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COMBATING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IN THE USA

Domestic violence is a pattern of coercive, controlling behavior that can include physical abuse, emotional or psychological abuse, sexual abuse or financial abuse (using money and financial tools to exert control). Some abusers are able to exert complete control over a victim's every action without ever using violence or only using subtle threats of violence. All types of abuse are devastating to victims.

High-profile cases of domestic violence will attract headlines, but thousands of people experience domestic abuse every day. They come from all walks of life. In annual Domestic Violence Counts Report, the National Network to End Domestic Violence (NNEDV) finds that U.S. domestic violence shelters and programs serve thousands of victims and answer thousands of crisis hotline calls, chats, texts, and emails every day of the year [1].

Abusive partners make it very difficult for victims to escape relationships. Sadly, many survivors suffer from abuse for decades.

It is important for survivors to know that the abuse is not their fault, and that they are not alone. Help is available to those who are experiencing domestic violence.

The United States believes that preventing and responding to gender-based violence around the world is a matter of human rights, justice, equity, and equality. In 2012, the U.S. Congress first requested a “multi-year strategy to prevent and respond to violence against women and girls,” which led to the development of the first U.S. Strategy to Prevent and Respond to Gender-Based Violence Globally. This strategy, and the subsequent update in 2016, elevated the human rights of women and girls globally as a U.S. national security, diplomatic, and foreign assistance priority. Ten years later, our commitment to this issue remains steadfast and our knowledge of best and promising practices has grown. Nonetheless, gender-based violence remains all too common around the world, including in the United States [2].

Relationship risk factors

1. Relationship conflicts including jealousy, possessiveness, tension, divorce, or separations.
2. Dominance and control of the relationship by one partner over the other.
3. Families experiencing economic stress.
4. Unhealthy family relationships and interactions.
5. Association with antisocial and aggressive peers.

6. Parents with less than a high school education.
7. Witnessing violence between parents as a child.
8. History of experiencing poor parenting as a child.
9. History of experiencing physical discipline as a child.

Community protective factors

Neighborhood collective efficacy, meaning residents feel connected to each other and are involved in the community.

Coordination of resources and services among community agencies.

Communities with access to safe, stable housing.

Communities with access to medical care and mental health services.

Communities with access to economic and financial help.

Societal risk factors

Traditional gender norms and gender inequality (e.g., the idea women should stay at home, not enter the workforce, and be submissive; men should support the family and make the decisions).

Cultural norms that support aggression toward others.

Societal income inequality.

Weak health, educational, economic, and social policies or laws [3].

What types of therapy are helpful to work through the trauma of domestic abuse?

There are many forms of psychotherapy that can be helpful following domestic abuse. If a survivor is experiencing post traumatic reactions, such as intrusive memories, flashbacks, physical reactivity to reminders, and avoidance of things that may remind them of the abuse, a trauma-focused treatment such as prolonged exposure may be the best option. If more depressive symptoms and feelings of shame or guilt are central, an affect-focused therapy, such as interpersonal psychotherapy, may be better suited.

What can we do to stop domestic abuse and promote domestic violence awareness?

There are many good national and local campaigns to promote awareness, but we may also want to look for signs that it may be happening to someone close to us. Such signs may include:

Unexplained injuries or excuses for bruises and injuries that don't match up to the stories behind them;

Personality changes, particularly decreased self-esteem;

Never having money on hand despite being gainfully employed;

Intense worry about how their partner will react;

Wearing clothes that don't fit the season, like long sleeves or scarves in summer to cover bruises.

If you expect that someone is experiencing domestic violence, don't be afraid to ask. Talk to them and let them know that they have support. I think we have a lot of work to do in terms of reducing stigma and shame as

well as availability of services, including help for victims and abusers to find their way to healthy, respectful, and nonviolent relationships [4].

The fight against domestic violence in the U.S. is supported by a strong legal framework, such as the Violence Against Women Act, and various victim support programs, including shelters and legal aid. While law enforcement actively responds to incidents, there is ongoing criticism regarding the effectiveness of some agencies. Local organizations and social services play a vital role in addressing the issue.

Список використаних джерел

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MAINTAINING PUBLIC SAFETY BY INTERNATIONAL INVESTIGATIVE AGENCIES

The work of investigative and forensic agencies is fundamental in ensuring justice and maintaining public safety. These agencies are responsible for crime investigation, evidence collection, and coordination with other law enforcement bodies. International experience shows that the effectiveness of investigative agencies depends not only on their internal processes but also on their ability to cooperate with foreign partners, adopt technological advancements, and adhere to international standards.

International cooperation is essential in an increasingly interconnected world where crime often transcends borders. Organizations such as Interpol, Europol, and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) provide platforms for countries to collaborate in addressing transnational crimes like human trafficking, cybercrime, and terrorism. Europol, for example, offers European Union countries a centralized agency for intelligence analysis and operational support, which strengthens cross-border collaboration on criminal investigations [1]. Additionally, the *Secure Information Exchange Network Application*