

Western 

Centre for Research & Education on
Violence Against Women & Children

LEARNING NETWORK

Learning Network

Gender-Based Violence Terminology

Contact Us:

vawlearningnetwork.ca

vawln@uwo.ca

twitter.com/learntoendabuse

facebook.com/TheLearningNetwork

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ABANDONMENT

Abandonment can be physical (e.g. the person leaves) or emotional (e.g. withholding affection, lack of time spent together). Abandonment can be cause for a child abuse investigation. [1]

Footnotes:

[1] The Children's Aid Society of London and Middlesex. (n.d.). *Other reasons for child abuse investigations*. Retrieved from [https://www.caslondon.on.ca/services/prevention/other reasons for child abuse investigations](https://www.caslondon.on.ca/services/prevention/other_reasons_for_child_abuse_investigations)

ABLEISM

"Ableism and ableist views are ideas/beliefs that are based on the assumption that the 'able-body' is favoured/preferred over the disabled body. Similar to the experience of racism, homophobia/transphobia and sexism, socially constructed characteristics of disability position people with disabilities as an 'inferior' group to non-disabled people." [1]

Learn More:

- [Issue-Based Newsletter: Women with Disabilities and D/deaf Women, Housing, and Violence – Learning Network](#)
- [Issue-Based Newsletter: Violence Against Women with DisAbilities and Deaf Women – Learning Network](#)
- [Infographic: Violence Against Women Living with Disabilities in Canada – Learning Network](#)
- [Brief: Violence Against Women with DisAbilities and Deaf Women: An Overview – Learning Network](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Odette, F. (2013). Violence against women with disAbilities and deaf women: An overview. *Learning Network Brief 12*. London, Ontario: Centre for Research and Education on Violence Against Women and Children. Retrieved from <http://www.vawlearningnetwork.ca/our-work/briefs/brief-12.html>

ABUSE

"Abuse is behavior used to intimidate, harm, isolate, dominate, or control another person." Abusive behavior encompasses actions, words, and neglect, and may be a pattern of occurrences or a single isolated incident. The abuse can be sexual, physical, verbal, spiritual, emotional, financial, neglectful or psychological in nature. [1] "Abuse can happen to anyone, of any age, ethnicity, sexual orientation, religion or gender. (It) can affect people of all socioeconomic backgrounds and education levels." [2]

Footnotes:

[1] eMentalHealth. (2017, Dec). *Abuse and domestic violence*. Retrieved from <https://www.ementalhealth.ca/Ontario/Abuse-and-Domestic-Violence/index.php?m=article&ID=8920>

[2] Shelter Safe. (n.d.). *Stay safe*. Retrieved from <https://www.sheltersafe.ca/staysafe/>

ABUSED PARTNER

An individual who is abused by their intimate partner. Used interchangeably with survivor, victimized parent, and adult victim. Many advocates prefer the term “survivor,” or the fact that a person has “lived experience” of abuse, since these reflect the reality that many abused individuals cope and move on with personal strength, resourcefulness, and determination. [1]

Learn More:

- [Webinar: Abuse of Older Women – Learning Network](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Baker, L. L., & Cunningham, A. J. (2005). *Learning to listen, learning to help: Understanding woman abuse and its effects on children*. London: Centre for Children & Families in the Justice System. Retrieved from https://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/obj/g4/11/1895953286_5865st.pdf

ACCOMPLICE

Refers to a role taken on by activists who contributed positively to anti-oppression work but are not personally or directly impacted by that form of oppression. This term is often used as a contrast (or complement) to the term “ally.” [1]

“For social justice advocates who use the term accomplice, they often see the site of focus as the main difference between the work of an ally and that of an accomplice. An ally will mostly engage in activism by standing with an individual or group in a marginalized community. An accomplice will focus more on dismantling the structures that oppress that individual or group—and such work will be directed by the stakeholders in the marginalized group. Simply, ally work focuses on individuals, and accomplice work focuses on the structures of decision-making agency.” [2]

Footnotes:

[1] Croft, C. (2020). Ally versus accomplice. *North Carolina Coalition Against Sexual Assault*. Retrieved from <https://nccasa.org/announcements/ally-versus-accomplice/>

[2] Clemens, C. (2017). Ally or accomplice? The language of activism. *Learning for Justice*. Retrieved from <https://www.learningforjustice.org/magazine/ally-or-accomplice-the-language-of-activism>

ACID ATTACK

Acid attacks, or “acid violence” is “a premeditated form of assault involving the throwing, pouring, or administering of acid, or other similarly corrosive substances, on an individual, with the intention to seriously maim, disfigure, torture, or kill.” [1] The United Nations recognizes acid attacks as “a widespread human rights violation most often perpetrated against women.” [2]

Acid attacks do not only cause “swift and devastating” and permanent physical harm (including disfigurement, blindness, deafness, or limiting full use of hands), but also psychological, emotional, and social harm. In addition to the fear and trauma that acid attacks cause, social stigma can lead individuals to feel “afraid of showing themselves in public,” and they may be ostracized by family, neighbours, and the community. [1]

Footnotes:

[1] Cambodian Acid Survivors Charity. (2010, May). *Breaking the Silence: Addressing Acid Attacks in Cambodia*. P. 1. Retrieved from https://web.archive.org/web/20131219010314/http://www.cambodianacidsurvivorscharity.org/docs/breaking_the_silence.pdf

[2] UN Women. (2012). *Let's end violence against women*. Retrieved from <http://www.unwomen.org/en/news/in-focus/end-violence-against-women/2012>

ADVERSE CHILDHOOD EXPERIENCES

“Adverse childhood experiences, or ACEs, are potentially traumatic events that occur in childhood (0–17 years). For example: experiencing violence, abuse, or neglect; witnessing violence in the home or community; having a family member attempt or die by suicide. Also included are aspects of the child’s environment that can undermine their sense of safety, stability, and bonding such as growing up in a household with: substance misuse; mental health problems; instability due to parental separation or household members being in jail or prison.” [1]

Learn More:

- [Issue-Based Newsletter: Trauma- and violence-informed approaches: Supporting children exposed to intimate partner violence – Learning Network](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Centre for Disease Control and Prevention. (2020). *Fast facts: What are adverse childhood experiences?* U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Retrieved from: <https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/aces/fastfact.html>

ADVOCATE

Advocates raise public awareness of the issue of interpersonal violence and empower and help [individuals] navigate the system to access resources. [1]

Footnotes:

[1] Native Women's Association of Canada. (2012). *Community resource guide: What can I do to help the families of missing and murdered Aboriginal women and girls?*. Ottawa: The Native Women's Association Canada. Retrieved from https://www.nwac.ca/wp-content/uploads/2015/05/2012_NWAC_Community_Resource_Guide_MMAWG.pdf

AGEISM

Ageism is a form of discrimination against people based on age. It can be experienced at any age, but most commonly is experienced by those who are described as young or old. Ageism functions through stereotypes, marginalization, and social exclusion and can negatively affect the lives of people in many domains including their employment, housing, services, medical care, and group membership. Ageism is also connected to elder abuse.

Learn More:

- [Learning Modules: Violence Against Older Women - Elder Abuse Prevention Ontario](#)
- [Issue-Based Newsletter: Violence Against Women Who Are Older - Learning Network](#)
- [Workshop Guide: Age and Discrimination - Elder Abuse Prevention Ontario](#)

AGENCY/AUTONOMY

Agency is an “individual’s (or group’s) ability to make effective choices and to transform those choices into desired outcomes.” [1]

“Across all countries women and men differ in their ability to make effective choices in a range of spheres, with women at a disadvantage. Thus, agency is key to understanding how gender outcomes emerge and why they are equal or unequal. Expressions of agency include control over resources, ability to move freely, decision making over family formation, freedom from the risk of violence, and the ability to have a voice in society and influence policy. Social norms shape women’s agency.” [1]

Learn More:

- [Forum: Gender-Based Violence Work in Context: Addressing Structural Violence and Promoting Agency – Learning Network](#)

Footnotes:

[1] World Bank Group. (2012). *World Development Report 2012: Gender Equality and Development*. Chapter 4. Retrieved from <https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/handle/10986/4391>

AGGRAVATED SEXUAL ASSAULT

According to Section 273 (1) of the *Criminal Code*, “Every one commits an aggravated sexual assault who, in committing a sexual assault, wounds, maims, disfigures or endangers the life of the complainant.” [1]

The maximum penalty for Aggravated Sexual Assault is life imprisonment. [2]

Learn More:

- [Issue-Based Newsletter: Sexual Violence Awareness – Learning Network](#)
- [Organization: Ontario Coalition of Rape Crisis Centres](#)
- [Brief: The Neurobiology of Sexual Assault Learn – Learning Network](#)

Footnotes:

[1] *Criminal Code*, RSC, 1985, c. C-46. s. 273. Retrieved from <https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-46/section-273.html>

[2] Avalon Sexual Assault Centre. (n.d.). *Glossary and definitions*. Retrieved from <http://avaloncentre.ca/quicklinks/glossary-and-definitions/>

ALLY

“A person who works to end a form of oppression that gives them privilege(s). Allies listen to, and are guided by, communities and individuals affected by oppression. Forms of oppression include: able-ism, ageism, audism, classism, biphobia, homophobia, transphobia, racism, sexism, and others.” [1]

Footnotes:

[1] The 519. (n.d.). *Glossary of terms*. Retrieved from <http://www.the519.org/education-training/glossary>

ANIMAL ABUSE

“Animal abuse includes physical abuse (non-accidental injury), sexual abuse, emotional abuse, neglect, and staging animal fights. Physical abuse includes the infliction of injuries or causing unnecessary pain, including inappropriate methods of training. Sexual abuse includes any sexual conduct with animals, which may or may not result in physical injury to the animal.

Emotional abuse may include repeated or sustained ‘mental violence’ including withholding social interactions. Neglect is the failure to provide adequate levels of food, water, shelter, and veterinary care to animals causing poor physical condition.” [1]

Animal abuse is addressed by both federal [2] and provincial [3] legislation. Animal abuse is linked to violence against women and children. [4]

Learn More:

- [Infographic: Enhancing Women's Safety by Keeping Pets Safe – Learning Network](#)
- [Organization: Animal and Interpersonal Abuse Research Group \(AIPARG\)](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Canadian Veterinary Medical Association. (2019). *Animal abuse*. Retrieved from <https://www.canadianveterinarians.net/policy-advocacy/animal-abuse>

[2] Canadian Veterinary Medical Association. (2019). *Federal legislation*. Retrieved from <https://www.canadianveterinarians.net/policy-advocacy/reporting-abuse-federal-legislation>

[3] Canadian Veterinary Medical Association. (2019). *Provincial legislation*. Retrieved from <https://www.canadianveterinarians.net/policy-advocacy/reporting-abuse-provincial-legislation>

[4] Barrett, B., Fitzgerald, A., Stevenson, R., & Chung, C.H. (2017). Animal maltreatment as a risk marker of more frequent and severe forms of intimate partner violence. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*, 1-26. DOI: 10.1177/0886260517719542

ANTI-BLACK RACISM

“Anti-Black Racism is defined as policies and practices rooted in Canadian institutions such as, education, health care, and justice that mirror and reinforce beliefs, attitudes, prejudice, stereotyping and/or discrimination towards people of Black-African descent. Anti-Black Racism is associated with significant mental and physical negative health outcomes, poor stress-coping behaviors (e.g. substance abuse), and a reduced likelihood to seek service provided care. Black Canadians often reside in ‘service deserts,’ which further limits accessibility to healthcare and community services.” [1]

Learn More:

- [Webinar: Roots and Resilience – Learning Network](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Black Health Alliance. (n.d.). *Anti-Black Racism*. Retrieved from <http://blackhealthalliance.ca/home/antiblack-racism/>

ANTI-OPPRESSION

“The term anti-oppression reflects a number of different approaches to the work of addressing the social and institutional inequalities in our society.” [1] “Anti-oppression work seeks to

recognize and develop strategies, theories, and actions which challenge systems of inequalities and injustices that are ingrained in our systems, such as institutional policies and practices that allow certain groups to dominate other groups (or the ideologies that justify such domination).” [2]

“An anti-oppression framework involves an analysis of the effects of class demarcation, power, privilege, the absence and presence of civil liberties, internalized and external classism, caste systems, gender oppression, heterosexism, homophobia, and transphobia within society for the purpose of eradicating the associated burdens imposed upon oppressed and marginalized individuals and groups. An anti-oppression framework supports oppressed and marginalized individuals and groups in building their capacity for self-determination, while also challenging those who currently wield power to enact changes toward greater social equity.” [3]

Learn More:

- [Forum: Gender-Based Violence Work in Context: Addressing Structural Violence and Promoting Agency – Learning Network](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Springtide Resources. (2008). *An integrated anti-oppression framework for reviewing and developing policy: A toolkit for community service organizations*. Toronto: Springtide Resources. Retrieved from http://www.springtideresources.org/sites/all/files/Anti-Oppression_Framework_Community_Org_Toolkit.pdf

[2] University of Victoria. (n.d.). *Anti-oppressive practices*. Retrieved from <https://www.antiviolenceproject.org/info/anti-oppressive-practices/>

[3] Wong, H., Yee, J., & Ontario Child Welfare Anti-Oppression Roundtable. (2010). *An anti-oppression framework for child welfare in Ontario*. Toronto: Ontario Association of Children’s Aid Societies. Retrieved from <http://www.oacas.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/Framework.pdf>

ANTI-RACISM

“Anti-racism is an active and consistent process of change to eliminate individual, institutional and systemic racism as well as the oppression and injustice racism causes. Anti-racism is an action-oriented strategy which mobilizes the skills and knowledge of racialized people in order to work for a redistribution of power in organizations and society.” [1]

“To be effective, the Anti–Racism Strategies must be results-oriented and must produce long term, sustainable change that will withstand the test of time, and any change in political power.” [2]

Footnotes:

[1] Community and Race Relations Committee of Peterborough. (n.d.). *Racism 101 definitions*. Retrieved from <http://www.anti-racism.ca/node/1.html>

[2] Colour of Poverty - Colour of Change. (2019). *Proposed framework for a new anti-racism strategy for Canada*. Toronto: Colour of Poverty - Colour of Change. Retrieved from [http://www.ocasi.org/sites/default/files/PROPOSED COP-COC FRAMEWORK for Anti-Racism Strategy Jan 2019 0.pdf](http://www.ocasi.org/sites/default/files/PROPOSED_COP-COC_FRAMEWORK_for_Anti-Racism_Strategy_Jan_2019_0.pdf)

ANTI-SEMITISM

“Discrimination or violence against Jews, Judaism and the cultural, intellectual and religious heritage of Jewish people leading to social, economic, institutional, religious, cultural or political discrimination. The word Semite literally refers to any of the peoples supposed to be descended from Shem, son of Noah, especially the Jews, Arabs, Assyrians and Phoenicians. However, Anti-Semitism is mostly used to refer to prejudice, discrimination, and violence directed at Jews.” [1]

Footnotes:

[1] Springtide Resources. (2008). *An integrated anti-oppression framework for reviewing and developing policy: A toolkit for community service organizations*. Toronto: Springtide Resources. Retrieved from [http://www.springtideresources.org/sites/all/files/Anti-Oppression Framework Community Org Toolkit.pdf](http://www.springtideresources.org/sites/all/files/Anti-Oppression_Framework_Community_Org_Toolkit.pdf)

ARMED VIOLENCE

“Armed Violence refers to the use or threatened use of weapons to inflict injury, death, or psychosocial harm.” [1] “In Canadian households, the presence of firearms in the home is the single greatest risk factor for lethality of domestic violence. Firearms cause harm to Canadian women in a variety of ways. Access to a firearm in the home closely correlates with risk of completed suicide and homicide. Firearm use is prevalent in spousal murder-suicides... Rural women are particularly vulnerable to homicide by firearms. Shotguns and rifles commonly kept in rural homes have been referred to as ‘the weapons of choice’ when it comes to domestic violence by the Canadian Association of Police Chiefs. In violent homes, these weapons have been used to intimidate and control women living in rural areas.” [2]

Learn More:

- [Issue-Based Newsletter: Femicide – Learning Network](#)

Footnotes:

[1] OECD. (2011). *Linking security system reform and armed violence reduction*. France: OECD Publishing. Retrieved from https://www.unicef.org/protection/Linking_security_system_reform_and_armed_violence.pdf
[2] Decter, A. (2018). *Gun control & violence prevention*. Toronto: Canadian Women's Foundation. Retrieved from <https://www.canadianwomen.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/Canadian-Womens-Foundation-Submission-to-SECU-re-Bill-C-71.pdf>

ASSAULT

An unlawful act aggression, with or without a weapon, in which a person applies or threatens force upon another person without their consent. [1]

“Assault” is defined under the Canadian Criminal Code, Section 265 as follows:

265 (1) A person commits an assault when

(a) without the **consent** of another person, he applies force intentionally to that other person, directly or indirectly;

(b) he attempts or threatens, by an act or a gesture, to apply force to another person, if he has, or causes that other person to believe on reasonable grounds that he has, present ability to effect his purpose; or

(c) while openly wearing or carrying a weapon or an imitation thereof, he accosts or impedes another person or begs. [1]

Learn More:

- [Brief: The Neurobiology of Sexual Assault – Learning Network](#)

Footnotes:

[1] *Criminal Code*, RSC, 1985, c. C-46. s. 265. Retrieved from: <https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/c-46/section-265.html>

AUDISM

“Audism can be defined as the devaluation of people who are Deaf, deafened or hard of hearing. An example of this would be assuming that sign language is an inferior language and/or the cultural ways of Deaf people are somehow inferior.” [1]

Learn More:

- [Issue-Based Newsletter: Violence Against Women with DisAbilities and Deaf Women – Learning Network](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Lalonde, D., & Baker, L. (2019). Women with disabilities and D/deaf women, housing, and violence. *Learning Network Issue 27*. London, Ontario: Centre for Research & Education on Violence Against Women & Children. ISBN # 978-1-988412-28-3. Retrieved from <http://www.vawlearningnetwork.ca/our-work/issuebased-newsletters/issue-7/index.html>

BARRIER

Just as physical barriers can present an obstacle to physical movement or accessing physical objects, social barriers consist of social obstacles that either overtly or covertly “prevent a person from fully taking part in all aspects of society,” including (but not limited to) accessing various spaces or resources. [1]

Depending on the circumstances, certain beliefs, policies, traditions, institutions, or social environments may constitute barriers that “prevent or limit a person’s access to opportunities, benefits, or advantages that are available to other members of society.” [1]

Learn More:

- [Infographic: Barriers to reporting sexual harassment – Learning Network](#)
- [Brief: Barriers to Reporting Sexual Harassment – Learning](#)
- [Report: Overcoming Barriers and Enhancing Supportive Responses: The Research on Sexual Violence Against Women, A Resource Document – Learning Network](#)

Footnotes:

[1] The 519. (n.d.). *Glossary of terms*. Retrieved from: <http://www.the519.org/education-training/glossary>

BATTERERS’ INTERVENTION PROGRAMS (PROGRAMMING RESPONSES FOR INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE)

Batter Intervention Programs “were first developed in the late 1970s based on concerns expressed by advocates for abused women.”

The initial goals of these programs remain applicable today: “(a) Changing beliefs and attitudes that justify intimate partner violence, (b) Providing the skills to stop abusive actions, and (c) Preventing recidivism. Programs differ in their clinical approaches to helping batterers acknowledge their behavior and stop behaving abusively.” [1]

Learn More:

- [Webinar: Engaging Men to Reduce and Prevent Gender-Based Violence - Learning Network](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Tutty, L. M., Babins-Wagner, R., & Rothery, M. A. (2019). The responsible choices for men IPV offender program: Outcomes and a comparison of court-mandated to non-court-mandated men. *Journal of Aggression, Maltreatment & Trauma*, 1-22. doi:10.1080/10926771.2019.1578316

BEST PRACTICES

“Best Practices’ refer to programs or components of programs or delivery methods that have been identified as most effective (i.e. produce significant reductions in poor outcomes or associated risk factors or significant increase in positive outcomes or associated protective factors) by repeated methodologically sound studies using an experimental (RCT [Randomized Controlled Trial]) or quasi-experimental design.” [1]

Footnotes:

[1] Buckle, L., Simpson, B., Berger, S., & Metcalfe, R. (2014). *Prevention and early intervention for domestic violence*. Calgary: Family & Community Support Services. Retrieved from https://www.calgarywomensshelter.com/images/pdf/Prevention&EarlyIntervention_DV_FCSSJune2014.pdf

BI-DIRECTIONAL VIOLENCE

“Bilateral violence is a controversial concept and experts do not agree about its characteristics. It occurs when both partners within a relationship are violent towards each other. Understanding this issue is challenging. Data on intimate partner violence are not always collected to reflect that relationships can be complex and dynamic. Data can also span a wide spectrum of behaviours, from unhealthy conflict (sometimes known as common couple violence) in a relationship to severe physical and psychological abuse (sometimes known as intimate terrorism).” [1]

Footnotes:

[1] Chief Public Health Officer. (2016). *Report on the State of Public Health in Canada 2016 - A Focus on Family Violence in Canada*. Ottawa: Public Health Agency of Canada. Retrieved from <http://www.healthycanadians.gc.ca/publications/departement-ministere/state-public-health-family-violence-2016-etat-sante-publique-violence-familiale/alt/pdf-eng.pdf>

BIPHOBIA

“Negative attitudes, feelings, or irrational aversion to, fear or hatred of bisexual people and their communities, or of behaviours stereotyped as bisexual, leading to discrimination, harassment or violence against bisexual people.” [1]

Learn More:

- [Issue-Based Newsletter: LGBTQ2S Youth, Violence, and Homelessness – Learning Network](#)
- [Issue-Based Newsletter: Intimate Partner Violence in Rainbow Communities – Learning Network](#)
- [Organization: The 519](#)
- [Poster Campaign: This is Our Community – Researching for LGBTQ2S+ Health](#)

Footnotes:

[1] The 519. (n.d.). *Glossary of terms*. Retrieved from <http://www.the519.org/education-training/glossary>

BULLYING

“Bullying is characterized by acts of intentional harm, repeated over-time, in a relationship where an imbalance of power exists. It includes physical actions (punching, kicking, biting), verbal actions (threats, name calling, insults, racial or sexual comments), and social exclusion (spreading rumours, ignoring, gossiping, excluding).” [1]

Learn More:

- [Report: Sexual Harassment and Bullying of Youth: Sexual Violence & Individuals Who Identify as LGBTQ – Centres for Disease Control and Prevention](#)
- [Campaign: Boys Don’t Cry – White Ribbon](#)
- [Issue-Based Newsletter: Sexual and Gender-Based Harassment – Learning Network](#)

Footnotes:

[1] National Crime Prevention Centre. (2008). *Bullying Prevention: Nature and Extent of Bullying in Canada*. Ottawa, ON: Public Safety Canada. Retrieved from <https://www.publicsafety.gc.ca/cnt/rsrscs/pblctns/blng-prvntn/blng-prvntn-eng.pdf>

CALL-IN

“Calling in” is a practice that seeks accountability for social harms by engaging with the person(s) who committed the harm in a process of restorative or transformative justice. It is generally understood in contrast to “calling out,” which also aims to generate accountability, but does so by focusing on identifying and generally criticizing a culprit for the harm they have caused.

“Calling in is speaking up without tearing down. A call-in can happen publicly or privately, but its key feature is that it’s done with love. Instead of shaming someone who’s made a mistake, we can patiently ask questions to explore what was going on and why the speaker chose their harmful language.

Call-ins are agreements between people who work together to consciously help each other expand their perspectives. They encourage us to recognize our requirements for growth, to admit our mistakes and to commit to doing better. Calling in cannot minimize harm and trauma already inflicted, but it can get to the root of why the injury occurred, and it can stop it from happening again.” [1]

Footnote:

[1] Ross, L. (2019). Speaking up without tearing down. *Learning for Justice*. Retrieved from <https://www.learningforjustice.org/magazine/spring-2019/speaking-up-without-tearing-down>

CAREGIVER VIOLENCE

Violence perpetrated by paid or unpaid individuals who provide help with daily activities and support. Caregivers can be family, personal support workers, home support worker, housekeepers, and respite workers. Caregiver violence can come in multiple forms including sexual abuse, financial abuse, physical abuse, and neglect. Women who are older and women living with disabilities, may be particularly targeted for caregiver violence.

Learn More:

- [Issue-Based Newsletter: Violence Against Women Who Are Older – Learning Network](#)
- [Issue-Based Newsletter: Violence Against Women with DisAbilities and Deaf Women – Learning Network](#)

CHILD ABDUCTION

“In Canada the most common form of child abduction is by a parent or guardian.” [1] “Parental child abduction occurs when one parent, without either legal authority or the permission of the other parent, takes a child from the parent who has lawful custody. There may be both international and domestic aspects to child abduction. Although children may not be in physical danger, their lives are nevertheless greatly disrupted. They are deprived by the abducting parent of security, stability and continuity in their lives.” [2]

Learn More:

- [Resource: Parental Child Abduction: Prevention, Missing Kids – Canadian Centre for Child Protection](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Canadian Centre for Child Protection. (n.d.). *Parental child abduction*. Retrieved from <https://missingkids.ca/en/how-can-we-help/parental-child-abduction/>

[2] Department of Justice. (2014, March). *Parental child abduction*. Retrieved from <https://www.ppsc-sppc.gc.ca/eng/pub/fpsd-sfpg/fps-sfp/tpd/p5/ch10.html>

CHILD EXPOSURE TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

“Children can be exposed in a number of ways including seeing [domestic violence], hearing it, seeing the aftermath, or being told about it.” [1] “Research has indicated that exposure to DV can suppress a child’s IQ, lead to premature aging, and influence the functioning of the brain’s

emotional systems in ways that can increase vulnerability to psychopathology. Research also showed that exposure to family violence (i.e., domestic violence and child maltreatment) was associated with heightened neural activity in children’s brains similar to that of soldiers exposed to violent combat situations.” [2] “Children who witness violence between parents may also be at greater risk of being violent in their future relationships or being victims of violence in their future relationships. The impact of being exposed to woman abuse on children varies depending on the child’s age and development stage but also on the individual child and the circumstances of their exposure.” [3]

Learn More:

- [Issue-Based Newsletter: Children Exposed to Domestic Violence – Learning Network](#)
- [Brief: Exposure to Domestic Violence and its Effect on Children’s Brain Development and Functioning – Learning Network](#)
- [Report: Little Eyes, Little Ears. How Violence Against a Mother Shapes Children as They Grow—Centre for Children & Families in the Justice System](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Baker, L., & Cunningham, A. (2007). *Little eyes, little ears: How violence against a mother shapes children as they grow*. Ottawa: Centre for Children and Families in the Justice System. Retrieved from <https://www.canada.ca/content/dam/phac-aspc/migration/phac-aspc/sfv-avf/sources/fem/fem-2007-lele-pypo/pdf/fem-2007-lele-pypo-eng.pdf>

[2] Baker, L., and Campbell, M. (2012). Exposure to Domestic Violence and its Effect on Children’s Brain Development and Functioning. *Learning Network Brief 2*. London, Ontario: Centre for Research and Education on Violence Against Women and Children. Retrieved from www.learningtoendabuse.ca/learningnetwork/network-areas/childensexposure

[3] Luke’s Place. (2018, April). *How can a woman make the court understand the impact on her children of the abuse she has been subjected to?* Retrieved from <https://lukesplace.ca/showing-court-the-impact-of-woman-abuse-on-children/>

CHILD MALTREATMENT

Child maltreatment, sometimes called child abuse, “includes physical, sexual and emotional abuse. It also includes neglect, and any violence that children see or hear in their families. e person who abuses the child can be: a parent; a brother or sister; another relative; a caregiver; a guardian; a teacher; or another professional or volunteer who works with children (for example, a doctor or coach).” [1]

Learn More:

- [Issue-Based Newsletter: Boys’ Victimization & Adult IPV Perpetration – Learning Network](#)

- Report: Preventing Revictimization and Use of Aggression Following Girls' Maltreatment: A life course approach – Learning Network
- Issue-Based Newsletter: Sibling Violence – Learning Network

Footnotes:

[1] Department of Justice Canada. (2017). *Child abuse is wrong: What can I do?* Cat. No. J2-369/2016E-PDF. Retrieved from <https://www.justice.gc.ca/eng/rp-pr/ci-ip/fv-vf/caw-mei/index.html>

CISNORMATIVE

“Cisnormativity (‘cis’ meaning ‘the same as’) refers to the commonplace assumption that all people are cisgender and that everyone accepts this as “the norm”. The term *cisnormativity* is used to describe systemic prejudice against trans. This form of systemic prejudice may go unrecognized by the people or organizations responsible.” [1]

Learn More:

- Issue-Based Newsletter: Intimate Partner Violence in Rainbow Communities – Learning Network
- Issue-Based Newsletter: LGBTQ2S Youth, Violence, and Homelessness – Learning Network

Footnotes:

[1] The 519. (n.d.). *Glossary of terms*. Retrieved from <http://www.the519.org/education-training/glossary>

CLASSISM

“Any practices and beliefs that judge and value people according to their social class, or the social class that other people assume they belong to.” [1] This may include practices that judge or value people (positively or negatively) according to the class position they occupy (or are believed to occupy), as well as norms, language, or policies that have the effect of reinforcing class hierarchy and wealth inequality.

Footnotes:

[1] Springtide Resources. (2008). *An integrated anti-oppression framework for reviewing and developing policy: A toolkit for community service organizations*. Toronto: Springtide Resources. Retrieved from http://www.springtideresources.org/sites/all/files/Anti-Oppression_Framework_Community_Org_Toolkit.pdf

COERCIVE CONTROL

“Coercive control is an act or a pattern of acts of assault, threats, humiliation and intimidation or other abuse that is used to harm, punish, or frighten their victim.” [1]

“This controlling behaviour is designed to make a person dependent by isolating them from support, exploiting them, depriving them of independence and regulating their everyday behavior... Coercive control creates invisible chains and a sense of fear that pervades all elements of a victim’s life. It works to limit their human rights by depriving them of their liberty and reducing their ability for action.” [1]

Learn More:

- [Brief: Defining Coercive Control in Comparison to Situational Couple Violence – Neighbors, Friends & Families](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Women's Aid. (n.d.). What is *coercive control*?. Retrieved from <https://www.womensaid.org.uk/information-support/what-is-domestic-abuse/coercive-control/>

COLLECTIVE TRAUMA

“Collective trauma refers to a traumatic event that is shared by a group of people. It may involve a small group, like a family, or it may involve an entire society.

People don’t necessarily need to have experienced the event first-hand in order to be changed by it.

Traumatic experiences may cause a massive shift in the way people in a culture behave, feel, work together, and raise their children.” [1]

Footnote:

[1] Morin, A. (2020). How Collective Trauma Impacts Your Health. Very Well Mind. Retrieved from <https://www.verywellmind.com/effects-of-collective-trauma-5071346>

COLLECTIVE VIOLENCE

“The instrumental use of violence by people who identify themselves as members of a group – whether this group is transitory or has a more permanent identity – against another group or set of individuals, in order to achieve political, economic or social objectives.” [1]

“Various forms of collective violence have been recognized, including: wars, terrorism and other violent political conflicts that occur within or between states; state-perpetrated violence such as genocide, repression, disappearances, torture and other abuses of human rights; (and) organized violent crime such as banditry and gang warfare.” [1]

Footnotes:

[1] World Health Organization. (2014). Chapter 8: Collective violence. *World report on Violence and health*. P. 215. Retrieved from https://www.who.int/violence_injury_prevention/violence/global_campaign/en/chap8.pdf

COLONIALISM

“Colonialism is defined as a policy or set of policies and practices where a political power from one territory exerts control in a different territory. It involves unequal power relations. Colonialism and its bigger brother, imperialism, flourished between the late 1400s and the 1800s as European countries took over the Americas, Africa and most of Asia, mostly to gain access to resources such as gold, silver, furs and fish. Canada experienced settler colonialism as Europeans aggressively took lands from Indigenous peoples and over time displaced and then greatly outnumbered them. Settlement by Europeans began first on the east coast of Canada. Colonialism in Canada may be best understood as Indigenous peoples’ forced disconnection from land, culture and community by another group. It has its roots in Canada’s history but it is alive and well today, too.” [1]

Learn More:

- [Issue-Based Newsletter: Indigenous Women, Intimate Partner Violence & Housing – Learning Network](#)
- [Resource: Colonialism and Its Impacts – Canadian Research Institute for the Advancement of Women Feminist Northern Network](#)

Footnotes:

[1] FemNorthNet. (2016). *Colonialism and its impacts*. Ottawa: Canadian Research Institute for the Advancement of Women. Retrieved from http://fnn.criaw-icref.ca/images/userfiles/files/LWM3_ColonialismImpacts.pdf

COMMUNITY POLICING

“Community policing is a philosophy that promotes organizational strategies that support the systematic use of partnerships and problem-solving techniques to proactively address the immediate conditions that give rise to public safety issues such as crime, social disorder, and fear of crime. Community policing comprises three key components: community partnerships, organizational transformation, and problem solving.” [1]

In the context of domestic violence, “domestic violence police units network and liaise with local shelters, community/government agencies, the Crown, probation and parole services, victim witness assistance programs, local Children’s Aid Societies, and other local services and community representatives responsible for responding to issues relating to domestic violence occurrences.” [2]

Footnotes:

[1] Community Orientated Policing Services, U.S. Department of Justice. (2014). *Community policing defined*. Washington: U.S. Department of Justice. Retrieved from <https://www.publicsafety.gc.ca/lbrr/archives/cnmcs-plcng/cn32080-eng.pdf>

[2] Hamilton Police Service. (2018, March). *Domestic violence*. Retrieved from <https://hamiltonpolice.on.ca/about/chiefs-office/organizational-structure/community-policing/investigative-services/domestic>

COMPASSION FATIGUE

“[A] state of exhaustion and dysfunction biologically, psychologically, and socially as a result of prolonged exposure to compassion stress and all it invokes.” [1] It is sometimes referred to as secondary traumatic stress.

Footnotes:

[1] Figley, C.R. (1995). *Compassion fatigue: Coping with secondary traumatic stress disorder in those who treat the traumatized*. Bristol, PA: Brunner/Mazel, p.253.

COMPLEX TRAUMA

“Most people with trauma-related problems have experienced multiple traumas. The term, complex trauma describes exposure to multiple traumas. It also refers to the impacts of that exposure. Complex trauma is usually interpersonal; involves ‘being or feeling’ trapped; is often planned, extreme, ongoing and/or repeated; often has more severe, persistent and cumulative impacts; involves challenges with shame, trust, self-esteem, identity and regulating emotions; has different coping strategies which include alcohol and drug use, self-harm, over- or under-eating, over-work etc.; affects emotional and physical health, wellbeing, relationships and daily functioning. Complex trauma commonly occurs with repeated trauma against a child; however, complex trauma is not always the result of childhood trauma. It can also occur as a result of adults’ experience of violence in the community e.g. domestic and family violence, civil unrest, war trauma or genocide, refugee and asylum seeker trauma, sexual exploitation and trafficking, extreme medical trauma and/or re-traumatization.” [1]

Footnotes:

[1] National Centre of Excellence for Complex Trauma. (n.d.). *Definition of complex trauma versus single incident*. Retrieved from <https://www.blueknot.org.au/Resources/Information/Understanding-abuse-and-trauma/What-is-complex-trauma>

CONSENT

“When it comes to sexual assault, consent is defined as the voluntary agreement to engage in sexual activity. In other words, you must actively and willingly give consent to sexual activity. Any type of sexual activity without consent is sexual assault.” [1]

Learn More:

- [Video: Forum on Sexual Violence – Learning Network](#)
- [Video: Cycling Through Consent – Learning Network](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Ontario Government. (n.d.) *Let’s stop sexual harassment and violence*. Retrieved from <https://www.ontario.ca/page/lets-stop-sexual-harassment-and-violence>

CONSENT CULTURE

“A culture in which the prevailing narrative of sex is centered on mutual consent. It is a culture that does not force anyone into anything, respects bodily autonomy and is based on the belief that a person is always the best judge of their own wants and needs. Consent to any activity is ongoing, freely given, informed and enthusiastic.” [1]

Learn More:

- [Video: Cycling Through Consent – Learning Network](#)
- [Video: Forum on Sexual Violence – Learning Network](#)
- [Toolkit: Campus Toolkit for Creating Consent Culture – Canadian Federation of Students-Ontario](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Centre for Research & Education on Violence Against Women & Children. (2019). *Responding to disclosures of sexual violence on university and college campuses in Ontario*. Retrieved from <http://respondingtodisclosuresoncampus.com/consent/>

COORDINATED COMMUNITY RESPONSE

“The implementation of new laws and policies is most effective when paired with the development of a community-wide strategy that ensures all members of the community respond in a consistent way to violence against women and can be held accountable for their responses. Coordinated community response (CCR) programs engage the entire community in efforts to develop a common understanding of violence against women and to change social norms and attitudes that contribute to violence against women. Law enforcement, civil society, health care providers, child protection services, educators, local businesses, the media, employers, and faith leaders should be involved in a coordinated community response.” [1]

Footnotes:

[1] UN Women. (2010, October). *What is a coordinated community response to violence against women?* Retrieved from <http://www.endvawnow.org/en/articles/127-what-is-a-coordinated-community-response-to-violence-against-women.html>

COPING STRATEGY/MECHANISMS

“Coping mechanisms can also be described as ‘survival skills’. They are strategies that people use in order to deal with stresses, pain, and natural changes that we experience in life. Coping mechanisms are learned behavioural patterns used to cope. We learn from our lived experiences how to manage our stresses. There are negative coping mechanisms and positive coping mechanisms. Many people use their coping mechanisms to benefit them in a positive way. However, we are not always able to cope with the difficulties that we face.” [1]

Footnotes:

[1] Equay-wuk (Sioux Lookout Women's Group). (2019, March). *Coping mechanisms*. Retrieved from <http://www.equaywuk.ca/HFHNDVT/CopingMechanisms.pdf>

CRIMINAL HARASSMENT

Criminal Harassment (stalking) is found in section 264 of the Criminal Code. It prohibits repeated acts that cause a person to fear for their safety and that may escalate into physical injury or assault. According to the Criminal Code, the intimidating acts may include:

- a) repeatedly following a person;
- b) repeatedly communicating with a person;
- c) repeatedly watching a person’s home or workplace;
- d) directly threatening the victim or a person known to the victim. [1]

“While many crimes are defined by conduct that results in a very clear physical outcome (for example, murder), the offence of criminal harassment prohibits deliberate conduct that is psychologically harmful to others. Criminal harassment often consists of repeated conduct that is carried out over a period of time and that causes its targets to reasonably fear for their safety but does not necessarily result in physical injury. It may be a precursor to subsequent violent and/or lethal acts.” [2] Thus, “If any of [the above] activities causes a person to fear for their safety or the safety of anyone connected to him/her, it is considered to be a criminal harassment and is a criminal offence.” [3]

Learn More:

- [Infographic: Places where sexual harassment occurs and its potential impacts – Learning Network](#)

- [Infographic: Sexual Harassment - What is a myth and what is reality? – Learning Network](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Church-Duplessis, V., Evans, S. Hulays, H., et al. (2017). *Drawing the line on sexual violence: A Guide for Ontario educators, grades 9–12*. Toronto: White Ribbon. P. 136. Retrieved from <https://www.dtl.whiteribbon.ca/secondary-guide>

[2] Department of Justice. (2012). *A handbook for police and crown prosecutors on criminal harassment*. Ottawa: Department of Justice. Retrieved from <https://www.justice.gc.ca/eng/rp-pr/ci-jp/fv-vf/har/part1.html>

[3] Avalon Sexual Assault Centre. (n.d.) *Glossary and definitions*. Retrieved from <http://avaloncentre.ca/quicklinks/glossary-and-definitions/>

CULTURAL HUMILITY

“Cultural humility is a process of self-reflection to understand personal and systemic biases and to develop and maintain respectful processes and relationships based on mutual trust. Cultural humility involves humbly acknowledging oneself as a learner when it comes to understanding another’s experience.” [1]

Footnotes:

[1] First Nations Health Authority. (2016, June). *Creating a climate for change*. Retrieved from <http://www.fnha.ca/Documents/FNHA-Creating-a-Climate-For-Change-Cultural-Humility-Resource-Booklet.pdf>

CYBER MISOGYNY

The term “cyber misogyny” encapsulates the diverse forms of gendered hatred, harassment, and abusive behaviour directed toward women and girls online. It offers a more nuanced way of describing behaviours often lumped into the catch-all term “cyberbullying” in mainstream discourse.” [1] The specification of cyber *misogyny* foregrounds patterns of particularly sexist, racist, homophobic, transphobic, and otherwise discriminatory qualities of this behaviour, as well as “the context of power and marginalization in which it occurs.” [1]

Common examples of cyber misogyny include image-based sexual videos (e.g. “revenge porn”), cyberstalking, gender-based hate speech online, child sexual exploitation, and non-consensual sharing of intimate images. [1]

Learn More:

- [Brief: Cyber Misogyny – Learning Network](#)

Footnotes:

[1] West Coast LEAF. (2014). *CyberMisogyny: Using and strengthening Canadian legal responses to gendered hate and harassment online*. Vancouver, BC: West Coast LEAF. Retrieved from <http://www.westcoastleaf.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/2014-REPORT-CyberMisogyny.pdf>

CYBERSTALKING

“The terms ‘cyberstalking’ and ‘online harassment’ are often used to refer to three types of activities: direct communication through e-mail or text messaging; Internet harassment, where the offender publishes offensive or threatening information about the victim on the Internet; and unauthorized use, control or sabotage of the victim’s computer.” [1]

Learn More:

- [Paper: Protection from Cyberstalking: Basic Advice – Canadian Resource Centre for Victims of Crime](#)
- [Paper: Technology Safety for Women and Children: Legal Remedies for Stalking and Cyberstalking – BC Society of Transition Houses](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Department of Justice. (2012). *A handbook for police and crown prosecutors on criminal harassment*. Ottawa: Department of Justice. Retrieved from <https://www.justice.gc.ca/eng/rp-pr/cj-jp/fv-vf/har/part1.html>

CYCLE OF VIOLENCE

“The **cycle of violence** looks at the repetitive nature of perpetrator’s actions that hinder a victim’s ability to leave an abusive relationship. The **cycle of violence theory** provides an insight into this by illustrating how the behaviour of a perpetrator can change very dramatically, making it difficult for the woman to leave. Women who have experienced violence may recognise this cycle. The cycle of violence theory was developed in 1979 by Dr Lenore Walker. It describes the phases an abusive relationship moves through in the lead up to a violent event and its follow-up.” [1]

“In phase 1, tension-building phase, tension between the people in the relationship starts to increase and verbal, emotional or financial abuse occurs. Phase 2, acute explosion, the peak of the violence is reached in this phase. The perpetrator experiences a release of tension and this behaviour may become habitual. Lastly Phase 3 is referred to as the honeymoon stage which is characterized by remorse, pursuit, and denial. During remorse, the perpetrator may start to feel ashamed. They may become withdrawn and try to justify their actions to themselves and others. During the pursuit phase, the perpetrator may promise to never be violent again. They may try to explain the violence by blaming other factors such as alcohol or stress at work. The perpetrator may be very attentive to the person experiencing violence, including buying gifts

and helping around the house. It could seem as though the perpetrator has changed. At this point, the person experiencing the violence can feel confused and hurt but also relieved that the violence is over. Both people in the relationship may be in denial about the severity of the abuse and violence. Intimacy can increase during this phase. Both people may feel happy and want the relationship to continue, so they may not acknowledge the possibility that the violence could happen again.” [1]

Footnotes:

[1] White Ribbon. (n.d.). *What is the cycle of violence?* Retrieved from <https://www.whiteribbon.org.au/understand-domestic-violence/what-is-domestic-violence/cycle-of-violence/>

DATE RAPE DRUGS

“Drugs that have been used in date rapes include flunitrazepam (Rohypnol) and gamma-hydroxybutyrate (GHB). These drugs inhibit a person's ability to resist sexual assault.” [1]

“Flunitrazepam (Rohypnol) is a central nervous system depressant. It is similar to diazepam (such as Valium) but about 10 times more potent. It is commonly called roofies. It is a tasteless, odorless tablet that can be crushed and dissolved in liquid. It has been used in date rapes, because it can be slipped into a person's drink without it being detected. One small tablet can produce effects for 8 to 12 hours.” [1]

“Gamma-hydroxybutyrate (GHB) is a central nervous system depressant. GHB is a clear, odourless liquid that looks like water and so can be added to a beverage without the person knowing it. It may also be used in the form of a white powder. GHB is also known as liquid ecstasy, G, or soap.” [1]

Footnotes:

[1] HealthLinkBC. (2019, August 22). *Date rape drugs*. Retrieved from <https://www.healthlinkbc.ca/health-topics/uq2448>

DATING VIOLENCE

“A type of intimate partner violence often referred to in the context of adolescent relationships. It occurs between two people in a dating relationship and involves physical, psychological, and sexual abuse.” [1]

Learn More:

- [Issue-Based Newsletter: Violence Against Young Women – Learning Network](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Etherington, N. A., & Baker, L. (2018). Preventing revictimization and use of aggression following girls' maltreatment: A life course approach. *Learning Network Issue 6*. London,

Ontario: Centre for Research & Education on Violence Against Women & Children. ISBN 978-1-988412-20-7 Retrieved from http://www.vawlearningnetwork.ca/our-work/reports/discussion_paper_18.html

DEADNAMING

“Deadnaming is the act of calling a transgender person by an incorrect name. Often, this is a name they were given at birth and no longer use.” [1] Jacq Hixson-Vulpe, with The 519, states that deadnaming “insists that trans people aren’t who we say we are. It is a way of policing trans communities and reminding us that we don’t even get the space to self-determine our own identities...It is not just neutral information about a name that someone used to go by, it is a way of enacting violence on trans people and our identities.” [2]

Learn More:

- [Webinar: Digital Platforms and Violence Against Women: User Experiences, Best Practices, and the Law – Learning Network/Knowledge Hub](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Uplift Center for Grieving Children. (n.d.). *Gender 101: How To Avoid Misgendering and Deadnaming*. P.2. Retrieved from <https://upliftphilly.org/programs/uplift-resources/lgbtqia-youth/>

[2] Hixson-Vulpe, Jacq as cited in Singh, Katherine. (2020). What Is Deadnaming and Why Is It Harmful? *Fashion Magazine*. Retrieved from <https://fashionmagazine.com/flare/what-is-deadnaming-elliott-page/>

DECOLONIZATION

“Decolonization is the process of deconstructing colonial ideologies of the superiority and privilege of Western thought and approaches. On the one hand, decolonization involves dismantling structures that perpetuate the status quo and addressing unbalanced power dynamics. On the other hand, decolonization involves valuing and revitalizing Indigenous knowledge and approaches and weeding out settler biases or assumptions that have impacted Indigenous ways of being. For non-Indigenous people, decolonization is the process of examining your beliefs about Indigenous Peoples and culture by learning about yourself in relationship to the communities where you live and the people with whom you interact.” [1]

“Decolonization using human rights instruments can work to increase safety for Indigenous women, girls, and 2SLGBTQQIA people, if those instruments are understood in relation to the basic principles... respect, reciprocity, and interconnectedness.” [2]

“For Indigenous women, youth, and gender-diverse people, it is imperative that a decolonized understanding of gender precedes any GBA [Gender-Based Analysis] application. The

connection between land/body/culture and health is one that is very important to Indigenous women, and two-spirit and gender diverse persons.” [3]

Footnotes:

[1] Cull, I. Hancock, R., McKeown, S., Pidgeon, M., and Vedan, A. (2018). *Pulling together: A guide for front-line staff, student services, and advisors*. BC Campus: Victoria BC. Retrieved from <https://opentextbc.ca/indigenizationfrontlineworkers/>

[2] National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls. (2019). *Reclaiming power and place: The final report of the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls, Vol. 1a*. P. 183. Retrieved from <https://www.mmiwg-ffada.ca/final-report/>

[3] Native Women’s Association. (2020). *ECCCO Impact Assessment Project*. Retrieved from <https://www.nwac.ca/eccco-impact-assessment/>

DEEPPAKES

“Deepfakes are fake videos made through the use of advanced technology. They make it appear as though individuals are in videos they never took part in. Production of a deepfake requires photos or videos that could be taken in-person, from social media, or otherwise found online.”

[1]

The term “non-consensual sexual deepfakes” is often used to capture “the non-consensual use of adults’ images and videos in the production and distribution of sexual deepfakes.” [1] It is a form of image-based sexual abuse.

Learn More:

- [Infographic: What you need to know about non-consensual sexual deepfakes – Learning Network](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Learning Network. (2019). *What you need to know about non-consensual sexual deepfakes*. Retrieved from <http://www.vawlearningnetwork.ca/our-work/infographics/nonconsensualexualdeepfakes/Deepfake-Infographic-PDF.pdf>

DEEPPNUDES

Deepnudes are named after an application called DeepNude that “uses a photo of a clothed person and creates a new, naked image of that same person. It... only works on images of women.” [1]

While the first DeepNude application was later taken down from the host site, copies of it are still being shared online. [2]

Footnotes:

[1] Cole, S. (2019, June 26). This horrifying app undresses a photo of any woman with a single click. *Motherboard: Tech by Vice*. Retrieved from

<https://www.vice.com/en/article/kzm59x/deepnude-app-creates-fake-nudes-of-any-woman>

[2] Vincent, J. (2019, July 3). Copies of AI deepfake app DeepNude are easily accessible online — and always will be. *The Verge*. Retrieved from

<https://www.theverge.com/2019/7/3/20680708/deepnude-ai-deepfake-app-copies-easily-accessible-available-online>

DEVELOPMENTAL TRAUMA

“Developmental Trauma is a term used in the literature to describe childhood trauma such as chronic abuse, neglect or other harsh adversity in their own homes. When a child is exposed to overwhelming stress and their caregiver does not help reduce this stress, or is the cause of the stress, the child experiences developmental trauma.” [1]

“Developmental traumas are also called **Adverse Childhood Experiences**. These are chronic family traumas such as having a parent with mental illness or substance abuse, losing a parent due to divorce, abandonment or incarceration, witnessing domestic violence, not feeling loved or that the family is close, or not having enough food or clean clothing, as well as direct verbal, physical or sexual abuse. The impact of these traumas has been researched extensively.” [1]

Learn More:

- [Issue-based Newsletter: Trauma- and Violence-Informed Approaches: Supporting Children Exposed to Intimate Partner Violence – Learning Network](#)
- [Webinar: The Neuroscience of Resilience: How Brain Development Affects Learning, Health, and Social Outcomes Across the Lifespan – Learning Network/Knowledge Hub](#)

Footnote:

[1] What is Developmental Trauma/ACES? (n.d.) Childhood Trauma Toolkit: A Resource for Pediatric Healthcare Providers. *Canadian Mental Health Association*. Retrieved from

<https://www.porticonetwork.ca/web/childhood-trauma-toolkit/developmental-trauma/what-is-developmental-trauma>

DISCRIMINATION

Discrimination is behaviour that results from prejudiced attitudes by individuals or institutions, resulting in unequal outcomes for persons who are perceived as different. It is the unfair treatment due to a “Prohibited Ground” under the Human Rights Code, which includes race, sex, sexual orientation, gender orientation and gender expression, same sex partner status, colour, ancestry, place of origin, ethnic origin, marital status, age, disability, citizenship, family status, or religion.

Discrimination includes, but is not restricted to, the denial of equal treatment, civil liberties and opportunities to individuals or groups with respect to education, accommodation, health care, employment and access to services, goods and facilities. [1]

Learn More:

- [Issue-Based Newsletter: Intersectionality – Learning Network](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Canadian Human Rights Commission. (n.d.). *What is discrimination?* Retrieved from <https://www.chrc-ccdp.gc.ca/eng/content/what-discrimination>

DISSOCIATION

“Dissociation is a coping strategy to manage overwhelming experiences. In the absence of stress, the mind is able to collect all the information around us – sensations, feelings, thoughts, behaviours and identity – and use it to make sense of one’s experience. This means that at any given moment we know who we are, where we are, what we are thinking and feeling, and so on. However, in an overwhelming or unbearable situation, a person may dissociate, or protect herself by disconnecting from aspects of what she is experiencing. This makes the situation momentarily tolerable. When one dissociates, one or more pieces of information are cut off from the self, resulting in a fragmented or confusing sense of oneself or of the experience. When there is chronic traumatization, dissociation may become a well-practiced strategy that can lead to problems in daily life and/or increase one’s vulnerability to additional harm. For example, individuals who dissociate regularly may: feel as though there are large periods of time when they don’t know what happened; find themselves in places without any memory of how they got there; find evidence that they have engaged in some activity – for example, gone shopping – but not have any memory of it; be told they were acting different or strange; have others insist they know them from somewhere, but have no memory of meeting this person.” [1]

Footnotes:

[1] Women's College Hospital. (n.d.). *Mental health signs and symptoms*. Retrieved from <https://www.womenshealthmatters.ca/health-centres/mental-health/trauma/signs-and-symptoms>

DOMESTIC HOMICIDE

“Domestic homicide is defined as the killing of a current or former intimate partner, their child(ren), and/or other third parties. An intimate partner can include people who are in a current or former married, common-law, or dating relationship. Other third parties can include new partners, other family members, neighbours, friends, co-workers, helping professionals, bystanders, and others killed as a result of the incident. Domestic homicide is a form of gender-based violence rooted in historical patterns of inequality, exclusion and discrimination.” [1]

Learn More:

- [Brief: Children in Danger of Domestic Homicide – Learning Network](#)
- [Fact Sheet: Domestic Homicide in Canada – Canadian Domestic Homicide Prevention Initiative \(CDHPI\)](#)
- [Evaluating Risk: Who Needs to Know What, When & How Do You Get It – CREVAWC & CAS](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Canadian Domestic Homicide Prevention Initiative. (2013). *Domestic homicide in Canada*. . London, ON: Canadian Domestic Homicide Prevention Initiative. Retrieved from [http://cdhpi.ca/sites/cdhpi.ca/files/Fact Sheet 1 DH-in-Canada.pdf](http://cdhpi.ca/sites/cdhpi.ca/files/Fact_Sheet_1_DH-in-Canada.pdf)

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

“Domestic violence is a pattern of behaviour used by one person to gain power and control over another with whom... [they have or have] had an intimate relationship. It may include physical violence, sexual, emotional and psychological intimidation, verbal abuse, stalking, and use of electronic devices to harass and control. Anyone can be a victim of domestic violence, regardless of age, race, religion, sexual orientation, economic status or educational background.” [1] The individual engaging in abuse may be a current or former spouse or intimate partner or a family member.

“Domestic violence is also known as Personal Relationship Violence, Intimate Partner Violence, Woman Abuse or Family Violence. The term Domestic Violence is most widely used in Ontario and Canada.” [1]

Learn More:

- [Brief: Training social work students in domestic/sexual violence work: Key findings from the literature – Learning Network](#)
- [Brief: Domestic violence training for physicians: Current promising practices – Learning Network](#)
- [Webinar: Preventing domestic homicides: Lessons learned from tragedies – Learning Network](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Public Services Health & Safety Association. (2010). *Addressing domestic violence in the workplace: A handbook*. Public Services Health & Safety Association. Toronto, ON. Retrieved from: <http://makeitourbusiness.ca/sites/makeitourbusiness.ca/files/OHSCC-Addressing%20DV%20in%20the%20Workplace.pdf>

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COURT (DVC) PROGRAM

“In DVC programs, domestic violence cases are heard separately from other criminal law cases by specific judges who are trained about violence between intimate partners and familiar with the issues involved in these types of cases. The program also includes special training about intimate partner violence for police, Crown lawyers, probation officers and other staff that are involved in the program.” [1]

Footnotes:

[1] Ontario Women's Justice Network. (2016, August). *Ontario's domestic violence court program*. Retrieved from <http://owjn.org/2016/08/ontarios-domestic-violence-court-program/>

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE INTERVENTION

“Action taken to stop domestic violence, lessen its effects on the victims and their families, and hold the abuser accountable.” [1] “Domestic Violence Interventions are delivered to either victims or perpetrators after the violence has occurred so as to reduce negative impacts and prevent reoccurrence.” [2]

Footnotes:

[1] Domestic Violence Prevention Committee (2009, June). *Deputy Ministers' Leadership Committee on Family Violence*. Retrieved from http://www.gov.ns.ca/just/global_docs/DVPC_recommendations.pdf

[2] Buckle, L., Simpson, B., Berger, S., & Metcalfe, R. (2014). *Prevention and early intervention for domestic violence*. Calgary: Family & Community Support Services. Retrieved from https://www.calgarywomensshelter.com/images/pdf/Prevention&EarlyIntervention_DV_FCSSJ_une2014.pdf

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PREVENTION

“Actions taken to prevent the onset or repetition of domestic violence. Prevention includes activities and approaches that promote safe, healthy relationships and behaviors (p. 17).”

[1] “Prevention activities can be delivered to the whole population or to groups without regard to individual risk levels (i.e. universal interventions), or to particular groups that are at heightened risk of using or experiencing violence (i.e. selected interventions).” [2]

Learn More:

- [Brief: Examples of Evaluated Social Marketing Campaigns addressing Woman Abuse – Learning Network](#)
- [Brief: Engaging Men & Boys to End Violence Against Women – Learning Network](#)
- [Report: Report on the Evaluation of Violence Against Women Public Education Campaigns: A Discussion Paper – Learning Network](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Domestic Violence Prevention Committee (2009, June). *Deputy Ministers' Leadership Committee on Family Violence*. Retrieved

from http://www.gov.ns.ca/just/global_docs/DVPC_recommendations.pdf

[2] Buckle, L., Simpson, B., Berger, S., & Metcalfe, R. (2014). *Prevention and early intervention for domestic violence*. Calgary: Family & Community Support Services. Retrieved from

https://www.calgarywomensshelter.com/images/pdf/Prevention&EarlyIntervention_DV_FCSSJ_une2014.pdf

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE RISK ASSESSMENT

“Domestic violence risk assessment involves the process of gathering information about perpetrators of domestic violence to make decisions regarding their risk of perpetrating domestic violence. While the focus of domestic violence risk assessment is on the perpetrator, victim safety planning is a very important part of this process. The primary goal of domestic violence risk assessment is prevention of future domestic violence. To prevent future domestic violence it is critical for service providers to determine what domestic violence risks are posed by a perpetrator and what steps can be taken to mitigate domestic violence risk... Overall, domestic violence risk assessment can be defined as the process of evaluating individuals to: (1) speculate about the risks for domestic violence posed by the perpetrator; and, (2) mitigate the risks posed by the perpetrator.” [1]

Learn More:

- [Online Training: Domestic Violence Risk Assessment and Management Curriculum – CREVAWC](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Centre for Research and Education on Violence Against Women and Children.

(2012). *Domestic Violence Risk Assessment and Management On-Line Training Course*.

Retrieved from

http://onlinetraining.learningtoendabuse.ca/sites/default/files/lessons/DVRAM%20full-text%20December%202012_1.pdf

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SCREENING

“Domestic violence screening is the process of identifying warning signs for domestic violence. This process is critical for assessing and managing risk for domestic violence. Correct identification of warning signs allows us to assess risk and, where it exists, take appropriate steps to manage it; but missed identification of warning signs represent a lost opportunity to prevent domestic violence and protect potential victims/survivors.” [1]

Learn More:

- [Online Training: Domestic Violence Risk Assessment and Management Curriculum – CREVAWC](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Centre for Research and Education on Violence Against Women and Children. (2012). *Domestic Violence Risk Assessment and Management On-Line Training Course*. Retrieved from http://onlinetraining.learningtoendabuse.ca/sites/default/files/lessons/DVRAM%20full-text%20December%202012_1.pdf

DRUG FACILITATED SEXUAL ASSAULT

“Drug Facilitated Sexual Assault (DFSA) occurs when alcohol or other drugs are used to intentionally sedate or incapacitate a person in order to perpetrate non-consensual sexual assault. In essence, a person utilizes incapacitating substances as a weapon to facilitate the sexual assault. The Criminal Code of Canada (section 273.1) defines consent as a “voluntary agreement of the complainant to engage in the sexual activity in question.” Consent cannot be obtained if the person is incapable of consenting to the activity (i.e., the person is drunk, stoned, unconscious)...There are two types of DFSA:

1. Proactive – a perpetrator puts a drug into a victim’s drink or gives a victim alcohol until she becomes inebriated and incapacitated
2. Opportunistic – a perpetrator targets an already intoxicated or incapacitated victim.” [1]

Learn More:

- [Brief: Drug Facilitated Sexual Assault – Learning Network](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Campbell, M. (May). Drug facilitated sexual assault. *Learning Network Brief 20*. London, Ontario: Centre for Research and Education on Violence Against Women and Children. Retrieved from <http://www.vawlearningnetwork.ca/sexual-violence>

ECONOMIC ABUSE/FINANCIAL ABUSE

“Financial abuse happens when someone uses money or property to control or exploit someone else. It can involve:

- taking someone's money or property without permission
- withholding or limiting money to control someone
- pressuring someone to sign documents
- forcing someone to sell things or change a will

Most forms of financial abuse are crimes, including theft and fraud.” [1]

Footnotes:

[1] Government of Canada Department of Justice. (n.d.). *About family violence*. Retrieved from <https://www.justice.gc.ca/eng/cj-jp/fv-vf/about-apos.html#eld>

ELDER ABUSE

Elder Abuse is defined as “a single, or repeated act, or lack of appropriate action, occurring within any relationship where there is an expectation of trust which causes harm or distress to an older person.” [1]

“Elder abuse often occurs when there is an imbalance of control. The abuser either limits or takes control over the rights and freedoms of the senior. The abuse/violence is used to intimidate, humiliate, coerce, frighten or simply to make the senior feel powerless.” [2]

Learn More:

- [Organization: Elder Abuse Prevention Ontario](#)
- [Issue-Based Newsletter: Violence Against Women Who Are Older – Learning Network](#)
- [Issue-Based Newsletter: Femicide of Women Who Are Older – Learning Network](#)

Footnotes:

[1] World Health Organization. (n.d.). *Elder Abuse*. Retrieved from https://www.who.int/ageing/projects/elder_abuse/en/

[2] Elder Abuse Prevention Ontario. (n.d.). *What Is Elder Abuse?* Retrieved from <http://www.elderabuseontario.com/what-is-elder-abuse/>

EMOTIONAL ABUSE

“Emotional abuse is the repeated use of controlling and harmful behaviours by a perpetrator to control a victim, most likely a woman. As a result of emotional abuse, a woman lives her life in fear and repeatedly alters her thoughts, feelings, and behaviours, and denies her needs, to avoid further abuse. Emotional Abuse includes verbal abuse, stalking and harassing, isolation, threats, intimidation, sexual and financial abuse, and neglect. Emotional abuse is the greatest predictor of physical violence.” [1] “It can be difficult to explain psychological abuse to other people because there are no physical signs of it and the impact of it can last long after the abuse has ended.” [2]

Footnote:

[1] Springtide Resources. (2000). *Emotional abuse assessment guide*. Retrieved from <https://www.springtideresources.org/resource/emotional-abuse-assessment-guide>

[2] Luke's Place. (n.d.). *What is woman abuse?* Retrieved from <https://lukesplace.ca/resources/what-is-woman-abuse/>

ENVIRONMENTAL RACISM

“Environmental racism is racial discrimination in environmental policymaking; in the enforcement of regulation of laws; in the deliberate targeting of communities of colour for toxic waste disposal and the siting of polluting industries; in the official sanctioning of the life-threatening presence of poisons and pollutants in communities of colour; and in the history of excluding people from the mainstream environmental groups, decision-making boards, commissions, and regulatory bodies. It is the intentional siting of hazardous waste sites, landfills, incinerators and polluting industries in areas inhabited mainly by Blacks, Latinos, Indigenous peoples, Asians, migrant farm workers and low-income peoples. Environmental racism is an extension of institutional racism.” [1]

Learn More:

- [Environmental Justice in Canada, Canadian Public Health Association](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Jacobs, B. (2010). *Environmental racism on Indigenous lands and territories*. Canadian Political Science Association papers. Retrieved from <https://www.cpsa-acsp.ca/papers-2010/Jacobs.pdf>

EQUALITY/EQUITY

As it relates to social questions of fairness and justice, **equality** entails a principle of impartiality and sameness of treatment for all people—that is, “of ensuring equal treatment to all people, without consideration of individual and group diversities.” [1]

By comparison, **equity** entails a principle “of ensuring fair, inclusive and respectful treatment of all people, with consideration of individual and group diversities.” [1]

The practical differences between equality and equity emerge when social or historical factors cause *sameness* of treatment to be inconsistent with *fairness* of treatment—for instance, in cases where legacies of social inequality or systems oppression have placed groups in dominant or subordinate statuses relative to one another.

Under such circumstances, “access to services, supports and opportunities and attaining economic, political and social fairness cannot be achieved by treating individuals in exactly the same way. Equity honours and accommodates the specific needs of individuals/ groups.” [1]

Learn More:

- [Issue-Based Newsletter: Gender Equality – Learning Network Brief](#)

Footnotes:

[1] The 519. (n.d.). *Glossary of terms*. Retrieved from <http://www.the519.org/education-training/glossary>

ETHNOCENTRISM

“An uncompromising loyalty to one’s own cultural values as natural, normal and necessary. Difficulties arise when these standards are used to evaluate the behaviour of other groups as inferior, backward or irrational.” [1]

Footnotes:

[1] Elliot, L. & Fleras, A. (1992). *Unequal Relations. An Introduction to Race and Ethnic Dynamics in Canada*. Prentice-Hall, Scarborough. Cited by Public Service Alliance of Canada. (2006). P. 330. Retrieved from <http://psac-ncr.com/human-rights-terminology>

EUROCENTRISM

Presupposes the supremacy of Europe and Europeans in world culture, and relates history, policies, legislation, practices, structures, and societal norms according to a European perception and experience. [1]

Footnotes:

[1] Schaefer, R. T. (1996). *Sociology: An introduction*, 1st Canadian edition. Toronto: McGraw-Hill Ryerson.

FAILURE TO PROTECT

“Failure to protect is a form of child neglect. It implies that the neglecting parent has failed to protect a child when it was possible to do so. While this may sometimes be the case, the term is very controversial when applied to parents who are also victims themselves, such as in the case of victimized women. As viewed by advocates of domestic violence, this term is a key charge by which child protective services find mothers who are victims of domestic violence neglectful under state law, by failing to protect or endangering their children through exposure to domestic violence against them. The consequence of such a finding can lead to children being removed from the home and placed in foster care.” [1]

Footnotes:

[1] Jerry Silverman, G. (2008). Failure to protect. In C. M. Renzetti & J. L. Edleson (Eds.), *Encyclopedia of interpersonal violence* (Vol. 1, pp. 233-234). Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE Publications, Inc. doi: 10.4135/9781412963923.n157

FAITHISM

“The cultural, institutional and individual set of practices and beliefs that assign different values to people according to their religion or creed, or their lack of religion or creed, thereby resulting in differential treatment on the basis of faith.” [1]

Footnotes:

[1] Canadian Race Relations Foundation. (n.d.). *Glossary of terms*. Retrieved from <https://www.crrf-fcrr.ca/en/resources/glossary-a-terms-en-gb-1>

FAMILY VIOLENCE

“Family violence is considered to be any form of abuse, mistreatment or neglect that a child or adult experiences from a family member, or from someone with whom they have an intimate relationship.” [1] Family violence is a gender-based crime as most victims are women and girls. One out of four violent crimes in Canada reported to police involves family violence.” [2]

“The different terms used for family violence can have slightly different meanings depending on where and how they are used, such as in a courtroom or a hospital. For example:

- **Domestic violence** can sometimes mean family violence and sometimes it means intimate partner violence.
- **Intimate partner violence** refers to physical, sexual, or psychological harm by a current or former partner or spouse and can also be called **dating violence** between couples who are not married.
- The terms **violence against women** and **gender-based violence** are also used.
- **Child abuse** is sometimes called **child maltreatment or neglect**, and **elder abuse** is sometimes referred to as **neglect**.” [3]

Learn More:

- [Learning Brief: It Shouldn't Be This Hard: Family Law, Family Court and Violence Against Women and Children—Learning Network](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Department of Justice. (2017, January 11). Family Violence. Retrieved from <https://www.justice.gc.ca/eng/cj-jp/fv-vf/index.html>

[2] Luke's Place. (2015, September). Family violence is relevant in family law processes. Retrieved from <https://lukesplace.ca/family-violence-is-relevant-in-family-law-processes/>

[3] Public Health Agency of Canada. (2014, August 04). Government of Canada. Retrieved from <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/health-promotion/stop-family-violence/family-violence.html>

FEMALE GENITAL MUTILATION

“Female genital mutilation (FGM) comprises all procedures that involve partial or total removal of the external female genitalia, or other injury to the female genital organs for non-medical reasons. FGM is recognized internationally as a violation of the human rights of girls and women. It reflects deep-rooted inequality between the sexes and constitutes an extreme form of discrimination against women. It is nearly always carried out on minors and is a violation of the rights of children.

The practice also violates a person's rights to health, security and physical integrity, the right to be free from torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, and the right to life when the procedure results in death." [1] "Infections incurred as the result of unhygienic operations frequently result in loss of life, which is considered an acceptable outcome." [2]

"The World Health Organization has classified FGM into four types:

Type I – Excision of the prepuce, with or without excision of part or all of the clitoris.

Type II – Excision of the clitoris with partial or total excision of the labia minora.

Type III – Excision of part or all of the external genitalia and stitching/narrowing of the vaginal opening (infibulation).

Type IV – Unclassified which includes pricking, piercing or incising of the clitoris and/or labia; stretching of the clitoris and/or labia; cauterization by burning of the clitoris and surrounding tissue." [1]

Learn More:

- [Organization: Women's Health in Women's Hands](#)

Footnotes:

[1] World Health Organization. (2016, October 14). Classification of female genital mutilation. Retrieved from <https://www.who.int/reproductivehealth/topics/fgm/overview/en/>

[2] Etherington, N. & Baker, L., (July 2015). Forms of Femicide. Learning Network Brief (29). London, Ontario: Learning Network, Centre for Research and Education on Violence Against Women and Children. www.vawlearningnetwork.ca/

FEMALE INFANTICIDE

Female infanticide is "the intentional killing of female infants or fetuses because they are female." [1] The practice is shaped by a host of cultural and economic factors, such as norms which lead to a preference of sons over daughters.

"The son preference over daughter has been rooted in various social norms of most patrilineal societies such as inheritance passing on to male offspring, male offspring providing economic support and security in old age and performing death rites." [2]

Learn More:

- [Issue-Based Newsletter: Femicide – Learning Network](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Baker, L., Etherington, N., Pietsch, N., & Straatman, A. (2015). Femicide. *Learning Network Issue 14*. London, ON: Centre for Research & Education on Violence Against Women & Children. Retrieved from http://www.vawlearningnetwork.ca/our-work/issuebased_newsletters/issue-14/index.html

[2] Asian Centre for Human Rights. (2016, June). *Female infanticide worldwide: The case for action by the UN Human Rights Council*. Retrieved from <http://www.indiaenvironmentportal.org.in/files/file/Femalefoeticideworldwide.pdf>

FEMINISM

Feminism has a rich and complicated history, and it can entail different meanings and applications for many people. Nevertheless, the influential feminist bell hooks offers the following “simplified,” “open-ended” way of thinking about this term:

“Simply put, feminism is a movement to end sexism, sexist exploitation, and oppression... I liked this definition because it did not imply that men were the enemy. By naming sexism as the problem it went directly to the heart of the matter. Practically, it is a definition which implies that all sexist thinking and action is the problem, whether those who perpetuate it are female or male, child or adult. It is also broad enough to include an understanding of systemic institutionalized sexism. As a definition it is open-ended. To understand feminism it implies one has to necessarily understand sexism.” [1]

Learn More:

- [Issue-Based Newsletter: Gender Equality – Learning Network](#)

Footnotes:

[1] hooks, bell. (2000). *Feminism is for Everybody: Passionate Politics*. Cambridge, MA: South End Press.

FEMME

Femme is “an identity that encapsulates femininity that is dislocated from, and not necessitating, a female body/identity, as well as a femininity that is embodied by those whose femininity is deemed culturally unsanctioned.” [1]

Footnotes:

[1] Blair, K. L., & Hoskin, R. A. (2015). Experiences of femme identity: Coming out, invisibility and femmephobia. *Psychology & Sexuality*, 6(3): 229–244, p. 232.

FILICIDE

Filicide is “the killing of children by parents.” [1] “Research has demonstrated that when fathers kill their children it is often in the context of a history of domestic violence and retaliation against their female partner for leaving or attempting to leave the relationship.” [1]

Footnotes:

[1] Dawson, M., Sutton, D., Carrigan, M., Grand'Maison, V., Bader, D., Zecha, A., & Boyd, C. (2019). *#CallItFemicide: Understanding gender-related killings of women and girls in Canada 2019*. Retrieved from <https://femicideincanada.ca/callitfemicide2019.pdf>

FIRST NATIONS

“First Nation is a term used to identify Indigenous peoples of Canada who are neither Métis nor Inuit. This term came into common usage in the 1970s to replace the term “Indian” and “Indian band” which many find offensive. First Nation is used instead of “Indian” when referring to an individual. First Nations people includes both status and non-status Indians and is used to refer to a single band or the plural First Nations for many bands. The term ‘First Nation Community’ is a respectful alternative phrase; however, First Nation communities in Ontario have expressed publicly and politically that they prefer Indigenous Peoples.” [1]

Learn More:

- [Issue-Based Newsletter: Indigenous Women, Intimate Partner Violence & Housing— Learning Network](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Indigenous Corporate Training Inc. (2016, July 20). Indigenous Peoples terminology guidelines for usage. Retrieved from <https://www.ictinc.ca/blog/indigenous-peoples-terminology-guidelines-for-usage>

FORCED MARRIAGE

“Forced marriage is a marriage in which one and/or both parties have not personally expressed their full and free consent to the union. A child marriage is considered to be a form of forced marriage, given that one and/or both parties have not expressed full, free and informed consent.” [1]

Footnote:

[1] United Nations Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner. (n.d.) Child and forced marriage, including in humanitarian settings. Retrieved from <https://www.ohchr.org/en/issues/women/wrgs/pages/childmarriage.aspx>

GASLIGHTING

“Gaslighting involves (i) the attempt by the gaslighter to undermine his victim’s self-trust: her conception of herself as an autonomous locus of experience, thought, and judgment. The gaslighter’s (ii) motivation is a strong desire to neutralize his victim’s ability to criticize him and

to ensure her consent to his way of viewing things (specifically with regard to issues relevant to the relationship, perhaps in general), and thus to maintain control over her. The gaslighter (iii) pursues this goal by means of a strategy of manipulation, fabrication, and deception that (iv) specifically relies upon his victim's trust in him as a peer or authority in some relevant sense." [1]

Footnotes:

[1] Spear, A. D. (2018). Gaslighting, confabulation, and epistemic innocence. *Topoi*, doi:10.1007/s11245-018-9611-z

GENDER/GENDER NORMS

"Gender is based on the expectations and stereotypes about behaviours, actions, and roles linked to being a 'man' or 'woman' within a particular culture or society. The social norms related to gender can vary depending on the culture, and can change over time.

The gender binary influences what society considers 'normal' or acceptable behaviour, dress, appearance and roles for women and men. Gender norms are a prevailing force in our everyday lives. Strength, action, and dominance are stereotypically seen as 'masculine' traits, while vulnerability, passivity, and receptiveness are stereotypically seen as 'feminine' traits. A woman expressing masculine traits may be chastised as 'overly aggressive,' while a man expressing 'feminine' traits may be labelled as 'weak.' Gender norms can contribute to power imbalances and gender inequality in the home, at work, and in communities." [1]

Learn More:

- [Issue: Gender Equality – Learning Network](#)

Footnotes:

[1] The 519. (n.d.). *Glossary of terms*. Retrieved from <http://www.the519.org/education-training/glossary>

GENDER EQUALITY

"Gender equality means that women and men enjoy the same status and the same conditions in which to fully realize their human rights and their potential to contribute to national, political, economic, social, and cultural development, as well as to benefit from the results of that development. Gender equality means that society values the similarities and differences between women and men and the various roles they play." [1]

[See for comparison: Gender Equity]

Learn More:

- [Issue-Based Newsletter: Gender Equality – Learning Network Brief](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Trépanier, E. & Bouchard, M. G. (2011). *Promoting gender equality: From theory to practice. A training kit for international cooperation organizations*. Montreal, QC: Association Québécoise des Organismes de Coopération Internationale. P. 162. Retrieved from www.aqoci.qc.ca/IMG/pdf/trousse_efh_vang.pdf

GENDER EQUITY

“The process of being fair to women and men. To ensure fairness, strategies and measures must often be available to compensate for the historical and social disadvantages that have kept women from enjoying equal opportunity. Equity contributes to equality.” [1]

Since “access to services, supports and opportunities and attaining economic, political and social fairness cannot be achieved by treating individuals in the same way” [2], “equity work analyses and challenges unfair systems and practices” and works towards creating outcomes and access that are fair for everyone. [2]

[See for comparison: Gender Equality]

Learn More:

- [Issue-Based Newsletter: Gender Equality – Learning Network Brief](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Trépanier, E. & Bouchard, M. G. (2011). *Promoting gender equality: From theory to practice. A training kit for international cooperation organizations*. Montreal, QC: Association Québécoise des Organismes de Coopération Internationale. P. 162. Retrieved from www.aqoci.qc.ca/IMG/pdf/trousse_efh_vang.pdf

[2] The 519. (n.d.). *Glossary of terms*. Retrieved from <http://www.the519.org/education-training/glossary>

GENDER EXPANSIVE

“An umbrella term sometimes used in place of ‘gender non-binary’ or ‘gender non-conforming’, to describe individuals with gender identities and expressions that expand and broaden definitions of cisnormative and gender normative identities.” [1]

Learn More:

- [Issue-Based Newsletter: LGBTQ2S Youth, Violence, and Homelessness – Learning Network](#)
- [Issue-Based Newsletter: Intimate Partner Violence in Rainbow Communities – Learning Network](#)
- [Organization: The 519](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Abramovich, Alex. (2019). *Creating LGBTQ2S inclusive, affirming, and safe PiT counts*. Toronto: Canadian Observatory on Homeless. Retrieved from <https://www.homelesshub.ca/resource/creating-lgbtq2s-inclusive-affirming-and-safe-pit-counts>

GENDER MAINSTREAMING

“In common use since the Fourth World Conference on Women held in Beijing in 1995, gender mainstreaming denotes a systematic, structural incorporation of gender issues throughout all of an organization’s policies, programs, and activities. Rather than an alternative to project- and program-level gender equality initiatives, mainstreaming should be thought of as complementary to them (p. 29).” [1]

The agreed definition of Gender Mainstreaming is: “The process of assessing the implications for women and men of any planned action, including legislation, policies or programmes, in all areas and at all levels. It is a strategy for making women’s as well as men’s concerns and experiences an integral dimension of the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies and programmes in all political, economic and societal spheres so that women and men benefit equally and inequality is not perpetrated. The ultimate goal is to achieve gender equality.” [2]

Learn More:

- [Issue-Based Newsletter: Gender Equality—Learning Network](#)
- [Resource: Gender Mainstreaming, Promoting Gender Equality—Comité québécois femmes et développement](#)

Footnote:

[1] UN Women. (n.d.). How We Work: UN System Coordination: Gender Mainstreaming. Retrieved from <http://www.unwomen.org/en/how-we-work/un-system-coordination/gender-mainstreaming>

[2] Comité québécois femmes et développement, (2011), Promoting Gender Equality: From Theory to Practice, p. 29: http://www.aqoci.qc.ca/IMG/pdf/trousse_e fh_vang.pdf

GENDER-BASED HARASSMENT

“Gender-based harassment is one type of sexual harassment. Gender-based harassment is ‘any behaviour that polices and reinforces traditional heterosexual gender norms’.” [1,2]

“It is often used to get people to follow traditional sex stereotypes (dominant males, subservient females). It is also used as a bullying tactic, often between members of the same sex.” [1]

“Unlike some other forms of sexual harassment, gender-based harassment is not generally motivated by sexual interest or intent. It is more often based on hostility and is often an attempt to make the target feel unwelcome in their environment. In some cases, gender-based harassment may look the same as harassment based on sexual orientation, or homophobic bullying.” [1]

“The effects of sexual and gender-based harassment on young people may be particularly harsh. As well as feeling the effects listed above, they may back off from schoolwork and all school-related activities, they may skip or drop classes, or they may drop out of school entirely. They may also abuse drugs and/or alcohol to cope. In extreme cases, they may think about or attempt suicide.” [1]

Learn More:

- [Fact Sheet: Policy on preventing sexual and gender-based harassment – Ontario Human Rights Commission](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Ontario Human Rights Commission. (2013). *Policy on preventing sexual and gender-based harassment*. Retrieved from <http://www.ohrc.on.ca/en/policy-preventing-sexual-and-gender-based-harassment-0>

[2] Elizabeth J. Meyer, “Gendered Harassment in Secondary Schools: Understanding Teachers’ (Non) Interventions,” *Gender and Education*, Vol. 20, No. 6, November 2008, cited in Ontario Human Rights Commission. (2013). *Policy on preventing sexual and gender-based harassment*. Retrieved from <http://www.ohrc.on.ca/en/policy-preventing-sexual-and-gender-based-harassment-0>

GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

Gender-based violence is a term that recognizes that violence occurs within the context of women’s and girl’s subordinate status in society and serves to maintain this unequal balance of power.

Gender-based violence is sometimes used interchangeably with “violence against women” although the latter is a more limited concept. The United Nations (UN) defines violence against women as “any act of gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivations of liberty, whether occurring in public or private life.” [1, 2]

The UN also notes that “While gender-based violence can happen to anyone, anywhere, some women and girls are particularly vulnerable - for instance, young girls and older women, women who identify as lesbian, bisexual, transgender or intersex, migrants and refugees, indigenous women and ethnic minorities, or women and girls living with HIV and disabilities, and those living through humanitarian crises.” [3] The existence and impact of gender-based violence are therefore often interconnected with other systems of inequality and/or vulnerability.

Learn More:

- [Organization: World Health Organization](#)
- [Organization: Centre for Research & Education on Violence Against Women & Children](#)
- [Organizations: Learning Network Provincial Resource Group](#)
- [Issue-Based Newsletter: Sexual and Gender-based Harassment — Learning Network](#)
- [Issue-Based Newsletter: Gender Equality — Learning Network](#)

Footnotes:

[1] United Nations. (1993, Dec). *Declaration on the elimination of violence against women*. Retrieved from

<https://www.ohchr.org/EN/ProfessionalInterest/Pages/ViolenceAgainstWomen.aspx>

[2] United Nations. (n.d.). *Violence against women*. Retrieved from

<https://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/Women/WRGS/Pages/VAW.aspx>

[3] United Nations. (n.d.). *International day for the elimination of violence against women*.

Retrieved from <https://www.un.org/en/events/endviolenceday/>

GENOCIDE

“Deliberate decisions and actions made by one nation or group of people in order to eliminate, usually through mass murder, the entirety of another nation or group. The term has also been used to refer to the destruction of the culture of a people, as in cultural genocide.” [1]

Footnotes:

[1] Canadian Race Relations Foundation. (n.d.). *Glossary of terms*. Retrieved from

<https://www.crrf-fcrr.ca/en/resources/glossary-a-terms-en-gb-1>

GROOMING

“Grooming is when someone builds a relationship, trust and emotional connection with a child or young person so they can manipulate, exploit and abuse them.

Children and young people who are groomed can be sexually abused, exploited or trafficked.

Anybody can be a groomer, no matter their age, gender or race. Grooming can take place over a short or long period of time – from weeks to years. Groomers may also build a relationship with the young person's family or friends to make them seem trustworthy or authoritative.” [1]

Learn More:

- [Backgrounder: Keep Children Safe from Online Sexual Exploitation & Abuse During the Pandemic – Learning Network](#)

Footnotes:

[1] National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children. (n.d.) Grooming. Retrieved from <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/what-is-child-abuse/types-of-abuse/grooming/>

HATE CRIME

“Criminal acts which promote hatred against identifiable groups of people, motivated by bias, prejudice or hate. Although individuals and groups that promote this destructive form of human rights-based discrimination often defend their right to ‘free speech,’ it is a criminal offense to disseminate hate propaganda and/or to commit hate crimes.” [1]

Under the Canadian Criminal Code, both the “public incitement of hatred” and the “willful promotion of hatred” are considered crimes punishable by law. [2]

Footnotes:

[1] The 519. (n.d.). *Glossary of terms*. Retrieved from <http://www.the519.org/education-training/glossary>

[2] *Criminal Code* R.S.C., 1985, c. C-46, S. 319. Government of Canada. Retrieved from <https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/c-46/section-319.html>

HARASSMENT

“Persistent, ongoing behavior conveying negative attitudes towards an individual or group to make them feel intimidated and humiliated. Harassment is an exercise of power. It includes any action that a person knows, or should know, is not welcome. Harassment includes name-calling, jokes, slurs, graffiti, insults, threats, rudeness and crude gestures, verbal or physical abuse. Human Rights Codes in most provinces prohibit harassment based on race, religion, sex, ethnicity and the other prohibited grounds for discrimination.” [1]

For legal definition of Harassment, see “Criminal Harassment.”

Learn More:

- [Infographic: Places where sexual harassment occurs and its potential impacts – Learning Network](#)
- [Infographic: Sexual Harassment - What is a myth and what is reality? – Learning Network](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Springtide Resources. (2008). *An integrated anti-oppression framework for reviewing and developing policy: A toolkit for community service organizations*. Toronto: Springtide Resources. Retrieved from http://www.springtideresources.org/sites/all/files/Anti-Oppression_Framework_Community_Org_Toolkit.pdf

HEALING CENTERED ENGAGEMENT

“A healing centered approach is holistic involving culture, spirituality, civic action and collective healing. A healing centered approach views trauma not simply as an individual isolated experience, but rather highlights the ways in which trauma and healing are experienced collectively. The term healing centered engagement expands how we think about responses to trauma and offers more holistic approach to fostering well-being.” [1]

Learn More:

- [Webinar: Roots and Resilience – Learning Network](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Adoption Council of Ontario. (n.d.). *More about developmental trauma*. Retrieved from <https://www.adoption.on.ca/developmental-trauma/about>

HEALTH EFFECTS

The effects of violence on a victim's physical and psychological health are severe. “In addition to the immediate injuries from the assault, victims display increased risk for chronic pelvic pain, genitourinary problems, gastrointestinal distress, somatization disorder, substance abuse, obesity, heart disease, cancer, and diabetes. Women who are abused also display an increased risk of unplanned or early pregnancies and sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV/AIDS. Interpersonal forms of trauma can also impact many aspects of a victim's psychological health leading to negative psychological health outcomes. Victims are at risk for depleted self-esteems, trouble forming relationships, PTSD, depression, panic disorder, chronic stress, insomnia, suicide ideation, and anxiety. Victims also often engage in avoidance behaviors to cope with difficult feelings including substance abuse, eating disorders, or self-harm.” [1]

Learn More:

- [Report: Overcoming Barriers and Enhancing Supportive Responses – Learning Network](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Women's College Hospital. (n.d.). *Mental health signs and symptoms*. Retrieved from <https://www.womenshealthmatters.ca/health-centres/mental-health/trauma/signs-and-symptoms>

HEALTH PROMOTION

“Any planned combination of educational, political, regulatory and organizational supports for actions and conditions of living conducive to the health of individuals, groups or communities. Health promotion is also the process of enabling people to improve and increase control over their health. In health promotion, therefore, health is seen as a resource for

everyday living, not the objective of living. Health is a positive concept, emphasizing social and personal resources, as well as physical capacities.” [1]

Learn More:

- [Organization: Ottawa Charter for Health Promotion – Government of Canada](#)

Footnotes:

[1] World Health Organization. (2016, May 17). The Ottawa Charter for Health Promotion. Retrieved from <https://www.who>

HEALTHY RELATIONSHIP

“When people are in healthy relationships, they feel valued, respected, and treated like equals.” [1] “Healthy relationships allow both partners to feel supported and connected but still feel independent. Communication and boundaries are the two major components of a healthy relationship. Ultimately, the two people in the relationship decide what is healthy for them and what is not. If something doesn’t feel right, you should have the freedom to voice your concerns to your partner.” [2]

Learn More:

- [Toolkit: Engaging Men & Boys to End Violence in the Family – White Ribbon](#)
- [Toolkit: School Counsellors Tool Kit: Talking to Your Students About Dating and Healthy Relationships – Ontario Native Education Counselling Association.](#)
- [Resource: Relationship Spectrum – The National Domestic Violence Hotline](#)

Footnotes:

[1] METRAC. (2007, May). Building Healthy, Equal Relationships. Retrieved from <http://www.metrac.org/resources/tips-for-girls-building-healthy-equal-relationships-wallet-card>

[2] The National Domestic Violence Hotline. (n.d.). What is a Healthy Relationship? Retrieved from <https://www.thehotline.org/is-this-abuse/healthy-relationships/>

HETEROPATRIARCHY

Social systems “in which heterosexuality and patriarchy are perceived as normal and natural, and in which other configurations are perceived as abnormal, aberrant, and abhorrent.” [1] These systems rely on “very narrow definitions of the male/female binary, in which the male gender is perceived as strong, capable, wise, and composed and the female gender is perceived as weak, incompetent, naïve, and confused.” [1]

Indigenous scholars and activists have drawn particular attention to the way that the naturalization of heteropatriarchy facilitates the broader settler-colonial project. [1, 2]

Because heteropatriarchy imposes itself upon the political orders, thought, agency, self-determination, and freedom “of Indigenous bodies,” it also operates as a violent and “dispossessing force.” It therefore attacks all genders and sexualities of Indigenous people, as well as Indigenous peoples’ claims to land. [3]

Footnotes:

[1] Arvin, M., Tuck, E., & Morrill, A. (2013). “Decolonizing feminism: Challenging connections between settler colonialism and heteropatriarchy.” *Feminist Formations*. 25(1), 8-34. Retrieved from <https://muse.jhu.edu/article/504601>

[2] Hokowhitu, B. (2016). “Excerpt from *Indigenous Men and Masculinities*.” Retrieved from <https://uofmpress.ca/blog/entry/excerpt-from-indigenous-men-and-masculinities-brendan-hokowhitu>

[3] Simpson, L. B. (2017). *As we have always done: Indigenous freedom through radical resistance*. University of Minnesota Press. Minneapolis, MN. P. 52.

HETEROSEXUALITY

“A sexual orientation in which a person feels physically and emotionally attracted to people of a gender other than their own.” [1] Sometimes referred to as “straight.”

Footnotes:

[1] Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Resource Centre. (n.d.). *Terminology: General definitions*. University of California San Francisco. Retrieved from <https://lgbt.ucsf.edu/glossary-terms>

HETEROSEXISM

“The assumption that everyone is heterosexual and that heterosexuality is superior and preferable. The result is discrimination against bisexual, lesbian and gay people that is less overt, and which may be unintentional and unrecognized by the person or organization responsible for the discrimination.” [1]

Learn More:

- [Issue-Based Newsletter: LGBTQ2S Youth, Violence, and Homelessness – Learning Network](#)
- [Issue-Based Newsletter: Intimate Partner Violence in Rainbow Communities – Learning Network](#)
- [Organization: The 519](#)

Footnotes:

[1] The 519. (n.d.). *Glossary of terms*. Retrieved from <http://www.the519.org/education-training/glossary>

HOMELESSNESS

Homelessness refers to “the situation of an individual or family without stable, permanent, appropriate housing, or the immediate prospect, means, and ability of acquiring it.”[1] Homelessness could be visible (e.g. sleeping outside, staying at an emergency shelter), hidden (e.g. sleeping at a friend’s house, engaging in survival sex in exchange for housing), or it could be that the housing is unaffordable, inaccessible, and/or unsafe. [2]

Violence (e.g. intimate partner violence, sexual violence, child maltreatment) and discrimination (e.g. anti-Indigenous discrimination, homophobia, transphobia) contributes to homelessness. Homelessness also increases vulnerability to experiencing violence.

Learn More:

- [Issue-Based Newsletter: Women, Intimate Partner Violence, & Homelessness – Learning Network](#)
- [Issue-Based Newsletter: Voices of Our Sisters: Poems on experiences of violence and homelessness – Learning Network](#)
- [Issue-Based Newsletter: LGBTQ2S Youth, Violence, and Homelessness – Learning Network](#)
- [Issue-Based Newsletter: Indigenous Women, Intimate Partner Violence & Housing – Learning Network](#)
- [Issue-Based Newsletter: Women with Disabilities and D/deaf Women, Housing, and Violence – Learning Network](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Gaetz, S., Barr, C., Friesen, A., Harris, B., Hill, C., Kovacs-Burns, K., Pauly, B., Pearce, B., Turner, A., & Marsolais, A. (2012). *Canadian Definition of Homelessness*. Toronto: Canadian Observatory on Homelessness Press. Retrieved from <http://www.homelesshub.ca/sites/default/files/COHhomelesdefinition.pdf>

[2] Baker, L., Lalonde, D., & Tabibi, J. (2017). Women, Intimate Partner Violence, & Homelessness. *Learning Network Issue 22*. London, Ontario: Centre for Research & Education on Violence Against Women & Children. Retrieved from http://www.vawlearningnetwork.ca/our-work/issuebased_newsletters/issue-22/index.html

HOMOPHOBIA

“Negative attitudes, feelings, or irrational aversion to, fear or hatred of gay, lesbian, or bisexual people and communities, or of behaviours stereotyped as ‘homosexual.’ It is used to signify a

hostile psychological state leading to discrimination, harassment or violence against gay, lesbian, or people.” [1]

Learn More:

- [Organization: The 519](#)

Footnotes:

[1] The 519. (n.d.). Glossary of terms. Retrieved from <http://www.the519.org/education-training/glossary>

HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Human trafficking is internationally recognized as a human rights violation.

Since establishing the “Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children” in 2000 (sometimes known as the “Palermo Protocol”), the United Nations has defined human trafficking according to three distinct elements:

1. The Act: **Recruiting, transporting, sheltering, or receiving people...**
2. The Means: **...through the use (or threat) of force, coercion, fraud, or deception...**
3. The Purpose: **...for sexual exploitation, forced labour, or organ removal.** [1]

The Canadian Criminal Code [2] also outlaws human trafficking, which it defines as follows:

279.01(1) Every person who recruits, transports, transfers, receives, holds, conceals or harbours a person, or exercises control, direction or influence over the movements of a person, for the purpose of exploiting them or facilitating their exploitation is guilty of an indictable offence.

Learn More:

- [Issue Based Newsletter: Human Trafficking – Learning Network](#)
- [Organization: Canadian Human Trafficking Hotline](#)

Footnotes:

[1] *Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime*, U.N.G.A. Res. 55/25, Annex II at 31-39, U.N. Doc. A/55/25 (15 November 2000), entered into force 25 December 2003. Retrieved from: http://www.unodc.org/pdf/crime/a_res_55/res5525e.pdf

[2] *Criminal Code*, SC, 2005, c. 43. s. 279. Retrieved from: <https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/c-46/section-265.html>

HUMAN RIGHTS

“Human rights affirm and protect the right of every individual to live and work without discrimination and harassment. Human Rights policies and legislation attempt to create a

climate in which the dignity, worth and rights of all people are respected, regardless of age, ancestry, citizenship, colour, creed (faith), disability, ethnic origin, family status, gender, marital status, place of origin, race, sexual orientation or socio-economic status.” [1]

“Universal human rights are often expressed and guaranteed by law, in the forms of treaties, customary international law, general principles and other sources of international law. International human rights law lays down obligations of Governments to act in certain ways or to refrain from certain acts, in order to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms of individuals or groups.” [2]

Learn More:

- [Website: Human Rights 101 – Ontario Human Rights Commission](#)
- [Resource: Universal Declaration of Human Rights – United Nations](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Canadian Race Relations Foundation. (n.d.). *Glossary of terms*. Retrieved from <https://www.crrf-fcrr.ca/en/resources/glossary-a-terms-en-gb-1>

[2] United Nations Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner. (n.d.). What are Human Rights. Retrieved from <https://www.ohchr.org/en/issues/pages/whatarehumanrights.aspx>

HYPERSEXUALIZATION

The prefix of “hyper” to sexualization is used to distinguish this form of sexualization as one that focuses on children and youth.

“Hypersexualization of girls can refer to girls being depicted or treated as sexual objects. It also means sexuality that is inappropriately imposed on girls through media, marketing or products directed at them that encourages them to act in adult sexual ways.” [1]

Footnotes:

[1] Canadian Women's Health Network. (n.d.). *Hypersexualization of young girls: Why should we care?* Retrieved from <http://www.cwhn.ca/en/hypersexualizationprimer>

IMMIGRANT

“[A] a person who has settled permanently in another country.” [1]

“You may also hear... **illegal immigrant/Illegal** – these terms are problematic because they criminalize the person, rather than the act of entering or remaining irregularly in a country. International law recognizes refugees may need to enter a country without official documents or authorization. It would be misleading to describe them as ‘illegal migrants.’ Similarly, a person without status may have been coerced by traffickers: such a person should be recognized as a victim of crime, not treated as a wrong-doer.” [1]

Learn More:

- [Website: Neighbours, Friends & Families – Immigrant and Refugee Communities](#)
- [Website: Ontario Council of Agencies Serving Immigrants](#)
- [Issue-Based Newsletter: Intimate Partner Violence Against Immigrant and Refugee Women – Learning Network](#)

Footnote:

[1] Canadian Council for Refugees. (2010, Sept). *Refugees and immigrants: A glossary*. Retrieved from <https://ccrweb.ca/en/glossary>

INCEL

Short for “involuntary celibate,” incel is a misogynist extremist movement “which holds that men intrinsically deserve to have sex with women, but whose adherents are generally not having sex with women.” [1]

This movement is currently associated with right-wing online subcultures such as “men’s rights activism.” [1] “Incels... believe women owe them sex, and if they’re not having sex, they blame women—all women. The term ‘incel’ initially had no association with violence against women. It was actually coined in 1993 by a young Canadian woman as a label for her own perpetually single status.” [1]

The term has gained attention in light of the stated motives of killers involved in the Isla Vista femicides (2014) and the Toronto van attack (2018), and the subsequent celebration of these murders by members of the Incel community.

Learn More:

- [Issue-Based Newsletter: Thirty Years after the Montréal Massacre – Learning Network](#)

Footnote:

[1] Anti-Defamation League. (2018). When women are the enemy: The intersection of misogyny and white supremacy. *Centre on Extremism. Anti-Defamation League*. Retrieved from <https://www.adl.org/media/11707/download>

INCEST

According to The Department of Justice Canada, “every one commits incest who, knowing that another person is by blood relationship his or her parent, child, brother, sister, grandparent or grandchild, as the case may be, has sexual intercourse with that person. Everyone who commits incest is guilty of an indictable offence and is liable to imprisonment for a term of not more than 14 years and, if the other person is under the age of 16 years, to a minimum punishment of imprisonment for a term of five years. No accused shall be determined by a court to be guilty of an offence under this section if the accused was under restraint, duress or fear of the person

with whom the accused had the sexual intercourse at the time the sexual intercourse occurred.” [1]

Footnotes:

[1] Department of Justice. (2019, June 26). Consolidated federal laws of Canada, Criminal Code. Retrieved from <https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-46/section-155.html>

INDIGENOUS

“There are three constitutionally defined Indigenous groups in Canada including First Nations, Metis, and Inuit (FNMI). To reflect the diversity of Indigenous peoples and to include all, regardless of status, nationhood, membership or community affiliation, the terms Indigenous and FNMI are applied interchangeably. It is acknowledged that many FNMI people refer to themselves differently and in their own languages.” [1]

Learn More:

- [Issue-Based Newsletter: Indigenous Women, Intimate Partner Violence & Housing – Learning Network](#)
- [Webinar: Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women – Learning Network](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Ontario Native Women’s Association. (2018) Indigenous women, intimate partner violence and housing. *Learning Network Issue 25*. London, Ontario: Centre for Research & Education on Violence Against Women & Children. ISBN # 978-1-988412-19-1. Retrieved from http://www.vawlearningnetwork.ca/our-work/issuebased_newsletters/Issue-25/index.html

INDIGENOUS FEMINISMS

“At their root, Indigenous feminisms examine how gender and conceptions of gender influence the lives of Indigenous peoples, historically and today. Indigenous feminist approaches challenge stereotypes about Indigenous peoples, gender and sexuality, for instance, as they appear in politics, society and the media. Indigenous feminisms offer frameworks for learning about and understanding these, and other issues, regardless of one’s gender or ethnicity.’

Although gender, sex and sexuality are central in Indigenous feminisms, they intersect with other aspects of people’s identities, including indigeneity (i.e., Indigenous identity), age, ability and social class. Scholars therefore emphasize that Indigenous feminisms should consider multiple aspects of identity. To focus on only one or two creates incomplete and flawed understandings.

Indigenous feminisms are also concerned with the ways that gender is embedded in broader power relations, and with the ways that sexism, racism and colonialism are structures of oppression that operate together. Scholars Maile Arvin (of Kanaka Maoli ancestry), Eve Tuck (Unangax) and Angie Morrill (Klamath) (in addition to many other Indigenous feminists) have

argued that ‘settler colonialism has been and continues to be a gendered process.’ That is, the impacts of settler colonialism are targeted and experienced differently depending on one’s gender. It is well-documented, for instance, that Indigenous women on average experience higher rates of gender-based violence, have lower incomes and have less political representation compared to Indigenous men and non-Indigenous women. Too often these realities are ignored by settler communities and can even be disregarded within some Indigenous communities as well.” [1]

Footnotes:

[1] Nickel, S. & Snyder, E. (2019). Indigenous Feminisms in Canada. In *The Canadian Encyclopedia*. Retrieved from <https://thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/indigenous-feminisms-in-canada>

See also: Arvin, M., Tuck, E., & Morrill, A. (2013). “Decolonizing feminism: Challenging connections between settler colonialism and heteropatriarchy.” *Feminist Formations*. 25(1), 8-34. Retrieved from <https://muse.jhu.edu/article/504601>

INDIGENOUS MASCULINITIES

A focus upon Indigenous masculinity entails consideration of the many forces shaping how masculinity and manhood is experienced by Indigenous individuals. This entails both a resurgence of traditional ways of knowing and identifying, as well as a critical analysis of the ways in which “Indigenous men and masculinities have been profoundly impacted by colonization, hegemonic masculinities and the heteronormative patriarchal system of white supremacy.” [1]

For instance, “[t]he assimilation of invader masculinity into Indigenous masculinity led to the public face of power at least to be exclusively male. Indigenous masculine leadership came to reflect modernity’s masculinity. Similarly, Indigenous heterosexuality came to reflect such a sentiment where Indigenous women became the property of men and, thus, under these conditions were given very little say in the matter.” [2]

As a result, “traditional Indigenous masculinities were violently displaced and subordinated by colonial masculinities. The colonial milieu of white settler society with its political economic, social and cultural practices usurped Indigenous culture, tradition and gender systems.” [1] Cultural teachings therefore “offer means of regenerating an egalitarian way of life.” [1]

Footnotes:

[1] Darcy, C. (2016) Indigenous men and masculinities: Legacies, identities, regeneration, *NORMA: International Journal for Masculinity Studies*, 11:2, 129-131. <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/pdf/10.1080/18902138.2016.1181407>

[2] Hokowhitu, B. (2016). “Excerpt from *Indigenous Men and Masculinities*.” Retrieved from <https://uofmpress.ca/blog/entry/excerpt-from-indigenous-men-and-masculinties-brendan-hokowhitu>

INNU

“The Innu Nation is the organization that formally represents the Innu of Labrador, approximately 2200 persons, most of whom live in the two Innu communities of Sheshatshiu and Natuashish. The Sheshatsiu Innu live in the community of Sheshatshiu while the Mushuau Innu live in the community of Natuashish. Some Innu also live in other communities within Labrador and on the Island part of the province of Newfoundland and Labrador.” [1]

“In order to protect their interests, their land and their rights from outside forces the Innu people first organized themselves in 1976 under the Naskapi Montagnais Innu Association (NMIA). In 1990, the NMIA changed its name to the Innu Nation. Today the Innu Nation forms the governing body of the Labrador Innu.” [1]

Footnotes:

[1] Innu Nation. (n.d.). *Welcome to innu.ca!* Retrieved from <https://www.innu.ca>

INTERGENERATIONAL TRAUMA

“Intergenerational trauma is the transmission of historical oppression and its negative consequences across generations.” [1] It is “[a] collective complex trauma inflicted on a group of people who share a specific group identity or affiliation-ethnicity, nationality, and religious affiliation. It is the legacy of numerous traumatic events a community experiences over generations and encompasses the psychological and social responses to such events.” [2]

Learn More:

- [Webinar: Indigenous Cultural Responsiveness Theory \(ICRT\): A New Tool for Improving Health Outcomes for FNMI \(First Nations, Metis and Inuit\) Peoples – Learning Network](#)
- [Webinar: Intergenerational Trauma, Aboriginal Worldviews and Education](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Noormohamed, R., Ireland, L., Goulet, S., Cochrane, T., Daniels, C., Beatt, L., Thurston, W., Roy, A., Turner, D., & Morgan, C. (2012). *Intervention to address intergenerational trauma: Overcoming, resisting and preventing structural violence*. Calgary: University of Calgary. Retrieved from https://www.ucalgary.ca/wethurston/files/wethurston/Report_InterventionToAddressIntergenerationalTrauma.pdf

[2] Evans-Campbell, T. (2008). Historical trauma in American Indian/Native Alaska communities. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*, 23(3), 316-338. doi:10.1177/0886260507312290

INTERNALIZED OPPRESSION

“When members of a marginalized group accept negative aspects of stereotypes assigned to them by the dominant group and begin to believe that they are inferior. The incorporation by

individuals within an oppressed group of the prejudices against them within the dominant society can result in self-hatred, self-concealment, fear of violence, feelings of inferiority, resignation, isolation, and powerlessness. It is a mechanism within an oppressive system for perpetuating power imbalance.” [1]

Footnotes:

[1] The519. (n.d.). The 519’s Glossary of Terms, facilitating shared understandings around equity, diversity, inclusion and awareness. Retrieved from <http://www.the519.org/education-training/glossary>

INTERPERSONAL VIOLENCE

“Interpersonal violence refers to violence between individuals and is subdivided into family and intimate partner violence and community violence.”

Family and intimate partner violence “includes child maltreatment; intimate partner violence; and elder abuse”

Community violence “is broken down into acquaintance and stranger violence and includes youth violence; assault by strangers; violence related to property crimes; and violence in workplaces/institutions.” [1]

Learn More:

- [Typology of Interpersonal Violence, World Health Organization](#)

Footnotes:

[1] World Health Organization. (2011, November 21). Definition and typology of violence. Retrieved from <https://www.who.int/violenceprevention/approach/definition/en/>

INTERSECTIONALITY

Intersectionality is a concept and analytic framework coined by Kimberlé Crenshaw and further developed by numerous scholars, advocates, and activists. [1] “Intersectionality is a useful framework for examining how forms of privilege and disadvantage shape women’s experiences of violence and their access to resources and supports.” [2]

“Intersectionality is made up of 3 basic building blocks: social identities, systems of oppression, and the ways in which they intersect.

- **Social Identities** are based on the groups or communities a person belongs to. These groups give people a sense of who they are. For example, social class, race/ethnicity, gender, and sexual orientation are all social identities. A person is usually a member of many different groups or communities at once; in this way, social identities are multidimensional. An individual’s social location is defined by all the identities or groups to which they belong.

- **Systems of Oppressions** refer to larger forces and structures operating in society that create inequalities and reinforce exclusion. These systems are built around societal norms and are constructed by the dominant group(s) in society. They are maintained through language (e.g. “That’s so gay”), social interactions (e.g. “catcalling” women), institutions (e.g. when school curriculum does not acknowledge residential schools), and laws and policies (e.g. immigration policies that make it difficult for new Canadians to access health services). Systems of oppression include racism, colonialism, heterosexism, class stratification, gender inequality, and ableism.
- Social identities and systems of oppression do not exist in isolation. Instead, they can be thought of as **intersecting** or **interacting**. In other words, individuals’ experiences are shaped by the ways in which their social identities intersect with each other and with interacting systems of oppression. For instance, a person can be both black, a woman, and elderly. This means she may face racism, sexism, and ageism as she navigates everyday life, including experiences of violence.” [2]

In the case of intimate partner violence (IPV), “people of intersecting identities are affected by oppression in different ways and therefore have unique experiences of IPV and we should not assume that survivors of IPV speak with only one voice.” [3] “Intersectionality influences whether, why, how, and from whom help is sought; experiences with and responses by service providers and justice systems; how abuse is defined; and what options seem feasible, including escape and safety concerns. Policies and programs that do not include an intersectional dimension exclude survivors of IPV who exist at points of intersection between inequalities.” [3]

Learn More:

- [Issue-Based Newsletter: Intersectionality – Learning Network](#)
- [Issue-Based Newsletter: Indigenous Women, Intimate Partner Violence & Housing – Learning Network](#)
- [Issue-Based Newsletter: Women, Intimate Partner Violence & Homelessness – Learning Network](#)
- [Issue-Based Newsletter: Intimate Partner Violence in Rainbow Communities – Learning Network](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Crenshaw, K. (1989). Demarginalizing the Intersection of Race and Sex: A Black Feminist Critique of Antidiscrimination Doctrine, Feminist Theory and Antiracist Politics. University of Chicago Legal Forum. 1989, iss. 1 art. 8, pp. 139-167. Retrieved from <https://chicagounbound.uchicago.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1052&context=uclf>

[2] Baker, L., Lalonde, D., & Tabibi, J. (2017, December). Women, Intimate Partner Violence, & Homelessness. Retrieved from <http://www.vawlearningnetwork.ca/our-work/issuebased-newsletters/issue-22/Newsletter-Issue-22-Online1.pdf>

[3] Baker, L., Etherington, N., & Barreto, E. (2015, October). Intersectionality. Retrieved from <http://www.vawlearningnetwork.ca/our-work/issuebased-newsletters/issue-15/Issue-15-Intersectionality-Newsletter-FINAL2.pdf>

[3] Baker, L., Straatman, A., & Etherington, N. (2015, April). Intimate Partner Violence in Rainbow Communities. Retrieved from [http://www.learningtoendabuse.ca/our-work/pdfs/Rainbow Newsletter Print InHouse.pdf](http://www.learningtoendabuse.ca/our-work/pdfs/Rainbow%20Newsletter%20Print%20InHouse.pdf)

INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE

“Intimate partner violence refers to physical, sexual, or psychological harm by a current or former partner or spouse and can also be called dating violence between couples who are not married.” [1]

“Intimate partner violence often occurs as physical violence. However, there are many other forms of violence or abuse, including emotional abuse, verbal abuse, sexual abuse and financial abuse. Intimate partner violence also has a criminal component, as it can involve criminal offences such as assault, uttering threats or harassment, and can even lead to homicide.” [2]

“Most victims of intimate partner violence are female.” [2]

Learn More:

- [Infographic: Intimate partner violence in a pandemic: COVID-19 related controlling behaviours – Learning Network](#)
- [Issue-Based Newsletter: Women, intimate partner violence, & homelessness – Learning Network](#)
- [Issue-Based Newsletter: Intimate partner sexual violence – Learning Network](#)
- [Webinar: Traumatic brain injury \(TBI\) and intimate partner violence: Implications of the co-occurrence of PTSD & TBI – Learning Network](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Public Health Agency of Canada. (2014). *What is family violence?* Public Health Agency of Canada. Government of Canada, Ottawa, ON. Retrieved from <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/health-promotion/stop-family-violence/family-violence.html>

[2] Beaupré, P. (2015). Family violence in Canada: A statistical profile, 2013. *Juristat*, 34, 1. Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Statistics Canada, Ottawa, ON. Catalogue no. 85-002-X. Retrieved from <https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/85-002-x/2014001/article/14114-eng.pdf>

INUIT

“Inuit are an Indigenous people living primarily in Inuit Nunangat.” [1]

“The majority of [the Inuit] population lives in 51 communities spread across Inuit Nunangat, the Inuit homeland encompassing 35 percent of Canada’s landmass and 50 percent of its coastline. [Inuit] have lived in our homeland since time immemorial. [Inuit] communities are among the most culturally resilient in North America. Roughly 60 percent of Inuit report an

ability to conduct a conversation in Inuktitut (the Inuit language), and [Inuit] people harvest country foods such as seal, narwhal and caribou to feed... families and communities.” [2]

Learn More:

- [Website: Pauktuutit Inuit Women of Canada](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Inuit Nunangat “is a Canadian Inuit term that includes land, water, and ice,” which are integral to Inuit culture and way of life.

[2] Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami. (n.d.). *About Canadian Inuit*. Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami. Retrieved from <https://www.itk.ca/about-canadian-inuit/>

ISLAMOPHOBIA

Islamophobia is a form of racism and consists of “a fear or hatred of Muslim people that results in discrimination, exclusion and violence against Muslims. Islamophobia is based on false and toxic ideas that Muslims are less than human, demonic, terrorists, or trying to take over the country. These toxic ideas are spread through the media and social media. Islamophobia mostly affects Muslims, but Sikhs and other groups who have been mistaken as Muslim can also face Islamophobia.” [1]

Islamophobia can be gendered in its portrayal of Muslim women as victims of their religion, exotic and hyper-sexualized, and weak or passive. [2]

Learn More:

- [Brief: Unlearning Islamophobia in Anti-Violence Against Women Work](#)
- [Issue-Based Newsletter: Intimate Partner Violence Against Immigrant and Refugee Women – Learning Network](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Ahmad, S. (2018). *Rivers of hope: A toolkit on Islamophobic violence by and for Muslim women*. Retrieved from <https://www.riversofhopetoolkit.ca/>

[2] Ahmad, S. (2018). Unlearning Islamophobia in anti-violence against women work. *Learning Network Brief 34*. London, Ontario: Learning Network, Centre for Research and Education on Violence Against Women and Children. Retrieved from <http://www.vawlearningnetwork.ca/our-work/briefs/brief-34.html>

LATERAL VIOLENCE

“Lateral violence takes on a number of different toxic behaviours, and it is any action that is meant to discourage or make a person feel bad in the workplace. If you are the target of lateral violence the constant barrage of negative behaviours can be likened to harassment and bullying. In its extreme form, lateral violence can be conscious, deliberate act of meanness with

the overall intention to harm, hurt and induce fear in a co-worker. In other forms of lateral violence, the individual perpetrating the negative behaviour may not be aware of the meanness they are exhibiting and they may not be doing these actions intentionally.” [1]

“Although the most common place for lateral violence is in the workplace, it does cross the line into the community and home...” [1]

Footnotes:

[1] Native Women's Association of Canada. (2011). *Aboriginal lateral violence*. Ottawa: Native Women's Association of Canada. Retrieved from <https://www.nwac.ca/wp-content/uploads/2015/05/2011-Aboriginal-Lateral-Violence.pdf>

LEGAL COACHING

“Legal coaching is not legal representation: the legal coach does not go on the record for the client. Legal coaching allows a litigant to retain a lawyer to provide her with behind the scenes guidance and mentorship. The lawyer assists the client to develop strategies for her case, shares their knowledge and offers practical tools for the client to use. The lawyer can also provide tips about courtroom etiquette and decorum. The legal coach can offer assistance throughout the case on all issues or can provide that support at key moments in the family court process. A lawyer who has been retained to provide legal coaching can offer advice, draft documents, review documents that have been drafted by the client as well as assist the client prepare for court appearances. In their role as legal coach, the lawyer can assist the client to assess the strengths and weaknesses of her own case as well as that of her ex-partner. The lawyer can also help the client set realistic goals and can do legal research for the client’s case.

“Legal coaching can be empowering for the client, who may learn new skills as well as increase her confidence through her relationship with her lawyer. The lawyer/client relationship can be more of a partnership than is likely in a traditional retainer where the lawyer speaks for the client in the legal process. The goal is to maximize the client’s capacity to take on the next steps on her own.” [1]

Learn More:

- [Organization: Luke’s Place](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Luke's Place. (2019, May). *What is legal coaching?* Retrieved from <https://lukesplace.ca/what-is-legal-coaching/>

LETHALITY

Lethality refers to the possibility of something causing death. The Domestic Violence Death Review Committee with the Office of the Chief Coroner, Province of Ontario found that the top risk factors for lethal violence include:

- History of domestic violence
- Actual or pending separation
- A perpetrator who was depressed
- Obsessive behavior by the perpetrator
- Prior threats or attempts to end their life [1]

Learn More:

- Organization: Canadian Domestic Homicide Prevention Initiative

Footnotes:

[1] Office of the Chief Coroner, Province of Ontario. (2018). *Domestic violence death review committee: 2017 annual report*. Retrieved from <http://cdhpi.ca/sites/cdhpi.ca/files/2017-DVDRC-Report.pdf>

MARGINALIZATION

“A process that keeps groups or individual from having access to all or part of the social, economic, cultural and political institutions of society. That is, these individuals or groups are on the “margins” of society.” [1]

“Marginalization can occur as a result of several factors, alone or in combination. These factors might include, but are not limited to, poverty, race, gender, discrimination, a lack of education and training, or disadvantaged geographic or social location.” [2]

Footnotes:

[1] Springtide Resources. (2008). *An integrated anti-oppression framework for reviewing and developing policy: A toolkit for community service organizations*. Toronto: Springtide Resources. Retrieved from http://www.springtideresources.org/sites/all/files/Anti-Oppression_Framework_Community_Org_Toolkit.pdf

[2] Stoetzer, O. R., & Schaefer, R. T. (1996). *Sociology an Introduction*, 1st Canadian edition Richard T. Schaefer(1st ed.). Toronto: McGraw-Hill Ryerson.

MASCULINITIES

“Masculinities refer to the culturally constructed social norms for behavior, comporment, and characteristics assigned to men and boys. Scholars talk about multiple masculinities instead of a singular masculinity because the category varies according to context, culture, geographic location, and historical period.” [1]

Hypermasculinity refers to “the overexpression of male stereotypes, including callous attitudes towards women, the valorization of violence as an expression of manliness, and danger-seeking behaviours.” [2]

Learn More:

- [Organization: White Ribbon](#)

Footnotes:

- [1] Dragiewicz, M. (2008). "Masculinities" in *Encyclopedia of interpersonal violence*. Renzetti, C. M., & Edleson, J. L. (eds.). Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE Publications Inc, 2. doi: 10.4135/9781412963923. Retrieved from <http://sk.sagepub.com/reference/violence/n301.xml>
- [2] Church-Duplessis, V., Evans, S. Hulays, H., et al. (2017). *Drawing the line on sexual violence: A Guide for Ontario educators, grades 9–12*. Toronto: White Ribbon. P. 136. Retrieved from <https://www.dtl.whiteribbon.ca/secondary-guide>

MATRIARCHY

Although "matriarchy" is broadly defined as a system in which authority is held by a mother or female elder, [1] it is not simply a reversal or "mirror" image of "patriarchy." [2]

Rather, "matriarchies are mother-centered societies, they are based on *maternal values*: care-taking, nurturing, motherliness, which holds for everybody: for mothers and those who are not mothers, for women and men alike." [3]

Footnotes:

- [1] Encyclopædia Britannica. (n.d.). Matriarchy. In *Encyclopædia Britannica*. Retrieved from <https://www.britannica.com/topic/matriarchy>
- [2] Marsden, H. (2018). International Women's Day: What are matriarchies, and where are they now? *Independent*. 8 March 2018. Retrieved from https://www.independent.co.uk/news/long_reads/international-womens-day-matriarchy-matriarchal-society-women-feminism-culture-matrilineal-elephant-a8243046.html
- [3] Goettner-Abendroth, H. (2009). *Matriarchy*. International Academy HAGIA. Retrieved from <http://www.hagia.de/en/matriarchy/>

MEDIA VIOLENCE

"Media violence has been defined as 'visual portrayals of acts of physical aggression by one human or human-like character against another,'" but it may also exist in music and text as well (e.g. the internet or literary sources). [1]

"Acts of violence that are witnessed or virtually perpetrated through various forms of media including television, movies, video games, music and internet. Extensive research evidence indicates that media violence can contribute to aggressive behavior, desensitization to violence, nightmares, and fear of being harmed." [2]

"Exposure to media violence is most likely one facet of a complex set of interacting variables that increase the probability of problem behaviours and related concerns." [3]

Footnotes:

[1] Huesmann (2007), quoted in Ontario Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services. (2016). Social Learning, the Media and Violence. Review of the Roots of Youth Violence: Literature Reviews. Vol. 5, Chap. 10. Retrieved From

[http://www.children.gov.on.ca/htdocs/English/professionals/oyap/roots/volume5/chapter10](http://www.children.gov.on.ca/htdocs/English/professionals/oyap/roots/volume5/chapter10/media_violence.aspx)

[media_violence.aspx](http://www.children.gov.on.ca/htdocs/English/professionals/oyap/roots/volume5/chapter10/media_violence.aspx)

[2] American Academy of Pediatrics. (2001). Media Violence. *Pediatrics*,108(5).

doi:10.1542/peds.108.5.1222

[3] Broll, R., Crooks, C., Burns, S., et al. (2013). Parental Monitoring, Media Literacy, and Media Violence: A Preliminary Evaluation of the Four R Parent Media Violence Workshop. *International Journal of Child, Youth, & Family Studies*. Vol . 4, no. 2. Pp. 301-319. Retrieved from

<https://journals.uvic.ca/index.php/ijcyfs/article/view/11602>

MÉTIS

“The Métis emerged as a distinct people or nation in the historic Northwest during the course of the 18th and 19th centuries. This area is known as the ‘historic Métis Nation Homeland,’ which includes the 3 Prairie Provinces and extends into Ontario, British Columbia, the Northwest Territories and the northern United States.

This historic Métis Nation had recognized Aboriginal title, which the Government of Canada attempted to extinguish through the issuance of ‘scrip’ and land grants in the late 19th and 20th centuries. The Métis National Council consequently adopted the following definition of ‘Métis’ in 2002:

‘Métis’ means a person who self-identifies as Métis, is distinct from other Aboriginal peoples, is of historic Métis Nation Ancestry and who is accepted by the Métis Nation.” [1]

Footnotes:

[1] Métis National Council. (n.d.). *Métis nation citizenship*. Métis Nation. Retrieved from

<https://www.metisnation.ca/index.php/who-are-the-metis/citizenship>

#METOO MOVEMENT

Tarana Burke founded the #MeToo movement in 2006.

“In October 2017, the hashtag #MeToo made headlines internationally, prompting women from around the world to publicly share their experiences of sexual assault or harassment. The #MeToo Movement has been called a watershed moment in the advancement of gender equality, giving a powerful platform to women and demonstrating the extent of sexual assault and harassment across society. In Canada, the Movement has had implications not only for survivors, but also for support service providers, educators, law enforcement, employers, and the government. The #MeToo Movement has prompted women across Canada to share experiences of sexual assault, harassment, or discrimination in a range of fields including politics,

theatre, journalism, music, comedy, sports, food and wine, and the airline industry... Participants called for meaningful change in the behaviours that surround sexual assault and harassment and advocated for improved services for survivors of sexual violence.” [1]

Learn More:

- [Video: Sexual Violence & Consent – Learning Network](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Canadian Women's Foundation. (n.d.). *The facts: #MeToo movement in Canada and its impact in Canada*. Retrieved from <https://www.canadianwomen.org/the-facts/the-metoo-movement-in-canada/>

MICROAGGRESSIONS

“The brief and commonplace daily verbal, behavioral, and environmental indignities, whether intentional or unintentional, that communicate hostile, derogatory, or negative racial, gender, and sexual orientation, and religious slights and insults to the target person or group.” [1]

Gender-based microaggressions are “the intentional and unintentional slights, insults, and invalidations based on gender and most frequently targeting women.” [2]

Footnotes:

[1] Sue, D. W., & Spanierman, L. (2020). *Microaggressions in everyday life* (Second edition.). (pp.5). John Wiley & Sons, Inc.

[2] Gartner, R. E. (2019). *From Gender Microaggressions to Sexual Assault: Measure Development and Preliminary Trends among Undergraduate Women*. ProQuest Dissertations Publishing. Retrieved from <https://escholarship.org/uc/item/4283396m>

MISOGYNOIR

Misogynoir was coined by Moya Bailey to describe “the particular brand of hatred directed at black women in American visual & popular culture.” [1] “The term is a combination of misogyny, the hatred of women, and noir, which means black but also carries film and media connotations. It is the particular amalgamation of anti-Black racism and misogyny in popular media and culture that targets Black trans and cis women. Representational images contribute to negative societal perceptions about Black women, which can precipitate racist gendered violence that harms health and can even result in death.” [2]

Learn More:

- [Webinar: Roots and Resilience – Learning Network](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Bailey, M. (2010, March). *They aren't talking about me*. Crunk Feminist Collective. Retrieved from <http://www.crunkfeministcollective.com/2010/03/14/they-arent-talking-about-me/>

[2] Bailey, M. (2016). Misogynoir in medical media: On Caster Semenya and R. Kelly. *Catalyst: Feminism, Theory, Technoscience*, 2(2), 1-31. doi:10.28968/cftt.v2i2.28800. Retrieved from <https://catalystjournal.org/index.php/catalyst/article/view/28800>

MISOGYNY

Misogyny is "primarily a property of social environments in which women are liable to encounter hostility due to the enforcement and policing of patriarchal norms and expectations – often, though not exclusively, insofar as they violate patriarchal law and order. Misogyny hence functions to enforce and police women's subordination and to uphold male dominance, against the backdrop of other intersecting systems of oppression and vulnerability, dominance and disadvantage, as well as disparate material resource, enabling and constraining social structures, institutions, bureaucratic mechanisms, and so on."

Learn More:

- [Issue-Based Newsletter: Femicide – Learning Network](#)
- [Brief: Cyber Misogyny – Learning Network](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Manne, K. (2018). *Down girl: The logic of misogyny*. New York: Oxford University Press.

NEGLECT

"Neglect happens when a family member, who has a duty to care for you, fails to provide you with your basic needs.

This can involve:

- not providing proper food or warm clothing
- failing to provide adequate health care, medication and personal hygiene (if needed)
- failing to prevent physical harm
- failing to ensure proper supervision (if needed)

Spouses and common-law partners have a duty to care for each other. Adults have a duty to care for their dependent children as well as their dependent parents.

Some forms of neglect are crimes in Canada, including failure to provide the necessities of life and child abandonment. If a child is neglected, child protection authorities could intervene and remove the child from his or her parents." [1]

Footnotes:

[1] Government of Canada Department of Justice. (n.d.). *About family violence*. Retrieved from <https://www.justice.gc.ca/eng/cj-jp/fv-vf/about-apropos.html#neg>

OBJECTIFICATION

“If one objectifies something (or someone), one views it and treats it as an object for the satisfaction of one’s desire; but this is not all, for objectification is assumed to be a relation of domination where one also has the power to enforce one’s view. Objectification is not just ‘in the head’; it is actualized, embodied, imposed upon the objects of one’s desire. So if one objectifies something, one not only views it as something which would satisfy one’s desire, but one also has the power to make it have the properties one desires it to have.” [1]

Learn More:

- [Video: The hidden narrative: Consent in a colonial system – Brianna Olson](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Haslanger, S. (2012). *Resisting reality: Social construction and social critique*. Oxford University Press, pp.64–5. Quoted in Stock, K. (2015). Sexual objectification. *Analysis*. Oxford Academic. Oxford University Press, pp. 191–195. Retrieved from <https://academic.oup.com/analysis/article/75/2/191/165327>

OPPRESSION

“The unilateral subjugation of one individual or group by a more powerful individual or group, using physical, psychological, social or economic threats or force, and frequently using an explicit ideology to sanction the oppression. Refers also to the injustices suffered by marginalized groups in their everyday interactions with members of the dominant group, or with the social systems that reinforce the dominant group’s social position. The marginalized groups usually lack avenues to express reaction to disrespect, inequality, injustice and lack of response to their situation by individuals and institutions that can make improvements.” [1]

“**Systems of oppression** are discriminatory institutions, structures, norms, to name a few, that are embedded in the fabric of our society... In the context of social justice, oppression is discrimination against a social group that is backed by institutional power. That is to say, the various societal institutions such as culture, government, education, etc. are all complicit in the oppression of marginalized social groups while elevating dominant social groups.” [2]

Footnotes:

[1] LGBTQ2S Toolkit. (2016, November 07). Anti-Oppression Framework Refresher. Retrieved from <http://lgbtq2stoolkit.learningcommunity.ca/training/anti-oppression-framework-refresher/>

[2] Simon Fraser Public Interest Research Group (2020). Systems of oppression. SFPIRG Info Hub. Retrieved from <https://sfpirg.ca/infohub/systems-of-oppression/#:~:text=Systems%20of%20oppression%20are%20discriminatory,is%20backed%20by%20institutional%20power>

PARENTAL ALIENATION

While there is no universal definition, the term parental alienation is used to describe “when a child’s resistance or hostility towards one parent is not justified and is the result of psychological manipulation by the other parent.” [1]

However, when a parent is concerned about their child’s safety due to a history of child maltreatment or intimate partner violence, their attempts to protect their children can be mislabeled as “alienation.” The misuse of the term parental alienation can mislead the court and endanger survivors and their children. [2]

Learn More:

- [Issue-Based Newsletter: The Misuse of Parental Alienation in Family Court Proceedings with Allegations of Intimate Partner Violence \(Part I & II\) – Learning Network](#)
- [Webinar: The misuse of alienation in domestic violence cases in family court: Helping court-related professionals to sort through conflicting allegations – Learning Network/Knowledge Hub](#)
- [Brief: Supporting the Health of Survivors of Family Violence in Family Law Proceedings – Learning Network](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Parental alienation. (n.d.) Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service. Retrieved from <https://www.cafcass.gov.uk/grown-ups/parents-and-carers/divorce-and-separation/what-to-expect-from-cafcass/parental-alienation/>

[2] Neilson, L. (2018). *Parental alienation empirical analysis: Child best interests or parental rights?* Vancouver: The FREDA Centre for Research on Violence Against Women and Children. Retrieved from <https://www.fredacentre.com/report-parental-alienation-empirical-analysis-neilson-2018/>

PARTNER ASSAULT RESPONSE (PAR) PROGRAMS

“A component of Ontario’s Domestic Violence Court program, PARS are specialized counseling and educational services offered by community-based agencies to people who have assaulted their partners.” [1] “Everyone convicted of assaulting a partner in Ontario must go through a

PAR program.” [2] “PAR programs aim to enhance victim safety and hold offenders accountable for their behaviour. The program gives offenders the opportunity to examine their beliefs and attitudes towards domestic abuse, and to learn non-abusive ways of resolving conflict. During weekly group counselling sessions, offenders discuss their beliefs and behaviours, healthy relationships and techniques for defusing violence.” [2] “While an offender is in the PAR program, staff offer the victim help with safety planning, referrals to community resources, and information about the offender's progress.” [1]

Footnote:

[1] Family Service Toronto. (2017). Partner Assault Response. Retrieved from <https://familyservicetoronto.org/our-services/programs-and-services/partner-assault-response/>

[2] Mouton, J., & Changing Ways. (2014, March 04). Ontario eyes putting 22% more men through the program. Retrieved from: <https://www.changingways.on.ca/news-media/2018/9/7/ontario-eyes-putting-22-more-men-through-the-program?rq=Partner%20Assault>

PATRIARCHY

“A social system in which men are the primary authority figure, central to social organization, and where fathers hold authority over women, children, and property.”

Learn More:

- [Issue-Based Newsletter: Engaging Men and Boys to End Violence Against Women – Learning Network](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Minerson, Todd, H. Carolo, T. Dinner, C. Jones. (2011). *Issue brief: Engaging men and boys to reduce and prevent gender-based violence*. Ottawa: Status of Women Canada. Retrieved from https://www.whiteribbon.ca/uploads/1/1/3/2/113222347/wrc_sw_c_issuebrief.pdf

PEOPLE OF COLOUR

“Any person who is not White or [Indigenous]. This term was first adopted in the United States by racialized people who were trying to name themselves with a positive identity, rather than as non-whites, coloured, ethnics, or racial minorities.” [1]

Learn More:

- [Resource: An Integrated Anti-Oppression Framework for Reviewing and Developing Policy – Springtide Resources](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Springtide Resources. (2008). *An integrated anti-oppression framework for reviewing and developing policy: A toolkit for community service organizations*. Toronto: Springtide Resources. Retrieved from http://www.springtideresources.org/sites/all/files/Anti-Oppression_Framework_Community_Org_Toolkit.pdf

PERPETRATOR

A perpetrator, or offender, is an individual who has been determined to have caused or knowingly allowed the maltreatment of another individual. [1] Perpetrators of violence come from various age, socio-economic, cultural, sexual orientation, ethnic, and religious demographics. Perpetrators of domestic violence are most commonly male. [2]

Footnotes:

[1] What is the Administration for Children & Families. (2000). *National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System glossary*. Retrieved from https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/ncands_glossary.pdf

[2] World Health Organization. (2012). *Understanding and addressing violence against women: Intimate partner violence*. Retrieved from https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/77432/WHO_RHR_12.36_eng.pdf

PHYSICAL ABUSE

“Physical abuse is the most obvious kind of [gender-based violence], but it is not the most common and is not necessarily the most serious. It is the intentional infliction of pain or injury by slapping, shoving, punching, strangling, kicking, burning, stabbing and/or shooting; using a weapon or other objects to threaten, hurt or kill; abducting a woman or keeping her imprisoned” [1]

Footnotes:

[1] Luke’s Place. (n.d.) *What is woman abuse*. Retrieved from: <https://lukesplace.ca/resources/what-is-woman-abuse/>

POLY-VICTIMIZATION

“Experiencing more than one type of victimization during one life stage (e.g. sexual, physical and emotional abuse in childhood) (p. 2).” [1]

“Repeated victimization and poly-victimization are distinct from, but can be involved in, revictimization. For example, a girl may experience emotional and physical abuse (i.e. poly-victimization) throughout her childhood from a caregiver (i.e. repeated victimization) and later as a teen experience bullying by a peer (i.e. revictimization), and then as an adult experience

intimate partner violence (i.e. revictimization) in the form of sexual and physical abuse (i.e. poly-victimization) multiple times (i.e. repeated victimization).” [1]

Learn More:

- [Issue-Based Newsletter: Links Between the Maltreatment of Girls and Later Victimization or Use of Violence – Learning Network](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Baker, L., & Etherington, N. (2017). Links Between the Maltreatment of Girls and Later Victimization or Use of Violence.

Retrieved from http://www.vawlearningnetwork.ca/our-work/issuebased_newsletters/issue-20/Newsletter_Issue_20_11.pdf

POST-COLONIALISM

“The study of the cultures of countries and regions, especially in Africa, Asia, and Latin America, whose histories are marked by colonialism, anti-colonial movements, and the transition to independence during the 20th century, and the study of their present-day influence on the societies and cultures of former colonizers.” [1]

This perspective may also analyze “issues of ‘otherness’, hybridity, national and ethnic identity, race, imperialism, and language both during and after colonial times.” [1]

Footnotes:

[1] Oxford Reference. (n.d.). Postcolonialism (postcoloniality, postcolonial theory). Oxford University Press. Retrieved from

<https://www.oxfordreference.com/view/10.1093/acref/9780199587261.001.0001/acref-9780199587261-e-0543>

POST-SEPARATION VIOLENCE

“One of the most serious and troubling issues for many women who have left an abusive relationship is the misapprehension held by many professionals in the family court system that the abuse ends at the time of separation. In fact, post-separation violence – any tactics used by an abuser that stop a woman from leaving, retaliate for her departure or force her return – can have significant long-term consequences and can even result in death.

The initial period of separation, when the violence continues and possibly escalates, is also when separated couples are the most likely to be involved in difficult and contested family court proceedings. These proceedings can take on a deadly tone for families where there has been a history of woman abuse.” [1]

Learn More:

- [Brief: It Shouldn't Be This Hard: Family Law, Family Court and Violence Against Women – Learning Network](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Cross, P. (2012). It Shouldn't Be This Hard: Family law, family court and violence against women. *Learning Network Brief 1*. London, Ontario: Centre for Research and Education on Violence Against Women and Children. Retrieved from <http://www.vawlearningnetwork.ca/our-work/briefs/brief-01.html>

POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER

“Women who have experienced trauma can develop symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). There are three categories of PTSD symptoms

Intrusive re-experiencing: Symptoms in which the trauma victim re-experiences traumatic events or feelings in ways that intrude on everyday life. Flashbacks and traumatic nightmares are vivid recollections of the trauma or an aspect of the trauma. During a flashback, one may see, hear or smell aspects of the trauma, or may have bodily sensations or body memories connected to the trauma. People who have flashbacks can feel as if they are going crazy or are out of control. Flashbacks are actually the brain's attempt to integrate the traumatic material. Until this is accomplished, flashbacks can be extremely disruptive to one's daily life.

Avoidance: Avoiding things or situations associated with the trauma – Following a trauma, individuals may avoid certain things that have become associated with the trauma; for example, a place or an activity. This can generalize to other things and leave someone feeling quite constricted in their life.

Hyperarousal: Individuals may always feel on edge or as if they have to be aware of everything around them. Individuals may suffer from insomnia or persistent restlessness.” [1]

Footnotes:

[1] Women's College Hospital. (n.d.). *Mental health signs and symptoms*. Retrieved from <https://www.womenshealthmatters.ca/health-centres/mental-health/trauma/signs-and-symptoms/>

POWER/POWER IMBALANCE

In its simplest sense, power entails the capacity of an individual (or group) to influence the behaviour of others, even against opposition or resistance. [1] As a social relation, this capacity may be exercised through many different forms, such as authority, coercion, status, the control over resources, or through the leverage afforded by social institutions, policies, norms, ideologies, etc. As a result, power imbalances may occur at the level of individual interactions (such as between intimate partners), and/or as a direct result of “historic, social, economic, and political events.” [2]

Depending on the degree of mutuality and consensus (or, on the other hand, manipulation or coercion) within a given context, power may be seen as a more or less productive or destructive force, capable of both realizing and repressing the interests of individuals or groups. Advocates for gender equity and social justice aim to *empower* individuals and communities by seeking to replace existing *power imbalances* with power relations that are based on fairness, consent, and mutual respect.

Footnotes:

[1] Walliman, I., Tatsis, N., & Zito, G. (1977). On Max Weber's definition of power. *The Australian and New Zealand Journal of Sociology*, 13(3): 231-235. Retrieved from <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/pdf/10.1177/144078337701300308>

[2] Canadian Race Relations Foundation. (n.d.). *Glossary of terms*. Retrieved from <https://www.crrf-fcrr.ca/en/resources/glossary-a-terms-en-gb-1>

POWER AND CONTROL WHEEL

The Power and Control wheel was developed by The Domestic Abuse Intervention Project pertaining to heterosexual couples and was later adapted by different groups. The wheel identifies power and control as the main cause of abusive behaviors and highlights different coercive techniques used by perpetrators of partner abuse.

Power and Control Wheels:

- [Power and Control Wheel](#)
- [Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Trans Power and Control Wheel](#)
- [Children Coping with Family Violence Wheel](#)
- [Immigrant Power and Control Wheel](#)
- [People with Disabilities Relationship Wheel](#)
- [Violence Against Indigenous Women Wheel](#)

PREJUDICE

“Prejudice means literally to pre-judge.” [1] “Prejudice encompasses positive or negative attitudes toward a person or group, formed without just grounds or sufficient knowledge, which will not be likely to change in spite of new evidence or contrary arguments. Frequently prejudices are not recognized as false or unsound assumptions or stereotypes, and, through repetition, become accepted as common sense notions.” [1] “When backed with power, prejudice results in acts of discrimination and oppression against groups or individuals.” [2]

Footnotes:

[1] Canadian Race Relations Foundation. (n.d.). *Glossary of terms*. Retrieved from <https://www.crrf-fcrr.ca/en/resources/glossary-a-terms-en-gb-1>

[2] Alberta Civil Liberties Research Centre. (n.d.). *Myth of reverse racism*. Retrieved from <http://www.aclrc.com/myth-of-reverse-racism>

PREVENTION

“Approaches and activities to prevent the likelihood of a health-related state or event impacting individuals and communities. There are several types of prevention, which include Primordial, Primary, Secondary and Tertiary.

Primordial Prevention: Prevention of risk factors, beginning with change in social and environmental conditions in which these factors are observed to develop

Primary Prevention: Prevention of disease or injury before it occurs. Occurs by preventing exposures to hazards that cause disease or injury, altering unhealthy or unsafe behaviours that can lead to disease or injury, and increasing resistance to disease or injury should exposure occur.

Secondary Prevention: Secondary prevention aims to reduce the impact of a disease or injury that has already occurred. This is done by detecting and treating disease or injury as soon as possible to halt or slow its progress, encouraging personal strategies to prevent reinjury or recurrence, and implementing programs to return people to their original health and function to prevent long-term problems.

Tertiary Prevention: Tertiary prevention aims to soften the impact of an ongoing illness or injury that has lasting effects. This is done by helping people manage long-term, often-complex health problems and injuries (e.g. chronic diseases, permanent impairments) in order to improve as much as possible their ability to function, their quality of life and their life expectancy.” [1]

Footnotes:

[1] Institute for Work and Health. (2015, April). Primary, secondary and tertiary prevention. Retrieved from <https://www.iwh.on.ca/what-researchers-mean-by/primary-secondary-and-tertiary-prevention>

PRIVILEGE

“Systemic advantages based on certain characteristics that are celebrated by society and preserved through its institutions. In North America, these can include being white, having money, being heterosexual, not having a disability, etc. Frequently people are unaware that these characteristics should be understood as privileges as they are so effectively normalized.”

[1]

Learn More:

- [Issue-Based Newsletter: Intersectionality – Learning Network](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Canadian Federation of Students-Ontario. (2017). *Campus toolkit for building consent culture*. Toronto: Canadian Federation of Students-Ontario. Retrieved from <https://cfsontario.ca/campaigns/gender-based-violence/>

PROTECTIVE FACTORS

“Protective factors are conditions or attributes of individuals, families, communities, or the larger society that, when present, promote wellbeing and reduce the risk for negative outcomes. These factors may “buffer” the effect of risk exposure and, importantly, may help individuals and families negotiate difficult circumstances and fare better in school, work, and life.” [1]

Learn More:

- [Infographic: 7 Protective Factors that Promote Children’s Resilience – Learning Network](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Development Services Group, Inc., & Child Welfare Information Gateway. (2015). *Promoting protective factors for victims of child abuse and neglect: A guide for practitioners*. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children’s Bureau. Retrieved from <https://www.childwelfare.gov/pubPDFs/victimscan.pdf>

QUEER

“Formerly derogatory slang term used to identify LGBT people. Some members of the LGBT community have embraced and reinvented this term as a positive and proud political identifier when speaking among and about themselves.” [1]

Learn More:

- [Issue-Based Newsletter: LGBTQ2S Youth, Violence, and Homelessness – Learning Network](#)
- [Issue-Based Newsletter: Intimate Partner Violence in Rainbow Communities – Learning Network](#)
- [Organization: The 519](#)

Footnotes:

[1] The 519. (n.d.). *Glossary of terms*. Retrieved from <http://www.the519.org/education-training/glossary>

RACIAL PROFILING

“Any action undertaken for reasons of safety, security or public protection that relies on stereotypes about race, colour, ethnicity, ancestry, religion, or place of origin rather than on reasonable suspicion, to single out an individual for greater scrutiny or differential treatment. Profiling can occur because of a combination of the above factors, and age and/or gender can influence the experience of profiling.” [1]

Footnotes:

[1] Canadian Race Relations Foundation. (n.d.). *Glossary of terms*. Retrieved from <https://www.crrf-fcrr.ca/en/resources/glossary-a-terms-en-gb-1>

RACISM

“Racism occurs when an expression of racial prejudice emerges from a more powerful/privileged location in the hierarchy, and is directed at an individual/group in a less powerful/privileged location. Racism is an exercise of power and refers not only to social attitudes towards non-dominant ethnic and racial groups but also to social structures and actions which oppress, exclude, limit and discriminate against such individuals and groups. Such social attitudes originate in and rationalize discriminatory treatment. Racism can be seen in discriminatory laws, residential segregation, poor health care, inferior education, unequal economic opportunity and the exclusion and distortion of the perspectives of non-dominant Canadians in cultural institutions.” [1]

“Racism is a common form of violence that is experienced by women from immigrant communities in Canada who are racialized.” [2]

“When looking at gender-based violence against immigrant and refugee women, it is critical to see the different ways in which racism and sexism intersect and influence their lives. For instance, dominant discourses of immigrant and refugee women and domestic violence tend to culturalize violence, seeing it as a product of cultural conflict rather than structural inequality.” [3]

See also: Anti-Black Racism, Anti-Indigenous Racism, Anti-Semitism

Learn More:

- [Webinar: Roots and Resistance – Learning Network](#)
- [Issue-Based Newsletter: Intimate Partner Violence Against Immigrant and Refugee Women – Learning Network](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Alberta Civil Liberties Research Centre. (n.d.). Racism and Power. Retrieved from <http://www.aclrc.com/racism-and-power>

[2] Tabibi, J., Ahmad, S., Baker, L., & Lalonde, D. (2018). Intimate Partner Violence Against Immigrant and Refugee Women. Learning Network Issue 26. London, Ontario: Centre for Research & Education on Violence Against Women & Children. P. 2. ISBN # 978-1-988412-24-5 Retrieved from http://www.vawlearningnetwork.ca/our-work/issuebased_newsletters/issue-26/index.html

[3] Razack, S. (2000). Looking white people in the eye: Gender, race, and culture in courtrooms and classrooms. Toronto: University of Toronto Press. doi:10.3138/9781442670204

RACIST

“Refers to an individual, institution, or organization whose beliefs and/or actions imply (intentionally or unintentionally) that certain races have distinctive negative or inferior characteristics. As an adjective, also refers to racial discrimination inherent in the policies, practices and procedures of institutions, corporations, and organizations which, though applied to everyone equally and may seem fair, result in exclusion or act as barriers to the advancement of marginalized groups, thereby perpetuating racism.” [1]

Footnotes:

[1] Canadian Race Relations Foundation. (n.d.). *Glossary of terms*. Retrieved from <https://www.crrf-fcrr.ca/en/resources/glossary-a-terms-en-gb-1>

RAPE

“**Rape** is an act of power and control, in which the victim is humiliated, degraded, and left with feelings of shame, guilt, and anger. The Criminal Code of Canada does not specifically define ‘rape’ in terms of specific acts. The crime of sexual assault is codified within the general assault provision (s. 265(2)), which makes it a crime to intentionally apply force to another person without their consent.” [1]

Date rape or acquaintance rape refers to a “sexual assault that happens between acquaintances or ‘friends’ or between people who are dating.” [2] Some studies tracing the changing usages of this term have noted that date rape may also “refer specifically to the sexual assault of a woman after a drug had been slipped into her drink.” [3]

Learn More:

- [Organization: Ontario Coalition of Rape Crisis Centres](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Canadian Federation of Students-Ontario. (2017). *Campus toolkit for building consent culture*. Toronto: Canadian Federation of Students-Ontario. Retrieved from <https://cfsontario.ca/campaigns/gender-based-violence/>

[2] Ending Violence Association of BC. (2011). *Fact sheet: Acquaintance rape*. Retrieved from <https://endingviolence.org/files/uploads/Aquaintance Rape Fact Sheet-1.pdf>

[3] Moore, S. (2011). Tracing the life of a crime category: The shifting meaning of “date rape.” *Feminist Media Studies*, 11(4), 451–465. <https://doi.org/10.1080/14680777.2011.555966>

RAPE CULTURE

“Many prevailing societal attitudes justify, tolerate, normalize and minimize sexual violence against women and girls. While often subtle, these persistent attitudes are integrated with and rooted in rape myths, stereotypes, and oppressive beliefs. This phenomenon is popularly referred to as ‘rape culture’.

Rape culture impacts various groups of women differently. For instance, while influencing all of us, rape culture sets up some groups as more likely to be targeted for sexual violence and to be disbelieved or blamed for the violation they experience (e.g., women of colour, impoverished women, women living with disabilities, trans-identified women and other women).” [1]

Learn More:

- [Brief: Sexual Violence Prevention: Are we increasing safety or reinforcing rape culture? – Learning Network](#)
- [Infographic: Rape Culture Is... – Learning Network](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Learning Network. (2014). Sexual violence awareness. *Learning Network Issue 9*. London, Ontario: Centre for Research & Education on Violence Against Women & Children. Retrieved from http://www.vawlearningnetwork.ca/our-work/issuebased_newsletters/issue-9/index.html

REFUGEE

“[A] person who is forced to flee from persecution and who is located outside of their home country. We may also call this person a **Convention refugee** – a person who meets the refugee definition in the 1951 Geneva Convention relating to the Status of Refugees. This definition is used in Canadian law and is widely accepted internationally. To meet the definition, a person must be outside their country of origin and have a well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion.” [1]

Learn More:

- [Website: Neighbours, Friends & Families – Immigrant and Refugee Communities](#)
- [Website: Ontario Council of Agencies Serving Immigrants](#)
- [Issue-Based Newsletter: Intimate Partner Violence Against Immigrant and Refugee Women – Learning Network](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Canadian Council for Refugees. (n.d.). *Background information about refugees*. Retrieved from <https://ccrweb.ca/en/information-refugees>

RELATIONAL AGGRESSION

“Relational or social aggression is defined as intentionally harming another person’s social relationships.” [1] “Relational aggression is typically covert and indirect. Examples can include shunning, excluding, ignoring, gossiping, rumour spreading, or disclosing another person’s secret. Relational aggression is different from other forms of bullying in that most bullying occurs outside the peer group while relational aggression occurs within the peer group. However, it is similar because it can be repeated, aggressive, harassing, and severe.” [2]

Footnotes:

[1] Stangor, C. (2014, September 26). Principles of Social Psychology – 1st International Edition. Retrieved from <https://opentextbc.ca/socialpsychology/chapter/defining-aggression/>

[2] Alberta Child and Youth Services. (2017, February 23). Relational Aggression. Retrieved from <https://www.hinton.ca/DocumentCenter/View/5279/Relational-Aggression>

REPEAT VICTIMIZATION

“Repeat victimization refers to the repeated criminal victimization of a person, household, place, business, vehicle or other target however defined. Near repeat victimization or *near repeats* refer to targets with similar characteristics or situations (also *virtual repeats*). Repeats can be the same or different crime types. It is generally accepted that a small proportion of any population of potential targets experience a vastly disproportionate amount of the crime because they are repeatedly victimized... The significance for many policy purposes, but particularly crime prevention, is that a focus upon repeats can greatly increase the efficiency with which resources are used. Most repeat victimization research relates to how it can be prevented, so crime prevention is the backdrop for much of this bibliography.” [1]

Footnotes:

[1] Nicholas, L. & Farrell, G. (2011). “Repeat Victimization.” *Oxford Bibliographies*. DOI: 10.1093/OBO/9780195396607-0119. Retrieved from <https://www.oxfordbibliographies.com/view/document/obo-9780195396607/obo-9780195396607-0119.xml>

REPRISAL

“A person who has authority or power denies you something important, punishes or threatens you for refusing a sexual request, or for [disclosing] inappropriate sexual behaviour or comments (p. 93).” [1]

Learn More:

- [Resource: Surviving the System Handbook – CREVAWC](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Centre for Research and Education on Violence Against Women and Children (CREVAWC) (2008). *Surviving the System Handbook: Advice on Using the Legal System if you are a Survivor of Sexual Violence*. Retrieved from <http://kfac.org/wp-content/uploads/2009/02/surviving-the-system-handbook.pdf>

REPRODUCTIVE VIOLENCE/COERCION

“Restricting or denying a woman’s ability to make her own decisions about her body is an attempt to maintain power and control over a woman. Behaviour that has the intention of controlling a woman’s reproductive health decision-making is known as reproductive coercion.”

[1] “Reproductive coercion includes pregnancy coercion, birth control/contraception sabotage, forced sterilization and control of pregnancy options.” [2]

Learn More:

- [Report: Exploring the Intersections of Domestic Violence and Sexual Violence – Learning Network](#)

Footnotes:

[1] White Ribbon Australia. (n.d.). *What is reproductive coercion?* Retrieved from <https://www.whiteribbon.org.au/understand-domestic-violence/types-of-abuse/reproductive-coercion/>

[2] Etherington, Nicole A. & Baker, Linda L. (2016). *Exploring the intersections of domestic violence and sexual violence: A discussion paper informed by the February 2016 Knowledge Exchange*. London, ON: Centre for Research & Education on Violence Against Women & Children. Retrieved from http://www.vawlearningnetwork.ca/our-work/reports/report_2016_1.html

RESILIENCE

“The process of adapting well in the face of adversity, trauma, tragedy, threats or significant sources of stress — such as family and relationship problems, serious health problems or workplace and financial stressors. Resilience is multidimensional and is associated with individual, relationship, community, cultural and environmental factors.” [1]

Learn More:

- [Webinar: Roots and Resilience – Learning Network](#)
- [Podcast: Resilience and Children Exposed to Intimate Partner Violence – Make Resilience Matters](#)
- [Graphic Novel: Immigrant Women’s Resilience – Ontario Council of Agencies Serving Immigrants \(OCASI\)](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Canadian Mental Health Association. (2018, March). *Building resilience*. Retrieved from <https://cmhahkpr.ca/building-resilience/>

RESTORATIVE JUSTICE

Restorative Justice (RJ) is “an approach to justice that seeks to repair harm by providing an opportunity for those harmed and those who take responsibility for the harm to communicate about and address their needs in the aftermath of a crime.” [1]

“RJ processes should be flexible and tailored to meet the specific needs of participants, including needs related to safety and power imbalances... Consideration should be given to power imbalances between participants due to age, maturity, cultural background, gender, religious or spiritual views, intellectual capacity, position of authority, and sexual orientation.” [1]

Learn More:

- [Webinar: Declarations of Truth: Creating An Alternative Justice Model for Survivors of Gender-Based Sexual Violence: The Transformative Accountability & Justice Pathway to Healing – Learning Network/Knowledge Hub](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Federal-Provincial-Territorial Ministers Responsible for Justice and Public Safety. (2018). *Principles and Guidelines for Restorative Practice in the Criminal Matters*. Retrieved from <https://scics.ca/en/product-produit/principles-and-guidelines-for-restorative-justice-practice-in-criminal-matters-2018/#fn9-rf>

REVENGE PORN

The term “revenge porn” has been argued to be problematic so the term “non-sexual sexual videos” is preferred. [1]

Non-consensual sexual videos involve pornographic materials produced and/or distributed in order to humiliate an individual. It constitutes a form of sexual violence, and is most frequently perpetrated as a form of violence against women:

“Because young women’s social status has historically been closely tied to chastity and modesty, women are particularly vulnerable to humiliation when their private sexual life is made public.” [2]

Learn More:

- [Infographic: What You Need to Know About Nonconsensual Sexual Deepfakes – Learning Network](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Learning Network. (2019). *What you need to know about nonconsensual sexual deepfakes*. Retrieved from <http://www.vawlearningnetwork.ca/our-work/infographics/index.html>

[2] Fairbairn, J. (2015). *Cyberviolence against women & girls*. Ottawa: Ottawa Coalition to End Violence Against Women. P. 16. Retrieved from: https://www.octevaw-cocvff.ca/sites/default/files/CyberViolenceReport_OCTEVAW.pdf

RE-VICTIMIZATION

Re-victimization refers to “the experience of victimization at two different life stages or during the same life stage, by more than one perpetrator (p. 2).” [1] “People who have experienced trauma are at an increased risk for being revictimized in the future. In fact, it is reported that approximately two out of every three people who are sexually victimized are revictimized later in life. Also, when someone who experienced childhood trauma is victimized again later in life, they may have more severe and complicated responses to the new trauma.” [2]

Learn More:

- [Issue-Based Newsletter: Links Between the Maltreatment of Girls and Later Victimization or Use of Violence – Learning Network](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Baker, L., & Etherington, N. (2017, April). *Links Between the Maltreatment of Girls and Later Victimization or Use of Violence*. Retrieved from http://www.vawlearningnetwork.ca/our-work/issuebased-newsletters/issue-20/Newsletter_Issue_20_11.pdf

[2] Women's College Hospital. (n.d.). *Mental Health Signs and Symptoms*. Retrieved from <https://www.womenshealthmatters.ca/health-centres/mental-health/trauma/signs-and-symptoms>

RISK

“A risk is a danger that is incompletely understood and can be forecasted only with uncertainty. The danger we are concerned with is domestic violence, which is a complex event. Violent acts can vary greatly with respect to such things as motivations of the perpetrator, nature of the relationship with the victim/survivor, or nature of physical harm. Risk is multi-faceted and

cannot be conceptualized simply by trying to quantify the probability that someone will engage in domestic violence. Instead, you must also consider the nature, seriousness, frequency or duration, and imminence of any future violence. Risk is inherently dynamic and contextual. The risk posed by perpetrators depends on such things as where they will reside, what kinds of services they will receive, whether they will experience adverse life events. For example, a perpetrator's risk for domestic violence may decrease if he no longer resides with the victim/survivor, if he receives appropriate substance use treatment, if he establishes or maintains stable employment or if he has a good support personal system of family and friends" (p. 12). [1]

Learn More:

- [Domestic Violence Risk Assessment and Management Curriculum – CREVAWC](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Centre for Research and Education on Violence Against Women and Children (CREVAWC) (2012). Domestic Violence Risk Assessment and Management On-Line Training Course. Retrieved from http://onlinetraining.learningtoendabuse.ca/sites/default/files/lessons/DVRAM%20full-text%20December%202012_1.pdf

RISK FACTOR

"A risk factor is any attribute, characteristic or exposure of an individual that increases the likelihood or odds of developing a disease or injury." [1]

"A risk factor is a condition or circumstance that that has been found to be positively associated with domestic violence/homicides in previous research. This condition or circumstance precedes the occurrence of the danger and may influence a perpetrator's decision making. In other words, a risk factor increases the likelihood of danger to domestic violence. While it is critically important to pay attention to and manage risk factors, we should not confuse risk factors with the underlying causes of violence. A risk factor may prompt a perpetrator to act on a violent urge, but it is not the reason for embracing violence as a way to get what he wants. [2]

"In the case of domestic violence risk assessment, risk factors should be supported by science (e.g., have statistical and empirical support and have demonstrated predictive validity), by practice (e.g., are practical and useful and have strong theoretical foundations), and by law (e.g., are reasonable, logical, and fair). Some examples of important risk factors for domestic violence are employment problems, substance use, mental health problems, relationship problems and periods of heightened tension, such as significant anniversaries. Information about risk factors is critical for violence risk assessment and management because it helps you understand what risks may be posed by the perpetrator and how to manage those risks. For instance, if substance use problems are identified as an important risk factor for violence in a

particular case, efforts can be taken to monitor, treat, or supervise the perpetrator’s use of substances (p. 13).” [2]

Learn More:

- [Resource: Domestic Violence Risk Assessment and Management Curriculum – CREVAWC](#)

Footnotes:

[1] World Health Organization. (2017, October 05). Risk factors. Retrieved from https://www.who.int/topics/risk_factors/en/

[2] Centre for Research and Education on Violence Against Women and Children (CREVAWC) (2012). Domestic Violence Risk Assessment and Management On-Line Training Course. Retrieved from http://onlinetraining.learningtoendabuse.ca/sites/default/files/lessons/DVRAM%20full-text%20December%202012_1.pdf

RISK MANAGEMENT

“Risk Management is taking action to prevent violence from happening, often in collaboration with other service providers and the potential victim/survivor. The victim/survivor’s children may also be at risk and should be included in the assessment and management strategies. Management strategies should focus on what should be done in health care, social service, education, victim/survivor services, workplace and legal settings to manage the potential violence risks posed by a person. Specifically, decisions should be made about general strategies that can be used to manage violence risk, such as Partner Assault Response Programs, substance use and mental health intervention, as well as specific tactics that can be taken to manage violence risk, such as referral to Partner Assault Response Programs, detox, inpatient substance use intervention, outpatient substance use intervention, employee assistance programs, or alcoholics anonymous, taking into account practical issues that can affect availability, accessibility, acceptability, affordability, and appropriateness access of services (e.g., cost, location, transportation, waiting times). Once a referral has been made, it is important to follow-up to ensure that the person was able to access that service, or that appropriate alternative action was taken (p. 13).” [1]

Learn More:

- [Webinar: Domestic Violence Risk Assessment and Management Curriculum – CREVAWC](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Centre for Research and Education on Violence Against Women and Children (CREVAWC) (2012). Domestic Violence Risk Assessment and Management On-Line Training Course. Retrieved from http://onlinetraining.learningtoendabuse.ca/sites/default/files/lessons/DVRAM%20full-text%20December%202012_1.pdf

SAFETY PLANNING/SAFETY PLAN

“Victim/survivor safety planning refers to the process of supporting or empowering victims/survivors in developing strategies to increase their safety. Safety planning should always be done in collaboration with the victim/survivor. The victim/survivor constantly navigates her safety and is often the most knowledgeable about the danger she faces. Consistent with the principles of domestic violence risk management, safety plans should be tailored to the victim/survivor’s circumstances and developed to suit her individual needs. Safety plans must take into account the realities of each victim/survivor given that many of them face major barriers to putting safety plans in place due to the lack of available, accessible, acceptable, affordable, and appropriate services. A wide range of victim services, mental health, social service, human resource, law enforcement, and security professionals may engage in safety planning. If a team is involved in managing risk for violence, one member of the team should be designated as the victim/survivor liaison. As with domestic violence risk management, professionals engaging in comprehensive safety planning require the appropriate training and experience. Consistent with domestic violence risk management, victim/survivor safety planning involves improving both static and dynamic security. With respect to static security, victims/survivors may collaborate with victim support workers to identify security improvements that could be made to where she lives, works and travels. For instance, improvements could be made to visibility by adding lights, altering gardens or landscapes, ensuring proximity between parking locations and workplace entrances, employing security personnel, and installing video cameras. Access could be restricted by adding or improving entry systems, door locks, and security checkpoints. Alarms could be installed, or victims/survivors could be provided with personal alarms. In some cases, it is impossible to ensure the safety of victim/survivor in a particular site and the victim/survivor may consider extreme measures such as relocation of her residence or workplace. Shelters and counseling agencies specializing in violence against women can provide direct services and linkages to other services (p. 42).” [1]

Learn More:

- [Online Training: Domestic Violence Risk Assessment and Management Curriculum – CREVAWC](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Centre for Research and Education on Violence Against Women and Children (CREVAWC) (2012). Domestic Violence Risk Assessment and Management On-Line Training Course.

Retrieved from

http://onlinetraining.learningtoendabuse.ca/sites/default/files/lessons/DVRAM%20full-text%20December%202012_1.pdf

SEGREGATION

“The social, physical, political and economic separation of diverse groups of people, particularly referring to ideological and structural barriers to civil liberties, equal opportunity and

participation by minorities within a majority racial, ethnic, religious, linguistic or social group. Segregation may be a mutually voluntary arrangement but more frequently is enforced by the majority group and its institutions.” [1]

Footnotes:

[1] Canadian Race Relations Foundation. (n.d.). *Glossary of terms*. Retrieved from <https://www.crrf-fcrr.ca/en/resources/glossary-a-terms-en-gb-1>

SELF DEFENSE

The Self-Defense Act of Canada states “A person is not guilty of an offence if they believe on reasonable grounds that force is being used against them or another person or that a threat of force is being made against them or another person; the act that constitutes the offence is committed for the purpose of defending or protecting themselves or the other person from that use or threat of force; and the act committed is reasonable in the circumstances.” [1]

“Most legal definitions of self-defense consider violent conduct on an incident by incident basis. This is a problem in a domestic violence context since domestic violence operates, in pattern and effect, in a cumulative fashion. When people, who have been targeted repeatedly by abuse and violence, ultimately respond themselves with violence, that violence is commonly a reaction to the cumulative effects of prior patterns of abuse and violence in the relationship rather than a response to an immediate, imminent threat. This type of violence will seldom be classified, in law, as self-defense. The problem is compounded by criminal definitions that define crimes of violence as incidents rather than as a pattern of behavior.” [2]

Footnotes:

[1] Mackay, R. (2012). *Bill C-26: The Citizen’s Arrest and Self-Defence Act*. Ottawa: Library of Parliament.

[2] Department of Justice Canada. (2013). *Enhancing safety: When domestic violence cases are in multiple legal systems*. Cat. No. J2-395/2014E-PDF. Retrieved from <https://www.justice.gc.ca/eng/rp-pr/fl-lf/famil/enhan-renfo/p3.html>

SEX WORK

“Sex work includes various activities such as soliciting on the street or in other public areas, nude dancing with or without contact, providing erotic massages, visiting or receiving through an escort service, acting in pornographic movies, animating erotic phone or webcam conversations, and offering specific or specialized services like domination or fetishism. Sex work is diverse and may apply to sexual or erotic activities for payment. It therefore goes beyond prostitution, which exclusively describes the exchange of sexual services for payment... The morally charged term, ‘prostitution’, has been associated with deviance, corruption and criminality, and still is today. The use of the terms like ‘prostitution’ and ‘prostitute’, restrict a person’s identity to the activities she engages in. The negative labels or words like ‘prostitute’ and ‘whore’ reduce a person to one dimension: engaging in sexual activities for money... Using

the term sex work therefore helps draw a distinction between the economic activity and the person's identity." [1]

More recently, there has been a move by some individuals and organizations to use the term "people who do sex work" in order to not reduce individuals to their profession.

Learn More:

- [Webinar: How Law & Stigma Harm People Who Do Sex Work – Learning Network](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Maggie's Toronto. (2007). *Sex work: 14 answers to your questions*. Retrieved from <http://maggiestoronto.ca/uploads/File/8.2.Stella.pdf>

SEXISM

"Sexism stems from a set of implicit or explicit beliefs, erroneous assumptions and actions based upon an ideology of inherent superiority of one gender over another and may be evident within organizational or institutional structures or programs, as well as within individual thought or behaviour patterns. Sexism is any act or institutional practice, backed by institutional power which subordinates people because of gender. While, in principle, sexism may be practiced by either gender, most of our societal institutions are still the domain of men and usually the impact of sexism is experienced by women." [1]

Footnotes:

[1] Canadian Race Relations Foundation. (n.d.). *Glossary of terms*. Retrieved from <https://www.crrf-fcrr.ca/en/resources/glossary-a-terms-en-gb-1>

SEXTING

"'Sexting' commonly refers to sending messages that are meant to be sexually exciting through text, email, or social media (Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, etc.). 'Sexting' can also include sending someone sexual pictures and/or videos. Sharing a sexual/intimate image of yourself or someone else can have big impacts.

If a sexual picture/video is taken, shared or posted online without the permission of the person in the picture/video, it is against Canadian criminal law. For youth under 18 years old, taking and sharing sexual images can also be against the law, even if the youth agrees to have the images shared with others or if the images are of yourself."

Learn More:

- [Online Resource: Sexting: Privacy and the Law – Kid's Help Phone](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Ontario Women's Justice Network. (2019). *Sexting and the law about sharing intimate images*. Retrieved from <http://owjn.org/2019/05/sexting-and-the-law-about-sharing-intimate-images/>

SEXUAL ABUSE

“Sexual Abuse is any form of unwanted sexual activity without that person’s consent. This can include forced sexual intercourse (rape), forced pornography or prostitution, childhood sexual abuse, incest, sexual harassment and any unwanted sexual activity including kissing, fondling, touching, oral sex or threatening to do any of these things.” [1]

Learn More:

- [Issue-Based Newsletter: Sexual Violence Awareness – Learning Network](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Assault Response & Care Centre. (n.d.). About Sexual Assault & Domestic Violence. Retrieved from <https://www.arc-c.ca/about-sexual-assault--domestic-violence-c27.php>

SEXUAL AGGRESSION

“Sexual aggression is defined as the offenders’ act to impose [their] sexual will over another, nonconsenting, person using behaviors such as threats, intimidation, drugs, or physical force. Sexual aggression may happen to any person regardless of [their] socioeconomic status, education, race/ethnicity, sexual orientation, and so forth.” [1]

“Over the years different theories (e.g., feminist, social learning) have proposed explanations as to why sexual aggression is common. Further, a number of techniques have been developed to attempt to treat sex offenders.” [1]

Footnotes:

[1] Papazoglou, K., & Andersen, J. (2016). Sexual aggression. In C. Shehan (Ed.), *Encyclopedia of Family Studies*. Wiley- Blackwell: Hoboken, NJ. Retrieved from <https://doi.org/10.1002/9781119085621.wbef340>

SEXUAL ASSAULT

“Any unwanted touching of a sexual nature is sexual assault. This can range from touching of sexual parts of the body to vaginal or anal penetration. As with other assaults, if weapons are involved or there is serious physical injury, the charge can become either sexual assault with a weapon or aggravated sexual assault.” [1]

“[Sexual assault] is an act of power and control over the victim. Sexual assault is a crime of violence because the victim is subjected to the aggression of the assailant. It is *not* a crime of sex. The feelings associated with sexual assault are disgust, shame, humiliation and powerlessness. It not only violates someone physically but may also affect a person’s sense of safety and ability to control their own life.” [2]

Learn More:

- [Brief: Sexual Violence Awareness – Learning Network](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Cross, P. (2016). *Criminal charges in violence against women*. Retrieved from <https://lukesplace.ca/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/Criminal-Glossary.pdf>

[2] Avalon Sexual Assault Centre. (n.d.). *Glossary and definitions*. Retrieved from <http://avaloncentre.ca/quicklinks/glossary-and-definitions/>

SEXUAL ASSAULT/RAPE CRISIS CENTRES

“Victims and survivors of sexual assault who are 16 years of age or older are eligible for a variety of counseling, information and referral services from community-based Sexual Assault/Rape Crisis Centres (SACs). These services include Accompanying a victim to court, a hospital or police station; supportive peer counseling services (both one-to-one and group); sexual violence education and training for professionals and members of the public; and, information and referral services (p. 3).” [1]

Learn More:

- [Organization: Ontario Coalition of Rape Crisis Centres](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Ontario Association Children's Aid Society. (2015). Ministry of the Attorney General Programs and Services for Victims of Crime in Ontario. Retrieved from <http://www.oacas.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/MAG.pdf>

SEXUAL COERCION

“Sexual coercion is unwanted sexual activity that happens after being pressured in nonphysical ways that include:

- Being worn down by someone who repeatedly asks for sex
- Being lied to or being promised things that weren’t true to trick you into having sex
- Having someone threaten to end a relationship or spread rumors about you if you don’t have sex with them

- Having an authority figure, like a boss, property manager, loan officer, or professor, use their influence or authority to pressure you into having sex.” [1]

Other “methods of coercion used by perpetrators of sexual violence to exert power and aggression over victims/ survivors include: intimidation and threats; assaultive behaviour or physical force; the use of alcohol or other substances; the use of power imbalances created by social status, position or role, physical size/strength/ ability; persistent pressure to wear down the victim/survivor; and the exploitation of vulnerabilities (p. 3).” [2]

“In a healthy relationship, you never have to have sexual contact when you don’t want to. Sexual contact without your consent is assault. Sexual coercion means feeling forced to have sexual contact with someone.” [1]

Learn More:

- [Report: Overcoming Barriers and Enhancing Supportive Responses – Learning Network](#)
- [Issue-Based Newsletter: Intimate Partner Sexual Violence – Learning Network](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Office on Women's Health. (2019, March 14). What is sexual coercion. Retrieved from <https://www.womenshealth.gov/relationships-and-safety/other-types/sexual-coercion>

[2] Baker, L., Straatman, A., & Campbell, M. (2012). Overcoming Barriers and Enhancing Supportive Responses: The Research on Sexual Violence Against Women. A Resource Document. Retrieved from <http://www.vawlearningnetwork.ca/our-work/reports/2012-1-eng-LN Overcoming Barriers FINAL.pdf>

SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

“The law considers it to be sexual exploitation for anyone in a position of trust or authority over a young person, to engage in sexual activity with them. This includes a person on whom the young person is dependent. A young person is a person 16 years of age or more, but under 18 years. The courts would determine exploitation by the wrongful conduct of the person in the position of trust rather than the consent of the young person. The law also provides for the protection of persons with mental or physical disabilities without any age restrictions.” [1]

Under Section 153 of the Criminal Code of Canada “sexual exploitation” is defined as follows:

“153 (1) Every person commits an offence who is in a position of trust or authority towards a young person, who is a person with whom the young person is in a relationship of dependency or who is in a relationship with a young person that is exploitative of the young person, and who

(a) for a sexual purpose, touches, directly or indirectly, with a part of the body or with an object, any part of the body of the young person; or

(b) for a sexual purpose, invites, counsels or incites a young person to touch, directly or indirectly, with a part of the body or with an object, the body of any person, including the body of the person who so invites, counsels or incites and the body of the young person.” [2]

Footnotes:

[1] Public Legal Education and Information Service of New Brunswick. (2017). *No means no: Understanding consent to sexual activity*. p. 5. Retrieved from http://www.legal-info-legale.nb.ca/en/no_means_no

[2] R.S.C., 1985, c. C-46. Retrieved from: <https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-46/section-153.html>

SEXUAL HARASSMENT

“Unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favours, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature when:

- Submission to such conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of an individual's employment, or
- Submission to or rejection of such conduct by an individual is used as a basis for employment decisions affecting such individual, or
- Such conduct has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's work performance or creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive working environment.” [1]

“(Sexual harassment) can be coercive or subtle in nature. Sexual harassment is an abuse of power and is often used as a way of controlling or intimidating someone. Sexual harassment can happen in schools, universities, workplaces or even on the street.” [2] Some examples of sexual harassment include:

- Threats/intimidation
- Untrue sexual comments said about a person
- Remarks about a person’s sexual identity (i.e. gay bashing)
- Displaying sexist or demeaning pictures [2]

Learn More:

- [Infographic: Places where sexual harassment occurs and its potential impacts – Learning Network](#)
- [Infographic: Sexual Harassment - What is a myth and what is reality? – Learning Network](#)

Footnotes:

[1] World Health Organization. (2019). *Sexual exploitation and abuse prevention and response*. Geneva: World Health Organization. Retrieved from <https://www.who.int/about/ethics/sexual-exploitation-abuse-prevention-response-policy.pdf>

[2] Avalon Sexual Assault Centre. (n.d.). *Glossary and definitions*. Retrieved from <http://avaloncentre.ca/quicklinks/glossary-and-definitions/>

SEXUAL VIOLENCE

“Sexual violence is one of many interconnected expressions of violence against women (VAW). Other forms include physical, psychological and economic violence. Like all VAW, sexual violence is not confined by racial, geographical, cultural or community boundaries. Its harmful consequences impoverish women and girls, their families, communities, and nations. This serious systemic social problem is a violation of human rights rooted in persistent discrimination against women.

Sexual Violence...

- refers to any violence, physical or psychological, carried out through sexual means or by targeting sexuality (e.g., childhood sexual abuse, sexual assault, drug facilitated sexual assault, rape during armed conflict, sexual harassment, stalking, sexual cyber harassment, sexual exploitation)
- is gender-based violence
is about exerting power and control over another.” [1]

“Sexual violence includes any act that undermines an individual’s sexual or gender integrity. Forced prostitution, forced marriage (especially of minors), forced cohabitation, forced adoption of a gender role that does not conform to an individual’s identity, trafficking for the purposes of sexual exploitation also come under this category. Some hate crimes and the more loosely defined “hate incidents” such as those directed at women and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transsexual, transgender, twin-spirited, intersex, queer and questioning (LGBTTTIQQ) individuals are also sexual violence. Sexual violence includes the imposition or elimination of actions related to sexual and reproductive health. Non-availability, withholding or forcing abortion and contraception, not allowing measures to prevent STIs (Sexually Transmitted Infections) and HIV/AIDS, Female Circumcision/ FGM (Female Genital Mutilation), and practices designed to detect whether a woman’s virginity is intact, are all examples of this kind of violence.” [2]

Learn More:

- [Issue-Based Newsletter: Sexual Violence Awareness – Learning Network](#)
- [Organization: Ontario Coalition of Rape Crisis Centres](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Baker, L., Campbell, M., Barreto, E. (2014). Sexual Violence Awareness. *Learning Network Newsletter*. Issue 9. Retrieved from [http://www.vawlearningnetwork.ca/our-work/issuebased-newsletters/issue-9/LN Newsletter Issue 9 2014 e version 1.pdf](http://www.vawlearningnetwork.ca/our-work/issuebased-newsletters/issue-9/LN%20Newsletter%20Issue%209%202014%20e%20version%201.pdf)

[2] Sexual Assault Centre Hamilton. (2014). What is Sexual Violence. Retrieved from <http://sacha.ca/resources/what-is-sexual-violence>

SIBLING VIOLENCE

“Sibling violence is the physical, emotional, and/or sexual abuse of one sibling by another. It is **not** the everyday squabbles, rivalry, or physical playing between siblings. Sibling violence often involves a power imbalance that makes it difficult for the harmed child to protect or defend themselves.” [1]

Learn More:

- [Issue-Based Newsletter: Sibling Violence – Learning Network](#)

Footnote:

[1] Tabibi, J., Baker, L., & Lalonde, D. (2017). Sibling violence. *Learning Network Issue 21*. London, Ontario: Centre for Research & Education on Violence Against Women & Children. Retrieved from http://www.vawlearningnetwork.ca/our-work/issuebased_newsletters/issue-21/index.html

SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH

“The social determinants of health are the conditions in which people are born, grow, live, work and age. These circumstances are shaped by the distribution of money, power and resources at global, national and local levels. The social determinants of health are mostly responsible for health inequities - the unfair and avoidable differences in health status seen within and between countries.” [1]

Footnotes:

[1] World Health Organization. (2017, September). *About social determinants of health*. Retrieved from https://www.who.int/social_determinants/sdh_definition/en/

SOCIAL EXCLUSION

“Social Exclusion describes a process by which certain groups are systematically disadvantaged because they are discriminated against on the bases of their ethnicity, race, religion, sexual orientation, caste, descent, gender, age, disability, HIV status, migrant status or where they live. Discrimination occurs in public institutions, such as the legal system or education and health services, as well as social institutions like the household.” [1]

Footnotes:

[1] Public Service Alliance of Canada. (2006). Retrieved from <http://psac-ncr.com/human-rights-terminology>

SOCIAL JUSTICE

Social justice is about: “transforming the way resources and relationships are produced and distributed so that all can live dignified lives in a way that is ecologically sustainable. It is also about creating new ways of thinking and being and not only criticizing the status quo.” [1]

Footnotes:

[1] Potts, K. & Brown, L. (2005). Becoming an anti-oppressive researcher. In L. Brown & S. Strega (Eds.), *Research as resistance: Critical, Indigenous, and anti-oppressive approaches*. Pp. 255–268. Toronto: Canadian Scholars’ Press.

SOCIAL LOCATION

A geographical metaphor for thinking about the context in which each individual encounters the systems, institutions, power relations, and history of their society. These encounters are often patterned around the social groups to which people belong—and thus pertain to the identities they hold as members of those groups. “All people have a social location that is defined by their gender, race, social class, age, ability, religion, sexual orientation, and geographic location. Each group membership confers a certain set of social roles and rules, power, and privilege (or lack of), which heavily influence our identity and how we see the world.” [1]

Learn More:

- [Infographic: Intersectionality – Learning Network](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Dick, S., Hunt-Humchitt, S., John, R., Kelly, E., Morris, J., Smith, L., Voyageur, E. Gillie, J. (n.d.). Glossary. *Cultural Safety: Module 2. Peoples’ Experiences of Oppression*. Retrieved from <https://web2.uvcs.uvic.ca/courses/csafety/mod2/glossary.htm>

SPIRITUAL ABUSE

“Spiritual abuse includes using a person's religious or spiritual beliefs to manipulate, dominate or control them. It may also include preventing someone from engaging in spiritual or religious practices or ridiculing their beliefs.” [1]

Footnotes:

[1] Justice Canada. (2002). *Spousal Abuse: A Fact Sheet*. P. 2. Retrieved from <http://publications.gc.ca/collections/Collection/J2-289-2002E.pdf>

SPOUSAL ABUSE

“Physical, sexual, financial, and/or psychological abuse that a [person] may experience at the hands of a current or former marital, common-law or same-sex partner. Spousal abuse may happen at any time during a relationship, including while it is breaking down, or after it has ended.” [1]

Footnotes:

[1] Justice Canada. (2002). Spousal Abuse: A Fact Sheet. P. 1. Retrieved from <http://publications.gc.ca/collections/Collection/J2-289-2002E.pdf>

STALKING

“Stalking is defined as repeated and unwanted attention that causes a person to fear for their personal safety or for the safety of someone they know, a definition which qualifies as criminal harassment under the *Criminal Code* of Canada (s. 264). While stalking, by definition, makes someone feel unsafe, it can take the form of actions that do not include overt threats of physical violence. Examples include threats to divulge sensitive personal information and unwanted romantic advances that make the person feel unsafe, despite not including threats of physical harm. Stalking can encompass a range of behaviours, such as someone waiting outside a person’s home, school or work, physical or electronic surveillance, damage to property and various kinds of unwanted communication, as further outlined in the *Criminal Code* (ss. 372(2) and (3)). Stalking often involves a pattern of repeated behaviour, as opposed to one occurrence of a harassing phone call, email, or other action.” [1]

Learn More:

- [Website: Outside of the Shadows – Julie Lalonde](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Burczykca, M. (2016). *Stalking in Canada, 2014*. Statistics Canada. Retrieved from <https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/85-002-x/2018001/article/54893/01-eng.htm>

STATE VIOLENCE

“State violence is the use of legitimate governmental authority to cause unnecessary harm and suffering to groups, individuals, and states. State violence stems from the desire of official state actors to reach the organizational goals of a state or governmental agency. The goals may be implicit or explicit and are often related to building or preserving hegemony and control, racial and ethnic exclusivity, imperialism, or facilitating the accumulation of capital or scarce resources such as oil.

“The most common forms of state violence are human rights violations, crimes against humanity, war crimes, genocide, torture, prisoner abuse, and the oppression of racial, ethnic, gender, religious, or political minorities. These acts are prohibited by several international laws

and agreements (e.g., the UN Charter and Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and the Geneva and Genocide Conventions) and some domestic legal codes” (such as the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms). [1]

Footnotes:

[1] Kauzlarich, D. (2008). State violence. *Encyclopedia of interpersonal violence*. Renzetti, C. & Edleson (eds.). Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE Publications Inc. Retrieved from <http://sk.sagepub.com/reference/violence/n499.xml>

STEALTHING

“Stealthing is the non-consensual act of removing a condom during sex. One partner stealthily removes the condom without the other noticing. Another form of stealthing is putting holes in the condoms to attempt non-consensual pregnancy. Stealthing is against the law and is defined as rape or sexual assault. Removing condoms during sexual intercourse increases the risks of unwanted pregnancy, transmission of sexually transmitted infections and diseases (STIs), and it can cause emotional and psychological distress to those affected.” [1]

Footnote:

[1] Trent University. (n.d.) Stealthing. Retrieved from <https://www.trentu.ca/sexualviolence/resources/stealthing>

STEREOTYPE

“Stereotypes are taken to mean simplistic and uncritical judgements of people based on such characteristics as gender, age, race, ethnicity and skin colour ascribing to them attributes learnt early in life from society. [1] As such, there is a tendency to believe in the ‘correctness’ or ‘truth’ of the judgements with disregard for evidence to the contrary. Stereotypes not only serve to categorize, organize and simplify the amount of complex information that we receive, they also operate to essentialize people – attributing sameness to them, as well as evaluating and generalizing about them as a group.

In Canada, stereotyping is practised in a context informed by a multicultural discourse that tends to mask the fact that race, ethnicity, language, accent, religion and other demographic factors are used to ascribe particular cultural practices to various members of society.” [2]

Footnotes:

[1] Paul, A.M. (1998). Where bias begins: The truth about stereotypes. *Psychology Today*, pp. 52-56. Retrieved from <https://www.psychologytoday.com/ca/articles/199805/where-bias-begins-the-truth-about-stereotypes>

[2] James, C. (n.d.). *Stereotyping and its consequence for racial minority youth*. Ontario Human Rights Commission Race Policy Dialogue Papers. Retrieved from

<http://www.ohrc.on.ca/en/race-policy-dialogue-papers/stereotyping-and-its-consequence-racial-minority-youth>

STRANGULATION

Strangulation involves “the physical act of applying external force to the neck area and cutting off oxygen flow to and away from the brain. This is very different from choking, which involves an object, like a piece of food, being trapped inside the throat... Strangulation, especially in the context of intimate partner violence, is an intentional and deliberate act that somebody does to someone else.” [1]

Learn More:

- [Executive Summary: A fresh breath: Examining the experience of strangulation among women abused by an intimate partner – WomenatthecentrE](#)
- [Issue-Based Newsletter: Traumatic Brain Injury & Violence Against Women – Learning Network](#)

Footnotes:

[1] WomenatthecentrE. (2016). *A fresh breath: Examining the experience of strangulation among women abused by an intimate partner*. Retrieved from <https://www.womenatthecentre.com/wp-content/uploads/A-Fresh-Breath-Executive-Summary-2016.pdf>

STRUCTURAL INEQUALITY

Structural inequality consists of hierarchical relations that are embedded within the organization of a society and its dominant institutions (e.g. law, education, economic systems, government, healthcare). It also consists of the processes that reinforce and perpetuate the dominant and subordinate statuses conferred to individuals, or to the roles, opportunities, resources, or identities they hold.

Structural inequality may be examined in terms of a *specific arrangement* of institutions or structures (i.e., the *systems* through which inequality takes place) or it may refer to a *specific form* of inequality (such as the unequal power often ascribed to people of different ethnicities or different levels of wealth). In practice, structural inequality is often reinforced through the interconnections of multiple institutions and multiple systems of domination

Learn More:

- [Brief: Intersectionality – Learning Network](#)

STRUCTURAL VIOLENCE

“Refers to the physical and psychological harm that result from exploitative and unjust social, political and economic systems. Forms of structural violence operate globally against women, children, Indigenous peoples and those in poverty, and constitute human rights violations and significant social determinants of ill health. Structural violence is, however, often most pervasive because of its invisibility: embedded in ubiquitous social structures (and) normalized by stable institutions and regular experience...structural inequities usually seem ordinary (p. 678).” [1]

Footnotes:

[1] Rutherford, A., Zwi, A. B., Grove, N. J., & Butchart, A. (2007). Violence: a glossary. *Journal of epidemiology and community health*, 61(8), 676–680. doi:10.1136/jech.2005.043711

SURVIVOR

Any individual can be a survivor of interpersonal violence regardless of age, race, economic status, gender, religion, sexual orientation, or ethnicity. “The term ‘survivor’ is preferred to victim as it reflects the reality that many abused individuals cope and move on with personal strength, resourcefulness, and determination.” [1]

Some individuals and organizations have also proposed using “experiencer” as a general term encompassing all individuals with lived experiences of violence. This term encompasses those who might also identify as survivors and those who may legally be defined as “victims.” It also recognizes those who identify with neither of these terms, and those that did not survive this experience. [2]

Learn More:

- [Issue-Based Newsletter: Voices of Our Sisters: Poems on experiences of violence and homelessness – Learning Network](#)
- [Brief: Learning from Women with Lived Experience – Learning Network](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Baker, L., & Jaffe, P. (2007). Woman Abuse Affects our Children. Retrieved from https://www.springtideresources.org/sites/all/files/Educators_Guide_to_Woman_Abuse.pdf

[2] Nonomura, R., Baker, L., & Lalonde, D. (forthcoming). Trafficking at the Intersections. *Learning Network Brief*. Centre for Research and Education on Violence Against Women & Children. London, Ontario: Learning Network.

SURVIVOR-CENTERED APPROACH

A survivor-centred approach is one that “prioritizes the rights, needs, and wishes of the survivor.” [1] According to this approach, it is the survivor’s right to:

- “be treated with dignity and respect instead of being exposed to victim-blaming attitudes.
- choose the course of action in dealing with the violence instead of feeling powerless.
- privacy and confidentiality instead of exposure.
- non-discrimination instead of discrimination based on gender, age, race/ethnicity, ability, sexual orientation, HIV status or any other characteristic.
- receive comprehensive information to help (them) make (their) own decision instead of being told what to do.” [1]

Footnote:

[1] UN Women Virtual Knowledge Centre to End Violence against Women and Girls. (2011). *Survivor-centred approach*. Retrieved from <http://www.endvawnow.org/en/articles/652-survivor-centred-approach.html>

SYSTEMIC DISCRIMINATION

“The institutionalization of discrimination through policies and practices which may appear neutral on the surface but which have an exclusionary impact on particular groups, such that various minority groups are discriminated against, intentionally or unintentionally.” [1]

Additionally, “while it does not necessarily exclude *all* of a group’s members,” and while any individual policy or practice may not appear *overtly* prejudicial, the *effect* of systemic discrimination is a process and pattern of exclusion, marginalization, or barriers faced by people based on the social group they belong to (such as women, non-white, immigrant, disAbled, LGBTQ2S, poor, working class, etc.). [1, 2]

Footnotes:

[1] Canadian Race Relations Foundation. (n.d.). *Glossary of terms*. Retrieved from <https://www.crrf-fcrr.ca/en/resources/glossary-a-terms-en-gb-1>

[2] Springtide Resources. (2008). *An integrated anti-oppression framework for reviewing and developing policy: A toolkit for community service organizations*. Toronto: Springtide Resources. Retrieved from http://www.springtideresources.org/sites/all/files/Anti-Oppression_Framework_Community_Org_Toolkit.pdf

SYSTEMIC RACISM

“Systemic Racism includes the policies and practices entrenched in established institutions, which result in the exclusion or promotion of designated groups. It differs from overt discrimination in that no individual intent is necessary.” [1]

“It manifests itself in two ways: (1) institutional racism: racial discrimination that derives from individuals carrying out the dictates of others who are prejudiced or of a prejudiced society and

(2) structural racism: inequalities rooted in the system-wide operation of a society that excludes substantial numbers of members of particular groups from significant participation in major social institutions.” [1]

Footnotes:

[1] Alberta Civil Liberties Research Centre. (n.d.). *Forms of racism*. Calgary Anti-Racism Education, Alberta Civil Liberties Research Centre. Retrieved from: <http://www.aclrc.com/forms-of-racism>

TECHNOLOGY-FACILITATED GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

“Technology-facilitated gender-based violence is a modern form of gender-based violence that utilizes digital technologies to cause harms.” [1]

It can include hacking, surveillance/tracking, impersonating, harassment/spamming, recruitment, and malicious distribution. [2]

“While the dynamics of violence largely remain the same, technology extends the reach and creates new forms of abusive behaviour. For instance, technology-related violence can be anonymously perpetrated and committed from any location with relative ease due to automation and the accessibility of many technologies. The outcome is the erosion of a woman’s sense of security: concepts of “safe distance” and “safe place” are threatened.” [2]

Learn More:

- [Webinar: Digital Platforms and Violence Against Women: User Experiences, Best Practices, and the Law – Learning Network/Knowledge Hub](#)
- [Webinar: Technology and Violence Against Women and other Marginalized Groups – Learning Network/Knowledge Hub](#)
- [Brief: Understanding Technology-Related Violence Against Women: Categories and Examples – Learning Network](#)
- [Brief: Information Communication Technologies and Trafficking in Persons – Learning Network](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Dunn, S. (2020). Technology-Facilitated Gender-Based Violence. *Centre for International Governance Innovation*. Pg 2. Retrieved from <https://www.cigionline.org/publications/technology-facilitated-gender-based-violence-overview/>

[2] Baker, L., Campbell, M., Barreto, E. (2013). Understanding Technology-Related Violence Against Women: Types of Violence and Women’s Experiences. *Learning Network Brief (6)*, pg 3. London, Ontario: Learning Network, Centre for Research and Education on Violence Against

Women and Children. Retrieved from www.learningtoendabuse.ca/learningnetwork/networkareas/technology

TOXIC MASCULINITY

Toxic Masculinity refers to a range of characteristics and behaviours associated with narrowly “traditional” expressions of masculinity in Western society (e.g. stoicism competitiveness, dominance, aggression), particularly when they manifest in harmful ways. It is worth noting that “toxic masculinity” does not refer to *men* or *masculinity* as inherently toxic, but rather to the ill effects of this narrow range of culturally-defined behaviours. [1]

Although the term has gained public attention in recent years, social scientists may instead use concepts such as “traditional masculinity” and “hegemonic masculinity” to address this phenomenon in more neutral terms and/or to situate it within its larger historical and social structural context. [2]

“The etymology and uses of the concept ‘toxic masculinity’ have a mixed history. On the one hand, it was used as an analytical concept to critique strict adherence to masculinised gender norms with the goal of overturning those very same gender norms (Karner, 1996). On the other, it was employed by groups like the Mythopoetic Men's Movement and the Promise Keepers during the 1980s and 1990s (Messner, 1998) in appeals to reject ‘hypermasculine’ and ‘warrior’ masculinity, which was seen as detrimental to the spiritual life of the family (Ferber, 2000, p. 36)... Yet, rather than seeking transformation, [these groups] adopted strongly antifeminist politics and overtly reactionary notions of a return [to] gender roles through promoting a vision of the ‘benevolent patriarch’ as the (nuclear) family's economic and spiritual provider.” [2]

Given the variety of meanings associated with the term (i.e. due to the subjective nature of the term “toxicity”), and its tendency to focus on “decontextualized, interpersonal acts,” rather than systemic problems, the term is best used with caution. [2]

Learn More:

- [Organization: White Ribbon](#)

Footnotes:

[1] American Psychological Association. 2018. Harmful masculinity and violence: Understanding the connection and approaches to prevention. *In the Public Interest Newsletter*. Retrieved from <https://www.apa.org/pi/about/newsletter/2018/09/harmful-masculinity>

[2] de Boise, S. 2019. Editorial: Is masculinity toxic? *Norma: International Journal for Masculinity Studies*. 14, 3, 147-151. Retrieved from <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/18902138.2019.1654742>

THREAT ASSESSMENT

“Threat Assessment is the practice of determining the credibility and seriousness of a potential threat, as well as the probability that the threat will become a reality. In the context of interpersonal violence, threat assessment involves the formal application of instruments to assess the likelihood that intimate partner violence will be repeated and will escalate. The term is synonymous with the use of instruments specifically developed to identify potentially lethal situations.” [1] In Canada, threat assessment services include “assessing the level of risk an individual poses, providing case management strategies, training, safety planning, expert testimony and facilitating access to certified threat assessors, forensic psychology and external agencies including other mental health, specialized law-enforcement and criminal justice units, and creating new identities for victims of abuse under the Confidential Services for Victims of Abuse Program.” [2]

Footnotes:

[1] Domestic Violence Advisory Council. (2009). Transforming Our Communities. Minister Responsible for Women’s Issues. Retrieved from: http://www.women.gov.on.ca/owd/english/ending-violence/dvac_report.shtml

[2] Department of Justice, & Research and Statistics Division. (2018, September 13). Inventory of Spousal Violence Risk Assessment Tools Used in Canada. Retrieved from https://www.justice.gc.ca/eng/rp-pr/cj-ip/fv-vf/rr09_7/p3.html

TRANSFORMATIVE JUSTICE

“Transformative Justice (TJ) is a political framework and approach for responding to violence, harm and abuse. At its most basic, it seeks to respond to violence without creating more violence and/or engaging in harm reduction to lessen the violence.

TJ can be thought of as a way of “making things right,” getting in “right relation,” or creating justice together. Transformative justice responses and interventions:

- 1) do not rely on the state (e.g. police, prisons, criminal legal system)
- 2) do not reinforce or perpetuate violence such as oppressive norms or vigilantism
- 3) actively cultivate the things we know prevent violence such as healing, accountability, resilience, and safety for all involved.” [1]

Learn More:

- [Forum Video: Now What? Beyond Statements of Solidarity – Learning Network](#)
- [Webinar: Declarations of Truth: Creating An Alternative Justice Model for Survivors of Gender-Based Sexual Violence: The Transformative Accountability & Justice Pathway to Healing – Learning Network/Knowledge Hub](#)

Footnote:

[1] Mingus, M. (n.d.). *Transformative Justice: A Brief Description*. Retrieved from <https://transformharm.org/transformative-justice-a-brief-description/>

TRANSITIONAL HOUSING

“Transitional housing refers to a supportive – yet temporary – type of accommodation that is meant to bridge the gap from homelessness to permanent housing by offering structure, supervision, support (for addictions and mental health, for instance), life skills, and in some cases, education and training.” [1] “Transitional housing is conceptualized as an intermediate step between emergency crisis shelter and permanent housing. It is more long-term, service-intensive and private than emergency shelters, yet remains time-limited to stays of three months to three years. It is meant to provide a safe, supportive environment where residents can overcome trauma, begin to address the issues that led to homelessness or kept them homeless, and begin to rebuild their support network.” [2]

Learn More:

- [Issue-Based Newsletter: Partner Violence, & Homelessness – Learning Network](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Homeless Hub. (2013). Transitional housing. Retrieved from <https://www.homelesshub.ca/solutions/housing-accommodation-and-supports/transitional-housing>

[2] Government of Ontario. (2016). Legislative framework for transitional housing. Retrieved from <http://www.mah.gov.on.ca/AssetFactory.aspx?did=15806>

TRANSMISOGYNY

“Transmisogyny is an intersection of two forms of oppression that transgender women are subjected to: transphobia and misogyny. Because conventional patriarchal culture views women as inherently inferior to men (misogyny), transwomen are also perceived as inferior by virtue of being feminine and pursuing a female social role in society. They tend to be subjected to many dangers and forms of discrimination not only because of misogyny, but also because of transphobia and cissexism.

Unfortunately, transmisogyny has many deadly consequences, including high rates of rape, assault, and murder of transgender women. Trans* women may also feel pressured to conform to problematic gender stereotypes, such as wearing high heels or being "domestic," as a way of proving and validating their identity, and they may be subject to both transphobic and misogynistic discrimination in the workplace.

The term transmisogyny first appeared in print in 2007, when transfeminist activist Julia Serano used the word in her book *The Whipping Girl*, which explores many levels of discrimination and oppression including transmisogyny.” [1]

Learn More:

- [Issue-Based Newsletter: LGBTQ2S Youth, Violence, and Homelessness – Learning Network](#)
- [Webinar: Draw The Line – Against Transphobic Violence in Schools – Egale Canada](#)

Footnote:

[1] Russo, J. (2014). Definition of ‘transmisogyny’. *The Queer Dictionary*. Retrieved from <http://queerdictionary.blogspot.com/2014/09/definition-of-transmisogyny.html>

TRANSPHOBIA

“Negative attitudes and feelings and the aversion to, fear or hatred or intolerance of trans people and communities. Like other prejudices, it is based on stereotypes and misconceptions that are used to justify discrimination, harassment and violence toward trans people, or those perceived to be trans.” [1]

Footnotes:

[1] The 519. (n.d.). Glossary of terms. Retrieved from <http://www.the519.org/education-training/glossary>

TRAUMA (TRAUMATIC STRESS)

“Trauma is the lasting emotional response that often results from living through a distressing event. Experiencing a traumatic event can harm a person’s sense of safety, sense of self, and ability to regulate emotions and navigate relationships. A traumatic event can be: a recent single traumatic event (e.g. car crash, violent assault), a single traumatic event that occurred in the past (e.g. a sexual assault, the death of a spouse or child), an accident living through a natural disaster or war, a long-term chronic pattern (e.g. ongoing childhood neglect, sexual or physical abuse).” [1]

“Traumatic stress results from traumatic events that are shocking and emotionally overwhelming situations that may involve actual or threaten death, serious injury, or threat to physical integrity.” [2]

Learn More:

- [Issue-Based Newsletter: Trauma- and Violence-Informed Approaches: Supporting Children Exposed to Intimate Partner Violence – Learning Network](#)
- [Report: Towards a conceptual framework: Trauma, Family Violence, and Health – Knowledge Hub](#)
- [Webinar: From Trauma-Informed to Trauma- and Violence-Informed – Learning Network](#)

- [Webinar: Trauma-Informed Interventions through an Indigenous Worldview – Learning Network](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Canadian Association of Mental Health. (n.d.). *Trauma*. Retrieved from <https://www.camh.ca/en/health-info/mental-illness-and-addiction-index/trauma>

[2] International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies. (2020). *What is Traumatic Stress?* Retrieved from <https://istss.org/public-resources/what-is-traumatic-stress#:~:text=Traumatic%20events%20are%20shocking%20and,or%20threat%20to%20physical%20integrity>.

TRAUMA- AND VIOLENCE-INFORMED APPROACHES

[Also known as: *Trauma- and violence-informed care.*] Trauma- and violence-informed (TVI) approaches “(expand) the concept of trauma-informed care to emphasize the intersecting impacts of systemic and interpersonal violence and structural inequities on a person’s life. This shift acknowledges both historical and ongoing interpersonal violence and their traumatic impacts and helps to emphasize a person’s experiences of past and current violence so that problems are not seen as residing only in their psychological state but also in social circumstances.” [1]

The specification of *violence* in TVI approaches therefore draws direct attention to the broader structural and social *conditions*, as well as forms of ongoing and/or “institutional violence,” and the need for service providers to conduct their work in full recognition of these contexts. [1]

Learn More:

- [Organization: Knowledge Hub](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Varcoe, C. M., Wathen, C. N., Ford-Gilboe, M., Smye, V., & Browne, A. (2016). VEGA briefing note on trauma- and violence-informed care. VEGA Project and PreVAiL Research Network.

[2] Nonomura, R., et al. (2020). Toward a trauma- and violence-informed research ethics module. CREVAWC, Western University. Retrieved from <http://kh-cdc.ca/en/resources/reports/index.html>

TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY

Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) is “an injury which disrupts the normal functioning of the brain. The result of such disruption may include changes in physical, cognitive and/or emotional wellbeing.”[1] It is one of the leading causes of long-term disability. [2]

TBI can be the result of violence including being hit in the head (e.g. punched, shoved into a wall or floor, hit by an object), arduous shaking, and non-fatal strangulation. [3] The lingering symptoms of TBI (e.g. headache, sleeping problems, irritability, memory problems) are also referred to as post-concussive syndrome.

Head injuries and/or probable TBI are prevalent in women experiencing violence, including Intimate Partner Violence (IPV). [4]

Learn More:

- [Issue-Based Newsletter: Traumatic Brain Injury & Violence Against Women – Learning Network](#)
- [Toolkit: Abused and Brain Injured Toolkit – Acquired Brain Injury \(ABI\) Research Lab](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Hunnicutt, G., Murray, C., Lundgren, K., Crowe, A., & Olson, L. (2019). Exploring correlates of probable traumatic brain injury among intimate partner violence survivors. *Journal of Aggression, Maltreatment and Trauma*, 1-18. doi:10.1080/10926771.2019.1587656

[2] Goldin, Y., PhD, Haag, Halina L., MSW, RSW, & Trott, C. T., PhD. (2016). Screening for history of traumatic brain injury among women exposed to intimate partner violence. *Pm&r*, 8(11), 1104-1110. doi:10.1016/j.pmrj.2016.05.006

[3] Brown, J. (2018). Traumatic brain injury (TBI) and domestic violence: A beginner's guide for professionals. *Journal of Forensic Sciences & Criminal Investigation*, 8(2) doi:10.19080/JFSCI.2018.08.555735

[4] Gagnon, K. L., & DePrince, A. P. (2017). Head injury screening and intimate partner violence: A brief report. *Journal of Trauma & Dissociation*, 18(4), 635-644. doi:10.1080/15299732.2016.1252001; Farley, M., Banks, M. E., Ackerman, R. J., Golding, J. M., Backans, D., University of California-San Francisco, & Prostitution Research and Education. (2018). Screening for traumatic brain injury in prostituted women. *Dignity: A Journal on Sexual Exploitation and Violence*, 3(2) doi:10.23860/dignity.2018.03.02.05; Campbell, J. C., Anderson, J. C., McFadgion, A., Gill, J., Zink, E., Patch, M., . . . Campbell, D. (2018). The effects of intimate partner violence and probable traumatic brain injury on central nervous system symptoms. *Journal of Women's Health*, 27(6), 761-767. doi:10.1089/jwh.2016.6311

TWO-EYED SEEING

Two-Eyed Seeing is: “To see from one eye with the strengths of Indigenous ways of knowing, and to see from the other eye with the strengths of Western ways of knowing, and to use both of these eyes together.” [1] It was developed by Mi’kmaq Elder Albert Marshall who stated that Two-Eyed Seeing “encourages the realization that beneficial outcomes are much more likely in any given situation when we are willing to bring two or more perspectives into play.” [2]

Learn More:

- [Webinar: Finding a better way: Strengths-based trauma-informed practice – Learning Network/Knowledge Hub](#)
- [Webinar: Indigenous Cultural Responsiveness Theory \(ICRT\): A New Tool for Improving Health Outcomes for FNMI \(First Nations, Metis and Inuit\) Peoples – Learning Network/Knowledge Hub](#)
- [Knowledge Exchange Summary Report: Violence Against Women & Traumatic Brain Injury – Learning Network](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Bartlett, C., Marshall, M., Marshall, A. (2012). Two-eyed seeing and other lessons learned within a co-learning journey of bringing together indigenous and mainstream knowledges and ways of knowing. *Journal of Environmental Studies and Sciences*, 2, pg. 335.

[2] Marshall, Albert. (2018). Learning Together by Learning to Listen to Each Other. *EdCan Network*. Retrieved from <https://www.edcan.ca/articles/learning-together-learning-listen/>

TWO-SPIRIT/2-SPIRIT

“Two-spirit means different things to different people and different communities. One of the most commonly cited understandings of the term is a person who possesses both masculine and feminine spirits; however, two-spirit is used throughout English-speaking communities on Turtle Island to distinguish the wide variety of Indigenous concepts of gender and sexual diversity as separate from the European gender binary, which was violently imposed on Indigenous communities through Christianization and the residential school system. Within Indigenous cosmologies, gender and sexual diversity are viewed holistically, with people of many genders and sexualities holding important roles in families and communities. For some people two-spirit is a gender identity, while others use it to describe their sexual orientation, and still others as a spiritual identity (and some a combination of these elements). Although two-spirit is sometimes used as an umbrella term for LGBTQ Indigenous people, it is important to note that not every Indigenous person who identifies as LGBTQ will identify as twospirit, and not everyone who identifies as two-spirit will identify as LGBTQ. Some people use the term two-spirit in order to distance themselves from colonial society. Others may identify with a nation-specific term, as many Indigenous languages have words for the gender diversity traditionally found in their communities.” [1]

Footnotes:

[1] Rainbow Health Ontario. (2016). Two-Spirit and LGBTQ Indigenous Health. P.1. Retrieved from <https://www.rainbowhealthontario.ca/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/2SLGBTQINDIGENOUSHEALTHFactHeet.pdf>

UNIVERSAL INTERVENTIONS

“Universal interventions are defined as those interventions that are targeted at the general public or to a whole population group that has not been identified on the basis of increased risk.” [1]

Footnotes:

[1] World Health Organization. (2004). *Prevention of Mental Disorders: Effective Interventions and Policy Options*. P. 17. Retrieved from https://www.who.int/mental_health/evidence/en/prevention_of_mental_disorders_sr.pdf

VICARIOUS TRAUMA

Vicarious trauma (VT) refers to negative changes that individuals may experience as a result of being exposed to individuals who have undergone traumatic experiences. Specifically, it can “alter [one’s] beliefs regarding themselves, others, and their worldview.” [1]

“Clinicians can experience VT when exposed to their patients’ traumatic experiences which triggers negative beliefs about safety, power, independence, esteem, and intimacy. VT can also lead to ‘decreased motivation, efficacy and empathy’ (McCann & Pearlman 1990). Typically, VT develops over time as an individual is continually exposed to their clients’ experiences, and often manifests mentally while presenting as symptoms that align with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD).” [1]

“Vicarious trauma and secondary traumatic stress have many similarities and while the two terms are meant to describe different experiences, they are often used interchangeably to represent the same phenomenon. However, VT and STS represent two distinct experiences and they apply to different populations. STS can be experienced by multiple sets of individuals, while vicarious trauma applies only to those individuals in direct care positions, such as first responders, health care providers, and social workers. STS and VT can be clearly differentiated by examining the length of manifestation of these two disorders.” [1]

Footnotes:

[1] Guitar, N. & Molinaro, M. (2017) Vicarious trauma and secondary traumatic stress in health care professionals. *University of Western Ontario Medical Journal*. 86(2):42-3. Retrieved from <https://ojs.lib.uwo.ca/index.php/uwomi/article/view/2021>

VICTIM BLAMING

“Victim blaming is a devaluing act that occurs when the victim(s) of a crime or an accident is held responsible — in whole or in part — for the crimes that have been committed against them. This blame can appear in the form of negative social responses from legal, medical, and mental health professionals, as well as from the media and immediate family members and other acquaintances.” [1]

Learn More:

- [Brief: Barriers to Reporting Sexual Harassment – Learning Network](#)
- [Issue-Based Newsletter: Sexual Violence Awareness – Learning Network](#)

Footnotes:

[1] The Canadian Resource Centre for Victims of Crime. (2009). *Victim blaming*. Retrieved from https://crcvc.ca/docs/victim_blaming.pdf

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

The United Nations defines violence against women as "any act of gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual, or mental harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life." [1]

Footnotes:

[1] United Nations. (1993). *Declaration on the elimination of violence against women*. New York: UN. Retrieved from <https://www.ohchr.org/EN/ProfessionalInterest/Pages/ViolenceAgainstWomen.aspx>

WHITE SUPREMACY

"White supremacy generally refers to a nineteenth-century Euro-American doctrine that positioned specific racialized groups—'whites'—and the societies they developed—"the West"—as superior to other peoples, nations, or communities." [1]

Accordingly, it is a system based on the assumption of the "rightness of Whiteness" in which political, economic and social systems result in White people having more privilege and power than racialized people. [1]

Although this doctrine is often associated with the discriminatory *attitudes and behaviours* of individuals and relatively small groups, critical race theorists have shown that it emerges from a broader *system of domination* in society:

"[White supremacy] does not require individuals to hold racist ideas but rests upon a structuring of the interests of white-dominated societies as superior to others and on a systemic exploitation and control of other racialized groups and societies. It operates to maintain and defend a system of white wealth, power, and privilege — an ideology and not a skin color — that also takes for granted the role of those who adhere to the ideology as national and global leaders, thinkers, creators, authorities, and decision makers... Moreover, white supremacy does not always require a distancing, exclusion, or hatred of the racial Other. When steeped in neoliberalism, it can express a longing for the presence of, or a desire to help, the Other, neither of which unsettle unequal racialized relations of power." [1]

Footnotes:

[1] Kempadoo, K. (2015). The modern-day white (wo)man's burden: Trends in anti-trafficking and anti-slavery campaigns. *Journal of human trafficking*. 1:1: 8-20. P. 13. Retrieved from <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/23322705.2015.1006120>

[2] Springtide Resources. (2008). *An integrated anti-oppression framework for reviewing and developing policy: A toolkit for community service organizations*. Toronto: Springtide Resources. Retrieved from http://www.springtideresources.org/sites/all/files/Anti-Oppression_Framework_Community_Org_Toolkit.pdf

WORKPLACE VIOLENCE

“The exercise of physical force by a person against a worker, in a workplace, that causes or could cause physical injury to the worker. It also includes an attempt to exercise physical force against a worker in a workplace, that could cause physical injury to the worker; and a statement or behaviour that a worker could reasonably interpret as a threat to exercise physical force against the worker, in a workplace, that could cause physical injury to the worker. Every employer in Ontario must prepare and review, at least annually, a policy on workplace violence, as required by the OHS Act [section 32.0.1 (1) (a) and (c)]. The workplace violence policy should show an employer's commitment to protecting workers from workplace violence; address violence from all possible sources; outline the roles and responsibilities of the workplace parties in supporting the policy and program; and, be dated and signed by the highest level of management of the employer or at the workplace as appropriate.” [1]

Learn More:

- [Online Training: Domestic Violence in the Workplace – Centre For Research & Education on Violence Against Women & Children](#)
- [Resource: Occupational Health and Safety Act, Government of Ontario](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Government of Ontario. (2017, August 10). Understand the law on workplace violence and harassment. Retrieved from <https://www.ontario.ca/page/understand-law-workplace-violence-and-harassment>

XENOPHOBIA

“An unreasonable fear or hatred of foreigners or strangers, their cultures and their customs.” [1]

Learn More:

- [Issue-Based Newsletter: Intimate Partner Violence Against Immigrant and Refugee Women – Learning Network](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Canadian Race Relations Foundation. (n.d.). *Glossary of terms*. Retrieved from <https://www.crrf-fcrr.ca/en/resources/glossary-a-terms-en-gb-1>

2SLGBTQQIA

This initialism stands for “Two-Spirit, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, questioning, intersex and asexual.” [1]

It may also appear as LGBTQ2SIA, or in shortened versions such as LGBTQ2S or LGBT+.

Learn More:

- [Website: The 519](#)
- [Website: Egale Canada](#)

Footnotes:

[1] Buller, M., Audette, M., Eyolfson, B., & Robinson, Q. (2019). *2SLGBTQQIA Pride Month*. National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls. Retrieved from <https://www.mmiwg-ffada.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/Pride-Month-ENG.pdf>