

Module 1:

Domestic Violence Dynamics

Module 1 is a brief overview of domestic violence dynamics and how they specifically relate to persons with limited English proficiency.

Stacy Ruble

Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence
Action Alliance

Domestic violence is...

- Pattern of abusive behaviors
- Used by one person to control or exert power over another person
- In the context of an intimate relationship

Legal definition of domestic violence may include....

- Physical assault
- Threatening words or actions
- Harassment
- Intimidation
- Stalking
- Sexual violence
- Forced restraint/imprisonment

Each state defines domestic violence differently

Domestic violence is about:

- Power and control

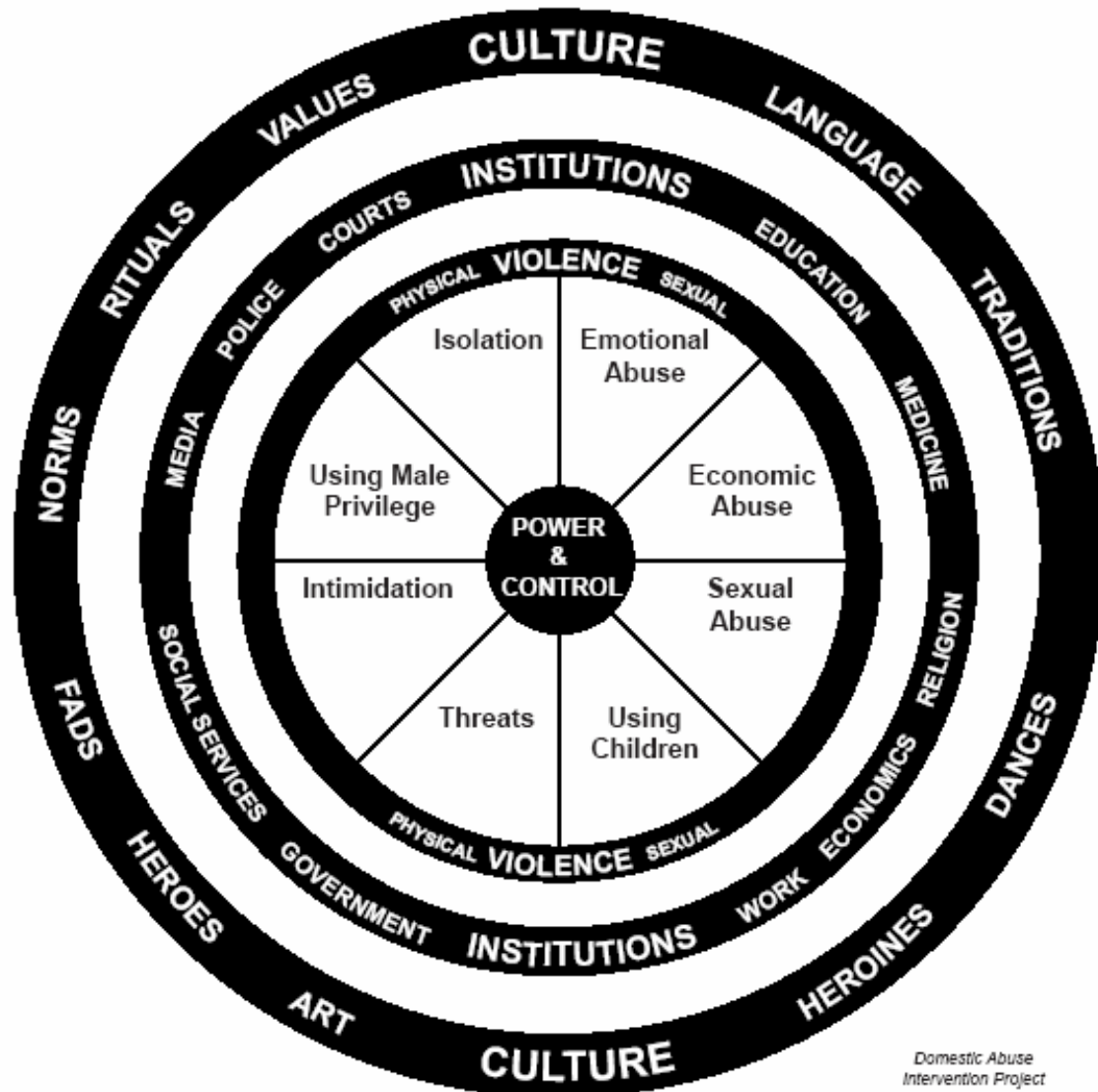
Domestic violence is NOT about:

- Anger management
- Stress
- Poverty
- Alcohol and/or drug use/abuse

The Power Wheel



Culture Wheel



LEP Control

In addition to these methods of control, a person with limited English proficiency can be controlled in other ways:

- Threat of deportation
- Using English so victim doesn't understand
- Purposely misinterpreting something
- Explaining justice system inaccurately
- Using community against victim

Victims

May not want the batterer arrested

- Fear of retribution by batterer
- Loss of income
- Effect on children
- Just want violence to stop
- Religious/personal beliefs to stay married
- Fear of being ostracized by community members

Roles

Interpreter

- Interpret or translate material
- **Not** change what the victim says to make it sound better
- Clarify statements to make sure interpretation is accurate
- See Module 4 for more information

Advocate

- Assist victim
- Explain process to victim and answer questions
- Provide emotional support
- Clarify statements & ask follow-up questions to get more details
- Provide follow-up services

Services Available

- State coalitions
- Hotlines
- Shelter
- Legal advocacy
- Written materials
- Online resources
- Training

See Module 5 for links

In our next module

We will provide a general overview of the protection order process.

