

I6 DAYS of ACTIVISM against GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

NOV

25

to

DEC

10

November is the month when women's anti-violence advocates engage in campaigns like the I6 Days of Activism (Nov. 25 - Dec. 10) to end gender-based violence

November 25th is the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women; December 6th commemorates the 14 women killed in 1989 in the Montreal Massacre at L'Ecole Polytechnique, and all the other women, including missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls, who have been taken by femicide to date. It is a long list that haunts every women's advocate.

This year, the NOWC and many other feminist groups across the province will focus on promoting the 86 jury recommendations from the recent Renfrew inquest into the murders of Carol Culleton, Anastasia Kuzyk, and Nathalie Warmerdam. We will bring some of them forward during the 16 Days of Activism because they directly reflect the work we have been doing for many years and speak to the reality of women who face the risk of gender-based violence (GBV), intimate partner violence (IPV) or femicide.

Why this advocacy matters



From the Culleton, Kuzyk & Warmerdam (CKW) Inquest advocacy toolkit (Luke's Place, October 2022):

Inquest jury recommendations are non-binding, which means the government and other entities to which recommendations are directed have no legal obligation to implement them. To date (October 2022), the provincial government has not responded to the inquest recommendations in any way. While, of course, there may be work going on behind the scenes, the history of femicide inquests in Canada has taught us that governments do not move quickly to provide a meaningful response. Since 2015, the year of the Renfrew County triple homicide, at least 273 women have been killed in acts of femicide.

As the reports of the DVDRC tell us again and again, the vast majority of domestic homicides are both predictable and preventable. Implementation of the 86 recommendations produced by the jury in this most recent inquest would move us well along the right path to significantly reducing the number of women and children killed in this province. We need to provide the leadership to ensure that these recommendations, which have the potential to save many lives, will be implemented.



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Recommendation #1

Formally declare intimate partner violence as an epidemic.



Why it matters

Because contrary to what patriarchy, misogyny, and colonialism would like us to believe, the lives of women and girls matter!

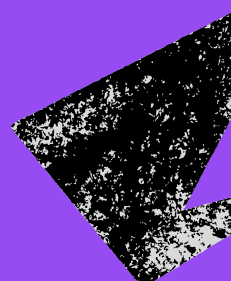
Key Takeaways from the Roadmap for the National Action Plan on Violence Against Women and Gender-Based Violence:

6.3 million women and girls in Canada will experience sexual violence or intimate partner violence in their lifetime

Every 2.5 days a woman or girl is killed in Canada

Indigenous women are 6x more likely to be killed than non-Indigenous women

At the NOWC, we want the safety, dignity and autonomy (AKA EQUALITY) of women and children **AT THE CENTRE** of this response, not a secondary consideration tucked behind a “public safety” or “victims rights” mandate.



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Recommendation #4

Create the role of a Survivor Advocate to advocate on behalf of survivors regarding their experience in the justice system.

Why it matters

To ensure that women who are experiencing GBV/IPV, and their children, have access to ongoing and appropriate support and referrals.

To coordinate with service providers to enhance the effectiveness of the existing GBV/IPV response and ensure that critical information is shared with survivors.

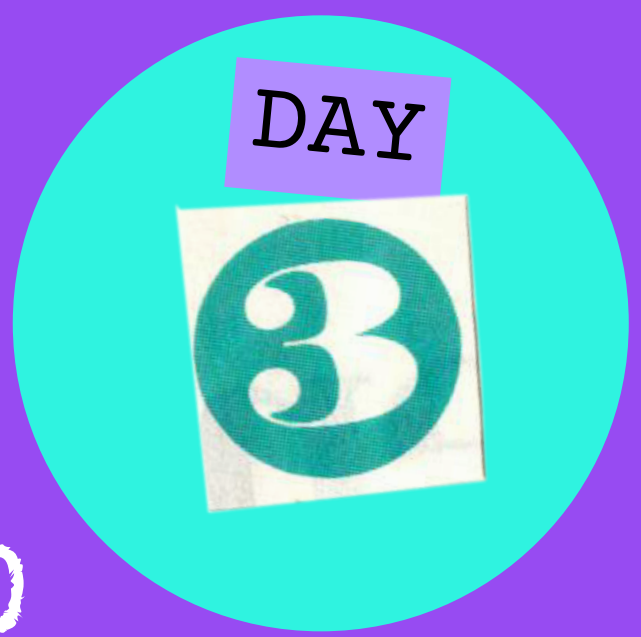
At the NOWC, we have already implemented an advocacy-based response to GBV/IPV. We offer women court support, access to justice through rights and public legal education, and safe spaces to meet with service providers and legal actors. We have also developed a High Risk GBV Navigation protocol with other sectors.

Our GBV Navigation Advocate is a survivor advocate, who works with women survivors to assist with navigation of complicated legal systems, timely communication with all systemic players and, therefore, safety.

Learn more about our GBV Navigation Advocacy:
navigator@nwowc.org



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Recommendation #8

Require that all justice system participants who work with IPV survivors and perpetrators are trained and engage in a trauma-informed approach to interacting and dealing with survivors and perpetrators.



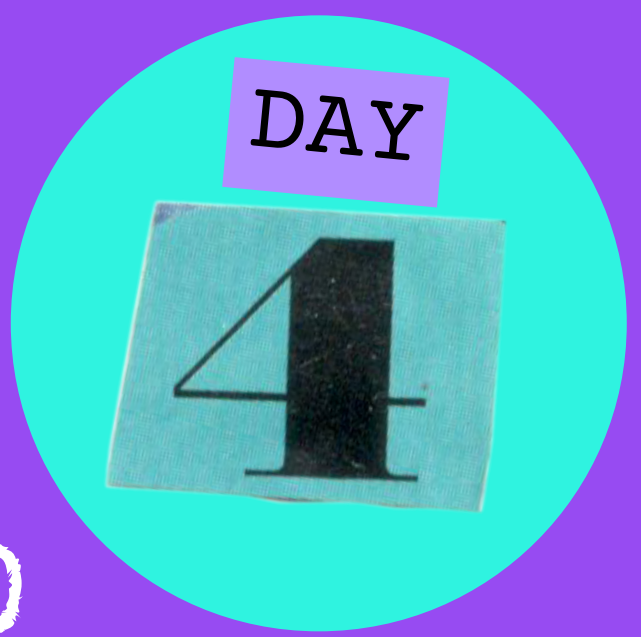
Why it matters

"Trauma- and Violence-Informed (TVI) approaches bring attention to the multitude of ways that individuals may experience and respond to trauma, including historical trauma (e.g. colonialism) and structural violence (e.g. ableism)." (Trauma- and Violence-Informed Interview Strategies in Work with Survivors of Gender-Based Violence, Learning Network, 2020)

Re-traumatization is especially likely in the legal system and problematic because it creates additional harm, but also damages survivor credibility. A lack of understanding of trauma obscures evidence and prevents an accurate administration of justice and therefore accountability. It can also result in the criminalization of women who have already been harmed by GBV/IPV.



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Recommendation #9

Explore incorporating restorative justice and community-based approaches in dealing with appropriate IPV cases to ensure safety and best outcomes for survivors.



Why it matters

Survivors are unique individuals from diverse communities and justice can look, feel, and mean something different for each one. Justice isn't always criminal justice.

The Criminal Justice System is an OFFENDER-based system. Survivors often feel the criminal justice system has failed them when they report GBV. Often made to feel like they are the one who is on trial, they can also experience retraumatization while navigating legal systems.

Survivors need to be part of the accountability process.

Even if the court process excludes survivors, the legal/ courthouse culture should promote their voices as credible and important.

Survivors need an integrated network, wrap-around support that prioritizes the safety and wellbeing of them and their children.



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Recommendation #II

Study the feasibility of, and implement if feasible, justice sector participants having access to relevant findings made in family and civil law proceedings for use in criminal proceedings, including at bail and sentencing stages. The study would, in part, inquire into the following:

- a. The process to identify relevant findings and for sharing those findings with other justice participants,
- b. Which justice participants should have access to the findings made by a civil or family court,
- c. What documents from civil and family law proceedings should be shared with justice sector participants, and how to facilitate sharing of such documents,
- d. What permissible uses could be made of the documents and findings in a criminal proceeding,
- e. Models in other jurisdictions that identify relevant IPV cases in different courts.

Why it matters

Gender based violence is usually made invisible in family court proceedings, mostly because they are unconnected to related criminal court processes. Criminal courts often are not aware that perpetrators may have a long history of coercive control, intimate partner violence or child abuse because they do not access records from civil courts. These information gaps between civil and criminal courts fragment and prevent a comprehensive understanding of the risk a perpetrator may pose to spouses and children in both past, present and future relationships. If the system does not appreciate the risk, the appropriate safety measures and accountability will not be imposed.

Our systemic work includes creating linkages between proceedings in family and criminal court; criminal and family court watch and research and analysis of local GBV criminal court decisions. We are partnered with Luke's Place on a Family Court Watch research project "to identify best practices as well as challenges in the family court in cases involving intimate partner abuse (IPV)."



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* Recommendation #I2

Ensure that survivors and those assisting survivors have direct and timely communication with probation officers to assist in safety planning.

Why it matters

No Probation & Parole policy exists to allow survivors to access information about clients (abusive ex/partners).

The person most likely to know the immediate risk posed by abusive ex partners is the survivor of their violence. Unfortunately, the criminal legal system is built around the rights of the accused, and almost all aspects of this system, from police charges to court proceedings to probation, deliberately excludes the input of survivors. It is built NOT to take their safety into consideration.

Many perpetrators are not convicted; most of those that are, are not incarcerated and so have ample opportunity to continue to harm survivors even after they are convicted. A probation order may be the only measure of accountability available to survivors if a perpetrator violates a probation condition, especially a no contact condition. Probation officers may see survivors/spouse as “not their client” – this is an attitude that increases risk for women. Survivors should be seen as a (the) credible source of information with respect to breach of a probation order; their safety should be a central goal for probation and parole officers.

Timely safety planning is especially important in rural and remote communities where geographic distance, isolation, poverty, lack of services and privacy, and increased access to firearms increase survivor vulnerability. (Youngson et al., 2021)

A survivor's children are also impacted by IPV, sometimes fatally. Their safety should also be prioritized in safety planning.



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Recommendation #23

Develop and implement a new approach to public education campaigns to promote awareness about IPV, including finding opportunities to reach a wider audience in rural communities. These messages should promote broad recognition of how to seek support, risk factors, and warning signs of IPV, community and bystander engagement, be accessible in multiple languages and in multiple formats, and ensure that rural residents can identify themselves in the messaging and materials.

Why it matters

Prevention begins with Education.

Change begins with Analysis.

In the same way we need to understand racism and colonialism as structural, systemic problems that directly impact the lives of many past and future people, we also need to understand that the inequality of women is embedded in our institutional practices and social fabric. It is this systemic bias and a lack of political will to change foundational structures that permits the pandemic of gender based violence to continue unabated.

We all need to understand that gender based violence is part of a larger societal problem that intersects with all other systemic inequities and that ending violence requires not just political but also societal and attitudinal change.



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Recommendations #25, #26, #27

Use and build on existing age-appropriate education programs for primary and secondary schools, and universities and colleges. Such programs should include: violence prevention, recognizing healthy and abusive relationships, identifying subtle indicators of coercive control, understanding risk factors (such as stalking, fear caused by IPV, strangulation, threats to kill), managing and processing feelings, dispute resolution, community and bystander obligations, the need for safety planning and risk management, and the unique experiences in rural and urban settings.

Ensure teachers are trained to deliver the IPV-related curriculum and utilize IPV professionals regularly to provide support for the delivery of primary, secondary, and post-secondary programming.

Develop a roster of resources available to support classroom teachers in the delivery of primary, secondary, and post-secondary programming where local IPV professionals are not available.

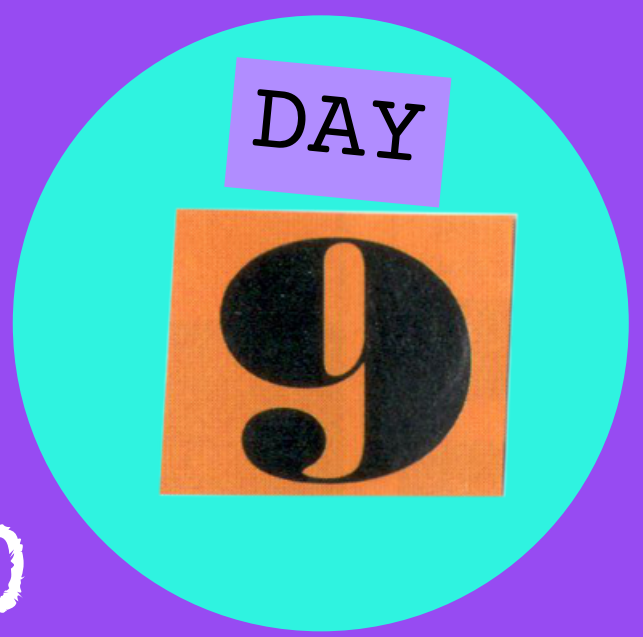


Why it matters

Girls are still socialized to extend themselves, do the emotional labour in relationships, rather than set healthy boundaries for themselves in intimate relationships. We live in a culture that constantly objectifies and sexualizes girls and young women, and makes them especially vulnerable to manipulative recruitment by traffickers. Youth of all ages are now bombarded with requests for nude pictures and face the severe consequences that result from the non-consensual sharing of intimate images by their peers and others. Effective education needs to include a feminist intersectional analysis of gender constructs, misogyny and the power dynamics of intimate partner violence. And it needs to be delivered in a way that engages boys and young men in the necessity and value of equal, consensual relationships, and finding support in each other without reinforcing toxic masculinity.



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Recommendation #28 & #29

Review existing training for justice system personnel who are within the purview of the provincial government or police services.

Provide professional education and training for justice system personnel on IPV-related issues.



Why it matters

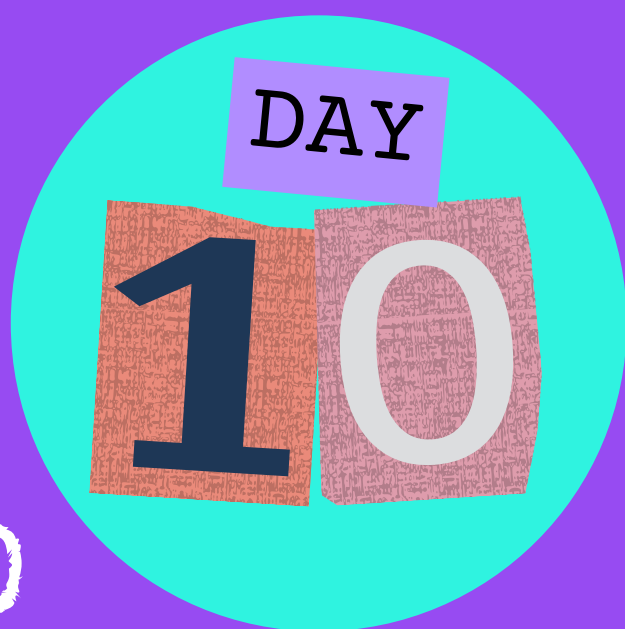
Measures for the provision of safety for women and children who live with or leave abusers ARE NOT integrated into the criminal legal system.

The intervention of the CLS regularly escalates risk of harm for women and their children. Safety protocols (eg risk assessments) to mitigate the increased risk that survivors face when they leave an abuser or when he is charged must be deliberately and consistently applied. In order to avoid these measures being weaponized against survivors by perpetrators (eg mandatory charging), they must also be applied in thoughtful ways, using a gendered, intersectional and trauma informed lens. This approach includes the consideration of evidence gathered using a trauma informed approach in order to obtain legal accountability from the perpetrator appropriate to the harm done.

Most justice system personnel do not have this analysis or an understanding of the risks faced by women leaving abusers, so regular training is essential to remind them and inform new staff.



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Recommendation #40

Explore amending the Family Law Act, following meaningful consultation with stakeholders, including survivors and IPV service providers, to provide authority to order counselling for the perpetrator where IPV findings are made by the family court.

Why it matters

If a perpetrator of Intimate Partner Violence is charged, in some jurisdictions the accused can be ordered by the court almost immediately to attend a partner assault program (In Thunder Bay, it usually only happens much later at the sentencing stage).

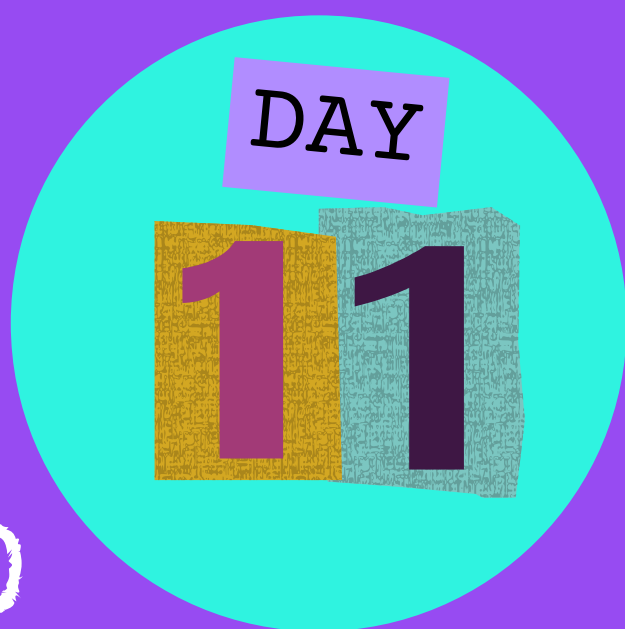
These programs report to the court and also do check ins with partners of the accused while they are in counselling. Regardless of whether or not the counselling is helpful in reducing their use of violence, PAR providers are often the only service providers monitoring the perpetrator and the survivor for significant periods of time between assault and prior to plea/trial/conviction.

Many women do not call police to stop the abuser's violence because they are afraid of the personal and institutional consequences. For this reason, we see increasing numbers of abusive men who never face criminal charges. These cases often wind up in family court when women try to leave for their and their children's safety.

Family law rules now include specific considerations around custody of children wrt parents who use IPV, so it is regularly brought forward in court. It would provide additional protection for women if family courts could order abusers to attend PAR counselling.



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Recommendation #43

Ensure that survivor-informed risk assessments are incorporated into the decisions and positions taken by Crowns relating to bail, pleas, sentencing, and eligibility for Early Intervention Programs.

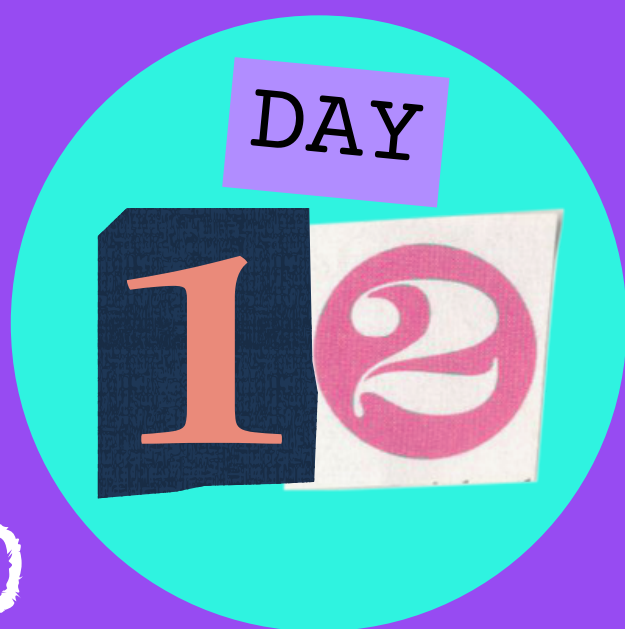


Why it matters

The criminal legal process is lengthy and minimizes the severity and impact of GBV as the case progresses, even if the abuser is still doing harm (there is research to show this). It also takes a long time to determine whether or not an accused is actually guilty, which is when more permanent protective measures may be put in place. In order to impose the most effective constraints on the accused and safety measures for the survivor, Crowns must take up-to-date survivor risk assessments (such as those done by the Bail Safety Program) into serious account when prosecuting the case. It should especially be considered at the bail stage (immediately after arrest, when risk is highest), and if there is a possibility of a plea bargain, where some of the charges against the accused may be dropped in order to get them to plead guilty to others. Survivors have no say in this process, and are rarely enabled to provide a Victim Impact Statement at the sentencing stage.



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Recommendation #44

Clarify and enhance the use of high-risk committees by:

- a. Strengthening provincial guidelines by identifying high-risk cases that should be referred to committee,
- b. Identifying and including local IPV service providers that are in a position to assist with case identification, safety planning, and risk management. Consideration should be given to including IPV service providers supporting perpetrators,
- c. Ensuring that involved IPV service providers at high-risk committees are given the necessary information to facilitate their active participation, subject to victim consent where applicable

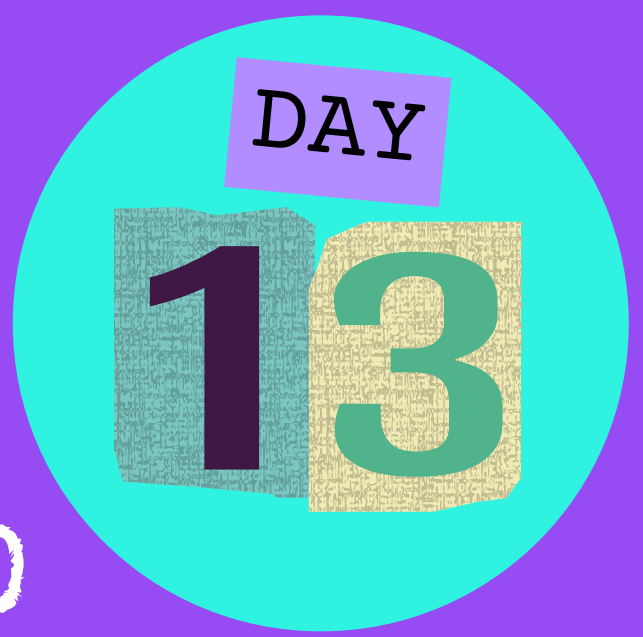
Why it matters

In the same way women survivors have no input into the criminal legal process when their abuser is prosecuted; the participation of community based organizations and women's advocates from those organizations (IPV service providers) are functionally excluded from the (MAG) Crown's Office High Risk Offender Committee. Ironically, it is IPV service providers and advocates who routinely identify and alert the Crown wrt those perpetrators are at high risk of harming others, including children. Despite the fact that Provincial government protocol for Domestic Violence Courts requires that IPV SP sit at the Domestic Violence Court Advisory Committee, the local Crown's Office (for decades) has persisted in prohibiting community based advocates to attend the High Risk table, citing concerns over confidentiality.

The Thunder Bay & District Coordinating Committee to End Women Abuse is a long standing, cross-sectoral table that includes women's advocates among many other IPV providers, and has actively lobbied for this to change. In 2020, in partnership with TBDCCCEWA, NOWC drafted a High Risk GBV protocol that links all sectors. It has not yet been accepted by the Crown's Office, despite the fact that confidentiality concerns have been addressed. In our view, safety of women and children should trump confidentiality in cases where there is high risk of harm. Which would you rather account for: a breach of confidentiality at an inquiry?... or the death of a woman or child at an inquest?



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Recommendation #47

Set up IPV Registry for repeat IPV offenders similar to the Sex Offender Information Act Registry.



Why it matters

Although a lot of research suggests otherwise, crimes involving gender-based violence are seen by courts as isolated incidents, even when it is the same perpetrator over and over. If an accused had a history of armed robbery or drug trafficking, it would not go unnoticed by the judiciary in subsequent convictions. But, GBV is generally not treated as seriously by the courts, perhaps because it often occurs within a family context, it is perpetrated by men who otherwise seem “normal” or have no other criminal involvement (or, because women just aren’t that important!). But misogyny and patterns of coercive control are longstanding, and an abusive man can both terrorize an ex-partner long after she leaves AND become involved with and threaten the safety of subsequent partners and their children. This has been made all too clear by the circumstances investigated by this inquest.

If women knew early on in a relationship that they were dating someone with a dangerous history, they might not choose to pursue the relationship. Clare’s Law in Alberta is a police registry that would give women access to the criminal history of a new partner. Of course, not all violent men have criminal histories, but some of the most dangerous do. It would provide women with more options to protect themselves from GBV.

Ideally, this registry would also be accessible to service providers working with survivors so that survivors would not have to be in direct contact with police AND service providers collaborating on high-risk committees can ensure essential information is promptly brought forward.



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Recommendation #49

Start grassroots “Safe Spaces” program that businesses can participate in where survivors can feel safe and ask for information (i.e. pamphlets and handouts from women’s shelters, VWAP and men’s programs).

Why it matters

Statistics show that women experience violence multiple times before they report it; when they do report it takes numerous attempts to be believed or to get assistance; and even then, women’s safety isn’t necessarily prioritized in the systemic response. Calling the police isn’t always an option, especially for Indigenous women; in a small community, it can also be difficult for every woman to access special services with confidentiality assured. Women who are unhoused, have been criminalized, use substances or have mental health concerns are much less likely to get help from established supports. Safety should be a right that is provided to survivors without a request for identification, verification or other eligibility criteria. The more doors that open to safe spaces for women, the better.

Making information about GBV/IPV supports and services readily available in everyday locations can help to raise public awareness, reduce stigma, normalize asking for help, and create opportunities for women (and those who care about them) to encounter resources they might not seek out on their own. GBV/ IPV is a community issue and it's up to all of us to address it.



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Recommendation #54

Enhance court supports for IPV survivors and develop an IPV-focused model for criminal courts similar to the Family Court Support Worker Program. Consideration should be given to the independent legal advice program for survivors of sexual violence as a model for IPV survivors.

Why it matters

When their perpetrator is facing criminal charges, GBV survivors need specific supports for legal assistance that are advocacy based and trauma informed. Because survivors are not represented by a lawyer, there is no one to support or guide them through the legal system, or help them assess risk or otherwise navigate ongoing violence. These supports must be established outside of the court system to ensure sensitive/ safety information is not disclosed to the perpetrator.

Dedicated advocates, similar to NOWC's GBV Navigator and Court support coordinator are effective ways to provide emotional support and rights-based information that helps women make strategic decisions. They can assist with documentation and also provide a timely and direct liaison with other system players, such as police or Victim Witness Assistance Program (VWAP) when there are immediate safety concerns. With respect to legal advice, Legal Aid already provides legal advice for survivors of sexual assault; this could be extended to IPV.



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Recommendation #59

Conduct study of judges' decisions in IPV cases and track in longitudinal studies for recidivism, violence escalation, and future victims.

Why it matters



NOWC has engaged in several Court Watch projects over the years to track the treatment and outcomes of gender-based violence charges in local criminal court. Other than media coverage of notable cases, there is no civilian oversight of court procedures. Criminal court cases are treated as individual, separate incidents, so the lawyers and judges involved are not necessarily aware of the patterns that emerge over time. Watching court allows us to determine patterns or trends in factors such as: release conditions (eg no contact; firearms confiscation; surety); whether an accused is held for trial and the percentage who are released; whether only a few of multiple charges are plea bargained; differential treatment of racialized or gendered accused and treatment of survivors; the number of breaches of release conditions and if there is a proportionate award of sentences or other sanctions. It also lets us know if the court personnel understand and use the language appropriate to gender-based violence, and it makes them aware that someone is paying attention!

Our AAGBV website contains Criminal Case Reviews of local GBV and femicide cases. Legal research and analysis using a feminist lens helps identify problematic or biased decision making by individual judges (eg. "Boys will be boys" in a sexual assault decision). It helps justify our calls for widespread ARAO/gender-based/trauma-informed training for legal professionals, and more input by survivors into criminal cases. Longitudinal studies of decisions made by different judges across many courts can elucidate trends of gender bias that require law reform (legislative change) and/or show the need for challenges legal precedents (such as Supreme Court or Charter challenges), in order to create substantive equality for women, girls and gender diverse people under the law.



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RESOURCES

crisis + local support

ASSAULTED WOMEN'S HELPLINE: 1-866-863-0511

FEM'AIDE: 1-877-336-2433

TALK4HEALING: 1-855-554-HEAL

Help in the Thunder Bay District:

<https://www.endwomanabuse.com/get-help/local-resources/>

GBV Navigation Advocate: navigator@nwowc.org | 807-935-8042

background

- 16 Days of Activism: <https://16dayscampaign.org/>
- What is Gender-Based Violence (GBV)? <https://analysistoactiongbv.org/what-is-gbv/>
- What is Intimate Partner Violence (IPV)? <https://women-gender-equality.canada.ca/en/gender-based-violence-knowledge-centre/intimate-partner-violence.html>
- What is Femicide?
 - We Count Femicide Because (OAITH/BBW): <https://www.oaith.ca/oaith-work/we-count-femicide-because/>
 - Canadian Femicide Observatory for Justice and Accountability: <https://www.femicideincanada.ca/>
 - Femi(ni)cide Watch Platform: <https://www.femicide-watch.org/>

CWK inquest + advocacy

- Culleton, Kuzyk & Warmerdam (CKW) Inquest advocacy toolkit (Luke's Place, October 2022): <https://lukesplace.ca/culleton-kuzyk-warmerdam-ckw-inquest-advocacy-toolkit/>
- Lessons from a Rural Inquest: Taking Action to Support the Recommendations from the Renfrew County Inquest (recording and slides): <https://www.vawlearningnetwork.ca/our-work/special-events/renfrew-county-inquest/index.html>
- Forty-four percent: A short history of intimate partner violence: <https://lukesplace.ca/forty-four-percent-a-short-history-of-intimate-partner-violence/>



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www.nwowomenscentre.org

alternative approaches to justice

- Alternative Justice Responses for Sexual Assault Survivors: Why are they needed and do they work? (LEAF): <https://www.leaf.ca/education/alternative-justice-responses-for-sexual-assault-survivors-why-are-they-needed-and-do-they-work/>
- Building Accountable Communities (Dean Spade): <http://www.deanspade.net/projects/building-accountable-communities/>
- Decarcerating Our Responses to Gender-Based Violence Panel (Wilfred Laurier University): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EwuYUSzbosY>
- Essential Elements for Non-Punitive Accountability: A Workbook for Understanding Alternative Responses to Gender-Based Violence: <https://bit.ly/3ih9Tsa>
- Leading with Abundance: Transformative Justice as a Framework for Change: <https://www.womenatthecentre.com/leading-with-abundance-transformative-justice-as-a-framework-for-change/>
- Towards a Justice that Heals: <https://www.couragetoact.ca/blog/towards-a-justice-that-heals-skillshare>

bystander interventions | how to help

- Draw The Line: <http://www.draw-the-line.ca/about.html>
- How You can Identify and Help People at Risk of Domestic Violence: <https://www.neighboursfriendsandfamilies.ca/i-want-to-help/identify-and-support.html>
- “Stay with them” Survivors of Intimate Partner Violence Share Insights on How Friends and Family Can Help: <https://www.vawlearningnetwork.ca/our-work/backgrounders/staywiththem/index.html>
- Talking to People who Use Abusive Behaviour: <https://www.neighboursfriendsandfamilies.ca/i-want-to-help/talking-to-abuser.html>



creating safe spaces

- Safe Cities and Safe Public Spaces for Girls Global Flagship Initiative: International Compendium of Practices: <https://www.unwomen.org/sites/default/files/Headquarters/Attachments/Sections/Library/Publications/2019/Safe-cities-and-safe-public-spaces-Compendium-of-practices-en.pdf>
- How to set up a SSWG in practice: <https://reliefweb.int/report/world/safe-spaces-women-and-girls-sswg-standardization-and-technical-guidance-how-set-sswg>
- Own your zone: three steps to creating a safe space (Gabby Nelson): <https://medium.com/ungei-blog/own-your-zone-3-steps-to-creating-a-safe-space-5ed44bdf914>
- Safer Bars & Spaces Training and Policy for Hospitality and Arts Workplaces: <https://dandelioninitiative.ca/referrals>
- Good Night Out: <https://www.goodnightoutvancouver.com/saferspaces>
- Make it Our Business: <https://www.makeitourbusiness.ca/training/certified-online-training.html>



education for prevention

- A CAREGIVER'S GUIDE TO TEACHING THE ABCS OF CONSENT: A Resource for Parents, Guardians and Professionals: <https://www.anovafuture.org/kids-consent/>
- Are You Cool? (METRAC brochure): https://metrac.org/content/user_files/2022/04/ru_cool.pdf
- #BlockHate: Centering Survivors and Taking Action on Gendered Online Hate in Canada – National Report: <https://ywcacanada.ca/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/Block-Hate-Report-October-2022-corrected-1.pdf>
- DRAW THE LINE: Youth Orientated Resource Kit: <http://www.draw-the-line.ca/resources/theme-youth.html>
- Gaslighting in Intimate Relationships: A Form of Coercive Control That You Need to Know More About: https://www.vawlearningnetwork.ca/our-work/backgrounders/gaslighting_in_intimate_relationships/index.html
- Girls, Rape Culture and Colonialism (Alright, Now What? podcast episode): <https://canadianwomen.org/blog/girls-rape-culture-and-colonialism/>
- Healthy Relationships (METRAC): <https://metrac.org/resources/category/healthy-relationships/>
- KANAWAYHITOWIN | Taking Care of Each Other's Spirit: <http://www.kanawayhitowin.ca/>
- Tips for Teens: LEARNING TO RECOGNIZE AN UNHEALTHY ONLINE RELATIONSHIP: https://canadianwomen.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/CWF-Avon-TeenTipSheet2015-EN-web-Oct6_0.pdf
- T.E.A.R.™ (Teens Ending Abusive Relationships): <https://victimservicestoronto.com/programs/t-e-a-r/>
- Internet Safety guide for Women (by women for women): <https://www.vpnmentor.com/blog/the-empowering-internet-safety-guide-for-women/>



Boys + Men working to end gender-based violence:

- I Am a Kind Man Encourages Indigenous Men to End Violence Against Indigenous Women: <https://iamakindman.ca/>
- Male Allies engages boys and men, with their unique ability and responsibility, in ending systemic and everyday forms of gender-based violence: <https://www.sascwr.org/about-male-allies.html>
- MANifest Change equips men and boys to skillfully prevent common situations of gender-based violence: <https://www.manifestchange.ca/>
- Moose Hide Campaign is an Indigenous-led grassroots movement of men, boys and all Canadians – standing up to end violence against women and children: <https://moosehidecampaign.ca>
- Next Gen Men is changing the way men and youth see, act, and think about masculinity: <https://www.nextgenmen.ca/>
- White Ribbon is the world's largest movement of men and boys working to end violence against women and girls, promote gender equity, healthy relationships and a new vision of masculinity: <https://www.whiteribbon.ca/>



IPV impacts on children + youth

- 7 Protective Factors that Promote Children's Resilience: <https://www.vawlearningnetwork.ca/our-work/infographics/protectivefactors/index.html>
- Boys' Victimization & Adult IPV Perpetration (Learning Network): https://www.vawlearningnetwork.ca/our-work/issuebased_newsletters/issue-16/index.html
- Children Experience Coercive Control: What You Need To Know (Learning Network): https://www.vawlearningnetwork.ca/our-work/issuebased_newsletters/issue-37/index.html
- EVERY TWO HOURS A Special Report on Children and Youth Exposed to Intimate Partner Violence in Manitoba: <https://manitobaadvocate.ca/wp-content/uploads/MACY-Special-Report-Every-Two-Hours.pdf>
- Helping Children Exposed to Violence at Home (London Family Court Clinic): <https://ccaa.org/pdf/Helping-Children-Exposed-to-Violence-at-Home.pdf>
- Links between the Maltreatment of Girls and Later Victimization or Use of Violence (Learning Network): https://www.vawlearningnetwork.ca/our-work/reports/2017-2-PHAC_Girls_Report_ONLINE_Final.pdf
- Sibling Violence (Learning Network): https://www.vawlearningnetwork.ca/our-work/issuebased_newsletters/issue-21/index.html
- Trauma- and Violence- Informed Approaches: Supporting Children Exposed to Intimate Partner Violence (Learning Network): https://www.vawlearningnetwork.ca/our-work/issuebased_newsletters/issue-31/index.html
- When Coercive Control Continues to Harm Children: Post-Separation Fathering, Stalking and Domestic Violence (Katz et al., 2020): <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/car.2611>

Support in Thunder Bay for children + youth exposed to violence:

- Children's Wellness Program (TBIFC) for high-risk youth aged 7-15. The purpose is to decrease drug/alcohol abuse and to address mental health issues that may be a result of family violence: <https://tbifc.ca/program/childrens-wellness-program-2/>
- Tomorrow Without Violence (TBC) is a group for children and teens to learn about the impacts of domestic violence, to begin to heal from its effects, and learn that it is not okay and not their fault. The group also supports mothers in learning how to support their children's healing: <https://www.tbaycounselling.com/child-youth/tomorrow-without-violence/>
- N'iinding Gah Gee Dah Wok/It Comes from the Heart (Beendigen) is a group focused on supporting mothers/caregivers and their children (ages 4-18) who have witnessed violence: <https://www.beendigen.com/programs/healing-our-own/>



legal information

- Domestic violence survivors say family courts are failing them: <https://www.cbc.ca/news/world/domestic-violence-family-court-1.6436368>
- Enhanced Safety: Risk Assessment Tool in Family Courts: <https://www.schliferclinic.com/riskassessment/>
- Family Violence & Family Law Brief: Survivors' Views of Family Courts: Findings from the Canadian Domestic Homicide Prevention Initiative with Vulnerable Populations (January 2022): <https://fvfl-vfdf.ca/briefs/Brief-12-EN.pdf>
- Family Court and Beyond: A survival workbook for women (Luke's Place): <https://familycourtandbeyond.ca/>
- Implementing the Domestic Violence Court Program (Ontario, 2003): <https://domesticpeace.ca/images/uploads/documents/OntarioDVCImplementationManual2003.pdf>
- Is the Domestic Violence Court Program Working in Ontario?: <https://owjn.org/2022/09/06/ontarios-domestic-violence-court-program/>
- Programming Responses for Intimate Partner Violence (Ontario): <https://www.justice.gc.ca/eng/rp-pr/jr/ipv-vpi/pl0.html>
- Federal bill called missed opportunity for judges' domestic violence training: <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/prince-edward-island/pei-domestic-violence-judge-training-1.6068940>
- Ontario parents advocating for 'Keira's Law' say it could have prevented alleged Sask. abduction case: <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/saskatchewan/keiras-law-abduction-prevention-1.6373116>
- Clare's Law (the right to know someone's past abusive behaviour): <https://clares-law.com/what-is-clares-law/> and <https://www.alberta.ca/clares-law.aspx>
- Disclosure – Intimate Partner Violence (RCMP Regulations): <https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/regulations/SOR-2014-281/page-3.html#s-57.5>
- A step towards prevention (Pamela Cross, 2021): <https://pamelacross.ca/a-step-towards-prevention/>
- Making the Links in Family Violence Cases: Collaboration among the Family, Child Protection and Criminal Justice Systems: <https://www.justice.gc.ca/eng/rp-pr/cj-jp/fv-vf/mlfvc-elcvf/vol2/pl3.html>
- AAGBV Criminal Court Research: <https://analysistoactiongbv.org/methodology/>
- Criminal Court Statistics, Ontario Court of Justice: <https://www.ontariocourts.ca/ocj/stats-crim/>
- Independent legal advice for survivors of sexual assault: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/independent-legal-advice-survivors-sexual-assault>
- Offender Profile and Recidivism among Domestic Violence Offenders in Ontario: https://www.justice.gc.ca/eng/rp-pr/csj-sjc/crime/rr06_fv3-rr06_vf3/toc-tdm.html
- Recidivism in the Criminal Justice System (Canada): <https://www.justice.gc.ca/eng/rp-pr/jr/jf-pf/2020/aug01.html>
- Victim-Blaming in Canada: https://crcvc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/Victim-Blaming_DISCLAIMER_Revised-April-2022_FINAL.pdf



national plans + reports

- Joint Statement on the Release of the National Action Plan to End Gender-Based Violence (2022): <https://lukesplace.ca/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/Final-Joint-Statement-on-NAP.pdf>
- A Report to Guide the Implementation of a National Action Plan on Violence Against Women and Gender-Based Violence (2021): <https://nationalactionplan.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/NAP-Final-Report.pdf>
- Métis Perspectives of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls and LGBTQ2S+ People (2021): <https://metiswomen.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/LFMO-MMIWG-Report.pdf>
- NWAC 's Action Plan to End the Attack Against Indigenous Women, Girls, and Gender-Diverse People (2021): <https://nwac.ca/assets-knowledge-centre/NWAC-action-plan-English.pdf>
- Reconciliation with Indigenous Women: Changing the story of MMIWG, a report from ONWA (2020): https://www.onwa.ca/_files/ugd/4eaa9c_be059fe0cd844671839aef58558d893d.pdf
- We Must All Work to Stop Violence Against Women: Senator Dasko (2021): <https://sencanada.ca/en/sencaplus/opinion/we-must-all-work-to-stop-violence-against-women-senator-dasko/>

risk assessment

- Challenges in Risk Assessment with Rural Domestic Violence Victims: Implications for Practice (Youngson et al., 2021): <https://link.springer.com/content/pdf/10.1007/s10896-021-00248-7.pdf>
- Risk Management and Safety Planning for Children living with Domestic Violence: A Critical Role for Social Workers and Social Service Workers: https://www.ocswssw.org/wp-content/uploads/2018_AMED_Session_A1.pdf
- Barriers to Safety Planning and Best Practices for Supporting Survivors of Domestic Violence in Rural, Remote, and Northern Regions (Kohtala, 2021): <https://ir.lib.uwo.ca/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=10328&context=etd>
- AN ANALYSIS OF RISK ASSESSMENT TOOLS (Woman Abuse Council of Toronto, 2022): https://womanact.ca/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/WomanACT_An-analysis-of-risk-assessment-tools.pdf
- Domestic Violence Risk Assessment: Informing Safety Planning & Risk Management Brief (2016): <http://cdhpi.ca/domestic-violence-risk-assessment-informing-safety-planning-risk-management-brief>
- Victim Services Toronto High Risk Support Services: <https://victimservicestoronto.com/programs/high-risk-support-services/>



safety planning

- HER TOOLKIT: Comprehensive Safety Assessment and Personalized Risk Management Tools for Women Experiencing Violence: <https://www.theredwood.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/Her-Toolkit-Table-of-Contents.pdf>
- You Are Not Alone: a toolkit for Aboriginal women escaping domestic violence (NWAC): <https://www.nwac.ca/assets-knowledge-centre/NWAC-You-Are-Not-Alone-Handbook-with-weblinks.pdf>
- Safety Planning for Children (Luke's Place): <https://familycourtandbeyond.ca/keep-safe/children/>
- Safety Planning with Children and Youth: A Toolkit for Working with Children and Youth Exposed to Domestic Violence: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/law-crime-and-justice/criminal-justice/victims-of-crime/vs-info-for-professionals/training/child-youth-safety-toolkit.pdf>
- Safety Planning for People who Experience Domestic Violence: <https://www.neighboursfriendsandfamilies.ca/i-want-to-help/safety-planning.html>
- Safety Planning for Older Adults: Keeping Safe in Unhealthy Relationships: <http://www.eapon.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/EAO-Safety-Planning-Toolkit-October-2018.pdf>

trauma- + violence-informed approaches

- Intersectionality: https://www.vawlearningnetwork.ca/our-work/issuebased_newsletters/issue-15/index.html
- Institutional Betrayal (Smith & Freyd, 2014): https://www.researchgate.net/publication/265419181_Institutional_Betrayal
- The Road to Safety-Indigenous Survivors in BC Speak Out against Intimate Partner Violence during the Covid-19 Pandemic: <https://www.bwss.org/wp-content/uploads/Road-to-Safety-FINAL-web.pdf>
- Trauma- (and Violence-) Informed Approaches to Supporting Victims of Violence: Policy and Practice Considerations: <https://www.justice.gc.ca/eng/rp-pr/cj-jp/victim/rd9-rr9/p2.html>
- Trauma- and Violence-Informed Interview Strategies in Work with Survivors of Gender-Based Violence: https://www.vawlearningnetwork.ca/our-work/issuebased_newsletters/issue-32/index.html
- A Visual Training Tool for Direct Service Providers to better understand the neurobiology of trauma and violence against women across the lifespan (OAITH, 2019): <https://herbrainchase.oaith.ca/brain-tool/understanding-trauma.html>

