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GROUP PSYCHOTHERAPY FOR MALE SPOUSAL ABUSERS:
A PROGRAM EVALUATION

BY

BRUCE L. COWAN

A THESIS
SUBMITTED TO THE FACULTY OF GRADUATE STUDIES
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FOR
THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF ARTS

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WINDSOR, ONTARIO

1996
BRUCE L. COWAN
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ABSTRACT

The study had a single specific purpose. That purpose was to assess the short-term effectiveness of an integrated group intervention program in promoting change to the belief systems of men who were physically abusive toward their female partners.

The results of the study revealed that the assessment and the fourteen week, two phase treatment program, and the continuing three phase treatment program was significantly more effective in reducing the physical violence, than was a no-treatment situation.

The study also revealed that although the violence decreased substantially or as in most cases totally, the level of psychological abuse decreased but not proportionally to the level of violence.

The study addressed the demographic variables of the violent male and determined that the average age for male batterers of this study was 34 years of age. The demographic variables of "physical punishment as a child" and "psychologically and physically abused as a child" appear to be the most consistent variables with adult males who had been violent to their spouse or intimate.
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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I would like to thank Professor Stephen Brooks, my supervisor, for his continuing patience and understanding. I would like to thank Professor C. Lloyd Brown-John for his encouragement and guidance. I would also like to thank Professor Forrest (Bud) Hansen for his support and patience. To all three I would like to extend my gratitude for listening and understanding my particular needs.

I would also like to extend an appreciation to all those men who participated in the program and to the spouses who supported the program through each of the sessions. The specific cases of men alluded to and whose names had been changed are representative of the broad spectrum of family violence and are not necessarily from the family violence program under evaluation.

I would like to thank the administration of Family Service Kent for their permission to conduct this study and for their understanding and patience as I prepared this thesis.

Finally I would like to thank my wife Mary, who for a very long period of time, tolerated my absence from the family picture as I sat immersed in the survey, the results, and the thesis preparation and revision.

To everyone who helped make this academic journey successful, thank you.
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"FAMILY VIOLENCE PROGRAM"  
AN EVALUATION

VIOLENCE: SOMETHING IS WRONG

CASE 1

Gary, a 24 year employee, with no criminal record, and an exemplary work record, was sentenced to two years incarceration. His offence, fraudulently obtaining lodging with a NSF cheque.

Bob, an alcoholic, with a lengthy provincial statutes record was incarcerated for a period of three months. His offence: Intoxicated in a public place.

Six times in less than four years Paul violently assaulted the same woman. In one attack, he punched and slapped her, dragged her by the hair, ripped her clothes off, tied her to a bed, poured coffee on her stomach, threatened to electrocute her with a live electrical cord, sodomized her, sexually assaulted her with a stick and forced her to perform oral sex on him until she vomited.

Charged with assault in June 1994, he was released on the condition that he stay away from the woman. On September 14, he beat her up again, punching, slapping and choking her until she began spitting up blood. He was arrested and put in jail.

In February, 1995, 33 year old Paul, in a plea bargain arrangement, pleaded guilty to two counts of assault causing bodily harm. The sentencing judge, believing that a too lengthy jail term would make it more difficult for his rehabilitation, sentenced him to eight months in jail. Only after the Crown appealed was his sentence increased to two years less a day.
INTRODUCTION

One in every two Canadian women will be sexually or physically abused at least once in her lifetime, in most cases by a man she knows or lives with (StatsCan, 1993). One married woman in every six has experienced criminal levels of violence from her spouse. More than half of all Canadian women (51%) have been physically or sexually assaulted after the age of sixteen. About 30% of abused children grow up to be abusive parents (Mitchell, 1993). ¹

Violence against women is a pervasive and sickening fact of life in Canada. The enormity of the problem of the physical abuse of women by male intimates ² has gradually gained recognition becoming one of the most intractable and insidious problems facing society today. It victimizes those who are often most vulnerable such as women, children and the elderly.

Public policy initiatives which include legal and legislative reform, cut across research, prevention, and intervention efforts. The societal implication of research findings addresses the need to legally proscribe all forms of violence and to carry through with prosecuting cases, especially those that involve acquaintances and intimates.

¹ "The StatsCan report, the first of its kind anywhere, is a world-shaker, an icy splash in the face of Canadian complacency. It must directly change the way we think about education, children, marriage, divorce, crime, availability of weapons" (Landsberg, 1993).

² In 1824 the United States court qualified the overturn of the law to punish as a husband’s right, by suggesting that if no permanent injury has been inflicted, nor malice, cruelty, nor dangerous violence shown by the husband, it is better to forget and forgive (Swanson, 1984, 709.).
The likelihood of violence may also be influenced by legislative initiatives that seek to redress gender-based power imbalances, including legislation on women's reproductive rights, pay equity, dependent care and family support, and civil rights legislation. Active efforts to help women move into jobs traditionally held by men; to eliminate discrimination in hiring and training; to move women into leadership positions; and to create a pro-woman climate through policies such as maternity leave and child care assistance; can all be considered part of a comprehensive attack on the conditions that underlie and foster male violence against women (Koss et al., 1994, 249).

During the last two decades family violence has emerged from its cloistered position as a private family matter to the forum of public concern. Wife abuse has retained a private status and was not defined as a criminal behaviour until very recently as the passivity of community response and prevailing

---

3 O'Leary hypothesizes that aggression is probably one of the most frequently researched topics (1988, 31). Physical aggression, influenced by social factors (Bersani & Chen, 1988, 83), according to Hotaling and Straus, occurs more often among family members than among any other groups (1980, 4). However, little attention has been focused on the primary aggressor, the male batterer. Less attention has been directed to the outcome of treatment for the abusing male (Hotaling & Sugarman, 1986, 101).

4 Once family life was private. The state regulated and governed family life least of all. The parent-child relationship was sacred. The husband-wife relationship was not monitored or controlled by government. Now families are public. No longer can we afford to keep the family violence problem hidden within the family's closet. But neither can we allow legal actions or social services to go un-examined, or to continue without assessment of their impact on the family, and not only on individuals. (Knudsen & Miller, 1991, xvi).
ignorance of the nature of the problem perpetuated this form of family violence (Straus et al., 1980; Walker, 1983; Wolfe et al., 1985).

During the 1980s, the issue of woman abuse moved from being solely the concern of feminist grassroots activists into the sphere of public policy. Criminal justice reforms have resulted in the treatment of woman abuse as a criminal offence, rather than a private family matter (MacLeod, 1989).

The concept of wife abuse as deviant behaviour was clarified by the Canadian Government in 1982. Affirmation of the criminality of this form of violence was consolidated with the Ontario Solicitor General's policy directive in November 1982, that police treat wife beating as a crime and to take the initiative in laying charges, as they do when someone is assaulted by a stranger on the streets (McLaughlin and Church, 1992).  

All governments have an obligation to ensure civil rights and protect fundamental freedoms. Governments as the final repository of legitimate authority are expected to ensure protection of societal rights. As section 15 of the Canadian Charter of Rights clearly reveals, society is no longer prepared to tolerate abuses based on sex and age. Beginning in 1979 the Government of Ontario implemented a variety of activities to heighten awareness and understanding as well as developing specific didactic programs to

---

5 This directive marked a significant change from the traditional criminal justice system responses to wife assault. Previous policies called for minimal intervention in "family disputes". Prior to 1982, only 3% of domestic cases resulted in police charges in London, Ontario. (Burris & Jaffe, 1984, 171-177).
facilitate change by male batterers. Federal and Provincial Governments developed new policies and committed new resources to ending violence against women.

But government expenditures reflect policy priorities and public necessities. Implementing these decisions in the public interest is public policy (Brown-John et al., 1988, 43). Since the Keynesian doctrines of the 1940s and the belief that social welfare state could be harnessed for economic policy, the public expectation about the role of government has changed dramatically. The reaction against big government with too much "active" government costing enormous sums of money with no guarantees that the results sought warrant the costs (ibid, 72) has resulted in the citizen expecting to be heard and indeed to have some (if not all) of their views converted to policy changes.

Governments are faced with protection yet are harnessed with the enormous costs of education, incarceration, training, and rehabilitation. A study at the University of Western Ontario calculated that wife assault costs Canada $4.2 billion every year just in hospital care, medical expenses, days of work lost, court costs and social services, not counting longer-term losses, griefs and harm. The resulting public outcry for justice and cost reduction place at the feet of government the development of public policy which addresses the changing concerns and safety of the population.

The initial response of government in the 1980s focused on providing crisis intervention. But more government intervention
options increasingly were being sought. 6 Government policy direction had shifted to the concerns of the battered woman. 7 In 1987 wife assault was moved from Family Court to Criminal Court jurisdiction, further showing that this is not just a family problem. 8 Most Ontario major centres by 1988 offered some program options for abused women and men who perpetrated abuse (Greaves & Wylie, 1988, 39-51).

With the abrupt changes in governments throughout Canada over the past decade, citizens who have become highly disillusioned with the effectiveness and legitimacy of representation through traditional channels of parties, elections and legislatures are demanding and expecting to be more directly involved in the formulation and implementation of public policy. For their part, 

6 Former Ontario M.P.P. Wayne Lessard, in a report to the local media, commented that government was committed to reduce the incidents of wife assault, by placing the responsibility on the community, and by increasing funds to shelter-organizations such as Windsor's Hiatus House. This would double to $100,000,000 what the federal government spends for similar programs throughout Canada (1994).

7 A. The Canadian Advisory Council on the Status of Women, 1980, identified the wife battering as a physical and mental health problem, an economic problem and an educational problem.
C. The Ontario Standing Committee on Social Development identified a greater public knowledge and understanding of spouse abuse.

8 A study done in 1974-75 in Hamilton, Ontario showed that 95% of assaults in marriages were attacks on wives. A Toronto study of family court records in 1982 came up with the same figure (Byles, 1980, 4-6).
governments recognize that the old interventionist and spending methods no longer seem to work or no longer are regarded as legitimate for many complex policy problems.

More opportunities exist for citizen participation. Social movements are becoming constrained however, because of the greater competition for tax dollars and the citizen policy-making input. A growing emphasis for policy change has been placed on scientific advice and technical expertise (Phillips, 1994, 59-60).

By March of 1994, provincial government initiatives and direction for victim safety and rehabilitation of the male batterer became operating policies. In the later months of 1995, program accountability to victims and the community as funded by the provincial government shifted dramatically from the public sector to the private sector (pay for service). It remains too early

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9 A. Established fund for improving services to battered wives, Shelters and male treatment programs
B. A provincial co-ordinator for family violence prevention to develop and maintain professional levels of conduct
C. Police Officers initiating charges
D. Crown Attorneys to ensure prosecution of domestic violence
E. Training programs for the Justices of the Peace
F. Provincial conferences to address needs
G. Vigorous enforcement of probation for crimes
H. Continue studies of the impact of provincial policies and procedures on women who are the victims of domestic violence
I. Developing programs for prevention, protection and public education
J. Training for police officers to understand the significance of spousal abuse and the importance of intervention


10 In November, 1995, all funding for spousal abuse education, programs to prevent abuse by male batterers and support for Transition Houses were withdrawn by the provincial Government.
to determine how the recent government's major shift in policy to that of the early 1970s ideology will impact on the established programs and safety nets in place at this time. 11 To be competitive for limited funding and support from policy decision makers, programs arresting the violent behaviour of male batterers need to be scientifically reviewed and approved. Research through program evaluation allows an opportunity to review established programs and policies to prevent further abuse to women and children.

THE PROBLEM

Research into social problems began in the post-World War II period, in an attempt to remedy problems in the changing family structure. In the sixties the development of family violence research recognized child abuse as a significant social issue, while research into the development of innovative programs focused on the improvement to the human condition. In the seventies, with the emphasis shifted to battered women, attempts were made to establish estimates of the incidence of various forms of family violence; to identify the factors associated with violence in the

Funding for shelters-organizations to protect the abused spouse, under the Common Sense Revolution of the new Ontario Government, were dramatically reduced as well.

11 In Ontario, The Crown Attorney rests the whole burden of evidence solely on the terrorized woman. In California, 95% guilty pleas have resulted because state policy relies on the police photographs, 911 tapes and evidence from other witnesses. Convicted abusers must pay for their own group treatment program and must stay in the program for a year or be sentenced to jail. Only 5% re-offend as compared to 70% who drop out of program. Our government has not made other conditions to this issue excepting to withdraw from former policy.
home; and to develop theoretical models of the causes and treatment approaches.

The biases within the early professional literature have done considerable injustice to the victims of spousal violence and as a consequence have slowed the development of appropriate intervention programs for both perpetrators and their victims. The consequences for the victims of abuse as directed by the policy initiatives of previous provincial governments has created a continuing demand for evaluations of the various prevention and treatment programs that have been developed to deal with the problem (Hornick & Burrows, 1988, 401). Continuing evaluation for effectiveness and cost benefit of program maintenance will be required as governments withdraw the cost funding components of the existing programs.

The urgent need for effective intervention programs for partner-abusing males was well known by clinical and research professionals working in the field of family violence. Given that violence appears to increase in intensity and it is replicated in subsequent relationships, it has been shown to have unfavourable consequences on the behavioral and social functioning of children who observe parental violence. The necessary sheltering of female victims did not in itself eliminate male violence. Intervention programs for male batters were required. But to provide effective didactic and educational components of the program outcome evaluations are required.

Wife assault stems from the male’s desire to control his
partner. The feminist movement had a key role in promoting this view in which, as assumed in a patriarchal society, men hold the predominant power over women and are not averse to using physical violence as well as psychological abuse to obtain and maintain that power. But in our society, because of its visibility, there is a strong tendency to treat physical violence as much more serious than psychological violence.

It is probable that physical abuse does not occur without accompanying psychological abuse. The real consequences of the abuse are devastating. Bruises heal, but the psychological damage which may involve drug or alcohol abuse, the loss of self-esteem and general coping skills, etc. may have far reaching effects (Schenk, 1982, 88).

To afford a more balanced view of the problems encountered it is important to investigate the male’s criminal behaviour in a heterosexual relationship. Meredith, Abbott, and Adams, proposed two other reasons for investigating this phenomenon: the adverse effects of violence on family relationships and the possibility, as social learning theory predicts, that marital aggression is transgenerational (1986).

Outcome evaluations of intervention programs for the

---

12 This theory, which evolved from an integration of clinical and empirical findings on batterers and other assaultive people, suggests that the batterer’s feelings of inadequacy, his blaming of others, his irrational behaviour, and his attempts at control, may be an extension of his efforts to compensate for a negative self concept. The implication is that women are victims and are victimized by men, who are socialized to be aggressive. The women, conversely are socialized to be victims (Becker & Abel, 1978, 29).
participants in family violence have rarely been conducted. Saunders suggested that evaluation research is needed because the impression of service providers and clients regarding treatment may not match the actual outcome of treatment. 13 Battered women may remain in dangerous relationships in the hope that treatment will end the violence (1988, 145).

The research into behavioral changes of male batterers provided a broader, more balanced perspective on the effectiveness of therapy. The research evaluated the extent of the successful adjustment within the community and family of spouse abusers after participating in the fourteen week group program of experiential and didactic treatment. 14

An exploratory study of violence in marital-type relationships has been completed. The study of men who abused their spouses included participant male batterers from within a structured family violence program as well as non-participant male batterers who attended for group evaluation but did not attend and

---

13 Grinnell and Seigal conclude that professionals, who provide treatment programs, owe a major obligation to themselves, to society and to the recipients of the service. This obligation requires them to base all their activities on the most current knowledge available by initiating and participating in systematic efforts to determine program effectiveness. An obligation exists to integrate the professional intuitive judgements with objective data acquired through the scientific process (1988, 23).

14 The research reviews the effects of a number of fourteen week programs of experiential and didactic group treatment over a four year period of time between 1992 and 1996. Success of the Family Service Kent "Family Violence Program" hinges directly on the relapse prevention of the male batterer within the contexts of the family and the community.
complete the violence program. To support and verify the findings of the study, pre-interviews and post-interviews with the spouse of the marital-type relationship were conducted.  

In preparation for the development of an hypothesis for this study a number of questions were posed concerning the outcome of the treatment program and the batterers who attended.

**Question #1**: Do male batterers, who have assaulted their spouse, who have completed an assessment for violent behaviour, and who have committed to, and completed, the didactic and experiential treatment program of Family Service Kent, "Family Violence Program", exhibit physical violence?

**Question #2**: Do male batterers, who have assaulted their spouse, who have completed an assessment for violent behaviour, and who have committed to, and completed, the didactic and experiential treatment program of Family Service Kent, "Family Violence Program", exhibit a substantial reduction of psychological abuse to their partners?

**Question #3**: Do male batterers, who have assaulted their spouse, who have completed an assessment for violent behaviour, and who have not committed to, nor completed, the didactic and experiential treatment program of Family Service Kent, "Family Violence Program", exhibit continued physical violence?

**Question #4**: Do male batterers, who have assaulted their spouse, who have completed an assessment for violent behaviour, and who have not committed to, nor completed, the didactic and experiential treatment program of Family Service Kent, "Family Violence Program", exhibit a substantial increase or reduction of psychological abuse to their partners?

**Question #5**: To what extent does the violence against the spouse decrease or change after the male batterer has committed to and completed the didactic and experiential treatment program of Family Service Kent, "Family Violence Program"?

15 The validity of the evaluation can be enhanced by utilizing Saundert's single subject design with a multiple baseline (1988, 148).

The Family Violence Questionnaire completed by the abusers during assessment, treatment and completion stages shall be utilized for analysis of behavioral change.
HYPOTHESIS:
(The hypothesis has been stated in the null form.)

Men who physically abuse the women with whom they live, will
not exhibit a substantial change to behaviour whether or not they
have completed part of or the entire twenty-four week "Family
Violence" program as offered by Family Service Kent.

RESEARCH MODEL

A research model was developed from the questions and the null
hypothesis to assist in the development of the research.

Figure 1

GROUP #1:
Men who abuse -------------- Family Violence ---------- Rates of Continued
their wives                  Program                  abuse
(evaluation)                (evaluation)

GROUP #2:
Men who abuse -------------------------------- Rates of Continued
their wives
(evaluation)                  abuse
(evaluation)
Chapter II

LITERATURE REVIEW

PREVALENCE OF FAMILY VIOLENCE

Family violence, as old as society itself (Stacy & Shupe, 1983, 10), is an emerging social problem in Canada. Defined as any threat or actual physical or psychological abuse between family members (Star 1979, 6), violence is also perceived as intention to or to cause injury or pain (Straus, 1973, 22). This physical and psychological violence occurs between family members (Hotaling & Sugarman, 1986, 111) more often than it occurs between any other individuals (Straus, 1980, 32).

In a culture where violence in certain situations is tolerated and even praised, it is little wonder that perceptions condoning violence in some form spill over into almost all homes (Straus, 1980, 3). Human beings may have their cognitive, emotional, social development and functioning ability impaired if they do not learn from their environment at the appropriate time (Germaine &

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1 There has been some evidence recorded that family violence has been seen to be appropriate and necessary (Miller, 1980): the child slavery (Goodsell, 1974, 133), the Laws of Jute (ibid, 195), and the Colonial laws of stocks (Martin, 1976, 362).

2 Empirical data from O’Brien (1971) and Gelles (1974) support the theory that a husband lacking in interpersonal skills may be likely to resort to violence in order to be the dominant person (Gelles, 1980, 881).

3 Violence has become an integral part of life for a large number of people. It erodes the very foundation of families and is passed on to the next generation. This theory like the Social Learning Theory, the Social Control and the Resource Theory, suggest that patterns endorsing violent attitudes and perceptions are transmitted to children (Kempe & Helfer, 1980, xx).
Gitterman, 1980, 6).

Each generation of children brought up on violence is another generation of potential child, wife, and husband beaters. The inter-generational transmission of violence proposition supported by Hotaling and Sugarman in research, found that children who have been physically abused or observed abuse, grow up to be abusive adults. Accordingly the witnessing of marital violence as a child was consistently related to abuse in adult relationships. Exposure to family violence during childhood leads to the development of the belief that violence is an acceptable way to deal with anger and frustration and to cope with stress (1986, 111). 4

Family violence has been applied to a broader concept of maltreatment that included harmful, but not necessarily physically violent acts (Gelles, 1993, 4). "If one accepts violence as an inevitable part of raising children, then one accepts the consequences of a violent society. Reject violence as a normal part of a family and you begin to see that it is possible to raise a healthy, happy and well-behaved generation that does not see the fist as the solution" (Gelles, 1979, 112). 5

Saunders et al. established a link between approval of marital violence and violent behaviour (1987, 39-57). Abusers were more likely than non-abusers to believe that wife beating is not only

4 Kaufman and Zigler studies on empirical data available suggest that 30% of abused children go on to become abusive parents (Gelles, 1990, 15).

5 According to Gelles, violence is viewed as a system product or output, rather than as individual pathology. All social systems rest to some degree on the threat of violence (1980, 881).
justified but acceptable. This belief, that violence is justified to maintain power explains why some men chose not to use newly learned anger-management skills.

Empirical evidence suggests that poor impulse control is characteristic of men who batter their wives (Stith & Rosen, 1990, 85). Rouse found that batterers were more likely to be violent in non-family situations than were men who did not batter their wives (1984, 130-141).

**PERSONALITY FACTORS:**

Early research on factors predicting domestic violence focused on psychopathology of perpetrators. Star found that spouse abusers were possessive, controlling, impulsive, insecure and they dealt with stress poorly and had a low frustration threshold. They

---

6 In battering relationships the husband assumes authority and becomes more controlling and extremely possessive. He curtails his wife’s freedom of movements and contact with her friends and relatives. She becomes isolated and completely dependent upon him. Even a legitimate demand, request, or complaint is viewed by the husband as nagging or an affront to his authority. Arguments centre around her domestic duties (his expectations), sexual jealousy (usually without cause), and disagreements about money (which he controls) (Dobash & Dobash, 1979, 76).

7 Social scientists have a tendency to attribute a man’s violence to the use of alcohol or drugs, poor impulse control, stress, unemployment, jealousy, frustration, provocation by the victim, inability to express feelings, and experiencing or witnessing violence in the home (Sonkin et al., 1985, 8).

8 Hotaling and Sugarman reported a consistent link between men’s use of violence in other relationships (1986, 101-124).

9 Star pointed out that "stress" does not "cause" abuse. Many men deal with stress in other ways. "Poor impulse control" is a grossly misleading term, "since battering men know very well what they are doing." (Schechter, 1982, 210-211).
hold traditional and stereotypic views of male-female relationships and are concerned with maintaining a masculine image. Their emotions become improperly labelled or are responded to inaccurately and are translated into anger. They frequently have poor communication skills and often display impulse and dependency disorders to alcohol, drugs and management problems in work (1983, 35).

Later studies by Parke and Collmer, 1975 and Pillemar, 1985, indicated that individual psychopathology accounts for only a small number of abuse cases. Certain personality characteristics, such as higher overall violent behaviour, negativity, lower self-concepts, inability to relate to peers, etc. were more prevalent (Stith and Rosen, 1990, 9).

**DEMOGRAPHIC FACTORS:**

Studies in the 1980s found that spouse abusers ranged in age from 20-40 with most in their mid 20s to early 30s. They were primarily Caucasian males. Most were blue collar workers or middle income earners. The majority were high school graduates and some had college or vocational training (Star, 1983, 32). Clow, ———

10 Wife beating has been translated into modern times as a custom, the unwritten terms of marriage contract and the paternal hierarchial structure of the family. It is reinforced by religious doctrine, by family law, by non-enforcement of criminal law, by an economic system that keeps women dependent upon men, by service providers and therapists who reinforce sex-role stereotyping and maintain the status quo: the power of one sex (male) over the other sex (female). (Sonkin et al., 1985, 8)

11 Clow, Hutchins and Volger expanded these demographic factors by including men from every region, every socioeconomic level, from every race, religion and creed who do violence to their
Hutchins and Volger concluded that men victimize their intimate partners at a rate or 15 to 28 million incidents or just less than 2 million women, each year (1990, 66).

The response to family violence on the part of the battered individual is negative and extensive. This response includes development of general negative attitudes toward marriage, relationships, and men. Psychosomatic reactions create alarming health problems. Depression and suicide attempts increase, with corresponding increase in the use of drugs and alcohol. Social isolation, child battering, and retaliatory violence develop. Extramarital sex and loss of interest in sex increase and the family's structure and functions are eroded (Hampton and Washington Coner-Edwards, 1993, 127).

Individual characteristics impact on the level of violence within the family. Individuals who are generally violent, who feel powerless, who appear possessive and jealous, who have low self esteem, who lack coping moderators, or who are chemically dependent, are at greater risk for domestic violence. Stith and Rosen suggest that individual characteristics interact with situational stressors, including precipitating events, to increase the likelihood that domestic violence 12 will occur (1990, 11).

wives, ex-wives, co-habiting partners, girlfriends and dates (1990, 66).

12 Straus (1978) said that understanding about wife beating "is not likely to be achieved unless it is within the framework that views family violence as a whole," including practices of physical punishment and the acceptance which legitimizes violence in American society (512).
CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS

AGGRESSION has been conceptualized in many ways. It has been defined by social scientists as behaviour intended to produce injury or harm. 13

ABUSE like aggression implies harmful intentions. It refers to harmful or potentially harmful effects of behaviour. Abuse is usually defined within interpersonal and social contexts characterized by power or dominance relations. Thus abuse connotes excessive or exploitive expressions of power and control. 14

PSYCHOLOGICAL ABUSE in intimate adult relationships represents an important area of inquiry. Psychologically aggressive or hostile acts occur in the vast majority of intimate relationships and are distinguished from physical aggression both conceptually and empirically. 15 Psychological abuse instills fear, increases dependency, and damages self-esteem. In defining this abuse most researchers have included the following categories: isolation,

13 Finer discriminations according to Murphy and Cascardi include bodily modes of expression (verbal versus physical aggression), interpersonal styles of expression (passive/indirect aggression versus direct aggression) or functional significance (instrumental versus expressive or irritable aggression). (1990, 86)

14 Operational definitions of aggression, like those in the widely used Conflict Tactics Scale (Straus, 1979 75-88), generally do not include such features or, when they do, impose different assumptions about power and dominance (assuming gender neutrality rather than gender inequality) (Murphy & Cascardi, 1990, 87)

15 Most forms of psychological abuse attack self-esteem, increase dependency and provoke fear. Abusive behaviour represents an attempt to control, dominate, or gain power over one’s partner (Pence, 1989, 24-50; Ptacek, 1988, 133-157).
restriction; humiliation, degradation; threats to harm; property violence; jealousy and possessiveness; economic deprivation; male privilege; emotional withholding; and minimization and denial (Murphy & Cascardi, 1993, 90).

VIOLENCE involves any act of violation, including emotional violence, that attacks an individual's self-concept. This physical abuse includes any act of aggression within a family from hitting, shoving or pushing, to using a weapon or murdering another family member (Stith & Rosen, 1990, 2).

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE is broadly defined as violent acts carried out by persons in a marital, sexual, parental, or care-giving role toward others in reciprocal roles. Spouse abuse applies to relationships outside of marriage with boy or girl friends (partners).

MARITAL VIOLENCE is a behaviour pattern that occurs in physical, emotional, psychological, sexual, and economic forms developed to perpetuate intimidation, power, and control of the abusing spouse over the abused spouse (Hampton & Washington Corner-Edwards, 1993, 113). The Oxford English Dictionary definition of "marital violence" is "the abuse of a spouse, usually a woman, to maintain control and power of the abuser, usually a man". 16

16 Lystad's definition of violence is behaviour that involves the direct use of PHYSICAL AGGRESSION against other household members which is against their will and detrimental to their growth potential (1986, xii).

Blau incorporated the idea that violent behaviour can be described as a continuum ranging from acts of omission (failure to prevent abuse being witnessed) to acts of verbal commission (demeaning, threatening and intimidating) to acts of physical commission (physical altercations, sexual victimization) (Blau,
THEORETICAL PERSPECTIVES

Despite the enormous growth of professional and public interest in family violence the field is far from unified. There exists no single dominant theory or body of data that guides the investigation of, or the efforts to treat and prevent, family violence. There exists significant controversies and differences of opinion and interpretation of data and theory. Researchers, such as Dobash and Dobash 1979, Okun 1986, and Stets and Straus 1990, continue to maintain that women also are frequent users of violence in their relationships with men, that women sometimes initiate acts of violence, and that women frequently cause injury (Gelles, 1993, 15).

MANDATORY ARREST THEORY: Mandatory arrest by police for domestic assault appeared at the outset in the 1980s to reduce the toll of wife abuse. However studies by Sherman et al., in replicating the 1980 studies found that arrest does not appear to prevent a substantial proportion of wife abuse. Arrests appear to be no less effective than other forms of police intervention (1991, 821).

ECOLOGICAL THEORY: Gabarino proposes an ecological model which suggests that violence and abuse arise out of a mismatch of parent to child and family to neighbourhood and community (1977, 721-735). The risk of violence is greater when the physical or mental ability of parents is limited, whether this be developmental or stress, personality problems or breakdown in social interactions between the spouses (Belsky, 1980, 320-335).

RESOURCE THEORY: The resource theory of family violence assumes that all social systems (including the family) rest to some degree upon force or the threat of force. The more social, personal, and economic resources a person can command, the more force he or she can muster. Goode suggests that the more resources a person has the less use of force will be made. A husband who wants to be the dominant person in the family, but lacks in education, prestige, and interpersonal skills, may choose violence to redress a grievance (1971, 624-636).

EXCHANGE THEORY: Gelles' exchange theory suggests that wife abuse and child abuse are governed by the principle of costs and rewards. He notes that violence and abuse are used when the rewards are higher than the costs. He proposes that the private nature of the family, the reluctance of social institutions and agencies to intervene, the cultural approval of violence as both expressive and, in the case of disciplining children, instrumental behaviour, raises potential for violence (1993, 13).

GENERAL SYSTEMS THEORY: General systems theory describes the processes which characterize the use of violence in family interactions and explains the way in which violence is managed and stabilized. Straus argues that a general systems theory of family violence must include alternative courses of action including feedback mechanisms which enable the system to make adjustments and

17 "Although the legal system has shifted its focus from families to individuals, society still relies on families to play a crucial role in caring for the young, the aged, the sick, the severely disabled, and the needy," (Glendon, 1989, 306).
identify system goals (1973, 105-125). Giles-Sims explains that violence is a product of interdependent causal processes. This does not remove any individual from responsibility for their behaviour. It does however, provide insights for treatment (1983, 143).

**SOCIOCULTURAL, SOCIOPOLITICAL, SOCIAL LEARNING THEORIES:** Social learning theory has been widely applied in the United States and in Canada. There is strong tradition among studies of wife abuse, according to Gelles and Cornell, which trace the primary generative sources of abuse to cultural attitudes and assumptions that support and legitimize violence toward women (1983, 14).¹⁸

The sociopolitical theories include the feminist notion of patriarchal social structure in which wife battering is merely another means to subject and control women in a male-dominated society. Gondolf suggests that in sex role socialization, men are educated through role models, sanctions, and over-mothering to repress their feelings and take charge. Wife abuse is an extension of what men learn about how to relate with others (1993, 239).

The sociocultural theory, which holds norms as fundamental to social stability, and sociopolitical theories which suggest that power is central to the ordering of society, assert that violence

³³. Stith and Rosen developed a theoretical model which suggests that sociocultural values relating to violence and sex roles affect vulnerabilities, situational stressors, and coping resources as well as the definition of and perception of the violence itself. It also suggests that there is a tendency for violence, once it has been used as a way of getting needs met, to exacerbate already existing vulnerabilities and stressors, thus contributing to its maintenance. Their model illustrates a general theory of domestic violence illustrating that it is multi-causal, with a variety of points for intervention (1990, 4).
has become the norm in society in what might be termed a culture of violence. These theories assert that violence is a manifestation of the social breakdown or normlessness in society. The ambiguity, contradictions, and confusion caused by the lack of consistent norms lead to many "social diseases" including violence against women (Gondolf, 1993, 238).

**Sociobiological Theory:** A sociobiological, or evolutionary perspective of family violence presented by Gelles, suggests that violence toward human offsprings is the result of the reproductive success potential of children and parental investment. Natural selection is the process of differential reproduction. It measures an organism's success and is solely determined by reproductive success. Males use aggression to control female sexuality to male's reproductive advantage. Male aggression is high when female alliances are weak, when females lack kin support, when male alliances are strong, when relationships are unbalanced, and when males control societal resources (1993, 11-12).

**Patriarchy Theory:** Gelles identifies wife abuse as a unique phenomenon that has obscured and been overshadowed by a narrow focus on domestic violence. The theory's central thesis is that economic and social processes operate directly and indirectly to support a patriarchal (male dominated) social order \(^\text{19}\) and family

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\(^{19}\) A popular handbook in the Age of Chivalry indicated that a scolding wife should be beaten and made to suffer and "let the husband have the word, and be the master" (Trevelyn, 1965, 260).
structure. This argument leads to the subordination and oppression of women and causes the historical pattern of systematic violence directed against wives. Patriarchy finds the source of family violence in the society and how it is organized, as opposed to within individual families or communities (1993, 13).

A number of studies have examined the relationship between marital violence and stereotypical sex role attitudes. Sonkin, Martin, and Walker reported that men who abuse their spouses tend to have more traditional gender-role orientation than non-batterers (1985, 14). Pressman suggests abusive men tend to be controlling, dominating, and aggressive to get their needs met (1989, 28).

**CYCLE OF VIOLENCE THEORY:** The cycle of violence theory is implicitly derived from the frustration-aggression hypothesis that

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20 The word family, derived from the Roman word familia, meaning "servants in a household," signifies the totality of slaves belonging to a man. The husband had absolute power of life and death over the wife-slave, who belonged to him (Martin, 1982).

21 Women were taught that their role in life is to marry and have children. When they take the marriage vow, their bondage is complete. Early English common law stated clearly "the husband and wife are one person in law," and that "the very being or legal existence of the woman is suspended during the marriage, or at least is incorporated and consolidated into that of the husband, under whose wing, protection, and cover she performs everything" (Blackstone, 1966, 442).

22 Pressman indicates that the wife is commonly demoted in the executive hierarchy and regulated to the level of a child. Because of this hierarchical structure and the socialized inequities between men and women, women unconsciously accept their role of deferring to their husbands and caretaking of others. Patriarchy insures the enormous likelihood that an abused wife experiences herself as powerless and helpless to her husband while at the same time believing she is responsible for his well-being (1989, 28).
one becomes increasingly aggressive as one is frustrated. The theory is fundamentally an emotion driven escalation model of violence. Tensions gradually mount until they explode in a violent incident. After an emotional release provided by the violent incident, a period of apologies, promises, and forgiveness begins. Tension gradually rises again, however, and the cycle repeats itself. The majority of batters, however, appear to be apologetic only occasionally and many are consistently controlling and abusive. The cycle of violence has become more the exception than the rule (Gondolf, 1993, 240). 23

Regardless of the theory one subscribes to, the issue of control remains. Control can be seen in the excessive regulation of one's own behaviour and feelings, an overbearing responsibility for others and a sense that there is a right to do so. Men are socialized to believe that they are rational, analytical, unemotional and masters of their own fate. The continuous suppression of the emotions eventually causes them to become detached from the effective aspect of their being and oblivious to

23 Walker (1979) describes a three phase cycle of violence: the tension building phase; the acute battering episode; and the loving, contrite phase.

Three important characteristics to the cycle were noted by intervention program developers Sonkin and Durphy (1982) and Porte (1984). First, the more times the violent cycle is completed the less time it takes to complete it. Early in a relationship it may take a year or two for the cycle to be completed, while later it may be completed in a month or less. Second, the violence during the tension-building phase becomes more severe in subsequent cycles. Third, the longer the cycles of violence go uninterrupted, the shorter the third phase becomes.
the mounting rage (Gondolf, 1985b, 48-54). 24

The abusive man believes that as a time-honoured provider, he alone is responsible for the family’s welfare and status. When his view of what is acceptable is inconsistent with the behaviour presented, it becomes a personal affront. An attempt to control his family’s behaviour in the same rigid manner in which he attempts to control his own behaviour takes place (Rosenbaum, 1986, 121-129).

In the examination of "man’s privilege" batterers believe that they deserve special status for maintaining order. 25 They believe that the difficult job of being controller, 26 manager, and provider allows them the right to be abusive if necessary to promote the "common good" of the family. 27

24 Evans suggests that violence is "sexy". There is an "erotic shock in a good slap" applied to a recalcitrant woman whose "sensual masochism," however slight, is undeniable (1973, 208).

25 Storr cited the Kinsey findings that anger and sexual arousal produce similar physiological changes in the body and that one response can suddenly change into the other as the reason why quarrelling husbands and wives often end up in bed together. Aggression is an important component of male sexuality, and "the idea of being seized and borne off by a ruthless male who will wreck his sexual will upon his helpless victim has a universal appeal to the female sex." (Sonkin et al., 1985, 16)

26 Rev. Donald Morlan suggests that we "recognize that virtually all men are angry at women: that a man who batters is acting out in an extreme form what most men feel, at least part of the time." He attributes men’s anger toward women to the repression of emotion in men, to limitation of intimacy to relationships with women, and to the socialization of men to be powerful (1977, 15).

27 Some men beat their wives because they are permitted to do so and nobody stops them. Some women are beaten because they are trained, forced and maintained into dependence and nobody helps them.
The control issue has counselling implications that are not always reflected in the development of intervention programs for batterers. To simply address the anger management and cognitive skills issues fails to address the control. Men must also unlearn the sense of domination and control that they associate with their manhood (Bogard, 1984, 558 and Gondolf, 1987, 95-108). Programs such as in this research model, attempt to address the issues of power and control as well as providing intervention techniques for anger management and teaching the cognitive skills necessary to address the control issues.

**TREATMENT PROGRAMS**

Martinson suggested that some treatment programs for offenders even in institutional settings, do have an appreciable effect (1979, 244, 252). Marshall challenged this position concluding that it has become very tenuous whether observed changes in the offenders' behaviour or attitudes are the result of their participation in the treatment program, or whether influences beyond the researcher's control are responsible for the change.

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28 Anthony Storr stated, "It is only when intense aggressiveness exists between two individuals that love can arise" (1970, 39).

29 Storr also reminded women that sexual intercourse is a vital source of man's self-esteem, that rejection can result in extreme rage from a husband or lover who feels insecure about his masculinity. A man who is not masculine and who fears women may become impotent (Sonkin et al., 1985, 16)
Men's violence stems from a belief about masculinity which limits men's growth as whole human beings and promotes a position of male dominance over women. In their families of origin, they (the violent men), acquired beliefs that no one in the family has the right to hurt another without being punished for it. Their childhood experiences also provide them with particular standards for being men and certain values about their roles as husbands and fathers (Ganley, 1982, 24). The men who complete the Family Violence Program of fourteen weeks, continue to live within the patriarchal culture which espouses these rigid roles. To end their violence, men give up their controlling behaviour and learn to be equal in their relationships.

Abuse must be seen as a common problem needing coordinated, integrated system(s) of community services and interventions (Gondolf & Fisher, 1988, 102). Finkelhor and Pillemar address the

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30 A review of the extensive literature on community corrections indicates that three justifications have traditionally been employed in support of community-based programs. Community-based programs are more humane than incarcerating offenders in correctional institutions, less costly than institutional services and increase the chances of the successful reintegration of the offender into the community.

In addition to these justifications, proponents of community-based programs contend that such initiatives have positive psychological benefits for the offender, assist in the maintaining the viability of the offender's family, and lead to a greater understanding by the public of offenders and their problems (Ekstedt & Griffiths, 1988, 256-257).

31 The "Family Violence" program, operating from Family Service Kent, Chatham, since 1992 is a community-based group for the male batterer to decrease his isolation and his dependency on the victim, while still being held accountable for his behaviours.
need of treatment programs to be based on common definitions of abuse across states, communities and families. Parallels and differences between all types of family violence (spouse, partner, child) need to be made (1988, 252). Only through the development of a coordinated response to family violence can a response be made that includes treatment programs designed to fit the individual situations of abusers and victims and provides a range of treatment options (Williams, 1990, 348).

Straus argues that counselling and therapy are at most stop gap temporary measures, as well as insufficient treatments (1978, 237). The relative recency of family violence as a field of study, and the fact that the first decade of research was dominated by a psychopathology model of the causation, has resulted in the limited level of theoretical development in the field. No one factor can explain the presence or absence of family violence. 32 Power and control are common features of nearly all forms of family violence, and interventions aimed at the importance of the power and control issues as well as the functions of the family system must be addressed (Gelles, 1993, 19). 33

Group therapy for abusers provides a powerful impetus for

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32 Stith and Rosen comment that if a program for treatment focuses on an immediate precipitating event and fails to examine the personal, family and social network resources and vulnerabilities as well as developmental and precipitating stressors etc., the level of violence in the family may actually increase (1990, 17).

33 Tolman, 1987 and Gondolf 1986 suggests that men who batter may give up their physical abuse as a result of intervention, but may continue or intensify other forms of violence. (Tolman & Bhosley, 1991, 113).
change by incorporating peer feedback and allowing the validation of feelings (Cohn & Daro, 1987, 433-442). Howing et al. argue that groups allow for the mutual sharing of coping strategies and serve in reducing the social isolation experienced by many abusers (1989, 330-338). Individual therapy was found to be less effective in reducing the propensity toward violence than all other treatment modalities (Blau et al., 1993, 209).

Abusers learn violence. They live in a society that appears to tolerate spousal abuse. Though being exposed to violence and living in a violent society are contributing factors to the use of violence these and numerous other variables do not explain why some men are batterers and others are not. Men are not forced to abuse. Their choices are influenced by factors on many levels.

Insight into what actualizes violence comes from an examination of the thoughts, feelings, and actions, experienced by an abuser prior to loss of control. While the latent factors of consort violence may seem complicated and unwieldy, a systematic review of TFA behaviours clearly limits the scope of possibilities to manageable dimensions. Hutchin’s TFA System model has been refined but its methodology has been effectively applied to spouse abusers (Clow et al., 1990, 66).

Gondolf admits that unfortunately there has not been a controlled study that effectively compares different curriculum approaches and conclusively indicates which approach is generally most effective in reducing battering. Studies suggest that the significant factors influencing outcome may be the process of
treatment rather than content. For instance, a coherent message of change, alternative role models, and social support are shown to be related to a positive outcome irrespective of treatment modality. A controlled comparison study, however, has demonstrated that a didactic format is more effective in reducing recidivism than self-help or guided discussion, at least in the short term (1993, 249).

**RESEARCH METHODOLOGY:**

Gelles and Cornell state that literature reviews are the dominant approach to the study of spouse abuse around the world. Incident statistics may have been reviewed, but unfortunately, the researchers have not been able to provide valid or reliable data on the number of women who are abused each year (1983, 12). Gelles further suggests that the most common research design for the study of family violence has been non-experimental design. Longitudinal and experimental studies of family violence are rare (Gelles, 1993, 8).

One of the most frequent sources of data on family violence continues to be clinical studies carried out by psychiatrists, psychologists, and counsellors because of their direct access to cases of family violence. Studies of wife abuse and violence toward women have relied on the samples of women at battered woman shelters (Dobash & Dobash, 1979; Walker, 1979; Pagelow, 1981). Such samples may be the only way of obtaining detailed data necessary to study the impact of intervention programs (Gelles, 1993, 6).

The most common data source for research are official reports
such as Uniform Crime Reports, but these are limited to instances that are reported to the police. The use of social surveys has been constrained by the low return rate of most forms of abuse and family violence and the sensitive and taboo nature of the topic. The use of available large groups of subjects such as students and national surveys (Gelles & Straus in 1976 and 1985) has its own validity problems. Clinical data cannot be used to generalize information on incidence or frequency of family violence nor to speculate on the strength of factors associated with violence. Such samples are never representative and few appropriate comparison groups are employed when gathering data from clinical samples. Some social surveys are limited by low response rates (Gelles, 1993, 8).

Official report records 34 tend to be limited to a small set of variables. Data needed to answer key research, practice, or policy questions are often not included in official data sets. Self-report surveys have a number of significant limitations. The low return rate of intimate violence questionnaires requires large samples, which, in turn, limits the amount of data that can be collected. The biases of social survey data on intimate violence include intended response error because of fear of reprisals, inaccurate recall, and differentiated interpretation of questions (Gelles, 1993, 8).

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34 Official records suffer from variations in definitions, different reporting and recording practices, and biased samples of violent and abusive behaviours and persons (Finkelhor & Hotaling, 1984, 23-33).
The second most popular design for studying spouse abuse is survey research and has been widely used in Great Britain and Canada. Researchers, Gelles and Cornell, advise that they have found no examples of either case-control designs or clinical case studies in the literature on spouse abuse. The limitations in most of these studies include: failure to use comparison groups in the surveys; small nonrepresentative samples; samples frequently based only on officially recognized cases of abuse; samples drawn from a single source (institution, shelter etc.) and conclusions that are often post hoc, or without empirical or theoretical support (1983, 13).  

Each of the major data sources on violence has its own validity problems. Clinical data cannot be used to generalize information on the incidence or frequency of family violence and on the strength of factors associated with violence. Such samples are never representative, and few investigators gathering data from clinical samples employ appropriate comparison groups (Finkelhor & Hotaling, 1984, 23-33). The greatest emphasis of current family violence research is examination of the effectiveness of treatment programs in reducing the incidence of family violence (Gelles, 1993, 5).

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According to Grinnell, validity to the research question becomes greater by using a valid instrument to measure and the yielding of scores whose differences reflect the true differences of the variable being measured rather than random or constant errors (1981, 104).
EVALUATIVE RESEARCH

Social Programs are conceived as having the goals of providing for social change. As an ongoing part of process, evaluation is the means for determining if the goals and objectives of the endeavour are being reached. It involves looking at the means being used to reach goals and objectives. Evaluation of one's work is a professional obligation (Johnson, 1989, 383).

Evaluation has been defined as collection of data about outcomes of a program of action relative to goals and objectives set in advance of the implementation of that program (Key et al., 1979, 159-175). Evaluative research is a term referring to studies concerned with understanding effects of a specific program or method of helping (French, 1953, 98-135). It is the use of research strategies and methods for determining the extent to which programs are implemented, effective and efficient (Tripodi, et al., 1983, 130).

Weiss indicates that the purpose of evaluation is to measure the effects of a program against the goals \(^{36}\) it set out to accomplish as a means of contributing to subsequent decision making about the program and improving the future programs. Weiss argues that a relationship understanding and trust must exist between the evaluator and program personnel (1972, 4).

Researchers agree that the results of program evaluation research depend on sound data and effective research procedures for

\(^{36}\) Tripodi et al. state that there are three program objectives in evaluation research: program effort, program effectiveness and program efficiency (1978, 39).
producing desired knowledge levels. Procedures for analysing data must be rigorously employed\(^{37}\) with respect to measurement scales on which the variables are specified (Tripodi et al., 1983, 132).

Evaluation research assesses the impact of social interventions. According to Wagenaar and Babbie measurement decisions are complicated by both practical and political considerations because evaluation researchers must work with the people responsible for the program that is being evaluated. In comparison to the traditional designs, this makes evaluation research prone to problems of logistics because researchers often lack sufficient control over the design in real-life contexts (1983, 172-173).

Scientific knowledge is empirical and subject to empirical verification, non-normative, transmissible, general, explanatory and provisional (Johnson & Joslyn, 1995, 19). An understanding of the nature of the program being evaluated is necessary prior to an understanding of the evaluation study to be performed. The program needs to be described sufficiently so that the independent variables of the research are clearly explicated. Careful scrutiny of the research with respect to issues about control and generality makes possible the replication of the findings (Tripodi et al.,

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\(^{37}\) Tolman and Bhosley utilized a follow-up telephone survey to ensure a high response rate. Program participants and their partners were contacted approximately one year following participation. The questionnaire utilized included demographic items, questions about relationship history, a history of the abuse (physical and non-physical) and current individual and relationship functioning (1991, 115).
SELF ASSESSMENT:

The problem exists with self-evaluation \(^{38}\) in that the intervener is always part of the intervention. Therefore there is a threat of reactivity. Alter and Evans however, argue that unlike Campbell and Stanley’s (1966) reactivity of the instrument as a threat to validity, the solution may lie in the understanding of evaluation and the purpose of self-evaluation (1990, 150).

If evaluation is a technological pursuit as Isaac and Michael (1981, 130-155) argue, then its purpose is to determine whether an intervention is achieving the goal it was designed to achieve. Campbell and Lee (1988, 302-314) argue further that the purpose of self-evaluation is correction or self-improvement. Alter and Evans therefore propose that reactivity, far from being the problem, becomes exactly what one is seeking. If the purpose of self-evaluation is self-change then one seeks correction as the information becomes available (1990, 150).

RESEARCHER:

All science is based upon observation. The same phenomena may be judged quite differently dependent upon the relationship between observer and observed. The very act of observation can alter the phenomenon being observed. Thus what one observes will be determined by the vantage point one selects and the instruments

\(^{38}\) Self-assessment research is defined as single-subject research which studies a single individual or group of individuals. This definition requires practitioners to examine themselves and their impact on the client system (Alter & Evans, 1990, 2).
chosen for the observation (ibid).

Rossi and Freeman argue that evaluating established programs is usually completed by operating staff "in house". The concerns of maintaining and improving effectiveness and efficiency is left to management. In a sense, the ground rules are different. Established programs are generally an historical response to social concerns (1982, 73). 39

Wholey argues that participation in the broader process is a major contribution of the evaluation effort. A shared commitment to develop and undertake programs in ways that maximize the likelihood of rigorous evaluations is essential (1979, 55). If the scientific method is a process for testing and communicating personal perceptions, then the issue of objectivity simply ceases to be an issue or at least one observer's information is as useable as another's (Alter & Evans, 1990, 151).

Johnson and Joslyn comment that it is the responsibility of the researcher to test without prejudice. It is the responsibility of others to evaluate the research to ascertain whether the conclusions drawn by the researcher are justified and based on meaningful information. Scientific principles and methods of observation help both the researcher and those who evaluate (1995,

39 There is a required need to state implicitly that a proposed program or an existing one may not be as effective an answer to the problem as was envisioned (Rossi & Freeman, 1982, 329).
Labovitz and Hagedorn refer to this participant-observer as being involved in the situation while recording events. The degree of participation may be minimal (distant-observer role) or extensive (the observer occupying a major position in a group). Participant observation 41 may be used for exploratory purposes or to test hypotheses (systematic rather than random observation is required for reliability) (1971, 62).

The interest of an observer may still invite risks to research validity. By utilizing multiple measures and multiple observers according to Alter and Evans, especially of the end product after intervention, and by focusing upon problems and their resulting questions, self-assessment research can gain the information that is needed to create change (1990, 151).

CONCLUSIONS

Despite some reports of success, there is a lack of methodologically sound evaluation of treatment procedures for violent families. Research continues to address the relationship

40 Anderson identifies social workers as having knowledge and skill that can enhance the collection of information. They have knowledge of which information might be important for evaluative purposes. They have knowledge of how to seek and deal with particularly sensitive information. They have basic interviewing skills for engaging individuals in the work at hand, questioning techniques to use in reaching for needed information, and skill in observing and assessing the nonverbal communication of the interviewee (1981, 9).

41 Henry Maier considered the worker as an expert and as such functions from a position of separation from the rest of the group, yet exercises considerable control over the functioning of the group (1981, 34).
between a successful outcome and such factors as the type and degree of abuse, specific treatment components, and the setting and timing of clinical interventions (Blau et al., 1993, 221).

Batterer program evaluations suggest that approximately 60% of program completers are not physically assaultive at a six month follow-up. There is some indication however that most batterers (60%) are verbally threatening and abusive during this time period. Moreover the success rate does not account for the high dropout rate of most programs that average around 50% over the course of the program (Tolman & Bennett, 1990, 87-118).

Gondolf in appraising the outcome of batterer programs remains somewhat elusive because of the difficulty in measuring success (1993, 248-249). His exploratory studies into a structured group program on: "How some men stop violence", suggests problems of unverified self-reports, low response rates and a small sample. He identified the assessment of non-participant batterers, the nature of the abuse and the relationship to the battered woman as problematic (1988, 143). The verification from the victim and consideration of her subjective experience is essential (Saunders, 1988, 150). Gondolf concludes by suggesting more attention be given to resistance of non-participants, the vital role of group counselling in programs for men, and the way that battered women help motivate men to stop their abusive nature (1988, 143).

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Physical aggression can follow verbal aggression when the verbal communication is not accepted as a legitimate form of expression in a relationship (Knudsen & Miller, 1991, 140).
RESEARCH QUESTION

This research study addressed a void which exists in the prevailing data on program evaluation for male batterers involved in spousal abuse. The research question posed by this study arose out of the general problem that the field of evaluation is relatively still in its infancy but that it has enormous importance to social policy and individual rehabilitation. The Charter of Rights guarantees certain basic rights against violence and programs which address the elimination of this violence need to be held accountable to the public. The research question posed by this study is exploratory in nature while examining the continuing of violence by the male batterer after receiving treatment.

Research Question: Does the didactic and experiential treatment program of the "The Family Violence Program" at Family Service Kent significantly reduce and/or prevent the violence continuation by male spousal batterers?
CHAPTER III
METHODS AND PROCEDURES

Chapter III presents the methods and procedures employed in the conduct of the study. This Chapter has been divided into eight sections: treatment program; procedures; comparison group; descriptive definitions; subjects of the study; research instruments; treatment of the data and analysis; and hypothesis.

TREATMENT PROGRAM

The Agency at which the research was conducted is a non-profit agency, supported by public and private funding. A geared to income, fee for service has been developed as a first in the community. As a counselling centre the agency is well known and respected in the community and, due to a relatively low cost treatment program, it is an attractive resource for persons with limited incomes.

At the time of the program participation by the subjects of this survey the financial obligation of the program was maintained by annualized funding provided by the Ministry of Community and Social Services. The only cost assigned to clients was the process of "intake" and "assessment to group".

The Agency also provides services for counselling through many Employee Assistance Programs as well as contractual arrangements with the Corrections Canada and local municipalities. The Family Violence Program at Family Service Kent is the only group treatment program offered to residents of Kent County and the City of Chatham which addresses issues of spousal violence by male batterers. The
program is held accountable through liaison with the "Women's Shelter", "Kent County Task Force on Violence", and victims within the community.

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**CASE 2**

Mark and Tricia had many arguments in their twenty years of marriage. One evening in 1986, Mark returned home, and stabbed Tricia eight times. He then shot her five times before leaving the house. Tricia managed to call for help and survived the ordeal, although she remains psychologically scared, blinded in one eye, and physically unable to function normally in daily activities. Mark was arrested, released on his own recognizance, and after a period of almost two years was tried and convicted for his assault. He was sentenced to less than two years in a reformatory. He was released early on parole. Tricia continues to live in fear.

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It is possible that the sample of wife abusers studied in this research is representative of the broad community of domestically abusive men. Although all participants were volunteering for treatment, many included in the data had been directed to treatment through intervention of the courts and, as such, received treatment in fulfilment of the conditions of their parole or probation.

The research began with the assumption that fewer than 100 male batterers would be included in the "repeated-measures" part of the study. This large number was increased to 350 at the commencement, thereby necessitating a change in research design. It had been anticipated that each participant would be invited to attend a 45 minute interview. But due to the increased numbers and the researcher's position as the facilitator of the family violence program, it was decided to seek responses through telephone
interviews. These interviews would be conducted with participants who were clients of the agency and who had developed a trust for didactic/therapeutic intervention. Further follow-up telephone interviews were made with a random sample of the spouse-partners of the participant to verify authenticity of the information.

The Family Violence Program (FVP) at Family Service Kent in Chatham was originally an anger management program. In 1992 the program was revised and made accountable to victims of spousal assault and the community and reintroduced to the community as a family violence program for male batterers which sought to induce change in violent behaviour. The male batterers of this study came to the Family Violence Program between August 1, 1992 and December 31, 1995.

The main objective of the program is to provide counselling for men who are physically abusive toward their female partners. The program is designed to stop physical violence and to provide participants with the skills for conflict resolution and effective communication. A detailed description of the program can be found in the Family Violence Program Manual as developed for Family Service Kent by Cowan, B.L., 1992, revised (Appendix 1).

The program content supports the position that aggression is not a problem of the couple but rather of the person who displays it. Aggression is also viewed as a learned behaviour which can be unlearned and replaced by more appropriate behaviour. All participants who attend the program are required to accept all the responsibility for their own behaviour and to commit to no
violence. During the program the participants are encouraged to recognize their feelings, thoughts and decision making processes and to address the minimization and/or denial of the physical violence.

The 14 weekly sessions of two hours each is an educational and therapeutic approach to stopping violence. The groups are facilitated by male and female counsellors whenever possible. Weekly topics are organized and presented in a formalized manner. Material arising spontaneously from group members addressing issues such as personal fear of change, continuing violence etc., is discussed openly in the group format and incorporated into the weekly sessions of the program.

The program seeks to be cognizant of the concerns of victims and to this end, it holds each participant accountable for his actions while a member of the group. Should a member of the group display aggression or merely suggest the potential for aggression, abuse, or violence towards his partner or children, or to anyone else, then the police, the spouse or caregiver, and probation and parole, if they have been so directed, will be contacted and advised of the potential for violence. The participant will be encouraged to remain after session to work with the therapist to reduce his anger.

PROCEDURES

Approval to conduct research with human subjects was secured from the Research Ethics Committee, Department of Political Science, University of Windsor, and from the Executive Director,
Family Service Kent, Chatham, Ontario. All participants in the study were adult males enrolled in the Family Violence Program at Family Service Kent between August 1, 1992 and December 31, 1995.

Three hundred and twenty subjects underwent a two-hour clinical assessment designed to assess suitability for the program. The Family Violence Intake Assessment form (Appendix 2) was used in this process and provided data on the personal demographic variables investigated in this study. This data was recorded on the Data Collection Sheet (Appendix 5). The interviews were conducted by Professional Social Workers qualified in family violence assessment and evaluation techniques.

The men who were accepted into the program agreed to the signing of "release of information" forms in order that their spouses (past or present) could be contacted on a regular basis in order that they be kept informed as to the progress of the batterer. The men who were accepted into the survey were contacted by telephone and advised of the research program. The Protection to Human Subjects form (Appendix 7) was read to each participant and a Verbal Consent form (Appendix 8) was initialled, dated and maintained for record. The male batterer's understanding of the information, plus his decision to participate in the research or not was determined and recorded (Appendix 8). No subjects refused to participate in the research.

Data were collected through group administration of the violence questionnaire, data question sheet (Appendix 4). At the time of the survey there had been 320 of the 350 men accepted into
group program, who had been processed through intake. Thirty refused to attend for assessment. Not all men completed the program nor were all men contacted for survey results. Some male batters could not be contacted due to change of address or de-listing of their telephone numbers.

**COMPARISON GROUP**

The Comparison Group was selected from the batterers who had attended for assessment and for a variety of reasons chose not to attend Phase "One" or "Two". This group admitted to violence directed to their spouse; had been through the assessment and been recommended to attend the Family Violence Program; and chose not to attend without consultation with the agency. Sixty-six men had been assigned to this comparison group, but incomplete records limited the number of actual survey participants to 48.

Of the remaining numbers directed to the group process, 148 violent men who had been assessed did not complete the group, Phase "One & Two". This group was not studied extensively at this time for change nor was there an attempt to understand the reason why they did not complete the required weeks in sessions. They attended some of the group process yet failed to attend the complete sessions. This particular group of participants neither reflected the comparison group nor the group of completers. A random sample of 33 subjects from this group was reviewed for demographic information and change (Table 1).

Eighty-two male batters attended and completed Phase "One & Two" of the Family Violence Program while 24 subjects continued and
completed Phases "One, Two and Three" of the Family Violence Program. The research data of changes in violence was derived from men who had completed the family violence training at the completion of Phase "One and Two" or Phase "One, Two, and Three".

DESCRIPTIVE DEFINITIONS

The Descriptive definitions used in this study are representative of common usage in the area of family violence (Shepherd, R.H., 1990, p.61).

Battering or violence: An act carried out with the intention of, or perceived as having the intention of, physically hurting another person.

Wife Abuser or Batterer: A male who batters his female partner whether or not he is married to her and whether or not they are living together.

Physical Abuse: Use of a person's hands, feet, or other body parts, or use of a held or thrown object to inflict physical damage or pain on another person.

Psychological Abuse: Verbal or nonverbal threats of violence against another person, against another person's belongings, threats of suicide, repeated verbal or gestural humiliation or degradation, withdrawal of affection.

Sexual Abuse: Physical and or psychological abuse focused on sexual areas of the body (breasts, genitals), ie: rape, grab, pull, hit sexual areas of the body; demands for sexual acts; forced hugging, kissing, fondling.

Object Violence: Striking, throwing, smashing inanimate objects.
**Victim:** The female partner of the abusive male, who is the object of the physical, psychological, or sexual abuse.

**Child Victim:** An individual who as a child experienced being physically (including sexual abuse) and psychologically abused by either parent (biological parent, step parent, common-law parent).

**Witness:** An individual who as a child witnessed physical or psychological abuse between parents.

**Program or Wife Abuse Program:** The 14-week "Family Violence Program" offered at Family Service Kent of Chatham, Ontario.

**Completer:** A program participant who has completed the pretreatment clinical assessment, the Violence Questionnaire, at least 12 weeks of the 14 week intervention program, and the survey.

**Partial Completers:** A program participant who has completed the pretreatment clinical assessment, the violence questionnaire, less than 12 weeks and more than 2 weeks of the intervention program, and the survey.

**Drop Out:** An individual who completed the pre-treatment clinical assessment, the violence questionnaire and who failed to attend for treatment at two or less weekly sessions.

**OPERATIONAL DEFINITIONS**

The operational definitions indicated below reflect the personal information made available through the participant’s clinical assessment and personal records at Family Service Kent. Demographic information obtained attempted to ascertain the information through language commonly used at Family Service Kent. Responses such as "Yes" or "No" make no attempt to develop a level
of severity, but simply to state that an action has occurred.

Although the ratings such as "once", "twice" and "more than twice" are used in each of the categories to express violence and psychological abuse, no attempt is made in this study to differentiate between the levels of abuse, the degree of abuse and who abuses less or more on a continuum. However, in this study, any indication of abuse, whether psychological or physical, is a clear indicator that the abuse has occurred or continues to occur. No abusive behaviour is acceptable. The commission of any of these acts is considered unacceptable.

**RESEARCH INSTRUMENTS**

This study was designed to directly measure changes in violence perpetrated against spousal partners. The variables used in this study have been shown to correlate with the frequency and severity of wife abuse both in this sample and in other studies.

Family Violence Questionnaire

The Intake Assessment Form, (Appendix 2), also referred to as the "Family Violence Questionnaire" has been adapted from the work of Sankin, Martin, Walker, 1985 and revised for this research project. The questionnaire was utilized as a research tool in the interviews with the participants. It provided a broad range of demographic data and information relating to frequency and severity of physical and psychological abuse by the client against his partner and children.

Data Question Sheet

Data obtained from the Family Violence Assessment form was
recorded to an aggregate data collection sheet (Appendix 5)

Violence One Grouping (Abuseone) (At Assessment)

Questions from the Family Violence Assessment form which identified violence were collected in total for any indication of violence. The information was collected at the assessment of the participant to group and then collectively compiled under a separate heading for violence called "Abuseone". Any act of violence or any level of violent behaviour was recorded as violence. (Appendix 10).

Violence Two Grouping (Abusetwo) (At Survey)

Questions from the Family Violence Assessment form which identified violence were collected in total for an indication of violence. The information was collected during the research. These questions, identical to those obtained from the "Violence One Grouping", were collected under a separate heading for violence called "Abusetwo". Any act of violence or any level of violent behaviour was recorded as violence (Appendix 11).

Psychological Abuse Two (At Survey)

Questions from the Psychological abuse questionnaire prepared at Family Service Kent and adapted from the work of London’s Changing Ways program, were utilized. These questions were totalled for a single numerical value (Appendix 12).

Subjects of the Study

The subjects in this study comprised a group of 350 clients who were directed after assessment, to the Family Violence program of Family Service Kent between August 1992 and December 1995.
Participants not included in the data were those who contacted the Agency but failed to attend for assessment or attend group counselling thereafter. From the 148 men who attended for assessment but only attended less than 12 of the 14 weeks of program, a sample of 33 clients was drawn for comparison purposes.

The purpose of the study was to measure the effectiveness of the intervention. Subsequent analysis of why men did not attend group would be left for future studies. Unlike the funnelling technique (Gelles, 1987) which established the violence questions along a continuum from the more socially acceptable violence (yelling and screaming) and moving toward coercive and aggressive behaviour (hitting, using knife) the questions of abuse employed in the research interview ranged from violent to aggressive to violent to nonviolent acts. Any violent act was construed to be violence whether it had occurred only once or repeatedly.

The rapport building with individual participants had been developed over time by the researcher. Continuous discussion with their spouses as to the benefit of the program and the personal evaluations of programs and facilitators by the male batterers when they attended the program, provided the researcher with an opportunity to evaluate the responses as accurate.

Of interest to the validity of the respondents was the spousal interview, completed with many of the participants's partners. Each of the spouses interviewed was asked the same questions as their male partners. Each of the male batterers was advised that contact with their partners could be made to verify their responses. In
each case, to verify, a release of information had been signed by
the respondent, thus allowing the researcher permission to contact
the spouse.

In accordance with Agency policy, only clients over 18 years
of age, who had been assessed as being violent or exerting power
and control with the potential of violence, were directed to the
program by the assessment counsellor. These clients included court
mandated clients, clients directed by a variety of health care
professionals and self directed clients. All men attending did so
because they chose to do so. Some were concerned about their
abusive behaviour and wished to make changes.

CASE 3

At twelve years of age Mike fought with his father. At 15 years of
age he physically assaulted his mother. A childhood of physical and
sexual abuse had not prepared him for parenthood. At 21 years of age he
separated from his spouse after many incidents of violence and verbal
abuse. He was not charged but she entered the Woman’s Shelter for her
safety. She returned home to reestablish the family. He ripped off her
blouse and bra, and threw her down stairs. As she lay in hospital, he was
arrested and charged for assault. In November 1995, after entering a plea
of guilty to assault, he was sentenced to 12 months probation, with
provision to stay away from his wife. In February, 1996, Mike was again
arrested and is pending trial for breach of recognizance and assault. He
attended for counselling to find out why he behaves the way he does.

Others believed that the partner would leave them if they did
not seek treatment, and some may have opted for the program in the
belief that their partner would return.
CASE 4

A childhood of abuse, a marriage fraught with violence, now separation and pending divorce, are just some of the issues of crisis which brought Peter to the Family Violence Program.

Of the 320 men who attended for assessment, from whom data was initially collected, 66 did not attend any group sessions, 148 attended only less than the required 12 weeks of sessions, 82 attended both "Phase One" and "Phase Two" and 24 attended "Phase One", "Phase Two", and "Phase Three".

Of the 66 who did not attend any group session, only 48 personal files were complete and yielded the statistical information required for this study. Of the 106 clients who completed "Phase One" and "Phase Two", and those who completed also, "Phase Three", only 94 could be contacted. The remaining 12 clients could not be contacted because of changes to their telephone numbers and addresses.

NOTE: No client when contacted, refused to cooperate in the study; to be interviewed; or to have the results published.

Demographics

AGE: The participants ranged in age from 18 - 64 years. Because of the broad range of ages of the male batterers attending group, the age category was combined in intervals of 5 to yield approximate ages and combined scores. Approximately 75% of men attending group ranged in age from 27 to 42 years of age.
EDUCATION: The number of participants by education was as follows: 14 men with only public school attainment; 93 men with some high school attainment; 43 men with high school completion; and 25 men with some or completion of college and/or university.

OCCUPATION: The number of participants by occupation was as follows: 11 men were students; 13 men were employed in the service industry (cooks, waiters etc.); 23 men were employed in the skilled trades (welders, machinists, tool and die, etc.); 85 men were employed as general labourers (construction, cleaning etc.); nine men were employed in transportation (truck, delivery drivers etc.); six men were self-employed in business; one man was self-employed as a salesman; three men were self-employed as farmers; three men were employed as farm labourers; one man was employed as a teacher; seven men were employed in other professional occupations (engineer, minister, etc.); ten men were employed in managerial positions; one man was retired and two men reported other occupations. General labour and skilled labour combined at 62% of the population studied.

EMPLOYMENT STATUS: The number of participants by employment status was as follows: 54 men were unemployed; eight men were employed part-time and 113 men were employed full time. The amount of male batterers employed full and part time is 69%.

LIVING SUPPORT: The number of participants by living support was as follows: 116 men were employed and paid by their various employers; 19 men were in receipt of unemployment insurance; 23 men were receiving social assistance and 12 men were receiving support
by other means.

**MARITAL STATUS AT TIME OF ASSESSMENT:** The number of participants by marital status at assessment was as follows: 59 men were married and living together with their spouses; 46 men were married but living apart; 26 men lived together with their common-law partner; 31 men lived apart from their common-law partner and 13 men lived in other arrangements.

**MARITAL STATUS AT TIME OF ABUSE:** The number of participants by marital status at the time of abuse was as follows: 98 men were married and living with their spouse; six men were married but living apart from their partner; 51 men were living together with their common-law partner; six men were living apart from their common-law partner and 14 men were living in other arrangements.

**MARITAL STATUS AT TIME OF SURVEY:** The number of participants by marital status at the time of the survey was as follows: 39 men were still married and living with their spouses; 15 men continued to be married but lived apart from their partners; 13 men lived common-law with their spouses; eight men lived apart from their common-law partners; 19 men lived in other arrangements and 81 men who did not complete the group were not surveyed for this information.

**CHILDREN:** The number of children in the home at the time of the abuse was as follows: 25 men had no children in the home; 46 men had one child present; 81 men had two children and 22 men had three or more children in the home. There was one man who did not identify the number.
PARENTS OF THE ABUSER FATHER OCCUPATION: The number of fathers of the participants by occupational classification was as follows: one father was a student; two fathers worked in the service industry; nine fathers worked in skilled labour; 33 fathers worked in general labour; 11 fathers worked in the transportation industry; seven fathers were self-employed in business; 11 fathers were self-employed farmers; one father worked as a labourer on a farm; two fathers were professional teachers, while five fathers were professionals in other areas; 38 fathers were classified as retired; five fathers were in the managerial area; 31 fathers were deceased and 19 fathers were classified as other occupations.

PARENTS OF THE ABUSER MOTHER OCCUPATION: The number of mothers by occupational classification was as follows: one mother was a student; 14 mothers worked in the service industry; three mothers worked in skilled labour; 20 mothers were employed in general labour; one mother was self-employed in business; nine mothers were self-employed on farms; one mother was a teacher; eight mothers were employed as other professionals; 37 mothers were classified by their sons to be retired; 12 mothers were reported to be deceased; three mothers were working in management; 46 mothers were employed as housewives and 20 mothers were employed in other occupations.

RELATIONSHIP TO ABUSER FATHER: The relationship of the participant’s father to the subject was as follows: 60 fathers were identified as being close to the subjects while 115 fathers were identified as being distant from their subjects.

RELATIONSHIP TO ABUSER MOTHER: The relationship of the
participant’s mother to himself was as follows: 105 mothers were identified as being close while 70 mothers were identified as being distant from their sons.

PHYSICALLY PUNISHED AS CHILD: The number of participants physically punished as a child was as follows: 152 men identified that they had been physically punished as a child and 23 men advised that they were not physically punished as a child.

CONSIDERED PHYSICALLY/PSYCHOLOGICALLY ABUSED AS CHILD: The number of participants who considered themselves physically and/or psychologically abused as a child were as follows: 89 men identified that they considered themselves to have been physically or psychologically abused as a child and 86 men stated that they had not.

OBSERVE FATHER PHYSICALLY/PSYCHOLOGICALLY ABUSE MOTHER OR DESTROY PROPERTY IN A FIT OF ANGER: The number of participants who witnessed their father’s physical/psychological abuse to their mother was as follows: 100 men advised that they had witnessed the abuse while 75 men reported seeing none.

OBSERVE MOTHER PHYSICALLY/PSYCHOLOGICALLY ABUSE FATHER OR DESTROY PROPERTY IN A FIT OF ANGER: The number of participants who witnessed their mother’s physical/psychological abuse to their father was as follows: 17 men reported that they had observed their mother’s abuse while 158 men stated they had not witnessed any abuse.

DID YOU ATTACK EITHER OF YOUR PARENTS: The number of participants who attacked either parent was as follows: 55 men stated that they
had attacked one or both of their parents and 120 men advised that they had not.

**PRIMARY DISCIPLINARIAN IN FAMILY:** The number of participants who identified the primary disciplinarian in their family of origin was as follows: 110 men identified their fathers as the primary disciplinarian and 65 men identified their mother as the primary person.

**WERE ANY OF YOUR SISTERS/BROTHERS PHYSICALLY, SEXUALLY PSYCHOLOGICALLY ABUSED AS CHILDREN:** The number of participants who identified whether their brothers or sisters were physically, or sexually, or psychologically abused as children were as follows: 62 men identified abuse to their siblings while 113 men stated that no abuse took place.

**WERE YOU A VICTIM OF SEXUAL ASSAULT:** The number of participants who identified themselves as a victim of sexual abuse was as follows: 19 men advised that they had been sexually abused as a child while 156 men reported no sexual abuse.

**DID YOU HAVE PROBLEMS WITH VIOLENT BEHAVIOUR AS CHILD/TEENAGER:** The number of participants who stated that they had problems with violent behaviour as they grew up was as follows: 100 men identified that they had problems with violent behaviour as a child/teenager while 75 men stated they had no problems.

**DID ANY OF YOU BROTHERS OR SISTERS HAVE PROBLEMS WITH VIOLENT BEHAVIOUR AS A CHILD/TEENAGER:** The number of participants who reported their brothers or sisters having a violence problem as they grew up was as follows: 55 men identified their siblings as
having a violence problem while 120 men stated that no problems of this kind existed in their family.

ANY WEAPONS USED IN YOUR ABUSE: The number of participants who reported the use of weapons during their abuse to their spouse was as follows: 19 men advised that they had used weapons during their abuse while 156 men stated that they had not.

WERE THERE INJURIES TO THE VICTIM: The number of participants who admitted to injuries to the victim, as supported by spousal contacts, was as follows: 68 men advised of causing injuries to their victims while 107 men denied any injuries to their victims.

WAS THERE ANY USE OF ALCOHOL/DRUGS PRIOR TO OR DURING ABUSE: The number of participants who identified alcohol or drugs prior to or during the abuse was as follows: 79 men identified alcohol/drug use prior to and during the abuse while 96 men denied the use.

POLICE INTERVENTION: The number of participants who advised of police intervention was as follows: 112 men advised that the police had intervened while 63 men stated that no police involvement was made.

CHARGES INITIATED: The number of participants who advised of being charged after the abuse was as follows: 102 men advised that they had been charged while 73 men advised that they had not been charged.

WERE CHILDREN INVOLVED/PRESENT/IN HOUSE AT TIME OF ABUSE: The number of participants who advised of children being present at the abuse, in the house during the abuse or witnessing the aftermath of the assault was as follows: 139 men reported that children had
witnessed the assault while 36 men suggested that they had not.

**SUICIDE ATTEMPT:** The number of participants who attempted suicide prior to or after the abuse was as follows: 35 men advised that they had attempted suicide while 140 men advised no contemplation of suicide.

**CONSIDERED LONER/ISOLATED AT TIME OF ASSESSMENT:** The number of participants who considered themselves a loner or isolated at the time of assessment was as follows: 110 men considered themselves loners and 65 men did not.

**CONSIDERED LONER/ISOLATED AT TIME OF SURVEY:** The number of participants who considered themselves a loner or isolated at the time of the survey was as follows: 45 men considered themselves loners and 49 did not. Eighty-one men were not identified.

**TREATMENT MOTIVATION AT ASSESSMENT SELF MOTIVATION:** All of the 175 participants considered themselves to be self motivated for treatment at the assessment.

**LENGTH IN PROGRAM:** The number of participants by length of time in the program was as follows: 48 men attended only the assessment; 33 men attended at the assessment and part of the phase one program; 75 men attended at the assessment, and completed the phase one and two program; and 19 men attended at assessment, completed the phase one and two programs, and completed phase three program.

**TIME BETWEEN ASSESSMENT AND SURVEY:** The number of participants by time between assessment and survey was as follows: seven men were surveyed after six months; 44 men were surveyed after 12 months; 34 men were surveyed after 18 months; 38 men were surveyed after 24
months; 15 men were surveyed after 30 months; 24 subjects after 36
months; three men were surveyed after 42 months; seven men were
surveyed after 48 months and three men were surveyed after 60
months or more.

**PSYCHOLOGICALLY ABUSIVE AT ASSESSMENT:** The number of participants
who advised that they were psychologically abusive to their
partners when they were at assessment was as follows: 173 men
identified that they were psychologically abusive at assessment
while two men did not.

**PSYCHOLOGICALLY ABUSIVE AT SURVEY:** The number of participants who
advised that they were psychologically abusive to their partners at
the survey was as follows: 87 men identified some form of
psychological abuse at least once since the completion of the
program; seven men identified no psychological abuse. There were 81
men who did not participate in the survey results.

**ABUSE AT ASSESSMENT (PHYSICALLY):** The number of participants who
advised at assessment, that they were physically abusive (violent)
to their spouses was as follows: 175 men of the 175 men interviewed
advised that they had been abusive.

**ABUSE AT SURVEY (PHYSICALLY):** The number of participants who
advised at the survey that they were physically abusive was as
follows: 12 men advised that they had been physically abusive
(violent) while 82 men stated that they had not been physically
abusive. Eighty-one men did not participate in the survey results.

**TREATMENT OF DATA AND ANALYSIS**

Table 2 and the explanation which follows are provided to
enhance understanding of the terms: non completers, completers, data groupings, comparison group and the experimental groups. As indicated in the Table, the total sample consisted of 175 participants. The Assessment "Only" group represented 48 of the 66 participants who completed the intake assessment. A pretest of violence which was included in the intake assessment was administered. This group received no further testing and did not attend for treatment. These male batterers, who had the pre-test completed and received "no treatment" made up the comparison group. The subjects who completed the pre-test, the treatment, and the post-test made up the experimental group.

Table 2

<table>
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<th>DATA GROUP</th>
<th>N</th>
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<tr>
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<td>19</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>NO</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Assessment "Part 1&2" group represented 33 of the 148 subjects who completed the intake assessment. A pre-test of violence which was included in the intake assessment was administered. This group, who did not complete the required
sessions of the group, was not extensively researched at this time. A random sample of this group was included in the data collected for the demographic characteristics of the entire group of program participants.

The Assessment "1&2" group or Phase, represented 75 of the 82 subjects who had completed the intake assessment. A pre-test of violence which was included in the intake assessment was administered. Along with this group, the Assessment "1&2&3" group which represented 19 of the 24 subjects who had completed the intake assessment, was added. A pre-test of violence which was included in the intake assessment was administered. Both of these groups attended for treatment and were post-tested at the survey for results of change.

Means and standard deviations were completed on all the demographic and dependent variables. The original 127 variables reflected 37 demographic variables and 90 dependent variables which identified physical and psychological abuse. The original 90 variables were reduced to 4 categories: (1) violence prior to the assessment; (2) violence after the treatment program; (3) psychological abuse prior to assessment; (4) psychological abuse after treatment.

In order to address the purpose of the study by evaluating the effectiveness of the Family Violence Program, the combined categories of violence prior to the assessment and violence after the treatment program were compared. The purpose of this analysis was to determine whether the treatment group mean movement scores
on the variables of the comparison group at pre-test was significantly lower than the treatment group at post-test.

**ANALYSIS**

The descriptive statistics in the form of means and standard deviation analyses were analyzed. Distributions of the sociodemographic and behavioral characteristics (variables) of the complete sample are provided in Table 4.

**Hypothesis:** As indicated in Chapter 1, this study had a primary purpose of assessing the short-term/long-term effectiveness of an integrated group intervention program in promoting no violence by the men, who at assessment were found to be physically abusive toward their female partners.

The hypothesis had been designed to assess the efficacy of the group treatment program by:

1. analysing the mean scores of the dependent variables at assessment and survey for the 106 subjects who completed the family violence program and
2. analysing the comparison group mean difference scores at assessment and partial completion on the same dependent variables.

**Statement:**

There will be no significant differences among the assessment and survey mean scores on the variables for those subjects who completed Phase "One", "Two" and/or "Three".
The hypothesis was stated in the null form.

"Men who abuse physically the women with whom they live, will not exhibit a substantial change to their violent behaviour after completing the required fourteen week "Family Violence" program as offered by Family Service Kent".

The null hypothesis stated that there will be no significant difference between the mean difference scores on the variables of the comparison and experimental groups.

In Table 4 the mean movement scores for the experimental group is significantly greater than the mean movement scores for the comparison group. The results indicate that the treatment was significantly more effective than no-treatment in reducing the violence. The null hypothesis was rejected.
CHAPTER IV

DISCUSSION, CONCLUSIONS, AND RECOMMENDATIONS

INTRODUCTION

Included in this Chapter is a restatement of the purpose of the Study; a detailed discussion of the descriptive data generated by the study; and a consideration of the results of the tests of the hypothesis. Limitations of the study and a summary of the conclusions and contributions of the research are presented. Finally, recommendations for future research in the area of violence against women and children are offered.

The purpose of this Study was to assess the short-term effectiveness of an integrated group intervention program in promoting positive psychological, attitudinal, and belief-system changes in men who are physically and psychologically abusive toward their female partners.

DISCUSSION OF THE RESULTS: DESCRIPTIVE DATA

The sociodemographic and behavioral characteristics of the sample will be discussed under three main subject areas: (1) demographics; (2) abuse variables; and, (3) family of origin variables.

DEMOGRAPHICS

The percentages stated in this section represent percentages of those subjects on whom data on a given variable were available. This data was summarized in Table 3.

The age, education, socioeconomic status and employment status of the subjects in this sample of 175 wife abusers, are in the
main, consistent with those found in other studies with this population (Dutton, 1986; Grusznski & Carrillo, 1988, Roberts, 1987). The mean age of 34.051 is consistent with previous findings. Of interest in this study is that unlike previous research, the education level is at the high school level or higher and the socioeconomic status is considerably higher. This is not to be construed that these figures suggest that younger or older men of higher education or higher social class do not abuse their partners to the same extent as other men. The family violence program under study is offered in a community were the financial resources were available to offset the cost of the program. The unemployment rate for this sample was 30.9%. That was consistent with the studies cited.

**ABUSE VARIABLES**

Eighty-five percent of the subjects included in the Study were living with their partner at the time of the abuse, but only 38% of them were living with their partners at the time of program assessment. One could interpret these findings to suggest that many women remove themselves from abusive relationships and that some men faced with the potential of permanent separation, become motivated towards treatment. All of the men in the sample admitted to being physically abusive at the time of assessment. At the time of the survey 82 men (87.2%) noted that their physical violence had ceased. Ninety-eight percent of the sample admitted to being psychologically abusive at the time of assessment. At the survey, 93% admitted to a continuance of psychological abuse.
Fifty-five percent of the men in this sample indicated that they were using or had used, alcohol or drugs during their abuse. Given that abusers have been known to use alcohol as an excuse to avoid responsibility for their violent behaviour (Ganley, 1981), the self-reported data is probably reasonable. The program under study redirects admitting users of alcohol and drugs to addiction programs, but doesn’t excuse them from Family Violence program treatment. Men are still held accountable for their actions whether they are under the influence or not.

**Family of Origin**

Thirty-four percent of the men in the study stated that they had a close relationship with their father, while 60% identified a close relationship with their mother. Eighty-seven percent of the subjects identified being physically punished as a child, with 63% identifying that the father was the primary disciplinarian. Only 51% of the men stated that they had been psychologically and physically abused as children. Thirty-one percent of the men admitted to attacking either of their parents.

Police intervention was recorded in 64% of the abuse which directed the men to treatment. Only 58% of the investigations led to criminal charges. Thirty-six percent observed their siblings being physically, sexually, psychologically abused as children while 80% of the men admitted that their children observed or witnessed the physical abuse occur. Generally these figures support the belief that witnessing violence in one’s family of origin and being abused as a child may predispose one to the use of violence
later in life as a means for dealing with interpersonal conflict (Ceasar, 1988; Shepherd, 1990).

The reason why men endorse dysfunctional attitudes may in fact be directed from their own family of origins. Most men grew up in homes where physical punishment was reported at 87% and psychological/physical abuse was reported at 51%. It may seem reasonable to assume that their needs for approval, love, sense of achievement and accomplishment may not have been consistently met possibly giving rise to dysfunctional attitudes. Waldo suggested that children who are the objects of abuse often develop a sense of powerlessness and lack of self-esteem (1987). The psychological deficits in the man which derive from such childhood experiences may make it difficult for them to meet the expectations of the society around them.

Twenty percent of the subjects reported a suicide attempt; 11% of the subjects admitted to being sexually abused as a child; 63% identified that they considered themselves a "loner" at assessment while only 26% continued to consider themselves in this way after treatment. The association here may be complex and related to the fact that abusive men often fluctuate between aggressive and passive moods in their behaviour. Anger builds, but the inability of the abuser to communicate and utilize assertiveness skills necessary to express his anger appropriately, leads to an explosion in which he becomes angry and then violent. This period is usually followed by time of remorse. It is during this later period that the abuser feels inadequate, guilty, and isolated.
TEST OF THE HYPOTHESIS

The null hypothesis stated that men who abuse physically the women with whom they live, will not exhibit a substantial change to their violent behaviour after the required fourteen week "Family Violence" program as offered by Family Service Kent. Unlike the physical abuse which decreased from 100% at assessment to 13% at the survey, the level of psychological abuse by the abuser at assessment decreased from 99% to a level only at 93%.

The null hypothesis which focused only on the change in physical violence, was rejected as the results indicated that the treatment was significantly more effective than no-treatment in reducing the self-reported incidents of violent behaviour in this Study.

LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY

An descriptive study such as this has important limitations relating to research design, sample, data collection and instrumentation. A discussion of these limitations is presented below.

RESEARCH DESIGN

The repeated-measures design used to test the hypothesis may be problematic with this population. Having a sample of wife abusers who can act as their own no-treatment comparison group is desirable. The large group of subjects (N = 66) who came for assessment and then chose to not return to group treatment provided a natural comparison group. Unlike other studies which "wait-list" their control or comparison groups, this study found the comparison
to be self-administered with no external controls or interferences. It was assumed that 320 subjects would undergo the assessment process (pre-test) and that 254 subjects would be available for survey process (post-test). Unfortunately, because of restraints on this study, 148 participants who completed the assessment (pre-test) and commenced the treatment without completion, could not be studied. However the number of participants for the repeated measures part of the study (N = 106) was significant and provided for an opportunity to discover differences on some of the variables studied.

**BATTERERS FOR PROGRAM**

The agency from which the research was conducted is a nonprofit agency supported by funds from United Way, local businesses and public financing as well as fees for service. As a counselling centre it is well known in the community and due to the low cost of treatment it is an attractive resource for most people. Participants are directed to the program by the Probation and Parole Services at the federal and provincial level, the law society of the region, the Children's Aid Society of Kent County, local doctors and other practitioners practising within the city/county. It is possible therefore that the sample of wife abusers studied in this research is representative of the broader population of domestically abusive men. All subjects who came for treatment did so by their own choice, inclusive of court mandated clients who chose between treatment and jail.
DATA COLLECTION

The Family Violence Assessment form (Appendix 2), although comprehensive and appropriate imposed some constraints on the type and specificity of the sociodemographic and behavioral data collected. No section exists in the form to measure past abuse to previous spouses, or the reason why the abuser felt he had to abuse. Psychological questions, although administered at the survey were not standardized nor were they administered at the time of assessment. The constraints of time at the assessment may have caused some confusion in the reporting of the information necessary for this study.

Participants who completed the program were questioned as to whether they considered themselves psychologically abusive at the time of assessment. Their responses (99% of the participants stating that they had been psychologically abusive at assessment) may have been influenced by their understanding of the definition of psychological abuse as directed by the questions previously administered to them.

The abuse questions found in the fixed response categories may have forced respondents into unmeaningful frame of reference. The literal interpretation of instructions may have led to under-reporting of aggressive acts. Similar to other studies the limited number of violent acts may not represent a full range of possibilities. There may have been some distortion in the retrospective data gathered by use of self-report measures. The circumstances surrounding the violent acts and meanings attached
to them were not assessed and the consequences of the injurious acts were not considered (Gregorash, 1990).

**SUMMARY OF CONCLUSIONS AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE STUDY**

The repeated measures test of the hypothesis supported the position that a relatively short-term, integrated, intervention program for wife abusers could be significantly more effective than no-treatment in reducing violence.
RECOMMENDATIONS

1. It is recommended that more sophisticated measures of group analysis be identified and developed.

2. Measures need to be developed to assess the total changes in abusive behaviour.

3. Assessment forms should be developed that reflect more precisely the nature and extent of the physical, psychological, and sexual abuse for the subjects family of origin and present family situation for comparison purposes.

4. Program revisions may have to take place to address the psychological abuse which appears to continue unabated at the same level when the physical abuse has stopped.

5. Examination of the differences between the groups who did and did not participate in the Family Violence Program could provide useful information as to the reasons for non-completion of the treatment program.

6. Consideration should be given to the development of treatment programs that uniquely address the psychological, attitudinal, and the violent behaviour of the male batterer.
REFERENCES


Figure 2

PSYCHOLOGICAL ABUSE OF PARTNER: QUESTIONS

Discussed issue calmly that your partner raised
Got information to back up your side of things
Brought in, or tried to bring in, someone to help settle things
Insulted or swore at her
Criticized her clothes or her physical appearance
Criticized her child care
Sulked or refused to talk about an issue
Stomped out of a room or yard
Demanded a strict account of how your partner spends money
Made a major monetary decision without consulting her
Accused her of having an affair
Discouraged her contact with friends or family members
Did not let her go out of the house when she wanted to
Restricted her use of the car or the phone
Embarrassed her in front of others
Drove the car recklessly to frighten her
Interrupted her sleeping to bother her
Threatened to take the children away from her
Blamed her for your problems
Withheld affection from her
Withheld sex from her
Was insensitive to her sexual needs and desires
Express intense jealousy
Threaten to commit suicide
Be verbally aggressive
Figure 3

DEMOGRAPHICS OF ABUSER: QUESTIONS

AGE
EDUCATION (1) PUBLIC SCHOOL (2) SOME HIGH SCHOOL (3) HIGH SCHOOL (4) COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY
EMPLOYMENT STATUS (1) UNEMPLOYED (2) PART-TIME (3) EMPLOYED
LIVING SUPPORT (1) EMPLOYED (2) UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE (3) SOCIAL ASSISTANCE (4) OTHER
MARITAL STATUS AT ASSESSMENT (1) MARRIED, TOGETHER (2) MARRIED, APART (3) COMMON-LAW, TOGETHER (4) COMMON-LAW, APART (5) OTHER
MARITAL STATUS AT ABUSE (1) MARRIED, TOGETHER (2) MARRIED, APART (3) COMMON-LAW, TOGETHER (4) COMMON-LAW, APART (5) OTHER
MARITAL STATUS AT SURVEY (1) MARRIED, TOGETHER (2) MARRIED, APART (3) COMMON-LAW, TOGETHER (4) COMMON-LAW, APART (5) OTHER
CHILDREN (1) NONE (2) ONE (3) TWO (4) THREE OR MORE
PARENTS OF THE ABUSER FATHER OCCUPATION
PARENTS OF THE ABUSER MOTHER OCCUPATION
RELATIONSHIP TO ABUSER FATHER (1) CLOSE (2) DISTANT
RELATIONSHIP TO ABUSER MOTHER (1) CLOSE (3) DISTANT
PHYSICALLY/PsyCHOLOGICALLY ABUSED AS CHILD YES/NO
PHYSICALLY/PsyCHOLOGICALLY ABUSED AS CHILD YES/NO
OBSERVE FATHER PHYSICALLY/PsyCHOLOGICALLY ABUSE MOTHER OR DESTROY PROPERTY IN A FIT OF ANGER YES/NO
OBSERVE MOTHER PHYSICALLY/PsyCHOLOGICALLY ABUSE FATHER OR DESTROY PROPERTY IN A FIT OF ANGER YES/NO
ATTACK EITHER PARENT YES/NO
PRIMARY DISCIPLINARIAN IN FAMILY OF ORIGIN (1) FATHER (2) MOTHER
SISTERS / BROTHERS PHYSICALLY / SEXUALLY / PSYCHOLOGICALLY ABUSED AS CHILDREN YES/NO
VICTIM OF SEXUAL ASSAULT YES/NO
PROBLEMS WITH VIOLENT BEHAVIOUR AS CHILD/TEENAGER YES/NO
BROTHERS OR SISTERS HAVE PROBLEMS WITH VIOLENT BEHAVIOUR AS CHILD OR TEENAGER YES/NO
ANY WEAPONS IN ABUSE YES/NO
INJURIES TO THE VICTIM YES/NO
ALCOHOL/DRUGS PRIOR TO OR DURING ABUSE YES/NO
POLICE INTERVENTION YES/NO
CHARGES INITIATED YES/NO
CHILDREN PRESENT AT ABUSE YES/NO
SUICIDE ATTEMPT YES/NO
LONER/ISOLATED AT ASSESSMENT YES/NO
LONER/ISOLATED AT SURVEY YES/NO
TREATMENT AT ASSESSMENT YES/NO
TIME IN PROGRAM (1) ASSESSMENT ONLY (2) ASSESSMENT & PHASE ONE
FVP COMPLETE (3) ASSESSMENT & PHASE ONE & TWO COMPLETE (4)
ASSESSMENT & PHASE ONE & TWO & THREE COMPLETE
TIME BETWEEN ASSESSMENT AND SURVEY .......... PSYCHOLOGICALLY ABUSIVE AT ASSESSMENT YES/NO
Figure 4

Violence to Partner Questions

(0) NONE (1) ONCE (2) TWICE (3) MORE THAN TWICE

SLAP
GRAB
PUNCH
PUSH
KICK
PUSH TO THE GROUND
CHOKED
BITE
PULL HAIR
TWIST ARM
PIN TO GROUND OR WALL
HOLD
HIT WITH OBJECT
BEAT UP
USE GUN
USE KNIFE
USE OTHER WEAPON
FORCE SEXUAL INTERCOURSE
FORCE OTHER SEXUAL ACTS
FORCE SEX OTHER PEOPLE-OBJECTS-ANIMALS
BREAK OBJECTS
THROW OBJECTS
BREAK DOWN DOOR
THROW FOOD
PUNCH FIST THROUGH WALL
HARM OR NEGLECT PET
THREATEN HIT / ABUSE
THREATEN SEXUALLY ABUSE
THREATEN TO KILL
FORCE AGAINST WILL
TELL CAN/CANNOT DO
Table 1
PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS
FAMILY SERVICE KENT

FAMILY VIOLENCE PROGRAM 1992-1995
PROGRAM RESEARCH FROM AUGUST 1992 TO DECEMBER 1995

MALE BATTERER PROGRAM
ASSESSMENTS OF MALE BATTERERS COMPLETED .................. 320
REFERRALS OF MALE BATTERERS (NO ASSESSMENTS OR INCOMPLETE) . 30
TOTAL OF MALE BATTERERS ........................................ 350

FAMILY VIOLENCE PROGRAM
ASSESSMENTS OF MALE BATTERERS COMPLETED
BUT DID NOT ATTEND GROUP ........................................... 66
ASSESSMENTS OF MALE BATTERERS COMPLETED
WHO ATTENDED GROUP DID NOT COMPLETE GROUP .................. 148
ASSESSMENTS OF MALE BATTERERS COMPLETED
WHO ATTENDED AND COMPLETED GROUP PHASE ONE & TWO ........... 82
ASSESSMENTS OF MALE BATTERERS COMPLETED
WHO ATTENDED AND COMPLETED GROUP PHASE ONE & TWO & THREE .... 24

NO ASSESSMENTS OF MALE BATTERERS ................................ 30

TOTAL OF MALE BATTERERS ........................................ 350
Table 3

**Sociodemographic and Behavioral Characteristics of Sample**

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<td>DID YOU HAVE PROBLEMS WITH VIOLENT BEHAVIOUR AS CHILD/TEENAGER</td>
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**CONSIDERED LONER/ISOLATED AT TIME OF SURVEY**
Mode = 2.000, Mean = 1.521, Median = 2.000, Std. dev. = .502

**TREATMENT MOTIVATION AT ASSESSMENT SELF MOTIVATION**
Mode = 1.000, Mean = 1.000, Std. dev. = .000

**LENGTH IN PROGRAM**
Mode = 3.000, Mean = 2.371, Median = 3.000, Std. dev. = 1.002

**TIME BETWEEN ASSESSMENT AND SURVEY**
Mode = 2.000, Mean = 3.857, Median = 4.0000, Std. dev. = 1.899

**PSYCHOLOGICALLY ABUSIVE AT ASSESSMENT**
Mode = 1.000, Mean = 1.011, Median = 1.000, Std. dev. = .107

**PSYCHOLOGICALLY ABUSIVE AT SURVEY**
Mode = 3.000, Mean = 7.223, Median = 5.000,

**ABUSE AT ASSESSMENT (PHYSICALLY)**
Mode = 4.000, Mean = 17.886, Median = 16.000, Std. dev. = 13.454

**ABUSE AT SURVEY (PHYSICALLY)**
Mode = .000, Mean = .383, Median = .000, Std. dev. = 1.304
APPENDIX 1

FAMILY VIOLENCE PROGRAM

FAMILY SERVICE KENT

PHASE ONE

Week #1

Check-in
1. To discuss the Principles of Accountability
2. To establish a level of comfort that will encourage inclusion of all group members.
3. To outline expectations for group membership/signature forms (1,2,3).
4. To define sexist attitudes as the underlying problem of violent/abusive behaviour
5. To have members outline the history of violence and define preliminary goals
6. To arrive at a general definition of violent/abusive behaviour and the various forms it can take
7. To establish the issue of responsibility for one’s violent/abusive behaviour and to understand that violence occurs as a direct result of a decision that has been made by the perpetrator
8. Completion of Family Violence Questionnaire
9. Package containing "Hand-out" material distributed

HANDBOUT: REVIEW
1. Authorization to Videotape/audiotape
2. Release of Information to spouse (partner)
3. Men’s Group Agreement Form
4. Violence Questionnaire

Week #2

Check-in
1. To help members understand the importance of monitoring their thoughts, feelings, actions as a method of anger control
2. To establish the premise that violence occurs cyclically and to have members identify the length of their cycles
3. To define/describe the physiology of anger arousal and introduce a method for short circuiting this process
4. To identify that the obtaining or maintaining of power and control are the main motivators for the use of violence
5. To establish a link between sexism, abuse of power and control, choices, violence/abusive behaviour
Week #3

Check-in
1. To outline the dynamics of Power and Control
2. To conduct a cost/benefit analysis of violence
3. To examine the costs to self of maintaining Power and Control
4. To work on Anger Stress Logs
5. Video...Issue: Violence (20/20)

Week #4

Check-in
1. To review definition of sexism, sexist behaviour and male chauvinism
2. To emphasize the impact of sexism on the abuse of power and control
3. To have group members engage in a brief informal evaluation of themselves
4. To re-emphasize decision making process and to review material discussed and presented

Week #5

Check-in
1. To present the components of assertiveness
2. To help members identify the difference between primary and secondary feelings and importance of expression
3. Confirm the concept that anger triggers are internal and are a reaction to a situation
4. Work on anger/stress logs
5. Video...Issue: "Communication"

Week #6

Check-in
1. Review and help the men apply rational thought verbally and through the use of logs
2. Help the men gain a basic understanding of assertive behaviour
3. Review questions, each member to critique other members verbally.

Week #7

Check-in
1. Complete self evaluations
2. Complete group evaluations
3. Client confidential evaluations
4. Violence questionnaire
5. Review Program and principles of accountability
PHASE TWO

Week #1

Check-in
1. To establish a level of comfort that will facilitate inclusion by all group members
2. To achieve consensus concerning conduct expectations for group membership
3. To have members outline a history of violence, speak to their experiences of the first phase and to verbally state preliminary goal areas
4. To introduce new members
5. To set personal learning goals
6. To review linkage between sexism - abuse of power and control - choice - violence

HANDOUT: REVIEW
Men's Group Agreement
Authorization to video/audio record

Week #2

Check-in
1. To help group members gain a basic understanding of assertiveness training
2. To help group members begin to identify some of the components of assertive behaviour and identify usage in themselves and each other
3. To ensure that group members have resolved Power and Control issues to their mutual satisfaction

Week #3

Check-in
1. To provide group members with a more positive approach to marital conflict or a more hopeful or constructive manner in which to view marital conflict
2. To link the abuse of power and control to sexism in the relationship and to determine how these have contributed to abuse/fights that members have with their partners.
3. Video... Violence "Crown Prince"

Week #4

Check-in
1. To help group members gain an understanding of rudimentary communication skills
2. To help group members practice these rudimentary communication skills by role playing actual problems
Week #5

Check-in
1. To increase awareness of the impact of violence on children or significant others
2. To explore the impact of violence in the men's "families of origin" on their personal development.
3. To help members to become aware of resources for children from violent homes
4. Video...Communication "Parenting Skills"

Week #6

Check-in
1. To increase the understanding and to review the impact of violent behaviour on one's partner through participation in a projective exercise
2. Group review: each member critiques the other members as to progress and fear of future abuse.

Week #7

Check-in
1. To complete a self evaluation
2. To complete a group evaluation
3. To determine future plans
4. To complete client confidential questionnaire
5. Violence Questionnaire
APPENDIX 2

FAMILY VIOLENCE ASSESSMENT SUMMARY

NAME ___________________________ 
DATE ___________________________
PARTNER’S NAME ___________________ PARTNER’S ADDRESS
PARTNER’S PHONE: ________________
IDENTIFICATION: __________________
REFERRAL SOURCE: __________________
PRESENTING PROBLEM: 
HISTORY: (SEE GENOGRAM FOR OTHER DETAILS)
PARENTS’ MARITAL STATUS: 
FATHER’S OCCUPATION: 
MOTHER’S OCCUPATION: 
HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH YOUR FATHER?
HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH YOUR MOTHER?
WERE YOU EVER PHYSICALLY PUNISHED AS A CHILD? _____ YES _____ NO

IF YES, PLEASE EXPLAIN.
DID YOU CONSIDER YOURSELF PHYSICALLY OR PSYCHOLOGICALLY ABUSED AS A CHILD? _____ YES _____ NO

IF YES, PLEASE EXPLAIN.
DID YOU EVER KNOW OF OR OBSERVE YOUR FATHER PHYSICALLY OR
PSYCHOLOGICALLY ABUSE YOUR MOTHER OR DESTROY PROPERTY IN A FIT OF
ANGER? _____ YES _____ NO

IF YES, PLEASE EXPLAIN.
DID YOU EVER PHYSICALLY ATTACK YOUR PARENT(S)? _____ YES _____ NO

IF YES, PLEASE EXPLAIN.
WERE ANY OF YOUR BROTHERS OR SISTERS PHYSICALLY,性, AND/OR
PSYCHOLOGICALLY ABUSED AS CHILDREN? _____ YES _____ NO

IF YES, PLEASE EXPLAIN.
WHO WAS THE PRIMARY DISCIPLINARIAN IN YOUR FAMILY?
______ FATHER ______ MOTHER

COMMENTS:
HAVE YOU EVER BEEN A VICTIM OF SEXUAL ASSAULT BY A MEMBER OF YOUR
FAMILY OR ANYONE OUTSIDE OF YOUR FAMILY? _____ YES _____ NO

IF YES, PLEASE EXPLAIN.
DID YOU HAVE PROBLEMS WITH VIOLENT BEHAVIOUR AS A CHILD OR
TEENAGER? _____ YES _____ NO

IF YES, PLEASE EXPLAIN. DID ANY OF YOUR BROTHERS OR SISTERS HAVE
PROBLEMS WITH VIOLENT BEHAVIOUR WHILE THEY WERE GROWING UP?
_____ YES _____ NO

IF YES, PLEASE EXPLAIN.
WERE THERE ANY OTHER EVENTS OR CIRCUMSTANCES REGARDING CHILDHOOD
THAT MAY HELP US TO UNDERSTAND YOUR PRESENT COUNSELLING NEEDS?
_____ YES _____ NO

IF YES, PLEASE EXPLAIN.
ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:
TO THE BEST OF YOUR ABILITY, WE WOULD LIKE YOU TO RECALL YOUR LAST CONFLICT SITUATION. TAKE YOUR TIME TO THINK ABOUT IT. TRY TO REMEMBER THE DETAILS. IF YOU CAN'T REMEMBER THE COMPLETE EVENT, STATE WHAT YOU CAN REMEMBER. WHAT WERE THE INITIATING CIRCUMSTANCES?
WERE THERE ANY WEAPONS INVOLVED? _____ YES _____ NO
IF YES, PLEASE EXPLAIN.
WERE THERE ANY INJURIES? _____ YES _____ NO
IF YES, PLEASE EXPLAIN.
DID YOU OR YOUR PARTNER USE ALCOHOL OR OTHER DRUGS PRIOR TO OR DURING THIS INCIDENT? _____ YES _____ NO
IF YES, PLEASE EXPLAIN.
WAS THERE ANY OUTSIDE INTERVENTION DURING THIS EPISODE? DID SOMEONE TRY TO STOP IT (CHILDREN, FRIENDS, NEIGHBOURS, POLICE)? _____ YES _____ NO
IF YES, PLEASE EXPLAIN.
WERE THE CHILDREN INVOLVED IN, OBSERVE, OR IN THE HOME DURING THIS INCIDENT? _____ YES _____ NO
IF YES, PLEASE EXPLAIN.
WERE THE POLICE CALLED AFTER THIS INCIDENT? _____ YES _____ NO
IF YES, PLEASE EXPLAIN.
DO YOU / OR DID YOU USE ALCOHOL/DRUGS? _____ YES _____ NO
IF YES, PLEASE EXPLAIN.
HAVE YOU EVER BEEN VIOLENT IN SITUATIONS NOT INVOLVING FAMILY? _____ YES _____ NO
IF YES, PLEASE EXPLAIN.
ARE YOU PRESENTLY INVOLVED WITH THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM OR HAVE YOU EVER BEEN INVOLVED? _____ YES _____ NO
IF YES, PLEASE EXPLAIN (CHARGES, ETC.)
PROBATION OFFICER:
CHILDREN'S AID WORKER:
LAWYER:
HAVE YOU EVER ATTEMPTED SUICIDE? _____ YES _____ NO
IF YES, PLEASE EXPLAIN.
HAVE YOU EVER RECEIVED COUNSELLING OR PSYCHOTHERAPY AND/OR BEEN HOSPITALIZED FOR MENTAL HEALTH REASONS? _____ YES _____ NO
IF YES, PLEASE EXPLAIN.
ARE YOU CURRENTLY SEEING ANOTHER COUNSELLOR? _____ YES _____ NO
IF YES, PLEASE EXPLAIN.
WHAT ARE YOUR CURRENT SOURCES OF SUPPORT, UNDERSTANDING, ASSISTANCE (FOR EXAMPLE, FAMILY, FRIENDS, CO-WORKERS) AND HOW OFTEN DO YOU SEE THESE PERSONS? PLEASE BE SPECIFIC.
DO YOU CONSIDER YOURSELF ISOLATED OR A LONER? _____ YES _____ NO
IF YES, PLEASE EXPLAIN.
DO YOU FEEL YOUR USE OF VIOLENCE IS AN ACCEPTABLE WAY OF SOLVING CONFLICT AND/OR DISAGREEMENTS? _____ YES _____ NO
CLINICAL IMPRESSIONS: ________ TREATMENT PLAN:
COUNSELLORS SIGNATURE MANAGER'S SIGNATURE
(Adapted from THE MALE BATTERER, SANKIN, MARTIN, WALKER, 1985)
NEXT RECORDING DUE:
Form Revised April 1996
### Acts of Violence

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<td>FORCE PARTNER TO DO SOMETHING AGAINST HER WILL</td>
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<td>TELL HER/HIM WHAT SHE/HE CAN AND CANNOT DO</td>
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<td>BE VERBALLY AGGRESSIVE</td>
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APPENDIX 3

VARIABLE IDENTIFICATION FORM

1. CODE
2. AGE
3. EDUCATION
4. OCCUPATION
5. EMPLOYMENT STATUS
6. LIVING SUPPORT
7. Marital AT TIME OF ASSESSMENT
8. Marital AT TIME OF ABUSE
9. Marital AT TIME OF SURVEY
10. CHILDREN
11. FATHER OCCUPATION
12. MOTHER OCCUPATION
13. Relationship FATHER
14. Relationship MOTHER
15. PHYSICALLY PUNISHED AS CHILD
16. CONSIDERED PHYSICALLY/PSYCHOLOGICALLY ABUSED AS CHILD
17. OBSERVE FATHER PHYSICALLY/PSYCHOLOGICALLY ABUSE MOTHER OR
   DESTROY PROPERTY IN A FIT OF ANGER
18. OBSERVE MOTHER PHYSICALLY/PSYCHOLOGICALLY ABUSE FATHER OR
   DESTROY PROPERTY IN A FIT OF ANGER
19. DID YOU ATTACK EITHER OF YOUR PARENTS
20. PRIMARY DISCIPLINARIAN IN FAMILY
21. WERE ANY OF YOUR SISTERS/BROTHERS PHYSICALLY SEXUALLY
   PSYCHOLOGICALLY ABUSED AS CHILDREN
22. WERE YOU A VICTIM OF SEXUAL ASSAULT
23. DID YOU HAVE PROBLEMS WITH VIOLENT BEHAVIOUR AS CHILD/TEENAGER
24. DID ANY OF YOU BROTHERS OR SISTERS HAVE PROBLEMS WITH VIOLENT
   BEHAVIOUR AS CHILD/TEENAGER
25. ANY WEAPONS USED IN YOUR ABUSE
26. WERE THERE INJURIES TO THE VICTIM
27. WAS THERE ANY USE OF ALCOHOL/DRUGS PRIOR TO OR DURING ABUSE
28. POLICE INTERVENTION
29. CHARGES INITIATED
30. WERE CHILDREN INVOLVED/PRESENT/IN HOUSE AT TIME OF ABUSE

AT ASSESSMENT: ACTS OF VIOLENCE

31. SLAP
32. GRAB
33. PUNCH
34. PUSH
35. KICK
36. PUSH TO THE GROUND
37. CHOKE
38. BITE
39. PULL HAIR
40. TWIST ARM
41. PIN TO GROUND OR WALL
42. HOLD
43. HIT WITH OBJECT
44. BEAT UP
45. USE GUN
46. USE KNIFE
47. OTHER WEAPON
48. FORCE TO HAVE SEXUAL INTERCOURSE
49. FORCE TO HAVE OTHER SEXUAL ACTIVITY
50. FORCE TO HAVE SEX WITH OTHER PEOPLE, OBJECTS, ANIMALS
51. BREAK OBJECTS
52. THROW OBJECTS
53. BREAK DOWN DOOR
54. THROW FOOD
55. PUNCH FIST THROUGH WALL
56. HARM OR NEGLECT PET
57. THREATEN TO HIT OR ABUSE
58. THREATEN TO SEXUALLY ABUSE
59. EXPRESS INTENSE JEALOUSY
60. THREATEN TO KILL
61. THREATEN TO COMMIT SUICIDE
62. FORCE PARTNER TO DO SOMETHING AGAINST HER WILL
63. TELL HER WHAT SHE CAN AND CANNOT DO
64. BE VERBALLY AGGRESSIVE

AT SURVEY: ACTS OF VIOLENCE
(SINCE TERMINATION FROM PROGRAM)

65. SLAP
66. GRAB
67. PUNCH
68. PUSH
69. KICK
70. PUSH TO THE GROUND
71. CHOKE
72. BITE
73. PULL HAIR
74. TWIST ARM
75. PIN TO GROUND OR WALL
76. HOLD
77. HIT WITH OBJECT
78. BEAT UP
79. USE GUN
80. USE KNIFE
81. OTHER WEAPON
82. FORCE TO HAVE SEXUAL INTERCOURSE
83. FORCE TO HAVE OTHER SEXUAL ACTIVITY
84. FORCE TO HAVE SEX WITH OTHER PEOPLE, OBJECTS, ANIMALS
85. BREAK OBJECTS
86. THROW OBJECTS
87. BREAK DOWN DOOR
88. THROW FOOD
89. PUNCH FIST THROUGH WALL
90. HARM OR NEGLECT PET
91. THREATEN TO HIT OR ABUSE
92. THREATEN TO SEXUALLY ABUSE
93. EXPRESS INTENSE JEALOUSY
94. THREATEN TO KILL
95. THREATEN TO COMMIT SUICIDE
96. FORCE PARTNER TO DO SOMETHING AGAINST HER WILL
97. TELL HER WHAT SHE CAN AND CANNOT DO
98. BE VERBALLY AGGRESSIVE

PSYCHOLOGICAL ABUSE QUESTIONNAIRE

99. Discussed issue calmly that your partner raised
100. Got information to back up your side of things
101. Brought in, or tried to bring in, someone to help settle
102. Insulted or swore at her
103. Criticized her clothes or her physical appearance
104. Criticized her child care
105. Sulked or refused to talk about an issue
106. Stomped out of a room or yard
107. Demanded a strict account of how your partner spends money
108. Made a major monetary decision without consulting her
109. Accused her of having an affair
110. Discouraged her contact with friends or family members
111. Did not let her go out of the house when she wanted to
112. Restricted her use of the car or the phone
113. Embarrassed her in front of others
114. Drove the car recklessly to frighten her
115. Interrupted her sleeping to bother her
116. Threatened to take the children away from her
117. Blamed her for your problems
118. Withheld affection from her
119. Withheld sex from her
120. Was insensitive to her sexual needs and desires

QUESTIONS

121. SUICIDE ATTEMPT
122. CONSIDERED LONER/ISOLATED AT TIME OF ASSESSMENT
123. CONSIDERED LONER/ISOLATED AT TIME OF SURVEY
124. SELF MOTIVATION
125. LENGTH IN PROGRAM
126. TIME
127. PSYCHOLOGICAL ABUSE AT TIME OF ASSESSMENT
APPENDIX 4

DATA COLLECTION SHEET QUESTIONS

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<th>Code</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Education</th>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Employment Status</th>
<th>Living Support</th>
<th>Marital Status</th>
<th>At Time of Assessment</th>
<th>At Time of Abuse</th>
<th>At Time of Survey</th>
<th>Children</th>
<th>Father Occupation</th>
<th>Mother Occupation</th>
<th>Relationship to Abuser</th>
<th>Father</th>
<th>Mother</th>
<th>Physically Punished as Child</th>
<th>Considered Physically/Psychologically Abused as Child</th>
<th>Observe Father Physically/Psychologically Abuse Mother or Destroy Property in a Fit of Anger</th>
<th>Observe Mother Physically/Psychologically Abuse Father or Destroy Property in a Fit of Anger</th>
<th>Did You Attack Either of Your Parents</th>
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<td>(1) Unemployed (2) Part-Time (3) Employed</td>
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<td>(1) Employed (2) Unemployment Insurance (3) Social Assistance (4) Other</td>
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<td>(1) Yes (2) No</td>
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20. PRIMARY DISCIPLINARIAN IN FAMILY
   (1) FATHER (2) MOTHER
21. WERE ANY OF YOUR SISTERS/BROTHERS PHYSICALLY, SEXUALLY, PSYCHOLOGICALLY ABUSED AS CHILDREN
   (1) YES (2) NO
22. WERE YOU A VICTIM OF SEXUAL ASSAULT
   (1) YES (2) NO
23. DID YOU HAVE PROBLEMS WITH VIOLENT BEHAVIOUR AS CHILD/TEENAGER
   (1) YES (2) NO
24. DID ANY OF YOU BROTHERS OR SISTERS HAVE PROBLEMS WITH VIOLENT BEHAVIOUR AS CHILD/TEENAGER
   (1) YES (2) NO
25. ANY WEAPONS USED IN YOUR ABUSE
   (1) YES (2) NO
26. WERE THERE INJURIES TO THE VICTIM
   (1) YES (2) NO
27. WAS THERE ANY USE OF ALCOHOL/DRUGS PRIOR TO OR DURING ABUSE
   (1) YES (2) NO
28. POLICE INTERVENTION
   (1) YES (2) NO
29. CHARGES INITIATED
   (1) YES (2) NO
30. WERE CHILDREN INVOLVED/PRESENT/IN HOUSE AT TIME OF ABUSE
   (1) YES (2) NO

AT ASSESSMENT: ACTS OF VIOLENCE
(0) None (1) ONCE (2) TWICE (3) MORE THAN TWICE

31. SLAP
32. GRAB
33. PUNCH
34. PUSH
35. KICK
36. PUSH TO THE GROUND
37. CHOKE
38. BITE
39. PULL HAIR
40. TWIST ARM
41. PIN TO GROUND OR WALL
42. HOLD
43. HIT WITH OBJECT
44. BEAT UP
45. USE GUN
46. USE KNIFE
47. OTHER WEAPON
48. FORCE TO HAVE SEXUAL INTERCOURSE
49. FORCE TO HAVE OTHER SEXUAL ACTIVITY
50. FORCE TO HAVE SEX WITH OTHER PEOPLE, OBJECTS, ANIMALS
51. BREAK OBJECTS
52. THROW OBJECTS
53. BREAK DOWN DOOR
(0) None  (1) ONCE  (2) TWICE  (3) MORE THAN TWICE

54. THROW FOOD
55. PUNCH FIST THROUGH WALL
56. HARM OR NEGLECT PET
57. THREATEN TO HIT OR ABUSE
58. THREATEN TO SEXUALLY ABUSE
59. EXPRESS INTENSE JEALOUSY
60. THREATEN TO KILL
61. THREATEN TO COMMIT SUICIDE
62. FORCE PARTNER TO DO SOMETHING AGAINST HER WILL
63. TELL HER WHAT SHE CAN AND CANNOT DO
64. BE VERBALLY AGGRESSIVE

AT SURVEY: ACTS OF VIOLENCE
(SINCE TERMINATION FROM PROGRAM)

65. SLAP
66. GRAB
67. PUNCH
68. PUSH
69. KICK
70. PUSH TO THE GROUND
71. CHORE
72. BITE
73. PULL HAIR
74. TWIST ARM
75. PIN TO GROUND OR WALL
76. HOLD
77. HIT WITH OBJECT
78. BEAT UP
79. USE GUN
80. USE KNIFE
81. OTHER WEAPON
82. FORCE TO HAVE SEXUAL INTERCOURSE
83. FORCE TO HAVE OTHER SEXUAL ACTIVITY
84. FORCE TO HAVE SEX WITH OTHER PEOPLE, OBJECTS, ANIMALS
85. BREAK OBJECTS
86. THROW OBJECTS
87. BREAK DOWN DOOR
88. THROW FOOD
89. PUNCH FIST THROUGH WALL
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91. THREATEN TO HIT OR ABUSE
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94. THREATEN TO KILL
95. THREATEN TO COMMIT SUICIDE
96. FORCE PARTNER TO DO SOMETHING AGAINST HER WILL
97. TELL HER WHAT SHE CAN AND CANNOT DO
98. BE VERBALLY AGGRESSIVE
PSYCHOLOGICAL ABUSE QUESTIONNAIRE

99. Discussed issue calmly that your partner raised
100. Got information to back up your side of things
101. Brought in, or tried to bring in, someone to help settle things
102. Insulted or swore at her
103. Criticized her clothes or her physical appearance
104. Criticized her child care
105. Sulked or refused to talk about an issue
106. Stomped out of a room or yard
107. Demanded a strict account of how your partner spends money
108. Made a major monetary decision without consulting her
109. Accused her of having an affair
110. Discouraged her contact with friends or family members
111. Did not let her go out of the house when she wanted to
112. Restricted her use of the car or the phone
113. Embarrassed her in front of others
114. Drove the car recklessly to frighten her
115. Interrupted her sleeping to bother her
116. Threatened to take the children away from her
117. Blamed her for your problems
118. Withheld affection from her
119. Withheld sex from her
120. Was insensitive to her sexual needs and desires
121. SUICIDE ATTEMPT
   (1) YES  (2) NO
122. CONSIDERED LONER/ISOLATED AT TIME OF ASSESSMENT
   (1) YES  (2) NO
123. CONSIDERED LONER/ISOLATED AT TIME OF SURVEY
   (1) YES  (2) NO

TREATMENT MOTIVATION AT ASSESSMENT

124. SELF MOTIVATION
   (1) YES  (2) NO
125. LENGTH IN PROGRAM
   (1) ASSESSMENT ONLY
   (2) ASSESSMENT & PHASE ONE FVP COMPLETE
   (3) ASSESSMENT & PHASE ONE & TWO COMPLETE
   (4) ASSESSMENT & PHASE ONE & TWO & THREE COMPLETE
126. TIME BETWEEN ASSESSMENT AND SURVEY
127. PSYCHOLOGICALLY ABUSIVE AT ASSESSMENT
   (1) YES  (2) NO
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APPENDIX 6

UNIVERSITY OF WINDSOR: RESEARCH PROJECT

RESEARCH INFORMATION SHEET FOR FAMILY VIOLENCE PROGRAM CLIENTS

The following information is provided so that you can make an informed decision as to whether or not you wish to participate in the research associated with the Family Violence Program (F.V.P.). Should you decide not to take part in the research, it will in no way effect your future needs to counselling at Family Service Kent or your request to return to the Family Violence Program.

1. The Family Violence Program and the research project will be conducted by Bruce Cowan, a M. A. candidate at the University of Windsor. Bruce has conducted and managed the program since 1992, and has approximately six years of direct counselling experience and approximately thirty years of indirect counselling through Police Services and Private practice.

2. The study has two main goals. The intent is to determine how useful the Family Violence Program is in bringing about positive psychological and attitudinal changes in men who have been physically or emotionally abusive and who have difficulty controlling their anger and behaviour in domestic relationships. The intent is also to identify and study a number of personal factors that may help or hinder in the course of the program.

3. If you choose to take part in the research, the information obtained from the questionnaires will be used in a very confidential manner, in Bruce Cowan’s study.

4. If you choose to take part in the research, all information and data relating to you (i.e., personal information and test scores) will be kept strictly confidential. Further, your name, address, and telephone number will not be mentioned in any written or oral report. The confidentiality of your test scores will be assured by the use of a code as opposed to your name, on the test answer sheets. The only person who will be able to identify your coded questionnaire answer sheets with your name, will be the person administering the questionnaires, the coordinator of the Family Violence Program, Bruce Cowan. When not being used for program or research related purposes, your file will be kept under lock at Family Service Kent and shall be subject to the Confidential Policies therein.

5. Whether you take part in the program only, or in the program and the research, Bruce Cowan will be willing to discuss the outcome of the study with you if you wish.
APPENDIX 7

PROTECTION TO HUMAN SUBJECTS

With this study using human subjects it is necessary to protect respondents that are invited to participate. Three measures have been utilized to assure that human subjects are protected. These include assurances of confidentiality, voluntarism and assurances of support.

Confidentiality is maintained through the following measures.
1. If the subject chooses to take part in the research, the information obtained from the questionnaires will be used in a very confidential manner, in Bruce Cowan’s study.
2. If the subject chooses to participate in the research, all information and data relating to the subject (i.e., personal information and test scores) will be kept strictly confidential.
3. Names, addresses, and telephone numbers will not be mentioned in any written or oral report.
4. The confidentiality of the test scores will be assured by the use of a code as opposed to a subject’s name, on the test answer sheets. The only person who will be able to identify your coded questionnaire answer sheets with your name, will be the person administering the questionnaires, the coordinator of the Family Violence Program, Bruce Cowan.
5. When not being used for program or research related purposes, the subject’s file will be kept under lock at Family Service Kent and shall be subject to the Confidential Policies therein.

Assurance of Voluntary Participation is maintained through the following measures.
1. All subjects shall be advised verbally that there will be no negative repercussions if a subject declines to participate in the study.
2. Subjects shall be advised orally that participation is voluntary.

Assurance of Available Support is maintained through the following measures.
1. Whether you take part in the program only, or in the program and the research, Bruce Cowan will be willing to discuss the outcome of the study with you if you wish.
2. Ongoing questions which have arisen during the study will be discussed by Bruce Cowan upon request.
APPENDIX 8

VERBAL CONSENT FORM

The purpose of this study is two-fold. The intent is to assess the short-term effectiveness of the Family Violence Program in promoting positive psychological, attitudinal, and belief-system changes in men who have difficulty controlling their anger and behaviour in domestic relationship and to identify and analyze a number of personal factors that may help or hinder client growth and development in the course of the program.

1. There will be one interview by Bruce Cowan lasting approximately 1/2 hour to talk about and administer a Family Violence Program questionnaire.

2. It is understood that withdrawal from the study can be made at any time, and questions that are felt to invade privacy do not have to be answered.

3. Confidentiality will be maintained, because names will not be put on any form but this page and the Confidential Code Report which will be maintained at Family Service Kent. No information will be released which will identify individual members or families.

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APPENDIX 10

ABUSEONE: VIOLENCE ONE (AT ASSESSMENT)

NONE, ONCE, TWICE, MORE THAN TWICE

TWIST ARM 40
BEAT UP 44
BITE 38
BREAK OBJECTS 51
CHOKE 37
BREAK DOWN DOOR 53
THROW FOOD 54
FORCE PARTNER TO DO SOMETHING AGAINST HER WILL 62
GRAB 32
PUSH TO THE GROUND 36
PIN TO GROUND OR WALL 41
USE GUN 45
HOLD 42
PULL HAIR 39
EXPRESS INTENSE JEALOUSY 59
KICK 35
USE KNIFE 46
HIT WITH OBJECT 43
FORCE TO HAVE OTHER SEXUAL ACTIVITY 49
HARM OR NEGLECT PET 56
FORCE TO HAVE SEX WITH OTHER PEOPLE, OBJECTS, ANIMALS 50
PUNCH 33
PUSH 34
FORCE TO HAVE SEXUAL INTERCOURSE 48
SLAP 31
TELL HER WHAT SHE CAN AND CANNOT DO 63
THREATEN TO HIT OR ABUSE 57
THREATEN TO KILL 60
THROW OBJECTS 52
THREATEN TO SEXUALLY ABUSE 58
THREATEN TO COMMIT SUICIDE 61
PUNCH FIST THROUGH WALL 55
OTHER WEAPON 47
BE VERBALLY AGGRESSIVE 64
APPENDIX 11

ABUSETWO: VIOLENCE TWO (AT SURVEY)

NONE, ONCE, TWICE, MORE THAN TWICE

TWIST ARM 74
BEAT UP 78
BITE 72
BREAK OBJECTS 85
CHOKE 71
BREAK DOWN DOOR 87
THROW FOOD 88
FORCE PARTNER TO DO SOMETHING AGAINST HER WILL 96
GRAB 66
PUSH TO THE GROUND 70
PIN TO GROUND OR WALL 75
USE GUN 79
HOLD 76
PULL HAIR 73
KICK 69
USE KNIFE 80
HIT WITH OBJECT 77
FORCE TO HAVE OTHER SEXUAL ACTIVITY 83
HARM OR NEGLECT PET 90
FORCE TO HAVE SEX WITH OTHER PEOPLE, OBJECTS, ANIMALS 84
PUNCH 67
PUSH 68
FORCE TO HAVE SEXUAL INTERCOURSE 82
SLAP 65
THREATEN TO KILL 94
THROW OBJECTS 86
THREATEN TO HIT OR ABUSE 91
THREATEN TO SEXUALLY ABUSE 92
THREATEN TO COMMIT SUICIDE 95
PUNCH FIST THROUGH WALL 89
OTHER WEAPON 81
APPENDIX 12

PSYCHOLOGICAL ABUSE QUESTIONNAIRE

NONE, ONCE, TWICE, MORE THAN TWICE

Express intense jealousy
Tell her what she can and cannot do
Be verbally aggressive
Accused her of having an affair
Blamed her for your problems
Brought in, or tried to bring in, someone to help settle
Criticized her clothes or her physical appearance
Criticized her child care
Demanded a strict account of how your partner spends money
Did not let her go out of the house when she wanted to
Discouraged her contact with friends or family members
Discussed issue calmly that your partner raised
Drove the car recklessly to frighten her
Embarrassed her in front of others
Got information to back up your side of things
Insulted or swore at her
Interrupted her sleeping to bother her
Made a major monetary decision without consulting her
Restricted her use of the car or the phone
Stomped out of a room or yard
Sulked or refused to talk about an issue
Threatened to take the children away from her
Was insensitive to her sexual needs and desires
Withheld affection from her
Withheld sex from her

PSYCHOLOGICAL ABUSE AT TIME OF ASSESSMENT
VITA AUCTORIS

NAME: Bruce Louis COWAN

PLACE OF BIRTH: Chatham, Ontario

YEAR OF BIRTH: 1944

EDUCATION:

Chatham Collegiate Institute
Chatham, Ontario
1960-1964

University of Windsor
Windsor, Ontario

University of Windsor
Windsor, Ontario
1988-1992. B.S.W.

University of Windsor
Windsor, Ontario
1993-1996. M.A.