

## How Domestic and Sexual Violence Impacts Our Alaska Native Villages

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## How does Domestic and Sexual Violence Impact Our Villages?

- When there is violence in the village we all know.
- We are afraid for ourselves, families and friends.
- Many people from our villages go into denial from fear of the abuser.
- A village is forced to shut down by state troopers or village police until safety is restored.
- Discussion of other ways domestic and sexual violence impacts the village.



## How Does Domestic Violence Affect Families in Our Villages?

- The violence destroys families and are they broken.
- Families can become homeless:
  - some are kicked out of their homes or
  - leave from fear or anger.
- The children are afraid and may act out.
- Discussion of other ways domestic and sexual violence impacts families.

## How Does Domestic Violence Affect Our Villages?

- We lose women and other family members:
  - Leave the village because of abuse.
  - Relocate to the city or another village.
  - Who are murdered.

## How Does Domestic Violence Affect Our Villages?

- Abusers may go to jail.
- Families lose the:
  - Hunter,
  - Wood gatherer,
  - Fisherman and primary source of income for their family,
  - Protector,
  - Person providing subsistence activities.

## How Does Domestic Violence Affect Our Villages?

- As a village and tribe we use our resources everyday because of domestic violence.
- These resources are important and if we could stop domestic violence we would be safer and also have less of a drain on our resources.

## How Does Domestic Violence Affect Our Villages?

While no studies exist specifically on the cost of domestic violence and Alaska Native women the CDC does have estimates:

- In 1995, the costs of intimate partner violence (IPV) against women exceeded an estimated \$5.8 billion. These costs included nearly \$4.1 billion in the direct costs of medical and mental health care and nearly \$1.8 billion in the indirect costs of lost productivity.\* This is generally considered an underestimate because the costs associated with the criminal justice system were not included.
- When updated to 2003 dollars, IPV costs exceeded \$8.3 billion, which included \$460 million for rape, \$6.2 billion for physical assault, \$461 million for stalking, and \$1.2 billion in the value of lost lives.\*\*
- The increased annual health care costs for victims of IPV can persist as much as 15 years after the cessation of abuse.\*\*\*

## How Does Domestic Violence Affect Our Villages?

| Type of Domestic Violence | Abusive Behavior   | Impact on Village  |
|---------------------------|--|--|
| Physical Assault          | Slapping, punching, kicking, assault with a weapon, rape or sexual abuse.  | Saddened and spirits go down. Feelings of hopelessness.<br>Feelings of helplessness.   |
| Mental Abuse              | Behavior to intimidate victim. Reckless driving possible under the influence.<br>Various types of threats.<br>Threatening suicide or suicide.<br>Threatening to take children. | Worried about others, reckless behavior endangers others, creates fear.  |
| Abuse of Property         | Hitting walls, setting fire, destroying objects, giving away property, tormenting pets, destroying vehicles.   | Creates hardships to replace or repair destroyed property and items in the village. Creates fear of reprisal within the village. |
| Abuse of Children         | Child witnessing violence, parental kidnapping, concealment, child used as a tool against victim, child abuse.   | Creates a fear and negative behaviors by children. Village is saddened when OCS removes children from village.                   |

Thank you

Please let us know if you  
have any questions!

This project was supported by Grant No. 2015-TA-AX-K040, awarded by the Office on Violence Against Women, U.S. Department of Justice. The opinions, findings, conclusions, and recommendations expressed in this publication/program/exhibition are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the U.S. Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women.