

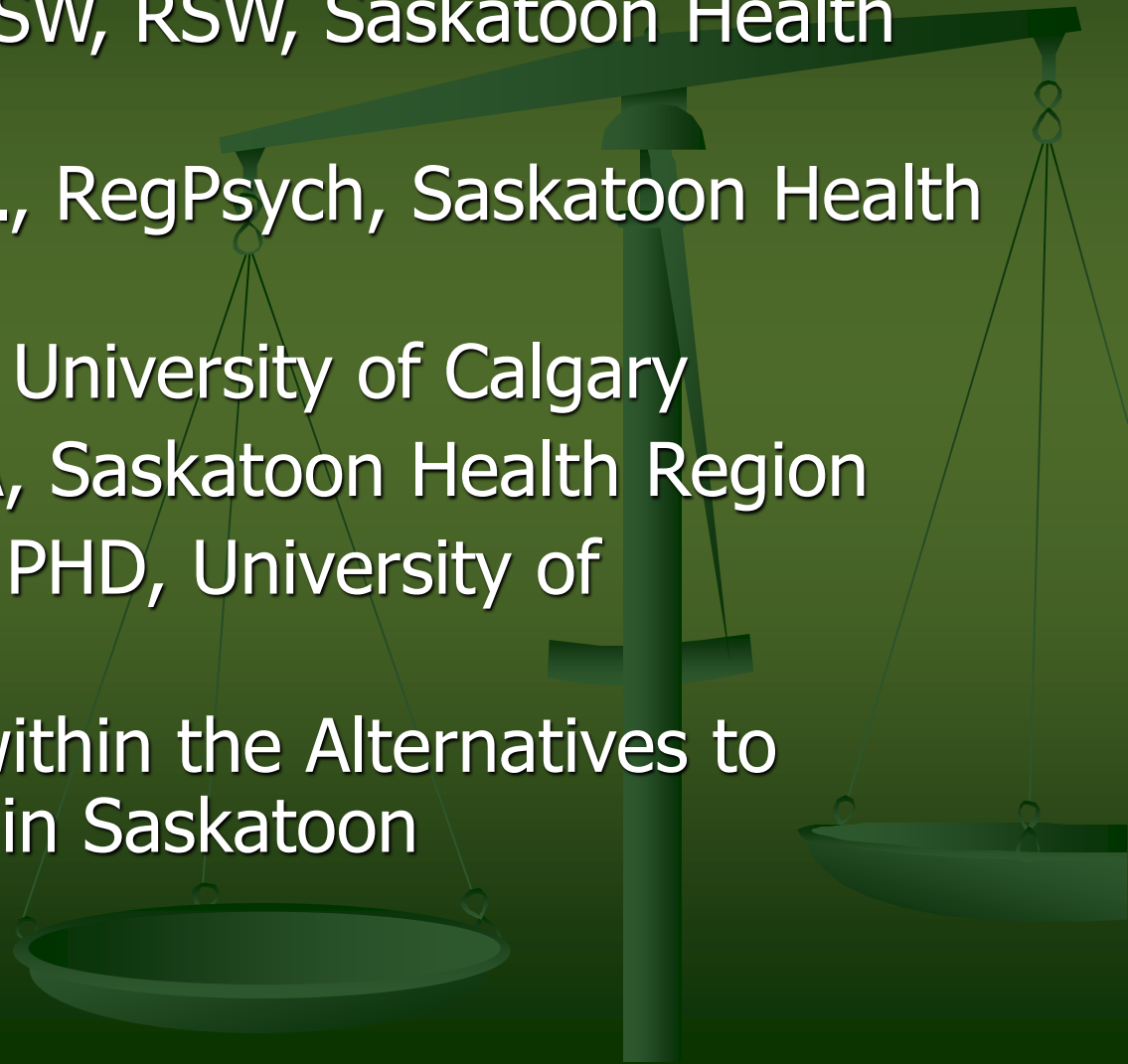
# An Evaluation of treatment groups in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan



Do they work?  
What works?

# Researchers

- Della Yaroshko, MSW, RSW, Saskatoon Health Region
- Deb Farden, M.Ed., RegPsych, Saskatoon Health Region
- Mike Boyes, PhD., University of Calgary
- Roxanne Inch, MA, Saskatoon Health Region
- Stephanie Martin, PHD, University of Saskatchewan
- All staff working within the Alternatives to Violence Program in Saskatoon



# Outline of Presentation

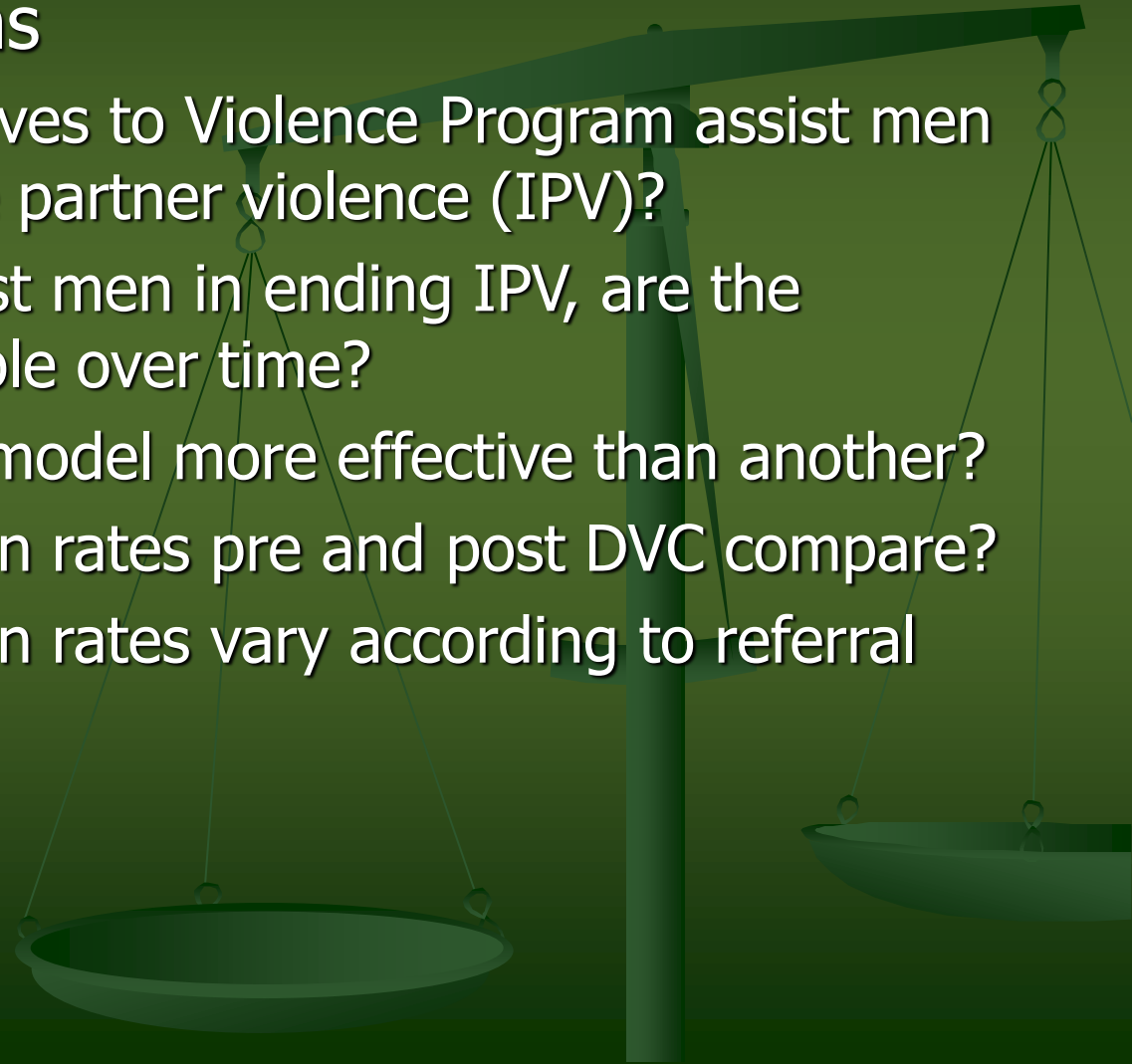
- Describe the research
- Describe the groups
- Describe the measures
- Referral processes
  - Mandated
    - Domestic Violence Court, Sentenced
  - Voluntary
- Findings
- Summary



# Research Description

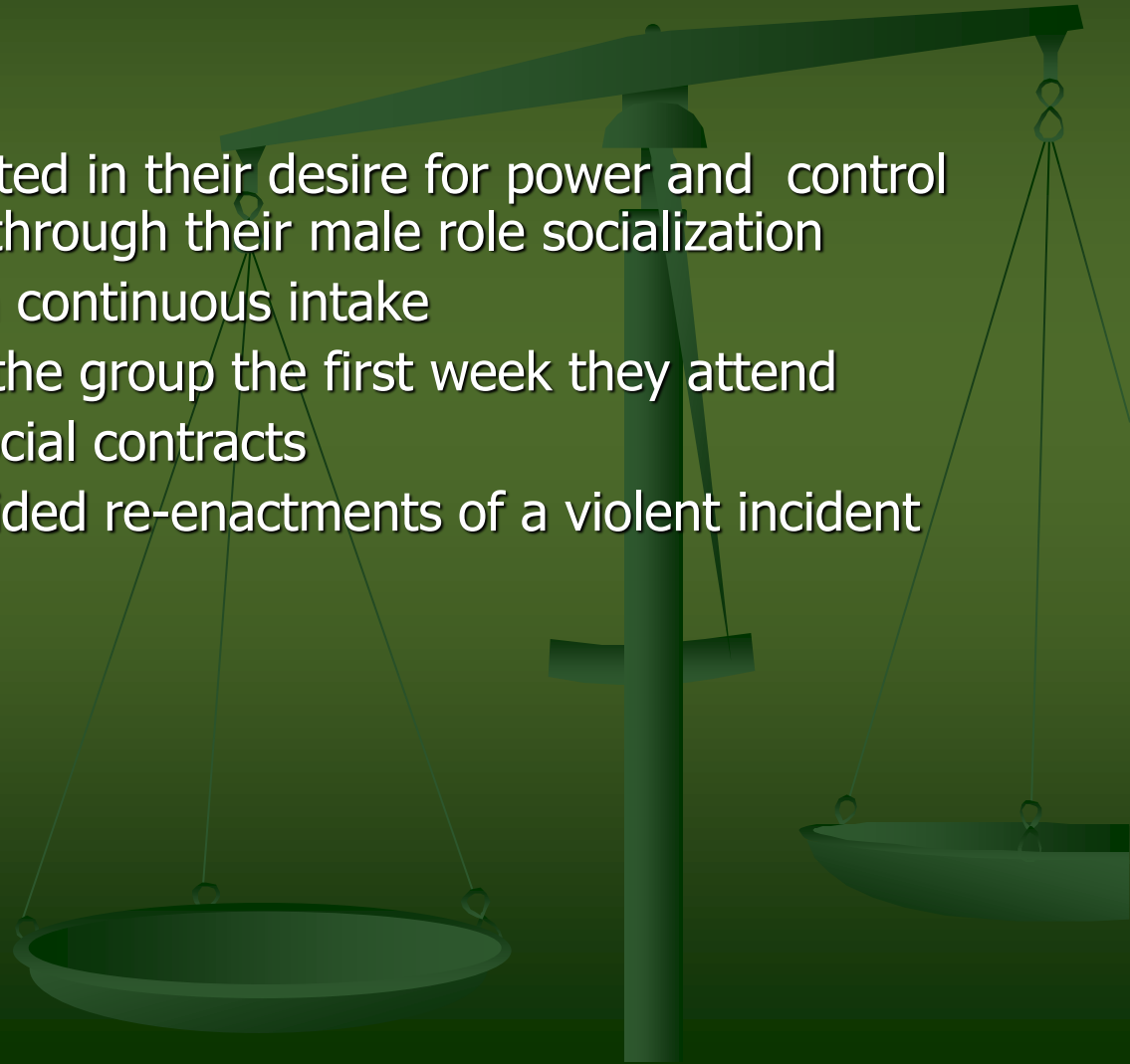
## ■ Research questions

- Does the Alternatives to Violence Program assist men in ending intimate partner violence (IPV)?
- If the groups assist men in ending IPV, are the changes sustainable over time?
- Is one treatment model more effective than another?
- How do completion rates pre and post DVC compare?
- How do completion rates vary according to referral source?



# Description of treatment groups

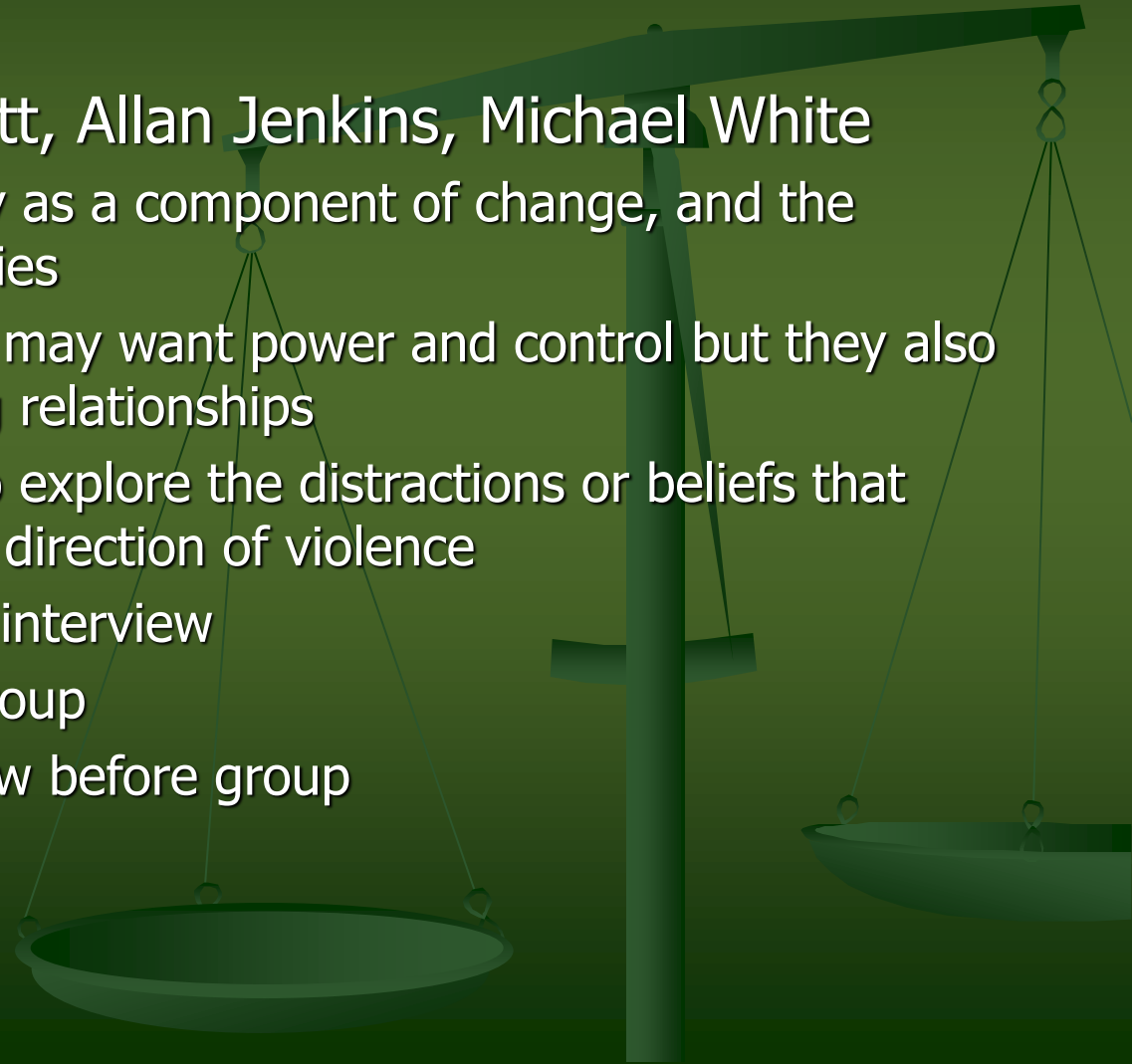
- Manalive
- Hamish Sinclair
  - men's violence is rooted in their desire for power and control which is constructed through their male role socialization
  - a 16 week group with continuous intake
  - men are admitted to the group the first week they attend
  - peer advocacy and social contracts
  - movies, which are guided re-enactments of a violent incident
  - psychoeducation



# Description of treatment groups cont'd

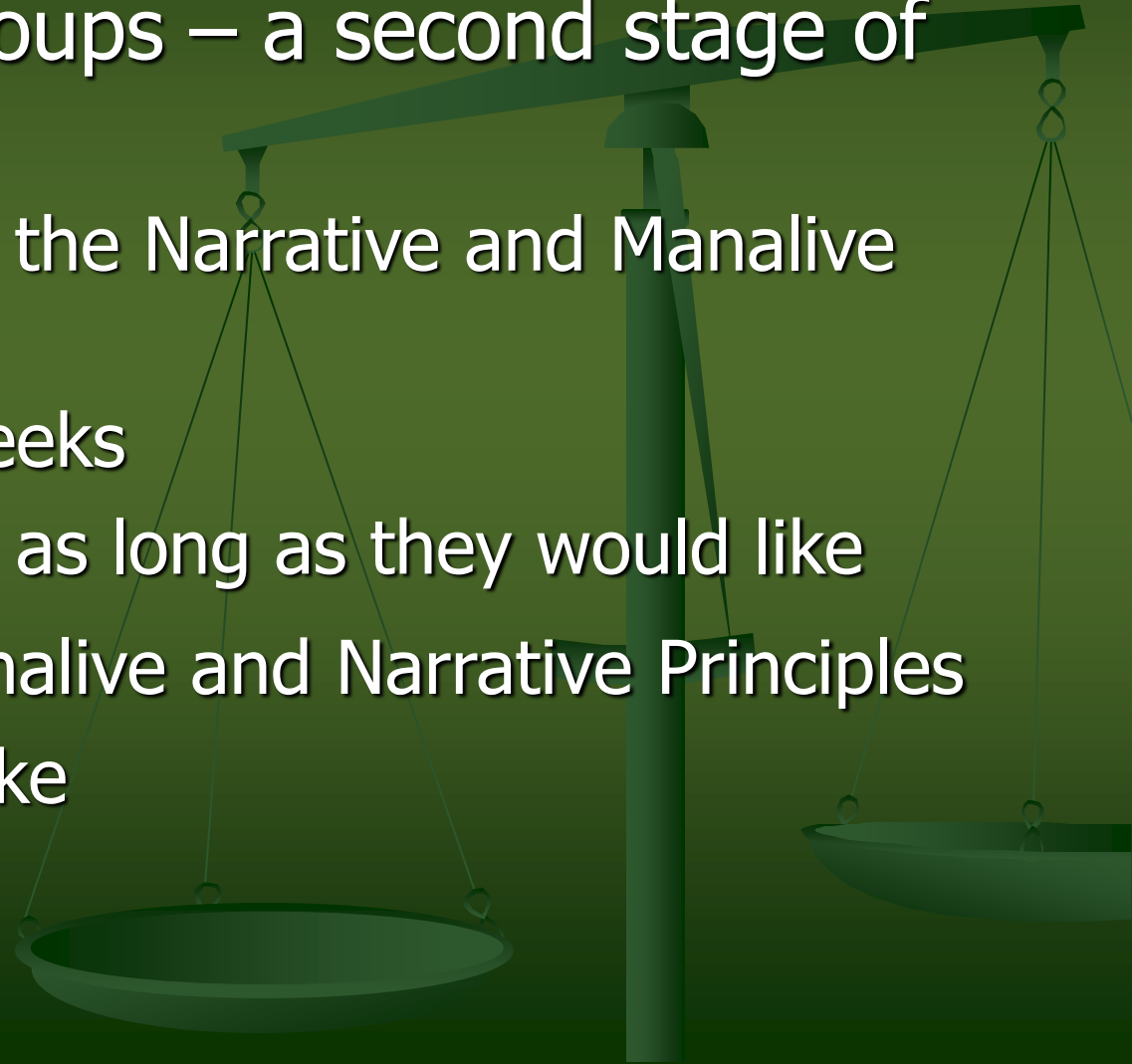
## ■ Narrative groups

- Todd Augusta-Scott, Allan Jenkins, Michael White
  - the power of story as a component of change, and the multiplicity of stories
  - premise that men may want power and control but they also want equal, loving relationships
  - men are invited to explore the distractions or beliefs that move them in the direction of violence
  - internalized other interview
  - 16 week closed group
  - Prescreen interview before group



# Description of treatment groups cont'd

- Maintenance groups – a second stage of treatment
  - graduates from the Narrative and Manalive groups
  - minimum 16 weeks
  - clients can stay as long as they would like
  - blending of Manalive and Narrative Principles
  - continuous intake

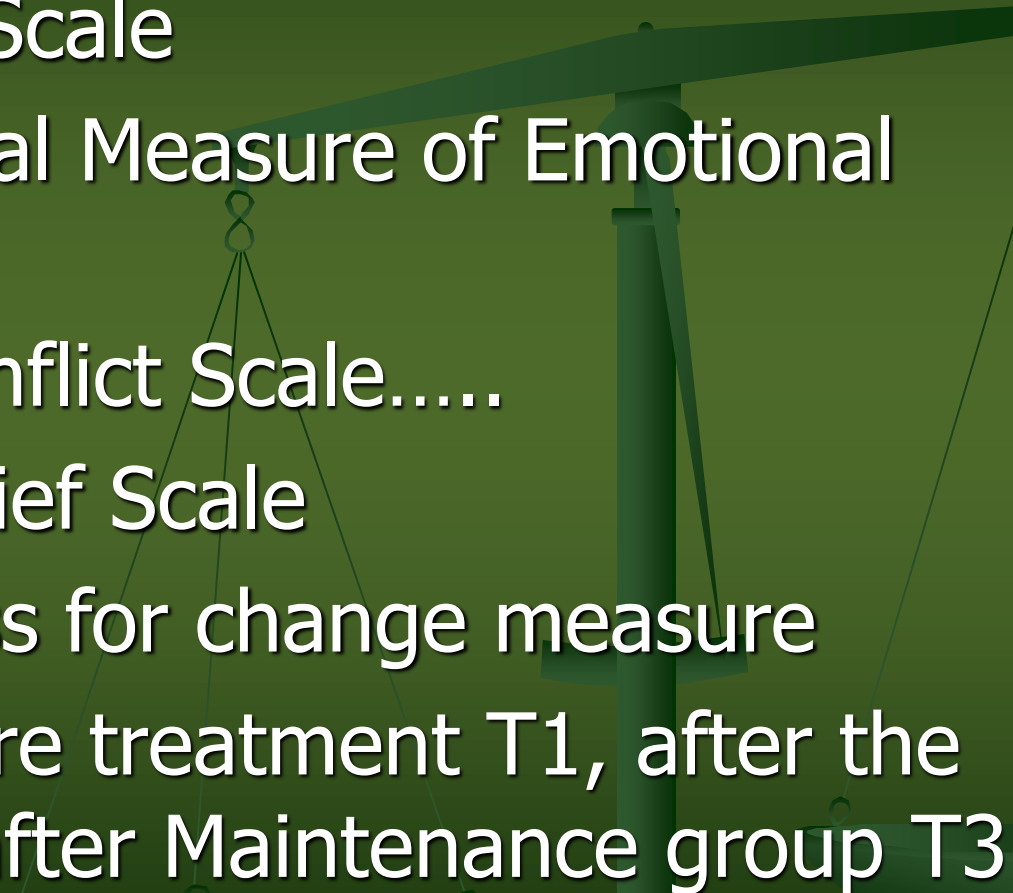


# Napewak E-Acimoyahk, Men telling their stories (Cultural group)

- Developed to deal with aboriginal men for whom mainstream programming was problematic
- Includes narrative approach and traditional cultural teachings
- Community partnership
- Mainstream evaluation procedures and tools problematic – not part of formal Saskatoon DVC evaluation but have included their completion rates in the data of this presentation

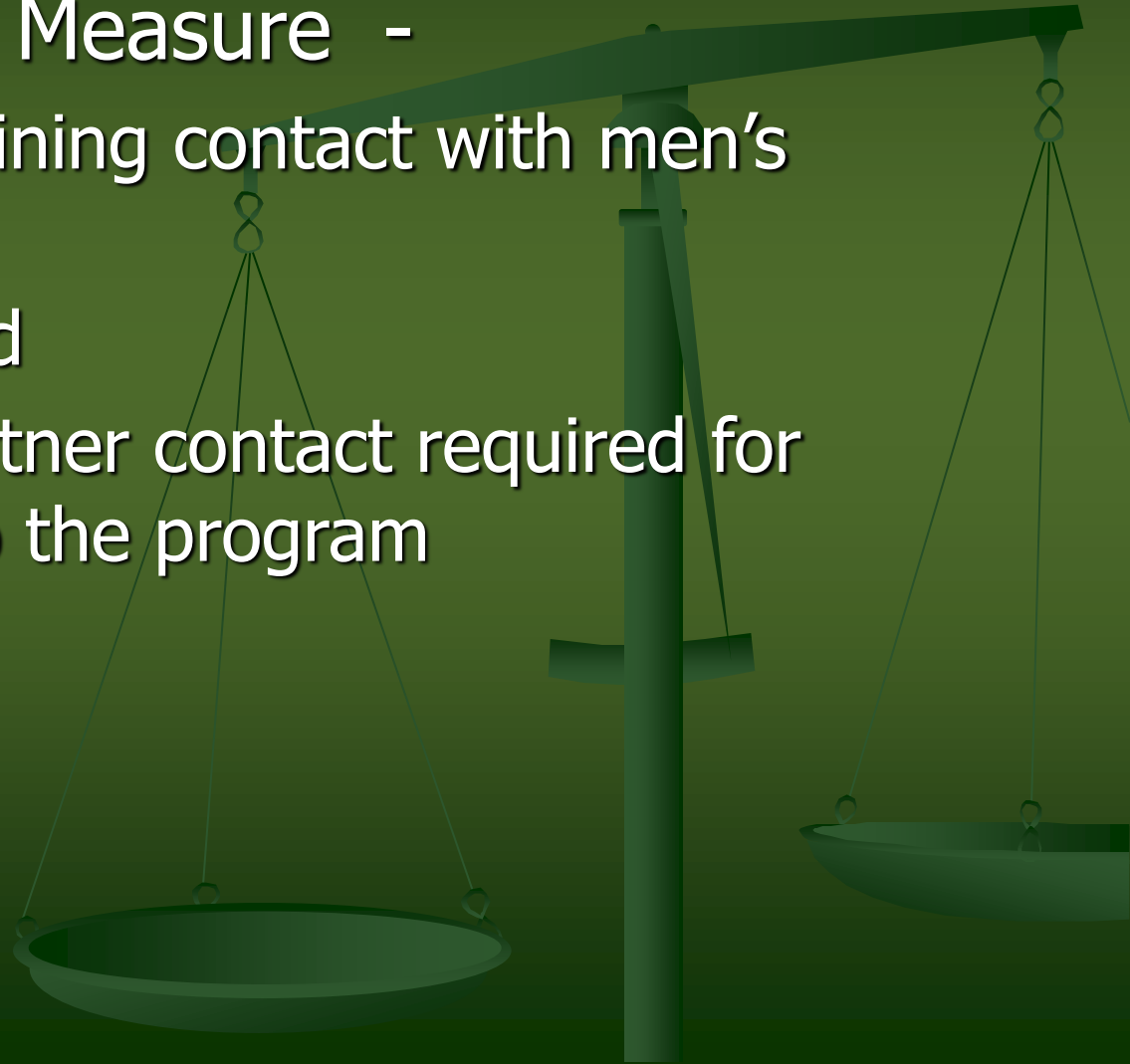


# Description of Measures

- Conflict Tactics Scale
  - Multi-dimensional Measure of Emotional Abuse
  - Gender Role Conflict Scale.....
  - Relationship Belief Scale
  - Urica – readiness for change measure
  - Completed before treatment T1, after the first group T2, after Maintenance group T3
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# Partner Contacts

- Partner Contact Measure -
  - Process of obtaining contact with men's partners
  - Questions asked
  - Consent for partner contact required for acceptance into the program

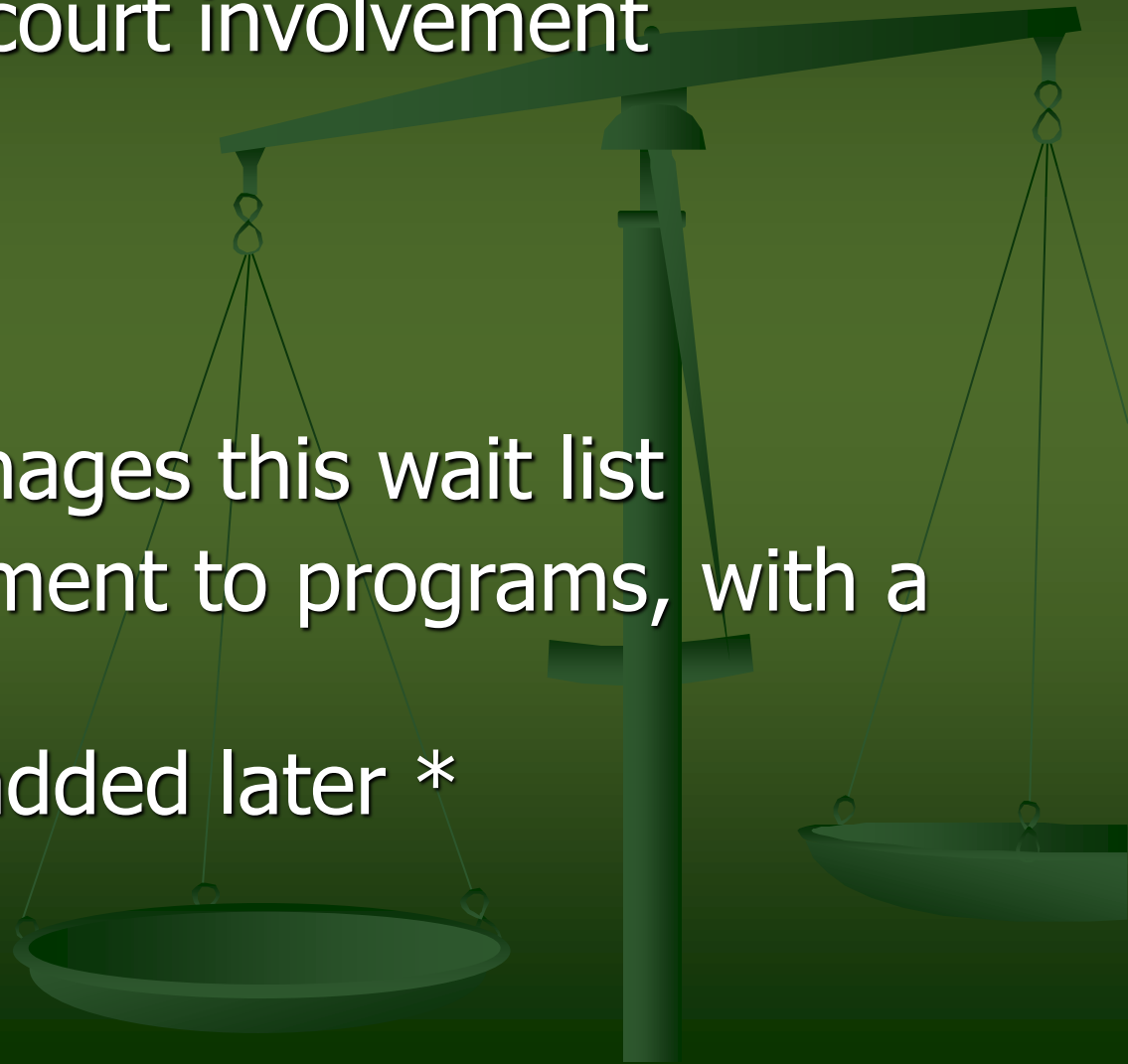


# Some Partner contact questions

- Has your partner been physically abusive since he started attending the program? Has he been verbally, sexually or emotionally abusive?
- Do you feel more or less safe since your partner started attending the program? In what way?
- How safe do you feel? On a scale of 1 to 10 with 1 being, not safe at all I'm afraid he could kill me, and 10 being, very safe I have no concerns, where would you place yourself?
- 1\_\_\_\_\_5\_\_\_\_\_10

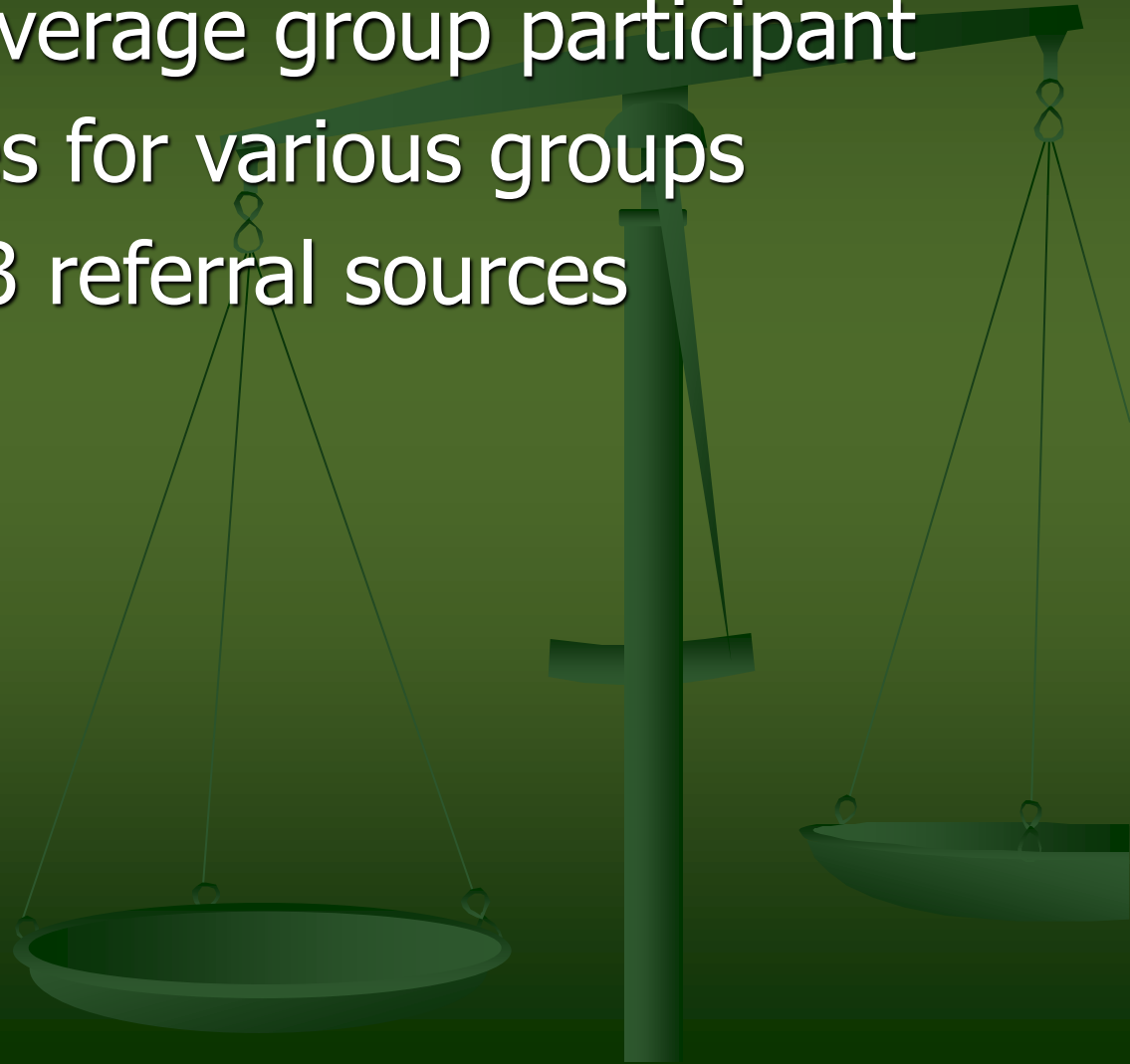
# Referral Process

- Voluntary – no court involvement
- Probation
  - Sentenced
  - DVC
  - probation manages this wait list
- Random assignment to programs, with a few exceptions
- Court referred added later \*

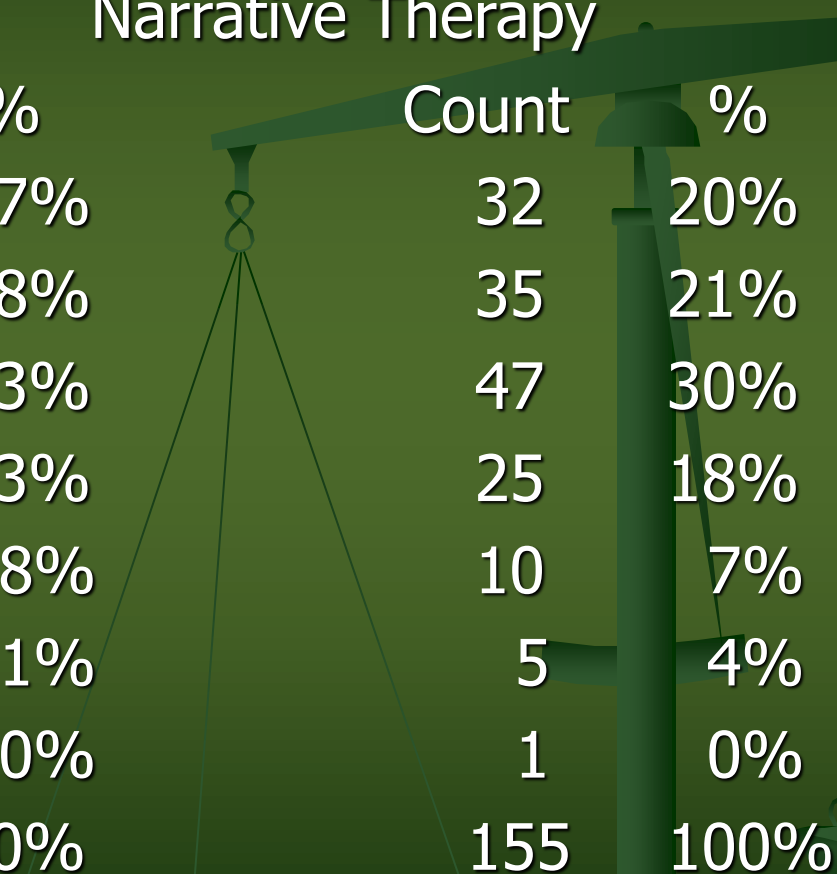


# Findings

- Description of average group participant
- Completion rates for various groups
- Comparison of 3 referral sources

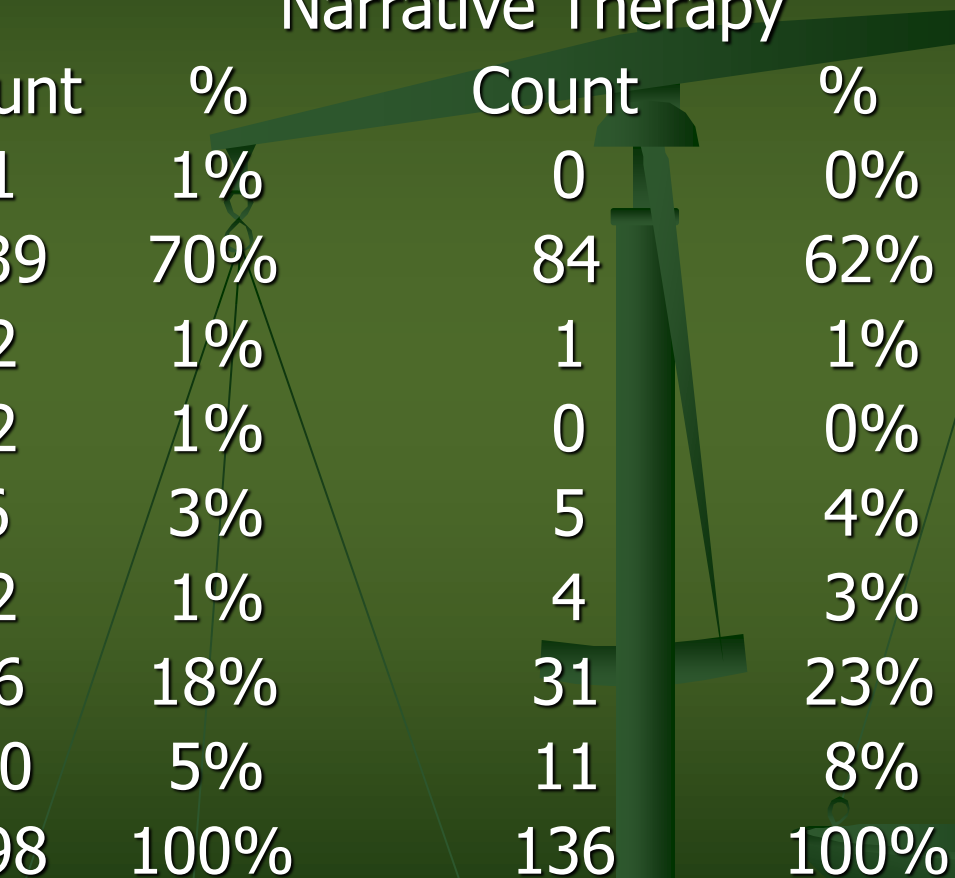


# Description of average group participant – age at intake



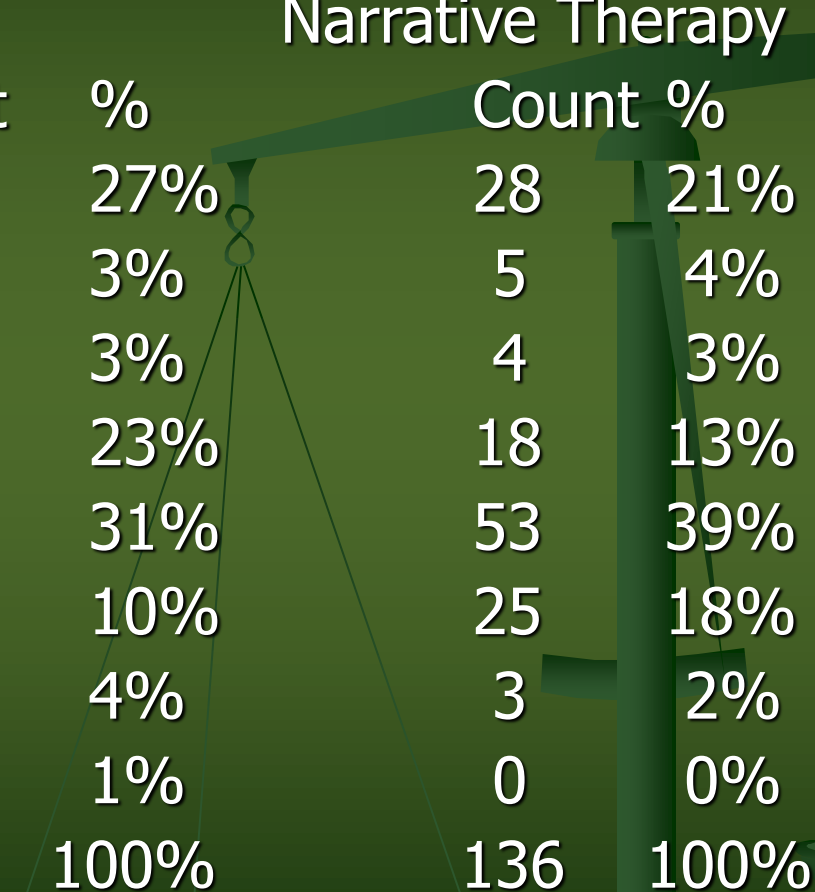
Manalive			Narrative Therapy		
	Count	%	Count	%	
■ 18 to 24	38	17%	32	20%	
■ 25 to 29	38	18%	35	21%	
■ 30 to 39	68	33%	47	30%	
■ 40 to 49	47	23%	25	18%	
■ 50 to 59	16	8%	10	7%	
■ 60 to 69	2	1%	5	4%	
■ Unknown	1	0%	1	0%	
■ Total	210	100%	155	100%	

# Employment Status at intake



	Manalive		Narrative Therapy	
	Count	%	Count	%
■ Farmer	1	1%	0	0%
■ Full-time	139	70%	84	62%
■ Part-time	2	1%	1	1%
■ Retired	2	1%	0	0%
■ Sick Lve/Disability	6	3%	5	4%
■ Student	2	1%	4	3%
■ Unemployed	36	18%	31	23%
■ Unknown	10	5%	11	8%
■ Total	198	100%	136	100%

# Relationship Status at intake



	Manalive		Narrative Therapy	
	Count	%	Count	%
■ Common Law	54	27%	28	21%
■ Divorced	6	3%	5	4%
■ Live in Partner	5	3%	4	3%
■ Married	45	23%	18	13%
■ Separated	61	31%	53	39%
■ Single	19	10%	25	18%
■ Unknown	7	4%	3	2%
■ Widowed	1	1%	0	0%
■ Total	198	100%	136	100%



# Living arrangement at intake



	Manalive		Narrative Therapy	
	Count	%	Count	%
■ Alone	33	16%	34	22%
■ Board and Room	5	2%	4	3%
■ Children	6	3%	3	2%
■ Family of Origin	10	5%	7	5%
■ Justice/Corrections	29	14%	2	1%
■ MHS App'd Home	0	0%	1	1%
■ Other	8	4%	12	8%
■ Relatives	27	13%	19	12%
■ Roommate	7	3%	15	10%
■ Spouse/Children	39	19%	16	10%
■ Spouse/Partner	30	14%	13	8%
■ Unknown	13	6%	24	15%
■ With Friends	3	1%	5	3%
■ Total	210	100%	155	100%

# Education level at intake

</

# Completion rates of programs

Table 15

## Basic Completion Rates by Program Type

	Manalive		Narrative	
	#	%	#	%
Completed Programming	134	46.69	68	68.69
Did Not Complete Programming	153	53.31	31	31.31
Totals	287		99	

# Completion rates by referral sources

Referral Source	DVC		Manalive Sentenced		Self	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Completed Programming	48	64%	3	15.8%	12	42.9%
Did not Complete	27	36%	16	84.2%	16	57.1%
Total	75	100%	19	100%	28	100%

Referral Source	DVC		Narrative Sentenced		Self	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Completed Programming	28	82.3%	2	28.6%	2	40%
Did not Complete	6	17.6%	5	71.4%	3	60%
Total	34	100%	7	100%	5	100%

# Partner contact findings

Table 29

Number of Calls Attempted, Completed, and Safety Ratings Collected					
	Time 1	Time 2	Time 3	Time 4	Time 5
Calls Attempted	229	186	154	131	102
Calls Completed	138	110	81	67	56
% Completed	60	59	53	51	55
Number Providing Safety Rating	115	80	59	41	36
% of Completed Calls with Risk Rating	83	73	73	61	64

# Pre DVC completion rates

Feb 1/05 – Sept 30/05

Pre DVC Numbers

## Status Description

Services Completed

Withdrew/Declined

NFA -Incarcerated

**Total**

## Count of Enrolments by Completion Status

**Volunt  
ary**

**Court-  
Ordere  
d**

**Total**

**18**

**30**

**48**

**29**

**26**

**55**

**1**

**1**

**50**

**57**

**107**

**Table 16**  
**Referrals Into Programs**

		ManAlive		Narrative		
		#	%	#	%	
Referrals	DVC	75	69	34	31	100%
	Self	30	86	5	14	100%
	Sentencing	19	54	16	46	100%
		124		55		

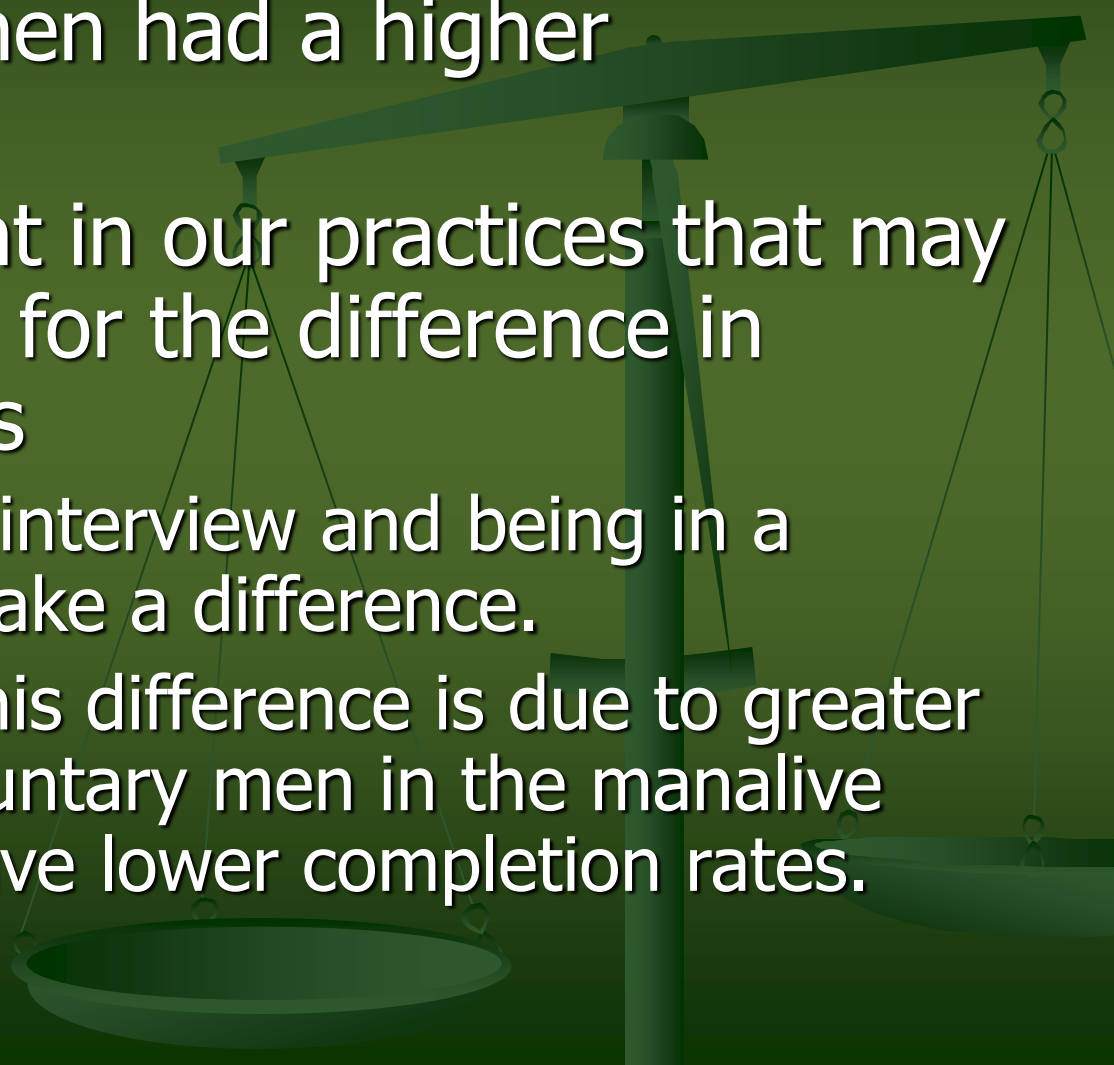


# Summary/Conclusion

Narrative group men had a higher completion rate

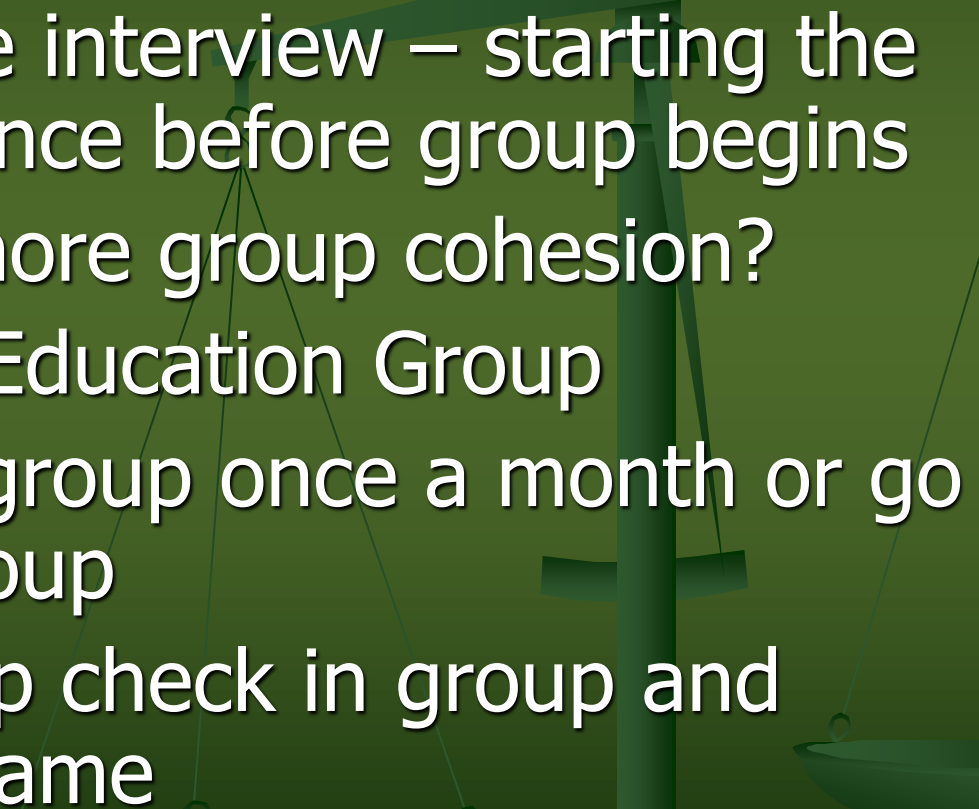
What was different in our practices that may have accounted for the difference in completion rates

- Does an intake interview and being in a closed group make a difference.
- How much of this difference is due to greater numbers of voluntary men in the narrative group? They have lower completion rates.



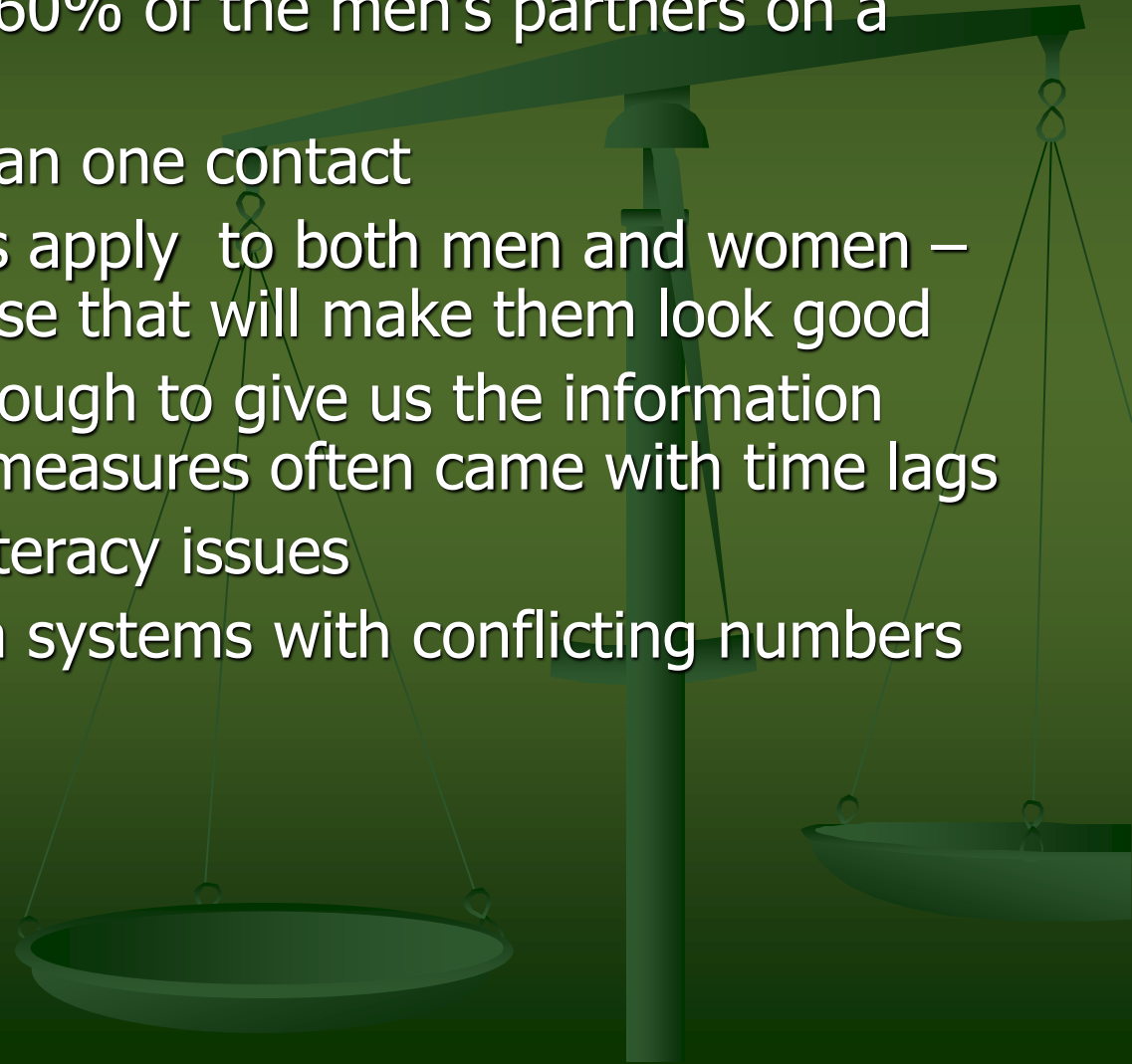


# Changes Made

- Individual intake interview – starting the therapeutic alliance before group begins
  - Closed group, more group cohesion?
  - 4 week closed Education Group
  - New men start group once a month or go into a closed group
  - In Manalive keep check in group and facilitators the same
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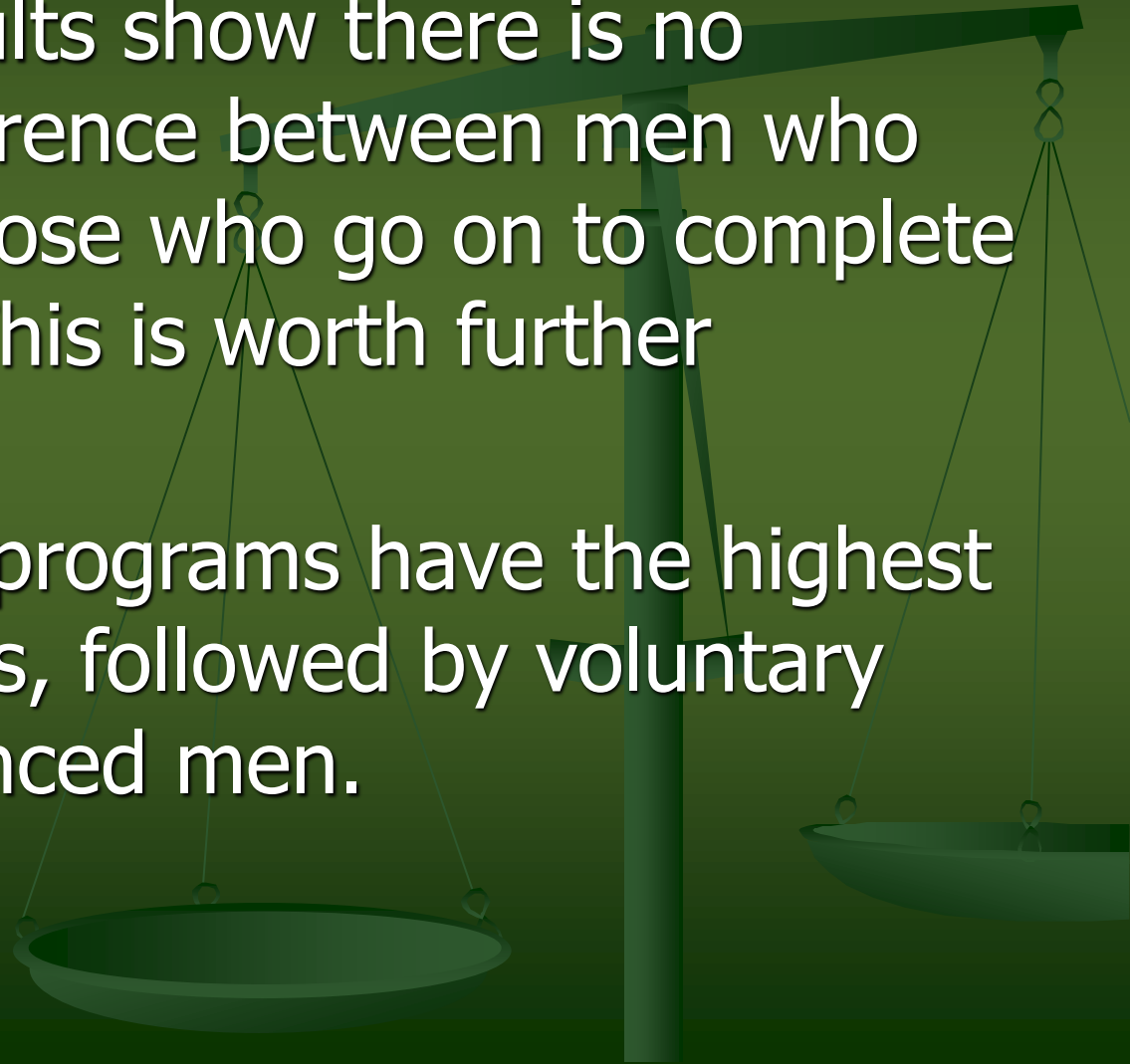
# Limitations

- Only able to contact 60% of the men's partners on a single occasion -
- 25% approx more than one contact
- Self-report limitations apply to both men and women – desire to give response that will make them look good
- Measures not fine enough to give us the information needed – i.e. abuse measures often came with time lags
- Excluded men with literacy issues
- Worked within 2 data systems with conflicting numbers



# Conclusions continued

- Preliminary results show there is no systematic difference between men who drop out and those who go on to complete the program. This is worth further exploration.
- DVC men in all programs have the highest completion rates, followed by voluntary and then sentenced men.



# Closing comments

- We are working on privacy agreements between Corrections, Public Safety and Policing, Justice and The Saskatoon Health Region to be able to connect data. When police and justice are able to collect recidivism by police call or reappearance in court it would be nice to connect this to previous treatment completion or not.