

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

A GLOBAL & LOCAL EPIDEMIC

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE (also known as Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) or Partner Abuse) is a pattern of coercive, controlling behavior that can include physical, emotional, psychological, sexual or financial abuse to impact someone else's thoughts, actions and beliefs without their consent. Domestic violence is pervasive, life-threatening, and affects millions of individuals across the United States regardless of age, economic status, race, religion, education, gender identity, or sexual orientation. While factors such as substance abuse, financial stress and unemployment, and illness may exacerbate existing abusive behavior, they do not cause domestic violence. However, they are often used as excuses to allow violent behavior to go unchecked - sometimes resulting in fatalities.

HELPING SURVIVORS

In Massachusetts, more than 50 domestic violence programs provide a range of free and confidential individual and community emergency and advocacy services for survivors and their families.

Community-Based Programs

In FY18, MA Department of Public Health (DPH) funded General Community-Based programs served more than 11,052 adults and 1,621 children, and provided 2,834 outreach and educational activities.

Sexual and domestic violence in communities experiencing inequities programs served 1,196 clients and provided 610 outreach and education sessions.

Children Exposed to DV programs served 481 adults/760 children; Supervised Visitation programs served 1,019 adults/874 children.

Residential Programs

In FY18, DPH funded emergency domestic violence shelters served more than 726 adults and 570 children. Transitional housing programs served more than 126 adults and 99 children. DV, Substance Misuse and Trauma shelters served 29 people.

Hotlines

In FY19, SafeLink - the statewide domestic violence hotline operated through Casa Myrna - received 27,303 calls, 23,062 of which were requests for shelter. Shelter was available for 9% of callers.

SafeLink's multilingual advocates and secure, confidential translation service make hotlines accessible in more than 240 languages.



MASSACHUSETTS SNAPSHOT

In Massachusetts, **1 in 3 women & 1 in 5 men** report having experienced rape, physical violence, or stalking by an intimate partner in their lifetime.

In Massachusetts, over 1/3 of transgender identified people report threats of violence by an intimate partner compared to 13.6% of cis-gendered people, and LGBTQ adults experience a lifetime IPV rate of 29% compared to 11% of heterosexual adults.

In 2019, JDI identified 23 incidents of domestic violence homicide in which there were 27 homicide victims and an additional 7 perpetrators committed suicide.

In one day in 2019, Massachusetts domestic violence programs served 1,857 victims and were unable to meet 441 requests, of which 54% were for housing.



NATIONAL SNAPSHOT

1 in 4 women and 1 in 9 men were victims of intimate partner violence resulting in impact such as injury, fear, concern for safety, and/or needing services.

Intimate partner violence, rape, and stalking is estimated to cost society **\$8.3 billion annually**.

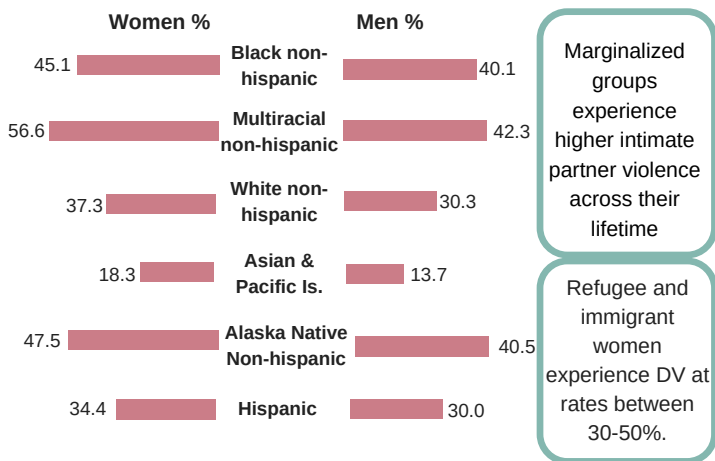
Current or former intimate (romantic) partners commit **14% of all homicides in the US**, with over 70% of the victims being female-- disproportionately women of color.

AT THE INTERSECTIONS

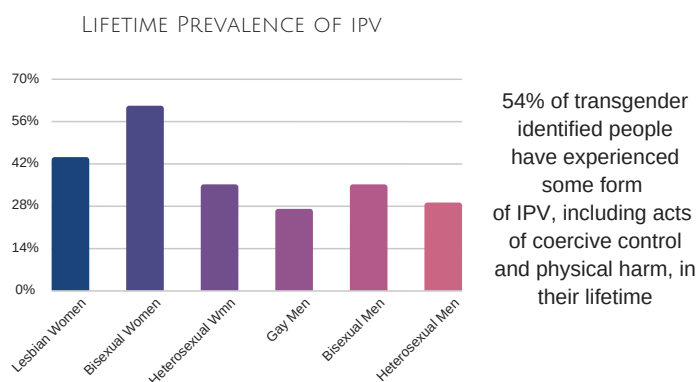
THE MULTI-LAYERED OPPRESSION OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SURVIVORS

Anyone can be a victim or perpetrator of **domestic violence**, but the most marginalized members of our society - people of color, individuals and families who are low income, indigenous peoples, LGBTQ+ folks, people with physical and/or mental disabilities, immigrants, refugees, women, and children - are at the greatest risk. Higher incidences of domestic violence in already-marginalized populations point to societal factors that reinforce social stratification, power, and control. Therefore, JDI engages in many areas of policy to address the root causes and persistent inequities that impact the lives of all survivors and their families.

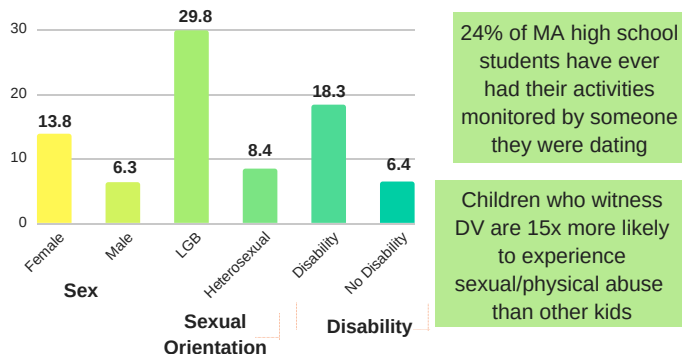
RACIAL AND ETHNIC IDENTITY



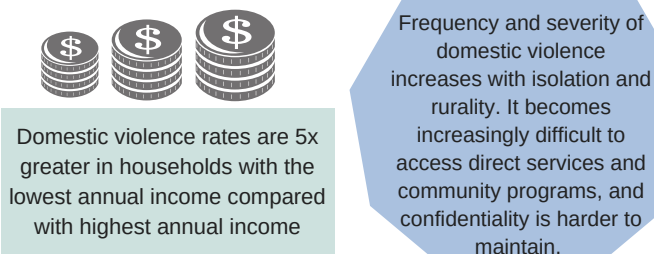
GENDER IDENTITY AND SEXUAL ORIENTATION



AGE



SOCIOECONOMIC STATUS



HOUSING



DISABILITY

