Battered women: Perceptions of their problems and their perception of community response.

Donna Jean. Miller

University of Windsor

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LA THÈSE A ÉTÉ MICROFILMÉE TELLE QUE NÔUS L'AVONS REÇUE
BATTERED WOMEN: PERCEPTIONS OF THEIR PROBLEMS
AND THEIR PERCEPTION OF
COMMUNITY RESPONSE

by

Donna Jean Miller

A Thesis
Submitted to the Faculty of Graduate Studies
through the School of Social Work
in Partial Fulfillment of the requirements
for the Degree of Master of Social Work at
The University of Windsor

Windsor, Ontario, Canada
1980
RESEARCH COMMITTEE

Professor H. Morrow       Chairperson
Dr. L. F. Buckley         Member
Dr. L. LeDuc              Member
ABSTRACT

The purpose of this research project was to examine the perceptions reported by discharged residents of Hiatus House regarding their experiences as battered women and their perceptions of how the community responds to their problems.

This research study commenced with a computer search of the available literature in the area of domestic violence, battered women, wife abuse and other such synonyms. The review of the literature included three areas: the primary area of domestic violence; client follow-up studies; and the use of mailed questionnaires. Research questions were devised to provide focus and structure to the collection and analysis of the data.

The population for this research included all those battered women admitted into the residential program at Hiatus House and discharged during the period of July 12, 1976 to December 31, 1978. Re-admissions were not included in defining the population. The population totalled 170.

The researcher retrieved basic information on the total population from the closed agency files. Following this, the researcher developed a questionnaire directly related to the review of the literature. Self addressed
questionnaires were mailed to these battered women. One-third (33.6 per cent) of the population responded.

Statistical tests indicated that the respondents were representative of the total population in seven of the fifteen variables tested. Therefore, the results of this research cannot be generalized beyond the respondents.

The research findings provide a profile of the battered woman and her partner as reported by the respondents; her perceptions of her own experiences as a battered woman; her perceptions of her needs and her perceptions of how the community responds to her problems.

It was concluded that the battered woman perceives herself as helpless and hopeless to change her situation. She identifies her needs as very basic with physical safety for herself and her children as top priority. She frequently experiences the community's response to her problems as ineffectual. Frequently what she expects from community resources and the service she receives are incongruent.

Recommendations were made in the following areas: Record Keeping: Incidence; Hiatus House, Inc.; Counselling; Police: Law Enforcement; Criminal Justice System; Medical System; Social Work Education; and Suggestions for Further Research.
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

My friends have made special contributions to my life and to this research. I want to acknowledge them with love and gratitude.

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Dolores Blonde, M.S.W., friend and founding President of Hiatus House, Incorporated Board of Directors who lives by George Bernard Shaw's thought: "You see things and say why? I dream things that never were and say why not?"; and Hiatus House, Incorporated Board of Directors for their sincere interest in Research and their support and optimism.

Hiatus House, Incorporated staff: Rita Gentili, Terry Krease, Karen McDermott, Fran Vigna, Barbara Zimmerman and Auxiliary Staff for their dedication to work with battered women and their supportive relationship with me.

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Cover Your Ass and Pull Your Own Strings.

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

The problem of battered women has, for many years, been characterized as one receiving selective inattention on the part of researchers as well as social services.

Gelles (1972) provides rationale for this inattention. The family is socially defined as nonviolent; and therefore, this causes a perceptual blackout of the violence that actually occurs within the family. A further rationale cited is the theoretical stance of consensus and integration theory which has desensitized and diverted attention away from violence within the family unit.

Thus, the problem of wife abuse has been impeded with regard to being defined as a social problem. However, increasingly the problem of battered women is receiving public attention. As the problem is gaining a higher profile within communities, shelter programs for the battered women and their children are being developed.

The researcher became interested in this particular project through her experience as the Executive Director of Hiatus House, Incorporated, a residential program for battered women and their children in Windsor, Ontario. Program planning should not be done in isolation of the
perceived needs of the clientele. For this reason, the researcher decided to seek out from discharged residents of Hiatus House their perceptions of their experience as battered women and their perceptions of community response to their perceived needs and to themselves.

Hiatus House opened July 12, 1976, and serves the geographic area of Windsor and Essex County. This area is located in South Western Ontario and has boundaries of water on three sides: Lake Erie, Lake St. Clair and the Detroit River. The County of Kent is located to the East. The population of Essex County was 119,597 in 1978 and the population of Windsor was 198,722 in 1978 (Ministry of Revenue Canada). Windsor is located on the Detroit River. The three primary areas of production are manufacturing of motor vehicles and parts; food and beverages and metal work.

At the time of the study, Hiatus House employed nine full-time staff; an Executive Director who is responsible for administrative functions; one Staff Social Worker; six residential counsellors; and one secretary/bookkeeper.

The criteria for admission to Hiatus House is women who have been physically abused or threatened with physical abuse by their partner, and who have dependent children.

Hiatus is a mathematical term that means "break the cycle". The overall purpose of Hiatus House is to break the cycle of domestic violence by providing an alternative
to remaining within the violent home for the battered woman and her children. The goals of Hiatus House are provided in Appendix A.

This research study commenced with a computer search of the available literature in the area of domestic violence; battered women, wife abuse and other such synonyms. The data banks that were used included: Psychological Abstracts; Sociological Abstracts; Child Abuse and Neglect Abstracts; Smithsonian Science Information Exchange; Library of Congress Catalogue; Social Science Citation Index and the Comprehensive Dissertation Index.

The review of the literature will include three areas: 1) the primary area of domestic violence; 2) client follow-up studies; and 3) the use of mailed questionnaires. The specific areas not included in the review of the literature include: 1) child abuse; 2) marital rape; 3) battered husbands; and 4) marital homicide.

The researcher retrieved basic demographic information on the discharged residents from the closed agency files (Appendix B). Following this, the researcher developed a questionnaire directly related to the review of the literature. The questionnaire reflects the issues being presented in the available literature on domestic violence ( Appendix C).
In summary, this research will elicit and examine the perceptions of battered women to their own experience of the problem and of their community's response to this specific problem.

The results of this research study will be utilized by providing Hiatus House Board of Directors and staff direct feedback from discharged residents as to how they perceive their situation and how they perceived the community response.

The findings of this research will be presented at a public seminar where representatives from the academic community, social work community, and legal community will be invited. The researcher intends to publish a book upon the completion of this study.
CHAPTER II

A SURVEY OF THE LITERATURE

The major areas reviewed in the literature on women who are battered by their spouses will include a Historical Overview of the legal, social and cultural history surrounding the issue of battered women; Definition of Domestic Assault; Incidence of Domestic Assault; Explanations of Causation; and Community Responses to the Problem.

Historical Overview

There exists historical precedents for the tolerance of wife-beating. It has only been within the last hundred years that men have been denied the legal right to beat their wives. Prior to the late 19th century, the use of physical force was considered a necessary aspect of the husband’s marital obligation to control and chastise his wife (Dobash & Dobash, 1978).

Many of the major writers in the area attribute the legacy of patriarchy as the primary significant element in the historical development of wife-beating (Davidson, 1978; Dobash & Dobash, 1978; Langley & Levy, 1977; Martin, 1976; Roy, 1977).

Reportedly, the first law of marriage was proclaimed by
the Roman, Romulus in 753 B.C. stating that married women were to conform themselves to the temper of their husbands and the husbands were to rule their wives as necessary but inseparable possessions (Dobash & Dobash, 1978).

There was no place in Roman society for detached persons and women had little choice except to marry and become a necessary and inseparable possession. There were a number of Roman laws regarding adultery which reflected a double standard and the reasons were related to the concept of a man's property, not to thwarted love.

In the later stages of the Roman Empire, there were many changes in family life. The Punic Wars resulted in men being absent for long periods of time and during this time women took on greater responsibility and gained more independence. The changes in the independence of women and the dilution of the absolute patriarch were viewed with horror by some.

In terms of family structures and relations, an obscure, small sect known as the Christians was not struggling for revolutionary change but for the maintenance of the power and authority of the patriarch. Christianity embraced the hierarchical family structure and celebrated the subordination of wives to their husbands. (Dobash & Dobash, 1978, p. 428)

Although Jesus Himself was egalitarian in His teachings, and Imperial Rome of His time practiced a certain amount of emancipation for women, the men around Jesus were not metropolitan Romans. The thinking of the provincials
reflected their own social milieu and along with it the Old Testament attitudes about women.

St. Paul was known for such statements as:

Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression. (1 Timothy 2)

Wives be in subjection to your own husbands. (Peter 3:1)

The head of the woman is the man. (1 Corinthians, 11:3)

But I suffer not a woman to teach or usurp authority of man, but to be in silence. (1 Timothy 3:2)

Under English Common Law a married woman lost all of her civil rights; she had no separate legal status and thus became the chattel of her husband. In 1763, Blackstone wrote:

The husband also, by the old law might give his wife moderate correction. For, as he is to answer for her misbehaviors, the law thought it reasonable to entrust him with his power of restraining her by domestic chastisement. (Hecker, 1910, pp. 124-125)

Continuing from early periods in history, both the Church and the state supported the subjection and subordination of women in marriage, clearly stating the husband’s right of control over his wife.

The British philosopher, John Stuart Mill (1806-1873) was known for his work the Subjection of Women. He wrote of the issue of battered women in 1869 and conditions today are ironically comparable.

From the earliest twilight of human society, every woman... was found in a state of bondage to some
man. . . . How vast is the number of men, in any
great country, who are little higher than brutes,
and . . . this never prevents them from being able
through the laws of marriage, to obtain a victim.
. . . The vilest malefactor has some wretched woman
tied to him, against whom he can commit any atrocity
except killing her and he can do that without too
much danger of legal penalty. (Rossi, 1973, p. 209)

In 1853 the Act for Better Prevention and Punishment
of Aggravated Assaults upon Women and Children was passed
and later repealed. The practice of wife beating was
still legal, although there was considerable confusion
about the legal limits being placed upon it. When both
public and parliamentary debate became more heated, Disraeli
formed a special Parliamentary Committee to study the fre-
quency of wife beating and to consider the adequacy of
fines and imprisonment, and the possibility of introducing
flogging as a punishment for those who brutally assaulted
their wives (Dobash & Dobash, 1978).

By 1878, women were allowed to use cruelty as a grounds
for divorce, however the law and its implantation were
merely oriented towards setting limits on wife beating, not
toward making it truly illegal. In the late 1880's,
thousands of women were preambulating punching bags and only
wanted to get through life with as few bruises as possible.

So little was accomplished to bring meaningful changes
in the lives of women that by 1910 the Suffragettes made
wife assaults one of their major platforms (McLaren, 1909).
Women were no longer the legitimate victims of marital
violence. However, throughout history they have remained the appropriate victims (Dobash & Dobash, 1978).

The laws of Canada during the time when women were trying to achieve the franchise reflected the inferior status of women. A woman's citizenship depended on that of her husband, and not until 1929 did the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council declare that women were 'persons' allowing them to sit in the Senate of Canada. (Cook & Michinson, 1976)

The woman's rights movement in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries in Canada stressed the legal rights of women, the rights of women to represent themselves as free citizens. Legal rights, however, as history has indicated, do not necessarily change societal attitudes.

In this century, research reports have consistently indicated that it is in a marital setting that women are most likely to be involved in violence, and it is usually as victims, not attackers. It is in the institution of the family that the patriarchal legacy persists through the continuation of the hierarchical relationship between men and women. Male authority is still, regardless of the so-called liberation of women, revered and protected by social institutions and reinforced and perpetuated through the socialization of children (Dobash & Dobash, 1978, p. 432).
Definition of Domestic Assault

The term battered wife is fraught with difficulties when it comes to a clear definition. The term lacks a precise meaning and consequently may be loosely used by different people to describe a range of stereotypes which differ substantially from one another in significant aspects. In general, the 'type' refers to a wife or co-habiter who has unwillingly received a physical assault by her partner. When one reflects on the width of this definition, one recognizes the substantial number of relationships it covers. Therefore, two further criteria that delimit the 'real' battered wife are commonly suggested. These are, an element of persistency in the assaults and the verification of the assault by a third party with regard to some visible injury.

These later two criteria hold some inherent difficulties. The wife's perception lies somewhere between the actual assault and her articulation of the assault if she seeks help. Further, a single isolated assault may seem more traumatic and destructive than a pattern of assaults.

Gelles (1972), Steinmetz (1977), and Straus (1978) have resolved the above problem by developing a 'severe violence index' or a 'wife-beating index', called Conflict Resolution Techniques (CRT). The physical violence index of the CRT contains the following eight items:
1. Throwing things at the spouse
2. Pushing, shoving, or grabbing
3. Slapping
4. Kicking, biting, or hitting with the fist
5. Hit or tried to hit with something
6. Beat up
7. Threatened with a knife or gun
8. Used a knife or gun.

Straus (1978) stresses that this index does not reflect his conception of what is permissible violence, however, they are all acts which carry with them a high risk of serious physical injury to the victim. The index is based on a continuum and allows one to draw the line at whatever place seems appropriate for his purposes.

A further comprehensive definition of spouse assault noted in the literature states that:

Spouse assault is defined as the act of physical attack by one spouse on another, pushing, shoving, kicking, knifing, shooting or throwing an object with the intent to inflict bodily harm. The term 'spouse' is understood to apply to any individual involved in an intimate heterosexual relationship with another individual, whether in a formal marital union or a non-formal one. (Flynn, 1977, p. 13.

Incidence and Significance of Domestic Assault

As so often with problems that have recently attracted public attention, information relating to the incidence of
domestic assault is limited.

Accurately determining the incidence of wife abuse has been difficult. Wife abuse is not an official category within the majority of institutions that ultimately deal with the battered woman.

The obvious sources of information are police records, hospital records and court records, however, wife abuse is not an official category in such files (Martin, 1976).

It has only been since the establishment of residential programs (shelters) for battered women and their children that there now exists an official category for battered women. Even in this area, it is only those battered women who seek help that are being statistically recorded and it is apparent that many battered women continue to remain within violent homes. An example of this is battered women who telephone into crisis lines and share their problems yet do not seek help to leave their violent partners.

Statistics Canada does not collect data on wife abuse and therefore no accurate estimation can be made of the number of cases in Canada. In the Windsor area, domestic complaints and family assaults are recorded by the police under the same category, therefore, one does not know the exact number of assaults against "wives," husbands" or siblings. However, Inspector Alex Sommerville of the Windsor Police Department states that in his experience approximately 80 per cent of the family assaults are the
"husband assaulting the wife" (Sommerville, Note 1).

Table 1

Family Assaults and Domestic Complaints
in Windsor, 1974-1978

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
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<tr>
<td>1974</td>
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<td>1975</td>
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<td>594</td>
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Dr. Murray A. Straus, in Wife Beating: How Common and Why? (1978), presents findings on the incidence of wife abuse which are unique as they are the first such data on a nationally representative sample in the United States. A sample of over 2,000 couples was chosen in a representative way. Ages, race and socio-economic status of the couples in the sample corresponded closely with census data for the nation as a whole. Of the 2,143 couples, during a twelve-month period, 3.8 per cent of the respondents reported one or more physical attacks. Applying this incidence rate to the 47 million couples in the U.S.A. means that in one year, 1.8
million wives are beaten by their husbands.

In 28 per cent of the cases, there had been a previous "beating" at least once in their marriage.

Gelles states that when looking at violence between mates, one in six couples, or 7.5 million American marriages, experienced at least one violent episode in 1975 (1977, p. 31).

While there are no available national statistics for Canada, one could assume that a similar proportion would be applicable to the Canadian situation as that proportion seen in the U.S. data.

**Explanations of Causation**

The explanations for causation of domestic assault, i.e., Why a man beats his 'wife', are many and varied. They can, however, be classified into two general categories:

1. Psychological causation
2. Sociological causation.

**Psychological Causation**

The theories of psychological causation emphasize individual pathology as compared to sociological theories of causation which deal with societal and cultural contributors to the violent relationship. Within the psychological theories specific individual characteristics are isolated.
Since these characteristics are found to exist in a significant number of men who have battered their wives as well as in the battered women, battering is attributed to these pathological characteristics. The problem is individualized and the source is located in the behavioral characteristics of the men and women who are involved in a violent relationship (Faulk, 1974; Gayford, 1975; Hope, 1969; Pizze, 1974; Price & Armstrong, 1978). The majority of the research concentrates on the wife (victim) and does not examine the husband (batterer). The conclusions reached with regard to the husband (batterer) and his pathology are primarily concluded from what his wife reports about his personality and disposition.

a) Masochism Theory

Sigmund Freud concluded that all women were masochists and viewed it as a natural condition for them. He considered masochism as strictly a female trait.

In Freud's view, the three most distinguishing traits of the female personality are passivity, masochism and narcissism. Masochism and passivity are both feminine and dynamically interrelated. Masochism comprises all passive attitudes to sexual life. To describe a woman's nature as primarily masochistic and passive justifies any conceivable domination or humiliation forced upon her. Nearly any
atrocities committed against women can potentially be exonerated by this theory of innate masochism (Rawlings & Carter, 1977).

Dr. Karen Horney presents an excellent summary of psychoanalytic views on feminine masochism.

The specific satisfactions sought and found in female sex life and motherhood are of a masochistic nature. The content of the early sexual wishes and fantasies concerning the father is the desire to be mutilated, that is, castrated by him. Menstruation has the hidden connotation of a masochistic experience. What the woman secretly desires in intercourse is rape and violence or in the mental sphere, humiliation. The process of childbirth gives her unconscious masochistic satisfaction, as is also the case with the maternal relation to the child. Furthermore, as far as men indulge in masochistic fantasies, as performances, these represent an expression of their desire to play the female role. (1967, p. 241)

Later, in the same work, Horney attacks many of the traditionally held notions concerning the nature of women.

To such doctrines that woman is innately weak, emotional, enjoys dependence, is limited in capacities for independent work and autonomous thinking, one is tempted to include the psychoanalytic belief that woman is masochistic by nature. It is fairly obvious that these ideologies function not only to reconcile women to their subordinate role by presenting it as an unalterable one, but also to plant the belief that it represents a fulfillment they crave, or an ideal for which it is commendable and desirable to strive. (1967, p. 254)

Masochism is suggested if a woman acts self destructively, particularly within interpersonal relationships, if she acts repeatedly and if she remains consistently in circumstances where it is possible to act otherwise (Rounsaville, 1978).

Thus, if battered women are masochistic one would expect
that they actively seek the abuse through inducing an otherwise non-violent partner to beat them. Corroborative evidence includes failure to seek help and refusal to leave a partner in spite of continued abuse. If masochism is seen as a character trait then one would anticipate a lifelong history of abusive relationships.

There is a contrary view presented in the available literature that would suggest that women are unable to act differently (Rounsaville, 1978; Waites, 1977-78). Therefore, to speak of masochism in these women is similar to proposing masochistic tendencies in victims of a plane wreck. According to this view, women are trapped in a relationship because it is impossible for them to leave safely (Rounsaville, 1978).

The burden of guilt for battering has fallen on the woman, while the violent behavior of the male has been condoned. The victim is held responsible for all violence inflicted upon her. She is a masochist who thrives on physical and emotional pain. The myth of the masochistic woman is a favorite one for those who endeavor to understand the battered woman. Frequently, the masochism theory is reinforced as it is seen as the explanation as to why the battered woman continues to remain within a violent relationship (Lynch & Norris, 1978; Walker, 1979).

Dr. Richard Gelles effectively refutes the Masochism Theory as the only rationale as to why abused wives remain within the violent home. He reports three pre-existing
conditions which demonstrate significant correlations to the behavior of battered women who remain in a violent relationship for longer periods of time. These correlations are:

1. If the woman was abused as a child she will remain longer within the violent home than a woman who was not abused as a child.

2. The higher the socio-economic level of the family the longer the woman will remain in the violent home.

3. The less frequent and less intense the beatings are, the longer the battered woman will remain in the violent home.

Thus, it is clear that there are, indeed, other explanations for the battered woman's behaviors.

In fact, there is a great deal of evidence which disputes the Masochism Theory of causation. Many recent writers reject masochism as an explanation for remaining within a violent relationship, citing the objective obstacles facing the battered woman who attempts to improve her situation (Martin, 1976; Pizzey, 1974). Reference is made to two kinds of action which the battered woman may take to mitigate the abuse. These are:

1. termination of the relationship;

2. use of available forces while in the relationship to prevent further abuse.
Both of these alternatives require that the battered woman be active and resourceful.

Proponents of the view that practical barriers keep the battered woman within the violent home see this decision to stay as a matter of lacking adequate resources.

Staying in the relationship seems to have a psychological component, such that the women feel that the cost of leaving is greater than the cost of staying. If they are masochistic they are staying for the abuse. An alternative is that they are staying in spite of the abuse or because of the positive aspects of the relationship. A strong possibility is that although the women do have options, they do not feel that they do. (Rounsaville, 1978, p. 18)

There must be great caution in assuming that a woman is masochistic and prefers a battering husband for many of the alternative explanations are not easily appreciated. These may include covert threats to herself and her children; the inability to locate adequate alternative housing; inadequate support resources; and, feelings of isolation (Scott, 1974).

In a study comparing selected psychosocial aspects of 57 battered and non-battered women who sought shelter in Haven House, a shelter in Los Angeles, the findings challenge the masochism theory and point to passivity rather than a need for maltreatment as the rationale underlying the battered woman's endurance of physical abuse (Starr, 1978).

The concept of female masochism is inadequate as an explanation of actual behavior since in situations in which choice is externally restricted, the question of internal motivation approaches irrelevance (Waites, 1977-78). The
widespread tolerance for the Freudian theory of female masochism is seen as crucial to the failure of intervention in the area of battered women (Nichols, 1976).

b) Learned Helplessness Theory

A further psychological theory that is presented as an explanation of causation is that of Learned Helplessness. This theory explains why the battered woman becomes a victim and how the process of victimization is perpetuated to the point of psychological paralysis. This psychological rationale is rooted in the social learning theory referred to as learned helplessness. This theory explains how people's perception of their control over events in their lives contributes to the way they think and feel about themselves and their ability to act. The principle of learning theory provides a conceptual framework for understanding how the battered woman thinks and feels about both herself and her situation.

Helplessness is the psychological state that frequently results when events are uncontrollable. What does it mean for an event to be uncontrollable?

Most plants and animals have very little control over what happens to them within their environment. For the most part, they merely react to events that happen. For example, the plant on the windowsill will respond to light by growing toward the source of the light. This growing toward the light
is not a voluntary response, and the plant will grow in this manner regardless of any other intervening factors. However, human beings make many voluntary responses which can be changed or modified, depending upon the outcome. If a voluntary response makes a difference in what happens, or operates on the environment in a successful way, we will tend to repeat that particular voluntary response. This is the principle of reinforcement. If we expect that a response we make is going to produce a certain outcome, and our expectations are met when we make that response, we then feel that we have control over that situation. The reverse of this applies as well. Thus, we can then choose not to make the response and the outcome does not happen. This gives us a certain amount of power and control over our own lives. If, on the other hand, we expect certain things to occur when we make certain responses and they do not, we will seek an explanation as to why such expectations did not occur. If we cannot find a logical explanation we then assume that we have no control over the outcome. In this manner, we learn what kinds of things in our environment we can control and what things are beyond our control (Ball & Wyman, 1977-78; Seligman, 1975; Walker, 1979).

Loss of voluntary control has been proven to impair a person's motivation. Experimental psychologist, Martin Seligman, hypothesized that dogs subjected to noncontingent,
negative reinforcement could learn that their voluntary behavior had no effect on controlling the outcome of what happened to them. When the aversive stimulus was repeated, the dogs' motivation to respond was lessened. Seligman and his researchers placed dogs in cages and at random and at varied intervals administered electrical shocks to them. Initially, the dogs attempted to escape through voluntary movements, however, when nothing they did stopped the shocks, the dogs ceased voluntary activity and became compliant, passive and submissive.

When the researchers attempted to change this procedure and teach the dogs that they could escape through an open door by crossing to the other side of the case, they remained passive, refused to leave, and did not avoid the shock. It took repeated dragging of the dogs to the exit to teach them to voluntarily respond again. Once they did learn how to respond voluntarily again, then helplessness disappeared.

The learned helplessness theory has three basic components; information about what will happen; thinking or cognitive representation about what will happen (learning, expectation, belief, perception); and behavior toward what does happen (Walker, 1979).

The faulty expectation that response and outcome are independent occurs with the cognitive representation component. This is the point at which cognitive motivational and emotional disturbances originate. It is important to note that
the expectation may or may not be accurate. Therefore, if the person does have control over the response/outcome variable and at the same time believes that she/he does not, the person responds with the learned helplessness phenomenon.

Once people believe that they cannot control what happens to them it is difficult to believe that they can control what happens to them. This concept is important to the understanding of why battered women do not leave a violent relationship.

Once the battered woman is operating from a belief system of helplessness, the perception becomes reality and she becomes passive, submissive and helpless. The battered woman allows things which appear to be out of her control to actually get out of control (Walker, 1979).

Helplessness has a severely debilitating effect on human problem solving. It alters one's motivation to initiate problem solving actions. Therefore, learning ability is hampered and the repertoire of responses from which a person can make choices is significantly narrowed. It is in this way that battered women are blinded to their options. They believe that they have no influence over the success or failure of events that concern them.

In applying the theory of learned helplessness the process of how the battered woman becomes victimized becomes clearer. Repeated battering diminishes her motivation to respond. She
becomes passive. Her cognitive ability to perceive the possibility of success is changed. She does not perceive that her response will make any difference whether or not it actually does. Generalizing her helplessness, the battered woman believes that nothing that she does will alter any outcome, not just within a specific situation but in any situation. She is unable to think of any alternatives.

If battering behavior is maintained by the battered woman's perceptions of helplessness, can the syndrome be stopped?

Reviewing the animal studies, the dogs were taught to overcome their passivity by being repeatedly dragged out of the punishing situation and shown how to avoid the shock. Battered women need to be actively encouraged to leave violent relationships and taught to change their failure expectancy and to reverse a negative cognitive set. They need to raise their motivational level to be able to initiate new and more effective responses, in order to control their own lives (Ball & Wyman, 1978; Walker, 1979).

The cycle theory of violence is explained by Walker (1979), and is related to the learned helplessness theory. The battering cycle appears to have three distinct phases: the tension building phase; the explosion or battering incident; the calm loving respite. One cannot estimate how long a couple remains in any one phase, however there is evidence that situational events can influence the timing.
Phase One: The tension building stage: Minor battering incidents occur during this phase. The battered woman handles this phase in a number of ways. She may become nurturing and compliant, anticipate her partner's every want, stay out of her partner's way. Whatever her exact behavior, she lets the batterer know that she accepts his abusiveness as legitimately directed toward her. There is a difference between believing that she should be abused and believing that what she does will prevent his anger from escalating. She believes that if she tries hard to do her job well then the incident will be over. She denies to herself that she is angry about being abused and rationalizes that perhaps she did deserve the abuse as she identifies with the batterer's faulty reasoning. Battered women tend to minimize these minor abuses with the knowledge that the batterer is capable of doing much more. She also tends to blame external situations such as his trouble at work or his drinking as if external factors were responsible for his abusiveness. She thinks that there is nothing which she can do to change the situation.

Phase Two: The acute battering incident: This phase is characterized by the uncontrollable discharge of the tensions which have built up during phase one. It is this lack of control and major destructiveness which distinguish the acute battering incident from the minor battering incidents in phase one. During this phase, the batterer's
rage is out of control. This phase of the cycle is generally 2 to 24 hours in duration. Lack of predictability in terms of the kind of violence that will occur and lack of control characterize the phase two incident.

The trigger for moving into phase two is rarely the woman's behavior, rather it is an external event or internal state of the man. The battered woman usually does not provoke a phase two incident. When the couple has been involved in battering behavior for a lengthy period of time, occasionally the woman will provoke this phase. The woman senses that the period of inevitability is close and cannot tolerate the tension and fear of what is about to occur. She would prefer to get the second phase over with and go on to the third phase of calm. This action gives her the sense of some control over when and where and why the incident occurs versus being at his complete mercy.

During this phase it does not matter what her response is; if she answers him then he becomes angrier; if she remains quiet her withdrawal enrages him. When the acute attack is over, both parties express initial shock, denial and disbelief that it actually happened.

Walker (1979) compares battered women to catastrophe victims who experience delayed reactions. They suffer emotional collapse up to 22 to 48 hours following the catastrophe. Their symptoms include listlessness, depression, and feelings
of helplessness. This delayed action syndrome is seen in women who do not seek immediate medical or legal help until sometime after the actual battering incident has occurred.

Phase Three: Calm, kindness, and contrite loving behavior: In this phase the batterer behaves lovingly toward his partner. He begs forgiveness and promises never to beat her again. He believes he can control himself from that point on and that he has taught her a lesson that she will not again behave as she did before. Therefore, he will not be tempted to beat her again. The battered woman wants to believe that he will not beat her again and his reasonable and loving behavior during this period provides her with the reinforcement for staying in the relationship. However, the phase one tension building recurs and a new cycle of battering behavior commences (Walker, 1979).

c) Attachment and Separation Theory

The final psychological theory offered as an explanation of causation is that of Bowlby (1973) in his volumes on Attachment and Separation. These two concepts concerned with the normal growth and development of the individual are useful in understanding inter-spousal violence (Makeman, 1978).

Attachment theory is a method of conceptualizing the propensity of human beings to make strong affectional bonds to particular others and there is a strong causal relationship
between an individual's experience with his parents and his later capacity to make affectional bonds (Bowlby, 1973). Bowlby considers attachment to be an-observable, biological process, innate to human and other animals and thus independent of other developmental processes.

Not only is this process of forming a social bond independent of the influences of reward or punishment, but punishment produces anxious, clinging children, over dependent and sensitive to the attachment figure. The process of attachment can readily be seen to underlie the difficulty a woman has in leaving a marriage, no matter how destructive. It also provides a way of understanding this difficulty without misusing the concept of masochism, which has turned into a useless emotionally laden 'dirty' word. Thus the argument that a woman provokes a beating, whatever its reality in a given situation, is not to the point. The issue is the need for societal support in moving out of the relationship, including the necessity of overcoming an inbuilt biological system operating in the direction of continued attachment. (Makeman, 1978, p. 50)

A focus on attachment theory shifts one from an attitude of blame to one of concern about the process of separation.

In persons who commit violent acts their backgrounds are littered with rejection, loss, and family turmoil, providing fertile ground for the experience of hate (Makeman, 1978).

The couple who lives within a violent relationship becomes a symbiotic pair, each so dependent upon the other that when one attempts to leave, both lives become drastically affected (Walker, 1979). It is especially during phase three of the cycle of violence, when the loving kindness is the most intense, that this symbiotic bonding is most evident. There have been a number of descriptive studies that
have attempted to draw a psychological profile of the battered woman and her assailant (Carlson, 1977; Davids, 1978; Faulk, 1974; Flynn, 1977; Gelles, 1972; O'Brien, 1971; Rounsaville, 1978; Roy, 1977; Scott, 1974; Snell, 1964; Star, 1978; Steinmetz, 1977; Straus, 1976; Walker, 1979). These studies include an examination of the battered woman from within the three psychological theory bases previously cited. A summary of these studies present a profile of the battered woman as follows:

1. Battered women have usually acquired a degraded self image. They have come to accept the definition of significant others, i.e., husband, parents, children, etc., as their own, seeing themselves as "no good", incompetent, poor wives and bad mothers.

2. When the battered woman terminates the marital relationship her feelings of failure increase. Women who are defined by themselves and others as "homemakers" feel primary responsibility for keeping the home together, and therefore feel great responsibility and a sense of failure when it comes apart.

3. Battered women feel they deserve to be beaten, which is a feeling derived from low self-esteem.

5. Battered women frequently feel helpless and hopeless with regard to changing their situation.

6. Battered women are frequently lacking in marketable skills.

7. Battered women are often in the victim role and have been compared to the alcoholic's wife.

8. Battered women frequently experienced violence in their family of origin and have come to view violence as a normal part of family life.

9. Battered women rarely defend themselves against their partners' attacks.

10. Battered women often choose to remain within violent marital relationships and are afraid of the uncertainty of separation.

A summary of the aforementioned studies also provides a psychological profile of the battered woman's assailant.

1. The abusing husband often has a lower educational and occupational status than does his wife.

2. The abusing husband frequently experiences job dissatisfaction.

3. The abusing husband has often experienced violence in his family of origin and/or he has learned violence as a method of problem solving.

4. The abusing husband often abuses alcohol and uses this as a method of excusing his behavior.
5. The abusing husband is often of a passive-aggressive personality type.

6. The abusing husband is threatened by any attempt on the part of his wife to assert her independence and individuality.

7. The abusing husband is often a jealous man and his jealousy may be real or imagined.

Sociological Causation:

In contrast to the psychological explanation of causation in the sociological explanation of causation the emphasis is taken away from individual pathology. The thesis of writers such as Gelles (1972), Gill (1978), Steinmetz (1974) and Straus (1974) is that violence in families is rooted in societal violence, and therefore cannot be understood or overcome apart from conceptualizing societal impact.

The sociological explanations of causation are delineated into five sociological theories. These are: 1) Conflict Theory; 2) Social Control or Resource Theory; 3) Social Learning Theory; 4) Culture of Violence Theory; and 5) General Systems Theory.

a) Conflict Theory

Steinmetz (1974) and Straus (1974) present the conflict theory as a view of society that is radical and not the most
popular or generally accepted view in Western sociology.
This view stresses that conflict is a fundamental and often
constructive part of social organizations. A conflict theory
view of society is also helpful in understanding intra-
family violence. The conflict perspective views as normal
the struggles between individuals and groups and considers
tension or violence between people, e.g., family members,
as natural.

The conflict free, consensus view of society and of
families in particular is an alternate view and is more
consistent with what most people assume to be the desirable
state of society. Gelles (1972) suggests that it is the
theoretical stance of consensus and integration theory,
where the family is socially defined as non violent, that
has caused a perceptual blackout of the violence that
actually occurs within the family.

Conflict and tension are usually considered to be
detrimental to group cohesiveness and as states to
be avoided. The greater the importance attached to
the maintenance of a particular group - the family
being the foremost example of such a group - the
more carefully its members protect its cohesiveness
from conflict and tension. Frequently, however, the
conflict and tension are not eliminated, but are
merely covered up or ignored until they reach un-
controllable proportions. (Straus, 1978, p. 5)

Within the consensus view of society, the family is seen
as the centre of solidarity and love rather than one of
conflict and violence. When wife battering occurs, the
tendency is to view it as an abnormality or exception to the
There is evidence to the effect that violence is a fundamental part of all family life (Bach & Wyden, 1970; Goode, 1971; Sprey, 1969). These writers suggest that it is more revealing to focus on conflict and violence than on family consensus and solidarity theory.

Gelles (1979) identifies eleven unique characteristics of the family as a social group which contribute to making the family a violent-prone interaction setting. It is ironic that these properties serve dual roles. On the one hand, they have the potential for making the family unit a warm, supportive and intimate environment; on the other hand, they contribute to an organization which enhances the likelihood that violence will occur. These eleven factors are:

1. Time at Risk: the ratio of time spent interacting with family members far exceeds the ratio of time spent interacting with others.

2. Range of Activities and Interests: these have a much wider spectrum than nonfamilial interaction.

3. Intensity of Involvement: the degree of commitment to family interaction is greater.

4. Impinging Activities: many family interactions are inherently conflict-structured.

5. Right to Influence: belonging to a family carries with it the implicit right to influence the values,
attitudes and behaviors of other family members.

6. Age and Sex Differences: there is the potential for a battle between generations and sexes.

7. Ascribed Roles: the family is perhaps the only social institution which assigns roles and responsibilities based on age and sex rather than interest or competence.

8. Privacy: where privacy is high, the degree of social control is low.

9. Involuntary Membership: families are exclusive organizations. Birth relationships are involuntary and cannot be terminated. While there can be ex-wives and ex-husbands there are no ex-children and ex-parents.

10. Stress: families are prone to stress. Families are constantly undergoing changes and transitions (i.e., birth, maturation of children, aging, death). Moreover, stress felt by one family member such as unemployment, illness, bad grades in school, is transmitted to other family members.

11. Extensive Knowledge of Social Biographies: the intimacy and emotional involvement of family relations reveals a full range of identities to members of a family. Strengths and vulnerabilities, likes and dislikes, loves and fears are all known to family
members. While this knowledge can be supportive to the relationship, the information can also be used to attack intimates and lead to conflict.

This concept is a difficult one due to traditional, societal attitudes, values and rules of behavior concerning the family.

b) Social Control or Resource Theory

This theory contends that violence is a resource which can be used to achieve desired ends. It tends to be used when other resources such as money, love, respect, and shared goals are insufficient (Goode, 1971).

Like all other social units or systems, the family is a power system. All rest to some degree on force or its threat, whatever else may be their foundations. Perhaps many rulers have believed that their regimes did not, and that they used physical force only on those who were evil, but those at the bottom of the power and class system, the disadvantaged, the deprived women and children have always known better. (Goode, 1971, p. 26)

Goode emphasizes that force or the threat of force is used in all social systems as it is one of four major sets of resources by which people can move others to serve their ends. Three of these resources are also major bases of all stratification systems. Specifically, these sets of resources are: economic variables; prestige or respect; force or its threat, otherwise referred to as power; and, likeability, friendship or love.
All of these are major elements in all family systems. They can be acquired and expended or exchanged to some degree for each other. Some families possess more of these social resources than others.

It is important to emphasize that the threat of force, as well as actual force, has a great impact on the socialization process. Parents use force and threat in order to socialize children and teach them thereby that force is useful; in fact, parents train children in the use of force and violence (Goode, 1971; Straus, 1975).

Within the family it is a fact that the member with the greatest strength plus the willingness to use it is the person that commands the most force. This person is usually the male partner - husband - father.

According to this theory, people who lack other resources are more apt to use overt force.

Most people do not willingly choose overt force when they command other means because the costs of using force are high in any social system, but especially in the family, where it may destroy the possibility of achieving other goals than mere conformity, e.g., spontaneous affection and respect. Consequently, it is a general rule that the greater the other resources an individual can command, the more force he can muster, but the less he will actually deploy or use force in an overt manner. The husband in the middle or upper class family commands more force, in spite of his lesser willingness to use his own physical strength, because he possesses far more other social resources. His greater social prestige in the larger society and the family, his larger economic possessions, and his stronger emphasis on the human relations techniques of counter-deference, affection and communication.
give him greater influence generally, so that he does not have to call upon the force or its threat that he can in fact muster if he chooses, through kin, neighbors, or the police and courts. (Goode, 1971, pp. 32-33)

In a study entitled Violence in Divorce Prone Families by John E. O'Brien (1971) there is considerable evidence that the husbands who most frequently displayed violent behavior and in cases where their violence was the reason for divorce, that these husbands were severely inadequate in work, as a provider and in family support roles. O'Brien concluded that for the husbands in the families he studied, violent behavior represents the use of physical force to maintain the social position of superiority expected by the society when he lacks other resources to maintain this position.

c) Social Learning Theory

The social learning theory views violence as a technique of adaptation which is systematically learned by children through interaction with and observation of parents and others using violence. When the child becomes involved in a stressful or problematic situation for which he has learned no other method of coping, the stage is set for the use of violence to solve the problem (Bandura, 1973).

The family plays a major role in the training of violence as family experiences are powerful molders of personality. A family can be opposed in principle to violence and still
raise a violence-prone child as the structure of relationships within the family provide many opportunities to indirectly train children to be violent (Straus, 1974).

The most efficient of these indirect means of training for violence is the method by which parents control their children. If the parent uses violence, i.e., spanking, slapping, etc., as a method of controlling his or her child's behavior, it is logical that the children learn that violence is an effective means of dealing with others (Sears et al., 1957; Straus, 1974). The use of physical punishment by parents produces a paradoxical result as it is usually used with the intent of controlling a child's aggressiveness and teaching him/her not to be aggressive versus teaching him/her to use violence as a coping mechanism.

A British study of victims of marital violence conducted by Gayford (1975) with women who had come to Chiswick Women's Aid Hostel confirms the theory of social learning. One hundred women were interviewed. The average age of the women was 30 years while for their partners the average age was 33 years. Twenty-three of the women and 51 of their partners were exposed to violence in their childhood, thereby supporting the theory that violence is a role modeled behavior passed through the socialization process.

While the family is thought to be the most vital training ground for violence, the teaching of violent norms
is enhanced by other methods as well. In Media, Violence and the Family: A Canadian View, Lucien A. Beaulieu presents seven variations with reference to the pervasive impact of television violence. These are:

1. The promotion of violent role models. Successful people are routinely shown as using violence.

2. Violence is portrayed as a standard method of conflict resolution.

3. Televison helps to legitimate the use of violence. A powerful and repeated statement is made that violence is the way that problems are solved and objectives achieved.

4. Violence is favorably presented as an outlet for emotions such as frustration and vengeance.

5. Violence is portrayed as both an appropriate and effective means to achieve desired ends.

6. Violence is portrayed as a standard technique of social control, promoting the idea that violence is an essential means to secure conformity to group, social or community norms.

7. Violence that is seen in connection with athletics is of vital concern as athletics traditionally has played a significant role in the social and physical development of children.

While it may be argued that violence portrayed on
television provides opportunities to discuss topics that in the past were taboo, there is a stronger possibility that their themes serve to provide social learning with regard to the use of violence as a valid technique of coping.

d) Culture of Violence Theory

This theory emphasizes the approval of violence in the value system of the society and the social norms which indicate when and under what types of circumstances violence is to be used.

Wolfgang and Ferracuti (1967) have explained the differing levels and types of interpersonal violence observed between societies and ethnic groups in terms of a sub-culture of violence. They suggest that it is possible to delineate certain groups within the wider society whose attitudes to violence differ from the overall culture. This difference is that personal assaults would be defined by the sub-culture as wrong or anti-social.

According to this thesis, a violent act is not deviant but is a response to subcultural values, attitudes and rituals which define violent behavior as normative. This theory supports the impression that violence is connected with lower income and ethnic minority groups. However, there is evidence that assaults between spouses are not limited to any one socio-economic status or cultural group (Bard, 1971; Stark & McEvoy, 1970).
e) General Systems Theory or Systems Analysis Theory

This theory emphasizes the cybernetic or control mechanisms which regulate the level of violence in family systems and the goal-seeking properties of the family.

Straus (1974) outlines a general systems theory approach to violence between family members. This theory accounts for the presence of violence as an element that will continue as a systematic product of the social interaction of the family.

This model defines different ways in which the social structures are interrelated and the implications of the parts as variables which determine the characteristics of the social unit as a whole. This is a multivariate emphasis that proposes that the variables can be considered separately as antecedents precipitating, and consequent.

In summary, spouse abuse arises from diverse causes. The most significant of these include normative expectation, family structure, personality traits, and situational frustrations and conflicts. The occurrences of violence are multivariate and multideterminate in nature.

Alcohol and Violence

One of the most extensive studies on intra-family violence between spouses was conducted by Gelles (1972). Eighty couples
were interviewed from three sources: 20 couples from a private social service agency as couples believed to be violent; 20 couples from the police as families involved in family disturbance calls; and 40 couples selected one each on a quasi-random basis from the same neighborhoods as the social service agency and police samples. The neighborhood sample was considered a control group.

The results of this study showed 44 families using violence and, as expected, 85 per cent of the police sample had experienced at least one incident of violence as compared to 60 per cent of the agency sample and 37 per cent of the control sample. In the 44 families where violence occurred, drinking accompanied the violence in 21 families, or 48 per cent of the cases (Gelles, 1972).

Snell, Rosenward, and Robey (1964), in their discussions on wife beating, conclude that wife beating is quite common among alcoholic men. Gelles (1972) explained this high association between spouse assault and alcohol as a technique of deviance disavowal. Gelles views it as a serious problem when alcohol is determined to be a primary causal agent in interpersonal violence. There are cases of cultures where drunkenness is not followed by disinhibited behavior such as violence. Thus, drunken comportment is viewed as a situational variable; a learned behavior (MacAndrew, 1969).
The data from Gelles' study confirmed great variability of individual behavior when drinking. In some families the couples drank without ever becoming violent, while in others violence occurred without any alcohol being consumed. In other families, while the offender was drinking when the violence occurred, similar violence had also previously occurred when there had been no drinking.

Gelles assesses that families have an interest in maintaining a defined normality.

Thus, alcohol often is associated with accounts of family violence because it allows the aggressor, the victim, and the other family members to orchestrate an account that admits the occurrence of the deviant behavior but maintains the definition of the family as normal by focusing the blame on the alcohol that caused the deviant act. The family that accounts for violence by using the theory of alcohol as a dis-inhibitor can disassociate the offender from the stigma of being a wifebeater. Drinking is widespread in our society and alcoholism is viewed by some as a sickness and therefore, drinking and alcoholism carry less stigma for the aggressor and the family than does violence. Thus, we find family members claiming that the major family problem is drinking rather than violence. (Gelles, 1972, p. 115)

Gelles contends that there is a vicious cycle involved in the association of alcohol and spouse assault. The association implies that society provides the aggressor with a vocabulary of motives and allows him a time-out period away from the usual norms that prohibit such behavior. Alcohol leads to violence in many cases as it initiates primary conflicts over money, cooking, sex and may serve to trigger long-standing marital disagreements (Gelles, 1972;
Bard (1974) conducted a study entitled *Assaultiveness and Alcohol Use in Family Disputes: Police Perceptions*. In this study, 1,388 families where the police were called to answer domestic dispute reports were observed to research two major hypotheses, namely:

1. that family disputes to which police are called generally involve assaultive behavior;

2. that assaultive behavior in such domestic disputes is most commonly associated with alcoholic consumption by one or both parties.

These hypotheses were believed to be commonly held assumptions of both social scientists and the police. The results of this research suggest that assaults do not usually precede the arrival of the police; disputes are not usually influenced by alcohol use; assaults are less common when alcohol has been used. There were only 15 cases, or 6 per cent out of 1,388, where the complainant alleged that the second party was both drunk and assaultive (Bard, 1974).

Bard (1974) concludes that the use of alcohol may be associated with domestic disputes through a spurious correlation. Since alcohol is widely used within society as a "tranquilizer" by people who are in emotionally upsetting situations, then it is expected that people in family crises will have frequently used alcohol.
Carlson (1977) reports on a study of 101 battered women where there was a marked disparity between victims and assailants with respect to alcohol abuse. Only 10 per cent of the victims admitted to abusing alcohol while 60 per cent of the victims reported alcohol abuse on the part of their assailants.

Carlson concludes that alcohol abuse is a symptom of structural stress and serves to exacerbate the problem rather than alleviate it.

Rounsaville (1978), in a study with 31 battered women, examined the relationship of alcohol abuse and wife beating and noted that only 13 per cent of the women stated that they were usually drinking during an abusive episode and that 29 per cent of their partners were doing likewise. Thus, many of the abusive episodes occurred when the couple was sober.

In summary, when dealing with a highly complex interaction it is tempting simplistically to infer that the events have been caused by alcoholism, however, the available research does not support this stance.

Community Response to Battered Women

Community perceptions of the battered woman as victim, her assailant and their relationship to each other have frequently been bound by popular mythology. These per-
ceptions tend to fall along a continuum of victim—offender—provocation, clustering primarily at the midpoint and extending to the extremes of the continuum. Each perception affects the type of program that is generated in the community as a response to the battered woman (Lynch & Norris, 1977-78).

Lynch and Norris (1978) in their comprehensive article entitled Services for Battered Women, state four factors which influence a community's programmatic response, namely:

1. differing perceptions as to who the victim is;
2. differing perceptions of her relationship with the offender;
3. the kinds and levels of available community resources;
4. the characteristics of the program developers.

There are three commonly held perceptions that affect a community's response to the problems of battered women. The first perception is that the victim is held responsible for all the violence inflicted upon her. She is a masochist, and if she did not like it she would leave. In a community where this perception dominates, there is no spouse abuse program or where a program does exist it is one that continues to blame the victim for not trying hard enough to get out of the battering situation.

The second perception is where the offender is held
responsible for all the violence inflicted upon the woman. This perception may also result in no programs for the battered woman. An example of this, given by Lynch and Norris (1977-78), is in the Florida legislation where it has been made easier to arrest wife beaters on probable cause and where mandatory counselling is required for convicted offenders. However, in this case no victim of spouse abuse qualifies for assistance.

The third perception is that the victim and the offender are caught in a vicious circle of mutual responsibility for the violence. Both parties want to break the cycle but cannot admit that the problem exists to themselves or others. Their mutual frustration escalates the violence when this perception is prevalent. Here, the program response is a conscious attempt to break the cycle by separating the couple, either physically or symbolically until they have redefined their relationship.

These varying perceptions are important when considering the response made by communities as the manner in which the problem is defined will affect how the needs are defined and finally how the programs are defined.

Most writers agree that the battered woman's basic needs are:

1. The ability to reach someone 24 hours a day who can provide immediate crisis counselling.
2. Physical safety which includes prompt police intervention, medical and legal action, and often includes assisting the victim's children.

3. Material needs which include shelter, food, clothing, and prescription and non-prescription medical needs.

4. Emotional needs which include counselling when the victim is considered a part of the total family system as well as counselling focused on the emotional needs of the victim's children.

5. Examination of the Life Alternatives (Lynch & Norris, 1977-78) for the battered woman including discussions of divorce, job skills building, education, employment, child management, etc.

The primary sections of the community currently responding to the battered woman include the following:

1. Police: Law enforcement

2. Criminal Justice System: Legal systems including methods of access to the legal system, i.e., law clinics, legal aid, lawyers, Crown Attorneys, Courts and Judges

3. Medical Systems: Medical treatment

4. Social Service Systems: Traditional forms of counselling, innovative programs such as crisis shelter programs referred to as Interval and Transition Homes, income maintenance support programs, i.e., Welfare, Mother's Allowance

5. Public Housing


Police: Law enforcement

Policemen have a pivotal role in domestic violence for three primary reasons. The first reason is that they are the only group in society trained to cope with violence. Secondly, they are generally the only universally available 24-hour source of assistance. Thirdly, they have a greater mobile capacity than other community agencies and therefore are regarded as the most logical source of help (Bell, 1978).

A practical step that has occurred in some communities
is the training of police officers to deal more effectively with domestic crises with an emphasis on conflict management techniques. The impetus for such training has come from the alarming rates of death and injury to police officers as a result of intervention in domestic disputes.

As the police are frequently the first contact agent between the service giver and receiver, their intervention is a critical determinant of the outcome (Martin, 1976).

There are several programs that have been developed to integrate the police and social service system to provide more effective response to domestic violence calls for police help. For example, in Regina, Saskatchewan in 1972, a Mobile Family Service Society was implemented to work with the police providing immediate crisis counselling and follow-up services (Bell, 1978). This program has, in three years, become as well known to the public as most social service agencies who have existed for 20 years or more, due to the high level of visibility maintained by the program.

Jaffe and Thompson (1978) report on the Family Consultant Service of the London, Ontario, police force. In London, family crisis calls account for 4,000 police calls annually, usually occurring in the evening hours (8:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m.) and on week-ends. During these hours, community social services are not open with the exception of the hospital emergency departments. In 1972, a police training program
was established and in 1973 the Family Consultant Service, designed to work with the police department's trained personnel, was begun. This program is geared to assist the officers. The goals of the program are:

1. To assist officers by providing immediate assessment of and intervention in crisis situations, supplying information about or arranging for referrals to appropriate community resources.

2. To aid in the prevention of serious social and/or emotional dysfunctions through early detection and intervention.

3. To facilitate increased understanding and cooperation between mental health and law enforcement professionals.

4. To increase community awareness of the social role of the police force.

5. To provide a model of human services to other communities through careful documentation and evaluation.

6. To provide informal in-service and field training for police officers in the area of crisis intervention (Jaffe & Thompson, 1978, p. 218).

The Family Consultant Program has had ongoing evaluation and clearly documents the value of such a concept (Jaffe & Thompson, 1978).
The police are frequently criticized for their lack of training and inadequate methods of handling domestic dispute calls. When a battered woman calls the police, she expects an immediate response. However, many police departments give domestic dispute calls a low priority and take anywhere from twenty minutes to several hours to respond. Further to this, the most common complaint heard from battered women is that when the police arrive they rarely are helpful and are seen as taking no action (Martin, 1976).

Dr. James D. Bannon, Chief of Police with the Detroit Police Department, recently stated in a panel discussion where the writer was a participant, that police have problems with intra-family violence and that they contribute to the violence.

Those of us in law enforcement, who are the first official representatives of government to respond to violence in the home, are socialized in precisely the same manner as the citizens we are expected to protect. Policemen, as are most males, are taught self-reliance and the 'fight your own battles' philosophy from the cradle. Similarly, we are socialized into the conscious perceptions of masculine-feminine roles. In our society, this translates into dominance-submission terms. The man is the boss, the owner; the female the subordinate. (Bannon, Note 2)

A policeman's response to a domestic dispute call is fraught with danger for his person as well as with practical and policy issues for which legislative pronouncements and police manuals do almost nothing to prepare him (Field &

In a study of the response of Chicago police to domestic disturbances, Parnas (1967) concluded:

The overall emphasis in training seems to be on the danger in handling domestic disturbances. No substantial effort is made to discuss the nature of domestic problems that give rise to such disturbances, the police role in handling these situations, or the available alternatives and their application. (Parnas, 1967, p. 914)

Dr. Morton Bard, a psychologist who developed a family violence response training program for police trainees, states:

A request for . . . police intervention may be seen as public declaration that acceptable limits of aggression (perhaps a clan linked phenomenon) are being reached and that unacceptable violence is imminent. However, a declaration of this kind is made to a system which sees itself not as a helping resource but rather as one empowered to enforce compliance either physically, by legal sanctions, or by admonition; the disputants, on the other hand, may be seeking relief through immediate arbitration or mediation by a skilled authority. Limited by traditional role definition to perceive himself primarily as a law enforcer, the police officer may not be able to perceive this hidden agenda in the appeal for his intervention. (Bard, 1974, pp. 677-682)

In summary, the available literature on police response to domestic violence calls portrays a problematic and complex situation. Part of the complexity involves the traditional philosophy that the family, for all practical purposes, is viewed as an entity beyond reproach, and that it must continue as an entity in spite of the presence of violent conflict.
This philosophy contributes to the perpetuation of violence behind closed doors within the sanctity of the family (Roy, 1977).

Criminal Justice System

The criminal justice system is one of the many institutions of which society is composed. The legal system reflects our culture and has the same values which pervade our whole society. Historically, the law has viewed women as property or as children (Blair, 1979; Paterson, 1979). One of the ways that the law worked for women was to protect them from being beaten too severely. In the last century, the 'rule of thumb' suggested that a man could beat his wife as long as the stick he used was no thicker than his thumb. The law gave credence to the idea that men were allowed to beat women; that women were property. The law was and continues to be a reflector of societal attitudes and must be understood within this frame of reference. The rule of thumb articulates a non-responsive societal attitude with respect to women which has been institutionalized in the non-responsiveness of police, courts, crown attorneys, attorneys and the entire continuum of the criminal justice system (Paterson, 1979).

Maria Roy (1977) concludes that underlying the criminal justice system is a covert toleration of wife-beating. This belief is substantiated in the policy and personal attitudes
of Police, Crown Attorneys, and Judges through the inefficient procedures which render the existing legal remedies inadequate.

Field and Field (1973), in a comprehensive article entitled "Marital Violence and the Criminal Process: Neither Justice Nor Peace," state that social policy makers have avoided the recognition of intelligent social policies and services designed to cope constructively with wife battering by merely dismissing the eruption of marital violence as criminal. Once defined as criminal, policy makers do not notice that the causes and nature of the problem set it apart from behavior traditionally labeled criminal and that the criminal process is simply not designed to cope with the majority of wife-battering incidents. However, by and large, it is the criminal justice system which is the primary institution that takes responsibility for dealing with the victims of marital violence. Field and Field (1973) conclude that this responsibility is taken unwillingly and discharged in an ineffective manner.

One of the major problems experienced in marital violence cases is that the initial focus is almost exclusively on the chances that the victim will testify. Parnas (1967) showed that in the majority of the cases in Chicago Courts of Domestic Relations, the victim requests dismissal or does not appear in court and the case is dropped. Field and Field (1973)
state that the pattern of law enforcement is the rigorous prosecution of the person accused of assaulting a stranger and the non-prosecution of the man accused of assaulting his wife.

A rationale given for the perceived irrelevance of the prosecution of marital assault cases is the fact that the victim has de facto power to terminate the legal relationship and thereby remove the problem. If the relationship can be terminated, the effect of deterrence and prevention can be achieved without the intervention of criminal law at all (Field & Field, 1973).

Thus, the function of criminal law is altered dramatically in the domestic-assault situation, and the classical bases for the employment of the criminal process - deterrence, incapacitation, prevention, retribution, or rehabilitation - do not apply in a substantial way to these cases. The evolution of a system in which criminal enforcement is left entirely to the whim of the victim (if still alive to protect) implies official acceptance of or acquiescence to the policy that violence between 'consenting' adults is a private affair. (Field & Field, 1973, p. 227)

In summary, the majority of writers in the area of domestic violence accuse the criminal justice system of failure to intervene effectively.

The Law Relating to Battered Women

Zuker and Callwood (1976) have asserted that "The Law Is Not For Women." It is only through a review of the existing legislation that affects battered women that an
appreciation of this assertion may be gained.

The basis for most Canadian law is the system of English Common Law, which is rooted in early feudal England. From that time, the law has evolved slowly, meeting new social conditions with an inadequate patchwork system of revisions made to old laws.

In order to place current legislation in perspective it is necessary to review the effect of laws first enacted in the thirteenth century. This ancient law was more concerned with land than people, since it was predominantly the noblemen whose interests were considered in enacting the new laws (Handelman & Ward, 1976).

The Industrial Revolution brought a broadening of both the economic and political base. This did not affect women who were not viewed yet as a part of the economic community. Women had no right to vote and a married woman in Ontario could not hold the legal title to property until the 1890's when the Married Women's Property Act was passed.

Women throughout history have not been completely ignored by the law, rather they became a protected possession. Because women were unable to own property and presumably unable to support themselves and their children, legal obligations were forced upon husbands, providing that she did not commit adultery or desert her husband.

One example of this concept was The Deserted Wives' and Childrens' Maintenance Act, R.S.O. 1970, c.128, first
enacted in 1888, which has now been repealed due to the recent Family Law Reform Act.

A unique Canadian problem in dealing with family law is the fact that both Federal and Provincial Governments have jurisdiction over the areas of family law. The British North America Act, 1867, delineates federal and provincial jurisdictions. In section 91, the Federal Government has exclusive jurisdiction over marriage and divorce. Section 92 gives the Provincial Government exclusive jurisdiction over the solemnization of marriage and property and civil rights.

The distinction between civil and criminal processes is one major fundamental distinction within the Canadian legal system. Generally, the civil side of the law is used to resolve private conflicts (e.g., contracts, divorce, child support), while the criminal side is supposed to vindicate the public, or status interest in the general welfare and public peace (e.g., fraud and assault) (Fleming, 1979).

The criminal law is said to be punitive and civil law remedial.

The usually clear distinction between civil and criminal law grows hazy when a battered woman looks to the legal system for help. Often, she is referred to 'family' or 'domestic' court—a subdivision of the civil court system. Often, the same beating would have resulted in arrest and criminal prosecution if the attacker and victim had been strangers. The same assault is more likely to be treated as a criminal offense if the parties were never married or divorced than if they are married at the time of the attack. . . . This may be rooted in the belief that the violence is not really 'serious' or that marriage is a 'sacred' institution
which should be preserved by counseling obtained through the civil court. (Fleming, 1979, pp. 157-160)

Statutory Remedies


The Criminal Code provides two remedies to a battered wife. First, she may lay a charge of assault, and seek a conviction or she may seek a peace bond against her husband.

Section 244 of the Code defines assault:

Assault

244. A person commits an assault when
(a) without the consent of another person or with consent where it is obtained by fraud, he applies force intentionally to the person of the other, directly or indirectly;
(b) he attempts or threatens, by an act or gesture, to apply force to the person of the other, if he has or causes the other to believe upon 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 and begs. (Martin, 1978, p. 232)

Section 245 of the Criminal Code deals with Common Assault causing bodily harm.

245(1) Every one who commits a common assault is guilty of an offense punishable on summary conviction.

(2) Every one who unlawfully causes bodily harm to any person or commits an assault that causes bodily harm to any person:
(a) is guilty of an indictable offense and is liable to imprisonment for five years, or
(b) is guilty of an offense punishable on summary conviction.

(Martin, 1978, p. 233)

The peace bond is governed by the Criminal Code, Sub-
section 745, Sureties to Keep the Peace. Subsection (1) states:

Any person who fears that another person will cause personal injury to him or his wife or child or will damage his property, may lay an information before a justice. (Martin, 1978, p. 612)

This application for a Peace Bond is brought before a Provincial Court judge with the parties involved appearing in Provincial Court. The judge may order the defendant to enter into a recognizance to:

Keep the peace and be of good behaviour for any period that does not exceed twelve months, and comply with such other reasonable conditions prescribed in the recognizance as the Court considers desirable for securing the good conduct of the defendant or commit the defendant to prison for a term not exceeding twelve months if he fails or refuses to enter into the recognizance. (Martin, 1978, p. 612)


Section 34 of The Family Law Reform Act is relevant for the battered woman. It provides the possibility of restraining the violent partner. It states:

Upon application, a court may make an order restraining the spouse of the applicant from molesting, annoying or harassing the applicant or children in the lawful custody of the applicant and may require the spouse of the applicant to enter into such recognizance as the court considers appropriate. (Kronby, 1979; Appendix C)

3. The Divorce Act (Canada) 1968.

Section 3(d) of the Act states that cruelty is a ground
for divorce. "Cruelty of such a kind as to render intolerable the continued cohabitation of the spouses" (Kronby, 1979, p. 96).

Another way of viewing this particular ground for divorce is that it is sanctioned in this legislation to beat your wife a little; as long as the beating is not intolerable! Conflicting opinions abound in defining what constitutes intolerable cruelty and vary from judge to judge.

Ultimately, the legal system does not create and enforce a new social order but reflects and enforces community norms and values. Wife abuse will cease being a major law enforcement and criminal justice problem when it is no longer a socially acceptable institution (Fleming, 1979, p. 228).

Medical Services

Women are frequently reluctant to tell physicians the truth about how they sustained their injuries. Even if they suspect that a woman's injuries are due to a beating, physicians seldom risk personal involvement by asking questions (Martin, 1976).

There is an absence of effective recording procedures in the emergency departments of hospitals. This absence of records severely limits the ability of staff members to identify and help the repeatedly assaulted wife. Further to this, it assures through nondisclosure, that the number
and frequency of assaults will never come to the attention of the legal system (Davidson, 1978; Martin, 1976).

Davidson (1978) states that when a battered woman seeks medical attention that only symptoms are attended to and battered women do not receive comprehensive understanding or treatment.

It has been reported that many residents of shelters arrive with various forms of medication prescribed by family physicians or psychiatrists, such as antidepressants and tranquilizers. The medication makes it possible to endure the horror of abuse rather than to do something concrete about the abuse (Davidson, 1978).

An area of great concern medically is violence and pregnancy. Gelles (1975) found that in couples where the wife was being physically abused by her husband that when the wife became pregnant, the beatings increased in both frequency and in intensity.

Although there is very little available literature on the medical response to the battered woman, these few references clearly illustrate the importance of medical services and, as well, the shortcomings of the present forms of response.

Social Service Systems

Social service agencies have, for the most part, had
the traditional goal of keeping the family unit together or the goal of reconciliation. This, in itself, has stood in the way of the battered woman seeking help from such agencies (Davidson, 1978; Martin, 1976). Martin (1976) is very critical of social service agencies and states that:

Almost without exception social agencies are subdivisions of monolithic institutions such as state governments or charitable organizations. As such they usually offer specific services to certain kinds of people. Agencies spend a lot of time determining whether an applicant fits the agency's target population and whether her needs are suitable to the agency's stated purposes. Since wife-beating has not up to now been considered a social problem in our country, very few—if any—of the existing social agencies cater specifically to the needs of battered women... a woman who has patience, mobility, and an understanding of the system can get help, but these qualities are not necessarily to be expected in a woman who has just left home out of desperation and fear for her life. (Martin, 1976, p. 120)

Social service agencies are accused of further victimizing the woman who is already a victim within her marital situation.

The most recent development in community response to battered women is in the area of emergency shelter. This is viewed by many writers as the most pressing need of the battered woman. The first such shelter program for battered women and their children to be established was initiated by Erin Pizzey in London, England, with the establishment of Chiswick Women's Aid (Pizzey, 1974). This model was accepted in Canada and the first Canadian shelter was established in Vancouver, British Columbia, in December of 1973. Shortly
after this, shelter programs were established in Toronto, Ontario. When Hiatus House, Incorporated, Windsor, Ontario, opened July 12, 1976, it was the eighth such program in Canada. Today, there are at least twenty-three such shelters in Ontario with many more in the planning stages. These shelters are now referred to as Interval and Transition houses.

It is important to note that while shelter is viewed by these groups as a key component of services, shelter in itself is not sufficient for the battered woman and her children. The majority of the shelter programs offer, as well, the following services:

1. crisis intervention
2. 24-hour a day service
3. child care
4. appropriate referrals to legal and social service resources
5. counseling - i.e., separation counseling, reconciliation counseling, feminist counseling
6. advocacy.

The group environment of the shelter is viewed as a reconstructive milieu. Such an environment encourages women who are in varying stages of reconstituting their self images from that of a victim to an autonomous person (Ridington, 1978).
The final primary area with the social service network is income maintenance in the form of general welfare assistance, Mother's Allowance, geared to income housing (public housing) and job training programs. These programs are all methods by which the community responds to separated women, however, not specifically because they are battered women.

As these programs are geared to any separated woman, they, in fact, contain within them deficits for the battered woman. For example, in order for a woman to be eligible for general welfare assistance, she must have an address other than the matrimonial home and in order to relocate the battered woman needs financial resources. It is unrealistic to assume that her battering husband will give her money to leave him.

Another example of a program deficit is within the regulations of public housing. If the battered woman has been residing with her partner in public housing and she separates, taking the children with her, it can take anywhere up to three months for the housing authority to evict the husband. In the meantime, if the husband has not maintained the rent payments, then before the Housing Authority will allow the woman and her children to return, they expect her to pay the rent arrears, an impossibility for the majority of battered women.

While these income maintenance programs have their
individual deficits, they do, in fact, provide a minimum level of income support, making it possible for women to live as single parents. However, the mechanics of these various programs create pragmatic difficulties for battered women.

In summary, community response to battered women has been slow in developing due to traditional methods of dealing with family breakdown with all segments of the community service network. As more research becomes available and public education on domestic violence expands, the response from within these service networks will gradually become more adequate.

Client Follow-up Studies

The analysis of human service organizations has usually been made from the perspective of the professional staff within the agency or by a professional person from outside of the service. The perspective of the client has rarely been considered (Giordano, 1977).

For many years, service organizations have experimented with different ways of helping people in need. It is interesting that the resulting innovations have stemmed not from the client's perception of what is helpful, but rather from the practitioner's. Thus, the client is rarely asked what kind of help he wants (Mayer & Timms, 1969).
Client follow-up studies can provide invaluable information with regard to the client's perception of his/her own problem(s) and of the help which he/she requires. Increasingly, clients are being accepted not only in a client role but also in the role of consumer of services. Two advantages to this approach are designated by Giordano as follows:

First, using the client's own opinions about quality of service broadens the range of indexes that attempt to quantify 'agency effectiveness'.

Second, using the client's perspective has advantages in comparison with another traditional approach--asking agency personnel to assess their own effectiveness. (Giordano, 1977, p. 55)

Beck and Jones (1973) view client follow-up studies as a valuable source of information, as clients evaluate changes they have experienced from their own perspective rather than from an agency's perspective.

There are some limitations with the use of client follow-up studies. Some of these limitations are described by Beck and Jones (1973) as follows:

Some do not respond or cannot be located. Some are handicapped as reporters by education, language or emotional barriers. Their diagnostic understanding is limited. Their classification of problems and their reports of service received are imprecise. They are often unaware of subtle perceptual changes or tend to forget them. Their ratings are probably affected by day-to-day fluctuations in their moods and circumstances. (p. 11)

In summary, the study that seeks to gain information directly from clients is a valuable method to be used by
human service organizations. If more human service organizations begin to take into account the opinions of their clients, and if these opinions are subsequently translated into observable program changes, more clients will be willing to provide this input (Giordano, 1977).
CHAPTER III

RESEARCH DESIGN AND METHODOLOGY

The purpose of this research project was discussed briefly in the introductory chapter. It is designed to examine the perceptions reported by discharged residents of Hiatus House regarding their experiences as battered women and their perceptions of how the community responds to their problems.

Classification of the Research

Tripodi, Fellin and Meyer (1969) present a classification system of research which identifies three major types of research: exploratory, quantitative-descriptive and experimental. This research project is in the first category - exploratory.

This type of research is defined as follows:

Exploratory studies are empirical research investigations which have as their purpose the formulation of a problem or questions, developing hypotheses, or increasing an investigator's familiarity of a phenomenon or setting for more precise future research. The intent to clarify or modify concepts may also be predominant. Relatively systematic procedures for obtaining empirical observations and/or for the analysis of data may be used. Both quantitative and qualitative-descriptions of the phenomenon are often provided, and the investigator typically conceptualizes the interrelations among properties of the phenomenon being observed. A variety of data collection
procedures may be employed in relatively intensive study of a small number of behavioral units. Methods which are employed include such procedures as interviewing, participant observation, and content analysis. Representative sampling procedures are typically not used. In some studies, there is a manipulation of an independent variable in order to locate its potential effects. (Tripodi et al., 1969, pp. 48-49)

This research project is classified into the first sub-type of an exploratory study which is referred to as a combined exploratory-descriptive study.

Combined exploratory-descriptive studies are those exploratory studies which seek to thoroughly describe a particular phenomenon. The concern may be with one behavioral unit, as in a case study, for which both empirical and theoretical analyses are made. The purpose of these studies is to develop ideas and theoretical generalizations. Descriptions are in both quantitative and qualitative form, and the accumulation of detailed information by such means as participant observation may be found. Sampling procedures are flexible, and little concern is usually given to systematic representativeness. (Tripodi et al., 1969, p. 49)

Research Questions

Research questions were devised to provide focus and structure to the collection and analysis of data.

1. What are the perceptions reported by the battered woman of her experiences as a battered woman?
2. What are the battered woman's perceived needs?
3. What are the battered woman's perceptions of the community's response to her perceived needs?
Operational Definitions

These definitions will make explicit the meaning of these terms used within the context of this study.

Hiatus House, Incorporated is a social service agency providing residential and other crisis-related services for women who have been physically abused or threatened of physical abuse by their partner. Battered women and their children reside at Hiatus House on a temporary basis to provide them an alternative to remaining within the violent home, as well as the opportunity to do some problem-solving and make decisions for their future and the future of their family. The average length of stay per family is 11 days. Hiatus House is a member agency of United Way of Windsor and Essex County, and is located at 694 Victoria Avenue, Windsor, Ontario.

The battered woman is a woman who has been assaulted by her spouse/partner.

Spouse assault is defined as the act of physical attack by one spouse on another, pushing, shoving, kicking, knifing, shooting, or throwing an object with the intent to inflict bodily harm. The term 'spouse'/partners' is understood to apply to any individual involved in an intimate heterosexual relationship with another individual, whether in a formal marital union or a non-formal one. (Flynn, 1977, p. 13)

Steinmetz (1977), Gelles (1972) and Straus (1978) have developed a 'severe violence index' or a 'wife-beating index' called Conflict Resolution Techniques (CRT). The
physical violence index of the CRT contains the following eight items:

1. throwing things at the spouse
2. pushing, shoving, or grabbing
3. slapping
4. kicking, biting, or hitting with the fist
5. hit or tried to hit with something
6. beat up
7. threatened with a knife or gun
8. used a knife or gun.

It is important to note that for the purpose of this research, both actual assault and threat of assault are included in the definition of the battered woman.

The discharged resident is a battered woman who has resided at Hiatus House and is now discharged living in other accommodation.

Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary (1974) defines perception as follows: "a mental image; concept; an awareness of the elements of environment through physical sensation; physical sensation interpreted in the light of experience; a quick, acute, and intuitive cognition; a capacity for comprehension."

The focus of this study is on the individual battered woman's perception and individual perceptions will vary from one to another.
Webster (1974) defines *experience* as follows: "(a) a conscious perception or apprehension of reality or of an external, bodily, or psychic event; (b) facts or events or the totality of facts or events observed: (2a) direct participation in events; (b) the state or result of being engaged in an activity . . . (c) knowledge, skill, or practice derived from direct observation of or participation in events; (3a) the conscious events that make up an individual life and (4) something personally encountered, undergone, or lived through."

*Perceived need* involves the battered woman perceiving what her own needs are. Webster (1974) defines *to perceive* as follows: 1: "to attain awareness or understanding of"; 2: "to become aware of through the senses*. *Need* is defined as follows: "(2a) a lack of something requisite, desirable or useful; (b) a physiological or psychological requirement for the well being of an organism; (3) a condition requiring supply or relief; (4) lack of means of subsistence."

Within this definition of need exists a pressing lack of something perceived by the battered woman as essential.

A further process of defining *need* is the hierarchy of needs by Abraham Maslow (1968) which include the following: physiological needs (hunger, sleep, etc.) safety needs (stability, order)
belonging and love needs (family, friendship)
esteeem needs (self-respect, recognition)
self-actualization needs (development of capacities).
This breakdown is provided to focus the various types of need categories.

Community implies something both psychological and geographical. Psychologically, it implies shared interests, characteristics, or association, as in the expression "community of interest" or "the business community." Geographically, it denotes a specific area where people are clustered. Sociologically, the term combines these two connotations. It relates to the shared interests and behavior patterns which people have by virtue of their common locality—people's lives are intertwined with the institutions which serve them locally; a community is a total framework of living rather than merely a political jurisdiction; and an interesting though complex network of people, institutions, shared interest, locality, and a sense of psychological 'belonging' is identified with the community (Warren, 1972, pp. 6-7).

Community response is how the community, in its various component parts, responds to the battered woman. Webster (1974) defines response as follows: "(2) something constituting a reply or a reaction". The verb "to respond" is defined as "to say something in return; to make an answer; to react in response."
The Population

The population for this research project was all those battered women admitted into the residential program at Hiatus House and discharged from Hiatus House during the period of July 12, 1976 to December 31, 1978. Re-admissions were not included in defining the population. Therefore, only women who had been admitted and discharged once were included. The population totalled 170.

The Sample

Polansky (1975) differentiates between the sample that is drawn and the sample that is finally obtained. For example, while the total population is 170, actually locating people on this list of names can present difficulties leading to considerable shrinkage.

There are several potential reasons that shrinkage would occur within the total population of discharged residents from Hiatus House. Women, when discharged, leave their forwarding address. However, they may have relocated a number of times since discharge and may not have left a forwarding address. When a person does give the Post Office a new forwarding address, they only forward mail for six months and after that any mail sent to the old address is returned to the sender.

A second potential reason is that the women have re-located outside of Essex County, or in some cases outside of
Canada and are therefore difficult to locate. Further to these two reasons, many battered women, when they relocate, have unpublished telephone numbers making it impossible to locate them either by telephone or by their address in the City Directory.

Table 2
Return Rate of Mailed Questionnaires

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Per Cent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Questionnaires returned by Post Office</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Questionnaires not returned</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>36.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Refused to complete questionnaire</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>14.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Completed questionnaire</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>25.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Population 170 100

Adjusted return rate is computed as follows: Total population less total questionnaires returned from post office (170 - 39 = 131 . . . 44 x 100 = 33.59 per cent return rate).

Analysis of Data

The analysis of the data will include five sections:

1. The distribution of the total population and the respondents with reference to a number of variables to determine the representativeness of the respondents. The total population includes 170 battered women who were discharged from Hiatus House between July 12, 1976 and December
31, 1978. The respondents (44) are those battered women who completed and returned the mailed questionnaire.

2. Findings related to descriptive data.

3. The self perceptions of the respondents.

4. The respondents' reported perceived needs.

5. The respondents' reported perceptions of community responses.

To analyze the distribution of the population (170) and the respondents (44) the assumption of the null hypothesis is made; that there is no difference between the population and the respondents. The null hypothesis will be tested by use of Chi square. Chi square is calculated and compared with the measure of Chi square at the .05 level of significance. If Chi square is equal to or greater than the critical value, then the null hypothesis is rejected. This process will determine the representativeness of the respondents to the population. The representativeness determines the degree to which the results of the study can be generalized.

The relationships of the various variables will be examined and comparisons to similar studies reported throughout the Survey of the Literature will be made where appropriate.

The data analysis was accomplished through the use of the computer and the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (Nie, Hull, Jenkins, Steinbrenner, & Bent,
1970). Sub-programs for frequencies, crosstabulation, and statistics were used to provide analysis in the areas of descriptive statistics, tests of significance and tests of association. The findings are presented by tables and maps.

Summary

This research project is an exploratory-descriptive study. It is designed to examine the perceptions reported by discharged residents of Hiatus House regarding their experiences as battered women and their perceptions of how the community responds to their problems. In addition, three research questions are examined. The data is collected from agency case records of 170 discharged residents and mailed questionnaires responded to by 44 discharged respondents.

The distribution of the population and respondents will be tested for representativeness and the collected data will be utilized to describe the respondents, and answer the research questions.
CHAPTER IV

PRESENTATION OF DATA AND FINDINGS

The collection of data for this research project produced more data than will be analyzed or reported within the framework of this thesis. Only data directly related to the representativeness of the respondents to the population and to the three research questions will be discussed.

To facilitate the presentation, this Chapter is divided into three sections:

Findings Related to the Distribution of the Population and Respondents

Findings Related to the Research Questions

Summary of Research Findings.

The first describes the respondents and includes a discussion of the representativeness of the respondents in relation to the total population. The representativeness determines to what extent the findings can be generalized. The information presented in this section will provide a clear background for the discussion of the research questions.

The three research questions that were devised to provide focus and structure to the collection and analysis of data are:

1) What are the perceptions reported by the battered
woman of her experience as a battered woman?

2) What are the battered woman’s perceived needs?

3) What are the battered woman’s perceptions of the community’s response to her perceived needs?

In conclusion, a summary of the major research findings is provided.

**Findings Related to the Distribution of the Population and Respondents**

This section examines the representativeness of the respondents to the total population. This is accomplished by comparing key variables and using Chi square to test the significance of the null hypothesis.

The population (170) for this research has been defined as all those battered women admitted for the first time into the residential program at Hiatus House and discharged from Hiatus House once during the period of July 12, 1976 to December 31, 1978.

A self administered, mailed questionnaire was sent to the population of 170. For this population of 170, 44 questionnaires were completed and returned by the respondents. Thirty-nine clients (23 per cent) were not locatable, i.e., their envelopes were returned by the Post Office, and efforts to obtain a new address failed.

Twenty-five women (14.7 per cent) would not agree to complete the questionnaire. These twenty-five women contacted the researcher directly and, in one instance, also contacted
Dolores Blonde, President of Hiatus House Board of Directors, who had signed the covering letter that was sent with the mailed questionnaire. In reporting their reasons for not completing the questionnaires, two major reasons were given. (1) Their partner had opened the envelope with the questionnaire in it, became angry, destroyed the material and threatened to assault them if they had any further contact with Hiatus House.

(2) They had returned to their partner following discharge and stated that they were getting along with him and did not want any further contact with Hiatus House.

In the first instance, when the woman's partner became angry and threatened her with further assault, the researcher offered to meet the woman, or have her come into the office to complete the questionnaire, however, no one would agree to this (12 women of the 25 women who would not agree to complete the questionnaire, or 48 per cent, gave this reason).

In the second instance, when women stated that they were getting along well with their partner I explained the purpose of the research and stated that I was not only interested in couples who were not getting along with each other. No one in this group changed her mind (13 women, or 52 per cent, gave this reason).

Sixty-two women (36.5 per cent) did not return the questionnaire, nor made any contact with the researcher.
Attempts were made to contact this group by telephone, however, many had unpublished telephone numbers and could not be reached.

Selltiz et al. (1976) suggests that response rates to mailed questionnaires usually produce a low proportion of returns, from 10 to 50 per cent (p. 297). The response rate for this research study was 33.59 per cent, an average return rate for a mailed questionnaire.

The following variables are used to test the representativeness of the respondents to the population:

1. Woman's age upon admission to Hiatus House.
2. Woman's ethnicity.
3. Religion of family.
4. Place of residence prior to admission to Hiatus House.
5. Referral source.
7. Woman's education.
8. Woman's occupation.
10. Partner's occupation.
11. Number of previous separations prior to admission to Hiatus House.
12. Length of relationship prior to admission to Hiatus House.
13. Frequency of assaults prior to assault that resulted in admission to Hiatus House.
14. Calls to police preceding admission to Hiatus House.

15. Length of stay at Hiatus House.

Woman's Age upon Admission to Hiatus House

The mean age of the women in the population was 32.5 as compared to the mean age of the respondents which was 39 years of age. As seen in Table 3, the highest percentage for both the population (42.3 per cent) and respondents (34 per cent) fall within the 30-39 years category. It is interesting to note that the respondents are at the upper limit of the range, 30-39. The youngest woman in the population was 19 compared to age 23 in the respondents. It is possible that the respondents who are older tended to be less transient and have older children within the school system.

Table 3

Distribution of Population and Respondents by Woman's Age at Admission

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Population n = 170 %</th>
<th>Respondent n = 44 %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>19 - 29</td>
<td>68 (40.0)</td>
<td>11 (25.0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 - 39</td>
<td>72 (42.3)</td>
<td>15 (34.0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40 - 49</td>
<td>26 (15.3)</td>
<td>9 (20.5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over 50</td>
<td>4 (2.4)</td>
<td>10 (20.5)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

p < .05 . . . Reject H₀
The oldest woman for both groups was age 61. However, statistically, the distribution of respondents is not representative to the total population.

Woman's Ethnicity

The highest per cent of women in the population (36.4 per cent) and the respondents (34 per cent) defined themselves as from a French background. The second highest percentage of women were British in both the population (35.3 per cent) and the respondents (27.3 per cent). As seen in Table 4, the other two major ethnic groups represented are Slavic and Other European.

Table 4

Distribution of Population and Respondents

by Woman's Ethnicity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ethnicity</th>
<th>Population n = 170</th>
<th>Respondent n = 44</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>French</td>
<td>62 (36.4)</td>
<td>15 (34.0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>British</td>
<td>60 (35.3)</td>
<td>12 (27.3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slavic*</td>
<td>18 (10.6)</td>
<td>4 (9.0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other European**</td>
<td>13 (7.7)</td>
<td>2 (4.6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>11 (6.5)</td>
<td>8 (18.2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canadian Indian</td>
<td>5 (2.9)</td>
<td>2 (4.6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black</td>
<td>1 (.6)</td>
<td>1 (2.3)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

p < .05 Reject H0

*Slavic includes: Hungarian, Czechoslovakian, Ukrainian, Yugoslavian, Polish

**Other European includes: German, Italian, Netherlands, Scandinavian
The respondents are not representative to the total population.

Religion of Family

The religion of the families was predominantly Roman Catholic for both the population (38.8 per cent) and respondents (61.4 per cent) as compared to Protestant which was 38.8 per cent for the population compared to 29.5 per cent for the respondents. The respondents are representative of the total population with respect to their choice of religious classification of their family.

Table 5

Distribution of Population and Respondents by Religion of Family

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Religion</th>
<th>Population n = 170</th>
<th></th>
<th>Respondent n = 44</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Roman Catholic</td>
<td>93 (54.7)</td>
<td></td>
<td>27 (61.4)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protestant</td>
<td>66 (38.8)</td>
<td></td>
<td>13 (29.5)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>11 (6.5)</td>
<td></td>
<td>4 (9.1)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

p > .05 ." Accept H₀

Place of Residence Prior to Admission to Hiatus House

The fourth variable used to describe the population and respondents is geographic distribution (the woman's
place of residence in Windsor, by planning district, or other municipality in Essex County prior to her admission to Hiatus House. As seen in Maps 1 and 2 (pp. 87 and 88) there is a wide geographic distribution of women in both the population and respondent groups throughout Windsor and Essex County.

The highest percentage for both the population (78.2 per cent) and the respondents (77.3 per cent) of women previously resided in the City of Windsor.

Table 6
Distribution of Population and Respondents by Residence in Windsor and Essex County Prior to Admission

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Place of Residence</th>
<th>Population n = 170</th>
<th>Respondent n = 44</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Windsor</td>
<td>133 (78.2)</td>
<td>34 (77.3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essex County</td>
<td>27 (15.9)</td>
<td>10 (22.7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Out of County</td>
<td>10 (5.9)</td>
<td>0 (0)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

p < .05 . . . Reject H₀

It is interesting to note that the highest percentage of both the population and the respondents in the City of
MAP 1
Geographic Distribution of Population and Respondents in the City of Windsor by Planning Districts
Windsor are in Sandwich East; East Windsor and West Riverside. As seen in Map 1 (p. 87) the percentage of respondents from the core planning districts of Walkerville, Central, and University is very low. The respondents are not representative of the total population.

Referral Sources

As seen in Table 7 the women in both the population and respondents came from many referral sources. These sources are self explanatory. The five highest ranking referral sources include: Other Social Services; Police; the two Children's Aid Societies; Self and Hospitals.

It is interesting to note that the three lowest referral sources are from lawyers, clergy and private physicians. The respondents are not representative of the population in this variable.

Number of Children Admitted with Mother to Hiatus House

The average number of children admitted with their mother is two for both the population and respondent groups. The largest number of children admitted with their mother was seven. Table 8 shows that the respondent group is representative of the total population.
Table 7
Distribution of Population and Respondents
by Referral Source

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Referral Source</th>
<th>Population n = 170</th>
<th></th>
<th>Respondent n = 44</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Other Social Services</td>
<td>33 (19.4)</td>
<td></td>
<td>8 (18.2)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police</td>
<td>29 (17.0)</td>
<td></td>
<td>5 (11.4)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self</td>
<td>21 (12.4)</td>
<td></td>
<td>4 (9.0)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C.A.S.*</td>
<td>13 (7.6)</td>
<td></td>
<td>4 (9.0)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R.C.C.A.S.**</td>
<td>13 (7.6)</td>
<td></td>
<td>2 (4.6)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hospital</td>
<td>13 (7.6)</td>
<td></td>
<td>5 (11.4)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friend</td>
<td>11 (6.5)</td>
<td></td>
<td>0 (0)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relative</td>
<td>11 (6.5)</td>
<td></td>
<td>2 (4.6)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Media</td>
<td>9 (5.3)</td>
<td></td>
<td>2 (4.6)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>9 (5.3)</td>
<td></td>
<td>9 (20.4)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physician</td>
<td>4 (2.4)</td>
<td></td>
<td>2 (4.6)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clergy</td>
<td>3 (1.8)</td>
<td></td>
<td>0 (0)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawyer</td>
<td>1 (.6)</td>
<td></td>
<td>1 (2.2)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

p < .05 : Reject H₀

*C.A.S. Essex County Children's Aid
**R.C.C.A.S. Roman Catholic Children's Aid Society
Table 8

Distribution of Population and Respondents by Number of Children Admitted with Mother to Hiatus House

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Children</th>
<th>Population n = 170 %</th>
<th>Respondent n = 44 %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>3 (1.8)</td>
<td>0 (0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>62 (36.5)</td>
<td>12 (27.3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>51 (30.0)</td>
<td>18 (40.9)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>38 (22.4)</td>
<td>11 (25.0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>11 (6.5)</td>
<td>1 (2.3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over 5</td>
<td>5 (3.0)</td>
<td>2 (4.6)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

p > .05 . . . Accept H₀

Woman's Education

The mode of education for both the population and respondents was grade 9-10. It is interesting to note the low number of women in both the population and respondents who have completed any post secondary education. Table 9 shows that the null hypothesis was accepted for this variable. It is interesting to note that the respondents tended to be less educated than the total population.
Table 9

Distribution of Population and Respondents by Woman's Education

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Education of Woman</th>
<th>Population n = 170 %</th>
<th>Respondent n = 44 %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&lt;Grade 9</td>
<td>31 (18.2)</td>
<td>8 (18.2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 9-10</td>
<td>64 (37.7)</td>
<td>20 (45.4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 11</td>
<td>20 (11.8)</td>
<td>3 (6.8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 12</td>
<td>38 (22.3)</td>
<td>9 (20.4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 13</td>
<td>2 (1.2)</td>
<td>1 (2.3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post Secondary</td>
<td>15 (8.8)</td>
<td>3 (6.8)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

p > .05 :: Accept \( H_0 \)

Woman's Occupation

The highest percentage of women in both the population (75.3 per cent) and respondents (79.6 per cent) reported their occupation to be that of Homemaker. The second highest percentage for both the population (8.8 per cent) and respondents (6.8 per cent) was the Services occupation. Table 10 shows that the respondents are representative in the variable of occupation.
Table 10
Distribution of Population and Respondents by Woman's Occupation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Population n = 170 %</th>
<th>Respondent n = 44 %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Homemaker</td>
<td>128 (75.3)</td>
<td>35 (79.6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Services Occupation</td>
<td>15 (8.8)</td>
<td>3 (6.8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clerical and Related</td>
<td>6 (3.5)</td>
<td>1 (2.3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Processing Occupation</td>
<td>6 (3.5)</td>
<td>2 (4.5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sales Occupation</td>
<td>5 (2.9)</td>
<td>2 (4.5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teaching and Related</td>
<td>4 (2.4)</td>
<td>1 (2.3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Products, Fabricating, Assembling and Repairing</td>
<td>3 (1.8)</td>
<td>0 (0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medicine and Health</td>
<td>1 (0.6)</td>
<td>0 (0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Religion</td>
<td>1 (0.6)</td>
<td>0 (0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transport Equipment Operating</td>
<td>1 (0.6)</td>
<td>0 (0)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

p > .05 : Accept H₀

Occupation categories are those used by Canada Manpower: for complete listing see Appendix E.
Partner's Age when Woman Admitted to Hiatus House

The average age of the partner for those women in the total population was 35.5 years as compared to 42 years for the partners of those women who responded to the questionnaire. Table 11 shows that the respondents are not representative of the population. The ages of both the battered women and their partners was their age at the time the woman was admitted to Hiatus House.

Table 11
Distribution of Population and Respondents by Partner's Age

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Population n = 170</th>
<th>Respondent n = 44</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>19 - 29</td>
<td>44 (25.9)</td>
<td>4 (9.1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 - 39</td>
<td>81 (47.6)</td>
<td>21 (47.7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40 - 49</td>
<td>33 (19.4)</td>
<td>8 (18.2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over 50</td>
<td>12 (7.1)</td>
<td>11 (25.0)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

p < .05 : Reject H0

Partner's Occupation

The highest percentage in both the population (39.4 per cent) and respondents (38.6 per cent) fall into the category of Products, Fabricating, Assembling and Repairing. The second highest for both the population (28.2 per cent) and
respondents (25 per cent) report the partner as being unemployed. While just over 50 per cent of the partners are reported as either employed in Products, Fabricating, Assembling and Repairing, or as unemployed, another 15 per cent are reported in Construction Trades or Transport Equipment with the remainder spread throughout the employment categories. Table 12 shows that there is no difference between the respondents and the population with respect to the male partner's occupation.

Number of Previous Separations Prior to Admission to Hiatus House

It is interesting to note that the highest percentage of women in both the population (33.5 per cent) and in the respondents (36.4 per cent) report that they had never previously separated prior to their admission to Hiatus House. Their admission to Hiatus House constituted their first separation. The second highest percentage for both the population (29.4 per cent) and respondents (31.8 per cent) reported one previous separation prior to admission. Of the total population, 8.2 per cent reported that they had separated so many times they could not remember how many. There were no respondents who separated more than 5 times. It is possible that these women who have separated so many times are difficult to locate as they may have separated again following discharge from Hiatus House. Table 13 shows that the respondents are not representative of the total population.
Table 12
Distribution of Population and Respondents by Partner's Occupation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Population n = 170</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>Respondent n = 44</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Products, Fabricating, Assembling and Repairing</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>(39.4)</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>(38.6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unemployed</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>(28.2)</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>(25.0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transport Equipment Operating</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>(8.2 )</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>(6.8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction Trades Occupation</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>(5.9 )</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>(6.8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Managerial, Administrative and Related</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>(5.3 )</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>(2.3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Services Occupation</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>(4.1 )</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>(9.0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Machinery and Related</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>(2.9 )</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>(2.3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medicine and Health</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>(1.2 )</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>(2.3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Processing Occupation</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>(1.2 )</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>(2.3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sales Occupation</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>(1.2 )</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>(0   )</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clerical and Related</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>(0.6 )</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>(0   )</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Material Handling Occupation</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>(0.6 )</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>(2.3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mining, Quarry, Oil and Gas Field</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>(0.6 )</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>(2.3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teaching and Related</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>(0.6 )</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>(0   )</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

p > .05 . Accept H₀
Table 13
Distribution of Population and Respondents by Number of Previous Separations Prior to Admission to Hiatus House

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Previous Separations</th>
<th>Population n = 170 %</th>
<th>Respondent n = 44 %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>57 (33.5)</td>
<td>16 (36.4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>.1</td>
<td>50 (29.4)</td>
<td>14 (31.8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>18 (10.6)</td>
<td>6 (13.6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>12 (.71)</td>
<td>2 (.45)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>7 (.41)</td>
<td>2 (.45)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>7 (.41)</td>
<td>4 (.91)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>1 (.6)</td>
<td>0 (0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>4 (.24)</td>
<td>0 (0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>So many I forget</td>
<td>14 (.82)</td>
<td>0 (0)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

p > .05 : Reject H₀

Length of Relationship Prior to Admission to Hiatus House

The length of relationship that has the highest percentage in both the population (33.5 per cent) and respondents (25 per cent) is the range of 5-9 years. The second highest for both the population (17.6 per cent) and respondents (20.5 per cent) is 10-14 years. It is interesting
to note that these couples are, for the most part, not engaged in a short-term relationship, however, have lived together for a number of years. Table 14 shows that there is a difference between the respondents and the population with respect to the length of their relationship.

Table 14
Distribution of Population and Respondents by Length of Relationship Prior to Admission to Hiatus House

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Length of Relationship</th>
<th>Population n = 170</th>
<th>Respondent n = 44</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 year</td>
<td>12 (7.1)</td>
<td>6 (13.6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 - 2</td>
<td>21 (12.4)</td>
<td>5 (11.4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 - 3</td>
<td>11 (6.5)</td>
<td>0 (0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 - 4</td>
<td>17 (10.0)</td>
<td>6 (13.6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 - 9</td>
<td>57 (33.5)</td>
<td>11 (25.0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 - 14</td>
<td>30 (17.6)</td>
<td>9 (20.5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 - 19</td>
<td>11 (6.5)</td>
<td>3 (6.8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over 20</td>
<td>11 (6.5)</td>
<td>4 (9.1)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

p < .05 : Reject H₀

Frequency of Assaults Prior to Assault that Resulted in Admission to Hiatus House

It is interesting to observe that the highest percentage in both the population (65.9 per cent) and respondents (63.6 per cent) report that they have been assaulted so many times.
that they forget how many. The second highest in both groups report having been assaulted twice previously. This information is of interest in that, in spite of the frequency of assaults, the greatest proportion of battered women reported that they had never previously separated prior to admission to Hiatus House (see Table 15). When the number of times separated and the number of assaults prior to admission to Hiatus House were correlated, no association was found.

**Table 15**

Distribution of Population and Respondents by Frequency of Assaults Prior to Assault that Resulted in Admission to Hiatus House

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Previous Assaults</th>
<th>Population n = 170 %</th>
<th>Respondent n = 44 %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>4 (2.4)</td>
<td>0 (0 )</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>10 (5.9)</td>
<td>2 (4.5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>18 (10.6)</td>
<td>8 (18.2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>6 (3.5)</td>
<td>1 (2.3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>4 (2.4)</td>
<td>2 (4.5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>5 (2.9)</td>
<td>1 (2.3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>10 (5.9)</td>
<td>2 (4.5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>1 (0.6)</td>
<td>0 (0 )</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>0 (0 )</td>
<td>0 (0 )</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>So many I forget</td>
<td>112 (65.9)</td>
<td>28 (63.6)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

p > .05 .: Accept H₀
Calls to Police Preceding Admission to Hiatus House

The majority of women within both the population (61.2 per cent) and respondents (65.9 per cent) report that they did not call the police to report the assault prior to admission to Hiatus House. Table 16 shows that there is no difference between the respondents and the total population; the respondents are representative of the total population.

Table 16
Distribution of Population and Respondents by Calls to Police Preceding Admission to Hiatus House

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Police Called</th>
<th>Population n = 170 %</th>
<th>Respondent n = 44 %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>66 (38.8)</td>
<td>15 (34.1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>104 (61.2)</td>
<td>29 (65.9)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\[ P > .05 \] : Accept \( H_0 \)

Length of Stay at Hiatus House

The average length of stay at Hiatus House for the population was 10.3 days as compared to 16.7 days for the respondents. Women who were at Hiatus House for a longer time were more likely to complete the questionnaire. Table 17 shows that the highest percentage in both the population (51.2 per cent) and respondents (29.5 per cent)
stayed at Hiatus House for less than 7 days. The next two highest were 7-14 days and 15-21 days. The longest anyone stayed at Hiatus House was two families for over 42 days. There is a difference between the respondents and the population with respect to their length of stay at Hiatus House.

Table 17

Distribution of Population and Respondents by Length of Stay at Hiatus House

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Length of Stay</th>
<th>Population n = 170</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>Respondent n = 44</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Less than 7 days</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>(51.2)</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>(29.5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 - 14 days</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>(20.0)</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>(22.7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 - 21 days</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>(14.1)</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>(22.7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 - 28 days</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>(8.2)</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>(11.3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29 - 35 days</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>(3.5)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>(4.6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36 - 42 days</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>(1.8)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>(4.6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over 42 days</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>(1.2)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>(4.6)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

p  .05  Reject H₀

Of the 15 variables analyzed in this section to show the distribution of population and respondents, eight variables show a difference between the respondents and the population and seven variables show there is no difference between the respondents and the population. Therefore, the results
of this research cannot be generalized beyond the respondents except within the seven variables where the respondents are representative of the total population.

The seven variables where the respondents are representative of the total population are: Religion of Family (Table 5), Number of Children Admitted with Mother to Hiatus House (Table 8), Woman's Education (Table 9), Woman's Occupation (Table 10), Partner's Occupation (Table 12), Frequency of Assaults Prior to Assault that Resulted in Admission to Hiatus House (Table 15) and Calls to Police Preceding Admission to Hiatus House (Table 16).

Findings Related to the Research Questions

There are three research questions: 1) What are the perceptions reported by the battered woman regarding her experiences as a battered woman? 2) What are the battered woman's perceived needs? 3) What are the battered woman's perceptions of the community's response to her perceived needs? The analysis of the data will be presented under each of the above mentioned research findings.

Findings Related to Descriptive Data

In addition to the descriptive data that has been presented as obtained from both the population and the respondents there is descriptive data obtained from the respondents only. This data includes seven variables: Ethnicity of partner, Partner's education, Annual income, Marital status when
admitted to Hiatus House, Present marital status, and Day of the week and time most frequently assaulted.

Ethnicity of Partner

The majority of the male partners (40.9 per cent) were French. The second highest percentage of men were British. As seen in Table 18, the other two ethnic groups represented

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ethnicity</th>
<th>Respondent Frequency n = 44</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>French</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>(40.9)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>British</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>(27.3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slavic*</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>(13.6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other European**</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>(6.8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>(6.8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>(4.6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canadian Indian</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>(0)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Slavic includes: Hungarian, Czechoslovakian, Ukrainian, Yugoslavian, Polish

**Other European includes: German, Italian, Netherlands, Scandinavian

are Slavic and Other European that, when combined, account for 20.4 per cent as compared to 13.6 (Table 4) for women in the same two categories.
Partner's Education

The mode of education reported for the male partner is the same as for the woman - grade 9-10. However, a slightly higher number of men completed grades 11 and 12 than did the women (see Table 19).

Table 19
Battered Women Report Partner's Education

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Education of Partner</th>
<th>Respondent n = 44</th>
<th>Frequency %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&lt; Grade 9</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>(27.3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 9-10</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>(29.5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 11</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>(11.4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 12</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>(22.7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 13</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>(0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post Secondary</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>(4.5)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Gross Annual Family Income

It is significant to note that when asked what was the gross annual income which she and her partner reported for income tax purposes the year she was admitted to Hiatus House the largest percentage (52.3 per cent) of the women replied that they did not know. Of the 23 women who did not know what their annual family income was 17 (73.9 per cent) added a comment such as "My husband never let me know how much he
made."

Of those reporting a family income, the highest percentage of women (18.1 per cent) report a gross annual income of $20,000 or larger, while 11.4 per cent report under $10,000 annual income (see Table 20).

Table 20

Battered Women Report Gross Annual Income for Their Family

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income</th>
<th>Respondent n = 44</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Less than $10,000</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>(11.4)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$10,000 - $14,000</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>(9.1)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$15,000 - $19,000</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>(.9.1)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$20,000+</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>(18.1)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>(52.3)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Marital Status When Admitted to Hiatus House

As seen in Table 21 clearly, the majority of the battered women (86.4 per cent) were legally married when admitted to Hiatus House as compared to only 6.8 per cent who were living common law.
Table 21
Battered Women Report Their Marital Status when Admitted to Hiatus House

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Marital Status</th>
<th>Respondent Frequency n = 44</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Married</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>(86.4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Common law</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>(6.8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>(2.3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Separation agreement</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>(2.3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deserted</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>(2.3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Divorced</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>(0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Widow</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>(0)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Present Marital Status

Twenty-four (54.6 per cent) of the respondents (44) report that their marital status has changed since they were admitted to Hiatus House. Of these twenty-four women, 37.5 per cent have a separation agreement while 33.3 per cent are divorced.
Table 22

Battered Women Report Present Marital Status if Changed from when Admitted to Hiatus House

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Marital Status</th>
<th>Respondent Frequency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Separation agreement</td>
<td>9 (37.5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Divorced</td>
<td>8 (33.3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Married</td>
<td>3 (12.5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single</td>
<td>3 (12.5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Widow</td>
<td>1 (4.2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Common law</td>
<td>0 (0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deserted</td>
<td>0 (0)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

n = 24

Day of the Week Battered Women Report being Most Frequently Assaulted

The highest percentage of the respondents (59.1 per cent) report that there is no specific day of the week when they are most frequently assaulted. Friday is reported by 22.7 per cent of the women as the day when they are most frequently assaulted followed by 13.6 per cent of the respondents reporting Saturday. Therefore, if the woman reported a specific day it was primarily on the weekend.

It is interesting to note that 38.6 per cent of the respondents report that the day of the week that they are
most frequently assaulted is also a pay-day for their partner.

Table 23
Day of the Week Battered Women Report being Most Frequently Assaulted by Partner

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day of Week</th>
<th>Respondent Frequency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>n = 44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>0 (0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>0 (0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>0 (0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>1 (2.3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>1 (2.3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>10 (22.7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>6 (13.6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Any day</td>
<td>26 (59.1)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Time of the Day Battered Women Report being Most Frequently Assaulted by Partner

The majority of the respondents (40.9 per cent) report that there is no specific time of day that they are most frequently assaulted. It appears that they are assaulted at any time of the day. The highest percentage (36.4 per cent) reporting a specific time, designate 11:30 p.m. - 4:00 a.m., followed by the hours of 8:00 p.m. - 11:30 p.m.
reported by 15.9 per cent of the respondents. The most frequent times reported are late evening and early morning hours when the majority of social service agencies are closed with the exception of the Police Department, Hiatus House and the after-hour department of the Child Welfare Agencies.

Table 24
Time of the Day Battered Women Report being Most Frequently Assaulted by Partner

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time of Day</th>
<th>Respondent n = 44</th>
<th>Frequency %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>(0 )</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>(2.3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>(4.5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 p.m. - 11:30 p.m.</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>(15.9)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:30 p.m. - 4:00 a.m.</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>(36.4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:00 a.m. - 7:00 a.m.</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>(0 )</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Any time</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>(40.9)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

What are the Perceptions Reported by the Battered Woman regarding Her Experience as a Battered Woman?

Forms of Abuse

Steinmetz (1977), Gelles (1972) and Straus (1978) have developed a 'severe violence index' or a 'wife-beating index'
called Conflict Resolution Techniques (CRT). Table 25 shows the CRT index and how the battered women report the forms of abuse that they have experienced from their partner.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Forms of Abuse</th>
<th>Respondents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>n = 44 f</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Throwing object</td>
<td>15   (34.1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pushing</td>
<td>35   (79.6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shoving</td>
<td>33   (75.0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slapping</td>
<td>33   (75.0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grabbing</td>
<td>5    (11.4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kicking</td>
<td>18   (40.9)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biting</td>
<td>1    (2.3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hitting with fist</td>
<td>32   (72.7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hitting with object</td>
<td>7    (15.9)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Threatening with knife</td>
<td>4    (9.1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Threatening with gun</td>
<td>8    (18.2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Injured with knife</td>
<td>1    (2.3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Injured with gun</td>
<td>0    (0)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The respondents report that the four major forms of abuse are: Pushing (79.6 per cent), Shoving (75 per cent), Slapping (75 per cent) and Hitting with Fist (75 per cent). Kicking (40.9 per cent), Throwing Objects (34.1 per cent) and Threatening with a Gun (18.2 per cent) are reported higher on the severity index scale. It is interesting to note that twice as many women report being threatened with a gun as compared to being threatened by a knife. One woman reports being injured with a knife while no one reports being injured with a gun.

Reports of Family Violence Experienced Within the Respondents' Nuclear and Extended Family

Table 26 shows the respondents' reports on their own perceived abuse as children by their parents. A very low percentage (9.1 per cent) report being beaten as a child. This low percentage may be due to how the question was worded with the term 'beaten' rather than a softer term, such as physically abused being used. In comparison, 22 women (50 per cent) report that their partner was beaten as a child by his parents.

With regard to the parents of both the battered woman and the batterer it is interesting to note that 31.8 per cent of the male partners' mothers were beaten by his father as compared to 25 per cent of the woman's mother being beaten by her father.
Table 26

Reports of Family Violence Experienced within Respondents' Nuclear and Extended Family

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source of Physical Abuse</th>
<th>Frequency n = 44</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Battered woman beaten as child by her parents</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>(9.1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Batterer beaten as child by his parents</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>(50.0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Battered woman's mother beaten by her father</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>(25.0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Batterer's mother beaten by his father</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>(31.8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Battered women beaten by partners</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>(100.0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Batterer beaten in defense by partner</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>(63.6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Batterer's physical abuse of his children</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>(56.8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Battered woman's physical abuse of her children</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>(31.8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Battered woman physically abused by partner when pregnant</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>(50.0)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Battered women report that they physically abuse their children less than their male partners. Table 26 shows that 31.8 per cent of the respondents report physically abusing their children compared to 56.8 per cent who report their male partner physically abuses the children.

Fifty per cent of the women report being abused physically by their partner when pregnant; potentially a form of prenatal child abuse.

When asked if they ever fought back physically with their partner to defend themselves against his assault, 63.6 per cent of the women reported in the affirmative.

With the exception of the low percentage of women who report being physically abused by their parents, the figures in Table 26 would indicate that the use of physical abuse within the family has an intergenerational dimension.

Battered Women Report Reasons Why they had not Separated Previously

When the respondents were asked if they had considered leaving their partner at any time prior to being admitted to Hiatus House, 38, or 86.4 per cent, reported that they had considered separating previously. Table 27 shows the various reasons why women report that they remained with their partner. The four reasons that the respondents ranked at the highest level of agreement were: I kept hoping my partner would stop beating me (84.1 per cent); I was too ashamed to let anyone know that my partner beat me (72.7
Table 27
Battered Women Report Reasons for not Leaving Prior to Hiatus House Admission

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reasons for not Leaving</th>
<th>Agreement n = 38</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>f</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hope he'd stop beating me</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ashamed to let anyone know partner beat me</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Afraid he'd find me and hurt me again</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fear of being alone</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Couldn't take children from their father</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Couldn't admit relationship had failed</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Couldn't leave financial support</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Couldn't give my children things they were used to</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fear of losing house</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Couldn't break marriage vows</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Felt it was my fault</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
per cent); I was afraid that if I left, my partner would find me and hurt me again only worse this time (68.2 per cent); and I was afraid that I wouldn't be able to make it living alone (68.2 per cent).

It is interesting to note that the women in the highest percentage (84.1 per cent) remain within the violent home hoping that their partner will stop beating them. They express shame in acknowledging that their partner beats them and potentially this shame may make it difficult for them to seek help from their family and friends as well as from professionals within the community. The women express fears of being beaten worse if they attempt to leave and also fear of being alone if and when they do decide to leave. It would appear that battered women may be more afraid to leave than to remain within a violent home.

Battered Women's Perception of Reasons Why their Partner Assaults Them

The four reasons that women ranked at the highest level of agreement were: Partner's drinking (65.9 per cent); Arguments over money (63.7 per cent), Conflicts over their children (54.6 per cent); and Jealousy (54.6 per cent). Table 28 shows additional reasons cited and the level of agreement ranked by the respondents.
Table 28  
Battered Women Report Their Perception of Reasons Why their Partner Assaults Them

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reasons for Assault</th>
<th>Agreement n = 44</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>f</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Partner's drinking</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arguments over money</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conflicts over children</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jealousy</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Partner's unemployment</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Partner's sexual involvement with others</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sexual problems</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Your unemployment</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Your desire to work outside the home</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Your sexual involvement with others</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Your drinking</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Your use of drugs</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Partner's drug abuse</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Battered Women Report Feelings They Experienced During their Relationship with Partner

It is interesting that 100 per cent of the women report feeling angry at their partner for how he treated them yet 95.5 per cent report feeling the need to agree with their partner in order to "keep the peace in the family." A high percentage (93.2 per cent) report feeling afraid to stay with their partner and afraid to leave him indicating ambivalent feelings about their relationship and about what decision they will potentially make with regard to their relationship with their partner. Forty women (90.9 per cent) report feeling helpless to change their relationship with their partner; 37 women (84 per cent) felt helpless to stop the beating and 36 women (81.8 per cent) felt alone with no one to turn to.

The feelings expressed by the battered women appear to be predominantly feelings of helplessness, and hopelessness within their relationship as well as in some respects outside of the relationship where they feel they are afraid to leave and have no one to turn to.

Battered women report feeling that they thought their partner was "crazy" (72.7 per cent) while 61.4 per cent felt they were going "crazy."

An equal number of battered women and their partners had received psychiatric treatment at some point during
Table 29
Feelings Reported by Battered Women during Relationship with Partner

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Feelings</th>
<th>Frequency n=44</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Angry at partner for treatment</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>(100.0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agreed to keep peace</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>(95.5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Afraid to stay – afraid to leave</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>(93.2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Helpless to change relationship</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>(90.0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Helpless to stop the beating</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>(84.0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alone – no one to turn to</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>(81.8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Embarrassed with family and friends</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>(72.7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Could not trust anyone</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>(70.4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I had to stay with partner because of children</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>(70.4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Felt I was going crazy</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>(50.0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Failure as a wife</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>(47.7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guilty I had caused partner to beat me</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>(25.0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Out of control of my life</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>(22.7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resentment towards children</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>(6.8)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
their relationship (31.8 per cent). Twelve women (27.3 per cent) said that they had attempted suicide and fifteen (34.1 per cent) report that their partner had attempted suicide. It is interesting to note that the men have a higher reported attempted suicide rate than the women.

Battered Women Describe their Perceptions of Partner's Relationship with Them

When given a series of descriptive words (see Table 30) and asked to choose the words that described their partner's relationship with them, the following words ranked the highest: explosive (81.8 per cent); controlling (68.2 per cent); and violent (61.4 per cent).

It is interesting that 11 women (25 per cent) report that in their perception their partner had an affectionate relationship with them. This perception may account for the ambivalence expressed by the women with regard to their relationship with their partner.

Battered Women Report Pressure Experienced to Keep the Family Together

When asked if they felt pressured to keep the family unit together 27 women (61.3 per cent) reported in the affirmative.

Table 31 shows the identified source of pressure as reported by the battered women. It is significant to note
Table 30
Battered Women Describe their Perceptions of Partner's Relationship with Them

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>( \bar{n} )</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Explosive tempered</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>(81.8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Controlling</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>(68.2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Violent</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>(61.4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bullying</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>(43.2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suspicious</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>(38.6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dependent</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>(31.8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Affectionate</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>(25.0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Passive</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>(9.1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stable</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>(4.5)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 31

Battered Women Report Source of Pressure
to Keep Family Together

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source of Pressure</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Self</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>(55.5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relatives</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>(40.7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Your children</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>(40.7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Partner</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>(37.0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friends</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>(14.8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marriage counsellor</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>(11.1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minister/priest</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>(11.1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social worker</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>(3.7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawyer</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>(0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Court</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>(0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychiatrist</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>(0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physician</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>(0)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
that pressure from self is the most frequently reported (55.5 per cent). Other primary sources of pressure to keep the family unit together come from the immediately family; children (40.7 per cent); partner (37 per cent); and from other relatives (40.7 per cent).

It is interesting to note that the battered women does not, to any extent, perceive pressure to help the family together coming from the professional community; all the significant pressure comes from within the family unit itself.

Battered Women Report their Plans Upon Discharge from Hiatus House

Following discharge from Hiatus House 23 (52.3 per cent) of the women established as single parent families; 13 women (29.6 per cent) returned to their partner without marriage counselling and 8 women (18.1 per cent) returned to their partner with marriage counselling (see Table 32).

When asked what factors influenced their decision to return to their partner, the 21 women ranked the following four factors as those that influenced them the most: I felt love for my partner (57.2 per cent); I returned because of my children (52.4 per cent); My partner promised to go for marriage counselling (47.7 per cent); and My partner promised not to beat me again (47.7 per cent) (see Table 33).
Table 32
Battered Women Report their Plans upon Discharge from Hiatus House

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plan</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Establish as a single parent family</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>52.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Return to partner without marriage counselling</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>29.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Return to partner with marriage counselling</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>18.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 33

Battered Women Report Factors that Influenced their Decision to Return to Partner

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Influencing Factor</th>
<th>Influenced Great Deal n = 21*</th>
<th>Somewhat Influenced n = 21</th>
<th>Not Influenced n = 21</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I felt love for partner</td>
<td>12 (57.2)</td>
<td>7 (33.3)</td>
<td>2 (9.5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Returned because of my children</td>
<td>11 (52.4)</td>
<td>7 (33.3)</td>
<td>3 (14.3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Partner promised to go for marriage counseling with me</td>
<td>10 (47.7)</td>
<td>4 (19.0)</td>
<td>7 (33.3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Partner promised not to beat me again</td>
<td>10 (47.7)</td>
<td>8 (38.0)</td>
<td>3 (14.3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I had no job skills</td>
<td>5 (23.8)</td>
<td>5 (23.8)</td>
<td>11 (52.4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I believed partner had changed</td>
<td>5 (23.8)</td>
<td>15 (71.4)</td>
<td>1 (4.8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I believed I had changed</td>
<td>5 (23.8)</td>
<td>11 (52.4)</td>
<td>5 (23.8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I did not want to go on welfare</td>
<td>4 (19.0)</td>
<td>6 (28.6)</td>
<td>11 (52.4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I was afraid to be alone with my children</td>
<td>2 (9.5)</td>
<td>7 (33.3)</td>
<td>12 (57.2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Returned due to pressure from relatives</td>
<td>1 (4.8)</td>
<td>5 (23.8)</td>
<td>15 (71.4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My partner threatened suicide if I didn't return</td>
<td>1 (4.8)</td>
<td>2 (9.5)</td>
<td>18 (85.7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My partner threatened and/or performed further acts of violence</td>
<td>1 (4.8)</td>
<td>2 (9.5)</td>
<td>18 (85.7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Partner threatened to prove me unfit and take children</td>
<td>1 (4.8)</td>
<td>3 (14.3)</td>
<td>17 (80.9)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*n = 21 Battered women who returned to their partner upon their discharge from Hiatus House.
Following their return to their partner, 12 women (57.2 per cent) report that they have been assaulted again, and four of these women (19.1 per cent) report that they have separated from their partner again.

It is interesting that only one of these women has been readmitted to Hiatus House and the other three indicated that they have now re-established as single parent families directly into the community.

In summary, Tables 25 to 33 have addressed the first research question: What are the perceptions reported by the battered woman of her experiences as a battered woman? The second research question is: What are the battered woman's perceived needs?

What are the Battered Woman's Perceived Needs?

Twenty-five of the 44 respondents (56.8 per cent) report that following the first assault from their partner that they did not seek help from anyone, not even family or friends. Nineteen (43.2 per cent) report that they did seek help from someone following the first assault. Table 34 shows the source of help from which the nineteen battered women sought help.

The most frequent first contact made by the woman was to the Police (57.9 per cent) and to her relatives (57.9 per cent). As seen in Table 34, other first contacts the
Table 34
Contacts made by Battered Women
Following First Assault

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nature of Contact</th>
<th>Frequency n=19*</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Relatives</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>(57.9)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>(57.9)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychiatrist</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>(26.3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friends</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>(21.0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hiatus House</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>(15.8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social service</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>(10.5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physician</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>(10.5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawyer</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>(10.5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marriage counsellor</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>(10.5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minister/priest</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>(5.2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women's group</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>(0   )</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*n = 19 Battered women who contacted someone immediately following the first assault by her partner.
woman makes are then distributed among a number of other possibilities such as psychiatrists, friends, and Hiatus House. It would appear that the Police and the woman's family are the first to be contacted and therefore the first people to identify the problem of assault against the woman. It is also interesting to note that only one woman contacted a minister or priest following the first assault and no one contacted a woman's group.

When asked if the respondents had received assaults by their partner on a number of different occasions, forty-two women (85.4 per cent) replied in the affirmative. Table 35 shows the contacts made by these 42 women following further assaults. The four contacts made most frequently are reported as follows: Hiatus House (97.7 per cent); Friends (57.1 per cent); Relatives (54.8 per cent); and Police (50.0 per cent).

It is clear that following further assaults, the primary source these women choose to contact was Hiatus House.

Battered Women Report Involvement with Community Social Services Prior to Admission to Hiatus House

Twenty-five women (56.8 per cent) report that they were not involved with any other social service regarding their partner assaulting them prior to their admission to Hiatus House. Table 36 shows the social services that the
Table 35
Contacts made by Battered Women
Following Further Assaults

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nature of Contact</th>
<th>n=24</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hiatus House</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>(97.7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friends</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>(57.1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relatives</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>(54.8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>(50.0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawyer</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>(16.7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physician</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>(16.7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marriage counsellor</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>(11.9)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychiatrist</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>(7.1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minister/priest</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>(7.1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social service</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>(4.8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women's group</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>(0)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
nineteen women (43.2 per cent) report that they were involved with prior to Hiatus House. The agencies women were most frequently involved with include: Welfare (26.3 per cent), Essex County Children's Aid Society (21.1 per cent), and Hospital Social Work Department (21.1 per cent).

Table 36
Battered Women Report Social Services they were Involved with Prior to Admission to Hiatus House

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Form of Service</th>
<th>Frequency n=19*</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Welfare</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>(26.3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hospital social work department</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>(21.1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C.A.S.**</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>(21.1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catholic Family Service</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>(15.8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alcohol treatment program</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>(15.8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R.C.C.A.S.***</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>(10.5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Service Bureau</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>(10.5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychiatrist</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>(5.3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hiatus House</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>(5.3)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*n = 19 Battered women involved with social services prior to admission to Hiatus House

**Essex County Children's Aid Society

***Roman Catholic Children's Aid Society
Battered Women Report on Legal Procedures Applied for and the Results

The battered woman addresses her perceived needs frequently through the legal system. Table 37 shows the various legal procedures used by the battered woman. The legal procedures most frequently applied for include: Financial support for children (79.5 per cent), and Interim child custody (65.9 per cent).

The two forms of protection for herself are a restraining order (36.4 per cent) and a peace bond (22.7 per cent). It is interesting to note that twenty-four women (54.5 per cent) applied for a divorce.

Battered Women Report on Forms of Assistance

Table 38 shows what forms of assistance the battered woman perceives as being the most helpful to her at the point of her decision to separate from her partner. Material needs such as shelter (100 per cent) and food (100 per cent) and financial assistance (97.7 per cent) rank very high in their level of importance.

Counselling in the form of help with problem solving (100 per cent), someone to understand me (100 per cent) and someone to point out alternatives (97.7 per cent) are reported by the battered woman at a high level of importance.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Legal Procedure</th>
<th>n</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>Granted</th>
<th>Withdrawn</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Financial support for children</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>79.5</td>
<td>27 (77.1)</td>
<td>8 (22.9)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interim child custody</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>65.9</td>
<td>22 (75.9)</td>
<td>7 (24.1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permanent child custody</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>52.3</td>
<td>16 (69.6)</td>
<td>5 (21.7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Divorce*</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>54.5</td>
<td>12 (50.0)</td>
<td>4 (16.7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restraining order</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>36.4</td>
<td>13 (81.2)</td>
<td>3 (18.8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial support for self</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>36.4</td>
<td>9 (56.3)</td>
<td>6 (37.4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Separation agreement</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>29.5</td>
<td>8 (61.5)</td>
<td>4 (30.8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peace bond</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>22.7</td>
<td>9 (90.0)</td>
<td>1 (10.0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exclusive possession of matrimonial home</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>15.9</td>
<td>5 (71.4)</td>
<td>0 (0.0)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Divorce - 8 battered women report divorce has been applied for and the cases are pending (33 per cent)
Table 38

Battered Women Report on Forms of Assistance They Feel Would Have Been Helpful at Point They Decided to Leave Partner

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Form of Assistance</th>
<th>Importance</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Temporary shelter</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>(100.0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>(100.0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Someone to share my feelings with</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>(100.0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Help with problem solving</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>(100.0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Someone to understand me</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>(100.0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial assistance</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>(97.7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Someone to point out alternatives</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>(97.7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Someone to accept me</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>(95.4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Referrals to community resources</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>(95.4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Referral to legal counsel</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>(95.4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Help to make system work</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>(93.2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Help to sort out mixed feelings</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>(93.2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information about community resources</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>(88.6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assertiveness training</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>(88.6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clothing</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>(86.4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group with other battered women</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>(84.1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Someone to attend court with me</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>(79.5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 hr. a day office counselling</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>(79.5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistance in laying assault charges</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>(77.3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 hr. a day phone counselling</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>(75.0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daycare</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>(75.0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Help to learn how to communicate with partner without violence</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>(70.4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group for couples with similar problems</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>(56.8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Counselling at home for self and partner following assault</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>(54.6)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

When asked to report the first and second most important forms of assistance, the women reported Temporary shelter (59.1 per cent) and Counselling in the form of someone to point out alternatives (20.5 per cent).
Battered Women Report Involvement with Community Social Services following Discharge from Hiatus House

Thirty women (68.2 per cent) report that they have not been involved with any community social services since their discharge from Hiatus House. Table 39 shows the community social services that 14 women (31.8 per cent) have been involved with since their discharge from Hiatus House.

Table 39
Battered Women Report Social Services They were Involved with Following Their Discharge from Hiatus House

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Form of Service</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hiatus House</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>(64.3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Welfare</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>(50.0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hospital social work department</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>(21.4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychiatrist</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>(21.4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R.C.C.A.S.**</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>(14.3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C.A.S.***</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>(7.1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Service Bureau</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>(7.1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alcohol treatment program</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>(7.1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catholic Family Service</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>(0)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*n = 14 Women who had social service involvement following discharge from Hiatus House

**Roman Catholic Children's Aid Society

***Essex County Children Aid Society
It is interesting to note that the highest percentage of women (64.3 per cent) report continued involvement with Hiatus House and 50 per cent report involvement with Welfare. Hospital social work departments (21.4 per cent) and Psychiatrists (21.4 per cent) are the other two community social services that women report receiving help from following discharge from Hiatus House most frequently.

It is important to note the small number of respondents, 14 (31.8 per cent), that report receiving any form of assistance from community social services following their discharge from Hiatus House.

In summary, it would appear that the respondents perceive their needs as primarily material, in terms of temporary shelter, protection or safety needs, food and financial assistance. The second primary area of needs perceived are in relation to counselling in the form of someone to point out alternatives and the need in counselling to feel accepted and understood while becoming involved in the problem-solving process.

The third research question addressed in this study is: What are the battered woman's perceptions of the community's response to her perceived needs?
What are the Battered Woman's Perceptions of the Community's Response to her Perceived Needs?

The specific areas examined in this section include the battered woman's perception of how various segments of the community have responded to her. The areas of the community include the following: Police; Crown Attorneys; Lawyers, and Physicians.

Battered Woman's Perception of Police Response

Thirty-three (75 per cent) of the respondents report that at some time they had called the Police following an assault from their partner. Table 40 shows the frequency of agreement with descriptions of experience with the Police. Fifteen women (45.5 per cent) agree with the term helpful to describe their experience with the Police. There is a high percentage (93.9 per cent) disagreement with the terms hostile and blaming and 39.4 per cent agree with the terms understanding and sensitive.

Table 40
Do Battered Women Find the Police Helpful?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description of Experience</th>
<th>Agreement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Helpful</td>
<td>15 (45.5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Understanding and sensitive</td>
<td>13 (39.4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hostile and blaming</td>
<td>2 (6.1)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 41 shows the actions taken by Police when they were called. Twenty-six women (78.8 per cent) report that the Police advised them to lay a charge. It is interesting to note that only four women (12.1 per cent) report that the Police removed their partner.

Table 41

- Battered Women Report Actions Taken by Police when Called

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action Taken</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Advised me of right to lay charge</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>(78.8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Referred me to Hiatus House</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>(15.2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Removed my partner</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>(12.1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Referred me to Family Court</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>(9.1)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*n = 33 Battered women who report calling the Police following any assault from their partner

When the respondents were asked if they had at any time called the Police to comment on what they had expected from the Police, the comments were consistent in content. The following are several examples of the respondents' comments: "The first time I called, I thought that they would take him until he sobered up and realized what was happening, but that was years ago and I have learned that in a situation like this it is useless to call them at all." "I expect them
to remove my partner from my home and take him to jail."
"I expected them to make him leave, but they didn't." And, "Stop my husband from tearing the house apart - get him out."

Twenty-four women (72.7 per cent) who called the Police commented that their primary expectation of the Police was to remove their partner. Table 41 shows that battered women report only 4 incidents where the action taken by Police was to remove their partner. Thus, it appears that since the woman is not receiving the action she expects from the Police it could explain why over 50 per cent report that the Police are not helpful to them. What the battered woman expects of the Police and the actual actions taken by the Police are incongruent.

Battered Women: Assault Charges

The majority (63.6 per cent) of the respondents did not lay assault charges against their partner. Table 42 shows the reasons women report that they did not lay charges and reasons for dropping the assault charges. The two main reasons reported are, I felt that laying charges would be useless (60.7 per cent), and; He promised to leave me alone if I did not lay charges (45.9 per cent) In 10 cases (35.7 per cent), the women report receiving threats from their partner, threats of further assault and threats of being killed.
It appears that between feeling the process is useless and being threatened or promised to be left alone, which also may imply not being left alone if she does lay charges, that many women (63.6 per cent) will not proceed with the criminal justice system by laying charges against their partner.

Table 42
Battered Women Report Reasons for Not Laying Assault Charges and Dropping Assault Charges

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reason</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I felt that laying charges would be useless</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>(60.7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>He promised to leave me alone if I did not lay charges</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>(45.9)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>He threatened me with further assaults if I laid charges</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>(21.6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>He threatened to kill me if I did lay charges</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>(13.5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>He threatened to take my children if I laid charges</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>(8.1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I felt sorry for my partner</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>(5.4)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*n = 37 Cases represent 28 women who did not lay assault charges and 9 women who laid assault charges and dropped them

Table 43 shows how the 16 respondents report their experiences with the Crown Attorney or Assistant Crown Attorney.
These 16 battered women laid assault charges and followed them through the court system. It is interesting to note that in only one-quarter of the cases did the Crown Attorney speak with the woman prior to court and in only one case does a woman report being told what to expect in court. These experiences may reflect some rationale as to the high percentage of assault charges that are laid and then later dropped when they come to court. Ten women (62.5 per cent) report that they experienced the Crown Attorney as being helpful to them.

Table 43

Battered Women Report Their Experiences in Court with Crown Attorney or Assistant Crowns

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description of Experience</th>
<th>Frequency n=16*</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Helpful</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>(62.5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Talked with me before court</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>(25.0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not helpful</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>(18.8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sensitive to my feelings</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>(12.5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cold and indifferent</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>(12.5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Told me what to expect in court</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>(6.2)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*n = 16 Battered women who went to Court for assault charges against their partner
Battered Women Report their Experiences with Lawyers

Thirty-six women (81.8 per cent) applied for a legal aid certificate and 33 women (91.7 per cent) were granted a legal aid certificate.

Thirty-nine women (88.7 per cent) report that they had a lawyer to act on their behalf with the legal system. Table 44 shows how the respondents describe their experiences with their lawyers.

Table 44
Battered Women Report Their Experiences With Lawyers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description of Experience</th>
<th>Frequency n=39*</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Helpful</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>79.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appeared in court with me at appointed times</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>66.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I felt comfortable discussing my problems</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>56.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Explained my legal rights so I understood them</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>51.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kept me fully informed of progress of ongoing legal process</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>51.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Returned my phone calls</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>48.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not helpful</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>10.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cold, indifferent, insensitive to my feelings</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>7.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*n = 39 Battered women who had lawyers
Thirty-one women (79.5 per cent) report that they experienced their lawyer as helpful. A very low percentage of women (7.7 per cent) report that their lawyer was cold, indifferent or insensitive to their feelings. For the most part, battered women report a positive experience with their lawyers.

Battered Women Report their Experience with Physicians

Twenty-eight women (63.6 per cent) report that they received medical treatment as a result of their partner's assaulting them. In the majority of these cases, (61.4 per cent) the women report that they shared the cause of their injuries with their physician.

Table 45 shows how the women experienced their physicians when they went for medical treatment and also shared the cause of their injuries. The majority of the women (81.5 per cent) experienced the physician as helpful. It is

Table 45
Battered Women Report How Physicians React when told Cause of their Injuries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reactions</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Helpful</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>(81.5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shocked</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>(25.9)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cold and indifferent</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>(11.1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not helpful</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>(7.4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hostile or blaming</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>(0   )</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
interesting that approximately one-quarter perceived the physician as reacting shocked by the cause of her injuries.

Table 46 shows the reported actions taken by the physicians. Thirteen women (48.2 per cent) report that they were prescribed tranquilizers. The second-most frequently reported action taken by physicians was to refer the woman to Hiatus House (22.2 per cent). It is interesting to note the relatively high percentage (48.2 per cent) of battered women who are prescribed tranquilizers, presumably to reduce mental disturbance, as anxiety and tension.

Table 46

Battered Women Report Actions
Taken by Physicians

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Actions Taken</th>
<th>Frequency n=25</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prescription for tranquilizers</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>(48.2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Referred to Hiatus House</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>(22.2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Referred to marriage counsellor</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>(14.8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Referred to psychiatrist</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>(7.4)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Battered Women Report what Community Social Service they Received Marriage Counselling From

Twenty-one women (47.7 per cent) report that they discharged from Hiatus House, returning home to their partner.
Eight (18.1 per cent) returned to their partner with the plan of having marriage counselling; however, in reply to the question, "Have you received marriage counselling together with your partner since you returned to your partner from Hiatus House?", 9 women (42.8 per cent) reported in the affirmative.

Table 47 shows where the women report they are receiving marriage counselling from. It is interesting that

Table 47

Battered Women Report Any Community Social Service from which they Received Marriage Counselling

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hiatus House</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>(33.3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>(33.3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C.A.S.**</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>(11.1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catholic Family Service</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>(11.1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alcohol treatment program</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>(11.1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catholic Children's Aid</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>(0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Service Bureau</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>(0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hospital social work department</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>(0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychiatrist</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>(0)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*n = 9 Battered women who received marriage counselling with their partner following discharge from Hiatus House  

**Essex County Children's Aid Society
33.3 per cent report that they receive marriage counselling from Hiatus House. The second largest frequency was reported as other. When asked to specify other, in all 3 cases the other was a social worker in private practice within the Windsor community.

In summary, Tables 40-47 deal with the battered woman's perceptions of how she perceives the community responding to her. The respondents report they do not, for the most part, get their expectations met by the Police. They report that when they call the Police they expect their violent partner to be removed, yet in only 4 cases did their call to the Police result in this action. Women report basically positive experiences with their lawyers; however, are not as positive about their experiences in court with Crown Attorneys who, in only one-quarter of the cases, spoke with them prior to court and in only one case as reported told the woman what to expect in court. Finally, women report that the main action taken by their physician is to prescribe them tranquilizing medication.

Summary of Research Findings

The sample was found to represent the Hiatus House population for seven of fifteen variables: Religion of Family (Table 5), Number of Children Admitted with Mother to Hiatus House (Table 8), Woman's Education (Table 9),
Woman's Occupation (Table 10), Partner's Occupation (Table 12), Frequency of Assaults Prior to Assault that Resulted in Admission to Hiatus House (Table 15), and Calls to Police Preceding Admission to Hiatus House (Table 16). Therefore, the results of this research cannot be generalized beyond the respondents.

From the compilation of the research findings, it was possible to draw up a profile of the battered woman and her partner. It must be remembered that this profile was based solely on the respondents, and the reliability of generalizations beyond that are unknown.

The battered woman and her partner are most likely to have been in the 30-39 age bracket. The majority of the women are legally married for 5-9 years and have 2 children. Both the battered woman and her partner usually have grade 9-10 level of education.

The most frequent occupation listed by the battered woman is homemaker (79.6 per cent) and her partner usually works in Products, Fabricating, Assembling and Repairing (38.6 per cent) or is unemployed (25 per cent).

The family usually resides in the City of Windsor (77.3 per cent) as compared to the County area (22.7 per cent). Their ethnic background is usually French or British and 61.4 per cent report that their families are
Roman Catholic.

The family income level was unknown by the reporting battered woman in 52.3 per cent of the cases; however, reported as $20,000 in 18.1 per cent of the respondents.

Most women report that they have been assaulted by their partner so many times they cannot recall how many times. The primary forms of abuse are pushing (79.6 per cent), shoving (75.0 per cent), slapping (75.0 per cent), hitting with fist (72.7 per cent), and kicking (40.9 per cent).

These assaults occur usually on no specific day of the week (59.1 per cent) or on a Friday (22.7 per cent). They usually occur either at any time of the day (40.9 per cent) or between 11:30 p.m. and 4:00 a.m. (36.4 per cent). Battered women usually do not call the Police to report the assault.

Most battered women have either never separated prior to being admitted to Hiatus House (36.4 per cent) or have been separated only once before their admission (31.8 per cent).

The battered woman perceives herself as remaining in the violent home hoping that her partner will stop beating her, feeling ashamed to let anyone else know that the assaults are occurring. She expresses fear of leaving her partner, fear he will find her and beat her again and also
fear of being alone.

The reasons the battered woman feels her partner beats her include: his drinking, their arguments over money, and their arguments about their children, and jealousy.

The women perceive themselves as feeling angry with their partner for his abusive treatment of them yet they put a lot of energy into "keeping the peace." They express a high level of ambivalence (93.2 per cent), are afraid to stay with their partners, yet afraid to leave them. They feel helpless to change their relationships. They feel that they are both going "crazy" and in some instances feel so hopeless they have attempted suicide (34.1 per cent).

The women describe their partner's relationship with them as explosive, controlling and violent. They feel that they are pressured to keep their family unit together and this pressure usually comes from within the family unit itself.

The battered woman perceives her needs as very basic. These basic needs are reflected in who she contacts regarding the first assault. In initial attempts to seek help she first contacts the Police (57.9 per cent) seeking protection, expecting that her partner will be removed from the home. Following the first assault by her partner
and this initial attempt to seek help if she is assaulted again, she is most likely to contact Hiatus House (97.7 per cent) and the Police (50 per cent). Over 50 per cent of the battered women have not been involved with any social service agency prior to being admitted to Hiatus House. For those women (43.2 per cent) who are involved with a social service agency prior to admission to Hiatus House, the most frequently used services are Children's Aid Societies (31.6 per cent) and Welfare (26.3 per cent).

The battered woman perceives her needs primarily through the legal system: the Police for protection, the Court system for restraining orders and peace bonds.

She identifies her perceived needs primarily in terms of material needs: shelter, food and financial assistance. The most important forms of counselling reported are: counselling in the form of problem solving; someone to understand her; and someone to point out her alternatives.

The battered woman perceives the community's response to her needs as less than helpful. She views the Police in over 50 per cent of the cases as not helpful. She perceives her need as one needing protection and wants her violent partner removed, however, she is advised to lay assault charges instead (78.8 per cent). The majority of women (63.6 per cent) did not lay assault charges. This
indicated that, in their perception, this process does not meet their needs as they perceive them. They express feeling that the process of laying charges is useless plus they are afraid of how their partner will react if they do lay assault charges. Of those women who did initially lay assault charges, over 50 per cent later withdrew the charges.

The majority of the women expressed positive experiences with their lawyers as well as with their physicians. The most frequently reported action taken by physicians is to prescribe the battered woman tranquilizers (48.2 per cent).

Twenty-one women (47.7 per cent) report that they returned home to their partner following discharge from Hiatus House. Only 9 of these women (42.8 per cent) report that they received marriage counselling with their partner. They report that they usually receive marriage counselling from Hiatus House or a private practitioner.
CHAPTER V

DISCUSSION OF DATA AND FINDINGS

The purpose of this chapter is to discuss the salient issues from the Survey of the Literature, Chapter II in light of the data findings from this research study. This discussion will focus on similarities and differences found between the issues presented in the literature as compared to the research findings in this study.

The areas to be compared will include:

1. Definition of Domestic Assault
2. Explanations of Causation
3. Alcohol and Violence

Definition of Domestic Assault

The term battered wife is fraught with difficulties when it comes to a clear definition. The term generally refers to a wife or cohabiter who has unwillingly received a physical assault by her partner. Two further criteria that delineate the 'real' battered wife are an element of persistency in the assaults and the verification of the assault by a third party with regard to some visible injury.

Twenty-eight respondents (63.6 per cent) reported having been assaulted so many times by their partner that
they could not remember how many times. This high degree of persistency compares favorably with the delimiting factor of an element of persistency for the purposes of definition. However, it is important to note that a single, isolated incident of assault may seem more traumatic and destructive than a pattern of assaults. Table 15 shows only two respondents who had been assaulted only once prior to their admission to Hiatus House.

Gelles (1972), Steinmetz (1977), and Straus (1978) have resolved the problem of definition by the 'severe violence index' or 'wife beating index' called Conflict Resolution Techniques which is shown in Table 25. The respondents reported that the most frequent forms of abuse on this index they experienced were: pushing (79.6 per cent); shoving (75.0 per cent); slapping (75.0 per cent); hitting with fist (72.7 per cent); and kicking (40.9 per cent).

In my experience working with battered women, their use of the concept of being battered differs substantially from each other as to how they define this phenomena. Many women do not define themselves as a battered woman unless they have been hit with a closed fist.

**Explanations of Causation**

The explanations for causation of domestic assault are classified into two general categories:
1. Psychological causation
   a) Masochism Theory
   b) Learned Helplessness Theory
   c) Attachment and Separation Theory

2. Sociological causation
   a) Social Control or Resource Theory
   b) Social Learning Theory

3. Alcohol and Violence.

Psychological Causation

These theories emphasize individual pathology where individual characteristics are isolated. Since these characteristics are found to exist in a significant number of men who have battered their wives, as well as in battered women, battering is attributed to these pathological characteristics.

Masochism Theory

Masochism is suggested if a woman acts self destructively, particularly if she remains consistently in circumstances where it is possible to act otherwise (Rounsaville, 1978).

It is obvious that since the entire sample in this study are battered women who have separated from their partner and been admitted to Hiatus House, that these are women who are not remaining consistently with a partner who assaults them.
However, Table 13 shows that in 16 cases of the 44 respondents (36.4 per cent) the women were being assaulted yet had never separated from their partner prior to their admission to Hiatus House. This could be interpreted to corroborate the masochism theory. However, when the respondents were asked reasons why they had not separated previously, the greater majority noted that they remained because they hoped that their partner would stop beating them (84.1 per cent) and that they were too ashamed to let anyone know that their partner beat them (72.7 per cent). Twenty-seven per cent of the women report feeling that it was their fault and they deserved to be beaten (see Table 27).

There is a contrary view presented in the available literature that suggests that battered women are unable to act differently (Rounsaville, 1978; Waites, 1977-78). Therefore, to speak of masochism in these women is similar to proposing masochistic tendencies in victims of an unforeseen accident. According to this view, women are trapped in a relationship because it is impossible for them to leave safely. Table 27 shows that 68.2 per cent of the respondents report that they remained at home afraid that if they tried to leave their partner he would find them and hurt them again, only worse this time.

This fear has, in fact, become a reality for some
women who have left their partner and been admitted to Hiatus House. The researcher recalls a very recent incident where a resident of Hiatus House was found by her partner walking across a parking lot and he assaulted her again.

Frequently, the masochism theory is reinforced as it is seen as the explanation as to why battered women remain within the violent home or why they return home following discharge from Hiatus House. It is important to identify other very concrete reasons that exist and that the women themselves report (see Table 27).

The concept of female masochism is inadequate as an explanation of actual behavior since in situations in which choice is externally restricted, the question of internal motivation approaches irrelevance (Waites, 1977-78).

Learned Helplessness Theory

This theory explains why the battered woman becomes a victim and how the process of victimization is perpetuated to the point of psychological paralysis. This theory explains how people's perception of their control over events in their lives contributes to the way they think and feel about themselves and their ability to act.

This theory is clearly supported in the research findings in this study. Table 29 shows the respondents
felt helpless to change their relationship with their partner (90 per cent); felt helpless to stop the beatings (84 per cent); and 22.7 per cent report feeling out of control of their own lives. In the midst of their feelings of helplessness and hopelessness, 93.2 per cent report feeling afraid to stay with their partner and yet afraid to leave him. Further, 68.2 per cent perceive that their partner is controlling within their relationship.

Battered women believe that they cannot control what happens to them and it is difficult to change this belief. Once the battered woman is operating from a belief system of helplessness, the perception becomes reality and she becomes passive, submissive and helpless. The battered woman allows things which appear to be out of her control to actually get out of control (Walker, 1979).

Helplessness has a severely debilitating effect on human problem solving. The learning ability is hampered and the repertoire of responses from which a person can make choices is significantly narrowed.

An example of the battered woman generalizing her helplessness is seen in this case example: a 27-year-old battered woman with 4 children living in a common-law relationship has left her violent partner on numerous occasions; being re-admitted to H hiatus House five times. Following each discharge, she has returned to the same
house to live as a single parent family. Her partner invariably returns and she feels helpless to protect herself from him. She does not lock the doors, as he says he will break the windows so she allows him in rather than calling the Police. She feels that such a choice is not an alternative as nothing she has done in the past keeps him away from her anyway. Her feelings of helplessness have conditioned her into a passive and submissive role and the repeated battering has diminished her motivation and her energy to respond. Her cognitive ability to perceive the possibility of success is changed. She does not perceive that her response will make any difference whether or not it actually does. She is unable to think of or operationalize any alternatives.

Attachment and Separation Theory

Attachment theory is a method of conceptualizing the propensity of human beings to make strong affectional bonds to particular others (Bowlby, 1973).

The process of forming a social bond where punishment or battering is involved produces, in adults as in children, anxious, clinging, over-dependent people who are sensitive to the attachment figure. No matter how destructive the relationship, both partners have great difficulty in terminating the relationship (Makeman, 1979). The couple
become a symbiotic pair, dependent on each other, and when one person attempts to separate, both of their lives are drastically affected (Walker, 1979).

Thirty-eight women (86.4 per cent of the respondents) report that they had considered leaving their partner prior to when they actually did separate. Table 27 shows their reasons for remaining with a violent partner. The women report a dependency on their relationship with their partner (68.2 per cent) and report fear of living alone.

Sociological Causation

In the theories of sociological causation, the emphasis is taken away from individual pathology and placed onto societal violence (Gelles, 1972; Gill, 1978; Steinmetz, 1974; & Straus, 1974).

Social Control or Resource Theory

This theory emphasizes that violence is a resource which can be used to achieve desired ends. It tends to be used in the absence of other resources such as money, love, respect, or shared goals (Goode, 1971).

In a study by O'Brien (1978) entitled Violence in Divorce Prone Families, there is considerable evidence that the husbands who most frequently displayed violence toward their wives were inadequate in their work and as a provider.
The research findings in this study do not totally support this resource theory within the area of occupation. The majority of the battered women reported that their partners were steadily employed (75 per cent) when they were admitted to Hiatus House. The majority of the male partners (38.6 per cent) worked in Products, Fabricating, Assembling and Repair (see Table 12), as compared with the battered woman's occupation which, in 79.6 per cent of the cases, is a Homemaker. Only 20.4 per cent of the women were employed outside of the home.

When asked to report gross annual family income, 52.3 per cent of the respondents did not know the amount. However, only 11.4 per cent reported at the less than $10,000 level while 18.1 per cent report $20,000 plus (see Table 20).

Social Learning Theory

The social learning theory views violence as a technique of adaptation which is systematically learned by children through interaction with and observation of parents and others using violence.

Straus (1974) views the family as playing a major role in the training of violence as family experiences are powerful molders of personality.

Table 26 shows the reports of family violence experienced within the respondents' nuclear and extended family.
When comparing their perceptions of their own abuse as a child and their male partner's abuse as a child the respondents consistently report a lower frequency for themselves as compared to their partners (see Table 26).

It is possible that since they are not as emotionally involved in the abuse experienced by their partner and within his family that they are better able to report accurately the frequency of abuse. The other possibility is that the respondents have reported their own abuse as a child and their partner's abuse as a child accurately and that, in fact, there is a real difference between the two.

Alcohol and Violence

In the studies by Gelles (1972), Snell, Rosenward and Robey (1964), and Carlson (1977), it is shown that a high percentage of men who beat their wives also abuse alcohol during an abusive episode.

Twenty-nine of the respondents (65.9 per cent) report that in their perception, the reason why their partner assaulted them was that he was drinking alcohol. It is important to note that the respondents in this study did give other reasons why they think their partner assaults them (see Table 28), however, drinking is reported by the respondents as the most important reason.
Community Response to Battered Women

As reported in Lynch and Norris (1977-78), the battered woman’s needs involve physical safety, material needs, emotional needs, and life alternatives.

The findings of this research study are comparable with those of Lynch and Norris (1977-78). The respondents report material needs such as shelter (100 per cent); food (100 per cent); and financial assistance (97.7 per cent) as their areas of prime need. Counselling in the form of help with problem solving (100 per cent) and someone to point out their alternatives (97.7 per cent) are reported by the respondents as shown in Table 38.

Police: Law Enforcement

Policemen play a pivotal role in domestic violence cases. As the Police are frequently the first contact agent between the service giver and receiver, their intervention is a critical determinant of the outcome (Martin, 1976).

Thirty-three (75 per cent) of the respondents in this study report that at some time they had called the Police following an assault from their partner. Eighteen women (54.5 per cent) reported that they did not experience the Police as helpful (Table 40).

Martin (1976) states that the most common complaint
heard from battered women is that when the Police arrive they are rarely helpful and are seen as taking no action.

Table 41 shows the actions taken by the Police. The Police action is incongruent with what the battered woman expects. She expects that the Police will remove her partner and therefore protect her. Only in 12.1 per cent of the cases where the battered woman called the Police did they remove her partner.

Criminal Justice System

Field and Field (1973) state that it is the criminal justice system which is the primary institution that takes responsibility for dealing with victims of marital violence. They conclude that the responsibility is taken unwillingly and discharged in an ineffective manner. They further state that the choice of laying of criminal charges which is left to the whim of the victim implies official acceptance of or acquiescence to the policy that violence between 'consenting' adults is a private affair.

It is clear from this study that the majority of the respondents look to the criminal justice system (see Table 37) for solutions and apply for a number of legal remedies. However, the majority (63.6 per cent) do not lay assault charges against their partner.

Battered women report the element of fear in their
decision to lay assault charges; fear of further abuse; and even fear of being killed by their partner. Their reasons for not laying assault charges are shown in Table 42.

I recall a battered woman who was admitted to Hiatus House with her three children. She was approximately eight months pregnant. She made a decision to press assault charges against her partner. She followed through on her decision to press charges through a number of lengthy adjournments. She was discharged from Hiatus House as a single parent family, living in a new location from that of her "marital home" and in spite of threats from her partner continued with her plan to follow through on the assault trial. The day before the case was to be heard in court, her partner followed one of the children to their new location from school, gained access to the home, and beat the woman unconscious. The result of this further beating was that she dropped the assault charges, convinced that he would kill her if she didn't drop the charges.

In summary, the majority of the writers in the area, as well as the battered women, accuse the criminal justice system of failure to intervene effectively.

Medical Services

Davidson (1978) states that when battered women seek
medical attention, only symptoms are attended to and that various forms of medication, such as antidepressants and tranquilizers are prescribed. This medication makes it possible to endure the horror of abuse and reduces her capacity to do something concrete about it.

In this study, twenty-seven respondents (61.4 per cent) told their physicians the cause of their injuries and in 13 cases (48.2 per cent) they report that the action taken by their physician was to prescribe tranquilizers.

Social Service Agencies

Davidson (1978) and Martin (1976) both maintain that social service agencies have had the traditional goal of keeping the family unit together or the goal of reconciliation.

Table 31 shows the report of battered women who felt pressure to keep the family unit together and where, in their perception, the pressure came from. Twenty-seven women reported feeling pressure to keep the family together but only 1 woman (3.7 per cent) reported that this pressure came from a social worker. The respondents report the primary pressure points as self (55.5 per cent), relatives (40.7 per cent), children (40.7 per cent), and from partner (37.0 per cent) (see Table 31).

It is significant to note that only 43.2 per cent
of the respondents were involved with any community social service agency prior to being admitted to Hiatus House.

The most recent development in community response to the battered woman is emergency shelter programs for battered women and their children. The respondents in this study clearly state the top priority to them of these services (100 per cent) (see Table 38).

In summary, the majority of the data reported by writers in the area of domestic violence is consistent with that reported by the respondents of this study.
CHAPTER VI

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The purpose of this research study was to examine the perceptions of battered women's personal experiences as battered women, her perceptions of her needs and her perception of the community's response to her perceived needs.

The population for this study was all those battered women admitted into the residential program at Hiatus House for the first time during the period of July 12, 1976 to December 31, 1978. The population totalled 170.

The data collection instrument was a mailed questionnaire sent to the total population. Forty-four women completed and returned the questionnaire. The return rate for this study was 33.6 per cent (see Table 2).

Major Research Findings

The sample was found to represent the population for seven of the fifteen variables: Religion of Family (Table 5); Number of Children Admitted with Mother to Hiatus House (Table 8), Woman's Education (Table 9), Woman's Occupation (Table 10), Partner's Occupation (Table 12), Frequency of Assults that Resulted in Admission to Hiatus House (Table 15) and Calls to Police Preceding Admission.
to Hiatus House (Table 16).

The results of this research cannot be generalized beyond the respondents.

The findings as discussed in Chapter V are related to descriptive data that provide a profile of the battered woman and her partner and to the three research questions:

1. What are the battered woman's perception of her own experiences as a battered woman?
2. What are the battered woman's perceived needs?
3. What are the battered woman's perceptions of community response to her perceived needs?

What are the Battered Woman's Perception to Her Own Experience?

The battered woman perceives herself as helpless and hopeless to change her situation. She is ambivalent about her relationship with her partner; afraid to stay with him yet afraid to leave him. She expresses that she is too embarrassed to tell anyone about the abuse and seldom seeks help following the first assault; she waits to seek help until assaulted further by her partner. She thinks about separating from her partner and her reasons for remaining primarily are due to her fears - fear seems to immobilize her. She also experiences pressure to keep the family unit together and this pressure comes from within the family itself.
What are the Battered Woman's Perceived Needs?

Battered women perceive their needs to be very basic. They are primarily concerned with physical safety for both themselves and their children in the form of temporary shelter. They state they need material assistance in terms of income maintenance, food and clothing. Their counselling needs are stated in terms of someone to help them with problem solving and with their potential alternatives. They seek to be both understood and accepted.

What are the Battered Woman's Perceptions of Community Response?

The battered woman perceives her need as primary protection for herself and her children, and therefore looks to the Police as law enforcement agents, and to the criminal justice system for solutions to her problems. She frequently finds these resources ineffective and becomes frustrated with them to the point of viewing them as useless. Frequently, her expectations of these resources are incongruent with how she actually experiences the actions taken by them.

Recommendations

Based on the research findings and related readings, the researcher presents the following recommendations in
the following areas: Record Keeping; Incidence; Hiatus House, Inc.; Counselling; Police: Law Enforcement; Criminal Justice System; Medical System; Social Work Education; and suggestions for Further Research.

Record Keeping: Incidence

- that wife abuse become an official category, using the Critical Resolution Technique Scale within Police departments, hospitals, court systems, and social service agencies as well as within Statistics Canada. This would provide an accurate estimate of the incidence as well as early identification and appropriate referrals of battered women to community resources.

Hiatus House, Inc.

- to strengthen the existing referral sources and develop those potential referral sources who rarely refer: lawyers, clergy and private physicians. Information must be dispensed to these potential referral sources. Public relation efforts should reach out to these three foci points. This information should include the nature of Hiatus House services, and facilitate appropriate referrals.

- that the counselling needs identified by the battered women be met through the provision of professionally trained social workers as a part of the ongoing program. While shelter needs are primary to the battered woman, she
recognizes her need for counselling.
- that trained staff with child care specialty be available within the residential program to provide counselling for the children.
- that the residential program include parental modeling and training providing alternatives to the physical punishment of children due to the intergenerational nature of the problem of domestic violence.
- that the non-residential component of the program of Hiatus House be expanded to provide social work intervention for those women remaining within the violent home.
- that the marriage counselling component of the program be expanded as some women who are being admitted to Hiatus House constitute a first separation for the couple and this may be of a preventative nature to avoid further separations, including re-admission to Hiatus House.
- that the program to provide counselling services be expanded to include both individual and groups for men who batter their partners.
- to continue to have a clearly focused re-admission policy based on the ambivalence of battered women and the difficulties they experience with separation.

Community Social Service System
- to provide residential programs (emergency shelter) for
battered women and their children in communities that currently do not have these programs.
- to provide social work intervention to families experiencing domestic violence without the pressure of maintaining the family unit.
- to provide ongoing training for social service agency staff in the area of domestic violence, explanation of causation and treatment approaches.

Police: Law Enforcement
- that the Police receive specialized training in the handling of domestic violence calls.
- that the Police be knowledgeable of the community resources available for battered women and their family in order to make appropriate referrals.
- that the Police develop a Family Consultant Program: Crisis intervention unit modeled after the London, Ontario Family Consultant Service.
- that the Police assist battered women in leaving the violent home at their request, i.e., transport to Hiatus House.
- that the Police respond to domestic dispute calls immediately recognizing the potential high risk for a life-threatening situation for the battered woman.
- that the Police personnel be available for the battered
woman to give the information necessary to lay assault charges other than only Monday-Friday 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. These hours need to be more flexible due to the times assaults occur.

- that the Police effectively enforce restraining orders, peace bonds, exclusive possession of the matrimonial home orders on behalf of the battered woman. In order for these orders to be effective they must be enforced.

Criminal Justice System
- that legal officials view spousal assault as an infraction of the criminal law.

- that Crown Attorneys proceed with assault charges against the batterer with or without the consent of the battered woman. Battered women often withdraw charges due to further threats and their own fears. That they spend time with the battered woman preparing her for her role as a witness.

- that the Court system hear these cases quickly rather than allowing lengthy adjournments.

- that Judges sentencing on assault cases include mandatory counselling for the batterers. A totally punitive approach is not likely to be effective.

- that the Court system be sensitive to the importance of interim child custody so that children are not taken by
force from one parent to another parent.
- that in assault cases it should be permissible to present evidence of past abuse between the partners.

Medical System
- that physicians should not prescribe medication to battered women as an alternative to appropriate referrals for counselling.
- that physicians should refer battered women to Hiatus House prior to a decision for psychiatric care. In many instances, her high level of anxiety or depression is a result of her beating, and Hiatus House can be an alternative to psychiatric care.
- that hospital emergency departments make referrals to appropriate community resources only when it is the battered woman's choice.

Social Work Education
- that the curriculum within Schools of Social Work include the dynamics of Domestic Violence in terms of appropriate diagnosis and treatment alternatives.

Suggestions for Further Research
- Research in the area of the male batterer; very little has been done in this area and his perception of the problems he experiences.
- Research on the effects of domestic violence on children: transgenerational research.
- Research in the area of program evaluation, i.e., effective treatment methodology for working with domestic violence prone couples.
APPENDIX A

GOALS OF HIATUS HOUSE
1. To provide temporary emergency shelter for the battered woman and her children in a group residence.

2. To provide the battered woman with time and problem solving counselling for the purpose of decision making regarding her future.

3. To provide the battered woman and her children with medical intervention when required.

4. To provide transportation for the battered woman and her children when required.

5. To provide the battered woman with an appropriate legal referral when required.

6. To refer the battered woman to Family Court for the purpose of applying for interim custody of her children when required.

7. To provide the battered woman with information with regards to her legal right to lay a charge of assault against her partner.

8. To provide staff support by attending appointments with the battered woman (i.e., legal and social services).

9. To provide staff to accompany the battered woman with police escort to her previous address for the purpose of obtaining her personal belongings and those of her children.

10. To provide food and kitchen facilities to the battered woman while in residence.
11. To provide the battered woman and her children access to clothing if required.

12. To provide the battered woman with information and appropriate referrals to community resources as required.

13. To provide professional counselling within the residence with the battered woman and her children.

14. To provide reconciliation or separation counselling with the battered woman and her partner when requested.

15. To provide re-establishment services for the battered woman who decides to re-establish as a single parent family (i.e., looking for adequate housing, furnishings, etc.).

16. To provide the battered woman with access to child care support while in residence.

17. To provide the battered woman with alternative methods of child management to the physical punishment of her children while in residence.

18. To provide follow-up counselling for discharged residents.

19. To coordinate the collateral community resources concurrently involved with the battered woman and her family.

19. To provide speakers for various community resources and groups for the purpose of providing public education with regards to domestic violence and the nature of Hiatus House services.
APPENDIX B

DEMOGRÁFIC INFORMATION
DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION FROM FILES

NUMBER: __________

1. WOMAN'S DATE OF BIRTH: __________ / __________ / 19__
   day month year

2. WOMAN'S ETHNICITY:
   _____ ASIAN
   _____ BRITISH ISLES
   _____ FRENCH
   _____ GERMAN
   _____ HUNGARIAN
   _____ ITALIAN
   _____ NETHERLANDS
   _____ POLISH
   _____ RUSSIAN
   _____ SCANDINAVIAN
   _____ OTHER __________
specify

3. RELIGION:
   _____ PROTESTANT
   _____ ROMAN CATHOLIC
   _____ OTHER __________
specify

4. ADDRESS ZONE NO.: __________

5. REFERRED BY:
   _____ POLICE
   _____ LAWYER
6. NO. OF CHILDREN ADMITTED: 

7. CHILDREN'S DATES OF BIRTH:

1st child / / 19
day month year

2nd child / / 19
day month year

3rd child / / 19
day month year

4th child / / 19
day month year

5th child / / 19
day month year

6th child / / 19
day month year

7th child / / 19
day month year
8. WOMAN'S EDUCATION:

_____ LESS THAN GRADE 9
_____ GRADES 9 TO 10
_____ GRADE 11
_____ GRADE 12
_____ GRADE 13
_____ SOME COMMUNITY COLLEGE
_____ COMMUNITY COLLEGE DIPLOMA OR CERTIFICATE
_____ SOME UNIVERSITY
_____ UNIVERSITY DEGREE
_____ OTHER ____________________(please specify)

9. WOMAN'S OCCUPATION: ____________________________________

10. PARTNER'S DATE OF BIRTH: __ / __ /19

11. PARTNER'S OCCUPATION: ____________________________________

12. NO. OF PREVIOUS SEPARATIONS:

_____ 1 time
_____ 2 times
_____ 3 times
_____ 4 times
_____ 5 times
_____ 6 times
_____ 7 times
_____ so many times I forget
13. LENGTH OF RELATIONSHIP:

____ less than 1 year
____ 1 to 2 years
____ 2 to 3 years
____ 3 to 4 years
____ 5 to 9 years
____ 10 to 14 years
____ 15 to 19 years
____ 20 years or more

14. FORMS OF ABUSE USED BY PARTNER:

____ THROWING OBJECTS AT YOU
____ PUSHING
____ SHOVING
____ SLAPPING
____ GRABBING
____ KICKING
____ BITING
____ HITTING WITH HIS FISTS
____ HITTING WITH AN OBJECT
____ THREATENED YOU WITH A KNIFE
____ THREATENED YOU WITH A GUN
____ INJURED YOU WITH A KNIFE
____ INJURED YOU WITH A GUN

____ OTHER

specify
15. FREQUENCY OF ABUSE:

____ 1 time
____ 2 times
____ 3 times
____ 4 times
____ 5 times
____ 6 times
____ 7 times
____ 8 times

____ so many times I forget

16. WERE POLICE CALLED RE: THE ABUSE PRECEDING THE ADMISSION TO H.H.:

____ YES
____ NO

17. DATE ADMITTED: /_____/_____/19
   day month year

18. DATE DISCHARGED: /_____/_____/19
   day month year

19. LENGTH OF STAY: (in days): ————
APPENDIX C

HIATUS HOUSE: DISCHARGED RESIDENT'S SURVEY
HIATUS HOUSE: DISCHARGED RESIDENT'S SURVEY

IN ANSWERING THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS, PLEASE ANSWER WITH REFERENCE TO THE PARTNER YOU WERE LIVING WITH IMMEDIATELY BEFORE YOU WERE ADMITTED TO HIATUS HOUSE.

1. Did you consider leaving your partner at any time(s) before you were admitted to Hiatus House?

   YES ________  NO ________  IF YOU ANSWERED NO SKIP TO QUESTION #4

2. Some "battered women" have given the following reasons for why they did not leave their violent partners. Do you agree or disagree that any of these were your reasons for not leaving your partner before you were admitted to Hiatus House?

   CIRCLE ONE ANSWER FOR EACH REASON.

   (a) I kept hoping that my partner would stop beating me.

      STRONGLY AGREE    AGREE    DISAGREE    DISAGREE

   (b) I was afraid that if I left, my partner would find me and hurt me again, only worse this time.

      STRONGLY AGREE    AGREE    DISAGREE    DISAGREE

   (c) I couldn't bring myself to take my children away from their father, home, friends, or school.

      STRONGLY AGREE    AGREE    DISAGREE    DISAGREE

   (d) I was afraid that I wouldn't be able to make it living alone on my own.

      STRONGLY AGREE    AGREE    DISAGREE    DISAGREE

   (e) I was too ashamed to let anyone know that my partner beat me.

      STRONGLY AGREE    AGREE    DISAGREE    DISAGREE
(f) I couldn't bring myself to admit to anyone that my relationship with my partner had failed.

STRONGLY   STRONGLY
AGREE     AGREE   DISAGREE   DISAGREE

(g) I could not leave the financial support of my partner's earnings to rely completely upon my own earnings or the support of welfare.

STRONGLY   STRONGLY
AGREE     AGREE   DISAGREE   DISAGREE

(h) I felt that I had done something to cause him to treat me that way and therefore he had a good reason to do what he did.

STRONGLY   STRONGLY
AGREE     AGREE   DISAGREE   DISAGREE

(i) I felt that I could not break my marriage vows.

STRONGLY   STRONGLY
AGREE     AGREE   DISAGREE   DISAGREE

(j) I was afraid that I would lose all the work and money which I had invested in our home.

STRONGLY   STRONGLY
AGREE     AGREE   DISAGREE   DISAGREE

(k) I was afraid that I would not have enough money to give my children the things which they had been used to.

STRONGLY   STRONGLY
AGREE     AGREE   DISAGREE   DISAGREE

3. If you STRONGLY AGREE with any of the reasons in question #2, explain what one of those reasons meant to you.

Reason:  

Please comment:  

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________
4. Some "battered women" have given the following factors as reasons why their partner assaulted them. Do you agree or disagree that any of these were reasons why your partner assaulted you?

CIRCLE ONE ANSWER FOR EACH REASON.

(a) Arguments over money

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STRONGLY AGREE</th>
<th>AGREE</th>
<th>DISAGREE</th>
<th>STRONGLY AGREE</th>
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</table>

(b) Jealousy

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STRONGLY AGREE</th>
<th>AGREE</th>
<th>DISAGREE</th>
<th>STRONGLY AGREE</th>
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</table>

(c) Sexual Problems

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<tr>
<th>STRONGLY AGREE</th>
<th>AGREE</th>
<th>DISAGREE</th>
<th>STRONGLY AGREE</th>
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(d) Partner's Drinking

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<tr>
<th>STRONGLY AGREE</th>
<th>AGREE</th>
<th>DISAGREE</th>
<th>STRONGLY AGREE</th>
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(e) Partner's taking other drugs

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<th>STRONGLY AGREE</th>
<th>AGREE</th>
<th>DISAGREE</th>
<th>STRONGLY AGREE</th>
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(f) Conflicts over children

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<tr>
<th>STRONGLY AGREE</th>
<th>AGREE</th>
<th>DISAGREE</th>
<th>STRONGLY AGREE</th>
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</table>

(g) Partner's Unemployment

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<tr>
<th>STRONGLY AGREE</th>
<th>AGREE</th>
<th>DISAGREE</th>
<th>STRONGLY AGREE</th>
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</table>

(h) Your Unemployment

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<tr>
<th>STRONGLY AGREE</th>
<th>AGREE</th>
<th>DISAGREE</th>
<th>STRONGLY AGREE</th>
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</table>

(i) Your desire to work outside the home

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<tr>
<th>STRONGLY AGREE</th>
<th>AGREE</th>
<th>DISAGREE</th>
<th>STRONGLY AGREE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
(j) Your own drinking

| STRONGLY AGREE | AGREE | DISAGREE | STRONGLY DISAGREE |

(k) Your own use of other drugs

| STRONGLY AGREE | AGREE | DISAGREE | STRONGLY DISAGREE |

(l) Your sexual involvement with someone other than your partner

| STRONGLY AGREE | AGREE | DISAGREE | STRONGLY DISAGREE |

(m) Your partner's sexual involvement with someone other than yourself

| STRONGLY AGREE | AGREE | DISAGREE | STRONGLY DISAGREE |

(n) Another reason: ____________________________

| STRONGLY AGREE | AGREE | DISAGREE | STRONGLY DISAGREE |

5. If you STRONGLY AGREE with any of the reasons in question #4, please explain the one most important reason and what it meant to you.

Reason: _____________________________________

Please comment: ____________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________
6. Were you beaten by either of your parents as a child?
   - YES
   - NO

6(a) Who were you beaten by?
   - Mother
   - Father
   - Both Parents

7. Do you remember as a child seeing or hearing your Mother beaten by your Father?
   - YES
   - NO

8. Was your partner beaten as a child by either of his parents?
   - YES
   - NO
   - I Don't Know

8(a) Who was your partner beaten by?
   - Mother
   - Father
   - Both Parents
   - I Don't Know

9. Did your partner's father beat his wife?
   - YES
   - NO
   - I Don't Know

10. Has your partner ever assaulted other people during an argument?
    - YES
    - NO
    - I Don't Know
11. Did your partner physically abuse you when you were pregnant?

   ___ YES
   ___ NO

12. Has your partner ever physically abused any of your children?

   ___ YES
   ___ NO

12(a) Please indicate whether your partner used any of the following behaviors with your children.

   PLACE A CHECK MARK BESIDE THE BEHAVIOR(S) WHICH HE USED.

   ___ Throwing Objects
   ___ Pushing
   ___ Shoving
   ___ Slapping
   ___ Grabbing
   ___ Kicking
   ___ Biting
   ___ Hitting with his fist
   ___ Hitting with an object
   ___ Threatened with a knife
   ___ Threatened with a gun
   ___ Injured with a knife
   ___ Injured with a gun
   ___ Other (please specify)

GO ON TO QUESTION #13.
13. Have you ever physically abused any of your children?

___ YES

___ NO

13(a) Please indicate whether you used any of the following behaviors with your children.

PLACE A CHECK MARK BESIDE THE BEHAVIOR(S) WHICH YOU USED.

___ Throwing Objects
___ Pushing
___ Shoving
___ Slapping
___ Grabbing
___ Kicking
___ Biting
___ Hitting with your fist
___ Hitting with an object
___ Threatened with a knife
___ Threatened with a gun
___ Injured with a knife
___ Injured with a gun
___ Other ________________________________ (please specify)

GO ON TO QUESTION #14.
14. Did you fight back when your partner assaulted you?

_____ YES

_____ NO

14(a) Please indicate whether you used any of the following behaviors when you fought back.

PLACE A CHECK MARK BESIDE THE BEHAVIOR(S) WHICH YOU USED.

____ Throwing Objects
____ Pushing
____ Shoving
____ Slapping
____ Grabbing
____ Kicking
____ Biting
____ Hitting with your fist
____ Hitting with an object
____ Threatened with a knife
____ Threatened with a gun
____ Injured with a knife
____ Injured with a gun
____ Other (please specify)

GO ON TO QUESTION #15.

NOW-SKIP TO QUESTION #16.
15. Please indicate whether any of the following reasons were your reasons for not fighting back.

PLACE A CHECK MARK BESIDE YOUR REASONS.

___ I didn't want to aggravate him any more.
___ I was afraid that he would beat me again.
___ I felt it was hopeless to try to fight back.
___ I felt sad that I had caused him to beat me.
___ I was afraid that I would kill him if I ever let go.
___ Other ________________________________ (please specify)

16. At what time of day were you most frequently assaulted by your partner?

___ Morning (7 AM to Noon)
___ Afternoon (12 PM to 5 PM)
___ Early Evening (5 PM to 8 PM)
___ Evening (8 PM to 11:30 PM)
___ Late Night (11:30 to 4 AM)
___ Early Morning (4 AM to 7 AM)
___ Anytime

17. On what day of the week were you most frequently assaulted by your partner?


(a) Was the day which you checked above a payday?

___ YES

___ NO
PLEASE ANSWER THE FOLLOWING FOUR QUESTIONS BY CIRCLING THE ANSWER WHICH APPLIES FOR YOU.

18. During your relationship with your partner, did you feel that you often agreed with him in order to "Keep peace in the family"?

   ALWAYS  OFTEN  RARELY  NEVER

19. During your relationship with your partner, did you feel helpless in getting your partner to stop beating you?

   ALWAYS  OFTEN  RARELY  NEVER

20. During your relationship with your partner, did you feel that you had any control over your own life?

   ALWAYS  OFTEN  RARELY  NEVER

21. How would you describe your partner's relationship with you?

   PLEASE CHECK ANY ANSWER(S) THAT APPLY.

   _____ Dependent
   _____ Passive
   _____ Suspicious
   _____ Controlling
   _____ Bullying
   _____ Stable
   _____ Affectionate
   _____ Violent
   _____ Other __________________________ (please specify)

22. Of the word(s) which you checked above describing your partner's relationship with you, which one was the most important?

   __________________________
Please comment: ________________________________

23. Did you feel that your partner had an explosive temper?
   _____ YES
   _____ NO

24. Did you feel that your partner was mentally ill or "going crazy"?
   _____ YES
   _____ NO

25. Had your partner ever attempted suicide?
   _____ YES
   _____ NO
   _____ I Don't Know

26. Had your partner ever undergone psychiatric treatment?
   _____ YES
   _____ NO
   _____ I Don't Know

27. Have you ever felt that you were mentally ill or "going crazy"?
   _____ YES
   _____ NO

28. Have you ever attempted suicide?
   _____ YES
   _____ NO

29. Have you ever thought of committing suicide?
   _____ YES
   _____ NO
30. Have you ever undergone psychiatric treatment?
   __ YES
   __ NO

31. During your relationship with your partner, do you remember experiencing any of the following feelings?

   PLEASE CIRCLE ONE ANSWER FOR EACH STATEMENT.

   (a) I felt helpless to change our relationship.
       ALWAYS  OFTEN  RARELY  NEVER

   (b) I felt afraid to stay and afraid to leave at the same time.
       ALWAYS  OFTEN  RARELY  NEVER

   (c) I felt embarrassed that my friends and family would find out that my partner was beating me.
       ALWAYS  OFTEN  RARELY  NEVER

   (d) I felt angry at my partner for how he treated me.
       ALWAYS  OFTEN  RARELY  NEVER

   (e) I felt guilty that I had caused my partner to beat me.
       ALWAYS  OFTEN  RARELY  NEVER

   (f) I felt that I was going crazy.
       ALWAYS  OFTEN  RARELY  NEVER

   (g) I felt that I had failed as a "wife".
       ALWAYS  OFTEN  RARELY  NEVER

   (h) I felt alone with no one that I could turn to for help.
       ALWAYS  OFTEN  RARELY  NEVER

   (i) I felt that I couldn't trust anyone.
       ALWAYS  OFTEN  RARELY  NEVER
(j) I felt that I had to stay with my partner because of my children.

ALWAYS  OFTEN  RARELY  NEVER

(k) I felt resentment towards my children for keeping me in a situation where I was unhappy.

ALWAYS  OFTEN  RARELY  NEVER

(l) Other ____________________ (please specify)

32. Immediately following the FIRST assault by your partner, did you seek help and support from anyone with regards to your partner assaulting you?

__ YES

__ NO

32(a) Did you contact any of the following people immediately following this FIRST assault?

PLACE A CHECK MARK BESIDE THE PEOPLE THAT YOU CONTACTED.

__ Friends
__ Relatives
__ Lawyer
__ Police
__ Marriage Counsellor
__ Psychiatrist
__ Physician
__ Minister/Priest
__ Women's Group
__ Social Service/
Mental Health Agency
__ Hiatus House
__ Other (please specify)

GO ON TO QUESTION #33
33. Did you receive assaults by your partner on a number of different times?

   _ YES
   _ NO

33(a) Did you contact any of the following people immediately following these further assaults?

PLACE A CHECK MARK BESIDE THE PEOPLE THAT YOU CONTACTED.

   _ Friends
   _ Relatives
   _ Lawyer
   _ Police
   _ Marriage Counsellor
   _ Psychiatrist
   _ Physician
   _ Minister/Priest
   _ Women's Group
   _ Social Service/
     Mental Health Agency
   _ Hiatus House
   _ Other
   _ (please specify)

GO ON TO QUESTION #34.
34. Do you feel that you have been pressured to "Keep the family together"?

☐ YES
☐ NO

34(a) Where did the pressure to "keep the family together" come from?

PLACE A CHECK MARK BESIDE THE PEOPLE WHO PRESSURED YOU.

☐ Your self
☐ Your Partner
☐ Friends
☐ Relatives
☐ Your children
☐ Lawyer
☐ Court
☐ Marriage Counsellor
☐ Psychiatrist
☐ Physician
☐ Minister/Priest
☐ Social Worker
☐ Other 

(please specify)

34(b) Of the people who pressured you to "Keep the family together", who do you feel pressured you the most?

____________________________________

Please comment: __________
____________________________________
____________________________________
35. Following an assault from your partner, did you ever call the Police?

[ ] YES
[ ] NO

36. What were your reasons for not calling the Police? PLEASE CHECK THE ANSWER(S) THAT APPLY.

[ ] Fear of further assaults by your partner.
[ ] Fear of social disgrace.
[ ] Lack of faith in the police system's response.
[ ] To prevent the children from witnessing their father being arrested by the police.
[ ] Other (please specify)

Now skip to question #40

37. How did you experience the Police?

PLEASE CHECK THE ANSWER(S) THAT APPLY.

[ ] Helpful
[ ] Not Helpful
[ ] Hostile and Blaming
[ ] Understanding and Sensitive
[ ] Other (please specify)
38. What actions did the Police take?

PLEASE CHECK THE ANSWER(S) THAT APPLY.

___ Referred me to Family Court
___ Removed my partner
___ Advised me of my right to lay a charge
___ Referred me to Hiatus House
___ Other ___________________ (please specify)

39. When you called the Police, what did you expect them to do for you?

Please comment: ________________________________

_________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________

40. Have you ever laid an assault charge against your partner?

___ YES
___ NO

41. If you have never laid assault charges against your partner, were any of the following factors your reasons for not laying charges?

PLEASE CHECK THE ANSWER(S) THAT APPLY.

___ He threatened me with further assaults if I laid charges.
___ He threatened to kill me if I did lay charges.
___ I felt that laying charges would be useless.  
___ He threatened to take my children away from me if I did lay charges.

GO ON TO QUESTION #42
42. If you went to Court, how did you experience the CROWN ATTORNEY or ASSISTANT CROWN ATTORNEY?

PLEASE CHECK THE ANSWER(S) THAT APPLY.

___ Helpful
___ Not Helpful
___ Talked with me before Court
___ Told me what to expect in Court
___ He/She was sensitive to my feelings
___ He/She was cold and indifferent
___ Other ____________________________ (please specify)
43. Did you drop the charges?

___ YES

___ NO

44. If you laid charges and later dropped them, were any of the following factors your reasons for dropping the charges?

PLEASE CHECK THE ANSWER(S) THAT APPLY.

___ He threatened me with further abuse if I didn't drop the charges.

___ He threatened to kill me if I didn't drop the charges.

___ He promised to leave me alone if I dropped the charges.

___ He threatened to take my children away from me if I didn't drop the charges.

___ I felt sorry for my partner.

___ Other (please specify) __________

45. Have you ever received medical treatment as a result of your partner's assaults?

___ YES

___ NO

SKIP TO QUESTION #49
46. Did you ever share the actual cause of your injuries with the Physician?

- YES
- NO

SKIP TO QUESTION #49

47. If you have ever shared the actual causes of your injuries with a Physician, how did he/she react?

PLEASE CHECK THE ANSWER(S) THAT APPLY.

- Helpful
- Not Helpful
- Hostile or Blaming
- Shocked
- Cold and Indifferent
- Other ___________________________(please specify)

48. If you have ever shared the actual causes of your injuries with a Physician, what actions did the Physician then take?

PLEASE CHECK THE ANSWER(S) THAT APPLY.

- He/She gave me a prescription for tranquilizers.
- He/She referred me to Hiatus House.
- He/She referred me to a Psychiatrist.
- He/She referred me to a Marriage Counsellor.
- Other ___________________________(please specify)
49. Have you ever applied for a Legal Aid Certificate?

   ___ YES
   ___ NO

49(a) Did you receive the Legal Aid Certificate?

   ___ YES
   ___ NO

50. Have you had a Lawyer to help you in working through the Court system?

   ___ YES
   ___ NO

51. How did you experience the Lawyer?

   PLEASE CHECK THE ANSWER(S) THAT APPLY.

   ___ Helpful
   ___ Not Helpful
   ___ He/She fully explained my legal rights so that I understood them.
   ___ I felt comfortable discussing my problems with him/her.
   ___ I found him/her to be cold and indifferent, insensitive to my feelings.
   ___ He/She returned my phone calls.
   ___ He/She appeared in Court with me at the appointed times.
   ___ He/She kept me fully informed of the progress of the ongoing legal process.
   ___ Other __________________________

GO ON TO QUESTION #52
52. Have you ever applied for any of the following legal procedures?

PLACE A CHECK MARK BESIDE THE LEGAL PROCEDURE(S) WHICH YOU APPLIED FOR AND INDICATE WITH A CHECK WHETHER YOU WERE GRANTED THE APPLICATION OR NOT.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Legal Procedure</th>
<th>APPLICATION WAS GRANTED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Interim Child Custody</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permanent Child Custody</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial Support for Yourself</td>
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<tr>
<td>Financial Support for Your Children</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Restraining Order</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Exclusive possession of the Matrimonial Home</td>
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<tr>
<td>Divorce</td>
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<tr>
<td>Separation Agreement</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peace Bond</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other (please specify)</td>
<td></td>
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</table>

53. At the point when you decided to leave your partner, how important do you feel the following forms of assistance would have been to you?

PLEASE CIRCLE ONE ANSWER FOR EACH FORM OF ASSISTANCE.

IMMEDIATE CRISIS COUNSELLING IN THE FORM OF:

(a) 24 hour a day phone service

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Importance Level</th>
<th>VERY IMPORTANT</th>
<th>FAIRLY IMPORTANT</th>
<th>NOT IMPORTANT</th>
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(b) 24 hour a day office counselling

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<th>VERY IMPORTANT</th>
<th>FAIRLY IMPORTANT</th>
<th>NOT IMPORTANT</th>
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(c) Counselling in your home following the assault for you and your partner.

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<th>VERY IMPORTANT</th>
<th>FAIRLY IMPORTANT</th>
<th>NOT IMPORTANT</th>
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MATERIAL NEEDS IN THE FORM OF

(d) temporary refuge or shelter

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<th>VERY IMPORTANT</th>
<th>FAIRLY IMPORTANT</th>
<th>NOT IMPORTANT</th>
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(e) Financial assistance

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<th>VERY IMPORTANT</th>
<th>FAIRLY IMPORTANT</th>
<th>NOT IMPORTANT</th>
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(f) Food

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<th></th>
<th>VERY IMPORTANT</th>
<th>FAIRLY IMPORTANT</th>
<th>NOT IMPORTANT</th>
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</table>

(g) Clothing

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<th>VERY IMPORTANT</th>
<th>FAIRLY IMPORTANT</th>
<th>NOT IMPORTANT</th>
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(h) Day care

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<th>VERY IMPORTANT</th>
<th>FAIRLY IMPORTANT</th>
<th>NOT IMPORTANT</th>
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COUNSELLING IN THE FORM OF:

(i) someone to accept me

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<th>VERY IMPORTANT</th>
<th>FAIRLY IMPORTANT</th>
<th>NOT IMPORTANT</th>
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(j) someone to share my feelings with

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<th>VERY IMPORTANT</th>
<th>FAIRLY IMPORTANT</th>
<th>NOT IMPORTANT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
(k) someone to point out my alternatives and choices for the future

VERY IMPORTANT | FAIRLY IMPORTANT | NOT IMPORTANT

(l) someone to help me with problem solving

VERY IMPORTANT | FAIRLY IMPORTANT | NOT IMPORTANT

(m) someone to understand the feelings which I was experiencing at that time

VERY IMPORTANT | FAIRLY IMPORTANT | NOT IMPORTANT

(n) someone to help me sort out my mixed feelings about my relationship with my partner

VERY IMPORTANT | FAIRLY IMPORTANT | NOT IMPORTANT

(o) someone to help my partner and me learn how to communicate without violence

VERY IMPORTANT | FAIRLY IMPORTANT | NOT IMPORTANT

(p) assertiveness training for me

VERY IMPORTANT | FAIRLY IMPORTANT | NOT IMPORTANT

(q) a group for couples with similar problems

VERY IMPORTANT | FAIRLY IMPORTANT | NOT IMPORTANT

(r) a group with other "battered women"

VERY IMPORTANT | FAIRLY IMPORTANT | NOT IMPORTANT

(s) someone to provide me with information about community resources

VERY IMPORTANT | FAIRLY IMPORTANT | NOT IMPORTANT
(t) someone to refer me to appropriate legal counsel

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(u) someone to attend court with me

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(v) someone to assist me throughout the process of laying assault charges

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(w) someone to provide me with appropriate community referrals for service

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(x) someone to help me make the "system" work for me

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(y) Other ____________________________________________________

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54. If you felt that any of the above forms of assistance would have been VERY IMPORTANT to you, which TWO forms would you choose as the MOST IMPORTANT?

1 ____________________________________________________________

Please comment: ____________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________
55. Were you involved with any Community social service regarding your partner assaulting you, before you were admitted to Hiatus House?

____ YES

____ NO

56. Please CHECK which Community social service you were involved with before you were admitted to Hiatus House.

- Catholic Children's Aid Society
- Protestant Children's Aid Society
- Catholic Family Service Bureau
- Family Service Bureau
- Hospital Social Work Department
- Psychiatrist
- Hiatus House
- Alcohol Treatment Program
- Welfare
- Other

(please specify)

GO ON TO QUESTION #57
57. Have you been involved with any Community Social Service regarding your partner assaulting you since you were discharged from Hiatus House?

____ YES
____ NO

58. Please CHECK which Community Social Service you have been involved with since you were discharged from Hiatus House.

____ Catholic Children's Aid Society
____ Protestant Children's Aid Society
____ Catholic Family Service Bureau
____ Family Service Bureau
____ Hospital Social Work Department
____ Psychiatrist
____ Hiatus House
____ Alcohol Treatment Program
____ Welfare
____ Other (please specify)

IN ANSWERING THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS, PLEASE REMEMBER TO ANSWER THEM WITH REFERENCE TO THE PARTNER YOU WERE LIVING WITH IMMEDIATELY BEFORE YOU WERE ADMITTED TO HIATUS HOUSE.

59. What was your MARITAL STATUS when you were admitted to Hiatus House?

____ Married
____ Single
____ Divorced
____ Separation Agreement
60. Has your MARITAL STATUS changed since that time?

- YES
- NO

60(a) What is your present MARITAL STATUS?

- Married
- Single
- Divorced
- Separation Agreement
- Common Law
- Widow
- Deserted
- Other

(please specify)

61. How many children have you given birth to? __________

62. What are the BIRTH DATES of your children?

1st Child __/__/ day month year
2nd Child __/__/ day month year
3rd Child __/__/ day month year
4th Child __/__/ day month year
7th Child __/__/ day month year
8th Child __/__/ day month year
9th Child __/__/ day month year
10th Child __/__/ day month year
5th Child /_____/ 11th Child /_____/ 
   day month year    day month year

6th Child /_____/ 12th Child /_____/ 
   day month year    day month year

62(a) From the list above, please CIRCLE the children that were admitted with you to Hiatus House.

63. What is YOUR PARTNER'S Ethnic Background?

___ Asian
___ British Isles
___ French
___ German
___ Hungarian
___ Italian
___ Netherlands
___ Polish
___ Russian
___ Scandinavian
___ Ukrainian
___ Other ____________________ (please specify)

64. What Language was most often spoken in YOUR home?

________________________________________________________

65. What is the highest level of schooling which YOUR PARTNER has completed?

___ less than Grade 9
___ Grades 9 - 10
___ Grade 11
___ Grade 12
__ Grade 13
__ some Community College
__ Community College Diploma or Certificate
__ some University
__ University Degree
__ Other ____________________________ (please specify)

66. What was the GROSS ANNUAL INCOME which you and your partner reported for income tax purposes the year that you were admitted to Hiatus House?

$ __________________

67. How did you first hear about Hiatus House?

__ Friend
__ Relative
__ Newspaper
__ Radio
__ Television
__ Professional Person
__ Minister/Priest
__ Other ____________________________ (please specify)

68. Following discharge from Hiatus House, did you ...

___ Establish as a Single Parent Family

___ Return to your partner without Marriage Counselling

___ Return to your partner with Marriage Counselling for you and your partner

IF YOU DID NOT RETURN TO YOUR PARTNER AFTER DISCHARGE FROM HIATUS HOUSE, YOU ARE FINISHED THE QUESTIONNAIRE. THANK YOU!!!
69. Do you feel that the following factors influenced you in your decision to return to your partner?

**PLEASE CIRCLE ONE ANSWER FOR EACH FACTOR.**

(a) I returned because of the children

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(b) I returned due to pressure from relatives

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(c) My partner threatened suicide if I did not return with the children

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(d) I did not want to go on welfare

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(e) I was afraid to be alone with my children

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(f) I had no job skills

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(g) My partner threatened and/or performed further acts of violence

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(h) I felt love for my partner

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(i) My partner threatened to prove me an unfit mother and have my children taken away from me

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(j) My partner promised to go for Marriage Counselling with me

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(k) My partner promised not to beat me again

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(l) I believed that my partner had changed

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(m) I believed that I had changed

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(n) Other

(please specify)

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70. Did you and your partner receive Marriage Counselling together, following your discharge from Hiatus House?

[Diagram with options: YES, NO]

71. For how long did you participate in Marriage Counselling sessions?

[Options: less than 1 month, 1 - 3 months, 3 - 6 months, 6 - 9 months, 9 - 12 months, 1 year or more]

72. From what Community Social Service did you and your partner receive Marriage Counselling?

[Options: Catholic Children's Aid Society, Protestant Children's Aid Society, Catholic Family Service Bureau, Family Service Bureau, Hospital Social Work Department, Psychiatrist, Hiatus House, Alcohol Treatment Program, Other (please specify)]

73. Following your return to your partner, did he assault you again?

[Diagram with options: YES, NO]
74. Have you separated again from your partner since your discharge from Hiatus House?

___ YES
___ NO

75. Are you currently living with the partner who you returned to from Hiatus House?

___ YES
___ NO

76. Are you living with a different partner at the present time?

___ YES
___ NO

YOU ARE NOW FINISHED THE QUESTIONNAIRE. THANK YOU!!!
APPENDIX D

COVERING LETTER
June 1, 1979

Hiatus House, Inc. is trying to find out how the families we have provided residential services for feel about the problems which they have experienced as well as the services which they received. Donna Miller is doing this research study as a partial requirement for her Master's of Social Work degree.

Your participation is very important. Only you can share your own experiences. Would you please take about a 1/2 hour right now to fill out the enclosed questionnaire? While it may appear long and detailed at first glance, it is designed to be quick and easy to complete. We invite your frank opinions. There are no right or wrong answers.

Your reply will be held in Strict Confidence. Your name will not be attached to your answers and your response will be seen only by Donna Miller. Your opinions will be carefully considered to find out how our agency can best serve those who come for help. The recommendations that result from the study will be based on the entire group of questionnaires. No one individual's opinions will be identified.

To make it easier for you to reply, I am including an addressed and stamped envelope. The number which appears at the end of the questionnaire will not identify you. It is there to help keep track of which questionnaire has been returned.

It is important that everyone reply. I know that this will take some of your time and will involve sharing some personal thoughts and opinions. All of us at Hiatus House will appreciate your cooperation and value your responses. We are depending on the results to help us provide better service.

If you have any questions or need assistance in completing the questionnaire, please telephone our agency at 253-4458 and ask for Donna Miller.

Please take some time right now to complete the questionnaire and mail it as soon as possible. Please mail your questionnaire by June 11, 1979.

Thank you for helping Hiatus House.

Sincerely,

(Signed) Dolores J. Blonde,
President, Board of Directors
APPÉNDIX E

CANADA MANPOWER OCCUPATION CATEGORIES
1. Managerial Administrative & Related
2. Occupation In Natural Science, Engineering & Math
3. Occupation In Social Science & Related Fields
4. Religion
5. Teaching & Related
6. Medicine & Health
7. Artistic, Literary, Reformer, Arts & Related
8. Sports & Recreation
9. Clerical & Related
10. Sales Occupation
11. Services Occupation
12. Farming, Horticultural & Animals
13. Fishing, Hunting, Trapping
14. Forestry & Logging
15. Mining, Quarry, Oil & Gas Field
16. Processing Occupation
17. Machinery & Related
18. Products, Fabricating, Assembling & Repairing
19. Construction Trades Occupation
20. Transport Equipment Operating
21. Material Handling Occupation
22. Other Crafts & Equipment Operating
23. Housewife*
24. Occupation not elsewhere classified
25. Unemployed

*Housewife: added for the purpose of this research
APPENDIX F

LETTER RECEIVED FROM RESPONDENT
July 1979

Dear Donna:

If ever I can be of any assistance to you, please feel free to ask. It was a pleasure to do so knowing it might help to keep Hiatus House running and other places like it. It is a very essential place for unfortunate women who have been so mistreated they no longer know they are being mistreated.

I have done well for myself; am self supporting and own my own home and the children are adjusted. All I needed was a little push and kindness, shown by you people that I was worth the effort. You did that! And I'll never forget you all.

Name withheld
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**UNPUBLISHED MATERIAL**


INTERVIEWS

Sommerville, Alex. Inspector of the Windsor Police Department, Windsor, Ontario. Personal communication, June 1979.

VITA AUCTORIS

Donna Jean Miller was born in Wadsworth, Ohio on October 21, 1946. She attended elementary school in Rittman, Ohio and graduated from Kamloops Secondary School in Kamloops, British Columbia in 1965. She attended Ontario Bible College in Toronto, Ontario from 1965 to 1969 receiving her Bachelor of Religious Education degree. She attended University of Windsor from 1970 to 1971 receiving a Bachelor of Arts degree. In 1975 she received her Bachelor of Social Work degree from the University of Windsor. She plans to graduate in the Spring of 1980 with her Masters of Social Work degree.

She has been employed with the Essex County Children's Aid Society from 1971 to 1975 and with the Roman Catholic Children's Aid Society from 1975 to 1976.

In July of 1976 she accepted the position of Executive Director of Hiatus House, Incorporated in Windsor, Ontario where she is currently employed.