

The gendered nature of domestic violence – facts and figures

Gender of victim and perpetrator

- Four times as many women as men are killed by a current or former partner (ONS, 2001-2013)
- In 2013-14, 93% of defendants in domestic violence court cases were male and 84% of victims were female (CPS Violence Against Women and Girls Crime Report, 2014)
- In 2009-10, women were the victims of 73% of domestic violence incidents. In 81% of incidents, the offender was male (Home Office, 2011)
- 89% of all those who had experienced 4 or more incidents of domestic violence were women (Domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking: Findings from the British Crime Survey, Sylvia Walby and Jonathan Allen, 2004)

Dynamics of domestic violence

- The intensity and severity of violence used by men is more extreme, men being more likely to use physical violence, threats, and harassment (Hester, M. Who Does What to Whom? Gender and Domestic Violence Perpetrators, 2009)
- Although 1 in 6 men report experiencing violence from a female partner or ex-partner each year, women are:
 - 4 times as likely to experience the most serious and potentially lethal violence, such as threats, assault with a gun or knife, choking and sexual assault
 - 3 times more likely to report suffering a physical injury
 - Twice as likely to report chronic on going assaults, defined as more than 10 separate incidents
 - 5 times as likely to report that they feared for their lives(Jaffe, P.G, Lemon N.K.D, Poisson, S.E, 2003)
- In a significant majority of cases where a man reports abuse, he has also perpetrated violence towards his partner (Final report of the ad-hoc Federal-Provincial-Territorial Working Group reviewing spousal abuse policies and legislation. Canada, 2003)
- Men are less likely to have been repeat victims of domestic assault, less likely to be seriously injured and less likely to report feeling fearful in their own homes (Scottish Executive Central Research Unit, 2002).