

LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL AND TRANSGENDER DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IN THE UNITED STATES IN 2007



A Report of the National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs



The production of this report was coordinated by the
National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs

240 West 35th Street
Suite 200
New York, NY 10001
Telephone: 212-714-1184
www.ncavp.org

With Support from

Avy A. Skolnik, Statewide & National Projects Coordinator,
New York City Anti-Violence Project

Additional Writing by

Julie Bock, Milwaukee LGBT Center
Loree Cook Daniels, FORGE Survivor Project
Quillin Drew, Equality Virginia Education Fund, AVP
Kelly Costello, Colorado Anti-Violence Program
Gary Heath, Buckeye Region Anti-Violence Organization
Susan Holt, LA Gay and Lesbian Center
Michelle S. Kaufman, New York City Anti-Violence Project
Lindsey Moore, Kansas City Anti-Violence Project
Michael Munson, FORGE Survivor Project
Fareen Ramji, LMSW, New York City Anti-Violence Project
Terra Slavin, Esq., DVLAP, LA Gay and Lesbian Community Center
Sabrina Santiago, The Network/La Red
Kristin Tucker, The Northwest Network
Laura Velazquez, Center on Halsted, Anti-Violence Project
Shawna Virago, Community United Against Violence

Additional Support Provided by

The American Bar Association, Commission on Domestic Violence
Steven K. Aurand, CEO Cap Index, Inc.

Original Graphic Design: David Smoak

Illustration based on designs by: Arch Garland

2008 RELEASE EDITION

Copyright © 2008 National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs

All Rights Reserved.

Reproduction in whole, or in part prohibited without prior permission from NCAVP.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

NCAVP Mission Statement.....	1
Summary and Introduction.....	2
Defining Intimate Partner Violence.....	5
The Impact of Homophobia & Transphobia.....	6
2007 National Statistics and Information.....	8
IPV-Related Deaths.....	8
Survivor Information	
Gender.....	11
Sexual Orientation.....	12
Age.....	14
Race/Ethnicity.....	15
New Information gathered by NCAVP in 2007	
Immigration Status.....	17
Disabilities.....	18
Police Involvement.....	18
Drug and Alcohol Use.....	19
Sexual Abuse.....	20
Weapons Use.....	20
Future Research	20
Selected Local Summaries and Charts.....	21
Tucson, AZ.....	21
Los Angeles, CA.....	22
San Francisco, CA.....	26
Colorado.....	29
Chicago, IL.....	30
Boston, MA. (2).....	32
New York, NY.....	33
Columbus, OH.....	35
Seattle, WA.....	35
Milwaukee, WI.....	36
Virginia.....	37
Appendix A: FORGE - Tips on Working with Trans Survivors.....	40
Appendix B: State Guide on Civil Orders of Protection for LGBT People.....	42



NATIONAL COALITION OF ANTI-VIOLENCE PROGRAMS

MISSION STATEMENT

The National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs (NCAVP) addresses the pervasive problem of violence committed against and within lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer (LGBTQ) and HIV-positive communities.

NCAVP is a collaboration of grassroots organizations working together to document incidents of violence against our communities and to advocate for victims of anti-LGBT and anti-HIV/AIDS violence/harassment, intimate partner violence, sexual assault, police misconduct, and other forms of violence.

NCAVP is dedicated to creating a collective national response to the violence plaguing our communities. NCAVP supports existing anti-violence organizations and emerging local programs in their efforts to document, respond to, and prevent such violence.

If you are interested in becoming a member of the National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs or if you live in a region where there are no organizations addressing LGBTQ violence issues and you need help or are interested in getting involved, contact the NCAVP at info@ncavp.org or 212.714.1184. We can also be reached via our 24 hour bilingual (English & Spanish) Hotline at 212.714.1141.

NCAVP MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

Organizations in blue are contributors to this year's report

ARIZONA

Wingspan Anti-Violence Project

425 E. 7th Street
Tucson, AZ 85705
Phone: (520) 624-1779
Fax: (520) 624-0364
www.wingspan.org

ARKANSAS

Women's Project

2224 Main Street
Little Rock, AR 72206
Phone: (501) 372-5113
Fax: (501) 372-0009
www.womens-project.org

CALIFORNIA

Community United Against Violence

170 A Capp Street
San Francisco, CA 94110-1210
Phone: (415) 777-5500
Fax: (415) 777-5565
www.cuav.org

L.A. Gay & Lesbian Center

1625 N. Schrader Blvd
Los Angeles, CA 90028
Phone: (323) 860-5806
Phone 2: (323) 993-7649
Fax: (323) 308-4114
www.lagaycenter.org

San Diego LGBT Community Center

2313 El Cajon Blvd.
San Diego, CA 92104
Phone: (619) 260-6380
Fax: (619) 718-644
www.thecentersd.org

Summary and Introduction

This report describes incidents of intimate partner violence (IPV) against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBT) people that were reported during the year 2007 to community-based, anti-violence organizations in 14 regions throughout the U.S. In addition, this report includes general information about LGBT domestic violence, regional-specific data, information on the availability of orders of protection to LGBT survivors, the impact of homophobia and transphobia on LGBT people experiencing domestic violence, tips for supporting people surviving intimate partner violence, and recommendations for changes to eliminate discrimination against these communities. The author of this annual report is the National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs (NCAVP), a network of 37 community-based organizations responding to violence in all its forms affecting LGBT and HIV-positive individuals.

Sixteen organizations (representing 14 regions) all of whom are NCAVP members, participated in developing this report, submitting statistical data for 2007 and/or written summaries, narratives, or other information. Those regions include Tucson, AZ; San Francisco, CA; Los Angeles, CA; Colorado; Chicago, IL; Boston, MA; Kansas City, MO; New York, NY; Columbus, OH; Philadelphia, PA; Houston, TX; Virginia; Seattle, WA; and Milwaukee, WI.

There were 3,319 reported incidents of intimate partner violence affecting LGBT individuals in 2007, a decrease (-13%) over the 3,839 incidents reported by NCAVP members in 2006. As in past years, the largest numbers of reported incidents continued to be to NCAVP members and affiliates in coastal metropolitan areas. Los Angeles reported 1,577 incidents (a 30% drop in cases from 2006), the lead group in number of reports, followed by San Francisco with 517 incidents. San Francisco was one of several organizations logging an increase (+23%) over 2006. New York City reported 362 incidents, a 10% decrease from calls in 2006.

Tucson, reporting 205 incidents in 2007, logged an increase of 37% over the previous year's reports of 149 and Chicago noted an increase of 69% with 140 new IPV callers. Kansas City noted an increase of 27% with 43 new cases. Colorado reports decreased slightly, with reports of 125 incidents of IPV in 2007 and Boston also noted a decrease in numbers (-17%) with 267 reports in 2007.

In 2007, Columbus logged 44 reports, Houston (27), Philadelphia (16), and Milwaukee (12) and all recorded no significant changes over 2006. This report marks the first year that Virginia and Seattle are reporting figures to NCAVP.

While these findings reveal something of the magnitude and perhaps even the relative distribution of domestic violence affecting LGBT individuals in the United States, it is not currently possible to generalize them any further. Specifically, changes in the number of domestic violence incidents reported to NCAVP are almost entirely the function of evolving organizational capacities, as well as outreach campaigns and program activity focus. The 18% decrease in the total number of cases reported over those reported in 2006 is not likely an indication of a diminishing problem, rather decreases most likely signify shifts in staffing and other program variables are much more likely causes of the decrease. For reasons this report will make clear, domestic violence affecting LGBT individuals continues to be grossly underreported throughout most of the country, even where there are some LGBT-specific resources.

The reader will note that there are more NCAVP member organizations than there are contributors to this report. For a variety of reasons, including discrepancies in data collection, non-IPV programmatic focus, or lack of staff resources, many members do not contribute to this report. However, NCAVP is committed to an ongoing effort to include as much information as possible from the widest representation of community-based organizations doing work in this area. We predict that in future years, the number of contributing programs and regions will increase. Nevertheless, these organizations are still few and while a handful are well known and longstanding within this movement, many more struggle with inconsistent capacity to maintain operations and services to LGBT communities on an ongoing basis.

The purpose of this report is to bear witness to the reality of intimate partner violence within LGBT communities. There is a lack of awareness and denial about the existence of this type of violence and its impact, both by LGBT people and non-LGBT people alike. Mainstream services are primarily oriented toward heterosexual women. The reality that women can be batterers and men can be victims is both implicitly and explicitly denied, as is the existence of transgender people as a whole. Conversely, there are many who misuse and disproportionately exaggerate information about the existence of LGBT IPV to further their own causes of curtailing the rights of LGBT people. And then there are others who use NCAVP data to further an anti-woman and homophobic “men’s rights” agenda that seeks to overturn gains won by the movement to end violence against women. Both the exaggeration and denial of LGBT IPV, as well as the attempts to use it as evidence that oppression against women doesn’t exist, only serves to exacerbate the isolation of survivors and assists in maintaining an environment in which intimate partner violence is able to flourish within all our communities.

NCAVP MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS (continued)

COLORADO

Colorado Anti-Violence Program

P.O. Box 181085

Denver, CO 80218

Phone: (303) 839-5204

Fax: (303) 839-5205

Website: www.coavp.org

CONNECTICUT

Connecticut Womens' Education and Legal Fund

135 Broad Street

Hartford, CT 06105

Phone: 860-247-6090, x16

Fax: 860-524-0804

Website: www.cwealf.org

ILLINOIS

Center on Halsted Anti-Violence Project

3656 N. Halsted

Chicago, IL 60614

Phone: (773) 472-6469

Fax: (773) 472-6643

www.centeronhalsted.org

MASSACHUSETTS

Fenway Community Health Center, Violence Recovery Program

7 Haviland Street

Boston, MA 02115

Phone: (617) 927-6250

Fax: (617) 536-7211

www.fenwayhealth.org

The Network/La Red

P.O. Box 6011

Boston, MA 02114

Phone: (617) 695-0877

Fax: (617) 423-5651

www.thenetworkla.red.org

NCAVP MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS (continued)

MICHIGAN

Triangle Foundation

19641 W. Seven Mile Rd

Detroit, MI 48219

Phone: (313) 537-7000

Fax: (313) 537-3379

www.tri.org

MINNESOTA

OutFront Minnesota

310 East 38th Street, Suite 204

Minneapolis, MN 55409

Phone: (800) 800-0350

Fax: (612) 822-8786

www.outfront.org

MISSOURI

Kansas City Anti-Violence Project

P.O. Box 411211

KC, MO 64141-1211

Phone: (816) 561-0550

www.kcavp.org

St. Louis Anti-Violence Project

PO Box 15067

St. Louis, MO 63110

Phone: (314) 503-2050

www.avap-st.org

MONTREAL

Centre De Solidarite Lesbienne

4126, rue St-Denis, Bureau 301

Montréal, QC H2W 2M5

Canada

Phone: (514) 526-2452

Fax: (514) 526-3570

www.solidaritelesbienne.qc.ca

For a host of reasons, including heterosexism and transphobia, there is relatively little scientific research that has been done on the topic of LGBT IPV, though some of the existing research will be referenced throughout this report. However, as service providers and community members living in these situations every day, we know that many more continue to suffer silently within abusive relationships.

NCAVP and contributors to this report have made a commitment to documenting and reporting the cases of IPV we see each year. This report details only a fraction of the LGBT IPV survivors we extrapolate actually exist. We hope that our work to compile these stories and numbers will inspire LGBT communities, service providers, law enforcement, community leaders, families, and friends to begin to pay attention to this vastly under reported and under addressed form of violence and to begin to work toward further research, development of programs, creation of funding opportunities, and community-based solutions.

NCAVP and the contributors to this report look forward to a time when there is a diminished need for its annual publication. A time when violence and oppression within and against LGBT communities is no longer rewarded. Until that time, we hope that this report will provide the reader with a snapshot of the very real existence of LGBT IPV, the experience of survivors, and the work being done in programs in various parts of the country to stop it.

Defining Intimate Partner Violence

NCAVP member programs encounter a range of types of intimate relationships presented by the survivors and batterers with whom we work. Patterns of power and control can emerge very quickly or they can develop slowly over time. An individual can experience ongoing violence from an individual with whom they had one sexual encounter or one date. Some of the people we work with would say they are in love with their partners and others would not. Some are married, some are exes, some are domestic partners, some live together, some are dating. Some would call their relationship long-term and others would not. There is a tremendous diversity in the identification of romantic relationships within LGBT communities. For this reason, we utilize “IPV” as a term that recognizes that diversity - that there is not one correct way to be in relationship and that IPV is not endemic to any particular type of relationship.

For the purpose of this report, we define Intimate Partner Violence and Domestic Violence synonymously as “A pattern of behavior where one partner coerces, dominates, and isolates the other to maintain power and control over their partner.”

Survivors within almost any community often benefit from safety planning: assistance in noticing and in negotiating manipulative tactics and harm inflicted upon them by batterers. The types of harm they experience as well as the types of assistance that might be helpful, however, are very much impacted by their perceived or actual identities. Batterers often use racism, homophobia, transphobia, classism, ableism, immigration, and HIV status, even the batterers’ own vulnerabilities, to inflict harm. When such tactics are used this compounds the effects of the violence and need for help. Support frequently comes from victim service providers in the form of shelter, safety planning, help with orders of protection and court accompaniment. The aim for most providers is to make available the best possible services to victims and survivors in order to help them develop the safest possible options given the particular circumstances of the abuse and the relationship.

Unfortunately, survivors from marginalized communities do not always receive services on par with those offered to mainstream survivors. As various cultures gain societal power and respect, they challenge inequities in myriad aspects of life, including IPV services.

NCAVP MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS (continued)

NEW YORK

New York City Anti-Violence Project

240 West 35th Street, Suite 200
New York, NY 10001
Phone: (212) 714-1184
Fax: (212) 714-2627
www.avp.org

In Our Own Voices, Inc.

245 Lark Street
Albany, NY 12210
Phone: (518) 432-4188
Fax: (518) 432-4123

Gay Alliance of the Genesee Valley Anti-Violence Program

875 E. Main Street, Suite 500
Rochester, NY 14605
Phone: (585) 244-8640 x 17
Fax: (585) 244-8246
www.gayalliance.org

Long Island Gay and Lesbian Youth

Anti-Violence Program
34 Park Avenue
Bayshore, NY 11706
Phone: (631) 665-2300
Fax: (631) 665-7874
www.ligaly.org

OHIO

Buckeye Region Anti-Violence Organization

P.O. Box 82068
Columbus, OH 43202
Phone: (614) 294-7867
Fax: (614) 294-3980
www.bravo-ohio.org

NCAVP MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS (continued)

The Lesbian & Gay Community Service Center of Cleveland

6600 Detroit Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio 44102
Phone: (216) 651-5428
Fax: (216) 651-6439
www.lgbtcleveland.org

ONTARIO

The 519 Anti-Violence Programme

519 Church Street
Toronto, Ontario
Canada M4Y 2C9
Phone: (416) 392-6878
Fax: (416) 392-0519
www.the519.org

PENNSYLVANIA

Equality Advocates Pennsylvania

1211 Chestnut Street Suite 605
Philadelphia, PA 19107
Phone: (215) 731-1447
Fax: (215) 731-1544
www.equalitypa.org

TEXAS

Montrose Counseling Center

401 Branard Avenue, 2nd floor
Houston, TX 77006
Phone: (713) 529-0037
Fax: (713) 526-4367
www.montrosecounselingcenter.org

Project Get the Word Out

501 North Kansas
Suite 203
El Paso, TX 79901
Phone: (915) 626-5292
www.freewebs.com/thewordout/

The Impact of Homophobia and Transphobia on IPV

Tools that may be used by the batterer to gain and maintain control are often highly individualized to the situation, relationship and people involved. It is important in any given situation of IPV to investigate the way the survivor defines the abuse and understand the ways that behaviors which we may not traditionally see as typically abusive can be utilized as such in a context where IPV already exists. However, there are several tactics that are commonly used by batterers against their victims. These behaviors may include:

- ~ Verbal abuse, such as name calling
- ~ Emotional manipulation
- ~ Isolation, including limiting or prohibiting a partner's contact with family or friends
- ~ Stealing, limiting access to or destroying a partner's property
- ~ Withholding or otherwise controlling or restricting access to finances
- ~ Depriving partner of shelter, food, clothing, sleep, medication or any other life sustaining mechanism
- ~ Limiting or prohibiting a partner from obtaining or keeping employment, housing or any other station, benefit or service
- ~ Harming or attempting to harm a partner physically
- ~ Harming or threatening to harm a partner's family, friends, children and/or pets
- ~ Sexually assaulting or raping a partner
- ~ Using intentional exposure to sexually-transmitted and other diseases
- ~ Threatening suicide or harm to self, if a partner tries to end a relationship or does not comply with an abuser's demands
- ~ Stalking or harassing a partner
- ~ Using of facets of abuser or survivor's identity including race, gender, class, sexual orientation, national origin, physical ability, religion, level of education, occupation, or legal immigration status, etc., to demean, insult, endanger, isolate, or otherwise oppress

All of the above tactics may be used by a batterer. There are additional concerns for LGBT survivors, many of which are specific to the survivor's queer identity or which exploit the survivor's gender identity or sexual orientation and the oppression they experience. Some of these tactics include:

- ~ “Outing” or threatening to out a partner's sexual orientation or gender identity to family, employer, police, religious institution, community, or in child custody disputes
- ~ Reinforcing fears that no one will help a partner because they are lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender, or that for this reason, the partner "deserves" the abuse
- ~ Alternatively, justifying abuse with the notion that a partner is not "really" lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender; i.e., s/he may once have had or may still have relationships with other people, or express a gender identity, inconsistent with the abuser's definitions of these terms
- ~ Telling the partner that abusive behavior is a normal part of LGBT relationships, or that it cannot be domestic violence because it is occurring between LGBT individuals
- ~ Using the reality of small LGBT communities to spread rumors and isolate the victim from social support

It is important to note that all barriers present in both prevention and intervention of LGBT IPV and sexual assault are rooted in multiple forms of oppression. These attitudes, though often unspoken, are still pervasive in our police departments, court systems, medical centers, shelters, and organizations: The Black butch lesbian in shelter who is watched more closely by staff; the low-income gay man who stays at all-night diners and couch hops with friends because he cannot access IPV shelter or homeless shelter; the transwoman immigrant with an expired visa who is arrested and placed in a men's jail cell along with her abusive boyfriend and then put in deportation proceedings; the Latino transman who is denied an order of protection in court because the judge refuses to acknowledge that his girlfriend is a real threat to his safety. Policy and legislative change alone will not eliminate these barriers for our communities.

Publicly exposing the effects of heterosexism, homophobia, and transphobia within IPV and within our institutions helps combat the stigma inflicted upon LGBT people by breaking the conspiracy of silence that society demands of us. As LGBT people work to lift the stigma that keeps many of us shamed or silenced about our experiences of abuse, or wary of sharing our identity, we begin to move closer to a day when LGBT survivors are adequately and fairly provided services, including orders of protection, real safety planning, and shelter. And closer to a day when no single person experiences violence from those they love.

NCAVP MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS (continued)

Resource Center of Dallas Family Violence Program

PO Box 190869
Dallas, TX 75219
Phone: (214) 540-4455
Fax: (214) 522-4604
www.rcdallas.org

VERMONT

Safe Space a Program of the RU I2? Queer Community Center

P.O. Box 5883
Burlington, VT 05402
Phone: (802) 863-0003
Fax: (802) 861-6487
www.safespacevt.org

VIRGINIA

Equality Virginia, Anti-Violence Project

403 N. Robinson Street
Richmond, VA 23220
Phone: (804) 643-4816
www.equalityvirginia.org/avp

WISCONSIN

Milwaukee Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Community Center

315 West Court Street
Suite 101
Milwaukee, WI 53212
Phone: (414) 271-2656
Fax: (414) 271-2161
www.mkelgbt.org

NCAVP MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS (continued)

WASHINGTON

The Northwest Network
PO Box 20398
Seattle, WA 98102
Phone: (206) 568-777
www.nwnetwork.org

WASHINGTON DC

WEAVE Inc, Anti-Violence Project

111 16th Street NW
Suite 200
Washington, DC 20036
www.weaveincorp.org

NATIONAL

For Ourselves: Reworking Gender Expression, Survivor Project

PO Box 1272
Milwaukee, WI 53201
Phone: (414) 559-2123
www.forge-forward.org

National Leather Association - International Domestic Violence Project

P.O. Box 423
Blacklick, OH 43004-0423
www.nlaidvproject.us

YEAR 2007 STATISTICS

As with many other forms of violence, it is estimated that those who do not come forward far outnumber those who do. As stated earlier, the statistics recorded in this report should be taken to represent only a fraction of the LGBT intimate partner violence that occurs throughout the United States every year.

IPV-Related Deaths in 2007

Every year, NCAVP receives reports of deaths caused by violence occurring within the context of abusive relationships. We ask member organizations to submit narratives about the victims when and if they are able and only when identifying information about the victim has already been made public.

Three regions reported murders attributable to LGBT intimate partner violence for a total of 5 DV-related deaths in 2007. Murders were reported by New York (2), Illinois (2), and Pennsylvania (1). It should not be assumed that these were the only LGBT domestic violence related murders that occurred last year throughout all regions represented in this report. Many NCAVP member programs struggle with how to classify murders reported by news media as “roommate conflicts” or murders in which the victim is reported as single and where there was no apparent forced entry. Secrecy surrounding both LGBT issues and DV issues make it clear that DV murders in our communities will be significantly under-reported, perhaps even more so than non-lethal incidents of IPV.

Illinois - Information on 2 cases submitted by Center on Halsted’s Anti-Violence Project

Rebecca Klein, 32

Police originally responded to the shared suburban home of Rebecca Klein, 32, and Nicole Abusharif, 27, when Abusharif called to report Klein, her partner of seven years, as missing. Klein's employer called the home to find out why she had not arrived for work, which was unlike Klein. The case escalated into a homicide investigation after Klein's body was discovered the next day in the trunk of a car parked in the detached garage at the shared residence. Within a week, police charged Abusharif with First Degree Murder and Concealment in the suffocation of Klein. Abusharif has since plead not guilty to charges. Abusharif is under house arrest with a court date scheduled for March 5, 2008.

Illinois continued

A second person has also been charged in the case. Robert L. Edwards, 40, is charged with obstructing justice for providing false information in the investigation of Klein's murder, alleging he helped Abusharif cover up the murder. Edwards is due in court February 25, 2008.

Johnathan Fields, 19

The evening of March 15, 2007, the body of Johnathan Fields, 19, was found stabbed to death in his Uptown apartment when his roommate came home. Sources reported there did not appear to be any forced entry or missing items in the apartment where Fields died from stab wounds to his neck, abdomen and arms. The murder of Johnathan Fields remains unsolved.

A Note about “Unknowns”

In many of the categories discussed throughout the report, the reader will notice that there are many victims and survivors for whom some information is not known or not documented. The aggregate data included here comes from people in crisis seeking support, so the priority of our staff and volunteers in working with any caller is to provide services and to address the immediate crisis at hand. This sometimes means that conversations about identities or certain details about incidents cannot occur. Whenever possible, we try to fill in the gaps when we have the opportunity to work with someone for a period of time.

CONTRIBUTING NON-MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

American Bar Association

Commission on Domestic Violence
740 15th Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20005-1019
Phone: 202.662.1000
www.abanet.org/domviol/

Asian Women's Shelter

3543 18th Street, Box 19
San Francisco, CA 94110
Phone: (415) 751-7110
Fax: (415) 751-0806
www.sfaws.org

Madre Tierra

1208 Ellis Avenue Office 2
Fredericksburg, VA 22401
Phone: (202) 270-7326

Community United Against Violence

Andrea Montero, 31, San Francisco

I met my partner Amy at a dance club for women in San Jose when I was 25. Amy was my first long term relationship, and everything seemed like a dream. After a month of dating, Amy invited me to move into her house. Amy explained that she just wanted to help me and since she owned a house, she could let me pay a small amount of rent. I had a menial job that was paying me under the table, having migrated to the US with no papers, fleeing from my parents' abuse. Therefore, Amy's offer seemed helpful for my situation. A week after I moved in, Amy started treating me like a servant and when I would object, Amy began telling me I was "a nobody without papers, who owned nothing, and whom nobody would believe over an American citizen." I was confused and had no knowledge of immigrant rights, or the dynamics of relationship violence; I thought this was normal.

One evening, I told her that I was tired of our arguments and that I wanted to leave. Amy said I couldn't leave, and when she realized that I was determined to go, she called the police. Amy claimed that I was high and threatening to kill her that I was in possession of drugs and was in the US illegally. Once the police got there, Amy repeated that I had no ID or immigration documents. Even though the police had no proof that I was being violent towards her, they still took me into custody and I spent the weekend in jail. Amy came on Monday morning to pay my bail, which was right before I was to be picked up by immigration officials. I was in shock after a weekend in jail and the threat of being deported.

The National Picture

In discussing trends and demographics of this report, a few considerations are important to note. First, in most examples, data will not be collapsed into an overall national statistic because there is currently a large range in numbers of reported cases. Los Angeles, for example, reported nearly half of this year's 3,319 total DV cases. Thus, providing a national figure of men versus women reporting, for example, would essentially be reporting on trends in Los Angeles and individual variations within other regions would be lost. Second, many regions have small sample sizes for a variety of reasons discussed throughout this report. Therefore, changes in numbers either between regions or from year-to-year within regions will only be reported when they amount to an absolute percentage change of 5% or greater. For the most part, graphs and charts will be displayed only for regions with sample sizes nearing 100 or greater.

Number of Cases Reported

As noted in the introduction to this report, the 14 regions that compiled data for this report documented a total of 3,319 LGBT people who reported experiencing domestic violence in 2007. The following analysis provides information and explanations about the 2007 statistics, as well as previous year comparisons. Data comparisons between 2006 and 2007 can be done with 12 out of the overall 14 participating regions (two regions are reporting for the first time in 2007).

Increases over 2006 were noted in four regions: Chicago, IL (+68%), Tucson, AZ (+37%), Kansas City (+27%), and San Francisco (+23%).

Decreases since 2006 occurred in four regions: Los Angeles (-30%), Colorado (-14%), New York City (-10%) and Boston (-5%).

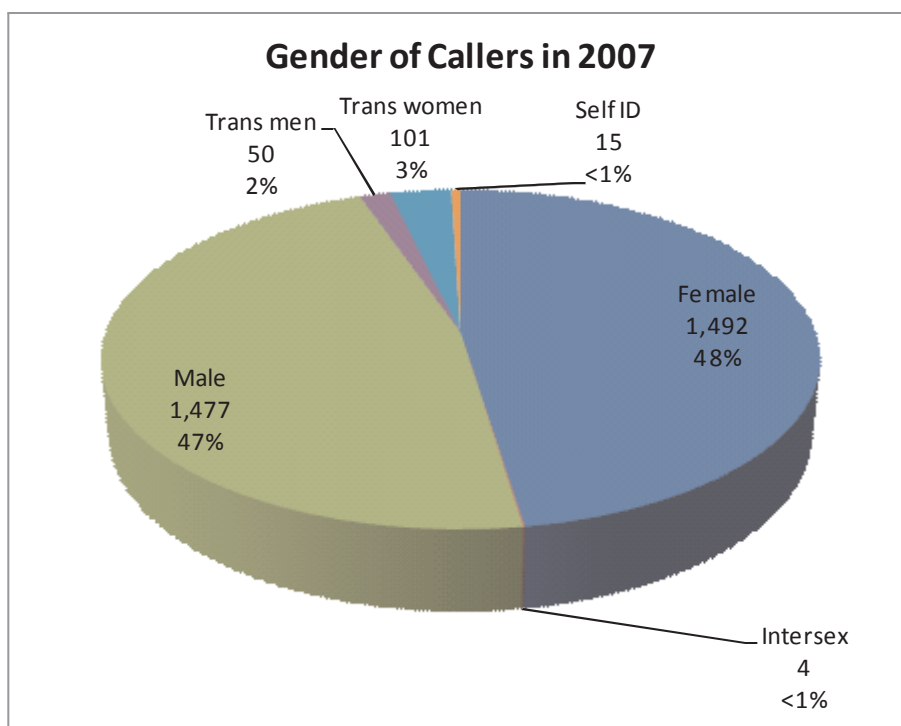
And four regions reporting little or no change from 2006 include: Columbus, OH; Philadelphia, PA; Houston, TX; and Milwaukee, WI.

Two new organizations submitting data this year include Equality Virginia Education Fund's Anti-Violence Project, working statewide, and the Northwest Network of Trans, Bi, Lesbian, and Gay Survivors, working in the Seattle area.

Caseloads in excess of 100 were recorded in eight of the reporting regions: Tucson, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Colorado, Chicago, Boston, New York City, and Virginia. Six other regions - Philadelphia, Houston, Kansas City, Columbus, Seattle, and Milwaukee - each reported smaller numbers of cases, ranging from 12 in Milwaukee to 94 in Seattle.

Gender

For the 13 organizations that reported in both years, the overall trend from 2006 to 2007 was a continuation of a three year trend in decreases in reports of DV cases to NCAVP programs (-15% from 2005 - 2006 and -13% from 2006 - 2007). Thus, any changes in demographics will be discussed not as simple increases or decreases, but rather changes in the distribution of men, women, trans people, intersex people, and self-identified people within each reporting region. The pie chart that follows is a snapshot of the gender demographics from the total 3,319 people reporting to NCAVP members in 2007.



n = 3,319. Chart depicts only callers whose gender is known (3,137 / 3,319).

The majority of organizations receive about equal reports from male and female victims of IPV. Seattle and Colorado are notable exceptions. 70% of calls to NW Network in Seattle were from (presumably) non-transwomen and 60% of calls to Colorado AVP were from (non-trans) men. Tucson saw an absolute percentage increase of 44% of male callers and Los Angeles, an absolute increase of 35% of female callers. Los Angeles also saw a slight decrease in male DV (absolute -6%) but a tremendous drop in calls from persons whose gender was unknown (-88%). See Appendix A in NCAVP's 2006 Domestic Violence Report for sexual orientation definitions.

www.ncavp.org/publications.

INCIDENT NARRATIVES (continued)

When I got in Amy's car and we started driving, she asked, "Where do you want me to take you? Do you have a place to stay? Do you realize you can't play with me? Don't make me do something like this again." I had no choice but to go back to living with my abuser. I had no where to go, no friends to trust, and no law to protect me.

I escaped one night that Amy went out with her friends. I began looking for support and found CUAV. My advocate and I have been exploring my relationships in my native language, Spanish, for the past 8 months. I was connected to a pro-bono lawyer that is helping me legalize my status and I feel more confident in my knowledge of boundaries and the dynamics of abuse.

Peter, 28, Gay, FTM, Urban

I met Tony online, when I answered a personal ad on a gay men's chat site. About an hour after our on-line chat, he came over to my house. We had a glass of wine and got together. At the end of the evening I told him goodbye. About a week later we again chatted on-line and he came over and we had a great evening. I was very attracted to him but wasn't sure if I wanted to keep dating. Imagine my surprise two days later when I heard a knock on my door and when I answered it, there stood Tony holding a suitcase. He claimed he was kicked out by his roommate and asked if he could stay with me for a few days. Nervously, I said "sure." Two weeks later I came home and found him doing crystal methedrine in my apartment. I told him I would not let anyone stay in my place that did drugs. I think maybe this was the start of the bad feelings between us. Still, I did let him stay.

INCIDENT NARRATIVES (continued)

A few days later I asked him how the apartment search was going and he exploded in a rage at me, throwing a kitchen knife at a wall which ricocheted and struck me in the arm. I gave him 24 hours to leave and twenty-hours later he was still there.

In the next three months, Tony hit me on two occasions, stole money from me, wrote bad checks in my name, stole my clothing and threatened to call my boss and say I was abusing him. I thought I was losing my mind. One day I came home from work and he and his suitcase were gone (so were more of my clothes). I called a friend who urged me to change my locks, which I did. She also recommended I call CUAV. I made an appointment and my advocate and I looked at ways to safely do on-line dating and how to maintain my personal boundaries.

LA Gay and Lesbian Center STOP Program

Julie, 34 years of age, Bi-racial, Lesbian, Urban

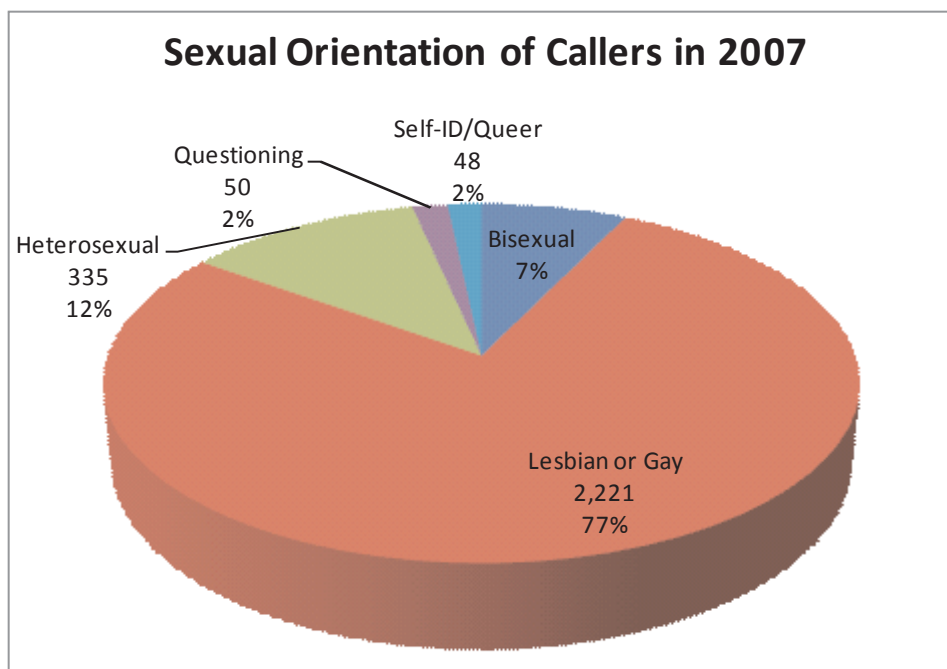
I never witnessed domestic violence in my family-of-origin so, when I experienced in my own relationship, I was shocked and didn't know what to do or how to think about it. Although I know that domestic violence happens in lesbian relationships, it's still hard for me to believe that women abuse other women. We rarely hear about domestic violence in the LGBTQ community and it seems that so many people don't take it seriously. My situation was really serious, however. Initially, the abuse

Almost all reporting organizations in 2007 saw increases in reports from transgender men. Several reporting organizations saw their calls from transmen double, including Tucson, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Chicago, Kansas City, and New York City. Boston logged a 33% increase in calls from transmen. Calls from transwomen decreased slightly in most regions, except for San Francisco and Boston, where reports from these communities were up 75% and 40% respectively. The decreases in calls from transwomen are small and reflect the overall decrease in callers in 2007.

Sexual Orientation

Among all the victims reported to NCAVP in 2007, 2,221 (67%) identified as lesbian or gay, which represents an absolute increase of 11% over 2006. The overall decreases came out of the unknowns and heterosexual categories.

Boston, New York and Chicago reported the largest percentage of sexual orientation unknowns (42%, 30% and 41% respectively). Heterosexual-identified victims made up 12% of the total reports. The only organization that noted an absolute increase in the percentage of heterosexual callers was Los Angeles (+63%). Almost all reporting organizations saw decreases in calls from heterosexual-identified callers, resulting in an absolute decrease of 5% nationally, when L.A.'s totals are subtracted.



n = 3,319. Chart depicts only callers whose sexual orientation is known (2861 / 3319).

Heterosexual-identified people who access domestic violence services at LGBT agencies do so for a variety of reasons. Some are transgender individuals who identify as heterosexual. Others are HIV-affected individuals who seek services from LGBT organizations because the latter are better equipped to address the occurrence and consequences of domestic violence involving HIV-affected partners. Finally, some are people who choose to access services at a particular AVP because of its reputation, advertising, location, referral by an LGBT acquaintance or relative, or for other reasons, which may include questioning their sexual orientation, or that they do not see people like themselves reflected in the public advertising or outreach of other domestic violence service providers.

Other changes from 2006 to 2007 of note include an absolute decrease of 23% in callers of unknown sexual orientation, which is counterbalanced by the 11% increase in lesbian and gay callers, as well as 1% - 3% increases in every other sexual orientation category.

Bisexual victims are likely to be undercounted if the agency from which they seek services constructs the sexual orientation of the victim based on the gender identity of the abusive partner and does not explicitly query victim self-identification. In general, however, NCAVP member agencies strive to avoid such assumptions by asking each caller to self-identify.

These figures should be approached with caution. Some people seeking services from LGBT agencies may identify themselves as “lesbian” or “gay” even if they might describe themselves as “bisexual” or “questioning” or “queer” in other contexts. Conversely, some individuals who say they are bisexual do so as an alternative to describing themselves as lesbian or gay: identities they may not wish to express for reasons that have little if anything to do with their actual gender or affectional preferences. It is also likely that some bisexual individuals will try to seek assistance from mainstream service providers, particularly if the domestic violence they experience occurs within the context of an opposite-sex relationship. Non-trans lesbian and bisexual women who are seeking shelter may also prefer to access services at traditional domestic violence programs, since they are more likely to be granted access than are male and trans survivors. See Appendix A in NCAVP’s 2006 Domestic Violence Report for sexual orientation definitions. www.ncavp.org/publications.

INCIDENT NARRATIVES (continued)

was verbal so even I didn't take it all that seriously but it eventually became so physically severe that I was hospitalized and nearly died from internal injuries. I tried to leave the relationship numerous times but, as strange as it may seem, I always ultimately ended up feeling safer with my violent partner.

I was in therapy but my therapist didn't seem to know or understand domestic violence much and had no training in it; my family blamed the violence on my sexual orientation and told me it was my fault; a domestic violence hotline that I called kept referring to my partner as "he" although I told them my partner was female; and the facilitator of a support group for domestic violence victims told me that all of the group members were heterosexual so I wouldn't "fit in." The first time I went into a shelter, the other residents were so homophobic that I only stayed one day.

One shelter told me that their beds were reserved for women who had children and another seemed even more surprised about the existence of lesbian battering than I initially did. Eventually, a friend referred me to the L.A. Gay & Lesbian Center and I was finally able to get the help I needed. Now that I'm out of my abusive relationship and finally understand what happened to me, I would like to work in the field of domestic violence and hopefully play a role in decreasing the number of LGBT victims who experience the kind of barriers to help that I did.

INCIDENT NARRATIVES (continued)

Colorado Anti-Violence Program

Steven, 30s, male, white, gay, urban

After my partner threatened to kill me and then continued to harass me through phone calls and texts, I knew I had to leave my house. I called CAVP and told them the details and let them know that my partner has a history of domestic violence. I had already made a police report, but since it was the weekend, I wasn't able to get a restraining order. The hotline advocate talked to me about ways to keep myself safe and tried to get me a motel voucher. All of the hotels were full, so he was able to give me the phone numbers to a few shelters that had space. Later, I talked to a staff member, just to ask more questions that I wasn't able to get answered by police. My partner was able to post bond but they couldn't tell me anything else.

I also wanted to know if it was a good idea to call the police again and see if they would patrol my neighborhood. I just wanted them to know what was happening in case my partner came back. I made plans to move the next day so hopefully this whole thing will be over.

Justin, 20s, male, white, gay, urban

I've known about CAVP for a long time because I'm also an activist in CO. I've told people to call them before and never thought I would need to call them about violence I experienced. My boyfriend, now ex-boyfriend, and I got into a fight after leaving a Halloween party. We were both in full costume at the time. He chased me down the street, tackled me,

Age

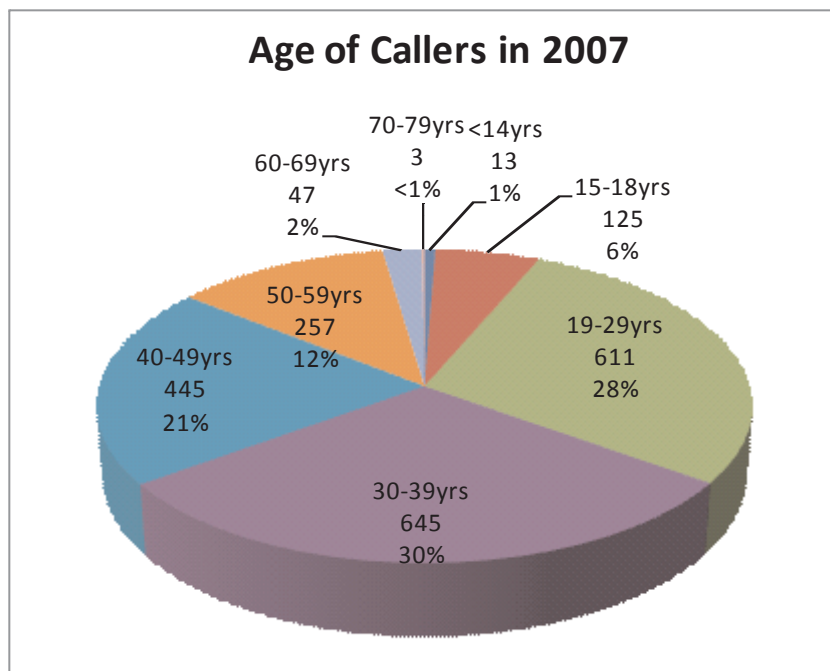
"Unknowns" dominate this demographic category as the single largest age category overall (35%) and the largest category for six of the 15 participating programs: Colorado (51%), Chicago (62%), Columbus (43%), Boston (67%), Los Angeles (37%), and San Francisco (34%). New York City could not report age demographics this year, due to a database conversion and Tucson also did not report age demographics for 2007.

For all regions, when age is reported, the percentages are highest for the following ranges: 19 - 29, 30 - 39, and 40 - 49. Overall, when unknowns were excluded, 79% (1,701) of the 2,146 remaining cases fall into the 19 - 49 range. This may reflect the circumstance that many of the organizations participating in this report have been designed to serve non-elderly adults. NCAVP believes that in actuality, intimate partner violence affecting younger and older LGBT individuals occurs with much greater frequency than is documented here.

Los Angeles documented the highest percentage of victims in the 50 - 59 age range and also the highest absolute increase in this area (+13%). San Francisco and Chicago also reported significant numbers in the 50 - 59 category. In all age categories over 59, no program reported significantly high numbers. When "unknowns" were excluded, only Chicago reported 10% or higher for victims under 18: (13%), whereas in 2006, four organizations reported 10% or higher youth client base. And when "unknowns" were excluded, seven organizations reported victims 60 years and older. Reports from this age group were very low, hovering between 2-3% in these regions.

It is important to note that violence in the lives of LGBT people under the age of 18 or over the age of 60 may be characterized somewhat differently. While both groups on either end of the age spectrum experience violence within their intimate partnered relationships, abuse by family of origin, guardians or other care-givers is also of major concern during these stages of life. As well, teenagers may be reluctant to report violence by any person in their lives for fear that service providers will make reports to child welfare personnel or statutory rape reports to police.

There are additional barriers to charting partner violence among young people, given anecdotal evidence that they may be the least likely group to respond to outreach using "domestic violence" terminology. The existence of violence in the lives of LGBT teenagers and seniors is real and may even present more of a threat than for people in middle age ranges. Specific programs need to continue to be developed to address violence experienced during the earlier and later stages of life.



n = 3,319. Chart depicts only callers whose age is known (2146 / 3319).

Race and Ethnicity

As with age, the race/ethnicity of a large number of reporting survivors was unknown, representing 52% of all reports received in 2007. Los Angeles had the greatest number and percentage of unknowns, representing 73% of their totals for race/ethnicity. On average, unknowns constituted 33% of reports in the race/ethnicity category, with Seattle (NW Network) reporting only one (1%) unknown out of 94 reports. The next largest number of reports came from white callers, accounting for 44% of the total when unknowns are subtracted. The next highest percentages are for Latina/o (27%) callers and people of African descent (15%). Both of these represent absolute increases over calls last year, +2% each. Members of several communities continued to account for very small percentages of domestic violence reports in 2007. These groups include Asian/Pacific Islanders (5%), Native American/Indigenous (3%), and Arab/Middle Easterners (<1%).

From 2006 to 2007, the percentage of reports from victims of African descent decreased in almost every reporting region, except for Houston and Philadelphia where reports remained steady. Reports from Latina/o callers remained steady throughout each region. Similar to the previous year, in almost all the reporting organizations for 2007, just over half (56%) of reports to NCAVP members come from survivors of color.

INCIDENT NARRATIVES (continued)

started throwing punches, strangling me and just hitting me all over - my head, arms, legs... I hit him once, in the nose, during all of this. While I was on the ground, I was screaming for help and I could see people, but no one stopped. I was able to get home and lock him out of the apartment. I took pictures of myself with my cell phone and then took a shower. My friend, Bill, came over and took care of me and took him back to his house. Bill actually called CAVP to get more information. A few days later, I called CAVP while I was at my dad's house. We were both on speaker phone so we could ask questions. I don't want my ex arrested but I'm trying to figure out if I should make a police report.

Victoria, 30s, transwoman, white, bisexual, urban

I was traveling with my boyfriend when we stopped at a hospital in Colorado for me to get my prescription filled. By the time I came out, he was gone and he never came back. I'm not from Colorado and didn't know what to do. The hospital gave me enough bus fare to get to Denver, where I found a shelter that would take me. But when I got there, they told me that they were going to put me with the men. I was trying to figure out how I could stay safe and staying at this shelter definitely wasn't the way. I told the people working there that I was suicidal and was sent to the hospital for an evaluation. That's when I called CAVP. I wasn't sure if I could trust the advocate there since all of the other people I talked to didn't understand why I couldn't stay at the shelter. After talking to her for a while, I realized that

INCIDENT NARRATIVES (continued)

she really wanted to connect me with the right resources. CAVP eventually got me a bus ticket to get out of Colorado and back home.

Julia, 20s, female, Latina, bisexual, urban

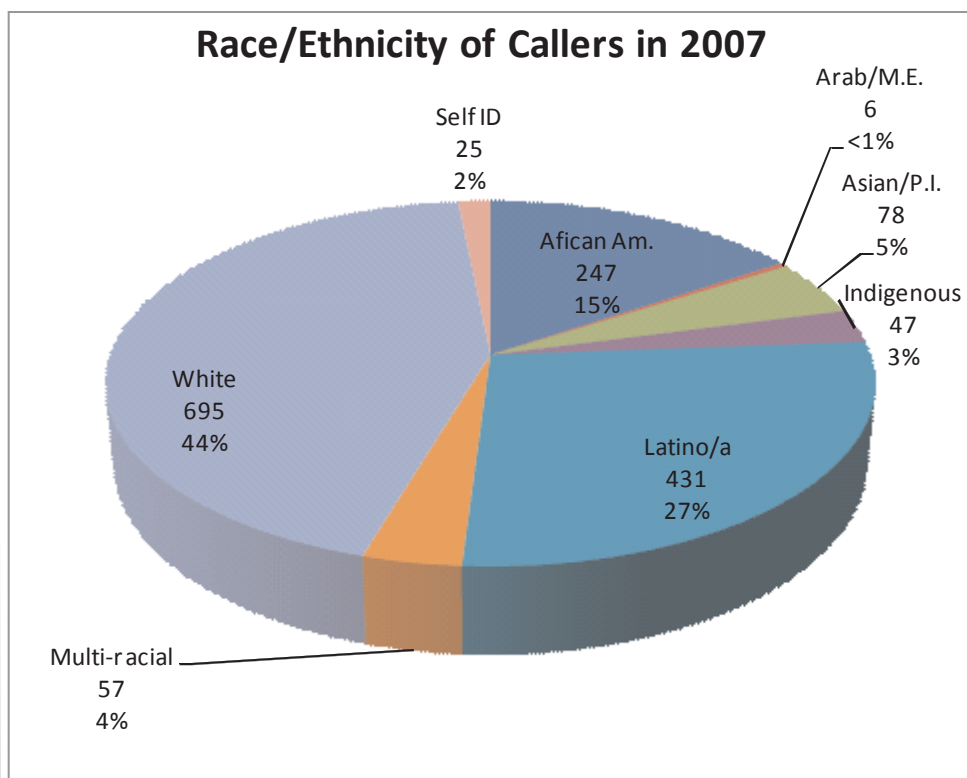
I wasn't sure if CAVP was going to help me because I was being abused by my grandfather. I finally realized that I had to get out of the house when he wrapped his hands around my throat. I tried going to a shelter specifically for youth because I thought it would be better than being at home. The boys at the shelter made me kind of uncomfortable, so I didn't really want to stay there either. The person who was working with me there told me about CAVP, so I tried calling. They were able to get me into a safehouse just for women.

Fenway Health Center, Violence Recovery Program

"E" 45 yrs old gay, Caucasian man, Boston

E came to VRP after experiencing extensive emotional abuse from his partner of 4 years. His partner moved into his apartment without paying rent, limiting E's use of the space in his own home, and drinking excessively knowing that E was in recovery. His partner would criticize every detail of everything E did or said, preying on E's shame over being gay, telling him that he deserved nothing better, and giving him silent treatment for over 3 months. The client's partner also used

Generally, few conclusions can be drawn from NCAVP's limited data about the racial/ethnic distribution of LGBT domestic violence victims as a whole. Barriers to reporting domestic violence in some communities of color may be even greater than described elsewhere in this report, especially if the victims have additional reasons to fear or mistrust the police. The increased hostility of U.S. policy to immigrants probably also creates a hesitancy to report and even a belief that services are not available to some communities. Finally, some LGBT people do not necessarily identify themselves using LGBT-specific language, nor do they willingly seek services from LGBT-identified organizations. People in some communities of color may not feel comfortable utilizing many of the venues traditionally offered by many DV organizations as gateways into services, including hotlines, support groups, etc. These ways of reaching out for assistance or communicating may be less culturally aligned with some particular communities of color.



n = 3,319. Chart depicts only callers whose race is known (1586 / 3319).

New Data for 2007

NCAVP is constantly striving to learn more about the people reaching out to us for services both because it makes us better able to safety plan in a manner that is relevant to the survivor's reality and because it increases the sophistication of our data and broadens our overall understanding of our own communities' experiences with violence. To that end, the reader will note that we periodically add categories from year-to-year. The table below shows the new categories tracked in this year's report. Many NCAVP members have been documenting this information for a long time, even though we as NCAVP were not collecting the information for the reports. Many other members are not documenting the information outlined below largely because of local statutes that place limitations on their confidentiality, thus putting the privacy of the survivor at risk. For this reason, and also because NCAVP is still in its infancy in collecting this information, not every member can contribute to this section.

Member Programs Contributing Data in 2007														
New Categories	Tucson	San Fran	LA	CO	Chicago	Kan City	Fenway	La Red	NYC	OH	Philly	Houston	Seattle	Milwaukee
Immigration Status			x	x		x	x			x		x	x	x
Police Involvement		x	x	x	x	x			x	x	x	x		x
Drug and Alcohol Use		x	x	x	x	x				x		x		x
Sexual Abuse		x	x	x	x	x			x	x	x			x
Disability	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x		x	x	x
Weapons Use		x	x	x	x	x			x	x	x			

Immigration Status

Eight NCAVP members were able to collect information on the immigration status of the survivors seeking services at their programs. Of those, 6 programs logged calls from survivors of IPV who were recent immigrants, most of whom were undocumented. Out of 1,910 callers, 60 (3%) reported being recent immigrants. People who mentioned having status as U.S. citizens numbered 211 (11%) and people whose did not disclose immigration information numbered 1,639 (86%). Of the callers disclosing their immigration status, 49 callers (82%) were undocumented.

INCIDENT NARRATIVES (continued)

intimidation to control E, throwing prized possessions to instill fear and taunting and abusing E's cat in front of him. E came to VRP therapy for several months, before a serious fight between the two caused him to unexpectedly move away.

"T" 21-yrs old lesbian, multi-racial woman, Boston

T came seeking support and shelter while experiencing emotional and physical abuse from her partner of several years. Her partner would intentionally pick fights with her, during which her partner would break things, scream, hit and deliberately kick her along a spinal injury and/or hold her face down into a dusty carpet knowing that she had life-threatening asthma. T and her partner had recently gotten married, hoping that this would help their relationship, but a bloody fight during their honeymoon motivated T to leave the relationship. T had been living without access to a car in an isolated suburb of Boston without much public transportation and was not allowed to work or to pursue studies by order of her partner. Initially T believed that she might have been the perpetrator because she had resorted to self-defense, hurting her partner to get her to stop hitting her. Her partner had used this to instill guilt in T and told her that she was not worthy of seeking help because she had been abusive herself. During her therapy T went back to her partner and ultimately fled abruptly, possibly to live with her family (who had sexually abused her as a child).

INCIDENT NARRATIVES (continued)

The Network/La Red (Boston)

Lizzie, undocumented, immigrant, HIV positive, transgender Latina woman

Lizzie was with her partner Jason for 4 years. During her relationship with him she suffered emotional, economic, sexual, and physical abuse.

They lived in an apartment that was subsidized by a housing program for HIV+ people and she worked to pay the remaining rent. Jason did not work, so she felt a great deal of stress to support them both. On numerous occasions Jason would force her into sex and would sometimes bring people over to the house for her to have sex with. When Jason would get physically violent or bring strangers over to have sex with her, Lizzie says she was often scared for her life. She never called the police because Jason would often tell her that as soon as they heard she was "illegal" they would arrest her instead. This threat kept her from seeking police or a restraining order.

Because of the loud fighting and complaints by the neighbors the landlord and Lizzie's housing advocate were often talking with her. While Lizzie spoke some English she was much more comfortable speaking Spanish and this caused some problems with the non-Spanish speaking housing advocate and the non-Spanish speaking landlord. Lizzie described being frustrated with her advocate who would share things with the landlord that she was not comfortable with. When she spoke with the housing advocate about not wanting her landlord to know about the abuse she felt as though he didn't understand and wasn't really listening.

It is not surprising that the total number of callers disclosing immigration status is low, given the current anti-immigrant climate in the U.S. and the potential legal consequences faced by undocumented people. Many NCAVP members have worked with victims of violence who were picked up by police, jailed by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), and placed into deportation proceedings even though they were crime *victims*. This reality certainly prevents some people from reporting violence, even to non-profit organizations. Additionally, the linguistic and cultural accessibility of many of our organizations may also be a factor in how many calls from immigrant communities we receive in any given year. It is our hope that by documenting this information, we will begin to gain a better understanding of intimate partner violence in the lives of LGBT immigrants in the U.S.

Disabilities

Twelve of the fourteen organizations contributing 2007 data collected information on callers with disabilities. Callers disclosing a disability numbered 157, 5% of the total reported by these organizations. Two reporting regions, Milwaukee and Ohio, reported no disability disclosures. Los Angeles and Chicago reports amounted to .8% of their totals. The highest reports came from Seattle (36%), Tucson (31%), and Fenway (26%). San Francisco reported 2% while The Network/La Red and Kansas City both reported 12%. Montrose in Houston reported 22% of callers with disabilities. On average, callers with disabilities made up 12% of calls to NCAVP member organizations. Few conclusions can be drawn from NCAVP's limited data about LGBT domestic violence survivors with disabilities. It is clear, however, that barriers to reporting IPV for these communities is certainly greater than described elsewhere in this report and begs

Police Involvement

Ten NCAVP members recorded information on survivor reports of law enforcement involvement with their case. Police involvement sometimes occurred at the request of the NCAVP caller but not always. Survivors, batterers, neighbors, and other third parties often end up calling police. Out of the 2,842 people who called the ten member programs tracking police involvement, 512 (18%) of them had law enforcement interaction, voluntary or otherwise. Of those 512 interactions, 121 (24%) resulted in an arrest of the individual reported by the caller as the batterer. Callers reported police misconduct in 30 (6%) of cases. Police misconduct includes overtly hostile behavior, such as verbal abuse, use of slurs and other oppressive language

or statements, and physical abuse. It does not include general rudeness, discourtesy, or indifference. It also does not include misarrests (i.e. arresting both partners or arresting the survivor/victim, which, according to our callers, happened 32 times, in 6% of the overall cases of police involvement).

One of the greatest concerns for LGBT communities in accessing police is fear of homophobic and transphobic police brutality. Another barrier is the fact that batterers are often skilled at presenting as victims. Police are looking specifically for the commission of a crime. Intimate partner violence is a complex pattern of events occurring over time, some criminal and some not. Surviving domestic violence can sometimes result in actions that can be, or appear to be, criminal, such as physical self defense. The restrictions placed upon law enforcement make it potentially easy for complex patterns of power and control over time to be missed and an incorrect assessment of batterer and victim to be made. It is unclear if people who access our services are more or less likely to contact police and it is also not known by our programs in most jurisdictions how our numbers compare with LGBT IPV calls to law enforcement in 2007.

Drug/Alcohol Use

Eight participating organizations tracked disclosures of drug and/or alcohol use by either batterer, survivor or both. The information is not presented to demonstrate any causative relationship between drug/alcohol use and intimate partner violence. Nor is it presented as an attempt to show any strong correlation. Rather, the information on use of drugs and alcohol in IPV has been gathered because of anecdotal reports of substance use as a tactic of power and control within abusive relationships and also as a mechanism for survival by some people surviving abuse.

On average, reports of drug and/or alcohol use were present in 15% of the cases reported to NCAVP member programs. Reports ran as low as 4% (Chicago) up to 25% (Milwaukee). Interestingly, reports were lower percentage-wise in larger cities, with Los Angeles, San Francisco, and Chicago reporting 5%, 6%, and 4% respectively. Kansas City, Milwaukee, and Houston reported substance use 24%, 25%, and 22% respectively. Because these regions report lower numbers in general than in the larger cities, a handful of reports of drug/alcohol use can appear as a large percentage. So the higher percentages in these regions does not necessarily mean greater prevalence of substance use than in bigger cities. Colorado and Ohio (taking reports statewide) logged in the middle range, 15% and 16% of total cases respectively. The initial information presented here is an attempt to measure the prevalence of substance use in IPV, nothing more.

INCIDENT NARRATIVES (continued)

In winter 2007 Jason beat Lizzie so badly that a neighbor called the police and she was brought to the hospital for her multiple injuries. At the hospital she met with a domestic violence advocate that got her connected with us.

Since it was not safe for her to return home she needed to get all of her HIV meds replaced. The hospital and our advocate helped with this process allowing her more time to decide whether to go home or to pursue a restraining order against Jason. After leaving the hospital she came directly to our safehome. During her stay in the safehome our Spanish speaking advocate provided one-on-one emotional support to Lizzie. Lizzie was dealing with a great deal of post-traumatic stress and was also afraid to go home or go to work for fear of Jason finding her. On top of this fear was the fear that she would lose her job and her apartment.

Lizzie decided to pursue a restraining order so that she could return to her apartment. An advocate went to court with her and she was granted the temporary and given a 10-day hearing date. During the process of serving the order, the police discovered that Jason had an outstanding warrant for not registering as sex offender. Jason was arrested and went to jail. Lizzie decided not to pursue the restraining order further and moved back to her apartment. Lizzie stays in contact with our program and talks with our advocate about once a month. Jason is still in jail but Lizzie is still dealing with the aftermath of the abuse she faced.

INCIDENT NARRATIVES (continued)

Chi, white, queer, transgender man with 2 children

Chi contacted us in fall, 2007. He was in Colorado and was fleeing a very abusive girlfriend and was looking for a domestic violence shelter for himself and his two children, ages 7 and 2. We worked with him on the hotline quite a bit but because our program is only for 2 weeks he decided to try a 90-day shelter instead. He was concerned with traveling across the country for a 2 week stay and wanting stability for his children. We got him connected with a 90-day shelter in the Western part of the state.

Prior to entering the shelter he came out to the staff as transgender. He was assured that he was welcome in the shelter and based on the abuse he described accepted him into their shelter. Once he arrived at the shelter he was told that because of concern for making staff and other residents uncomfortable that he would not be allowed to come out to the staff or guests, that they would not use his masculine name, and that they would only use feminine pronouns for him.

Since he had no place else to go and did not want to put his children through more upheaval he stayed at the shelter and tried to live with their terms. The use of his feminine name and pronouns caused a great deal of confusion for his kids, who were still adapting to calling him dad and they would often slip into calling him mom. While he remained in contact with us to get support, he did not want us to advocate on his behalf because of fear that he would be asked to leave. He feared that if we tried to advocate and educate on his behalf that they would choose the easier option of just not dealing with him.

Sexual Abuse

It is unclear how prevalent sexual violence is within IPV, though estimates run as high as 90% of IPV relationships involve sexual abuse. Sexual abuse is highly under-reported to police and likely also under-reported to community-based organizations because of the levels of trauma, stigma, and shame experienced by many survivors.

Of the nine organizations documenting sexual violence, two received reports of less than 1% - Los Angeles and San Francisco received 3 reports and 8 reports respectively. The Network/La Red in Boston documented 33 cases (15%) and Colorado AVP documented 17 (14%). Both Columbus and Chicago recorded 9%. Philly reported 1 (8%), Kansas City reported 3 cases, and Milwaukee reported 2. These are not isolated incidents of sexual abuse, but rather disclosure by a survivor to the program that some form of sexual violence has occurred within the relationship. It usually occurs multiple times and in conjunction with other forms of abuse.

Weapons Use

While physical abuse is only one element of power and control present in some IPV relationships, it is a severe one. Many incidents of physical assault that happen within relationships involve use of weapons or of household items as weapons. Firearms, bottles, vehicles, rope, even the use of an attack dog have all been reported to NCAVP.

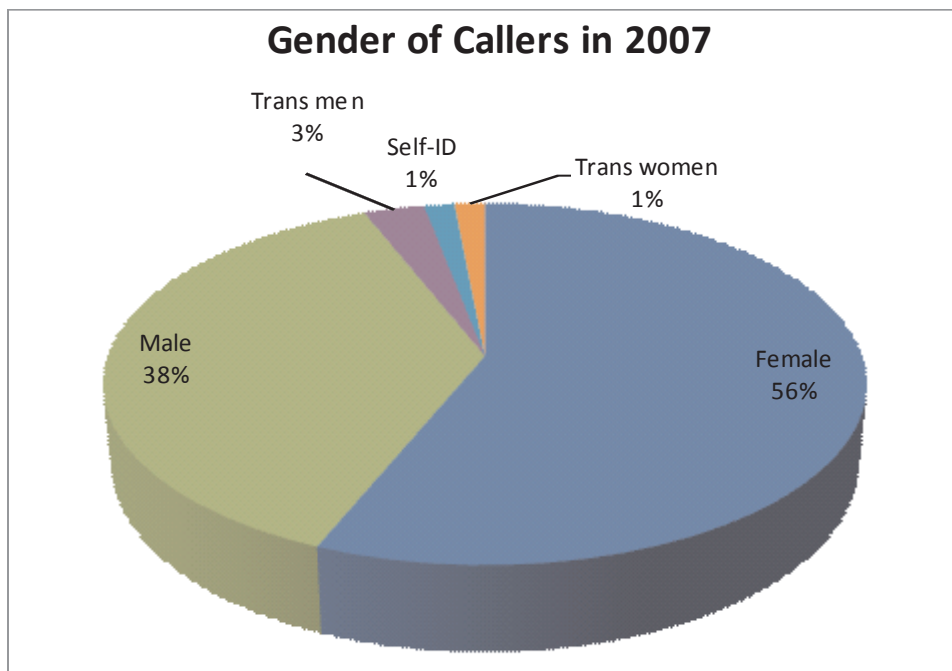
Nine of our member programs documented weapons use in 2007. On average, 7% of callers reported use of some type of weapon against them. Reports ran as high as 14% in New York City and Ohio. Philadelphia, Colorado, and Chicago reported 13%, 9%, and 6% respectively. San Francisco documented weapons use in 2% of calls and Los Angeles in 1%.

Future Research

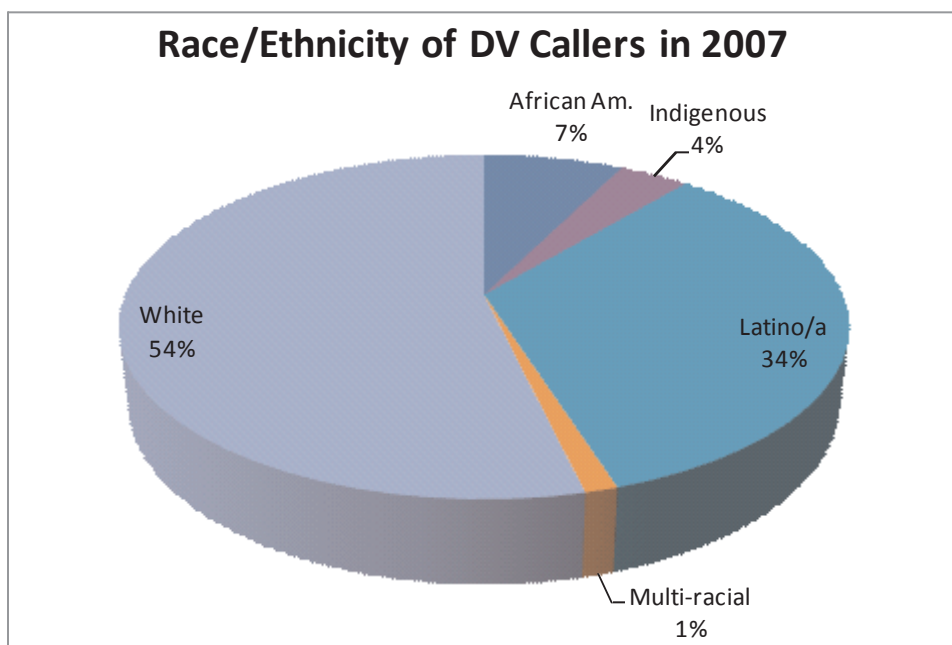
NCAVP hopes to soon be capable of reporting on multivariate data as it pertains to our communities. For example, it would be interesting to know if the majority of transgender victims reporting to our programs are of a particular age group or if police misconduct is more prevalent against DV victims of a specific racial category or if weapons use correlates with age or gender of the batterer. Such data will offer a much more nuanced understanding of the ways in which IPV is experienced in our communities and inform our outreach, prevention, and services. As our programs increase in capacity, so does our ability to collect such data. It is also unclear how accurately data from those who call to seek services can be extrapolated to the larger LGBT victim population. We can only speculate how many LGBT people experiencing IPV are not calling our organizations.

LOCAL SUMMARIES AND CHARTS

Tucson, Arizona Wingspan Anti-Violence Project



n = 205. Chart depicts only callers whose gender is known (199 / 205)



n = 205. Chart depicts only callers whose race is known (162 / 205)

INCIDENT NARRATIVES (continued)

About a month into his stay, the staff asked Chi to do a transgender 101 training for all the staff. He agreed to do the training for fear of losing his space at the shelter despite the fact that he did not know any other transgender people and felt as though he knew very little about transgender beyond his own experience. During the training, they asked him very invasive questions about his gender and he was told that if he went on testosterone that he would be kicked out. He and his children stayed in the shelter for the entire 90 days. Following his stay at the domestic violence shelter he and his children moved into a homeless shelter program.

During their stay there he was assigned an advocate that despite not being GLBT knowledgeable was very GLBT friendly. His advocate, Jace, contacted us and we worked with her around resources and we provided education and support to her in working with Chi. Jace went above and beyond and not only drove Chi to a transgender-friendly doctor to help him get hormones but also watched his kids so that he could attend the appointment.

The change in Chi's spirits was obvious after leaving the shelter and working with Jace. Jace has now been told by her supervisor that she is spending too much time on this one client and that she cannot keep calling us. Despite this restriction placed on Jace she continues to be Chi's advocate.

INCIDENT NARRATIVES (continued)

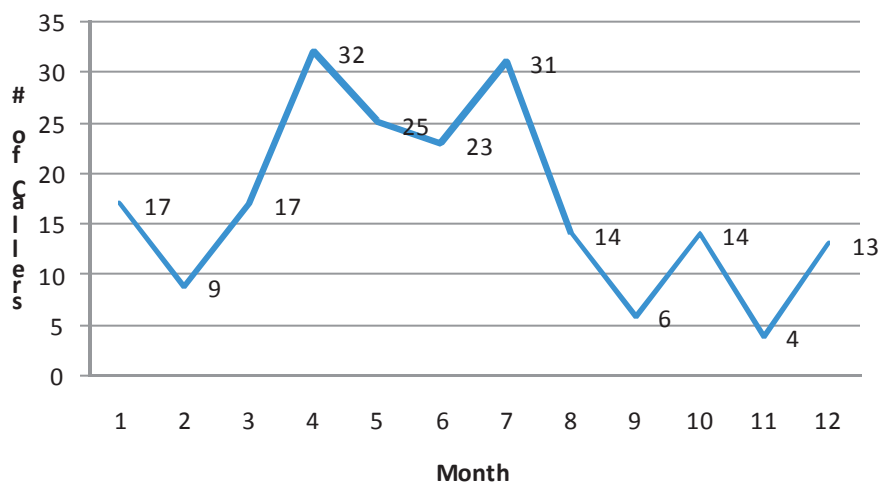
Kansas City Anti-Violence Project

Josie, 58 yrs female who identifies as lesbian.

I'm Josie and I've been with my partner, Sarah, for 10 years. In the last 3 years, Sarah has become more and more angry towards me. 2 months ago, she became upset with me and began punching me in the face as I was driving. I stopped the car and ran into a store. The owner locked the door behind me and called the police. The police never showed up and I ended up walking home. When I got home Sarah was there and she apologized but I was still upset. She told me that I needed to get over it.

The next day I was looking on the internet and came across the KCAVP website. I called them and later that day I met with an advocate. I told her I needed time to plan for moving out of the house. She helped me with safety planning including putting together a bag of important papers and extra clothes if I need to leave quickly. She also gave me a cell phone to put in the bag so I can call for help. I ended up staying with Sarah for another four months but I checked in often with my advocate and worked with her in planning for my safety and finding other housing options. I recently left Sarah and moved into my own apartment. Even though I am still working through my feelings about what happened with Sarah, I am happy being on my own. I am thankful that KCAVP was there to help me.

Tucson IPV Calls in 2007



Los Angeles, California

The L.A. Gay and Lesbian Center STOP Program

The L.A. Gay & Lesbian Center (LAGLC), founded in 1971, is the world's largest gay and lesbian organization and home to a wide array of health, mental health, legal, employment, educational, cultural and social programs especially designed for the LGBT and closely aligned communities. In 1988, LAGLC conducted one of the first studies ever done on same-gender domestic violence. Recognizing the need for culturally competent and LGBT specific domestic violence programming, LAGLC developed services for gay and lesbian victims and abusers. The result was LAGLC's STOP Partner Abuse/Domestic Violence Program (Support, Treatment/Intervention, Outreach/Education, and Prevention). In 2005, LAGLC again expanded its domestic violence programming with the creation of the Domestic Violence Legal Advocacy Project (DVLAP). DVLAP is one of a handful of programs in the country providing comprehensive legal services specifically for survivors of LGBT partner abuse and addressing systemic barriers that impede LGBT victims' full and equal access to justice. Together, STOP and DVLAP offer comprehensive LGBT specific domestic violence programming by providing a broad array of services including survivors' groups; a court-approved batterers' intervention program; crisis counseling; brief and on-going individual counseling; legal assistance; assistance with restraining orders; criminal justice advocacy; specialized assessment; LGBT domestic violence training, education, and consultation; prevention services for those-at-risk; referral to LGBT sensitive shelters; and a paraprofessional, law student and mental health intern training program.

INCIDENT NARRATIVES (continued)

Samantha, 20 yrs, transgender woman who identifies as straight.

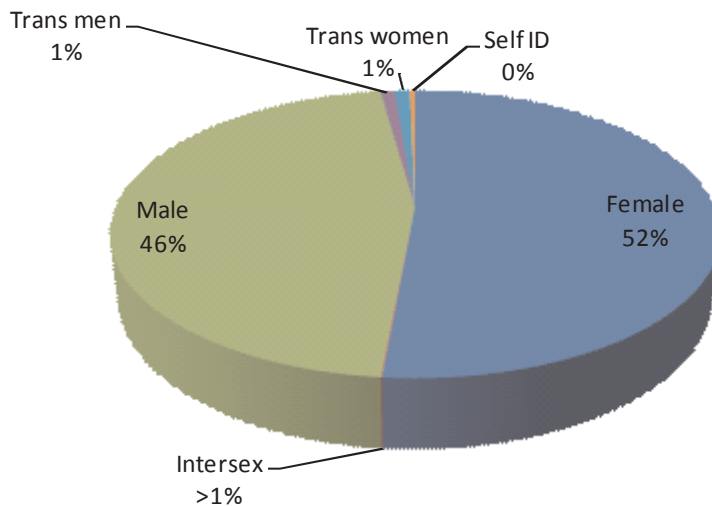
I'm Samantha and I was living with my boyfriend for six months then we broke up but kept living together. Things hadn't been bad since we broke up but then one night he went out drinking with his friends and came home drunk. While I was sleeping he came into my room and had sex with me even after I told him no. I went to the hospital afterwards but they made me wait in the waiting room for a long time and I became too afraid to get the exam. I called my caseworker at the health clinic who told me to call KCAVP. An advocate came with me to the hospital and stayed with me while I got the exam. I also used their emergency housing program that night until I could get a bus ticket to go to my mother's house the next day. I have since moved in with a roommate and am seeing a therapist that I was referred to by KCAVP. I don't know where I would be if I didn't reach out for help.

Buckeye Region Anti-Violence Organization (Ohio)

Jeremy, 32 yrs, white, gay male, Columbus (Urban)

I am staying with my friend and am so afraid to go home. I've been with my boyfriend for almost two years and things were pretty violent from the start so I don't know why I let him stay. Last night he beat me up pretty bad, destroyed my cell phone, and threw my

Gender of Callers in 2007



n = 1577. Chart depicts only callers whose gender is known (1548 / 1577)

During the 2007 reporting period, there were 1,577 reported cases of domestic violence in the greater Los Angeles area. This number reflects a decrease from the 2,243 cases reported in 2006. The drastic decrease from 2006 to 2007 is due in part to the lack of contribution of data from local law enforcement agencies as well as decreased funding. The majority of the cases were either reported to, or assessed by, the L.A. Gay & Lesbian Center's STOP Partner Abuse/Domestic Violence Program and the L.A. Gay & Lesbian Center's Domestic Violence Legal Advocacy Project. A smaller number of cases were tracked by Sojourn Services for Battered Women and Their Children (23 cases of lesbian domestic violence), WomenShelter of Long Beach (20 lesbian/bisexual female cases & 11 gay male cases of domestic violence), and Glendale YWCA Domestic Violence Project (this shelter did not track LGBT cases but estimated that 1% of their cases were comprised of LGBT individuals). Although the overall numbers decreased, the actual number of clients reporting incidents to non-law enforcement agencies, and in particular, the L.A. Gay & Lesbian Center has continued to increase in 2007 as in previous years.

Of the 1,577 reported cases in 2007- females accounted for 796 of these cases, while males accounted for 717 of the total. There were 15 documented M-F transgender cases, 14 cases involving F-M transgender individuals, and 1 intersex case. Five people self-identified as "other" and the remainder of the reported total was comprised of individuals who failed to disclose their gender identity. The majority of the reports (1,198) came from individuals who identified as gay or lesbian. Further, 139 individuals identified as bisexual, while individuals identifying as heterosexual accounted for 127 cases. Additionally, 35 individuals identified themselves as questioning and 78 people declined to disclose their sexual orientation.

INCIDENT NARRATIVES (continued)

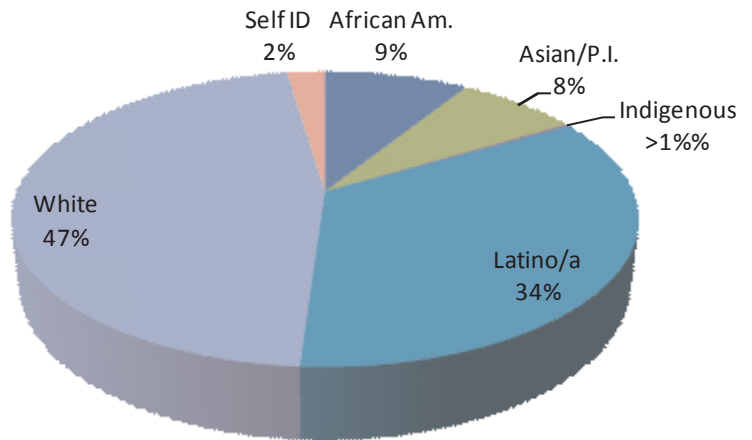
computer out the window. Luckily I wasn't too hurt this time, but I am a mess and afraid of what he will do next time. In the past my boyfriend has broken my ribs, thrown me down steps, and even locked me in rooms. I am being terrorized in my own home. It is my house and I don't know how to get him out. My friend Rex is afraid of him too and says that I can't stay. I don't know what to do. My friend is trying to get me to call the local dv program, but I just don't know what they can do. I guess my only choice is to go back to my house and hope for the best.

Jim, 54 yrs, white, gay male, Columbus (Urban)

My boyfriend and I have been together for over twelve years. We have been very active in the gay community and have volunteered a lot of our time to our local non-profits. Lately things have become increasingly tense and difficult in our relationship and he has turned violent.

The other day we got into an argument and he hit me and slammed me into a wall. I ended up with some pretty bad bruises. Three years ago he strangled me during a particularly intense conversation. He denies the violence, which makes it difficult to talk to him about things. His business is failing and this creates a lot of uncertainty. We have been together so long and our lives have been so interwoven that I cannot imagine my life without him, but I need to understand where I go from here. I am increasingly afraid of him and what he might do. Breaking up would be financially devastating to both of us. I really need some help in planning what to do next.

Race/Ethnicity of Callers in 2007



n = 1577. Chart depicts only callers whose race is known (427 / 1577)

Of those individuals who indicated their race/ethnicity, 38 were of African descent, 32 identified as Asian/Pacific Islander, 1 as Indigenous/First People, 147 as Latino/a, and 199 as Caucasian/White. Of those who disclosed their age, 112 were between 15 - 18 years of age, 409 were between 19 - 29 years, 467 were between 30 - 39 years, 282 were between 40 - 49 years, 199 were between 50 - 59 years, 37 were between 60 - 69 years, and 1 was between 70 - 79 years. Three individuals identified as being recent immigrants with visas, 3 as recent immigrants who have obtained permanent residency, 18 as undocumented immigrants, and 88 as citizens or non-recent immigrants. Fourteen individuals indicated that they had a disability. In addition, 13 reported domestic violence cases involved weapons, 36 involved drugs other than alcohol, 54 cases involved alcohol, and 8 cases included sexual abuse. Although police were called for 300 of the reported cases, an arrest was made in only 29 cases. Twenty seven individuals indicated that there had been a mis-arrest in their case and 5 individuals indicated that there had been police misconduct.

One of the major barriers still facing LGBT survivors in the Los Angeles area is the - at times - well founded fear of law enforcement. Although LAGLC has been working with the Los Angeles Police Department around their handling of LGBT DV cases, too often abusers continue to harass and stalk survivors without consequence because law enforcement fails to respond. Oftentimes when law enforcement does respond, the situation is often minimized and proper measures are not taken to adequately protect the survivors. Frequently, both parties are arrested or law enforcement officers threaten to arrest both.

STOP DV and DVLAP have advocated on behalf of many of these clients, yet law enforcement personnel remain in need of regular and frequent training on LGBT domestic violence, abuser/survivor differentiation and the creation of protocols that specify the proper course of action when a LGBT perpetrator violates a restraining order. Another consistent problem in L.A. is the inaccurate assessment of LGBT DV cases and the subsequent, inadvertent revictimization of LGBT survivors. A substantial number of clients who seek our assistance have been assessed at some point in the criminal justice system to be primary aggressors and are mandated to attend batterers' intervention/treatment. However, thorough and comprehensive assessment by STOP DV often reveals a significant number who are, in fact, defending victims or secondary aggressors rather than primary aggressors.

Another issue faced by LGBT survivors of domestic violence is the lack of awareness by civil legal professionals regarding the domestic partnership law in California and the newly established right to marriage. Similarly, court personnel are less likely to be knowledgeable about issues of custody and visitation within LGBT relationships and may hesitate to assist because the cases are seen as being too complicated. Further, since there remain vestiges of formal inequality when it comes to relationship recognition within LGBT communities, LGBT survivors are not necessarily eligible for certain legal remedies in areas such as immigration, which would otherwise be available to them if their partners were of the opposite-sex. This places the burden on legal advocates to be more knowledgeable and creative when working with same-sex domestic violence survivors, which includes considering using the U-Visa or other immigration relief as alternative solutions. However, many advocates remain unaware of and unknowledgeable about the complexities of LGBT domestic violence, resulting in untold numbers of LGBT survivors who do not receive the assistance they require to be safe.

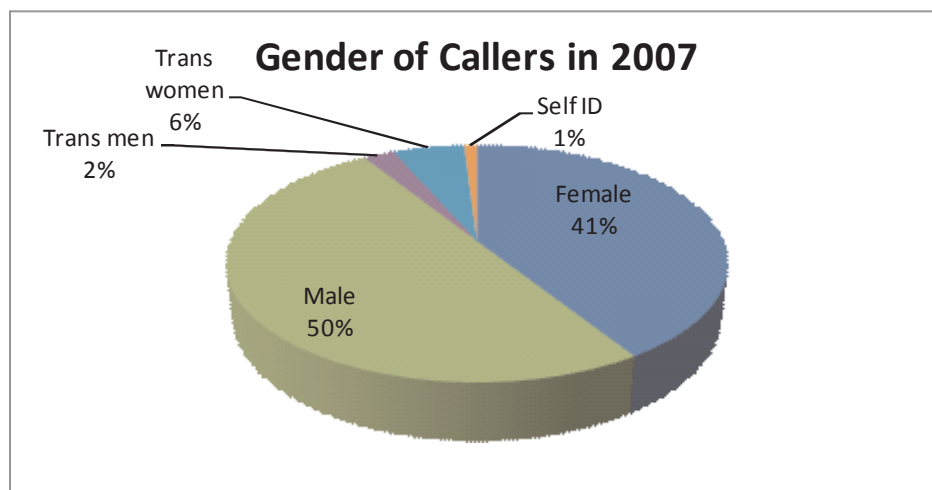
In the greater Los Angeles area, there has recently been an attempt by mainstream domestic violence service providers and agencies including shelters to be more inclusive of the LGBT community. Despite these efforts, there are still very real barriers for LGBT survivors who access mainstream domestic violence services. Some problem areas that remain are: the high prevalence of agencies that employ exclusionary policies towards gender-variant survivors; the heterosexist language used in their educational and outreach materials for survivors as well as their documentation; the pronoun usage (he/him/husband/boyfriend) employed in their intake procedures and protocols; inconsistent and/or minimal training of staff and volunteers on the topic of LGBT domestic violence, and lack of accurate assessment or differentiation between primary aggressor and survivor. These major limitations often leave LGBT survivors with very few options. In fact, we continue to work with gay male survivors who have few options other than refuge in homeless shelters.

Finally, given the demographics of Los Angeles County and the diversity of its population, language barriers continue to be a major obstacle for survivors trying to access domestic violence services and organizations, the courts or law enforcement. This can be coupled with fear of persecution surrounding their sexual orientation and / or gender identity in their home country. For LGBT survivors who must overcome additional systemic obstacles, including language barriers, disability access and immigration status, access to appropriate DV services becomes even more critical when attempting to obtain protection from their abusers.

DVLAP and STOP DV continue to work towards addressing these systemic issues. During 2007, one outcome of this work came to fruition. STOP DV and Community United Against Violence in San Francisco worked closely with Equality California and members of the California Legislature's LGBT Caucus to develop the Equality in Prevention and Services for Domestic Abuse Act (Assembly Bill 2051). Under the law, all same-sex couples in California registering for domestic partnerships pay a \$23 fee to fund LGBT-specific domestic violence programs. The fee is identical to that paid by heterosexual couples obtaining state marriage licenses; those funds are used to fund women's shelters and other domestic violence programs throughout the state. The law also requires that all committees dispensing state domestic violence grants include LGBT members. Restructured funding criteria for domestic violence programs enacted in 2005 that eliminated state grants for all programs that do not operate shelters for victims of domestic violence resulted in severe cuts in grants to programs and services targeted to California's LGBT communities and prompted the development of AB 2051.

San Francisco, California Community United Against Violence

San Francisco documented 517 cases of LGBT domestic violence in 2007. The findings were compiled through collaboration between two agencies, Queer Asian Women's Services (QAWS) of the Asian Women's Shelter (AWS) and Community United Against Violence (CUAV).



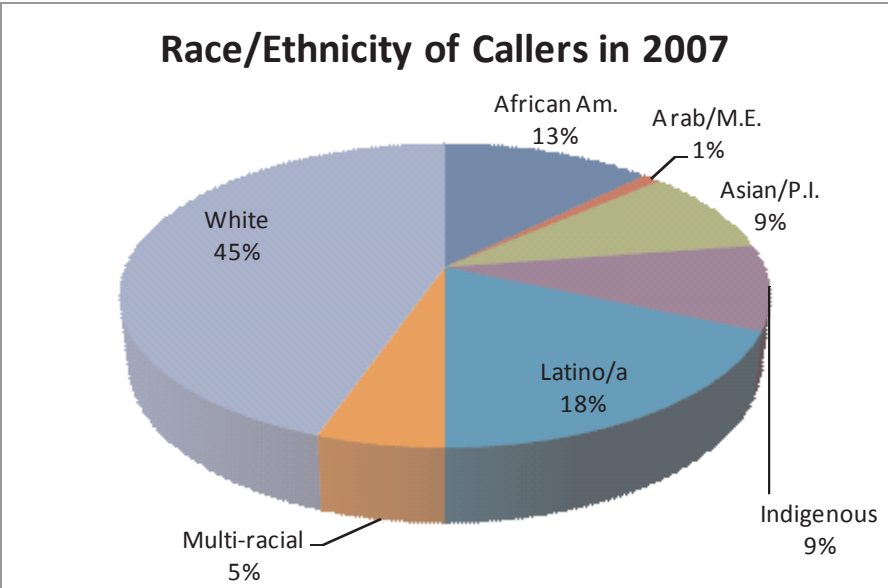
n = 517. Chart depicts only callers whose gender is known (505 / 517)

QAWS focuses on women survivors and CUAV serves all genders. Female survivors accounted for 207 cases and CUAV documented 253 incidents from male survivors. Transgender identified survivors comprised 40 cases. There were 5 cases from survivors who identified on the self-identified/genderqueer spectrum. Both agencies have been applying innovative approaches to client services and education.

Domestic violence is defined as a set of behaviors used by one person in a relationship to control the other, and can include extreme violence, emotional cruelty, and even death.

CUAV's domestic violence work has two main tracks: survivor services and public education. Both are dedicated to an anti-oppression framework, locating domestic violence with other struggles, believing that all forms of oppressions and violence are mutually enforcing and interlocking. CUAV also believes solutions for healing and liberation are fundamentally connected.

In 2007 CUAV's Domestic Violence Survivor Program continued its break from traditional domestic violence frameworks, which are based on heterosexism, gender normativity and an over-reliance on law enforcement to solve the issue. Two non-traditional approaches were to apply attachment theory and anti-oppression principles to client practices without sacrificing our ability to offer crisis services; and preliminary steps to create a Conscious Relationship workshop to take out to our communities, with the hope that teaching healthy and safe ways of thinking about relationships will not only broaden minds, but will increase safety for couples and by extension, our communities.



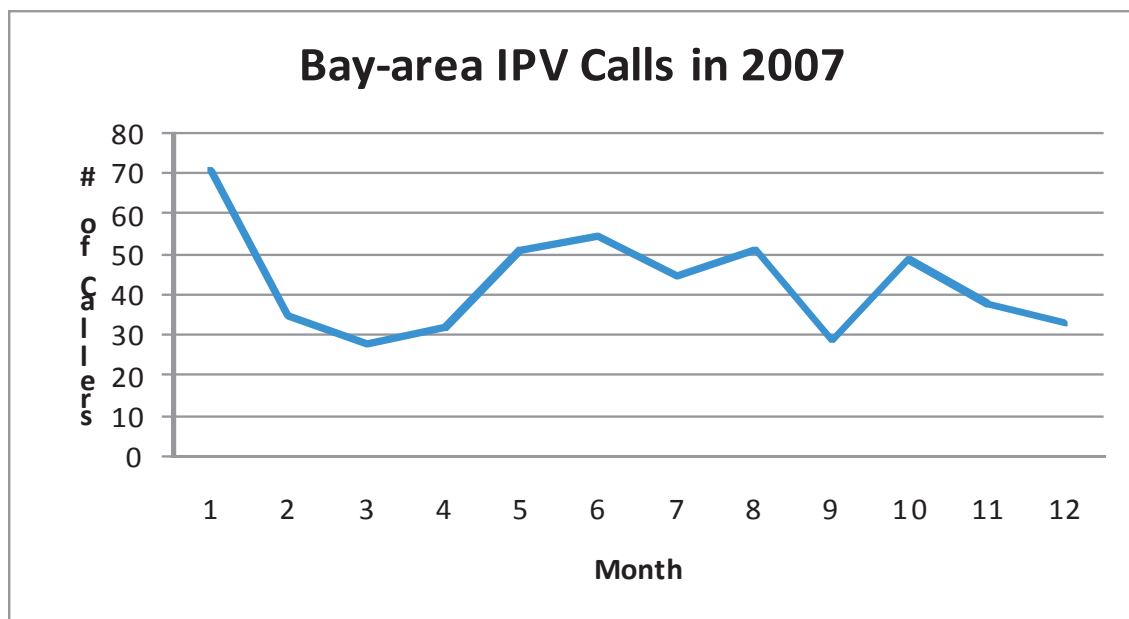
n = 517. Chart depicts only callers whose race is known (376 / 517)

In 2007, CUAV's public education programs continued building the capacity of individuals and agencies to become broadly aware of conditions out of which acts of violence emerge. CUAV's youth-led youth of color program, The Love and Justice Project (L&J), utilized arts-based education and creative projects to create opportunities for LGBTQQ young people 25-and-under to imagine a thriving, resilient world free from abuse and isolation.

One example of this approach is Love and Justice's video on youth dating violence on You Tube (to see video check out the link: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XJ1IPVrLCtE>). In 2007 CUAV's Training and Technical Assistance Program partnered with the California Partnership to End Domestic Violence and the Los Angeles Gay & Lesbian Center, beginning the task of educating and providing technical assistance to every state-funded domestic violence shelter in the state on LGBTQQ intimate and domestic violence issues. Queer Asian Women's Services (QAWS) had another innovative year in 2007, building upon on-going work while unveiling new programs and activities to support clients and API queer community members in general.

Employing the internet, QAWS staff began providing support for an Indonesian youth lesbian group (called the Women's Rainbow Institute or Institute Pelangi Perempuan) in Jakarta, Indonesia through regular discussions and brainstorming via email. This group chose to seek help internationally as the safest way to explore safety planning related to homophobia in both their families of origin and local communities. Learning healthy relationships skills has also been a key part of the discussions.

QAWS also started "Repacking Our Baggage," a workshop series specifically designed for agency volunteers and interpreters to brainstorm best strategies to support their own circle of friends and communities in dealing with issues related to homophobia, unhealthy relationships and other forms of oppression. Workshop topics have included Surviving Violence and Homophobia from Your Own Family, Attachment Theory and Unlearning Your Own Violence.

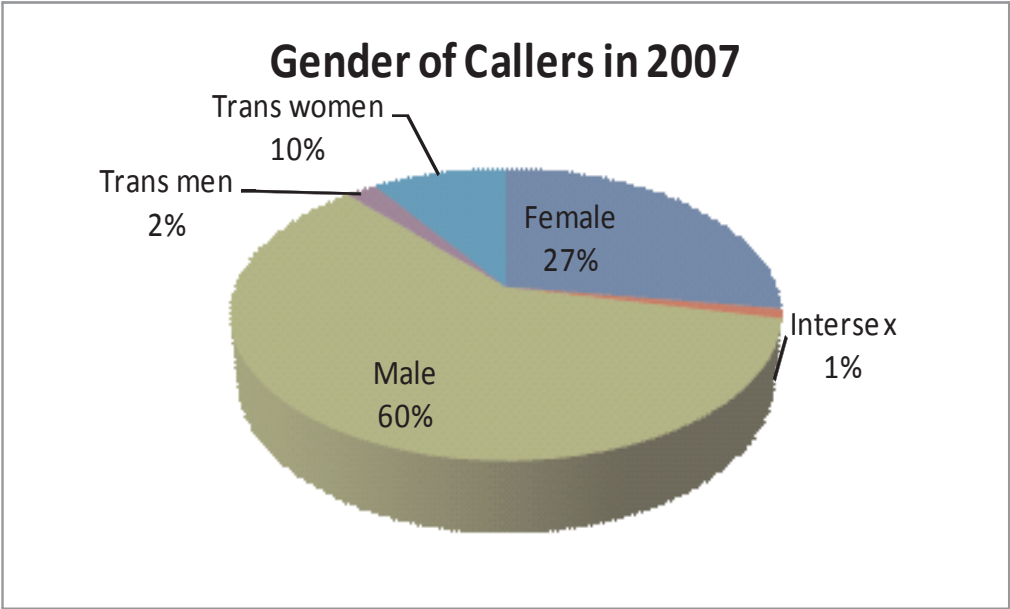


"Transforming Silence Into Action" (TSIA), a program QAWS started in 2003 and continues to present, brought together API LGBTQ activists from all over the United States on pertinent topics such as transgender issues and relationship violence in queer API communities, healthy relationships education, communities holding batterers accountable, community interventions in domestic violence, and identifying and unlearning violence. So far over 40 API LGBTQ activists have participated.

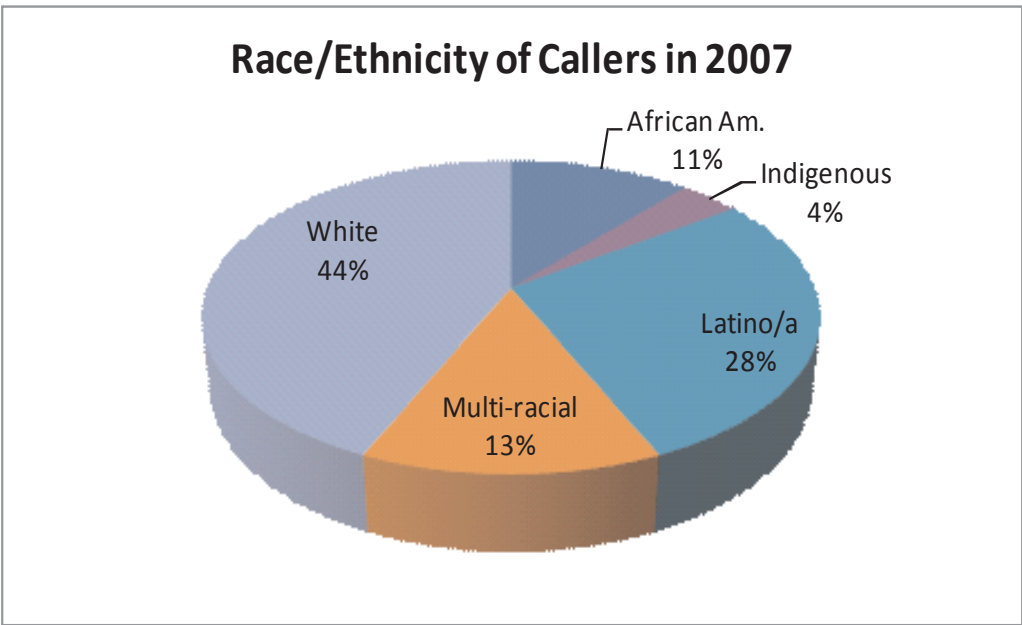
The majority of the CUAV/QAWS 2007 cases, 349 out of 517, came from individuals identifying as gay or lesbian. There were 17 reports from bisexual identified survivors and 75 from people who identify as heterosexual. There were 15 cases from individuals identifying as queer. There were 5 reports from individuals self-identifying as "other" or genderqueer. Also in 2007, there were 375 cases where the race/ethnicity of the survivor was known (out of 517 cases total), and San Francisco documented a majority of reports from survivors of color (207 out of 375), who accounted for 55% of the total (this includes Latina/o survivors who accounted for 18.4% of the total of known cases; African-American survivors accounted for 12.5 %; Asian/Pacific Islander survivors accounted for 9 % of the cases and Multi-racial survivors accounted for 5 %). White survivors accounted for 44.8% of the cases (168 out of 375).

QAWS and CUAU were assisted in their work by other San Francisco based agencies, who, while not contributing findings to this report, were invaluable allies throughout 2004; these allies include CDPH, CPEDV, W.O.M.A.N., Inc., the Riley Center, La Casa de Las Madres, LYRIC, the Family Violence Project, and the San Francisco Domestic Violence Consortium. Finally, CUAU and QAWS were ably assisted by our volunteers who brought their passion, expertise, and experience to build CUAU and QAWS' capacities to do anti-violence work.

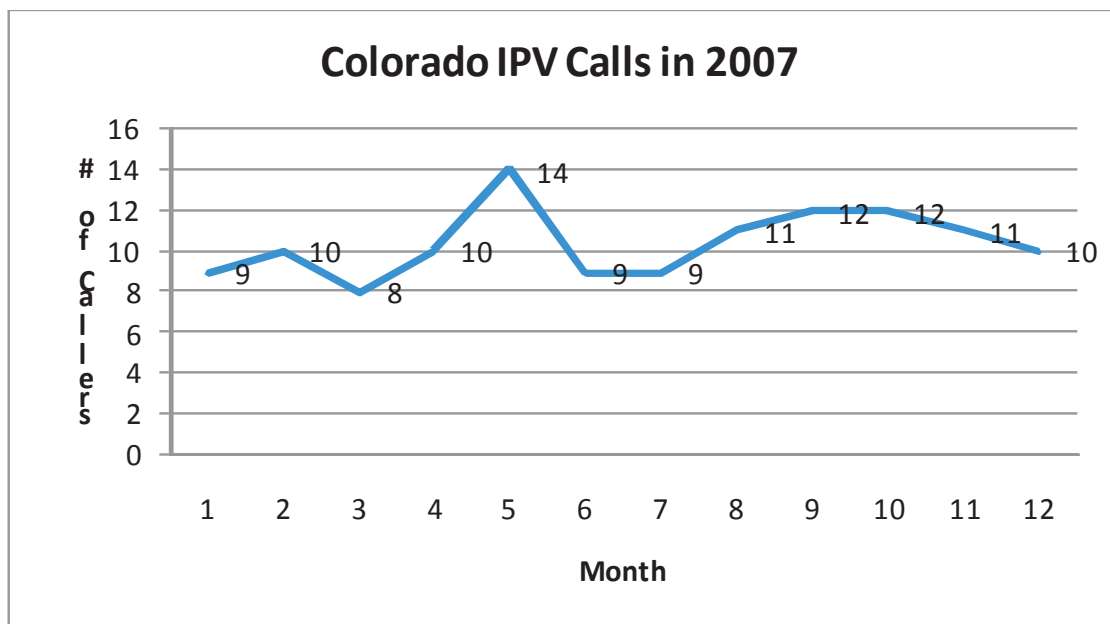
Colorado
Colorado Anti-Violence Program



n = 125. Chart depicts only callers whose gender is known (95 / 125)



n = 125. Chart depicts only callers whose race is known (53 / 125)



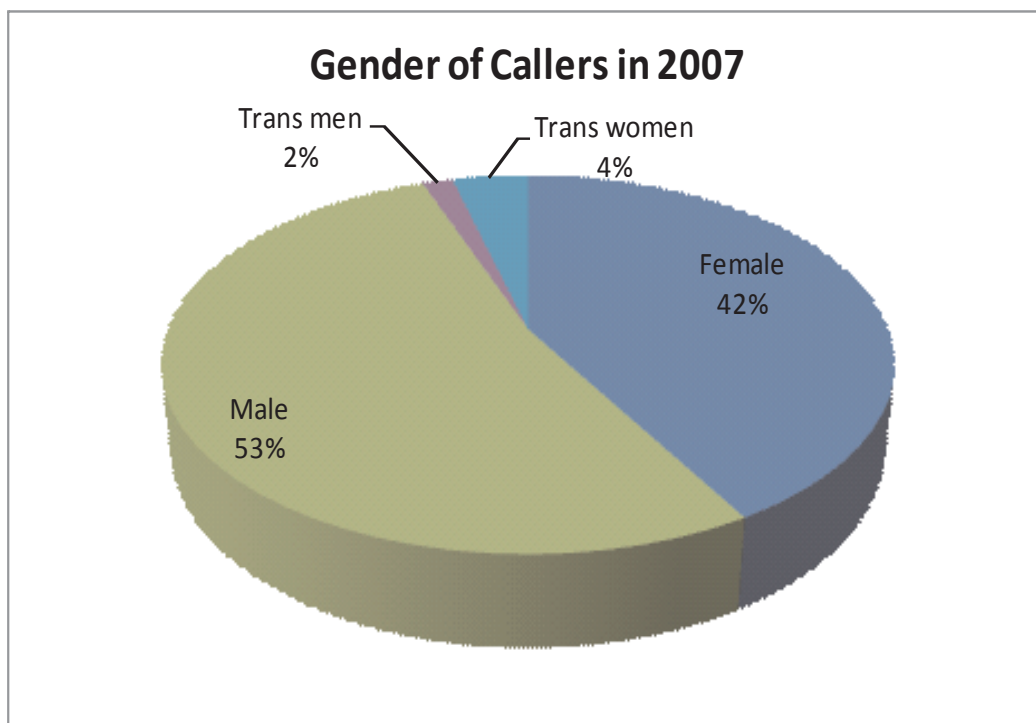
Chicago, Illinois

Center on Halsted Anti-Violence Project

The Center on Halsted Anti-Violence Project offers a 24-hour crisis hotline, counseling, support groups, legal advocacy, information and referrals and provides professional trainings and presentations on violence, discrimination, LGBTH sensitivity and workplace issues. Services are available in both English and Spanish.

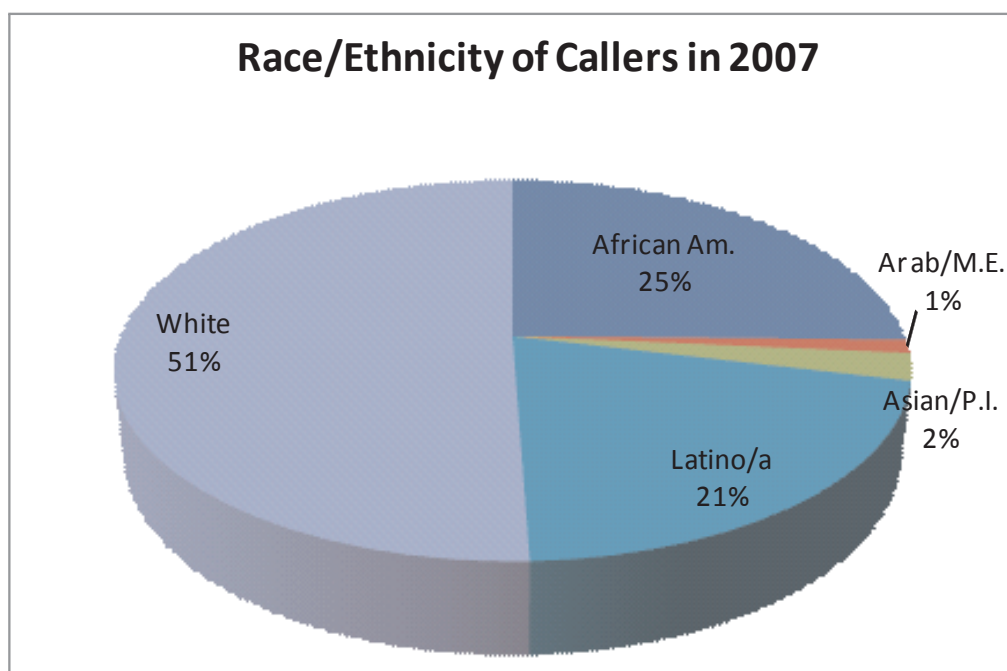
During 2007 a total of 132 survivors of domestic violence accessed services through the Anti-Violence Project. This is a significant increase from the 83 survivors who received services in 2006. There also were 12 incidents of domestic violence that involved sexual abuse; up from the 5 incidents recorded in 2006. Females accounted for 52 of the reported cases and males accounted for 66 reports. To complete the total, 5 M-F, 2 F-M transgender reports and 15 undisclosed gender identity individuals reported domestic violence incidents to the AVP. The majority, or 66 of the reports, came from individuals who identified their sexual orientation as gay or lesbian. Close in number are the 58 individuals who chose not to disclose their sexual orientation. Of the remaining individuals who reported, 11 identified as heterosexual, 3 as questioning, and 2 as bisexual. Reflected in this summary are the separate murder reports of a 32-year-old lesbian and a 19-year-old gay man.

AVP staff responded to a domestic violence homicide in a Chicago suburb where a woman murdered her live-in partner. Local media portrayed the relationship inaccurately ("roommates" rather than "domestic partners,") and staff contacted local LGBT media to stress the importance of accurate language use and that it provides an educational opportunity in outreach. Domestic violence homicides in the LGBT community are disheartening realities and show how closeted and private violence can be kept in intimate partner relationships. For this reason, AVP welcomed the invitation to be featured in a community foundation anti-violence initiative, public service announcement, using the slogan; "It's outing abuse in every community." This message recognized the importance of outing intimate partner violence from within LGBT communities.

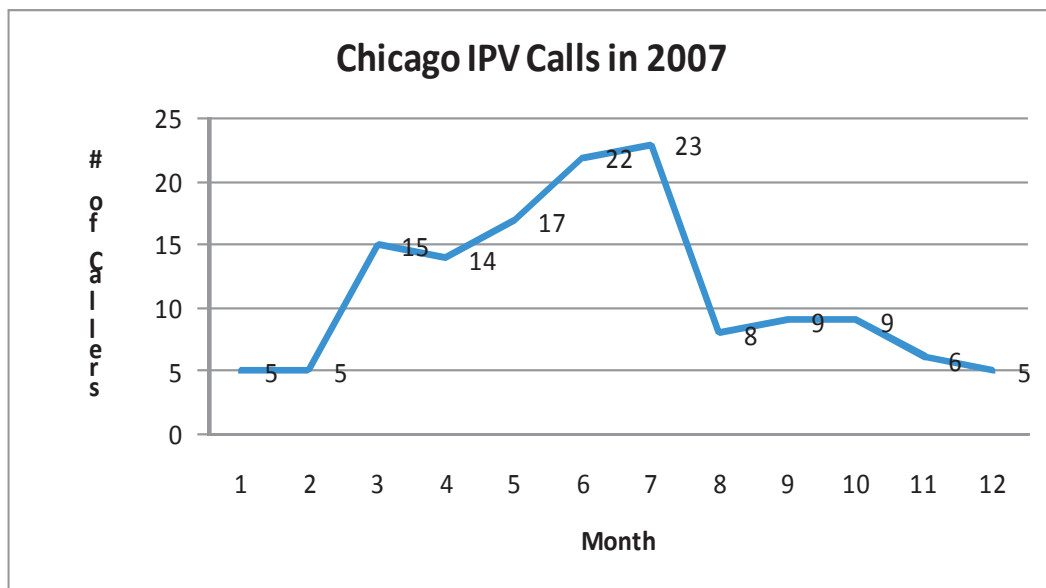


n = 140. Chart depicts only callers whose gender is known (125 / 140)

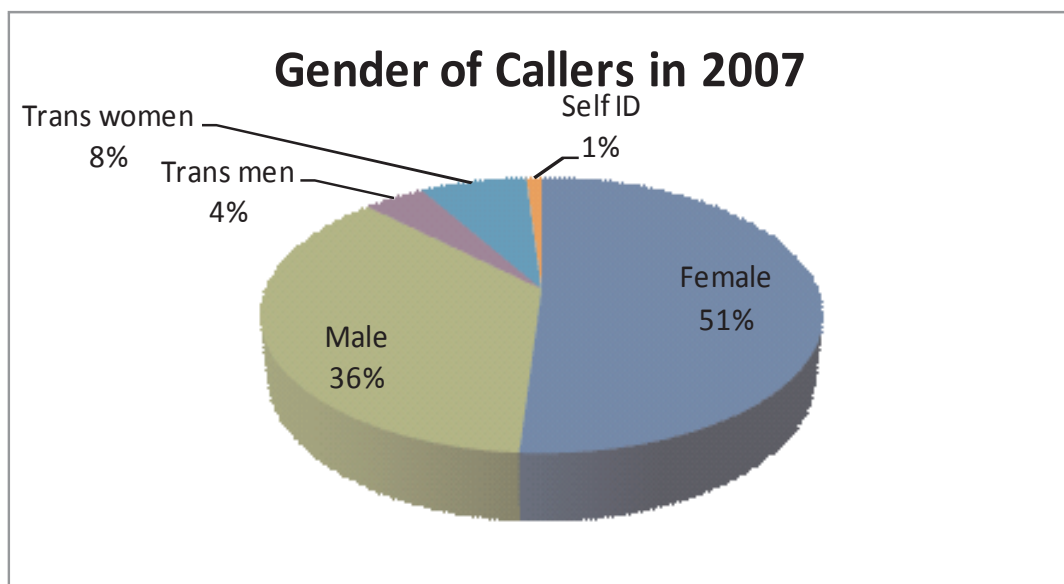
Chicago's Center on Halsted is the Midwest's largest community center for LGBT people. As a resource and gathering place for youth and adults in a safe, inviting atmosphere, the Center offers support and programming to meet the cultural, emotional, social, educational and recreational needs of the LGBT community. CoH's AVP reached nearly 400 individuals through training provided on domestic violence in LGBT relationships, and reached nearly 500 individuals through participating in panel discussions, speaking at classes, and participating in health fairs.



n = 140. Chart depicts only callers whose race is known (87 / 140)



Boston, Massachusetts
Fenway Health Violence Recovery Program and The Network/La Red



n = 267. Chart depicts callers whose gender is known (190 / 267)

Kansas City, Missouri

Kansas City Anti-Violence Project

The Kansas City Anti-Violence Project serves lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender victims of violence including domestic violence, sexual assault, and hate crimes in the Kansas City metro area, eastern Kansas and Western Missouri. KCAVP was started in 2003, with 2007 being the fourth year of data collection in the Kansas City area. KCAVP experienced a 39% increase in total clients for 2007. This increase may be due to the addition of an outreach and education coordinator position. In 2007, KCAVP continued to establish new relationships with service providers and offered technical assistance for other service providers to become friendly to LGBT people. KCAVP collaborated with a local women's domestic violence shelter to house transgender women who have experienced violence.

New York City, New York

The NYC Anti-Violence Project

The New York City Anti-Violence Project (NYC AVP) offers free and confidential services to LGBTQ survivors of violence and people living with HIV/AIDS. Services include crisis counseling through a 24-hour bilingual (English/Spanish) hotline, individual short-term counseling, domestic violence shelter assessment, advocacy, referrals, assistance with filing for New York State Crime Victims Board compensation, and accompaniments to local precincts, medical facilities, and courts.

In 2007, NYC AVP served 362 new survivors of intimate partner violence, a 10% decrease from the number of new survivors served in 2006. The following is a partial demographic breakdown of individuals served:

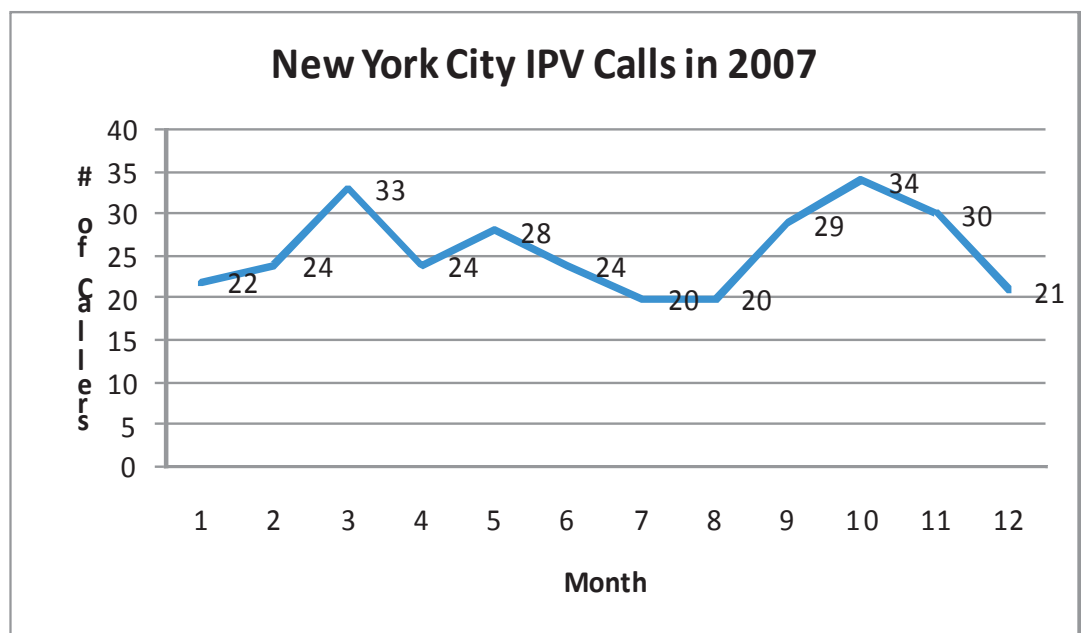
- o Sexual orientation: Lesbian and gay survivors represented 67% of new cases, heterosexual survivors represented 8%, bisexual survivors represented 5%, and questioning survivors represented less than 1%. Nearly 20% of survivors were classified as "unknown," potentially because NYC AVP did not collect data on queer individuals in 2007.

- o Gender identity: 50% of survivors identified as male, 39% as female, 5% as transgender female, and 1% as transgender male. 4% of survivors were classified as "unknown" or did not disclose gender identity. NYC AVP did not collect data on intersex survivors. This data represents a 16% increase in the number of transgender people served since 2006.

- o Race/Ethnicity: People of color made up 58% of survivors served. Latino/a survivors made up the largest segment of people of color at 28%, while 21% of survivors identified as people of African descent, 6% as multi-racial, 2% as Asian/Pacific Islander, and less than 1% as Arab/Middle Eastern. 21% of survivors identified as White, and 21% of survivors were classified as "other" or "unknown."

Historically, many LGBTQ survivors, especially survivors of color, immigrant survivors, and gender non-conforming survivors have feared reporting IPV to the police, given that police may fail to respond, neglect to recognize IPV in LGBTQ relationships, or inappropriately respond to LGBTQ people. These concerns were substantiated by the data collected by NYC AVP. In 2007, the police were called in only 29% of the IPV incidents documented by NYC AVP, and of these incidents, only 40% of the offenders were arrested. 16% of these incidents involved some form of police misconduct, ranging from refusal to take a police report to the use of homophobic or transphobic slurs.

In 2007, New York State was one of a few of states in the U.S. which limited access to civil orders of protection to people related by marriage, by blood, or who had a child in common. Consequently, most LGBTQ survivors of intimate partner violence were only able to obtain orders of protection through criminal court, which required the arrest of an abusive partner. This fact significantly limited legal remedies for LGBTQ IPV survivors who did not want to have their partners arrested, whose partners did not commit an arrestable offense, or survivors who feared engagement with the police. For these reasons, NYC AVP was an active participant in the "New York State Fair Access to Family Court Coalition," a state-wide campaign developed in 2007 to advocate for the expansion of access to civil orders of protection for all survivors of IPV, which successfully won the passage of a new law to provide civil protections to all victims/survivors of IPV.



Buckeye Region Anti-Violence Organization Columbus, Ohio

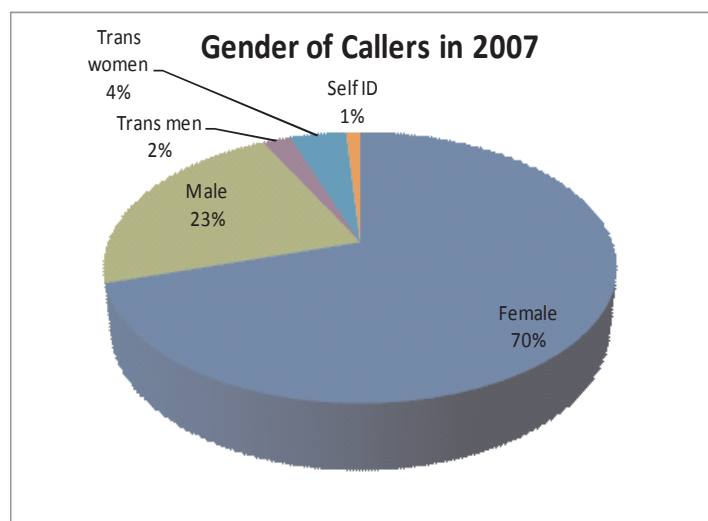
Columbus received 44 reports of domestic violence in 2007, which reflects no real change from the previous year when 43 incidents were reported. As in previous years approximately half of all victims/survivors were female (23) and half were male (21). One female survivor identified as transgender (MtF). There was no significant change in the age or racial makeup of those reporting this year; however that is hard to quantify since data regarding the survivors age and race was captured in only half of the reports. 18% of those reporting stated that the police were called, and half of those police responses resulted in arrest of the perpetrator. There were no claims of a misarrest by any of those reporting. 9% of callers reported sexual abuse by their partners. Approximately 14% reported sexual abuse by their batterer last year (2006).

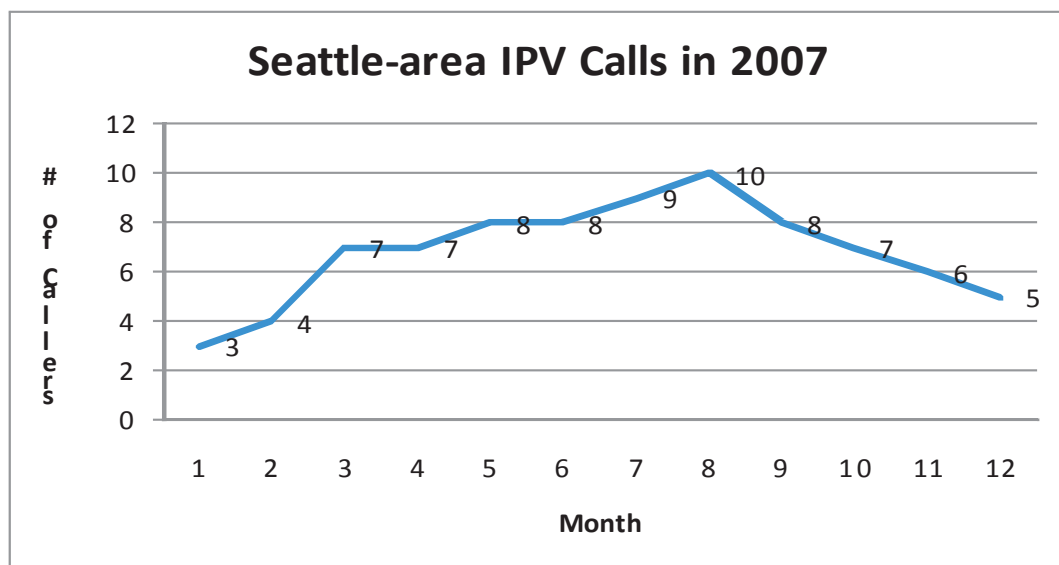
This year saw a resolution of a conflict presented by Ohio's Marriage Amendment Act, which bans same-sex marriages, passed by Ohio voters in 2004, and Ohio's domestic violence law. The Marriage Amendment states as follows, "Only a union between one man and one woman may be a marriage valid in or recognized by this state and its political subdivisions. This state and its political subdivisions shall not create or recognize a legal status for relationships of unmarried individuals that intends to approximate the design, qualities, significance or effect of marriage." (emphasis added.) This second sentence created confusion as to whether unmarried couples, same-sex or opposite-sex, were still covered under the domestic violence laws. Some jurisdictions ruled that the amendment invalidated the domestic violence law for unmarried couples while others held that the law was not inconsistent with the amendment. Some individuals were either unable to obtain civil protection orders or were finding that domestic violence charges were being dropped.

In July 2007, the Supreme Court of Ohio, in a 6-1 decision (State v. Carswell) ruled that the domestic violence law "merely identifies a particular class of persons for the purposes of the domestic-violence statutes. It does not create or recognize a legal relationship that approximates the designs, qualities, or significance of marriage as prohibited by the [Ohio's constitution.]" This ruling reestablishes protections for all victims of domestic violence in Ohio, including those in same-sex relationships. BRAVO has received recent reports alleging that some courts are not affording individuals in same-sex relationships the protections inherent in this ruling. It is not known if this is a misunderstanding of State v Carswell or a continuation of previous discriminatory practices. BRAVO will continue to monitor reports of this nature.

Seattle, Washington The Northwest Network

n = 94





Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Milwaukee LGBT Community Center Anti-Violence Project

A trend that appeared to be more apparent in 2007 was the concurrent link between incidents of domestic violence and sexual assault. This occurred in two separate cases. Clients initially sought advocacy for incidents of sexual assault. Through the process of talking about their current relationships, it was revealed that they were also involved in situations of domestic violence. This was difficult for the individuals to understand, as the occurrences of sexual assault involved perpetrators outside of their intimate relationships. The clients' partners appeared to be supportive, but controlling behaviors added stress and reactions of fear and anger to the processes of dealing with sexual violence. Complicating factors included homelessness, lack of safety in homeless shelters and on the streets, and challenges with mental health.

Cases for the Anti-Violence Project of the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center have only been tracked for the past two years, as the advocacy program was established in November of 2005. A continued trend over the past two years is the difficulty in acquiring safe housing. Experiences of domestic violence have occurred because clients are dependent upon family members or platonic roommates who are not accepting of their sexual orientation and/or gender identities. Attempts to find housing and to leave abusive living situations resulted in dependence within another abusive situation, or discrimination on behalf of landlords and building managers.

Special Insert: Virginia

Equality Virginia Education Fund Anti-Violence Project


During the time period of June 2007 through March 2008, EVEF AVP staff conducted a comprehensive statewide survey of LGBTQ individuals on their experiences of violence. The full study also includes information from LGBTQ and victim service organizations, as well recommendations to improve services and support networks for LGBTQ survivors of violence. The full report can be found at www.equalityvirginia.org. The executive summary of the report can be found on the following pages.

Recommendations

We recognize that in order to have an effective and adequate impact on the lives of LGBTQ survivors of violence a broad-based collaborative effort will be most valuable. To that end we make the following recommendations:

- Increase community education and awareness programs across the Commonwealth to enhance the abilities offriends, family members, and the full-range of professionals and service providers to respond to violence in LGBTQ communities.
- Develop better practice protocols and policies for organizations on responding to violence in LGBTQ communities and/or working with LGBTQ survivors of violence.
- Support community-based anti-violence initiatives with a broad range of diverse concerned stakeholders.
- Fund further research on LGBTQ communities of color, transgender communities, and other underrepresented and understudied communities, and communities with special concerns (e.g. immigrant and limited-English proficiency LGBTQ communities, LGBTQ persons with developmental disabilities and mental health issues, and others).
- Create a climate that supports respectful and equitable relationships across individual, relationship, community,and society levels.
- Work toward a more appropriate and culturally competent criminal justice system response to violence in LGBTQ communities.

The Equality Virginia Education Fund and the Virginia Anti-Violence Project remain dedicated to addressing and ending violence in the lives of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer people across Virginia and will utilize the knowledge gained through our research to help carry out these recommendations. The entire report and our LGBTQ Community Resource and Referral Guide are available at: www.equalityvirginia.org/avp or by calling our office at 804.643.4816.



804.643.4816
www.EqualityVirginia.org
403 N Robinson St
Richmond, VA 23220

This project was supported by the Department of Criminal Justice Services Grant 07-A5313DV07 and 08-B5313DV08 from funds made available through the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Victim Fund. The opinions, findings, conclusions, or recommendations expressed are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of DCJS.

The State of Violence in Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer Communities of Virginia

A Report of the Equality Virginia Education Fund Anti-Violence Project



"It was a friend. The first gay person I ever knew. I really was reaching out for the first time trying to find a mentor. He was older and I wanted to learn what it was like to be gay in my rural community . . but then this happened."
(Gay queer male, 23, Richmond)

"I was attacked and taken behind a house. I was forced to have anal and oral sex unprotectively. I was pistol whipped several times and left behind the house in a pond, in the backyard. I walked across the street to someone's house that had the lights on. I asked to use their phone and they called the police and I was just trying to call a friend. The police took a report, and did research. The police took me home. I spoke to a detective several days later. Nothing (no leads) came about." (Gay, Transgender MTF, 26, Norfolk)

"My partners were never that violent--lover squables. It was the rape by a stranger that I sometimes regret not reporting."
(Gay male, 35, Norfolk/Virginia Beach)

"I wish I had time to tell you about all the incidents. This is sadly 'normal' for too many people I know who are LGBT. What makes it worse is that most of the time, people don't report these incidents because they think no one will care, and thus, no one will care to do anything about it."
(Lesbian female, 39, Harrisonburg)

"I didn't think it was a big deal; it felt normal or not what I thought 'domestic violence' was."
(Bisexual female, 20, Richmond)



created with
nitroPDF professional
download the free trial online at nitropdf.com/professional

Executive Summary

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer (LGBTQ) persons, families, and communities across Virginia have experienced and are experiencing various forms of violence including, but not limited to, sexual violence, intimate partner violence, stalking, hate violence, bullying and harassment. LGBTQ people have limited access to resources that are currently available to heterosexual women and their children through existing networks of sexual and domestic violence agencies. Organizations and social groups that primarily serve LGBTQ people in Virginia do not have the capacity to offer extensive services and support to individuals who are surviving violence at this time. These organizations and groups are often volunteer-based, without professional staff, and are underfunded or unfunded. For these and other reasons, LGBTQ communities in Virginia have historically focused more on addressing hate violence and bullying, yet 81% of respondents to our recent community survey either agree or strongly agree that addressing intimate partner violence should be a priority for the LGBTQ community.

During our ten month study, EVEF’s Anti-Violence Project found that experiences of violence are present across the diverse spectrum of LGBTQ communities. Nearly 1000 LGBTQ- identified people from across the Commonwealth responded to our community survey. Although this data was gathered with targeted sampling methods which recognize the marginalized context in which LGBTQ people live, the information collected in this survey demonstrates that there are a sizeable number of LGBTQ Virginians who experience violence and are under-served by existing domestic violence and sexual assault services. Researchers commonly use a variety of non-random sampling methodologies when studying small and marginalized populations. This study uses one of those alternate methodologies, targeted sampling, in order to maximize the number of respondents and it is the largest attempt at collecting this type of information in Virginia to date.

Over one third of respondents (36%) experienced sexual violence as a child or young person and over one quarter of respondents (26%) experienced sexual violence as an adult. Forty-one percent (41%) of respondents had been in an abusive relationship at some time in their life and almost one third of respondents (30%) had been stalked. Half of respondents (50%) experienced hate violence or harassment based on their actual or perceived sexual orientation and 10% of respondents said they experienced hate violence or harassment based on their gender identity/expression.



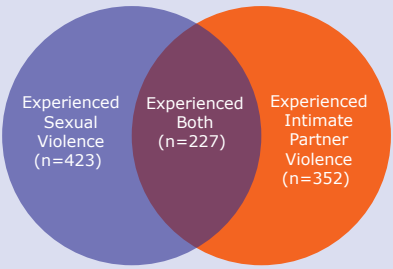
"During a beating, I had to call 911 and have the police come and save my life. When the cops arrived they laughed at me. I was bloody, bruised, crying, and my clothes had been cut and ripped...It was by far the worst and most humiliating experience of my life. I will never trust the police again."

(Gay male, 25, Richmond)

"I didn't realize it was that abusive. I knew it made my life hell but I didn't think of it as abuse until I was out of it and saw it clearly for what it was."

(Lesbian Queer female, 28, Roanoke)

Respondents with Overlapping Experience of Violence



In addition to our community survey, we interviewed representatives from 59 sexual assault crisis centers and domestic violence programs and 27 LGBTQ service organizations and community groups. We found that there is a tremendous lack of consistent resources available to LGBTQ individuals who experience violence in Virginia. Fewer than five of the 59 sexual and/or domestic violence agencies had knowingly served any LGBTQ people in the twelve months preceding the interview. There are no consistent policies for providing services to LGBTQ communities, especially transgender people. Leaders in only five of the 27 LGBTQ organizations had received any training on sexual violence and intimate partner violence and only a third of all the LGBTQ organizations had sexual violence and intimate partner violence materials available for community members to utilize. Nearly everyone interviewed requested educational materials and training opportunities on addressing violence in LGBTQ communities and expressed interest in participating in a statewide effort to improve and increase services to LGBTQ survivors of violence.

The purpose of our research was to assess the current (and anticipated) need of LGBTQ people that have experienced or are experiencing violence in the Commonwealth of Virginia. The narratives as well as the quantitative data received from participants mirror that of other studies around the country. Although the majority of our respondents were not satisfied with conventional methods of victim services, they found support in friends, therapists, and family members. This mirrors similar trends in support seeking behaviors found in heterosexual women who experience violence, particularly in communities of color and other oppressed groups.

Respondents with Experience with Intimate Partner Violence



"I had a friend who hanged himself - suicide isn't murder, but the day to day harassments he went through as a young gay man were his primary motivators."

(Lesbian Female, 43, ...)

Tactics used against transgender victims

- Using pronouns not preferred by you or calling you “it”
- Calling you pejorative names
- Ridiculing how your body looks
- Telling you you are not a real man/woman
- Telling you that nobody would believe you because you’re transgender
- Ridiculing or belittling your identity as a bisexual, trans, femme, butch, genderqueer....
- Claiming they are more “politically correct” and using their status as an L, G, B, and/or T person against you
- Claiming they know what’s best for you, how you should dress or wear makeup (or not), etc.
- Denying access to medical treatment or hormones or coercing you to not pursue medical treatment
- Hiding or throwing away hormones, binders, clothes, etc.
- Eroticizing/fetishizing your body against your will
- Touching body parts you don’t want touched, or calling them by terms they know you find offensive
- Telling you they thought you liked “rough sex” or “this is how *real*/men/women like sex”
- Telling you that nobody will ever love you
- Telling you you don’t deserve better and/or would never find a better partner
- Threatening to “out” you to your employer, friends, or family members
- Negating your personal decisions
- Threatening to take the children or turn them against you
- Forbidding you to talk to others about transgender topics

Tactics used by transgender abusers

- Claiming they are just being “butch” or that “it’s the hormones” (to explain their violent behavior)
- Ridiculing or belittling your identity as a bisexual, trans, femme, butch, genderqueer....
- Claiming that your identity “undermines” or is “disrespectful” of theirs
- Charging you with “not being supportive” if you ask to discuss questions of transitioning timing and/or expense
- Denying that you are affected by the transition or by being partnered with a trans person
- Accusing you of not allowing him to have a “proper adolescence”
- Forbidding you to talk to others about transgender topics
- Telling you you would harm the LGB and/or T community if you exposed what was happening
- Negating your personal decisions
- Claiming they are more “politically correct” and using their status as an L, G, B, and/or T person against you

Identity Labels used by Some Transgender Individuals

Here are just a few words that transgender people may use to define themselves:

acaunt	female-assigned	intergender	other	transfag
admirer	female-bodied	intersex	other-gendered	transfagdrag
agender	feminine	khal	pangender	transfaghag
ally	feminist	lady	pansexual	transfeminine
ambigender	femme	MTF	pansy	transgender
ambiguous	fluid	MTFTM	person	transgenderist
androgyne	fourth gender	MTM	plumber femme	transgirl
androgynous	freak	MTX	polysexual	transguy
anomalous	galla	mahu	post-op	transhag
asexual	gender bender	male	pre-op	transman
bent	gender defender	male-assigned	prettyboy	transmasculine
berdache	gender gifted	male-bodied	queen	transperson
bigender	gender	man	queer	transsensual
bioboy	normative	man-chick	questioning	transsexual
biogirl	gender outlaw	masculine	salmacian	transvestite
boi	gender refusenik	me	scrat	transwoman
both	gender	merm	sekrata	trisexual
boy	transcender	mesbian	self-defined	twin-spirit
boychick	gender variant	metamorph	sererr	two-spirit
boydyke	genderbent	mixed-gendered	shaman	undecided
brother	gendered	mohabbazin	shapeshifter	undeclared
bull dyke	genderfuck	monogender	shemale	undefined
burl	genderqueer	mukhannathun	single-gender	unspecified
butch	genderstraight	multigender	sir	walyeh
butchdyke	gink	mutarajjulal	sissy	woman
crossdresser	girl	nadle	sister	womyn
diesel dyke	girlfag	neither	soft butch	XO
drag hag	goy	neuter neutral	static gendered	XTF
drag king	grrl	neutrois	stone butch	XTM
drag prince	gurl	new man	stone femme	Xanith
drag princess	guy	new woman	switch third	
drag queen	guydyke	ninauposkitzipsp	gender	
dyke	gynandroid	e	tomboy	
effeminate	gyrl	no-gender	tomgirl	
either	herm	no-op	tranny	
enaree	hermaphrodite	none of the	trannyboy	
epicene	hermaphrodyke	above	trannychaser	
FTM	heterosexual	none of your	trannygirl	
FTX	hijra	business	trans	
faerie	homoemotional	nongender	transboy	
fairy	homovestite	omnigender	transdyke	
female	human	omnisexual	transexual	

Domestic Violence Civil Protection Orders (CPOs) By State

Created by the ABA 8/2007

Updated and abbreviated by NYC AVP 8/2008. The law is always changing. Please independently confirm the data you find here.

Duration of Order	Who qualifies for an order? (Petitioner)	Definition of Abuser (Respondent)	CPO against same sex partner?	CPO against teen/adult dating partner?	Child Custody?
Alabama DURATION: One year.	Victim of DV who has eligible relationship with abuser; a minor or physically/ mentally incapacitated person.	Spouse, former spouse, common law spouse, parent, child, father of child, current/former household member.	Yes, but depends on judge	No/No	Yes
Alaska DURATION: One year.	Household member of abuser; parent/ guardian can request CPO on behalf of child under 18 (abuser must have committed a crime of DV against child; must be household relationship bt child and abuser).	Adults or minors who are current or former spouses, currently or formerly lived together, currently or formerly dated, had or have sexual relationship, related, have a child together.	Yes	Yes/Yes	Yes
Arizona DURATION: 90 days - 2 years.	Minor can obtain CPO if lives in the same household as abuser and related to abuser by blood to a former spouse of abuser (ex-stepdad) or related to the person who lives (ed) with abuser (your mother's live-in boyfriend).	Blood relative, spouse or former spouse, current in laws (not former), lived or formerly lived in the same household, have a child with abuser, related to abuser or abuser's spouse by court order.	Yes, but only if victim lives/lived w/ partner	No	No/No
Arkansas DURATION: 90 days - 2 years.	Victim of DV who has eligible relationship with abuser; minor can get CPO filed by adult household member, DV shelter worker or organization (minor can get CPO if they are residing in household where DV occurred, doesn't have to be a direct victim).	Spouse or former spouse, parent/child, any blood related person, any child in household, person you have a child with, person you live(d) with, person you dated.	Unclear	Unclear/ Yes, but relationship must be romantic not casual	Yes
California DURATION: Can last up to 5 years, can renew or permanent	Victim of DV and her children under 18 that live with her; minors age 12 or older can file for CPO alone.	Spouse or former spouse, lived together or formerly lived together (as more than roommates), dated or formerly dated, mother/father of your child, related by blood, marriage or adoption.	Yes	Yes/Yes	Yes

Domestic Violence Civil Protection Orders (CPOs) By State

Created by the ABA 8/2007

Updated and abbreviated by NYC AVP 8/2008. The law is always changing. Please independently confirm the data you find here.

Colorado DURATION: Can be permanent or shorter.	Victim of DV; parent can file on behalf of minor child.	Relative or former relative by blood or marriage, lives or lived) with you, intimate relationship, father/mother of child, current or former partner, current or former housemate.	Yes, but up to the judge one has	Yes, with whom the actor is or has been in relationship	Yes, but only lasts 120 days or less
Connecticut DURATION: Six months, can be extended by motion of applicant .	Anyone who has been subjected to a continuous threat of present physical pain or physical injury by another family/household member or a current or former dating partner.	Spouse or former spouse, parent of your child, your parent, your child, relative by blood or marriage (over age 16), lived together or used to, date(d), household member, live-in caretaker for someone >60.	Yes, permissible under legal definition, but ultimately up to judge	Yes, if 16 years or older and live(d) together; for under 16, unclear	Yes
Delaware DURATION: Can last up to one year; can be extended for six extra months after hearing.	Victim of domestic violence that falls into one of the required relationships.	Spouse, former spouse, persons cohabitating together who are holding themselves out as a couple, with or without a child in common, persons living separate and apart with a child in common, persons in a current or former dating relationship, relatives that live together, certain family members.	Yes	Not explicitly stated, but yes by legislative intent/Yes	Yes
DC DURATION: Up to one year, but upon motion court can extend, rescind or modify.	Victim of DV that falls into one of the required relationships (petitioner must live in DC or at least one incident must have happened in DC).	Person who is related by blood, adoption or marriage; you have a child in common; share(d) same home; have or had dating relationship (No need for a sexual relationship.)	Statute is silent	Statute is silent/Yes	Yes

Domestic Violence Civil Protection Orders (CPOs) By State

Created by the ABA 8/2007

Updated and abbreviated by NYC AVP 8/2008. The law is always changing. Please independently confirm the data you find here.

Florida DURATION: Judge decides duration; if has no expiration date, it stays valid until judge modifies or dissolves.	Victim of domestic violence or person who believes is in imminent danger of becoming a DV victim and fulfills relationship requirement.	Spouse, former spouse, person related to you by blood or marriage, person who live(d) with you as if they were part of the family, mother/father of your child.	Statute is silent	Statute is silent/ Yes, a separate petition for injunction against dating violence	Yes
Georgia DURATION: One year; after hearing, upon motion of petitioner, court can grant a three year or permanent .	Victim of family violence, or victim's child under 18 (minor can have CPO filed on her behalf by someone over age 18).	Spouse, former spouse, parent/step parent or foster parent, child/step child/foster child, anyone you live with or formerly lived with (for example, boyfriend, boyfriend of a family member, roommate), mother or father of your child (a CPO can be filed against a minor).	Statute is silent	No/No	Yes
Hawaii DURATION: A fixed reasonable period as court deems approp.	Victims of domestic abuse (victim can get CPO for her minor child).	Spouse or former spouse, couple who is ineligible to marry but signs official declaration of intent to enter into a relationship, someone you live with or formerly lived with, relative, someone with whom you have a child, current or former dating	Yes	Unclear/ Yes, need not be sexual but e more than casual	Yes
Idaho DURATION: Three months, but judges can extend to 1 year periods.	Victim of DV by household member, family, or dating; minor child of DV victim relationship, current or former dating	Spouse, former spouse, person related to by blood, adoption or marriage, person who resides(ed) with victim, father/mother of victim's child.	Statue is silent, but in legislative history states law intent for opposite sex couples	Yes/Yes	Yes

Domestic Violence Civil Protection Orders (CPOs) By State

Created by the ABA 8/2007

Updated and abbreviated by NYC AVP 8/2008. The law is always changing. Please independently confirm the data you find here.

Illinois DURATION: Two years and can be renewed.	Person who has been abused by a family or household member or by any person on behalf of a minor or an adult who has been abused by a family or household member but who cannot file the petition or by any person on behalf of a high risk adult with disabilities who has been abused or exploited by a family or household member.	Former or current spouse, parents, step children and persons related, persons currently or formerly sharing a dwelling, persons who have or allegedly have a child together, persons who share or allegedly share a blood relationship through a child, persons who have or are dating, persons with disabilities and their personal and their caregivers.	Yes	Yes, by implication / Yes	Yes
Indiana DURATION: Two years and can be extended.	Victim of abuse, parent, guardian or another representative on behalf of a child.	Former or current spouse, current of former person residing in an intimate relationship, persons with a child together, relatives by blood or adoption, persons who have dated or are dating and/or in a sexual relationship, present or former relative by marriage, guardian, custodian, foster	Unclear	Yes/Yes	Yes
Iowa DURATION: One year.	Victim of abuse, parent or guardian on behalf of minor.	Spouses current or former, persons who are or did cohabitate, persons related by blood or marriage but not children under 18 years, persons who have a child together, persons who have been family or household members within the past year and are not residing together at the time of the assault, persons who are or have been in a relationship within the past year of the assault.	Unclear	No/ Yes, must be or have been relationship and have had contact within the past year of the assault	Yes
Kansas DURATION: Up to one year. Can be extended	Victim of abuse, parent or adult residing with a minor on behalf of the minor.	Persons who are or have been in a dating relationship, persons who reside together or formerly resided together, or person who have a child in common.	Yes, if live or used to live together	Yes/Yes	Yes

Domestic Violence Civil Protection Orders (CPOs) By State

Created by the ABA 8/2007

Updated and abbreviated by NYC AVP 8/2008. The law is always changing. Please independently confirm the data you find here.

Kentucky DURATION: Three years.	Victim of abuse, children of an unmarried couple.	Former or current spouse, parent, child, step child or any person related to the other by blood or marriage in the second degree, person with a child in common, persons currently or formerly living together.	Yes, but judges do not always rule consistently	No/No	Yes
Louisiana DURATION: Eighteen months.	Victim of abuse, parent or adult on behalf of a child or person who is incompetent, District Attorney on behalf of a minor child or incompetent adult.	Former or current spouses, step/foster/parents, step/foster/children. People of the opposite sex presently or formerly living together as spouses whether married or not, current or former dating	Yes	Yes/Yes	Yes
Maine DURATION: Two years.	Victim of abuse, person responsible for a minor on behalf of the minor, representative of the department.	Current or former spouse, individuals who are living or have lived together, natural parents of the same child, adults members related by blood or marriage, adult household member against minor child of a household member, individuals who are or were sexual partners.	Yes, if living or lived together or if current or former sexual partners	Yes and Yes if are or were sexual partners	Yes
Maryland DURATION: One year unless otherwise stated.	Victim of abuse, State Attorney for the County where a minor or a vulnerable adult victim lives on their behalf, department of social welfare on behalf of a minor or vulnerable adult, person related by blood, marriage or adoption to minor or vulnerable witness and an adult residing in the same home as minor or vulnerable adult.	Current or former spouse, cohabitant, persons related by blood, marriage or adoption, parent, stepparent, child, stepchild, persons who have or are residing with each other for a period of at least 90 days before filing of petition, persons residing or resided together in the same home for a period of at least 90 days within the year before the filing of the petition and have/had a sexual relationship.	Yes, if had a sexual rel. and lived together for at least 90 days within a year before filing.	No/ No (a peace order is available dating – it doesn't provide as much protection)	Yes

Domestic Violence Civil Protection Orders (CPOs) By State

Created by the ABA 8/2007

Updated and abbreviated by NYC AVP 8/2008. The law is always changing. Please independently confirm the data you find here.

Massachusetts DURATION: One year. Can be extended if needed to protect the plaintiff or to get perm. Order.	Victim of abuse by a minor or adult family or household member.	Former or current spouses, person residing together, persons who were or are related by blood or marriage, person having a child in common, persons adjudged by probate or Boston municipal court to be or have been in a substantial dating or engagement relationship.	Yes, if living or have lived together	Yes/Yes, if adjudged to be or have been dating/Yes (same condition)	Yes, temporarily
Michigan DURATION: Not less than 182 days.	Victim of abuse, parent on behalf of a minor if both are experiencing abuse. MICH. COMP. LAWS	Former or current spouse, person with whom the victim has a child in common, former or current dating partner, former or current housemates.	Yes, if residing or resided in the same household	Yes, current or former dating partner/ Yes, same	No
Minnesota DURATION: One year (however, the court may extend beyond one year).	Any family or household member personally, family or household member, a guardian a reputable adult aged 25 or older on behalf of a minor. A minor aged 16 and above against a former or current spouse, or a person with whom the minor has a child in common if the court determines that the minor has sufficient maturity and judgment and that it is in the minor's best interest	Any one of the following; current or former spouse, parents, children, person related by blood, persons currently or formerly residing together, persons who have a child together, a man and a women if the women is pregnant and the man is alleged to be the father regardless of whether or not they have been married or have lived together, persons in involved in a significant romantic or sexual relationship.	Yes,	Yes/ Yes, if persons are involved in a significant romantic or sexual relationship --casual dating not eligible.	Yes, temporary order
Mississippi DURATION: Three years.	A victim of abuse, a parent, adult household member, next friend of abused person on behalf of a minor child or any person alleged to be incompetent.	Any one of the following: current or former spouse, persons living as spouses, parent and children, persons related by blood or marriage and adoption, current or dating partner.	Yes, against current or former same sex partner but its up to individ. judge	Yes, should be current dating partner/ Yes, same	Yes

Domestic Violence Civil Protection Orders (CPOs) By State

Created by the ABA 8/2007

Updated and abbreviated by NYC AVP 8/2008. The law is always changing. Please independently confirm the data you find here.

Missouri	Any adult victim who has been abused by another adult current or former family or household member, any adult victim of stalking by another adult.	Any one of the following persons: current or former spouses, adults related by blood or marriage, adults presently residing together or have resided together in the past, adults in a continuing social relationship of a romantic nature with the victim, adults who have a child together	Yes, by implication	No/Yes	Yes
Montana DURATION: For a specific period or permanently.	Victim of stalking, incest, sexual assault, sexual intercourse without consent regardless of the individuals relationship to the offender, partner or family member of a victim of homicide or deliberate mitigated homicide: victim, parent, guardian, or other representative on behalf of a minor.	Any one of the following persons: parents, children, brothers, sisters, past and present family members related by adoption, marriage, step children, stepparents, in-laws, adoptive parents and children regardless of age and whether or not they live together, persons who have a child in common, persons who have been or are dating person of the opposite sex.	No	Yes/Yes	Yes
Nebraska DURATION: One year.	Victim of domestic violence.	Any one of the following persons; current or former spouse, children, persons current or formerly residing together, persons who have a child together, persons related by blood or marriage, persons who are or have dated.	Yes	Yes/Yes	Yes, up to 90 days
Nevada DURATION: One year.	Victim of abuse, parent or guardian on behalf of a child or an elderly person or anyone who is unable to file because of disability or hospitalization.	Former or current spouse, persons related by blood or marriage, persons formerly or currently residing together, persons currently or formerly dating, persons who have a child in common, child.	Yes, if currently or formerly resided together	Yes/Yes	Yes
New Hampshire	Victim of abuse, a minor on his/her own.	Current or former spouse, current or former co-habitants, parents, other persons related by blood or affinity, intimate partners whether current or former and despite relationship never being sexually consummated.	Yes	Yes/Yes	Yes

Domestic Violence Civil Protection Orders (CPOs) By State

Created by the ABA 8/2007

Updated and abbreviated by NYC AVP 8/2008. The law is always changing. Please independently confirm the data you find here.

New Jersey DURATION: Indefinite unless a judge puts a time limit to it. N.J.	Victim of domestic violence, teenagers if the abuser is at least 18 years old.	Current or former spouse, current or former household member(in both instances victim should be above 18 or an emancipated minor), person with a child with the other party or anticipate having a child if one of the parties is pregnant (regardless of age), person in a dating relationship with another regardless of age.	Yes	Yes/Yes	Yes
New Mexico DURATION: Up to six months if it involves custody or support.	Victim of abuse.	Current or former spouse, family member including a relative, parent, current or former stepparent, current or former in-law, child or persons who have a child together regardless of whether they have been married or have lived together at any time, persons who have had a continuing relationship. Co-habitation is not necessary to be deemed a household member.	Yes	Yes, person with whom the petitioner has a personal relationship lives together/ Yes	Yes, temporary
New York DURATION: Up to five years but usually granted for up to 1-2 years.	Any person related to the alleged abuser by blood or marriage (current or former spouse), or who has a child in common with the alleged abuser, a duly authorized agency, association, society or institution on behalf of the victim, a peace officer or a police officer on behalf of the victim.	A person related to the victim by blood or affinity, current or former spouse, person who has a child with the victim regardless whether they have been married or lived together at any time, persons who are dating, regardless of age.	Yes, as of July 2008	Yes, as of July 2008	Yes

Domestic Violence Civil Protection Orders (CPOs) By State

Created by the ABA 8/2007

Updated and abbreviated by NYC AVP 8/2008. The law is always changing. Please independently confirm the data you find here.

North Carolina DURATION: Two years.	Victim of abuse, parents can file for their children aged below 18 years if they reside together or if they have the child in their custody.	Any one of the following: current or former spouse, persons of the opposite sex who have or are living together, parents and children, grandparents and grandchildren over the age of 16, persons who have a child together, current or former household member, opposite sex person who are or have dated.	Yes, if current or former household member but judges do not always rule consistently	Age not specified but by implication teens covered/ Yes	Yes, temp.
North Dakota DURATION: Up to the Judge.	Any family or household member or by any other person if the court determines that the relationship between that person and the alleged abuser is sufficient to warrant the issuance of a domestic violence protection order.	Current or former spouse, family member, parent, child, persons related by blood or marriage, persons dating, persons who are or have resided together, persons who have a child in common, any other person with a sufficient relationship to the abuser as determined by the court.	Yes	Yes, but not specified/ Yes	Yes, temporary
Ohio DURATION: Five years.	Victim of abuse, a parent or adult household member on behalf of any other family or household member.	Any of the following who are or have resided together; former or current spouse, parent or step parent, child or step child, persons related by blood or marriage; persons who have resided together for the last five years, persons with a child together even if they never lived together.	Yes	No/No	Yes, temporary

Domestic Violence Civil Protection Orders (CPOs) By State

Created by the ABA 8/2007

Updated and abbreviated by NYC AVP 8/2008. The law is always changing. Please independently confirm the data you find here.

Oklahoma DURATION: Three years unless extended, modified, vacated or rescinded by the court.	Victim of domestic abuse, an adult or emancipated minor household member on behalf of any other family or household member who is a minor or incompetent. A minor aged 16 or 17 can file for a protection order themselves.	Former or current spouse, current spouses of ex spouses, parents, grandparents, step parents, adoptive parents and foster parents, children including grandchildren, stepchildren, adopted children and foster children, persons otherwise related by blood or marriage, persons living or who lived together, persons with a child together. Also includes the elderly and handicapped, current or former dating partners.	Yes, if currently living or have lived together. However not all judges rule the same	Yes, if aged 13 and above/ Yes	No
Oregon DURATION: One year.	Victim of domestic abuse within the last 180 days. If victim is a minor, the abuser should be over 18 and is a current or former spouse or someone with whom the victim has been in a sexually intimate relationship.	Current or former spouse, adult related by blood , marriage or adoption to the abuser, current or former cohabitant, persons in an intimate sexual relationship within the past two years preceding date of application for a CPO, persons who have a child together but are not married to each other.	The law does not require that you and the abuser be members of the opposite sex.	Unclear/ but only against a person with whom you have been in a sexual relationship within the last two years	Yes, temporarily
Pennsylvania DURATION: Three years.	An adult or emancipated minor who is a victim of abuse. A parent, adult household member or guardian ad litem on behalf of a minor child.	Current or former spouse, persons who are living or have lived together as spouses, parents and children, family member related by blood or marriage, current or former sexual or intimate partner, persons who have a child together.	Not clear but perhaps if current or former intimate or sexual partner	No/ Yes, but only for current or former sexual or intimate partners	Yes, temp.

Domestic Violence Civil Protection Orders (CPOs) By State

Created by the ABA 8/2007

Updated and abbreviated by NYC AVP 8/2008. The law is always changing. Please independently confirm the data you find here.

Rhode Island DURATION: Three years.	Victim of domestic violence, teen victim of dating violence in the Family Court if accompanied by parent/legal guardian.	Any one of these persons: current or former spouse, parent or step parent, minor children, step children, persons related by blood or marriage, step children and step parents, persons who have a child together even if never married to each other, dating partners within the past 12 months if other party is a minor, current or former cohabitants within the last three years, dating partners within the last one year.	Yes, if have lived together within the past three years but Judge has discretion	Yes, if dated within the last 12 months, accompanied to court by parent/Yes	Yes
South Carolina DURATION: Not less than six months and not more than one year.	Any household member in need of protection or household member on behalf of a minor child.	Spouse or former spouse, person who has a child with the other party, male and female who are or have cohabited previously.	No	No/No	Yes, temporary
South Dakota DURATION: The court fixes period which may not exceed three years. S.D.	Victim of abuse against any family or household member.	Former or current spouse, persons related by blood, adoption or law, persons who live or have lived together in the same household, persons who have a child together regardless of whether married to each other or not.	Possible if living or lived together but judges do not always rule consistently	No/No	Yes, temporary

Domestic Violence Civil Protection Orders (CPOs) By State

Created by the ABA 8/2007

Updated and abbreviated by NYC AVP 8/2008. The law is always changing. Please independently confirm the data you find here.

Tennessee DURATION: One year.	Any victim of domestic abuse at the hands of an adult.	Current or former adult or minor spouses, adults or minors who live or have lived together, adult or minors who are or have dated, adults or minors related by blood or adoption, adult or minors who are or were related by marriage, adult or minor children in a relationship described by any of the above mentioned.	Yes, if living or have lived together	Yes/Yes	Yes, temporary
Vermont Duration: Court fixes the time period.	Any family or household member who is a victim of abuse by another family or household member. Can apply on his/her own behalf or on behalf of his/her children provided they are victims of abuse by a family or household member.	Any one of the following persons: persons who have or are currently living together, are sharing or have shared occupancy of a dwelling, are or have been involved in a sexual relationship, minors or adults who are dating or have dated.	Yes, if they have lived together or dated. Judges not always consistent	Yes/Yes	Yes
Virginia DURATION: 2 years.	Victim of abuse.	Spouse whether or not they live together, former spouse, parents, stepparents, children, stepchildren, brothers, sisters, half-brothers, half-sisters, grandparents/children; mother-in-law, father-in-law, residing at the same house, person who has a child with another whether or not they have been married or resided together at any time; current cohabitants or who have cohabited within the last 12 months and any children of either cohabitant then residing house with the abuser.	Not clear. An AGs' opinion stated that gays cannot 'cohabitate' Majority of judges do not allow same sex CPO	No/No	Yes

Domestic Violence Civil Protection Orders (CPOs) By State

Created by the ABA 8/2007

Updated and abbreviated by NYC AVP 8/2008. The law is always changing. Please independently confirm the data you find here.

Washington DURATION: If order includes provision keeping abuser from children, it will last for one year otherwise order may be for a fixed period or permanent.	Victim of domestic violence on his/her behalf or on behalf of a minor family or household member, victim under 18 years but over 16.	Definition of Abuser (Respondent): Spouse or former spouse, persons who have a child together, adults related by blood or marriage, adult persons formerly residing or currently residing together, current or former dating partners aged 16 years or older who reside or have resided together in the past, persons who both are 16 years or older and are or have dated each other, persons with a biological or legal parent-child relationship including stepparents and stepchildren, grandparents and grandchildren.	Yes, by implication	Yes, if both 16 years or older/Yes	Yes, temporary
West Virginia DURATION: 90 or 180 days at the discretion of the court.	Victim of abuse, an adult family or household member for the protection of the victim or on behalf of a minor child or a physically or mentally incapacitated family or household member; a person who reports or witnesses the domestic violence and has been abused, threatened, harassed or intimidated as a result.	Former or current spouses, intimate partners, dating partners; persons who live together or used to live together; persons having a child together; parent, stepparent, sibling, half-sibling, step-sibling, father in law or mother in law, stepfather in law or step mother in law, child or stepchild, daughter in law or son in law, step daughter in law or step son in law, grandparent, step grandparent, step aunts/uncles, first or second cousin.	Yes, but not all Judges rule the same	Yes/Yes	Yes

Domestic Violence Civil Protection Orders (CPOs) By State

Created by the ABA 8/2007

Updated and abbreviated by NYC AVP 8/2008. The law is always changing. Please independently confirm the data you find here.

Wisconsin DURATION: Four years.	An adult Victim, child Victim or a parent, stepparent or legal guardian of the child.	Spouse, parent, child or person related by blood or adoption to another, adult caregiver, former spouse, dating partner past or current on the other, person who has a child with the victim.	Not specific. Can qualify under household member	No/Yes	No
Wyoming DURATION: One year.	A victim of domestic violence.	Any one of these persons: persons married to each other, persons living together as if married, persons formerly married to each other, persons formerly living with each other as if married. Parents and their adult children, adults sharing common living quarters, persons who have a child together but not living with each other and persons who are in or have had a dating relationship.	Not specific. Can qualify as adults living in same household.	Yes/Yes	Yes