### Overview of Three Primary Theories of Domestic Violence

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Local, direct service, domestic violence programs are welcome to hand out this chart for advocacy or staff training. Contact for other uses or distribution: Collaborative.Consulting at yahoo.com

#### CYCLE OF VIOLENCE
- **Model**: Cycle of Violence
- **Origination/Key Authors**: Lenore Walker (CO)
- **Definition of battering**: Cycle of violence completed twice
- **Source of violence**: Individual
- **Individual cause**: Personality disturbance, Family of origin, Generational
- **Primary societal cause**: Sex role stereotyping (conditioning), Legal status, Economics
- **Purpose**: Coerce her to do what he wants
- **Related to ...**: Culture of violence, abuse as child (sexual assault)
- **Primary users**: Social Work, Mental Health & Medical Model
- **Field**: Psychology (DSM)

#### FAMILY VIOLENCE
- **Model**: Conflict Tactics Scale
- **Origination/Key Authors**: Strauss, Gelles (NH)
- **Definition of battering**: Physical act. Resolution of conflict within family
- **Source of violence**: Family
- **Individual cause**: External factors (job or stress), Skill deficits, Personal pathology
- **Primary societal cause**: Violence as culturally appropriate method of resolving conflict
- **Purpose**: Establish family rules in response to change
- **Related to ...**: Elder abuse, child abuse
- **Solution**: New ways to deal w/ conflict and cultures of violence. Less culturally legitimized violence (media).
- **Primary users**: Academics, Researchers
- **Field**: Sociology, Psychology

#### POWER AND CONTROL
- **Model**: Power & Control Wheels
- **Origination/Key Authors**: Duluth (MN), Survivors
- **Definition of battering**: Complex interlocking tactics of control
- **Source of violence**: Society
- **Individual cause**: Belief systems: entitled to control partners thoughts, feelings, actions
- **Primary societal cause**: Power and gendered relations of patriarchal society
- **Purpose**: Establish a power based relationship
- **Related to ...**: Mechanisms of social control (racism, sexism)
- **Solution**: Community & systems reform. Social change: alternative to cultures of domination (hierarchies, systems, beliefs)
- **Primary users**: Advocates, Feminists, Social Work
- **Field**: Sociology

### In Practice

#### Terms
- **Battered Women, Battered Women’s Syndrome**
- **Family Violence, Spouse Abuse (Older: Wife Abuse, Wife Battering)**
- **Violence Against Women, Battered Women, Survivors**

#### Who is responsible
- **Batterer**
- **All family members**
- **Batterer**

#### Why someone batters
- **Psycho-social: Society and Personality Distortion**
- **Ineffectual methods to resolve conflict**
- **Intentional act to change her behavior (control)**

#### Result of living with abuse
- **(predictable) Learned Helplessness, PTSD-BWS, Low self-esteem**
- **Culture of Violence. Children continue Cycle of Violence**
- **(Varies) Resistance, Internalized Oppression, Help seeking**

#### Response to victims
- **Separation: shelter, hospital, psychotherapy**
- **Family/couples counseling**
- **Consciousness raising, Liberatory Education**