**What is Intimate Partner Violence?**

Intimate partner violence (IPV) is a serious, preventable public health problem that affects millions of Americans. The term "intimate partner violence" describes physical, sexual, or psychological harm by a current or former partner or spouse. This type of violence can occur among heterosexual or same-sex couples and does not require sexual intimacy.

(centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2014)

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**Prevalence**

- Approximately 1.3 million women and 835,000 men each year are assaulted by an intimate partner in the United States (Tjaden & Thoennes, 2000).

- More than one in every three women (35.6%) and more than one in every four men (28.5%) in the United States report experiencing rape, physical violence, and/or stalking by an intimate partner in their lifetime (Black, Basile, Breiding, Smith, Walters, & Merrick, 2011).

- Approximately three women are killed every day by an intimate partner in the United States (Catalano, 2007).

- 33% of female veterans report experiencing intimate partner violence in their lifetime. (Gerber, Iverson, Dichter, Klap, & Latta, 2014).

- One in every four children experiences family violence during their childhood (Hamby, Finkelhor, Turner, & Ormrod, 2011, October)

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**Effects**

The impact of intimate partner violence is far-reaching and severe. Consequences and outcomes of IPV include:

- Central nervous system problems
- Low birth weight in babies born to those who experienced IPV during pregnancy
- Higher risk of contracting STDs
- Mental health issues such as: depression, self-harm, and suicide
- Substance Abuse
- Severe injury or death (de Boinville, 2013)

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**Online Resources**

- domesticshelters.org - Nationwide database of resources
- clicktoempower.org - Financial empowerment training
- ncadv.org - National Coalition Against Domestic Violence
- thehotline.org - National Domestic Violence Hotline
- joinonelove.org - Free safety planning app and assessment tool

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**References**


