



Be the Change
Speak Up for the Silenced

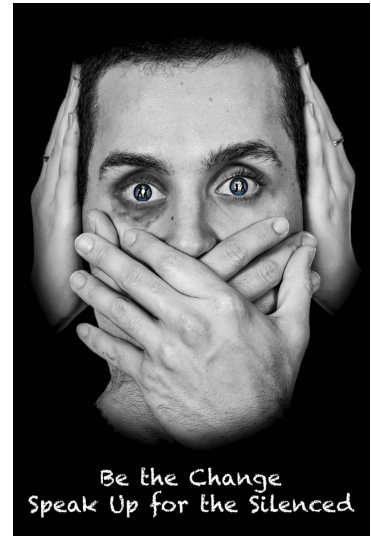
The Silence that Hurts “US”

A Reflection on Community Views and Understanding of Domestic Violence

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Objectives

By the end of this presentation the audience will be able to

- 1- Identify the importance to understand what an act of domestic violence is
- 2- Analyze the benefits and risk to research sensitive topics
- 3- Know the importance of flexibility during research studies

Abstract - Summarize it

According to the Annual Report to the Florida Legislature, in 2017-2018 the Department of Children and Families received 85,588 hotline calls and provided 15, 937 emergency shelters for victims of domestic violence. The Florida domestic violence hotline is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. Also, Florida has about 84 very active nonprofit organizations and centers offering support for the victims and teaching communities about the dangers of domestic violence.

Hypothesis

People in the communities and family members could become the voice of those who cannot speak, but in most situations, people do not take actions. Our hypothesis is that the number of domestic violence cases increases every year because Florida communities do not fully understand what domestic violence is and its implication on a person's life, family, and society.

Research Questions

- 1) Do the communities know what the many faces of domestic violence are?
- 2) What prevents friends or family members from reporting abuse?

Literature Review

- Domestic violence existence is due to variety of factors. Poverty, lack of education, lack of financial resources, levels of jealousy, excessive drinking, substance abuse and living in a large family
- The physical and mental health effects of domestic violence were concluded to be a serious reproductive health concern for women in United States.
- The oppression and degradation from which domestic violence operates is destructive to all families and all societies. This can be avoided through empowering victims, to improve decision making skills, and to empower females so they may avoid and exit abusive situations.

Participants

The participants in this research study will be:

- 1) Graduate and undergraduate students of the The University of Tampa
- 2) Students of Social College and Behavioral Sciences College at Saint Petersburg College



Data Collections

Survey

Our survey consists of two parts

Part 1:

8 questions on demographics

Part 2:

14 questions about the sample
knowledge on domestic violence

Interview

Semi-structured interview with two
parts

Part 1:

Demographics questions

Part 2:

Questions about interviews
knowledge on domestic violence

Note*

In the end of the survey & Interview, we added important information to help
anyone who may get distressed with our data collection to look for help

Data Analyses

DV

VS.

'FER??

TBD



Limitations

1. Topic
2. Sharing documents on Google Docs
3. IRB form submission
4. Sensitive topic
5. Conducting Survey from students in other institution
6. **HARM - HARM - HARM**
7. Change of email address
8. Time
9. **Lack of freedom to ask the questions we really want to ask**

Ethical Considerations

- Our proposal has changed a lot due to the sensibility of our topic
- Respect for privacy of the interviewees along with the confidentiality is the biggest concern for our research
- Monitors should be impartial, objective, accurate, and patient
- The safety of interviewees must be paramount and was kept in consideration
- Participation in research should be strictly voluntary and participants rights of withdrawal is accepted

Note*

If survivors are interviewed, special considerations should be addressed. Privacy and safety (for all) must be paramount. Post-interview support services must be available upon request. See the following section on [Ethical issues in interviewing survivors](#).

<http://www.endvawnow.org/en/articles/174-ethical-considerations.html>

Suggestions for Further Research

There are a number of gaps in our knowledge around the involvement in research that follow from our findings, and would benefit from further research.

- Should have asked the victims' family members or close friends about their experience on DV at the start of the research
- Continue to find problems with current techniques for detection of DV in the societies to help the research
- The evaluation of the impact of the information provided was considered very limited and therefore the results did not came out as expected
- Many gaps were mentioned and ways to meet these gaps need to be constantly explored to help victims recover from DV
- Should have a chance to visit every organization in the network of services available for DV victims
- Directly interviewing DV victims to share their stories and experiences of getting help from different organizations to provide awareness into future prevention strategies would have been a add on
- Asking more direct questions would definitely help
- Make research about implementation of educational programs at schools to teach kids about gender violence and peaceful conflict resolution. One important component of DV prevention is education
- Keeping in mind the different cultural background of each individual, the nature of DV varies.

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Books indicate how people should learn to trust the inherent "gift" of their gut feeling. By learning to identify different warning signs and predecessors to violence, it becomes possible to avoid potential trauma, harm and domestic violence issues in future.