

Screening for Men's use of Sexualized Violence in Domestic Violence

Presented at European Network of Work with Perpetrators

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Consulting



With financial support from the "Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme 2014-2020" of the European Union



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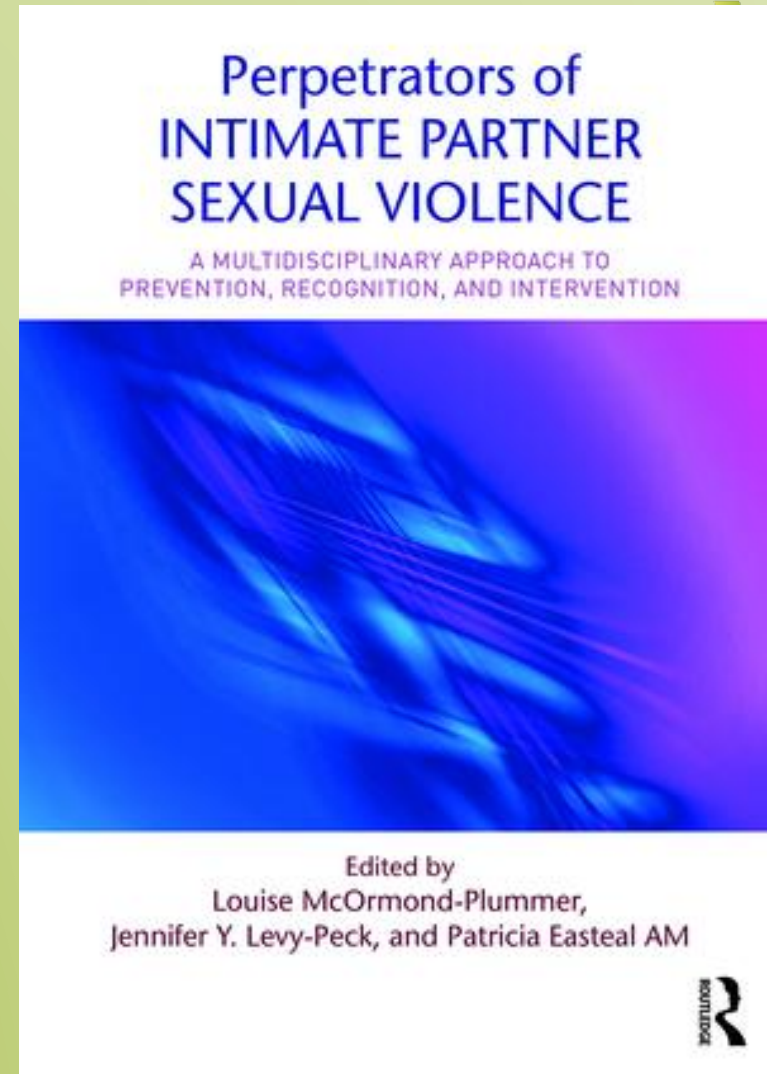


Appreciations

Tremendous thanks to Lundy Bancroft for his help in thinking this through, and to the editors for their leadership!

Citation: Funk, RE., & Bancroft, L. (2017) "Addressing and Combatting Intimate Partner Sexual Violence." in McOrmond-Plummer et al *Perpetrators of Intimate Partner Sexual Violence: A Multidisciplinary Approach to Prevention, Recognition and Intervention*. Routledge Press.

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“ ...sexual violence [is] particularly complicated in the context of intimate relationship where perceptions of women’s consent and men’s entitlement are often confused or unclear, on the part of both men and women (and in many national laws).

| Ricardo & Barker, 2008



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Women's Responsibilities to grant sexual access in Marriage



- By entering into an intimate relationship, she's granted access to her body
- Exclusively to him
- Under his control
- For his pleasure
 - Her pleasure is secondary
 - Her "pleasure" may be required for him to experience pleasure
- Limited recourse for her



Men's Rights to Sex in Marital Relationships



To have sex...

- With a particular person
- When men want to
- In the ways that men want to
- And that the person with whom they are having sex enjoys what it is that the men are doing



Expressions of IPSV



- “Typical” sexual assaults as a part of broader IPV dynamics
- Demanding sex after an assault
- Forcing what they’ve seen on pornography
- Demeaning her appearance or performance
- Ensuring partner is aware of other sexual relations
- Demanding that she have sex with other people



Questions to Explore



- How can one say yes if they can't say no?
- How do we answer this question in ways that acknowledge and attend to her agency within the relationship?



General Screening



How can one say yes if they can't say no?

- When do you ask for sex?
- *How* do you ask for sex?
(assess for *if* they ask, *when* they ask, as well as how)
- How do men offer her opportunities to say no?
- How do they react when she says no?
 - (assess for pouting, withdrawal, “negotiating”, as well as pressure or violence)
- Do you allow her to change her mind?



Screening for “Expressions”



- What is the role of sex within their domestic violence?
- Assess for pornography use
- Assess how they view their partner and her sexuality/sexual behavior
- Assess for extra marital relationships



Screening for pornography use



- How often does he view pornography?
- What kinds of pornography does he tend to watch?
- What are her thoughts/feelings/reactions to his viewing pornography?
- (assess for how much of his viewing he hides from her as well as his attending to accounting for her reactions)
- When does he view pornography?
- (what's the relationship between his pornography use and his abusive outbursts; what other patterns emerge of when he chooses to view pornography)
- How does his viewing pornography impact on how he treats/interacts wither sexually?



What it takes to Perpetrate



- Develop inordinate lack of empathy
- Construct a system of justifications
- He has to have a vision of sexual assault
- Feel social approval
- Trusts that he won't face sanctions

...Supported by social systems



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Assess for Empathy



- How do you experience her feelings?
- Are you able to pick up on her moods?
- Often, sometimes, rarely
- Do you feel uncomfortable when she expresses her feelings to you?
- How would you describe her experience of being sexual with you?



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Assessing for “Envisioning”



- How does he conceive of sex with his partner?
 - What kinds of sex does he like?
 - (Assessing the degree to which force/coercion as a part of his usual script)
 - His response When she is hesitant?
-
- When does he use force?
 - What does this look like?



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Assessing for Social Approval



- How does he share his sexual experience to his friends?
- How do they respond to what he shares?
- What support do they offer for him to feel and express his empathy towards her?



Assessing for Sanctions



- Confuse seduction and coercion
- Force is not force (“No means try again”)
- The right to have sex
- Assault as violence (“if I don’t hit her, it’s not really violent”)



Thank-You!!!

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