians is presented which will allow them to assess for themselves the evidence base for the interventions they utilize and hence invest their time and resources more strategically.

RUNNING TIME: 1 hour 11 minutes

09-F6 Daniel Sonkin – *Domestic Violence Treatment With Attachment and the Brain in Mind*



This workshop explores the clinical application of attachment theory and recent findings in the cognitive and affective neurosciences to the treatment of domestic violence perpetrators. Dr. Sonkin helps clinicians integrate the large body of attachment research that has evolved over the past 40 years into their work with patients. In it he explores John Bowlby’s initial conceptualization of attachment theory and how it has been expanded upon by developmental and social psychologists over the past twenty-five years. Also explored is the neuro-biological aspects of attachment and how this knowledge can help pinpoint specific capacities that clinician can focus their attention. Since one way of conceptualizing attachment theory is about affect regulation, Dr. Sonkin discusses the latest findings in the affective neurosciences and their application to treatment. Specific case material will also be presented.

RUNNING TIME: 1 hour 15 minutes

WORKING WITH FEMALE OFFENDERS

08-F6 Tonia Nicholls and Sarah Desmarais - *Female Perpetrators: The Latest Research*



Until recently there has been all but a complete black-out of research and policy concerning the perpetration of aggression by women against their intimate partners. This reflects a broader societal neglect of the issue of women's aggression and men's victimization experiences. Three decades of research confirm that the prevalence and incidence of aggression by women and men in romantic relationships is highly comparable. The field is now moving to a consideration of the nature of aggression perpetrated and the extent to which women perpetrate "clinically significant" abuse versus low-level or minor aggression that is unlikely to result in physical injuries or harm. Further debate involves the extent to which women's motives for abuse are distinct from men's and the need to contextualize women's aggression. This session reviews a growing body of literature that can increasingly inform our understanding of women's aggression and the extent to which this abuse presents a risk of harm to victims.

RUNNING TIME: 1 hour 16 minutes

09-SU1 Ellen Bowen and Kimberly Flemke – *The Treatment of Abusive Women*

Part 1: Violent, Abusive women: Who Are They? What Works in Helping Them?

Ellen Bowen, MFT



Recognizing that women are as capable of intimate partner abuse as their male counterparts, this presentation summarized the unique characteristics of violent women. Fundamentals of good treatment were discussed with special focus on attachment theory and how it can be used to help women heal. Case examples were used to illustrate.

Part 2: Triggering Rage: Women's Unresolved Trauma

Kimberly Flemke, Ph.D.



This presentation examined an often overlooked facet of IPV—women's rage towards their intimate partners. Based on research with incarcerated women who reported experiencing rage during IPV, a 3-part process of rage is depicted. Additional findings reveal a clear distinction between anger and rage, with rage generating specific physiological, cognitive and emotional changes. Triggers for igniting rage were discussed, as unresolved childhood trauma seems to fuel current acts of violence; connections to posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD) was explored and discussed. Clinical suggestions for treatment were provided.

RUNNING TIME: 1 hour 15 minutes

VICTIMS

08-S5 Erin Pizzey - *A History of the Domestic Violence Movement in the Western World*



The presenter begins with the early history of the domestic violence movement, and her efforts to open the first shelter for women and their children in 1971. The early history of the feminist movement in England is discussed, and the ensuing battle between advocates who conceptualized domestic violence as a human and family issue rather than a gender issue, and those who used the movement as a means of funding and advancing a radical political ideology based on Marxist teaching. This presentation describes in detail the importance of this ideological split, and how the needs and wishes of women have often been ignored. The presentation ends with a general description of where we are now and suggestions for the future.

RUNNING TIME: 54 minutes

09-F2 Denise Hines and Jan Brown - *Services for Male Victims*

Part 1: Can Male Victims of Domestic Violence Get the Help They Need?

Denise Hines, Ph.D.



This presentation focuses on two national studies: one on male victims of DV who sought help and one on DV service agencies on whether they serve male victims. For the first study, prevalence rates for physical and psychological aggression is presented, along with rates of physical injuries and mental illness. Their help seeking efforts are explored, focusing on Internet sources, DV hotlines, local DV agencies, police, mental health professionals, and doctors. These results will be compared to a national survey of DV agencies, who indicated whether they provide housing, legal, counseling, and other services to male victims.

Part 2: The Domestic Abuse Helpline for Men and Women

Jan Brown



The Director of the Domestic Abuse Helpline for Men and Women (DAHMW) discusses the history and mission of a domestic abuse victim program that is uniquely innovative. Staffed by volunteers who are situated all over the country; it offers supportive services to victims of domestic violence, specializing in helping men (and their children) in relationships with abusive women. DAHMW also offers educational trainings and presentations on male victims of domestic abuse – their similarities to and differences from, female victims, their needs, and the best approaches to helping them.

RUNNING TIME: 1 hour 15 minutes

09-SA2 David Woods and Carol Crabsen – *Shelter Services for All*

Part 1: Interview with a Male Victim of Partner Violence

David Woods



David Woods endured several years of severe physical abuse at the hands of his wife, leaving both he and his daughter traumatized. When they sought help from a local shelter, they were denied services. Eventually, Mr. Woods joined in a lawsuit against the state of California, resulting in a historic court decision in 2008 that has changed current statutes to provide funding for victims of domestic violence regardless of gender. In this session, Mr. Woods talked about his experiences as a male partner violence victim, the lawsuit, and how he, his wife, and their daughter have coped since then.

Part 2: Valley Oasis: A Gender-Inclusive Approach to Shelter Services

Carol Crabsen, LCSW



The presenter talks about her work at Valley Oasis, a community based organization that is dedicated to providing services to all victims of domestic violence. Although somewhat controversial, the programs offered by the agency do not separate services by gender. By utilizing transference and counter transference in group settings therapists can address issues that are not attainable in single gender settings. Programs have been developed for children and teen based on boys and girls working together to solve problems and to learn social interaction and communication skills that are non-violent and non sexist.

RUNNING TIME: 1 hour 15 minutes

09-F7 *Q & A with Erin Pizzey; John Hamel, moderator*



The founder of the Western world's battered women's shelter movement returned by popular demand, following last year's historical presentation. Having related her pioneering efforts on behalf of battered women, and having offered her insights on the politicization of the modern shelter movement, Pizzey now turns her attention to family violence today and her ongoing efforts to promote the delivery of victim services for all who need them, regardless of gender, and answers questions in a spirited and enlightening Q&A. A controversial figure, Pizzey's work has often been distorted and misunderstood. However, her ideas on emotional dependency, the systemic nature of domestic violence and its relationship to child abuse, as well as the role of women's violence - while initially dismissed - have found empirical support in recent victimization and attachment research and should now be considered ahead of their time. John Hamel moderated.

RUNNING TIME: 1 hour

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND CHILDREN

08-F9 Amy Slep - *Connections Between Partner and Child Physical Abuse*



It has been increasingly understood that partner and child physical abuse co-occur, but until recently, we have been unable to address critical questions including how prevalent various patterns of co-occurrence are. Furthermore, various patterns of co-occurrence in families may have implications for effective treatment. For example, a man who is violent toward both his partner and his child would likely be best served by a different treatment approach than a man who is violent toward his partner, not his child, and married to a partner who is violent toward both him and the child. This presentation focuses on understanding patterns of violence within families consisting of a couple and at least one child. The connections between partner and child abuse, including common and unique risk and protective factors are addressed. Factors distinguishing individuals engaging in both partner and child aggression are discussed, and intervention implications are highlighted.

RUNNING TIME: 1 hour 19 minutes

09-F4 Richard Gelles – *Partner Violence and Children*



Researchers and clinicians report that children who witness acts of domestic violence experience negative behavioral and developmental outcomes, independent of any direct abuse or neglect that they may also experience from their caretakers. As the presenter makes clear, however, the impact of exposure to domestic violence is far more complicated than the assumed direct relationship between exposure and genitive outcomes. The impact of exposure varies by nature of the domestic violence, the sex and age of the children who are exposed, and the nature of the behavior or impact that is examined. The presenter elucidates how the intersection of child abuse and domestic violence poses important clinical and policy challenges for domestic violence advocates as well as those in the field of child welfare.

RUNNING TIME: 1 hour 15 minutes

09-SA6 Don Dutton - *The Gender paradigm Tips the Scales of Justice in Family Court*



Dutton reviewed the manifestations of the gender paradigm on custody decisions. He argued that family courts have been unduly and unfairly influenced by research that is biased and claims far more than it delivers. Citing the American Bar Association Website and the Website of the Judicial Council of California, Dutton reviewed research that claims wife abuse should be a major desiderata in custody decisions. The research on which this claim is based is drawn from non-representative samples that inflate the incidence of the abuse and ignore the risks posed by women's violence both to spouses and to children. Some of the ABA cited research is either anecdotal or non-existent. What empirical studies have been done conflate allegations of abuse with real incidence of abuse. When due process criteria for abuse are applied, incidence rates are reduced by 75%. When non-representative samples, typically drawn from women's shelters or court mandated treatment groups for males are balanced by samples from the broader community, the incidence of risk dynamics for spouses and children changes dramatically. The best designed studies show that women are the greatest risk for violence to children. A case by case assessment in custody hearings should not include gender stereotyping.

RUNNING TIME: 1 hour 15 minutes

08-S7 Jon Aronson and Michael Carolla - *Interventions in Disputed Child Custody Cases*

Part One: Domestic Violence and Child Custody: Family Court Professionals' Knowledge and Beliefs

Jon Aaronson, Ph.D



In this part of the presentation Jon Aaronson cites many of Researcher Donald Dutton's challenges to Family Court professionals' understanding of domestic violence – derived from training within a closed, victim advocate “gender paradigm.” Contrary to behavioral science findings of domestic violence among the general population, this binary mind-set only admits evidence of abuse perpetrated by male batterers on female victims. The result, Dutton argues, is Family Court professionals' receptivity to case facts that only confirm a gender-based belief system, which often overrides a fuller consideration of the best interests of those children most in need or protection from the full spectrum violence occurring between custody/access litigants. Aaronson focuses in on recent research findings supporting the first part of Dutton's proposition: The beliefs of child custody evaluators, Guardians ad Litem, and judges about intimate partner violence appear more ideological than reality-based. Specific ways in which this bias can play out within the Family Court system are highlighted. Implications for children of divorce who witness violence perpetrated by mothers as well as fathers are noted.

Part Two: Innovative Interventions in Child Custody Disputes Involving Accusations of Domestic Violence

Michael Carolla, MFT



As we move toward a more ‘co-parenting’ ideal, parents seem to be using every ounce of ammo available to win custody of their children, including accusations of partner violence and child abuse. The courts must make appropriate custody and treatment decisions even when unable to separate fact from accusation. Can family court professionals help provide options that allow for uncertainty, rather than force the courts into “yes or no” decisions? We must also consider cases where the facts are not in dispute, and abuse has been clearly substantiated. Does this mean that the parent in question has little or nothing to offer the child? Is the child always in danger with a parent because that parent had been violent with the spouse, is a substance abuser, or suffers from a mental health or physical health issue? How can the child in question still have “the healthiest relationship possible” with that parent? Several modalities and treatment options are discussed, including anger management/domestic violence and parenting groups, co-parenting counseling, “wraparound” therapeutic visitation and parent-child reunification counseling. These options can help parents to learn the skills necessary to better parent and co-parent, and also provide a reasonably safe process for these families to move forward into a healthy, newly-structured family relationship.

RUNNING TIME: 1 hour 24 minutes

08-F11 Janet Johnston - *Screening and Substantiation of Different Types of Domestic Violence: Implications for Developing Parenting Plans and Court Orders for Custody and Visitation*



Premised on the understanding that domestic violence encompasses a wide range of behaviors that can be classified into different types, this presentation addresses the need for a differentiated approach to developing parenting plans after separation when domestic violence is alleged. First, the problem of substantiating allegations of violence and what to do with unsubstantiated claims is discussed. Second, a method of assessing risk [called the PPP] is proposed that screens for the *potency*, *pattern*, and *primary perpetrator* of the violence, and illustrated by case discussion, as a foundation for generating hypotheses about the type of and potential for future violence as well as parental functioning. Third, a series of parenting plans are proposed, with criteria and guidelines for usage depending upon this differential PPP screening and the availability of resources within the family and community. Principles for shifting from one plan to another as the case changes over time and for resolving conflicts in complex cases are illustrated with case examples.

RUNNING TIME: 1 hour 32 minutes

08-S9 Christina Dalpiaz - *Working with Children of Abuse*



Most people suppose that domestic violence refers to a physical altercation between two adults and rarely consider its impact on children. This oversight gravely underestimates the influence that other forms of abuse (i.e., emotional or psychological) have on the families as a whole. The presenter, herself a survivor of physical and emotional abuse by an ex-partner, redefines domestic violence as family violence, and will reevaluate its players by showing the correlation between witnessing violence and subsequent behavioral problems. The primary focus is on how to work effectively with both perpetrating and victimized parents so they can effectively raise their children in a positive environment. This presentation explains how counselors and others working with family violence can reframe power and control as positive forces for change, break down parent resistance and provide skills that enhance parenting strategies. Case examples are used to allow the audience to see these abused families as real individuals and not just statistics.

RUNNING TIME: 1 hour 10 minutes

SYSTEMS APPROACHES: WORKING WITH COUPLES AND FAMILIES

08-S6 Jennifer Langhinrichsen-Rohling and Marlene Moretti - *Family Roots of Adolescent Violence in Relationships and Effective Interventions: A Developmental and Relational Perspective*

Part One: Marlene Moretti, Ph.D



In her presentation, Dr. Moretti discusses: 1) how experiences within families are related to risk for aggression and violence in adolescents' close relationships with peers and romantic partners; 2) the impact of maternal versus paternal partner violence on the use of aggression and violence by adolescents in relationships; and 3) the development and evaluation of a manualized, group format intervention for parents and caregivers of teens at high-risk for aggression and violence. The lessons that adolescents learn in their families about intimacy, conflict, and aggression go far beyond simply modeling the behavior of their parents. It is argued that attachment representations are an important vehicle through which lessons learned within the context of interparental and family violence become internally consolidated and enacted in the relationships of adolescents with peers and partners. The Connect Program – a brief and structured intervention – is described, including evidence of program effectiveness and province wide training and dissemination.

Part Two: Jennifer Langhinrichsen-Rohling Ph.D



Dr. Jennifer Langhinrichsen-Rohling's talk focuses on understanding adolescents as potential perpetrators and victims of intimate partner violence (IPV). She considers the degree to which relationship skill enhancement and emotion regulation strategies should be promoted as intimate partner violence prevention strategies. Dr. L-R then describes the development of a relationship-enhancement, IPV prevention program called Building a Lasting Love that she designed for at-risk adolescents. Data related to the effectiveness of conducting this intervention with pregnant teen girls, who are living in poverty, are described. Dr. L-R also speaks about her on-going efforts to modify the program for adjudicated adolescent boys who are residing in an alternative sentencing program. In addition, the policy implications of her clinical work are articulated.

RUNNING TIME: 2 hours

08-S2 John Hamel and Claudia Dias - *Gender-Inclusive Systemic Therapy for DV*

Part One: *Overview of Research and Basic Treatment Considerations*

John Hamel, LCSW



Intimate partner abuse is a complex problem with multiple etiological roots. Traditional theory and treatment, which favors batterer intervention for men and victim services for women, sacrifices clinical effectiveness for political correctness and ignores these fundamental realities: (1) Men and women can be both perpetrators and/or victims; (2) Both genders are physically and emotionally impacted by abuse; and (3) Child witnesses are affected regardless of perpetrator's gender. Treatment has also been stymied by grossly overstated victim-perpetrator distinctions. Most partner abuse is mutual, and the victim of one person's abuse may be the perpetrator to another within the same family system. Mr. Hamel presents assessment and treatment approaches that take into account these realities, as well as the dual needs of victim safety and clinical effectiveness.

Based in research, the *gender-inclusive approach* also takes into account the remarkable efforts by women's advocates on behalf of victims, and is anchored in core feminist principles of justice, respect and equality.

Part Two: *Challenging Stereotypes of Family Violence*

Claudia Dias, MSC, JD



Research and clinical experience tell us that very little of the dance of domestic violence concerns the dynamics of patriarchy and male privilege: the toxic behaviors of both parties are explicitly intertwined. Key to effective domestic violence treatment is in understanding anger, rage and aggression as survival tools. People of both genders use these tools because they work: we want to be heard, be understood, be right, motivate others; we want to feel safe and in control and powerful. It is demeaning and disrespectful to women to assume that women would not use these very effective tools.

Anger, rage and violence often give us the results we want. But they are expensive tools, costing us dignity, respect, freedom, families, jobs, homes: the list is endless. The key to understanding any behavior is to examine the benefit the person gains from using the behavior and the price paid to attain that benefit. The key to resolving the behavior is to teach alternative means of attaining that benefit.

RUNNING TIME: 1 hour 32 minutes

08-S8 Karen Cohen - *Couples and Family Interventions*



In this presentation, multifamily group treatment is explored, with a focus on the moveable family of origin genogram as an effective intervention tool to treat family violence. This type of genogram is designed to demonstrate to families how the intergenerational process of violent learned behavior can be unlearned. This safe therapeutic technique applies concepts derived from both family therapy and cognitive behavioral therapy techniques to visually show how a family unit can be restructured from dysfunctional to functional. Multiple family group process provides group support through feedback to model and practice new communication and behavioral skills to improve problem solving in various stages of cyclical, unresolved family conflict. Evidence of the effectiveness of this treatment modality has come from empirical studies spanning over 15 years with mandated treatment referrals from Los Angeles County Child and Family Services and a subsequent ongoing voluntary after care program.

RUNNING TIME: 1 hour 12 minutes

09-SA8 John Hamel and Jodi Klugman-Rabb – *Working with Parents and Families*

Part 1: Treating Child Abusers in High Conflict Family Violence Parent Groups

John Hamel, LCSW



Child abuse is a major social problem, with children the most vulnerable victims of family violence. In California, PC 273.1 mandates a 52-week program for child abusers. However, there is only minimal awareness of this law, even among law enforcement agencies, and there are few programs available relative to the number of batterer intervention groups. In families in which there is child physical, sexual and emotional abuse there is often co-occurring forms of other types of abuse, including partner abuse, child on parent abuse, and elderly abuse. Thus the various forms of family violence have common etiological roots and need to be understood in relation to one another. This presentation outlines the essential features of a High Conflict Family Violence Parent Group, and argues that it can be a useful, cost-effective part of a multi-modal, systemic and evidence-based approach in working with perpetrators. It provides an accepting environment in which participants benefit from group empathy and group learning; and it incorporates current research knowledge on known family violence risk factors in a psycho-educational format, with sessions devoted to anger and stress management, child development, family abuse dynamics, parenting, communication and conflict resolution skills.

Part 2: The Effects of Domestic Violence on Family Systems

Jodi Klugman-Rabb, MFT



This presentation examines the effects of domestic violence and high conflict on the nuclear and generational family system. Beginning with an examination of perpetrator and victim dynamics, a multi-generational lens will be used to demonstrate the effects of violence on developmental life cycles for past and future generations, and the effects on family members' relationships and their ability to function in society. Relevant research highlighted the importance of addressing the family system rather than the individual. Examples of cognitive-behavioral interventions were given through case presentation.

RUNNING TIME: 1 hour 30 minutes

09-SU3 Sandra Stith and Eric McCollum – *Domestic Violence Focused Couples Treatment*



This seminar offered participants an overview of the latest version of an 18-week manualized treatment model, Domestic Violence Focused Couples Treatment (DVFCT), developed for working with couples who choose to stay together after mild to moderate domestic violence has occurred. Offered to single couples and multi-couple groups and based on a solution-focused framework, the model was developed with NIMH funding and has preliminary evidence of efficacy. The presenters review the content of the 6-week gender-specific treatment which precedes the 12-week conjoint treatment, focusing on ways the program has been expanded to include aspects of mindfulness and motivational interviewing regarding substance abuse to the previously developed model. Outcome data from research on this model was reviewed. The presenters also reviewed best-practices for addressing intimate partner violence, regardless of the treatment model used. Included in this discussion is a focus on careful screening and strategies for enhancing safety.

RUNNING TIME: 1 hour 15 minutes

09-SU4 Arlene Vetere and Wendy Bunston - *Systemic Interventions*

Part 1: A Systemic Approach to Working with Interpersonal Violence and Family Safety

Arlene Vetere, Ph.D.



Reading Safer Families is a UK based domestic violence project that aims to ensure prevention and continued protection from interpersonal violence for family members. Reading Safer Families safety methodology is based on a systemic approach to risk management, risk assessment, issues of responsibility and collaborative practices. An example from therapeutic practice was used to explore inter-generational violence, the effects on children of witnessing inter-personal violence, gender issues and men as fathers in the legal system.

Part 2: Mind the baby: How ‘Infant’ and ‘Child Led’ Interventions Can Challenge the Way We Think About Our Work to Address Family Violence

Wendy Bunston, MFT, BSW, ATIPMH



This dynamic presentation provided an overview of work undertaken with mothers and babies/children affected by family violence and how fathers are seen as a critical component of this work. The ‘Peek a Boo Club’ and PARKAS (Parent’s Accepting Responsibility-Kids Are Safe), two programs originating from Melbourne, Australia, have introduced hundreds of professionals to ‘infant’, and ‘child led’ practices, revolutionizing how they now think and work. Curiosity about the ‘mind’ of the infant and thoughtfulness about the world of the child makes present, alive and powerful a part of the family system that is often overlooked by parents and professionals alike.

RUNNING TIME: 1 hour 30 minutes

ETHNIC MINORITY AND LGBT POPULATIONS

08-F3 Greg Merrill - *Challenges Posed by Same-Gender Intimate Partner Violence: What Do We Do with Male Victims and Female Offenders?*



In this presentation, data is reviewed on the prevalence and patterns associated with intimate partner violence (IPV) in same-gender (that is, gay or lesbian) partnerships. Although most evidence suggests the problem is very similar in prevalence and severity, male victims and female perpetrators may have a particularly difficult time accessing necessary treatment services. Lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender community agencies may be reluctant to address this issue because there is a pressure to keep the community’s “dirty laundry” under wraps particularly at a historical time when its members seek the right to marry. Battered women’s agencies may also be reluctant to acknowledge female-on-female violence since it violates the current feminist paradigm. Recommendations and concrete policy and practice strategies are reviewed to attempt to bridge the theoretical and gender divides.

RUNNING TIME: 1 hour 4 minutes

08-F7 R.L. McNeely and Moises Prospero - *DV in Ethnic Minority Populations*

Part One: *Interventions for Perpetrators & Victims of Partner Violence: A Latino Perspective*

Moisés Próspero, Ph.D



This presentation provides a dyadic Latino perspective on interventions provided for perpetrators and victims of intimate partner violence (IPV). Quantitative measures (e.g., coercion, type of violence, re-offense rates) and qualitative interviews (e.g. narratives of violent episodes, family experiences) conducted on both males and females residing in various victim shelters and perpetrator treatment centers reveal the adverse effects of IPV on Latino families, as well as the gaps in treatment services. The effects of unilateral violence (female only perpetration versus male only perpetration) and mutually violent couples on the Latino family are also examined. Finally, the perspectives from Latino/a victims and perpetrators are compared with non-Latino perspectives. Based on the various findings, recommendations for culturally appropriate treatment approaches are discussed, with a specific focus on interventions for Latinos that differ from traditional gender-based strategies.

Part Two: *Reflections on Racial Differences in Perceptions of Domestic Violence: Black Women Have to Be Tough*

R.L. McNeely, Ph.D, J.D.



Blacks and whites often have clashing perspectives on many issues that are puzzling to both races. One of these clashing perspectives is in respect to differing perceptions of domestic violence, including murder and rape. Arguably, this as well as other differing perspectives flow not only from stark present-day demographic realities but also from historical differences between the races, including in particular contrasts in the socially-sanctioned roles of women. This presentation sets forth some reasons for race-related cosmological differences, explaining, for example, why many African Americans greeted O.J. Simpson's not-guilty verdict with ecstatic cheers while whites sat in stunned disbelief. The influence of pre-existing discriminatory cognitive schemas is considered to be of comparatively minimal importance in explaining these differences.

RUNNING TIME: 1 hour 20 minutes

09-SU2 Carolyn West - *Standing in the Need of Care: Prevention and Intervention Strategies for Intimate Partner Violence in African American Families*



This interactive presentation provided participants with the knowledge and skills that will enable them to offer more culturally sensitive services to African American survivors of intimate partner violence (IPV). Participants were able to identify (1) historic, social, and demographic risk factors that increase victimization; (2) gender differences in the use of violence; (3) racial differences in disclosure patterns; (4) psychological consequences of abuse; and (5) resilience and protective factors. The presentation concluded with tools and techniques that service providers can use to build effective collaborations with community members and survivors.

RUNNING TIME: 1 hour 15 minutes

Special Acknowledgment & Thanks to:

National Family Violence Legislative Resource Center www.NFVLRC.org

&

The [Saxton Family Foundation](#) for a grant that in part made the conference possible

Nomad-Parker Productions, Inc.

© 2008/2009 California Alliance for Families & Children

ALL RIGHTS RESERVED