

Tri-County Batterer Intervention Provider Network Meeting Minutes—2/12/2002

Present: David Houston (Men's Resource Center), Gustavo Picazo (Change Point), Michael Davis (Change Point), Lee Parker (Change Point), Elsie Garland (Multnomah County Juvenile Justice), Chris Huffine (Men's Resource Center), Devarshi Bajpai (ASAP), Stacey Womack (ARMS), Paula Manley, Songcha Bowman, Judith Applegate

Minutes by Chris Huffine

Discussion Topic: Videos We Use in Batterer Intervention Groups

- “Menace 2 Society” addresses gang and racial violence
- “The Children Are Watching” A 12 minute documentary, hosted by Hugh Downs, on domestic violence and children. Includes interviews with children of several different ages.
- “Hidden Victims” A 30 minute documentary on children and DV hosted by Dylan McDermitt that originally aired on Lifetime.
- “What's Love Got To Do With It” The story of Ike and Tina Turner, with a heavy emphasis on Ike's abuse of Tina and her eventual leaving of the relationship. Features several scenes of sexual violence, physical violence, and verbal abuse. Ike's pattern of abuse is similar to the “cobra” profile. Examples of how Tina uses her skills to try to keep situations “okay”. A lot of collusion among Ike's friends with his abusive behavior.
- “This Boy's Life” This addresses cultural entitlement and child abuse more than DV. It provides examples of the manipulation of a charmer early in a new relationship. Also some examples of male socialization, and isolation imposed by the man.
- “Men's Work” by Paul Kivel. This provides some poorly acted role plays from Kivel's book as well as Kivel reviewing some of the basic concepts from his book.
- “Young Men's Work” by Paul Kivel. This focuses on violence issues in younger men and is somewhat stronger than the “Men's Work” video.
- “Tactics of Men Who Batter”. This is the series of videos from Duluth. There are examples to illustrate each of the pie slices of the power and control wheel. There is a newer version in which the acting is somewhat better.
- “Chicago Hope episode” Marc has an episode of Chicago Hope, the television series, in which there is a segment on male socialization in a boxing ring.

-“No Safe Place” is a documentary that has been aired on OPB. It looks at the female perspective on rape and domestic violence. It is fairly intellectual/academic, but still pretty good.

-“Good Will Hunting” has some good examples of victimhood among men and how that can become externalized as anger/aggression. Terrence Real makes use of a few scenes from this movie to illustrate some of his points.

“Silence of the Lambs” The interview scene through the glass between Lector and Clarice Starling shows the amount of control he can exert even when in a jail cell and unable to lay a hand on her.

-“Oprah—Neil Jacobson” Interview of Neil Jacobson who talks about types of abusers as well as interviews with battered women.

-“Affliction” Provides illustrations of the intergenerational nature of violence and emotional abuse. There are also illustrations of how power and control issues can show up in custody battles.

-“Sleeping with the Enemy” Not a very good movie in general, but an early scene shows the extensive distorted thinking that can then lead to violence.

-“Sling Blade” Lots of verbal abuse examples as well as a couple of scenes of DV. There is a good extended family DV scene featuring blaming and apologizing, witnessing, the child intervening, etc.

-“American History X ” Highlights character’s sense of victimization and their violence as a response to that feeling. Illustrates how people of color can be scape-goated for another’s personal suffering. Very escalated violence including the gradual build up of controlling behavior to emotional abuse to physical abuse. There is also a flashback which illustrates the intergenerational nature of violence/racism.

-“To Find Our Way” and “First Steps”. Two instructional films on DV within the Native American community. The acting is poor. There are lots of illustrations of denial followed by the intervention process.

-“Bad Dads” Documentary that focuses on men in prison. Focuses on parental accountability. Writing to their father and to their children and related role plays. George Foreman introduces the documentary.

-“Tough Guise” Documentary featuring Jackson Katz which examines the media’s influence on men and masculinity. Very contemporary. The abridged version seems to

keep people's attention better. Some of the more explicit sex and violence are also edited out of that version.

-“Success Stories: Change is Possible” Educational film that looks at chemical dependency, criminality, and anger. Heavy emphasis on people taking responsibility for their choices and being fully accountable.

-“Rage, Recidivism, and Recovery” Focuses on real people who go through the process of reducing their denial, increasing their accountability, and getting into recovery. The focus is on drug and alcohol issues but it is certainly relevant in terms of DV issues.

-“War Zone” Documentary that examines sexual harassment of women on the street as well as female survivors of child sexual abuse telling their stories. The filmmaker has herself filmed as she walks around city streets being sexually harassed and then directly confronts those who are harassing her. It is provocative and she becomes somewhat psychologically abusive as well at times, but it does highlight a more common form of sexual abuse.

-“Voices of Survivors” Documentary designed to educate health care professionals on how to screen their patients for domestic violence. Well made and informative, but more relevant for educating people about DV than using in men's groups.

-“Unforgivable” TV movie starring John Ritter that focuses on one family's experience of and recovery from domestic violence. Many of the scenes of DV are well-filmed and illustrative of common dynamics. However, the scenes of the perpetrator in the men's group draws on stereotypes and common misconceptions of what men's batterer intervention groups are like.

-“Abused Boys, Wounded Men” Documentary focusing on men's groups holding each other accountable for their abusive behavior. Divided into several shorter segments. Powerful and nice modeling of accountable group behavior as well as appropriate confrontation of denial.

-“Shame and Addiction” Educational video featuring John Bradshaw. He's fast talking. Primarily focuses on shame and how to heal it rather than act it out.

-“Arrests Beyond the Obvious” Men's stories of what happened followed by a dramatization of what actually happened. It addresses primary aggressor issues. Oriented more for law enforcement than perpetrators, although it could be used to illustrate various forms of denial.

“Great Santini” One good scene features Robert Duvall playing basketball with his son and becoming abusive. It also illustrates how the mother colludes with his abuse

towards the son in the next scene. The father then disrupts his son's basketball game. There is roughly a 25 minute series of scenes which covers all of that.

-“Bill Moyers on Violence” Addresses how the media uses sex and violence extensively in its programming. There is also a focus on the role of video games in contributing to violence.

-“Pay It Forward” Illustrates severe child abuse and the scars from it which can carry into adulthood.

-“Equality: The Women's Movement” Documentary on the history of the women's movement. Illustrates clearly the significant inequalities.