

welcome

Substance Abuse
Domestic Violence

**THE INTERSECTION
OF DOMESTIC
VIOLENCE &
SUBSTANCE ABUSE**

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WHAT IF,
Someone told a lie...
That Alcohol or Other Drugs caused
domestic violence?
Who would it benefit?

LET'S BEGIN WITH
SOMETHING FUN...
THEY ARE WITHOUT EXCUSE

SURVEY LISTS THE TOP EXCUSES DRIVERS USE TO TALK THEIR WAY OUT OF TRAFFIC TICKETS



- o **DETROIT** -Drivers come up with some of the most outrageous excuses when getting pulled over by police. Some excuses are more prevalent than others. Insurance.com surveyed 500 drivers, asking them which excuse they are most likely to use to talk themselves out of a ticket.
- o Overall, the list looks like the same batch of excuses that's always been around, but some stick out a tad bit more than others. Drivers actually blame their traffic wrongdoing on their navigation system. Although that excuse is number 10, with the rise in technology it's only a matter of time before it skyrockets up the list.
- o Here are more results of Insurance.com's survey:



**THE MOST COMMON EXCUSES:
TALKING YOUR WAY OUT OF A TRAFFIC TICKET**

1. I couldn't see the sign telling me not to do it: 20.5%
2. I'm lost and unfamiliar with the roads: 15.6%
3. I didn't know it was broken: 12.4%
4. Everyone else was doing it: 6.4%
5. I'm having an emergency situation in my car. (For instance, spilled a hot drink on your lap.): 5.4%
6. I missed my turn/exit: 4.8%
7. I had to go to the bathroom: 4.6%
8. I didn't do anything dangerous: 4.2%
9. I was on my way to an emergency. (For example, to help someone who is ill or injured.): 4%
10. My GPS said it was the right thing to do: 2.2%
11. I'm just helping out; I wasn't even supposed to be driving. (For example, your friend is intoxicated.): 2%



BATTERER'S DESERVE
Full Credit For What They've Done!

ISSUES WE ENCOUNTER WORKING WITH DRUG AND ALCOHOL AFFECTED BATTERERS



- The batterers lives seem to be in more chaos than the non-drug/alcohol affected batterers.
- They, and their (ex)partners, tend to blame the drug/alcohol for the battering.
- Their overall denial seems higher.
- They are better liars and manipulators.
- "I didn't come here for my drinking" is a major impediment to getting these men to work on their drug/alcohol issues while involved in batterer intervention, sometimes the courts do not see this as something they want to take on and monitor
- The concept of "codependency" is a popular framework in the industry, even though it has serious conceptual and ethical problems when applied to real people's lives. When applied to survivors of a drug/alcohol affected batterer, the term blames the victim for her victimhood. A better term for this condition would be "captive dependent" or "hostage."
- Drug/alcohol affected batterers who are engaged in accountably dealing with both issues will be spending a good deal of time away from family, work, etc.

THERE IS A LINK...




- Over 50% of men in BIPs have SA issues and are 8 times as likely to batter on a day in which they have been drinking.
- Half of partnered men entering SA treatment have battered in the past year and are 11 times as likely to batter on a day in which they have been drinking.
- 25%-50% of the women receiving services for DV have SA problems.
- Between 55% and 99% of women who have SA issues have been victimized at some point in their life and between 67% and 80% of women in SA treatment are DV victims.

HARM FACING BATTERED WOMEN USING DRUGS

- Impairs her ability to leave her batterer
- Reduces her ability to protect herself and her children
- If illegal drugs, puts her in harm's way
- Effects of SA prevent her from accurately assessing the level of danger posed by her perpetrator
- Erroneously believes she can defend herself against physical assaults
- If getting high is a "couple thing" her non-use may threatens her perpetrators access





- Impaired cognition makes safety planning more difficult
- Reluctant to seek assistance or contact police for fear of arrest, deportation or referral to a child protection agency
- Compulsive use/withdrawal symptoms make it difficult for SA victims to access shelter, advocacy, or other forms of help
- A recovering woman may find the stress of securing safety leads to relapse
- If she is using or has used in the past, she may not be believed


What's the Rub?




Domestic Violence Movement Addictions Field

FACTS ABOUT DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND AOD



- Rates of domestic violence were almost 15 times higher in households where husbands were described as often drunk as opposed to never drunk.²
- Women who have been victims of violence have a higher risk of alcohol and other drug problems.⁵




FACTS ABOUT DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND AOD




- Alcohol is present in more than 50 percent of all incidents of domestic violence.³
- 76% of physically abusive incidents occur in the absence of alcohol use.⁴



FACTS ABOUT DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND AOD




- Battered women often report that, in addition to medicating the emotional and physical pain of trauma, chemical use helped to reduce or eliminate their feelings of fear and became part of their day-to-day safety strategies.¹¹
- Battered women are disproportionately represented in chemical dependency treatment populations.^{7, 8 & 9}



FACTS ABOUT DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND AOD

- Chemically involved battered women are less likely to be believed or taken seriously by others; they are more likely to be blamed for the violence.⁶
- Many chemically dependent battered women are addicted to drugs that were prescribed by the health care providers from whom they sought help.¹⁰



FACTS ABOUT DV AND AOD

- A victim's chemical use or addiction provides the abuser with yet another weapon he can use as a means to control her.
- Use of chemicals can compromise cognitive functioning and motor coordination, making victims less able to develop and implement safety-related strategies.



ALL THOSE FACTS ARE TRUE, BUT...

- Alcohol and drugs do not cause domestic violence.
- Domestic violence does not cause addiction, but may cause drug or alcohol misuse.
- "You can have strep throat and a broken leg at the same time."



SOME PEOPLE STILL DON'T GET IT...

- "Addiction to Power and Control"
- "When is Domestic Violence a Hidden Face of Addiction?"
- Addicted to Chaos



HOW CAN WE HELP SURVIVORS GET SAFE AND SOBER?

Does Safety = Sobriety?
Does Sobriety = Safety




SafeHouse Center provides support for those impacted by domestic violence or sexual assault. Free and confidential services are available for any person victimized that lives or works in Washtenaw County. Our services include emergency shelter for those in danger of being hurt or killed, counseling, legal advocacy, support groups, and especially, *hope*.

www.safehousecenter.org
4100 Clark Road
Ann Arbor, MI 48105



24/7 HelpLine: 734-995-5444
info@safehousecenter.org
Also, find us on Facebook!



Building communities free of domestic violence and sexual assault

**Catholic Social Services of Washtenaw County
Domestic Violence Intervention Services**

- ❖ ADA
- ❖ RENEW
- ❖ Delonis Center Programming
- ❖ Washtenaw County Jail Programming

Lisa Larence
P: 734.926.4658
E: LLARANCE@csswashtenaw.org

www.csswashtenaw.org/ada
www.csswashtenaw.org/renew

LEARN ABOUT 12 STEP PROGRAMS AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

- Powerlessness (Step 1)
 - Empowerment
- Insanity (Step 2)
- Moral inventory (Steps 4 & 5)
- Amends (Steps 8 & 9)
- Acceptance
- Codependence



AL-ANON ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

- *No one has to accept violence...we all deserve to be safe*
- *Al-Anon doesn't advocate any particular course of action. We are not urged to either stay or go...All of us deserve to remain safe long enough to discover this for ourselves.*
- *These decisions are best left to each individual member*



Domestic Violence

& Addiction



What is the Relationship Between Addiction & Domestic Violence

How COMMON IS DV?

- o 25% of women and 8% of men surveyed said they were raped and/or physically assaulted by a current or former partner during their lifetime. ¹ The vast majority served for DV are women.
- o SafeHouse Center served over 4500 survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault in the past year.



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IS

- o Instrumental, strategic, and purposeful behavior designed to bring about an outcome.
- o A pattern of coercive behavior used to control an intimate partner
- o Includes physical and/or sexual violence, or the credible threat of such violence
- o and numerous power and control tactics.



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IS

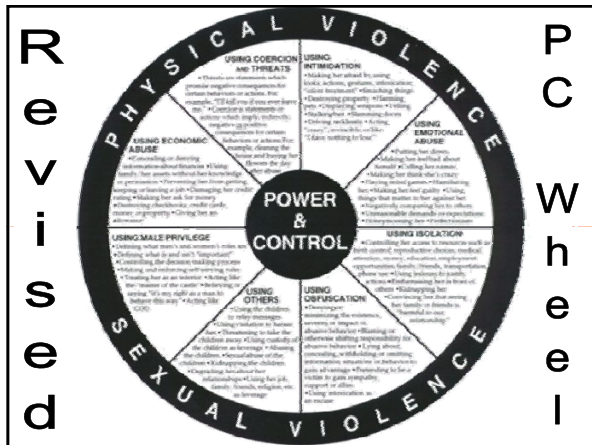
- o Intentional behavior
 - Not about loss of control, anger, bad childhoods, alcohol/other drug use
- o Batterers want control but not consequences



POWER AND CONTROL TACTICS?

- o Emotional abuse
- o Economic abuse
- o Isolation
- o Minimizing, denying, blaming
- o Coercion, threats, intimidation
- o Encouraging drug dependence
- o Constant threat of violence, "or else..."





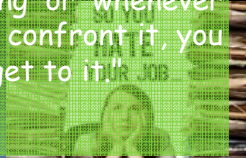
Why Does She Stay?

Exercise

Consider...

A time when you have been stuck in a job or a class or some other situation you hate, yet...

Every Monday morning or whenever you are supposed to confront it, you get out of bed and get to it.



1. What did you say to yourself about it?



2. How did you feel?



3. What did you do to get through the day?



4. What kept you going?



Conclusion...

What you get is a pretty good profile of a woman who is abused.
...Also a profile of all of us at times by virtue of being humans.

Why Does HE stay?

The question that we should be asking...

Why Does He stay?

- He gets what he wants...
- He gets to control the money...
- He gets to make the rules...
- He gets waited on...
- He gets to be The Boss ...
- He knows that violence works ...
- He knows nobody Knows about his violence ..
- He knows the Neighbors and Church Members Still Like Him ...

Why Does He stay?

- He knows the Protective Order is Not Enforced ...
- He knows It's her Fault ...
- He knows his Community Does Not Condemn Violence ...
- He knows no one believes her ...
- He likes getting free sex & housework on demand ...
- He likes her income...
- He Gets Free Childcare ...
- **He stays, because he is getting what he wants...when he wants it...and is willing to get it at the expense of another**

WCTU est. 1874

Title:
Pleading with a Saloonist

Description:
An illustration depicting a group of women praying in the street and trying to persuade a saloon keeper to stop selling alcoholic beverages, ca. 1873-1874.

The caption reads
"Pleading with a Saloonist."



PROHIBITION HAS MADE NOTHING BUT TROUBLE.
- A. CAPONE

Drinking Alcohol

Always do sober what you said you'd do drunk. That will teach you to keep your mouth shut. ~Ernest Hemingway

Once, during Prohibition, I was forced to live for days on nothing but food and water. ~W.C. Fields

Beer is the cause and solution to all of life's problems. ~Homer Simpson

DRUNKEN PEOPLE CROSSING

Is coughing a *symptom* or a *diagnosis*?

*Ok then,
...What is it a symptom of?*

Is Battering a Symptom or a diagnosis?

What are the characteristics of God?


God

- All Knowing
- Omniscient
- Omnipotent
- Loving
- Ever Present
- Forgiving
- Wrathful
- All Powerful
- Male
- Kind
- Father

What are the characteristics of God?

<p><u>God</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ All Knowing ➤ Omniscient ➤ Omnipotent ➤ Loving ➤ Ever Present ➤ Forgiving ➤ Wrathful ➤ All Powerful ➤ Male ➤ Kind ➤ Father 	<p><u>Batterers</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☞ All Knowing ☞ Omniscient ☞ Omnipotent ☞ Loving ☞ Ever Present ☞ Forgiving ☞ Wrathful ☞ All Powerful ☞ Male ☞ Kind ☞ Father
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Intoxication Causes... What?



Do you have feelings of inadequacy?

A match may be ignited, if you add alcohol to it, it will burn brighter and hotter. Alcohol by itself will never ignite.

Our beliefs allow, support and condone our behavior; if you believe alcohol causes violence your actions will follow.



 DRUNK!?

How drunk would you have to be...





DRUNK!?



There are three major theories about the relationship between domestic violence and intoxication




**Disinhibition
Social Learning
Deviance Disavowal**


DISINHIBITION NOTES:

- o No such inhibition center has ever been located in the brain.
- o If disinhibition explained the relationship between substance abuse and woman abuse we would expect batterers who were substance abusers to be non-violent when their substance use was terminated...this is not the case

If you **think** alcohol causes you to do...


And Are **Invested** in that thought




Then, when you drink, you will do...

Ice cream consumption and murder rates are highly correlated

Does ice cream incite murder, or does murder increase the demand for ice cream?



Concurrent  Cause

Correlation does not imply causation



IMPORTANT FACTORS:

1. His growing up in a violent and substance-abusing family
2. His believing that violence against women is sometimes acceptable
3. His believing that alcohol or drugs can make people violent.
4. His personal desire for personal power and a willingness to get what he wants at the expense of another.

Victim safety

The most essential consideration is the safety of domestic violence victims.

The interventions must account for the safety of victims whether they are in domestic violence programs or in substance abuse treatment.

Ask Yourself:

How is what I am doing enhancing victim safety?



*SOME ORGANIZATIONS THINK THEY CHOOSE **WHETHER** OR NOT THEY WILL WORK WITH BATTERERS WHO ARE ALCOHOLICS AND ADDICTS... YOUR ONLY CHOICE SHOULD BE **HOW** YOU WORK WITH THEM.*



Safety and sobriety are interconnected

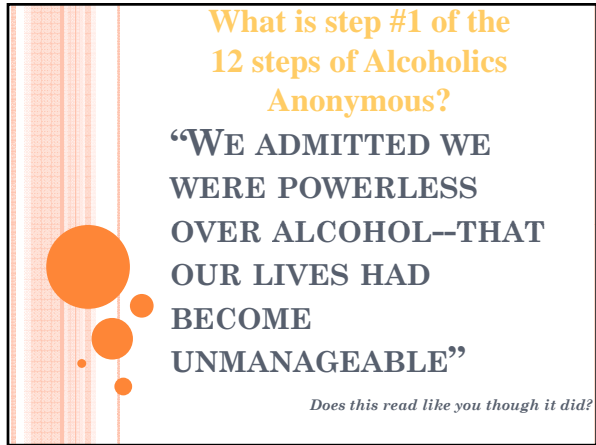
Lack of sobriety, either in victims or in batterers, increases the risk for further violence against victims.

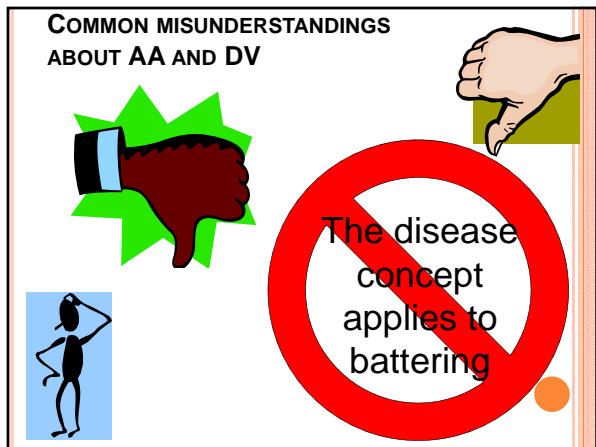
Lack of victim safety threatens the sobriety of both victim and batterer.

Abstinence and sobriety are not sufficient conditions for safety.

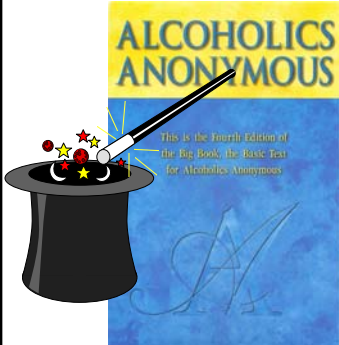








A COMMON MISUNDERSTANDING ABOUT AA AND DV



The 12 Steps will address my little incident with my wife

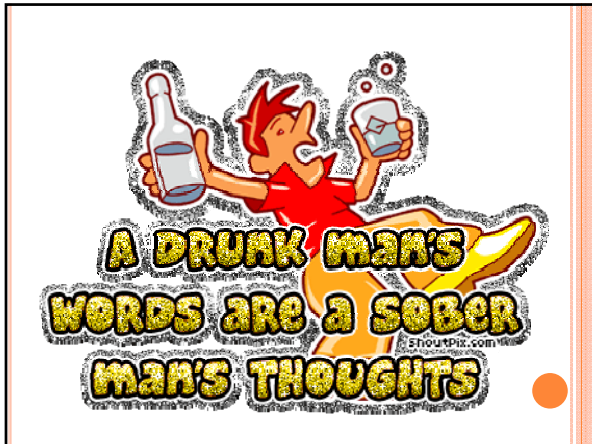
Intoxication and Domestic Violence



You have a broken ankle & strep throat!!!

THEORETICAL COMPARISONS

<p><u>MEN BATTER</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Because they can and we let them. ✓ Because it is effective. ✓ Because they want what they want when they want it. ✓ To stop her from doing something, to get her to do something, or simply to revel in dominance over her. 	<p><u>ALCOHOLICS/ADDICTS USE</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Because it is a disease. ○ Because they have lost the power to choose. ○ Because it's their best friend. ○ Because they can't imagine life with it or without it. ○ Because they have a different physiological reaction to it than non alcoholics or addicts.
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BLACK OUT VS. PASSING OUT

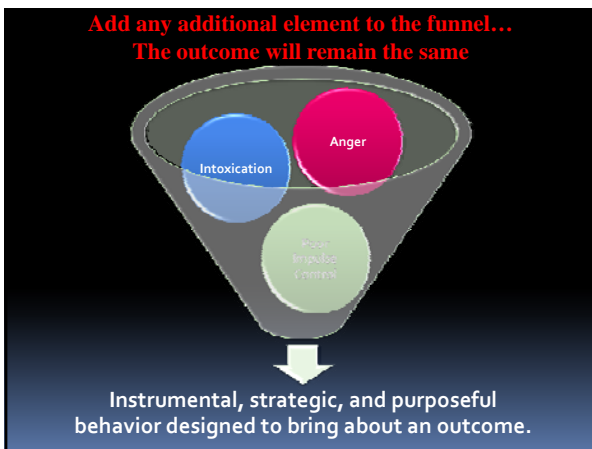
Black Out

- Full functioning
- Others can not discern
- Not doing anything that goes against your moral code
- Don't remember what happened after the black out
- Can be a few seconds or days

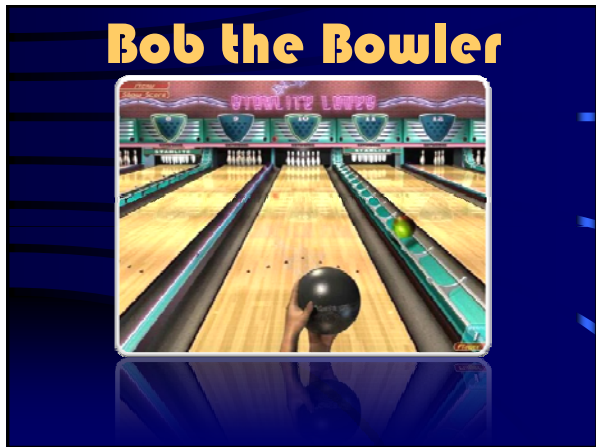
Passing Out

- You are unconscious















**If you are not willing to Learn,
No one can help you.
If you are determined to learn,
No one can stop you.**

SAFETY CONCERNS

- Lethality Indicators
 - can't predict who will kill, can't stop them if they're determined – BUT can do our best...
- Safety planning



**STRENGTHS OF 12 STEP PROGRAMS
FOR SURVIVORS**

- *Power with* or *power to be able* (feminine) rather than *power over* (masculine)
- Relational emphasis
 - Growth-fostering relationships
- Non-hierarchical
- Safe, caring environment
- Available most times of day
- Free
- Women affiliate w/AA at higher rates than men

WEAKNESSES OF 12 STEP PROGRAMS FOR SURVIVORS

- Their primary purpose is something other than domestic violence
- They are not experts in domestic violence
- Member beliefs often reflect the community beliefs



SURVIVORS WITH CHEMICALLY DEPENDENT PARTNERS ¹²

- Codependency and Effects of Victimization
- Implications of Codependency Treatment for Survivors
- Recommendations for Substance Abuse Treatment Counselors
- Relational Model (Self-in-Relation Model)



CODEPENDENCY

- There are several different definitions
- The very act of codependency could be keeping her safe
- *"If he's happy, I'm safe."*
- Surviving violent relationships is very difficult.



CODEPENDENCY TREATMENT

When victims of domestic violence are encouraged to stop the behaviors associated with codependency—enabling, caretaking, over-responsibility for a partner's behavior, not setting limits or defining personal boundaries—they are, in essence, being asked to stop doing the very things that may be keeping them and their children most safe. These behaviors are not symptomatic of some underlying "dysfunction," but are the life-saving skills necessary to protect them and their children from further harm.



RECOMMENDATIONS FOR COUNSELORS

- Give priority to safety and explore safety-related options;
- Provide referral information to the local domestic violence service provider as a resource designed primarily to assist with safety-related needs;
- Provide complete and accurate information about the purposes of twelve-step groups and codependency groups and the potential limitations of these forums as sources of help regarding safety-related concerns;
- Provide referral information to Al-Anon and other resources designed to provide help for family members of substance abusers; and
- Offer opportunities to become educated about chemical dependency independent of her partner.





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