FACT SHEET: Intimate Partner Violence (IPV)

- Every year, about 1.5 million women and more than 800,000 men are raped or physically assaulted by an intimate partner. This is about 47 intimate partner assaults per 1,000 women and 32 intimate partner assaults per 1,000 men. “Findings from the National Violence Against Women Survey,” US Department of Justice, 2000.

- Nearly 2 million injuries and 1,300 deaths resulting from intimate partner violence occur nationwide every year. “Costs of intimate partner violence against women in the United States,” Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), 2003.

- Over 1 million women and 371,000 men are stalked by intimate partners each year. “Findings from the National Violence Against Women Survey,” US Department of Justice, 2000.

- A woman is often repeatedly assaulted by the same intimate partner. The National Violence Against Women Survey found that women who were assaulted averaged seven physical assaults by the same partner. “Findings from the National Violence Against Women Survey,” US Department of Justice, 2000.

- A study found that 44% of women murdered by their intimate partner had visited an emergency department within 2 years of the homicide. Of these women, 93% had at least one injury visit. “Predicting future injury among women in abusive relationships,” Journal of Trauma-Injury Infection and Critical Care, 2004.

- It is estimated that IPV costs exceed $8.3 billion a year, which includes $460 million for rape, $6.2 billion for physical assault, $461 million for stalking, and $1.2 billion in the value of lost lives. “The economic toll of intimate partner violence against women in the United States,” Violence and Victims, 2004.

- Victims of severe IPV lose nearly 8 million days of paid work—the equivalent of more than 32,000 full-time jobs—and almost 5.6 million days of household productivity each year. “Costs of intimate partner violence against women in the United States,” Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), 2003.

- Women who experience severe aggression by men (e.g., not being allowed to go to work or school, or having their lives or their children’s lives threatened) are more likely to have been unemployed in the past, have health problems, and be receiving public assistance. “The effects of male violence on female employment,” Violence Against Women, 1999.

- Intimate violence is primarily a crime against women – in 2005, females were the victims in 83% of intimate violence. Bureau of Justice Statistics, US Department of Justice, 2006.

- Women aged 16-24 experienced the highest per capita rates of intimate violence (15.7 victimizations per 1,000 women). Bureau of Justice Statistics, US Department of Justice, 2006.

- Most intimate partner violence victimizations are not reported to the police. Bureau of Justice Statistics, US Department of Justice, 2006.

- Couples with income, educational, or job status disparities have a higher risk or likelihood of intimate partner violence. “Predicting future injury among women in abusive relationships,” Journal of Trauma-Injury Infection and Critical Care, 2004.

- Between 12% and 35% of teenagers have experienced some form of violence - from pushing and shoving to hitting - in a dating relationship. “Love shouldn’t hurt: strategies for health care providers to address adolescent dating violence,” Journal of the American Medical Women’s Association, 1999.

- In 2004, females age 20-24 and 25-34 were at the greatest risk of nonfatal intimate partner violence. Bureau of Justice Statistics, US Department of Justice, 2006.

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Females who were separated reported higher rates of nonfatal intimate partner violence than females of other marital statuses while married females reported the lowest. Bureau of Justice Statistics, US Department of Justice, 2006.

Both females and males who were separated or divorced faced the greatest risk of nonfatal intimate partner violence while persons who were married or widowed reported the lowest risk of violence. Bureau of Justice Statistics, US Department of Justice, 2006.

Between 2003 and 2004, the rate of nonfatal intimate partner violence for black females increased 3.8 to 6.6 victimizations per 1,000 persons age 12 years or older. Bureau of Justice Statistics, US Department of Justice, 2006.

Nonfatal intimate partner violence for white males increased between 2003 and 2004, from 0.5 to 1.1 victimizations per 1,000 males age 12 or older. Bureau of Justice Statistics, US Department of Justice, 2006.

The average annual rate of nonfatal intimate partner violence from 1993 to 2004 was highest for American Indian and Alaskan Native females, higher for black females than white females, and highest for females in all racial groups than their male counterparts. Bureau of Justice Statistics, US Department of Justice, 2006.

From 1993 to 2004, for nonfatal intimate partner victimization persons living in households with lower annual incomes experienced the highest average annual rates, persons living in households that earned higher incomes had lower average annual rates than those with less income, and females remained at greater risk than males regardless of income level. Bureau of Justice Statistics, US Department of Justice, 2006.

From 1993-2004, people residing in rental housing were victimized at an average annual rate more than 3 times that of females living in owned housing. Bureau of Justice Statistics, US Department of Justice, 2006.

On average between 1993-2004, children were residents of the households experiencing intimate partner violence in 43% of the incidents involving female victims and 25% of the incidents involving male victims. Bureau of Justice Statistics, US Department of Justice, 2006.

Abused women have a higher rate of miscarriage, stillbirth, premature labor, low birth weight babies and fetal injury. Surgeon General, 1992.

According to a U.S. study of violence between intimate partners, Latinas experience about the same level of physical assaults, and stalking as do Caucasian women, but report a 2.2% higher level of rape. Approximately 7.9% of Latinas will be raped, 21.2% will be physically assaulted, and 4.8% will be stalked by a spouse, boyfriend or ex-boyfriend during their lifetime. US Department of Justice, 2002.

While relationship violence happens to women of every race and ethnic background, African-American women are physically assaulted at a rate that is 35% higher than Caucasian women, and about 2-1/2 times the rate of women of other races. National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, 2000.

If you or someone you know has concerns or questions about domestic violence, please call the following number for information, assistance, and local agency referral. The National Domestic Violence Hotline: 1-800-799-7233, TTY: 1-800-787-3224.

If you or someone you know is a victim of sexual assault, call the following number for crisis counseling, information and referrals: 1-800-656-HOPE.

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