



From
BYSTANDER
to STAND BY
HER

Maricopa Association of Governments
**2013 Domestic Violence Awareness Month
Press Conference**

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE FACT SHEET

- Domestic violence is prevalent in our communities. A scientific survey commissioned by MAG revealed 40 percent of respondents personally knew someone who had been through domestic violence. Seventy-two percent considered domestic violence to be a major problem in the region. In focus groups conducted by MAG, the percentage of people who knew a domestic violence victim ranged from 50 to 90 percent.
Morrison Institute for Public Policy and Maricopa Association of Governments Domestic Violence Survey conducted by the Behavior Research Center, Inc., 2005.
- Last year, 139 people in Arizona lost their lives in domestic violence related deaths.
Arizona Coalition Against Domestic Violence Related Deaths Report, 2012.
- Of those reporting being victimized by their intimate partner, 85 percent are women and 15 percent are men.
U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, 2000. (<http://bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/vi.pdf>)
- Women of all ages are at risk for domestic and sexual violence, and those ages 20 to 24 are at the greatest risk of experiencing nonfatal intimate partner violence.
U.S. Department of Justice Bureau of Justice Statistics, 2009. (<http://www.raven1.net/reviews/svus.pdf>)
- On average, a woman experiencing abuse will attempt to leave approximately seven times before fleeing successfully.
Humboldt State University, 2008. (http://humboldt-dspace.calstate.edu/bitstream/handle/2148/453/Melanie_Berru.pdf?sequence=1)
- Discouraged friends and family members must view leaving as a process and realize what they can do to speed it along is limited. It is important for them to reinforce the risks faced by asking questions about whether the abuse is escalating and if weapons are accessible.
Journal of Family Theory & Review, 2009. (<http://www.ts-si.org/relationships/17689-abused-women-who-leave-face-a-complex-and-confusingprocess.html>)
- Abusers isolate in order to prevent disclosure, instill dependence, express possession over the victim, and limit them from getting help or support.
Evan Stark, "Coercive Control," 2007.
- When social supports (family and friends) are weak or uncertain, people's options are limited and they may be more likely to enter into, or to remain in abusive intimate relationships. Social support and networks impact physical and psychological health, which in turn affects employability and, thereby, financial stability.
National Online Resource Center on Violence Against Women, 2009. (http://www.pcadv.org/Resources/ar_economicstress.pdf)
- Up to 50 percent of all homeless women and children in this country are fleeing domestic violence.
National Coalition for the Homeless, Domestic Violence & Homelessness Fact Sheet, 2008.
- To understand why a victim remains with a partner who is abusive, we have to put ourselves in her shoes. We have to understand the violence and control in the context of her life circumstances, her family and her culture.
Advocacy Beyond Leaving, Jill Davies, 2009.
[http://www.futureswithoutviolence.org/userfiles/file/Children_and_Families/Advocates%20Guide\(1\).pdf](http://www.futureswithoutviolence.org/userfiles/file/Children_and_Families/Advocates%20Guide(1).pdf)