



POWER & CONTROL

A form of Domestic Violence

ELDER ABUSE
Hiding in Plain Sight

Tamara Perrin, BA, M.Ed.

March 7, 2014

Learning Objectives

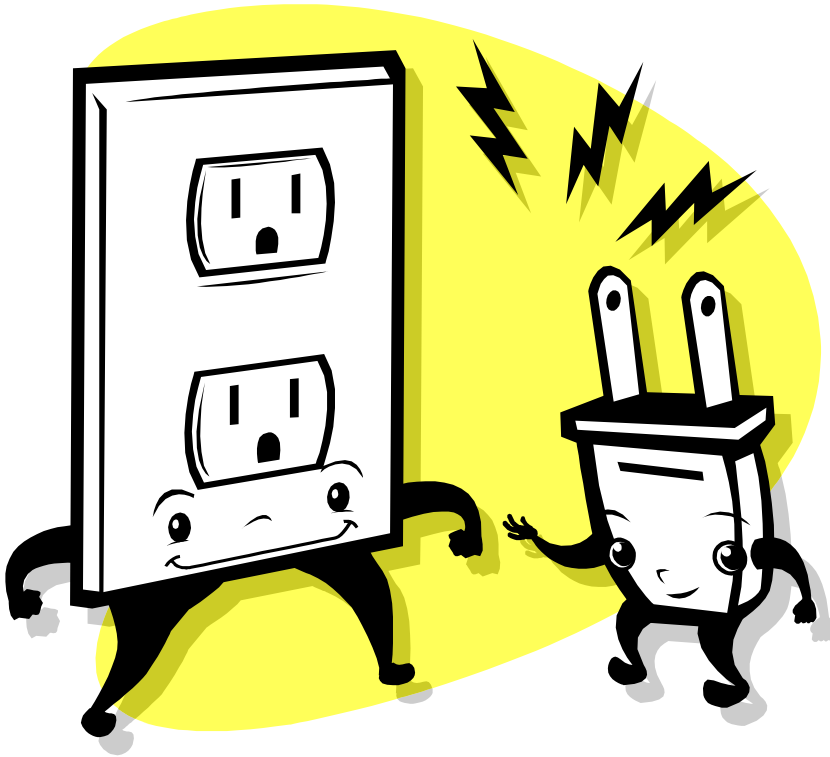
The relationships that exist between

Power & Control and Domestic Violence

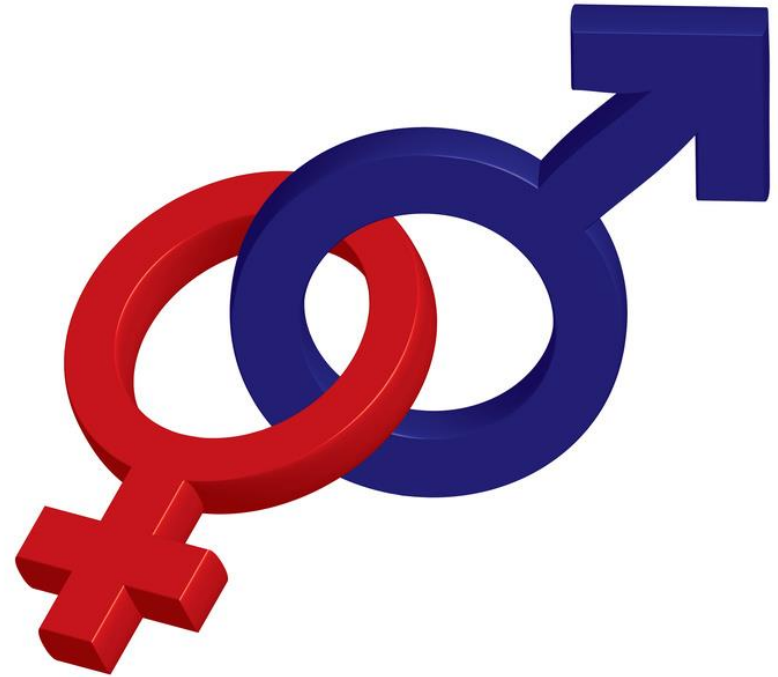
- Participants will learn:
 - Types of Power
 - Who are the powerholders
 - Who are the target persons
 - The role of systems in power and control
 - The role of Sociology
- Participants will learn:
 - Description of Domestic Violence
 - Characteristics and contributors of Domestic Violence
 - Legal terms and legalities

WHAT IS POWER

Who has it ?



How do we use it?





WHO CONTROLS IT?

POWERHOLDERS (those who have power over others)

TARGET PERSONS (those who are affected or influenced by other's power)

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IS....

Any abusive, violent, coercive, forceful, or threatening act or word inflicted by one member of a family or household on another can constitute domestic violence; which often refers to violence between cohabiting individuals....

Including and NOT limited to other members of a household, such as children or elderly relatives.....



Could even be parents or siblings....



INTERACTION BETWEEN POWERHOLDERS & TARGET PERSON

- **Coercive power-** involves the threat of punishment or the withdrawal of something of value
- ***Reward Power*** – *involves the dispensing of reinforcements to induce another to change.*
- **Legitimate power** – derives from a particular position or role a person occupies.
- **Referent power-** is possessed by people who are admired or liked by others.
- **Expert power** – is found among those people thought by others to have expertise in a particular area or subject.
- **Informational power** – If “knowledge is power” then a person who uses knowledge can explain in a credible way why another should do something has informational power.

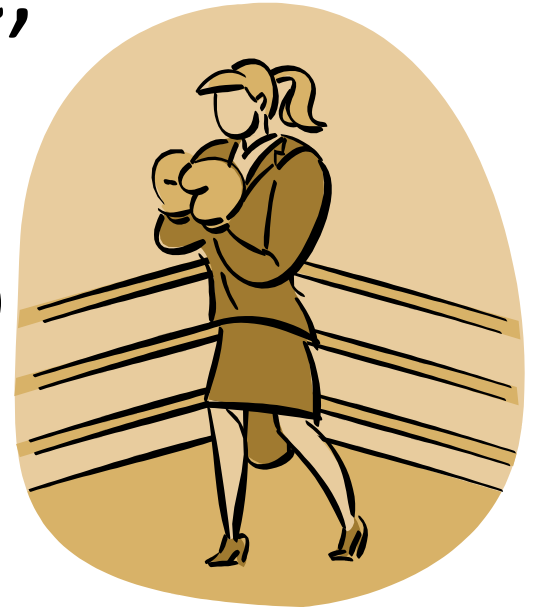
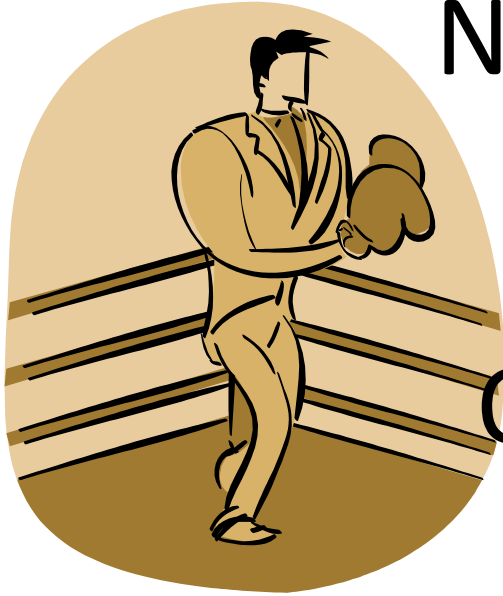
Characteristics of Domestic Violence

- Intimidating gestures, words and actions
- Smashing and throwing things, displaying weapons
- Making one afraid by using
 - Words that debase
 - Playing mind games,
 - Trying to place blame or guilt
 - Controlling ones actions of who you talk to, see, visit, what you read, or wear, where you go what you see

Non-Discriminatory

Assault & Battery

Occurs in every racial,
socioeconomic,
ethnic, and
religious group



VIOLENCE that is both physical and sexual



BATTERY: Is the concern with the right to have one's body left alone by others



BATTERY

Battery is both a tort and a crime. Its essential element, harmful or offensive contact, is the same in both areas of the law. The main distinction between the two categories lies in the penalty imposed.

A defendant sued for a tort is civilly liable to the plaintiff for damages. The punishment for criminal battery is a fine, imprisonment, or both. Usually battery is prosecuted as a crime only in cases involving serious harm to the victim.



Be Aware of the Cycle and switch the Circuit!

Power and Control

- Using intimidation
- Using Emotional Abuse
- Using Isolation
- Minimizing Denying and Blaming
- Using Children
- Using Male Privilege
- Using Economic Abuse
- Using Coercion and Threats

Equality

- Non-threatening behavior
- Respect
- Trust and Support
- Honesty and Accountability
- Responsible Parenting
- Shared Responsibility
- Economic Partnership
- Negotiation and Fairness



Bullying

There are many forms of bullying based on socialized learned behaviors and the perpetuation of them passed on in social and cultural circles.

Cyberbullying



Infinity... once it's out there it can't be taken back!

- Your words - comments
- Your actions - deeds
- Your silence

SYSTEMS

CAN YOU IDENTIFY YOUR PERSONAL ENVIRONMENTAL SYSTEM?

System	Description
Dictatorship	One person has total power
Monarchy	A member of a royal family inherits the right to rule
Oligarchy	A small group, usually a wealthy or privileged class, holds power
Representative Democracy	All voters elect others to represent them in making laws

What Form of Authority Governs You as an Individual?

Forms Authoritarian Government		
System	Description	Examples
Autocracy	All authority is held by one person. In an absolute monarchy, the ruler is a king or queen. All other autocracies are dictatorships.	Saudi Arabia is one of only a few absolute monarchies. Cuba is ruled by a dictator, Fidel Castro
Oligarchy	A small group hold power because of its wealth, military power or social position	In China, all political power is held by the leaders of the Communist Party.
Forms of Democratic Government		
System	Description	Examples
Direct democracy	The people govern themselves by voting on issues and passing laws in mass meetings	New England town meetings and some districts in Switzerland are direct democracies
Republic	The people elect representatives and give them the power to make laws and govern	The United States is one of many republics in the modern world
Constitutional monarchy	The monarch shares power with a legislature or is only the ceremonial head of government	Great Britain is ruled by Parliament, and the monarch's role is ceremonial.

THE ROLE OF POLITICS in Domestic Violence

The task of the political system is to manage group conflict and to establish:

- rules of the game
- compromises
- enforce compromises

Influence of the groups are determined by their number, wealth, organizational strength, leadership access to the decision makers, and how cohesive the group is.

If the group is not focused and lacks unity, they will be fragmented and ineffective.

A Felony Crime

Physical

Sexual

Assault is defined as an act that creates a threat of immediate, actionable harm.

Battery is the harmful or offensive touching of another.



A first offense is a misdemeanor, punishable by up to 93 days in jail, up to a \$500 fine, or both.

A second offense is also a misdemeanor, punishable by up to 1 year in jail, up to a \$1,000 fine, or both.

A third offense is a felony, punishable by up to 2 years in prison, up to a \$2,500 fine, or both.

How Common Is Domestic Violence

- According to a National Violence Against Women Survey, 22% of women are physically assaulted by a partner or a date during their lifetime and nearly 5.3 million partner victimizations occur each year among U.S. women ages 18 and older, resulting in 2 million injuries and 1,300 deaths.
- Nearly 25% of women have been raped and/or physically assaulted by an intimate partner during their lives.
- 15.4% of gay men, 11.4% of lesbians and 7.7% of heterosexual men are assaulted by a date or intimate partner during their lives.
- More than 1 million women and 371,000 men are stalked by partners each year.

Sociology

- **The purpose of sociology to investigate social relationships and groups.**
- Social understanding is knowledge of social aspects of the human condition, how they evolved over time, the variations that occur in differing physical environments and cultural settings, and the emerging trends that appear likely to shape the future.

Contributors

Conditions such:

- Poverty
- Drug or alcohol abuse
- Mental illness
- Illiteracy
- Unemployment

All increase the likelihood of *domestic violence*.

Poverty can determine a person's destiny.

There are many causes and forms of poverty.

- Illnesses and disabilities
- Inflation and taxes
- Mental illness
- Substance abuse
- Domestic violence
- Illiteracy
- Inferior education
- Cutbacks in federal income maintenance programs

Divorce and Unemployment

- Is another producer of poverty. It increases the number of single parent households forcing more people onto welfare rolls and into economic oppression. Eight million households in America are headed by single women compared to the 1.5 million headed by men. Increased unemployment, single parent birth rates and the economic absence of fathers also contributes to the growth of poverty in America.



Questions to Ask

- Are you ever afraid of your partner?
- Has your partner ever actually hurt or threatened to hurt you physically or someone you care about?
- Does your partner ever force you to engage in sexual activities that make you uncomfortable?
- Do you constantly worry about your partner's moods and change your behavior to deal with them?
- Does your partner try to control where you go, what you do and who you see?
- Does your partner constantly accuse you of having affairs?
- Have you stopped seeing family or friends to avoid your partner's jealousy or anger?
- Does your partner control your finances?
- Does he/she threaten to kill him/herself if you leave?
- Does your partner claim his/her temper is out of control due to alcohol, drugs or because he/she had an abusive childhood?

Crime victims, by law, have the following rights:



OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY YOUR RIGHTS BY LAW

The right to be treated with fairness and respect for their dignity and privacy throughout the criminal justice process.

The right to timely disposition of the case following arrest of the accused.

The right to be reasonably protected from the accused throughout the criminal justice process.

The right to notification of court proceedings.

The right to attend trial and all other court proceedings the accused has the right to attend.

The right to confer with the prosecution.

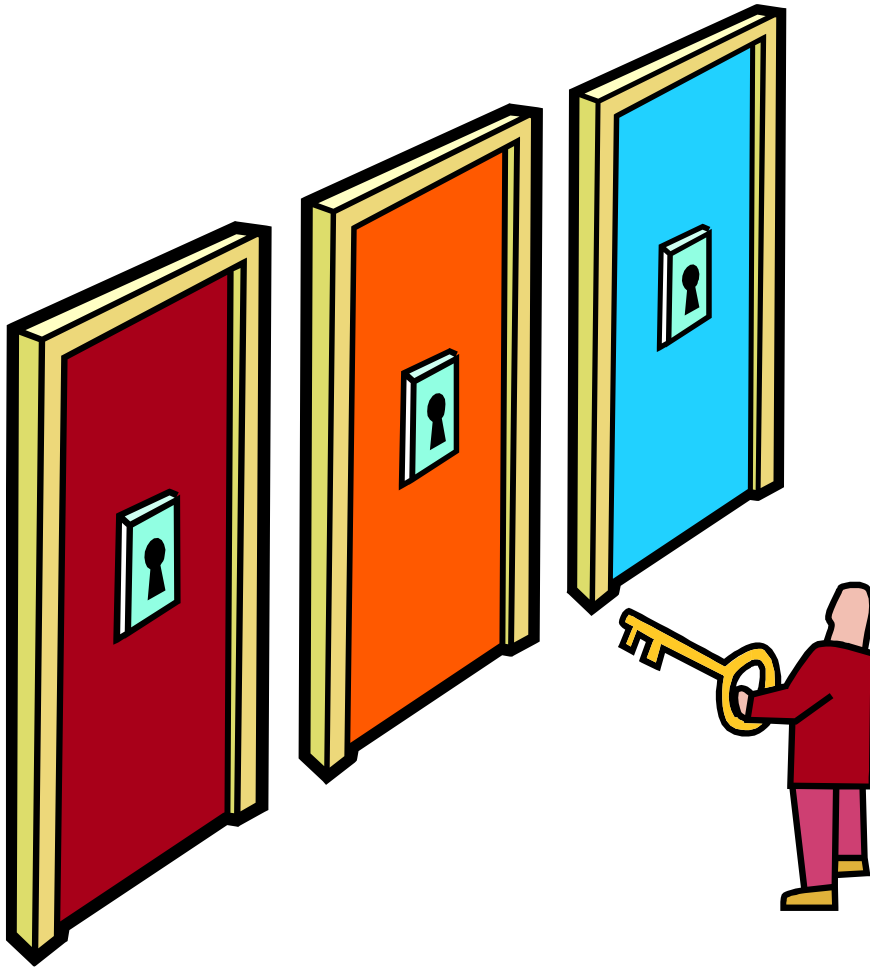
The right to make a statement to the court at sentencing.

The right to restitution.

The right to information about the conviction, sentence, imprisonment, and release of the accused.

The
"domestic"
part doesn't
matter.
Violence is
violence.

CHOICES



YOU DO HAVE THEM!

WHO IS AT RISK?

Elder abuse can occur anywhere – in the home, in nursing homes, or other institutions. It affects seniors across all socio-economic groups, cultures, and races. Based on available information, women and “older” elders are more likely to be victimized. Dementia is a significant risk factor. Mental health and substance abuse issues – of both abusers and victims – are risk factors. Isolation can also contribute to risk.

WHAT SHOULD I DO IF I SUSPECT ABUSE?

Report your concerns. Most cases of elder abuse go undetected. Don't assume that someone has already reported a suspicious situation. The agency receiving the report will ask what you observed, who was involved, and who they can contact to learn more. You do not need to prove that abuse is occurring; it is up to the professionals to investigate the suspicions.

REPORTING is confidential and you may remain anonymous. Making a report in instances of neglect or abuse is the right thing to do...and it's easy don't be afraid. Elders have a right to be safe! To report suspected abuse in the community Adult Protective Services (APS) is here to help.

IN CASES OF IMMEDIATE DANGER, CALL 911

VULNERABLE

A condition in which an adult is unable to protect himself or herself from abuse, neglect, or exploitation because of a mental or physical impairment or advanced age

EMOTIONAL/PSYCHOLOGICAL ABUSE

- Unexplained or uncharacteristic changes in behavior, such as withdrawal from normal activities, unexplained changes in alertness, etc.
- Isolate elder (doesn't let anyone into the home or speak to the elder)
- Verbally aggressive or demeaning, controlling, overly concerned about spending money, or uncaring

FINANCIAL ABUSE/EXPLOITATION

- Lack of amenities victim could afford
- Vulnerable elder/adult “voluntarily” giving uncharacteristically excessive financial reimbursement/gifts for needed care and companionship
- Has control of elder's money but is failing to provide for elder's needs
- Vulnerable elder/adult has signed property transfers (Power of Attorney, new will, etc.) but is unable to comprehend the transaction or what it means

NO EXCUSE
FOR Elder Abuse

1-855-444-3911

NLSM-Elder Law & Advocacy Center

NEGLECT / SELF NEGLECT

- Lack of basic hygiene, adequate food, or clean and appropriate clothing
- Lack of medical aids (glasses, walker, teeth, hearing aid, and medications)
- Person with dementia left unsupervised
- Person confined to bed is left without care
- Home cluttered, filthy, in disrepair, or having fire and safety hazards
- Home without adequate facilities (stove, refrigerator, heat, cooling, working plumbing, and electricity)
- Untreated pressure “bed” sores (pressure ulcers)

PHYSICAL/SEXUAL ABUSE

- Inadequately explained fractures, bruises, welts, cuts, sores or burns
- Unexplained sexually transmitted diseases

ABANDONMENT


- Lack of social connectedness
- Desertion by family, community or agency
- Left unattended in a public facility or waiting room

DAAA REGION 1A
THE DETROIT SENIOR SOLUTION
1333 Brewery Park Blvd. Ste. 200
Detroit, MI 48207
313.446.4444



If you or others experience abuse or neglect in a long term care facility (e.g. nursing home, assisted living facility), The Michigan Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program is here to help.

Call 1-866-485-9393 Toll Free



DOES SOMEONE YOU KNOW
*- a senior or adult with a disability -
display any warning signs of mistreatment?*

Adult Protective Services
1-855-444-3911

For State reporting numbers visit the Michigan Department of Health & Human Services Agency MDHHS website.

The National Center on Elder Abuse (NCEA) directed by the U.S. Administration on Aging, helps communities, agencies and organizations ensure that elders and adults with disabilities can live with dignity, and without abuse, neglect, and exploitation. NCEA is the place to turn for education, research, and promising practices in stopping abuse.

ELDER ABUSE

→ **Hiding in Plain Sight**

WHAT IS ELDER ABUSE?

In general, elder abuse refers to intentional or neglectful acts by a care giver or “trusted” individual that lead to, or may lead to, harm of a vulnerable elder. In many states, younger adults with disabilities may qualify for the same services and protections. Emotional or psychological abuse; financial abuse and exploitation; neglect; physical abuse; sexual abuse; and abandonment are all considered forms of elder abuse. In many states, self-neglect is also considered mistreatment.

References

- Aggressive Criminal Offensive
- Alternatives to Domestic Violence- Power & Control Wheel
- American Psychiatric Association, 2005
- Catholic Charities
- GED Social Studies –Steck Vaughn
- Michigan Department of Human Services –Domestic Violence Abuse Law
- www.Michigan.gov
- <http://statutes.laws.com/michigan/chapter-750/act-328-of-1931/328-1931-lxxiii/section-750-503#sthash.mjGStD1i.dpuf>
- Michigan Domestic Assault Laws - CODES Section 750.81
- Stoner, Management, 1995