

# Domestic & Sexual Violence 101 : How to Advocate for Yourself and Others



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# What's On the Agenda?

- Describe the elements of sexual and domestic violence within the migrant and seasonal farmworker community
- Discuss societal stigma
- Address barriers and challenges
- Discuss legal options for reporting and U-Visas
- Identify ways to advocate for survivors
- Provide available resources and referrals



# Social and Cultural “Norms”

Often unspoken

Shamed for violating  
“rules”

Rules or “expectations”  
which regulate roles  
and relationships  
within a culture or  
social group



# “Norms” that Support Violence



Violence is  
accepted as a  
way of life

Dehumanization  
and  
objectification

Marginalized  
groups are not  
tolerated

Men's power  
over women  
shows  
masculinity

Systems do not  
hold  
perpetrators  
responsible

Women are  
weak, men are  
tough

# The “Perfect Victims”

- Undocumented
- May not know their legal rights
- May lack formal education
- Threats of retaliation
- Profound fear of losing employment
- Isolated by language and distance
- Fear and shame of reporting crime
- Lack transportation and other services





# Family and Work is **BLURRED**

Silence may  
be inherent

Work, live  
and migrate  
together

Higher risk  
of exploitive  
relationships  
due to access

# Domestic Violence Definition



A **pattern** of abusive behaviors that are used to gain and maintain **power** and **control** over another intimate partner.

# Legal Definition of Domestic Violence

*ARS 13-3601*

**RELATIONSHIP TEST**





# Domestic Violence *IS*



## Learned Behavior

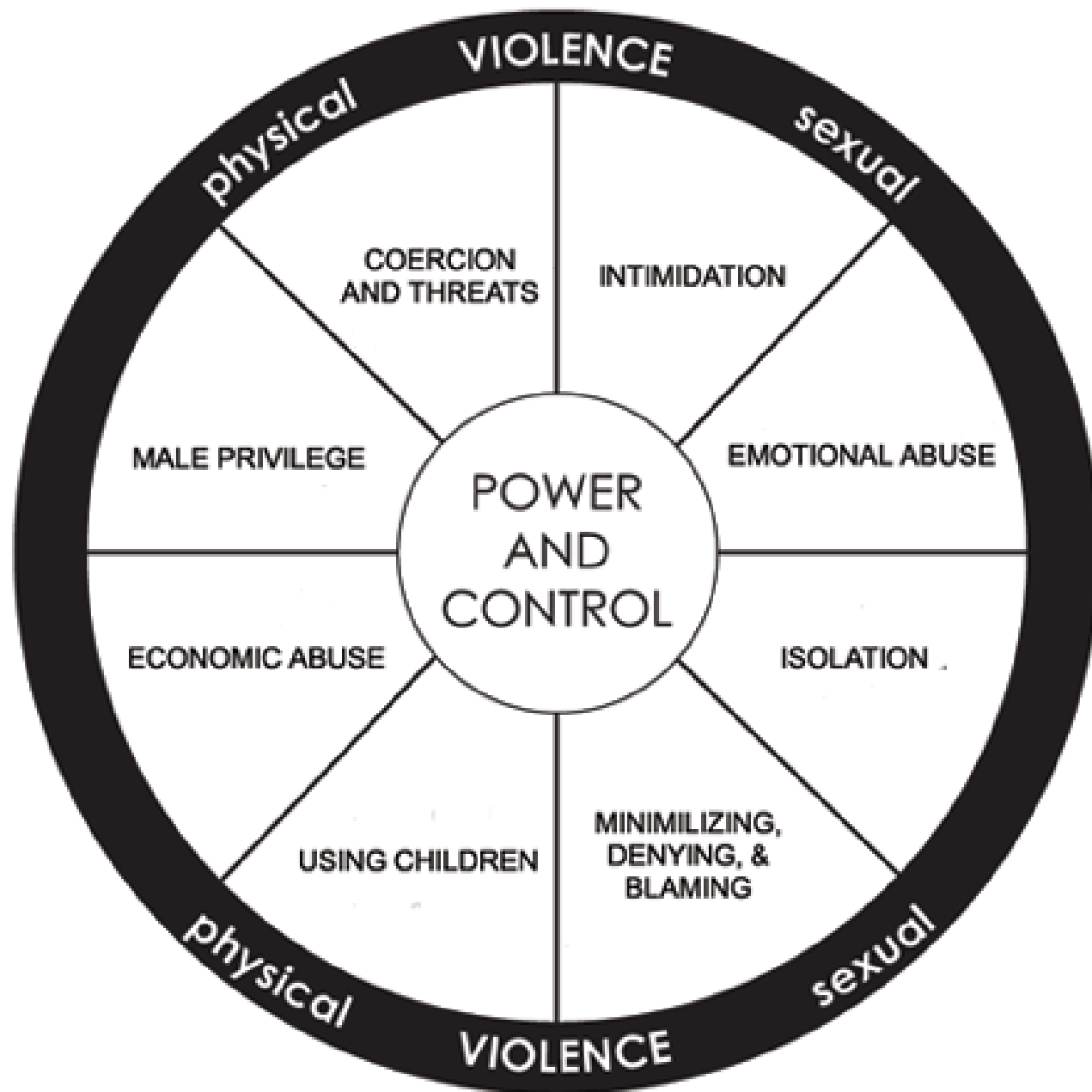
- Through observation
- Reinforced in society

## Choice

- Have the ability to control who their victims are

## Intentional

- Gain power and control
- Instill fear in their partner



# Verbal

- Calling victim racist or offensive names
- Belittling in front of others
  - Shaming victim
- “It’s a woman’s role to serve”

# Emotional

- Causing victim to lose face or credibility
  - Using culture to silence victim
  - Telling family or employers lies about victim

# Economic

- Threatening to “report” victim
  - Force to sign paperwork
- Harassment at the only job they can work legally
- Taking money that victim makes
- Assigned fewer hours

# Threats

- Threats not to file immigration papers or withdraw petition
  - Threats to harm family
- Threats to take away job opportunities
- Threats of future or increased violence

# Sexual

- Accusing victim of trying to attract sexual attention
- Saying it's a man's right to sex
- Unwanted touching, groping
  - Rape
  - Reproductive Coercion

# Children

- Threatening to remove children
- Taking money used to support children
- Saying victim will lose custody if a report is made
- Using children to watch victim and report back

# Intimidation

- Hiding or destroying property or paperwork
- Ripping up family photos or important items
- Instilling fear by words or looks

# Isolation

- Not allowing victim to learn English
- Reading mail, refusing use of phone
- Isolation from family and friends
- Timing outings or trips
- Not allowing victim to speak to others who know their language

Why don't  
they just  
**LEAVE?!**



# Leave or Stay?



## BATTER-GENERATED RISKS

- Physical Violence
- Sexual Violence
- Psychological Harm
- Risks to Children
- Financial Losses
- Risks Family/Friends
- Legal Risks

## LIFE GENERATED RISKS

- Financial/Poverty
- Physical and Mental Health
- Inadequate Responses by Major Social Institutions
- Discrimination



**Sexual Violence  
is any act that  
occurs without  
consent.**

Voyeurism

Exploitation

Sexual  
abuse

Rape

Incest

Sexual  
Harassment

Sex  
Trafficking

Approximately **2/3** of rapes were committed by someone known to the victim.

**73%** of sexual assaults were **perpetrated by a non-stranger**.

**OF THOSE:**

**28%** were perpetrated by an **intimate partner**.



# Tea and Consent



wiseGEEK

# C O N S E N T

Either partner may decide  
**AT ANY TIME** that they no  
longer want to consent

Consenting to one behavior  
does not mean consenting  
to another

No explanation for  
consenting is necessary

# Victim - Blaming

Victim's behavior is scrutinized more than the rapist's crime



# Language We Use

X amount of  
women will  
be raped this  
year

A man or  
woman  
was raped

An abusive  
relationship

Unaccountable  
language obscures  
perpetrators,  
minimizes their  
abuse and blames  
victims

***In each  
example the  
perpetrator  
is invisible.***

# Won't don't survivors report?



# OUT OF EVERY 100 RAPES

**46** Get reported to police<sup>1</sup>

**12** Lead to an arrest<sup>2</sup>

**9** Get prosecuted<sup>3</sup>

**5** Lead to a felony conviction<sup>4</sup>

**3** Rapists will spend even a single day in prison<sup>5</sup>

**THE OTHER 97 WILL WALK FREE**



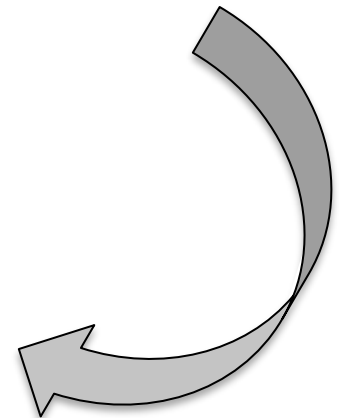
# Medical Forensic Exam

**VAWA 2005**  
Victims must  
be provided  
access to a  
medical  
forensic exam



**FREE OF  
CHARGE**

Without  
requirement  
to participate  
in the  
criminal  
justice system



# Background of T, U, and VAWA Visas



- Congress created the U nonimmigrant visa with the passage of the Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act (including the Battered Immigrant Women's Protection Act) in October 2000.
- Set aside to help victims reluctance to help in the investigation or prosecution of criminal activity for fear of removal from the U.S.
- The T, U, and VAWA visas were created to strengthen the ability of law enforcement agencies to investigate and prosecute cases of trafficking, domestic violence, sexual assault and other crimes while offering protection to victims of such crimes.

# “Visas” for Victims

- Allows victims to “self petition” to obtain lawful permanent residency through adjustment of status
  - T Visas – Human Trafficking
  - U Visas – Victims of specific crimes who are helpful to law enforcement
  - VAWA Visas – for DV victims married to USC or LPR
  - **For more information [www.uscis.gov](http://www.uscis.gov)**



# Here's What's On the Menu...

“Nope! You can't substitute fries for vegetables. We just don't do that here. Never have.”



Tell them they don't  
deserve to be abused

Acknowledge the  
injustice

Tell them if you are  
worried for their safety

Find out if they feel  
they are in immediate  
danger

## **How to Help**

Remember that they  
are the expert in their  
own life.

Be supportive, non-  
judgmental

Remember that you  
cannot "rescue" them

**L**isten

**I**nform

**F**acilitate

**E**ducate and empower

START BY

*believing*



# Emergency Shelter and Services



- House of Hope, Douglas - 520-364-2465
- Genesis House, Green Valley - 520-648-3589
- Nuestra Casa, Nogales - 520-287-2107
- Mt. Graham Safe House, Safford - 888-296-9104
- Emerge, Tucson - 520-795-4266
- Southern AZ Center Against Sexual Assault, Tucson - 520-327-1171
- Su Voz Valle, Tucson - 520-434-0195
- Chiricahua Community Health Center, Sierra Vista, Douglas, Bisbee, El Frida – 520-364-1429



# Legal Resources



- Southern AZ Legal Aid [www.sazlegalaid.org](http://www.sazlegalaid.org)
- Arizona Coalition to End Sexual and Domestic Violence Legal Advocacy Hotline [602-279-2900](tel:602-279-2900)
- National Network to End Violence Against Immigrant Women [www.immigrantwomennetwork.org](http://www.immigrantwomennetwork.org)
- Victim Rights Law Center [www.victimrights.org](http://www.victimrights.org)
- Farm Worker Justice [www.farmworkerjustice.org](http://www.farmworkerjustice.org)
- Immigrant Legal Resource Center [www.ilrc.org](http://www.ilrc.org)
- US Citizen and Immigration Services [www.uscis.gov](http://www.uscis.gov)

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- Arizona Coalition to End Sexual and Domestic Violence
  - [www.acesdv.org](http://www.acesdv.org)
- End Violence Against Women International
  - [www.evawintl.org](http://www.evawintl.org)