



**PREVENTION
CONNECTION**
THE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN
PREVENTION PARTNERSHIP

A Project of

CALCASA

Prevention
Institute
Putting prevention
at the center of community well-being

Welcome to this Web Conference

The 'How' and 'Why' of Local Policy Change:
Exploring Applications for VAW prevention

We will start soon



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Upcoming Events

Web Dialogues

- ◆ Friday, June 23, 2006

Web Conferences

- ◆ Wednesday, July 19, 2006



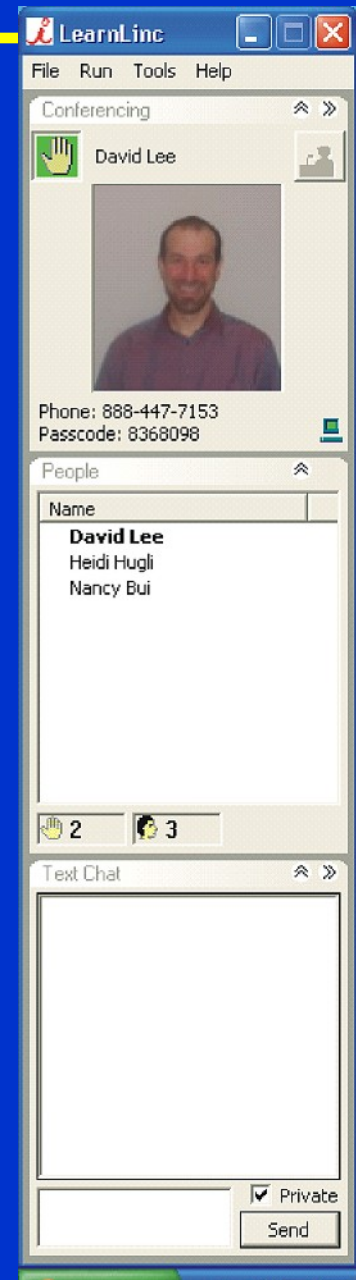
www.PreventConnect.org

- ◆ Sign up for Web Conferences and Web Dialogues
- ◆ Materials and Archives of previous events
- ◆ Sign up for the Prevent-Connect ListServ



How to Use This Technology

- ◆ Raise Hand
- ◆ Q&A
- ◆ Text Chat (check private to send)
- ◆ PowerPoint Slides
- ◆ Other Web Conference information



Technology

- ◆ For trouble on the web please send a private chat
- ◆ You can call iLinc technical assistance at 800-799-4510
- ◆ For other information, call CALCASA at 888-922-5227



“Violence Against Women”

- ◆ Domestic violence
- ◆ Sexual violence
- ◆ Violence across the life-span
- ◆ **Prevent** before violence starts
- ◆ **Connect** to other forms of violence





Collaborative Partners

- National Sexual Violence Resource Center – www.nsvrc.org
- National Youth Violence Prevention Resource Center – www.safeyouth.org
- PREVENT, Preventing Violence through Education, Networking and Technical Assistance – www.prevent.unc.edu
- Prevention Connection– www.PreventConnect.org
- VAWnet, The National Online Resource Center on Violence Against Women – www.VAWnet.org

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The 'Why' and 'How' of Local Policy Change

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Exploring Applications for VAW prevention

Forum facilitated by:



May 12, 2006

11:00AM -12:30 PST; 2:00-3:30 PM EST



Forum Objectives

- ◆ Understand the *power of local policy* in shaping the community environment in which VAW occurs.
- ◆ Understand the *basic steps* to changing policy at the local level.
- ◆ Explore *opportunities and barriers* for local policy change work to prevent VAW.
- ◆ Experiment with the *use of technology* to promote interactive learning

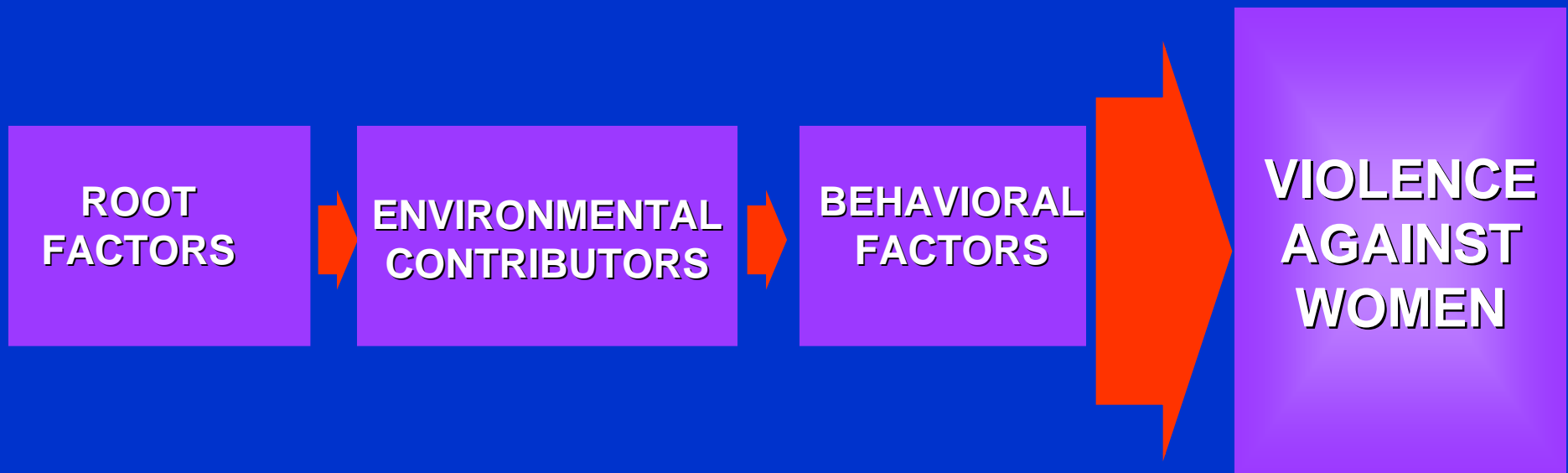
Forum Agenda

- I. It's the Environment**
- II. 'Why' of local Policy**
- III. Guest: Don Gault, Ramsey County Public Health**
- IV. 'How' of local policy**
- V. Opportunities for application to VAW prevention**
- V. Evaluation**

It's the Environment



Trajectory of Violence of Women



Norms

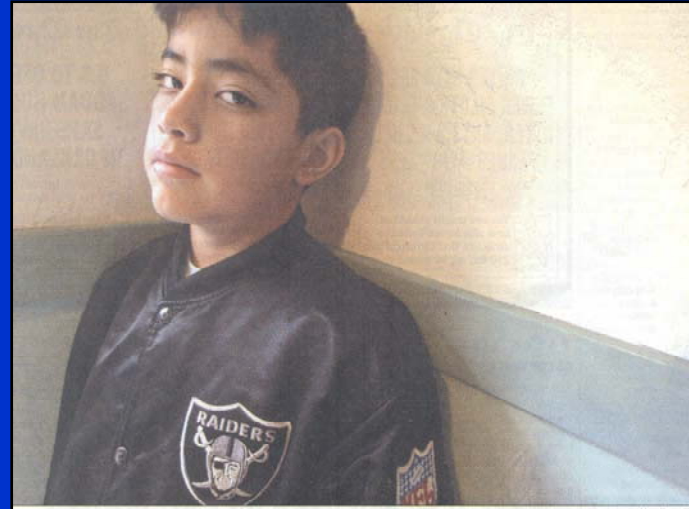
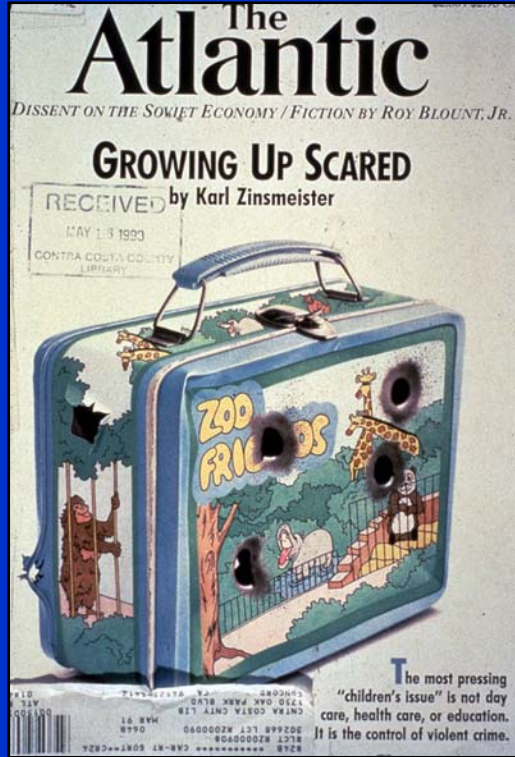
Sanction behavior

Taken for granted

Based in culture
& tradition

Behavior shapers

More than a habit



Roberto Mendoza, sixth-grader at the E.C. Reems Academy of Technology and Art in Oakland

Life in the killing zone

Violence is the most pervasive part of growing up in East Oakland

... blocking off a fresh sorrow and outrage, and as to solve the problem—often always continues. Oakland — where unrelent- ingly even the smallest mat-

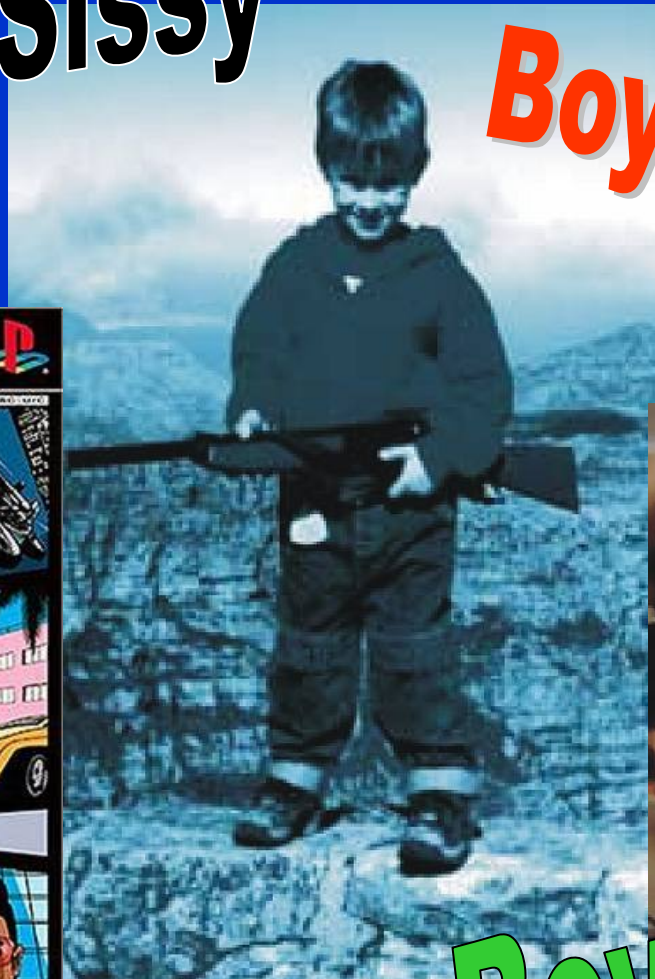
... random bullet — one that barely missed his father, who was relaxing on the couch at the time. Though the bullet did not hurt Mr. Mendoza, it gravely wounded his son's al- ready fragile sense of security.

... his favorite show: "Wrest-Cue," which details how to survive lit- ing situations such as how to en- the trunk of a car by breaking of light and pulling out wiring so it can fit through and attract other ten- tion. "It makes me feel better to be like this," Rigo said. "I'm always of ways to save myself, so I'll kno do if anything bad happens to m In his bedroom, located just from the kitchen, Rigo has lit



Don't Be A Sissy

Boys Don't Cry



Boys Will Be Boys







“It is unreasonable to expect that people will change their behavior easily when so many forces in the social, cultural, and physical environment conspire against such change.”

Institute of Medicine

The Spectrum of Prevention

Influencing Policy & Legislation

Changing Organizational Practices

Fostering Coalitions & Networks

Educating Providers

Promoting Community Education

Strengthening Individual Knowledge & Skills

The Spectrum of Prevention

Influencing Policy and Legislation

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The 'Why' of Local Policy



Policy

The rules that guide the activities of government or quasi-governmental organizations, and that provide authority for the allocation of resources.

Policy and Legislation

VAWA reauthorization



One Key Fact

Useful policy

is often

developed

locally.



Smoking Banned in Public Spaces

Chicago, IL

Chicago Tribune

Smokers inhale as ban dawns

Prohibition in effect at most public places

By Lorene Yue
Tribune staff reporter
Published January 16, 2006

For two years, Rorie Rafajko has taken a seat at the Cambridge House restaurant's counter and indulged in a two-cigarette and Coke ritual that helps her get through her workday.

"I come in here for every break," said Rafajko, 50, of Chicago. "I come in here for lunch, and I come in here for dinner."

Starting Monday, Rafajko will have to leave her soft drink at the counter and take her cigarettes outside as Chicago institutes its smoking ban.

She will also have to keep her distance from the front door when she lights up outside. The ban prohibits smoking within 15 feet of the entrance of any building where smoking is not allowed.



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Reasons Local Policy is Critical

1. Local politicians are more *responsive* (& lobbyists have less influence).
2. *People Power*.
3. *Cheaper & easier* to implement.

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Reasons Local Policy is Critical

4. Can be *tailored* to individual community needs.
5. Raises *community awareness* and support.
6. *Not burdened* with the bureaucracy.
7. A *laboratory* for broader policy change, providing valuable clues and appropriate models.

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Reasons Local Policy is Critical

8. Can act as an *impetus* and spread from community to community, leading to state-wide & national change.
9. More *easily monitored* to ensure responsible implementation and follow-through.
10. Easier to *evaluate*.

“Policy making at this level is often undervalued and misunderstood, yet it is the central role of the city, town, and county legislative bodies.”

Municipal Research & Services Center

The other side of the story:

What are the barriers to
doing local policy work?

The Initiative for Violence-Free Families and Communities in Ramsey County



May, 2005

The Initiative for Violence-Free Families and Communities in Ramsey County was formed in 1991 with the vision of community-wide action to prevent family, community and workplace violence. The Initiative develops sustained, effective responses to root causes of violence, promoting peaceful, healthy relationships through Action Teams and Community Partnerships based on the following principles and definitions:

"You must be the change that you seek in the world"
- Gandhi

"Violence arises not out of power, but out of powerlessness"
- Rollo May

"A liberation movement that is nonviolent sets the oppressor free as well as the oppressed"
- Barbara Deming

"All people have three fundamental needs: Stability, Security, and Affirmation"
- Dr. James Garbarino

Violence is words and actions where the intent or impact is to hurt people; it is the misuse of power and authority.
- The Initiative

For further information or to get involved, contact Saint Paul – Ramsey County Public Health: 651-266-2404

Initiative strategies focus on creating tools and resources that promote & teach respect and nonviolence that are “embedded” in community systems (schools, workplace, media, congregations), repeated and enhanced over time.

Background and history

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- ◆ **Mid-1980: major efforts undertaken to improve county intervention systems; demonstrated need to work on *prevention* to stem financial and human costs of family violence.**
- ◆ **Ramsey County Board of Commissioners initiated a community-wide violence prevention effort: 1) establishment of Initiative; 2) creation of staffing positions 3) dedication of general funds**
- ◆ **Fundamental strategy: Community Action Teams to learn about root causes of violence and develop/implement tools and strategies throughout the Ramsey County community.**

Examples of Tools and Strategies Developed



Songs and Stories to Understand and Prevent Family Violence

CHANGE

a musical about growing and healing relationships

Theatre at Work's

None of Our Business



A Comprehensive Approach to the Impact of Domestic Violence on the Workplace

Kuv Yuav Peem Tsheej Ua Tug Tuabneeg Zoo Le Caag?



Who Will I Become?

Cultural Orientation for New Hmong Arrivals and the Communities that Welcome Them



Call the MEN'S LINE Any time...Any day

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866-379-MENS (866-379-6367) Greater MN

for confidential help and information

This community business congregation school museum library...

supports protects respects & cherishes

children youth & families



The “How” of Local Policy



Local Policy How To's:

1. Develop a strong local policy
2. Develop key partners
3. Back up your case
4. Implementation and Evaluation

1.

***Develop a
Strong Local
Policy***

A. Develop Local Policy Goals:

- ◆ *Think clearly about what initiatives are most likely to have an impact*
- ◆ *Formulate realistic options for the environment*



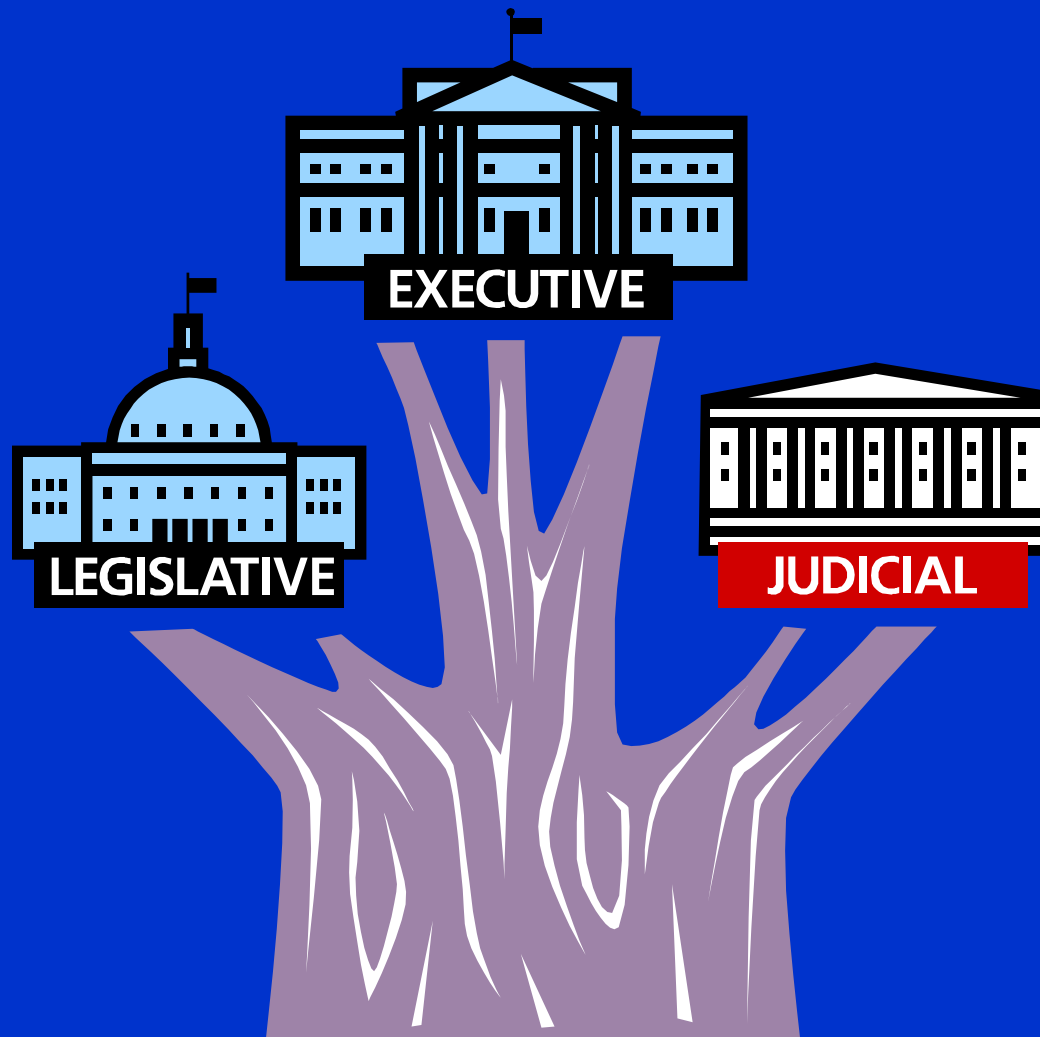
B. Consider Jurisdictions of Government:

- ◆ State/City/County Policymakers
- ◆ Health Jurisdictions
- ◆ Transportation Authorities
- ◆ Planning and Zoning Powers
- ◆ School Districts



C. Consider Functions of Government

Understanding of branch roles can make policy more precise



The Roles of the Legislative Branch

- ◆ *Legislation*
the power to create new structures and laws
- ◆ *Authorization*
giving agencies the power to act
- ◆ *Appropriation*
the power to fund
- ◆ *Oversight*
the power to police



Adapted from SafeKids

The Roles of the Executive Branch

- ◆ *Regulation and Standard Setting*
- ◆ *Law Enforcement*
- ◆ *Education and Training*
- ◆ *Data collection*
- ◆ *Evaluation*

Adapted from SafeKids



2.

Develop Key Partners

D. Develop Local Partners & Supporters to to Increase Power: build relationships



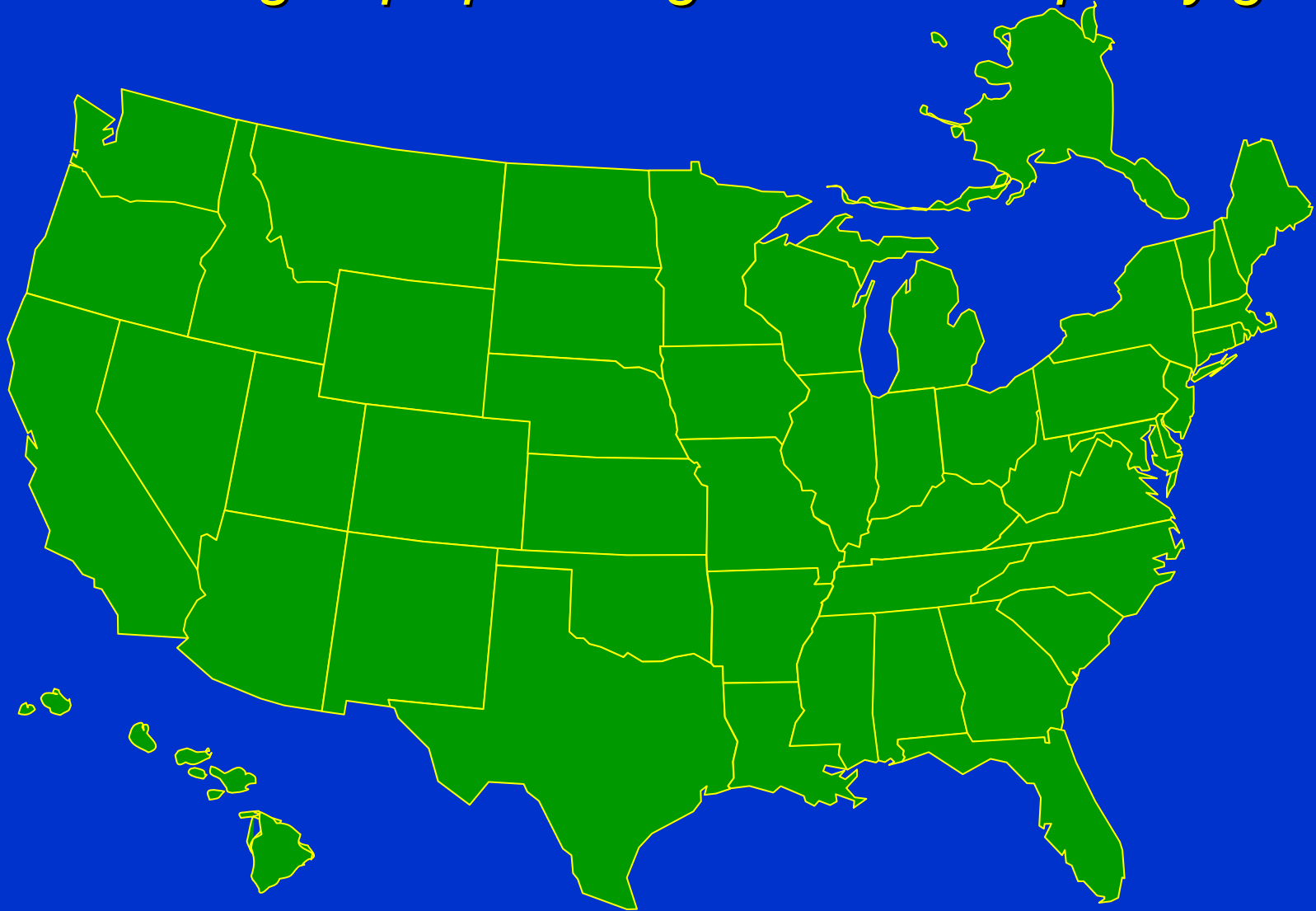
E. Understand Your Opponents
Consider interests and values of stakeholders



F. Foster State-wide Networks of Local Policy Coalitions:

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partner with groups pursuing similar local policy goals



G. Assess the Potential Impact of Advocacy Activities on Your Organization and Your Partners:

what are the implications?

Lobbying and Advocacy for the Public's Health: What are the limits for Non-profit Organizations?



Jon S. Vernick, 1999, *American Journal of Public Health*, 89:1425 1429

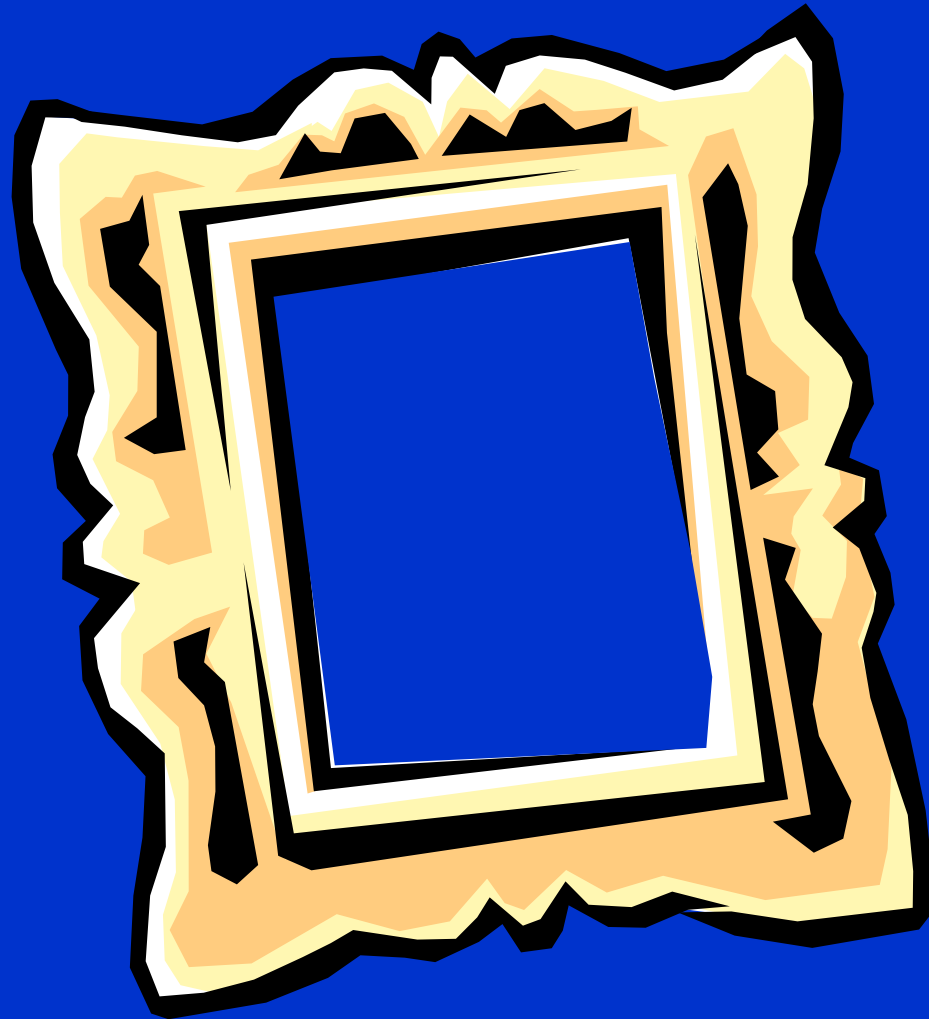
3.

Back Up

Your

Case

H. Framing the Need for Change: *present an available solution*



I. Back-up Ideas with Research:
an important starting point for any policy intervention



J. Calculate Monetary Costs and Savings: *including costs of inaction*

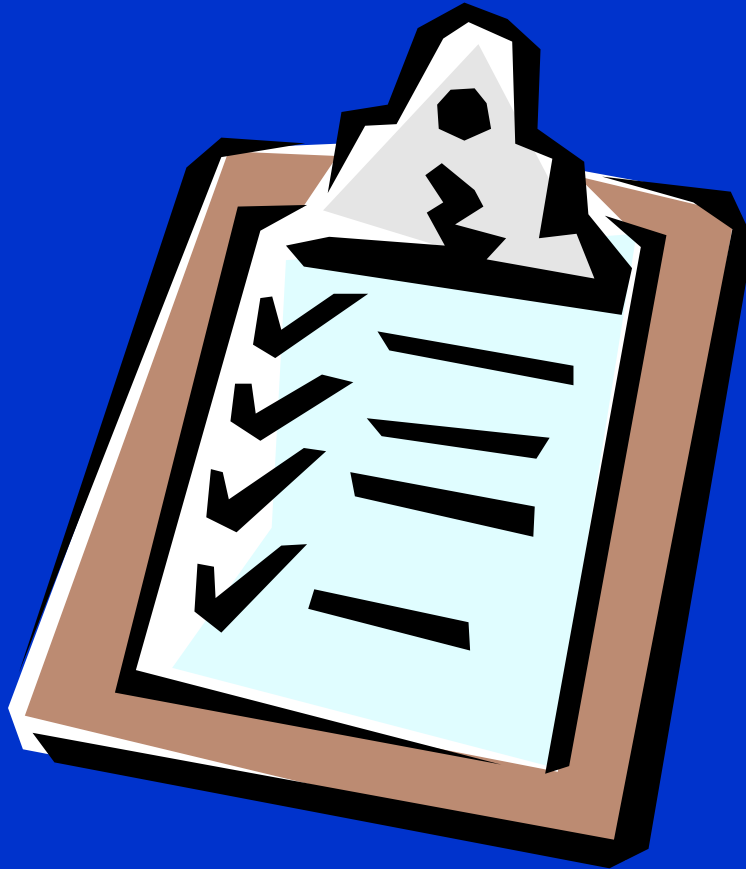


K. Use the Media to Educate the Public & Decision Makers:
set the agenda for public debate & policy change



4. Implementation and Evaluation

L. Ensure Implementation is Planned and Achievable



M. Plan to Evaluate Policy Impact & Disseminate Results: *a powerful argument for expanding policy*

U.S. study finds sharp drop in family violence

Key numbers

The study of family violence by the federal Bureau of Justice Statistics found that:

OFFENDERS

Gender: 75 percent were males.

Race: 79 percent were white.

Age: Most were at least 30 years old.

VICTIMS

Gender: 73 percent were females.

Race: 74 percent were white.

Age: Most were between ages 25 and 54.

Associated Press

ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — The incidence of child abuse and other forms of violence involving families fell by more than half between 1993 and 2002, in line with a decline in American crime overall, the government said Sunday.

The rate of family violence fell from about 5.4 victims to 2.1 victims per 1,000 residents age 12 and older, a Bureau of Justice Statistics report shows.

Simple assault was the most frequent type of violent offense. Homicide accounted for less than one-half of 1 percent of all family violence between 1998 and 2002 — the most recent years analyzed for the report.

The report looked back to 1993 — the year the survey was rede-

signed — for a long-term trend in family violence, but analyzed the most recent years to glean detailed information on patterns of crime.

Almost half of the 3.5 million victims of family violence between 1998 and 2002 were spouses. Fewer than 1 in 100 died as a result.

The study by the Justice Department agency found that 73 percent of victims were female and 75 percent of offenders were male.

Esta Soler, president of the Family Violence Prevention Fund, said the report “offers a ray of hope that our nation is finally on the right track in addressing the violence that devastates so many families in this country.

“But our work is not nearly done. Domestic, dating and family

violence are still taking a terrible toll,” she said.

Beverly Balos, a law professor at the University of Minnesota who is an expert in domestic violence issues, said: “We should be celebrating the overall decline in domestic violence in terms of thinking about services that have been possible over the last 10 years in individual states. It’s made a difference in keeping women and children safe.”

Family violence is measured through the National Crime Victimization Survey, based on survey interviews with samples of the U.S. population.

It is also measured through the FBI’s National Incident-Based Reporting System, based on statistics compiled by police departments across the country.



***Don't expect politicians,
even good ones,
to do your job for you.***

Politicians are like weather vanes.

Our job is to make the wind blow.



David Brower, environmentalist

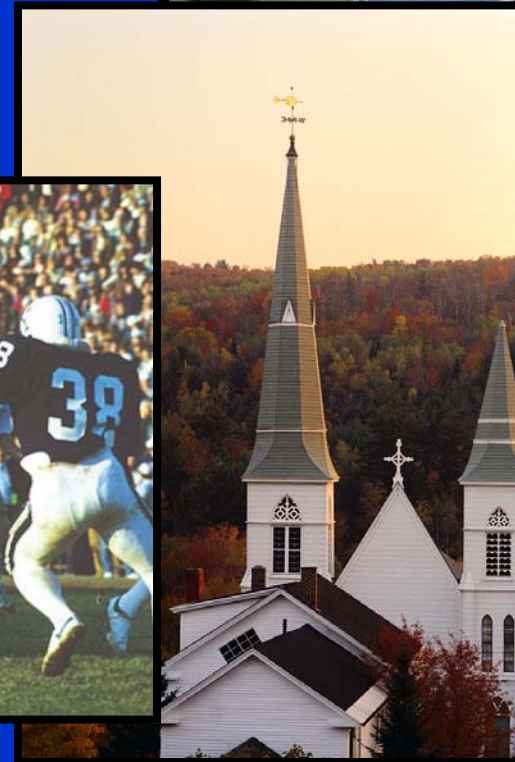
Opportunities for Application to VAW Prevention



What are the opportunities for VAW prevention?



Think about the environments you want to change



Evaluation



Prevention Institute

Putting prevention
at the center of community well-being

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