

Intimate Partner Violence Disrupts Child Development and Impacts Non-Offending Parent's Ability to Parent

Children are exposed to intimate partner violence in multiple ways including viewing the violence, hearing it, or experiencing the aftermath of violence. Intimate partner violence is an adverse childhood experience (ACE) and is strongly related to the development and prevalence of a wide range of health problems throughout a person's life.

Prevalence

- 3.3 to 10 million children are exposed to violence in their home every year nationallyⁱ
- Child maltreatment occurs in 30-60% of families in which intimate partner violence takes placeⁱⁱ

Impact of Intimate Partner Violence on Childrenⁱⁱⁱ



BIRTH TO 5 YEARS OF AGE

- Sleep or eating disruptions
- Withdrawal or lack of responsiveness
- Intense separation anxiety
- Crying inconsolably
- Developmental regression
- Increased aggression or impulsive behavior
- Acting out witnessed events, such as having one doll hit another doll



6 TO 11 YEARS OF AGE

- Nightmares, sleep disturbances
- Aggression and difficulty with peer relationships
- Difficulty with concentration and task completion
- Withdrawal and emotional numbing
- School avoidance or truancy
- Stomachaches, headaches, or other physical complaints



12 TO 18 YEARS OF AGE

- Antisocial behavior
- School failure or truancy
- Impulsive or reckless behavior, such as substance abuse or running away
- Involvement in violent or abusive dating relationships
- Depression, anxiety, or self-destructive behavior

Impact of Intimate Partner Violence on Non-Offending Parent^{iv, v, vi}

Intimate partner violence affects the health of the non-offending parent and their ability to parent. Intimate partner violence can affect a person's:

- Mental and physical well-being
- Parenting ability, job performance, and ability to maintain stable housing
- Hopes and dreams for the future
- Social connections, support, and access to services for them and their children

OCDV Can Help

The Mayor's Office to Combat Domestic Violence (OCDV) offers professional, parent, and youth training programs, including workshops for youth in foster care to help them build healthy relationships. OCDV's Policy and Training Institute can provide advanced staff training and technical assistance to City agencies and community organizations around intimate partner violence. Also, the NYC Family Justice Centers provide comprehensive social service, civil legal and criminal justice assistance for survivors of IPV, elder abuse and sex trafficking in all five boroughs, including counseling services for children. For more information about intimate partner violence programs and services in NYC, contact OCDV at www.nyc.gov/domesticviolence or visit the NYCHope website at www.nyc.gov/nycchope.

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