



Working with Perpetrators of Domestic Abuse

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Agenda

Who are RISE and what services do we provide?

Suitability

Obstacles to engagement

Dealing with denial

How to ensure best outcomes

Who are RISE and what services do we provide?

A service for male and female perpetrators

Intimate partner violence

Integrated support service for victims

Suitability and risk assessments

Group work and 1:1 interventions with men

1:1 work with female perpetrators and those in same sex relationships

Interfamilial abuse and violence

Child to Parent Violence intervention for 10-16 year olds

Adult Child to Parent Violence for 16+

Model of Delivery

FULL SUITABILITY AND RISK ASSESSMENT – within 2 weeks of referral, written report

INTERVENTION – Building Better Relationships (BBR), Safe Relationships, Preparing Men for Change (PMFC), Female Awareness of Domestic Abuse (FADA), Respectful Partnerships (same sex relationships), Culturally Integrated Family Abuse (CIFA), Child to Parent Violence (CPV) and Adult to Parent Inter-Familial Abuse (APFA)

MULTI-AGENCY LIAISON – Children's Services, IDVAs, Probation, Police, DRMM, DAPP

POST PROGRAMME REPORTS – within 2 weeks of completion

Suitability

Physical assault including sexual assault and use of weapons

Threatening and intimidating behaviour

Coercive control including financial control and isolation

Emotional abuse – degrading, humiliating, constant belittling of a partner

Harassment (in person, via telephone contact, email, social media)

Stalking

Some degree of accountability and motivation to change

Able to attend sober/drug free

Able to attend on the same day each week

Breakout Room Exercise

Discuss barriers to working with perpetrators of domestic abuse

Obstacles

Perpetrator perceptions of intervention
Lack of engagement with men by professionals
Little awareness of range of DV/abuse
Fear of children being removed
Denial, minimisation, blame
Shame/guilt
Substance misuse/other complex needs
Language barriers

Minimisation, Denial and Blame

Domestic Abuse perpetrators often minimise their aggression and attribute blame to their partners, or even deny any abuse ever happened.

E.g., 'it just happened' 'it was just a push' 'she pushed me to my limits' 'it was the drink' 'I can't remember what happened' 'it was a one off, we are FINE now'

Taking full accountability for abusive behaviour reduces the risk of harm and is one of the treatment goals for intervention.

Taking accountability increases the ability to empathise and understand the full impact of abuse on their victims and children.

Motivational Interviewing

O - Open questions – who, what, where, when, why, how

A - Affirmations – recognise and re-enforce success/strengths

R - Reflective listening – re-phrase what the client is saying

S - Summarise – pull out key points from the conversation, close with a plan of action

Example of open questions

How do you feel about the incident?

What led to it? What would your partner say if I asked?

Tell me about how problems started in your relationship?

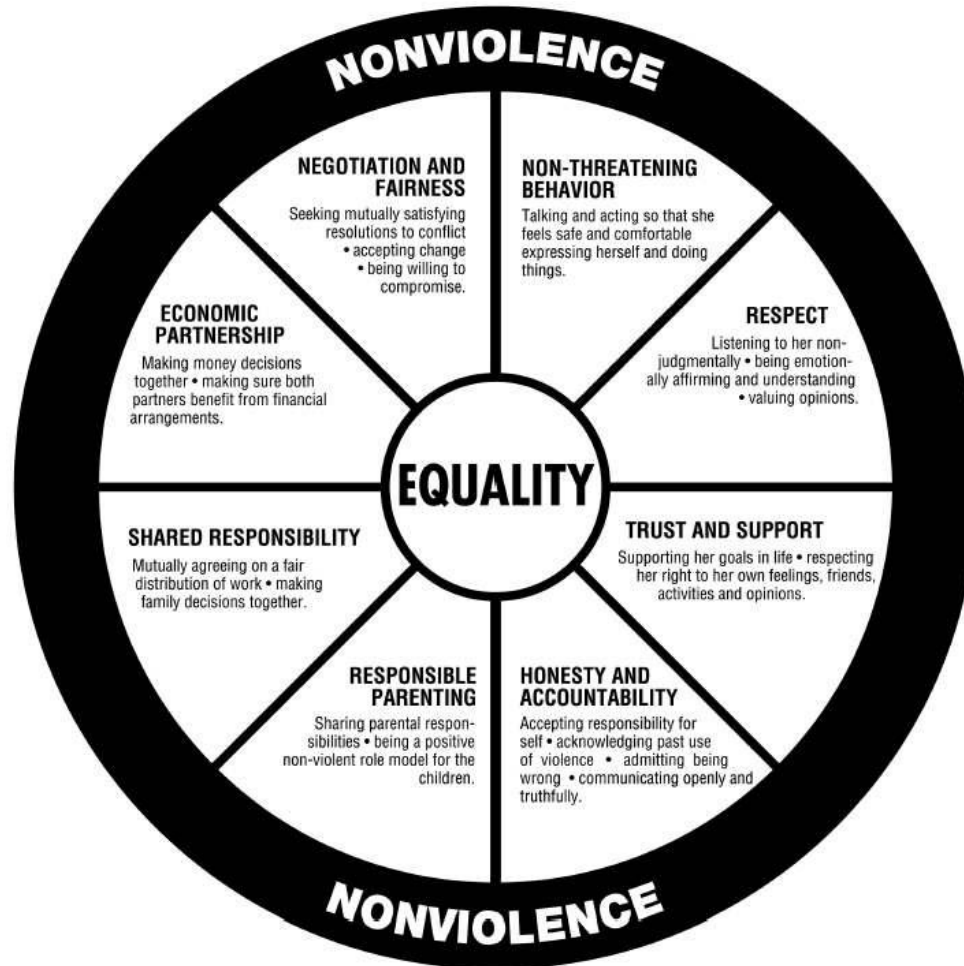
What kinds of things cause arguments/cause you to get angry?

How responsible do you think you are for the problems? (you can ask for a %)

What would you do differently if you could turn back the clock?

How do you think your partner/ex-partner/child has been affected by the incident/abuse/you being aggressive etc?

Strength Based Approach



How to motivate people to attend?

Provide them with reliable information and what to expect

Acknowledge their fears and anxieties about intervention

Focus on what kind of parents they want to be and other goals in life

Avoid challenging too soon but encourage pro-social attitudes and aspirations

Emphasise potential benefits (SU feedback)

Be clear about expectations – confidentiality limits and victim service

Referral Pathways

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