




## **Facts & Stats Report:**

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# **Domestic Violence in Asian & Pacific Islander Homes**

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Updated 2015





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## INTRODUCTION

The Asian & Pacific Islander Institute on Domestic Violence compiled this report *Facts & Stats Report: Domestic Violence in Asian and Pacific Islander Homes, Updated 2015* following a review of published and unpublished studies and reports in the U.S. This updated report includes data from *Facts & Stats* published in 2009 and studies since then. The study methodology, the presentation of results in the precise terms used by the researchers, and where necessary, the authors' clarifying comments serve to contextualize the data.

Clearly, domestic violence which includes coercive control, occurs in all populations regardless of race, ethnicity, culture, class, faith, immigration status, age, education, gender identity, or sexual orientation; as do the socio-cultural, linguistic, economic and political barriers that influence help-seeking. The magnitude of the problem may be considerably greater than available data indicate given that survey data tend to involve underreporting, and statistics from service or data collection agencies are limited to reported cases. *Facts & Stats Report: Domestic Violence in Asian and Pacific Islander Homes, Updated 2015* raises awareness about the experiences of Asian victims/survivors of domestic violence and, given a smaller data set, about Pacific Islanders; counters denial about the problem; emphasizes the need for socio-culturally effective prevention and intervention; and serves to guide future research and inform public policy.

## 1. EXTENT OF THE PROBLEM | PREVALENCE

The estimated prevalence rate is a range, based on a compilation of recently completed studies of disaggregated samples of Asian ethnicities in local communities.

- ◆ 21–55% of Asian women report experiencing intimate physical and/or sexual violence during their lifetime.<sup>1</sup>

[Note: Based on newly published research, the estimated prevalence rate has been modified from the range presented in our previous report in 2009, i.e., 41%–60% which was estimated given existing published data at the time.]

In the 2010 National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Study (**NISVS Study, hereinafter**)<sup>2</sup>, telephone interviews were conducted with a nationally representative random sample of 16,507 non-institutionalized English and/or Spanish speaking adults (9,086 women and 7,421 men). 4.7% of the aggregated sample at national or state levels was of Asian or Pacific Islander descent.

- ◆ 19.6% of Asian or Pacific Islander women reported experiencing rape, physical violence, and/or stalking by an intimate partner in their lifetime whereas 46.0% of American Indians or Alaska Native women, 43.7% of Black women, 37.1% of Hispanic women, and 34.6% of White women did.

In the National Latino and Asian American Study (NLAAS Study, hereinafter), face-to-face interviews were conducted with a nationally representative household sample of Latinos and Asians in the U.S. (2,095 Asian and 2,554 Latino/a). An analysis of the 1,470 NLAAS respondents who were of Asian descent and married or living with an opposite-sex partner at the time of the interview found:<sup>3</sup>

- ◆ 10.2% of Asian women reported experiencing “minor violence” (defined by the researchers to include: pushing, grabbing or shoving, throwing something, slapping or hitting), and 1.5% reported “severe violence” (defined by researchers to include: kicking, biting or hitting with a fist, beating up, choking, burning or scalding, or threatening with a knife or a gun) by an intimate partner during the course of the relationship.
- ◆ Younger age, higher socio-economic status, alcohol- and substance-use disorders, depression, and being U.S.-born were associated with a higher risk of intimate partner violence.

In a secondary analysis of the above mentioned NLAAS data using the subsample of 543 Asian women between the ages of 18 and 65 who had been married for 5 years or longer:<sup>4</sup>

- ◆ 6.5% reported having experienced physical violence by their husband sometime during the 12 months prior to the interview.
- ◆ Married Asian women whose income was equal to or higher than that of their husband were more likely to report having experienced physical violence by their husband compared to those whose income was lower than their husband.
- ◆ The probability of husband’s violence against wives was higher when wives had a greater share of household chores.

<sup>1</sup> This range is based on studies of women’s experiences of domestic violence conducted among different Asian ethnic groups in the U.S., including a study by Hurwitz et al. Intimate partner violence associated with poor health outcomes in U.S. South Asian women in *Journal of Immigrant and Minority Health*. 2006; 8(3):251-261) and a study by Yoshihama, M. Domestic violence against women of Japanese descent in Los Angeles: Two methods of estimating prevalence in *Violence Against Women*. 1999; 5(8):869-897. The lower figure (21%) is similar to the estimated prevalence (19.6%) found in the 2010 National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Study (see Footnote 2).

<sup>2</sup> Black M, Basille K, Breiding M, Smith S, Walters M, Merick M, Chen J, Stevens M. The National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey: 2010 Summary Report. Washington, DC: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; 2010.

<sup>3</sup> Chang DF, Shen B-J, Takeuchi DT. Prevalence and demographic correlates of intimate partner violence in Asian Americans. *International Journal of Law and Psychiatry*. 2009;32(3):167-175.

<sup>4</sup> Chung GH, Tucker MB, Takeuchi D. Wives’ relative income production and household male dominance: Examining violence among Asian American enduring couples. *Family Relations*. 2008;57(2):227-238.

- ◆ The risk of husband's violence against wives was lower in couples where both spouses shared housework.

The 2005 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) survey<sup>5</sup> (annual, state-based random-digit-dialed telephone survey of the non-institutionalized U.S. civilian population aged 18 and older) assessed physical or sexual violence by a current or former intimate partner in 16 states and 2 territories:

- ◆ The proportion of Asian women who reported having ever experienced at least one type of physical or sexual violence (threatened, attempted, or completed physical violence or unwanted sex) by a current or former intimate partner was 9.7%, the lowest rate of all racial/ethnic groups. Rates reported for other groups were: 26.8% for White, non-Hispanics; 20.5% for Hispanics; 29.2% for Blacks; 43.1% for multiracial people; 39.0% for American Indian/Alaska Natives; and 29.6% for other races.

The National Asian Women's Health Organization (NAWHO) conducted telephone interviews with a random sample of 336 Asian American women aged 18–34 residing in the San Francisco and Los Angeles areas (**NAWHO Study, hereinafter**):<sup>6</sup>

- ◆ 19% of the respondents reported experiencing "pressure to have sex without their consent by an intimate partner" since age 18, and 44% of these (or 8% of the total sample) reported experiencing completed rape.
- ◆ 12% reported that an intimate partner "had hurt or had attempted to hurt them by means of hitting, kicking, slapping, shoving, object throwing, or threatening their lives with weapons."
- ◆ 14% reported that "[someone] had ever repeatedly followed or spied on them, had appeared at unexpected locations, had stood outside their home, school, or place of work." [*Note: These behaviors are consistent with stalking.*]

The California Health Interview Survey (CHIS) assessed a wide range of health topics including domestic violence via telephone interviews with a random sample of adult residents across the state, aged 18-65.<sup>7</sup> The study found:

- ◆ 9% of Asian women and men experienced physical or sexual intimate partner violence since age 18; the rates for other groups were: 14% Latino, 21% white, 24% African American, and 34% American Indian/Alaska Natives.
- ◆ Foreign-born Asians (7%) were less likely to experience intimate partner's physical or sexual violence than U.S.-born Asians (13%). Similar pattern was observed for foreign-born Latinos (11%) compared to U.S.-born Latinos (18%).

## 2. DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IN SPECIFIC COMMUNITIES

### (a) Cambodian

In a study conducted by the Asian Task Force Against Domestic Violence in Boston, which used self-administered questionnaires at ethnic fairs and community events (**Asian Task Force Study, hereinafter**):<sup>8</sup>

- ◆ 47% of Cambodians surveyed said they knew "a woman who has been shoved, pushed, slapped, hit, kicked, or has suffered other injuries by her partner."
- ◆ 44% said they knew of "a woman whose partner insults or humiliates her regularly."

<sup>5</sup> Black MC, Breiding MJ. Adverse health conditions and health risk behaviors associated with intimate partner violence—United States, 2005. *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*. 2008; 57:113-118.

<sup>6</sup> National Asian Women's Health Organization. *Silence, Not an Option!* San Francisco, CA: Author; 2002.

<sup>7</sup> Zahnd E, Grant D, Aydin M, Chia YJ, Padilla-Frausto DI. *Nearly four million California adults are victims of intimate partner violence*. Los Angeles, CA: UCLA Center for Health Policy Research; 2010, April.

<sup>8</sup> Yoshioka M, Dang Q. *Asian Family Violence Report: A Study of the Cambodian, Chinese, Korean, South Asian, and Vietnamese Communities in Massachusetts*. Boston, MA: Asian Task Force Against Domestic Violence; 2000.

## (b) Chinese

In a telephone interview survey of 262 Chinese people (133 men and 129 women) in Los Angeles County (**Yick Study, hereinafter**):<sup>9</sup>

- ◆ 18.1% of respondents (women and men) reported experiencing “minor physical violence” by a spouse or intimate partner within their lifetime, and 8.0% of respondents reported “severe physical violence” during their lifetime. [*Note: ‘Minor-severe’ categories were based on the researcher’s classification criteria.*]
- ◆ 6.8% of respondents (women and men) reported experiencing “minor physical violence” and 1.6% reported experiencing “severe physical violence” by a spouse or intimate partner during the past year.
- ◆ More acculturated respondents (as assessed by the researchers) were twice as likely to report partner violence. [*Note: The study’s author states, “It is possible that traditional cultural values serve as a protective buffer against stressors engendered by immigration” (p. 263). However, higher rates among more acculturated respondents may be due to their increased willingness to report abuse.*]

In a face-to-face interview study of 1,577 Asians recruited from Asian organizations and gathering places in the greater Houston area in Texas (43.6% male, 55.0% female, and 1.4% unknown) (**Leung & Cheung Study, hereinafter**), 610 Chinese (including 70 Taiwanese) responded:<sup>10</sup>

- ◆ 9.7% of the Chinese respondents (male and female) reported having experienced at least one form of intimate partner violence (based on the 8-item Conflict Tactics Scale, ranging from “thrown objects at the respondent” to “used a knife or gun on the respondent”) during the previous year.

## (c) Filipina

The Lifecourse Experiences of Intimate Partner Violence and Help-Seeking Study<sup>11</sup> (**Lifecourse IPV & Help-seeking Study, hereinafter**) assessed experiences of intimate partner violence (IPV) among 87 Filipina women (and 56 Indian and Pakistani women) aged 18-60 who were recruited via various community outreach methods in the San Francisco Bay Area. While this study was not designed to estimate the prevalence of intimate partner violence,<sup>12</sup> it provided information about Filipina and Indian and Pakistani women’s experiences of IPV over their lifecourse. Some of the notable findings for Filipinas are:

- ◆ Filipina women who were born in the U.S. (2nd generation) or had immigrated to the U.S. pre-adolescence (1.5+ generation) were more likely to experience intimate partners’ physical and sexual violence (but not stalking) compared to those who were born outside the U.S. and immigrated as adults (1st generation).
- ◆ Younger Filipina women (whether they were born in the U.S. or not) were more likely to experience intimate partners’ stalking than older Filipina women.
- ◆ Younger Filipina women were more likely to contact the police, legal services and domestic violence agencies than their older counterparts.
- ◆ Filipina women were unlikely to seek health care for intimate partners’ violence regardless of their generation.

<sup>9</sup> Yick AG. *Predictors of physical spousal/intimate violence in Chinese American families*. Journal of Family Violence. 2000; 15:249-267.

<sup>10</sup> Leung P, Cheung M. A prevalence study on partner abuse in six Asian American ethnic groups in the USA. *International Social Work*. 2008;51(5):635-649.

<sup>11</sup> Yoshihama M, Bybee D, Dabby C, Blazeovski J. Lifecourse experiences of intimate partner violence and help-seeking among Filipina, Indian, and Pakistani women: Implications for justice system responses. Washington, DC: National Institute of Justice; 2010.

<sup>12</sup> Because the study’s inclusion criteria were women aged 18-60 who had experienced physical and sexual violence or stalking at the hands of an intimate partner while residing in the San Francisco Bay Area, by design, all respondents had experienced some form of intimate partner violence.



In the Leung & Cheung Study, 101 Filipinos responded:<sup>13</sup>

- ◆ 21.8% of the respondents reported at least one form of intimate partner violence (based on the 8-item Conflict Tactics Scale, ranging from “thrown objects at the respondent” to “used a knife or gun on the respondent”) during the previous year.

In a paper-and-pencil questionnaire survey of a purposive sample of Filipino college students:<sup>14</sup>

- ◆ 31.4% of female respondents reported that they had experienced “physical violence such as being hit, pushed, grabbed, etc.” by an intimate partner since they started dating.

In a survey of undocumented women conducted by the Immigrant Women’s Task Force of the Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights and Services based in San Francisco:<sup>15</sup>

- ◆ 20% of 54 Filipina women reported having experienced some form of domestic violence, including physical, emotional, or sexual abuse, either in their country of origin or in the U.S.

#### (d) Hawaiians & Other Populations in Hawai’i

The studies below reported data on people in Hawai’i, a large proportion of who are of Asian, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander descent.

In March 1992, a random sample of 502 women in Kauai participated in an anonymous telephone survey of women’s needs, Kauai Women’s Needs Survey, which included questions about domestic violence:<sup>16</sup>

- ◆ 14% of the total respondents reported experiencing intimate partner violence. The rate for Caucasians was 15%, Filipino 11%, Hawaiian 21%, Japanese 5%, and other/mixed race 16%.
- ◆ 34% of the total respondents stated that they personally knew of an “abused person”: 21% of Filipina, 35% of Hawaiian, 29% of Japanese, and 33% of other/mixed race.

The analysis of the data provided by the Maui Police Department on domestic violence incidents in 1990 found:<sup>17</sup>

- ◆ Of the total domestic violence reports, 0.9% involved victims who were Chinese, 14.4% Filipina, 4.3% Japanese, 24.1% Hawaiian, 42.5% Caucasian (including Portuguese), 0.4% black, and 6.6% other. *[Note: The ethnic breakdown of the total population in Maui in 1990 was: 2.3% Chinese, 19.2% Filipina, 17.6% Japanese, 13.5% Hawaiian, 42.0% Caucasian, 0.5% black, and 7.5% other.]*

In a study conducted at a rural Oahu obstetrics-gynecology clinic in 1996:<sup>18</sup>

- ◆ 18% (11 of 60 women patients) indicated that they had been “slapped, punched, kicked, or otherwise physically hurt by an intimate partner” at least once.

<sup>13</sup> Leung P, Cheung M. A prevalence study on partner abuse in six Asian American ethnic groups in the USA. *International Social Work*. 2008;51(5):635-649.

<sup>14</sup> Agbayani-Siewert P, Flanagan AY. Filipino American dating violence: Definitions, contextual justifications, and experiences of dating violence. *Journal of Human Behavior in the Social Environment*. 2001; 3:115-133.

<sup>15</sup> Hoagland C, Rosen K. *Dreams Lost, Dreams Found: Undocumented Women in the Land of Opportunity*. San Francisco, CA: Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights and Services, Immigrant Women’s Task Force; Spring 1990.

<sup>16</sup> Kauai Committee on the Status of Women; *Women’s Needs Assessment Survey*. Lihue, HI: Author; 1992. Cited in Hawaii State Commission on Status of Women; *Domestic Violence Report*. Honolulu, HI: Author; 1993.

<sup>17</sup> Cited in Hawaii State Commission on Status of Women; *Domestic Violence Report*. Honolulu, HI: Author; 1993.

<sup>18</sup> Kubany E, Mckenzie W, Haynes S, Owens J. *Routine clinical use of a protocol for trauma history: PTSD screening in an ob-gyn medical practice*. 1996. Unpublished raw data. Cited in Kubany ES, McKenzie WF, Owens JA, Leisen MB, Kaplan AS, Pavich E. PTSD among women survivors of domestic violence in Hawai’i. *Hawai’i Medical Journal*. 1996; 55:164-165.

In a study of 25 mothers and 25 children recruited from domestic violence programs in Hawai'i (**Chemtob et al. Study, hereinafter**):<sup>19</sup>

- ◆ 56% of the women were subjected to verbal abuse daily, 24% weekly and 12% monthly. A large majority (72%) rated the intensity of verbal abuse as "extreme," while 20% considered it "severe."
- ◆ 32% of the women reported experiencing physical abuse weekly, 28% monthly, and 20% bi-monthly.
- ◆ 80% rated the intensity of physical abuse as "extreme."

### (e) Japanese

In a face-to-face interview study in 1995 of a random sample of 211 Japanese immigrant women and Japanese American women in Los Angeles County (**Yoshihama Study, hereinafter**):

- ◆ 61.1% reported having ever experienced some form of physical, emotional, or sexual intimate partner violence that they considered abusive, including culturally demeaning practices such as overturning a dining table or throwing liquid at a woman, at some time prior to the interview.<sup>20</sup>
- ◆ 51.7% reported having experienced physical violence, and 29.9%, sexual violence at the hands of an intimate partner during their lifetime.<sup>21</sup>
- ◆ 57.4% of women are estimated to experience an intimate partner's physical violence by age 49 when the probability that some women who have not been victimized at the time of the interview may be abused at a later date is accounted for; and similarly 35.2% are estimated to experience an intimate partner's sexual violence by age 49.<sup>22</sup>
- ◆ There were no significant generational differences across the first, second, third and fourth generations in the age-adjusted risk of experiencing intimate physical, sexual or emotional violence.<sup>23</sup>

In the Leung & Cheung Study of Asians in Houston, TX,<sup>24</sup>

- ◆ 9.7% of Japanese respondents (72 male and female) reported having experienced at least one form of intimate partner violence (based on the 8-item Conflict Tactics Scale, ranging from "thrown objects at the respondent" to "used a knife or gun on the respondent") during the previous year.

### (f) Korean

In a 1993 study of 256 Korean men from randomly selected Korean households in Chicago and in Queens, NY:<sup>25</sup>

- ◆ 18.0% of the male respondents reported committing at least one of the following acts of physical violence within the past year: throwing something, pushing, grabbing, shoving, or slapping their wife.

<sup>19</sup> Chemtob CM, Carlson JG, Perrone P. *Domestic Violence in Hawaii: Impact on Mothers and Their Children*. Honolulu, HI: State of Hawai'i Department of the Attorney General; 2000.

<sup>20</sup> Yoshihama M. Domestic violence against women of Japanese descent in Los Angeles: Two methods of estimating prevalence. *Violence Against Women*. 1999; 5:869-897.

<sup>21</sup> Yoshihama M, Gillespie B. Age adjustment and recall bias in the analysis of domestic violence data: Methodological improvement through the application of survival analysis methods. *Journal of Family Violence*. 2002; 17:199-221.

<sup>22</sup> Ibid.

<sup>23</sup> Yoshihama M, Horrocks J. Posttraumatic stress symptoms and victimization among Japanese American women. *Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology*. 2002; 70:205-215.

<sup>24</sup> Leung P, Cheung M. A prevalence study on partner abuse in six Asian American ethnic groups in the USA. *International Social Work*. 2008;51(5):635-649.

<sup>25</sup> Kim JY, Sung K. Conjugal violence in Korean American families: A residue of cultural transition. *Journal of Family Violence*. 2000; 15:331-345.

- ◆ 6.3% of the male respondents reported having committed what the researcher classified as “severe violence” (kicking, biting, hitting with a fist, threatening with a gun or knife, shooting, or stabbing) against their wives in the past year.
- ◆ 33% of “male-dominated relationships” experienced at least one incident of domestic violence during the year, whereas 12% of “egalitarian” relationships did. *[Note: Researchers classified couples into four types of relationships — egalitarian, divided power, male-dominated, and female-dominated—based on the respondents’ answers about how the couple made decisions.]*
- ◆ Nearly 39% of husbands who were categorized as experiencing “high stress” perpetrated domestic violence during the past year, whereas one out of 66 husbands categorized as experiencing “low stress” did so. *[Note: This correlation does not necessarily mean that stress causes or leads to domestic violence. Many women and non-abusive men are also exposed to high stress and do not resort to domestic violence.]*

In a questionnaire survey of a convenience sample of 136 first-generation Korean women who came to the U.S. after age 16 in Austin and Dallas, Texas:<sup>26</sup>

- ◆ 29.4% (40 respondents) reported experiencing physical assault at the hands of intimate partners during the previous year.
- ◆ 25.0% (34 of the 40 who reported intimate partners’ physical assault) reported sustaining injuries due to a partner’s violence during the previous year.

In the Leung & Cheung Study of Asians in Houston, TX,<sup>27</sup>

- ◆ 19.5% of Korean respondents (123 males and females) reported having experienced at least one form of intimate partner violence (based on the 8-item Conflict Tactics Scale, ranging from “thrown objects at the respondent” to “used a knife or gun on the respondent”) during the previous year.

In a survey of a convenience sample of 214 Korean women and 121 Korean men in the San Francisco Bay Area conducted in 2000 by Shimtuh, a project serving Korean women in crisis (**Shimtuh Study, hereinafter**):<sup>28</sup>

- ◆ 41.9% of the respondents said they knew of a Korean woman “who has been slapped, hit, kicked, or suffered any physical injury by her husband or boyfriend.”
- ◆ 50.2% of the respondents knew of a Korean woman “whose husband or boyfriend insults or humiliates her regularly.”

A 1986 study involving face-to-face interviews of a convenience sample of 150 Korean women living in Chicago found that:<sup>29</sup>

- ◆ 60% reported experiencing physical abuse by an intimate partner at some time in their lives
- ◆ 22% reported sexual violence by an intimate partner at some time in their lives.

## (g) South Asian<sup>30</sup>

The Lifecourse IPV & Help-seeking Study<sup>31</sup> of 56 Indian and Pakistani women found that:

- ◆ Indian and Pakistani women, born in the U.S. or who had immigrated to the U.S. pre-

<sup>26</sup> Kim JY, Sung K. Conjugal violence in Korean American families: A residue of cultural transition. *Journal of Family Violence*. 2000; 15:331-345.

<sup>27</sup> Leung P, Cheung M. A prevalence study on partner abuse in six Asian American ethnic groups in the USA. *International Social Work*. 2008;51(5):635-649.

<sup>28</sup> Shimtuh (Korean Domestic Violence Program). Korean American Community of the Bay Area Domestic Violence Needs Assessment Report. Oakland, CA: Author; 2000.

<sup>29</sup> Song-Kim YI. Battered Korean women in urban United States. In: Furuto SM, Renuka B, Chung DK, Murase K, Ross-Sheriff F, Eds. *Social Work Practice with Asian Americans*. Newbury Park, CA: Sage; 1992:213-226.

<sup>30</sup> Refers to those who trace their origins to the countries or diasporas of Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, Pakistan or Sri Lanka.

<sup>31</sup> Yoshihama M, Bybee D, Dabby C, Blazeovski J. *Lifecourse experiences of intimate partner violence and help-seeking*

adolescence (1.5+ generations), were more likely to experience all three forms of IPV - physical violence, sexual assault, and stalking compared to those born outside the U.S. and those who immigrated post-adolescence.

- ◆ Younger Indian and Pakistani women were more likely to experience stalking by intimate partners compared to their older counterparts.
- ◆ All 3 generational groups – 1<sup>st</sup>, 1.5+ and 2<sup>nd</sup> – were equally likely to contact police, legal services and domestic violence programs.
- ◆ 1.5+ generations and those born in the U.S. were more likely to seek health care compared to their first generation counterpart.
- ◆ In general, younger women were more likely to contact outside agencies, such as the police, legal services, and domestic violence programs.

In a study of a convenient sample of 160 South Asian women who were married or in a heterosexual relationship, recruited through community outreach methods such as flyers, snowball sampling, and referrals in Greater Boston (**Raj and Silverman Study, hereinafter**):<sup>32</sup>

- ◆ 40.8% reported ever experiencing “physical or sexual abuse by their current male partners”; 36.9% reported some form of IPV in the past year.
- ◆ 30.4% reported having experienced partners’ physical abuse, and 18.8%, sexual abuse; 65.2% of the women reporting physical abuse also reported sexual abuse over their lifecourse.
- ◆ 15.8% reported injury or the need for medical services as a consequence of a partner’s violence.
- ◆ No significant difference was found in the report of intimate partner violence between arranged marriages and non-arranged marriages. [*Note: Arranged marriages refer to the practice of parents selecting a spouse for their adult child; where both parties consent.*]

In a study of a convenience sample of 208 South Asian women recruited through community outreach in the Greater Boston area:<sup>33</sup>

- ◆ 21.2% reported having ever experienced physical and/or sexual abuse at the hands of their intimate partner; 14.9% reported such experience during the previous year.

In the Leung & Cheung Study of Asians in Houston, TX:<sup>34</sup>

- ◆ 19.5% of Indian respondents (154 male and female) reported having experienced at least one form of IPV based on the 8-item Conflict Tactics Scale, ranging from “thrown objects at the respondent” to “used a knife or gun on the respondent”) during the previous year.

## (h) Vietnamese

In a paper-and-pencil questionnaire survey of 200 Vietnamese men recruited from Vietnamese churches, temples, and social and civic organizations in the Dallas/Fort Worth area:<sup>35</sup>

- ◆ 31.0% reported having perpetrated at least one physically abusive act against their partner during the previous year.
- ◆ Men who were younger, with less education, or reported attitudes that “supported use

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among Filipina, Indian, and Pakistani women: Implications for justice system responses. Washington, DC: National Institute of Justice; 2010.

<sup>32</sup> Raj A, Silverman J. Intimate partner violence amongst South Asian women in Greater Boston. *Journal of the American Medical Women’s Association*. 2002; 57:111-114.

<sup>33</sup> Hurwitz EJH, Gupta J, Liu R, Silverman JG, Raj A. Intimate partner violence associated with poor health outcomes in U.S. South Asian women. *Journal of Immigrant and Minority Health*. 2006; 8:251-261.

<sup>34</sup> Leung P, Cheung M. A prevalence study on partner abuse in six Asian American ethnic groups in the USA. *International Social Work*. 2008;51(5):635-649

<sup>35</sup> Nguyen TD, Yoshioka M. Alcoholism level differences between Vietnamese batterers and non-batterers. *Journal of Family Violence*. 2007; 21:401-406.

of partner abuse in certain situations” were more likely to report physical abuse perpetration against their partners in the past year. However, neither alcohol consumption frequencies nor alcoholism levels (as measured by the Michigan Alcohol Screening Test, MAST) were associated with the likelihood of physical abuse perpetration.

In the Leung & Cheung Study of Asians in Houston, TX:<sup>36</sup>

- ◆ 22.4% of Vietnamese respondents (517 male and female) reported having experienced at least one form of intimate partner violence (based on the 8-item Conflict Tactics Scale, ranging from “thrown objects at the respondent” to “used a knife or gun on the respondent”) during the previous year.

In a study of 30 Vietnamese women recruited from a civic association that serves Vietnamese women in Boston (**Tran Study, hereinafter**):<sup>37</sup>

- ◆ 47% reported having experienced physical violence by intimate partners at some time in their lifetime, and 30% reported having experienced physical violence by intimate partners in the previous year.

## (i) Violence against Male Partner

Data on IPV against Asian and Pacific Islander men are currently limited and come mostly from national surveys in which Asian and Pacific Islander men are aggregated into one group. Care should be exercised in understanding the data: male victims may be straight or gay; women may not be primary aggressors, but rather defending themselves and/or their children, or using retaliatory violence. In general, women are disproportionately affected by IPV given sexual violence by intimate partners, coercive control, and/or attempted or completed domestic violence related homicides. Eighty-one percent of women who experienced rape, stalking or physical violence by an intimate partner reported significant short- or long-term impacts, such as posttraumatic stress disorder symptoms and injury; compared to 35% of men who report such impacts.<sup>38</sup>

In the CDC’s 2010 NISVS Study:<sup>39</sup>

- ◆ 8.4% of Asian or Pacific Islander men reported experiencing physical violence by an intimate partner sometime during their lifetime. [*Note: The rates for stalking and rape were not reported due to a small number of cases.*]

In the National Latino and Asian American Study (NLAAS):<sup>40</sup>

- ◆ 12.0% of Asian men reported having experienced “minor violence,” and 2.6% “severe violence” by an intimate partner.

In the 2005 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) survey:<sup>41</sup>

- ◆ 8.1% of Asian men reported having ever experienced at least one type of physical or sexual violence (threatened, attempted, or completed physical violence or unwanted sex) by a current or former intimate partner. [*Note: The estimate for Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander men was not reported due to a small number of cases.*]

<sup>36</sup> Leung P, Cheung M. A prevalence study on partner abuse in six Asian American ethnic groups in the USA. *International Social Work*. 2008;51(5):635-649.

<sup>37</sup> Tran CG; Domestic violence among Vietnamese refugee women: Prevalence, abuse characteristics, psychiatric symptoms, and psychosocial factors. Unpublished doctoral dissertation, Boston University, Boston, MA; 1997.

<sup>38</sup> Black M, Basille K, Breiding M, Smith S, Walters M, Merick M, Chen J, Stevens M. *The National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey: 2010 Summary Report*. Washington, DC: Center for Disease Control and Prevention; 2010.

<sup>39</sup> Black M, Basille K, Breiding M, Smith S, Walters M, Merick M, Chen J, Stevens M. *The National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey: 2010 Summary Report*. Washington, DC: Center for Disease Control and Prevention; 2010.

<sup>40</sup> Chang DF, Shen B-J, Takeuchi DT. Prevalence and demographic correlates of intimate partner violence in Asian Americans. *International Journal of Law and Psychiatry*. 2009;32(3):167-175.

<sup>41</sup> Black MC, Breiding MJ. Adverse health conditions and health risk behaviors associated with intimate partner violence—United States, 2005. *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*. 2008; 57:113-118.

In statistics collected by the National Domestic Violence Hotline (National Hotline Data, hereinafter) a 24-hour, confidential, toll-free hotline that provides support, information, referrals, safety planning and crisis intervention:

- ◆ 5% of Asian callers were male victims in Calendar Year 2011<sup>42</sup>, and 6% in 2012.<sup>43</sup> In the Leung & Cheung Study of Asians in Houston, TX:<sup>44</sup>
- ◆ 17.6% of male respondents reported having experienced at least one form of IPV (based on the 8-item Conflict Tactics Scale, ranging from “thrown objects at the respondent” to “used a knife or gun on the respondent”) during the previous year.

### 3. TYPES OF ABUSE

In this section, we only focus on a few types of abuse, and do not attempt to display data on the entire range of physical, sexual and emotional abuse, including coercive control.

#### (a) General Trends

National Hotline Data collected from caller demographics provides a snap shot of trends Asian women are experiencing:

- ◆ Of the Asian victims during Calendar Year 2011, 95% reported emotional/verbal abuse, 77% physical abuse, 34% economic abuse, 6% sexual abuse; and 6%, stalking.<sup>45</sup>
- ◆ Similar trends were reported in Calendar Year 2012: 96% of Asian victims reported emotional/verbal abuse, 69% physical abuse, 35% economic abuse, 7% sexual abuse, and 6%, stalking.<sup>46</sup>
- ◆ 1% of Asian callers reported elder abuse, in both Calendar Years 2011 and 2012.

#### (b) Abuse by In-Laws

In a survey of a convenience sample of 169 South Asian women who were married at the time of the survey:<sup>47</sup>

- ◆ 5.9% reported having experienced emotional abuse by in-laws.
- ◆ The proportion of women who reported emotional abuse by in-laws was significantly higher among those reporting partners’ violence in their current relationship (15.4%) than those who did not report such violence (3.1%).

In a telephone interview survey of a random sample of Gujarati adults aged 18-64 in the Greater Detroit Area,<sup>48</sup>

- ◆ 6.6% of female respondents reported that in-laws had called them names during the previous 6 months.

Project AWARE (Asian Women Advocating Respect and Empowerment) in Washington was an anonymous survey in 2000 – 2001 examining the experiences of abuse, service needs and

<sup>42</sup> National Domestic Violence Hotline. *Caller demographics: Breakdown by ethnicity CY2011*. Austin, TX: Author; 2012.

<sup>43</sup> National Domestic Violence Hotline. *Caller demographics: Breakdown by ethnicity CY2012*. Austin, TX: Author; 2013.

<sup>44</sup> Leung P, Cheung M. A prevalence study on partner abuse in six Asian American ethnic groups in the USA. *International Social Work*. 2008;51(5):635-649.

<sup>45</sup> National Domestic Violence Hotline. *Caller demographics: Breakdown by ethnicity CY2011*. Austin, TX: Author; 2012.

<sup>46</sup> National Domestic Violence Hotline. *Caller demographics: Breakdown by ethnicity CY2012*. Austin, TX: Author; 2013.

<sup>47</sup> Raj

<sup>47</sup> Raj A, Livramento KN, Santana CM, Gupta J, Silverman JG. Victims of intimate partner violence more likely to report abuse from in-laws. *Violence Against Women*. 2006;12:936-949.

<sup>48</sup> Yoshihama M. The Shanti Project, Baseline Community-Wide Survey. Unpublished raw data.

barriers to service among Asian women (Project AWARE Study, hereinafter).<sup>49</sup> Using a snowball method, a convenience sample of 178 women was recruited.

- ◆ 28.5% of participants knew of a woman who was being abused by her in-laws.

In the 2010 National Non-Residential Domestic Violence Services and Supports Study<sup>50</sup> (Non-Residential Services & Support Study, hereinafter) 1,467 respondents from 90 domestic violence programs participated in surveys and focus groups on their needs and experiences regarding non-residential domestic violence programs; 7% of them were Asian/Asian American.

- ◆ 13% of Asians/Asian Americans identified in-laws as the persons committing the abuse for which they sought help from a domestic violence program. This proportion is higher than those found for other groups: 4% for Hispanics/Latinos, 3% for Whites, and 1% for African Americans/Blacks.

### (c) Stalking

In the Lifecourse IPV & Help-seeking Study of 87 Filipina and 56 Indian and Pakistani women in the San Francisco Bay Area:<sup>51 52</sup>

- ◆ 67.8% of Filipina and 75.0% of Indian and Pakistani women reported having experienced stalking by an intimate partner sometime before the interview.<sup>53</sup>
- ◆ Stalking often took place during the relationship – not limited to the period of separation or post-relationship.
- ◆ 8.0% of Filipina and 7.1% of Indian and Pakistani women experienced stalking by an intimate partner at or before age 16 years old.
- ◆ Experiencing intimate partner's stalking was associated with help-seeking for Filipina and Indian and Pakistani women. They were more likely to contact the police, seek legal assistance, use a domestic violence program, or seek health care in the year in which they experienced intimate partners' stalking.

### (d) Socio-Cultural Manifestations of Abuse

The Yoshihama Study of women of Japanese descent in Los Angeles included questions pertaining to socio-culturally rooted manifestations of domestic violence found in studies in Japan:

- ◆ Women of Japanese descent in the U.S. experienced several of these socio-culturally rooted forms of violence such as, throwing liquid, overturning a dining table, and forced sexual intercourse despite women's concerns about other people nearby.<sup>54 55</sup>
- ◆ The use of a more socio-culturally inclusive measure resulted in an 18% increase in the reported rate of physical violence (52%), compared to the rate obtained using the Conflict Tactics Scale (CTS), a widely used measure (34%). This finding underscores

<sup>49</sup> McDonnell KA, Abdulla SE. *Project AWARE: Research Project*. Washington, DC: Asian/Pacific Islander Domestic Violence Resource Project; 2001.

<sup>50</sup> Lyon E, Bradshaw J, Menard A. *Meeting survivors needs through non-residential domestic violence services and supports: Results of a multi-state study*. Washington, DC: National Institute of Justice; 2011.

<sup>51</sup> Yoshihama M, Bybee D, Dabby C, Blazevski J. Lifecourse experiences of intimate partner violence and help-seeking among Filipina, Indian, and Pakistani women: Implications for justice system responses. Washington, DC: National Institute of Justice; 2010.

<sup>52</sup> Yoshihama, M, Bybee, D, & Dabby, C. Lifecourse trajectories of intimate partner violence and health care seeking among Asian women. Poster session presented at: National Conference on Health & Domestic Violence; 2012 Mar 30; San Francisco, CA.

<sup>53</sup> The study's inclusion criteria were women of Filipina, Indian or Pakistani descent aged 18-60 who had experienced physical and sexual violence or stalking at the hands of an intimate partner while residing in the San Francisco Bay Area.

<sup>54</sup> Yoshihama M. Domestic violence against women of Japanese descent in Los Angeles: Two methods of estimating prevalence. *Violence Against Women*. 1999; 5:869-897.

<sup>55</sup> Yoshihama M. Immigrants-in-context framework: Understanding the interactive influence of socio-cultural contexts. *Evaluation and Program Planning*. 2001; 24:307-318.

the importance of paying attention to the sociocultural variations in manifestations of domestic violence.<sup>56</sup>

#### 4. ATTITUDES TOWARDS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

The Asian Task Force Study found that:<sup>57</sup>

Older Chinese respondents were more tolerant of the use of force and more likely to justify a husband's use of violence against his wife. Immigration status and level of education were not associated with the likelihood of justifying a husband's use of violence against his wife.

- ♦ The average score for all respondents on male privilege was 8.5 out of 24; for Vietnamese respondents it was 12.0 out of 24 (the highest score amongst the different ethnic groups in the study). *[Note: Higher the scores indicate greater beliefs in male privilege. The average score of 8.5 indicates that overall, respondents do not believe that a husband has the right to discipline his wife, can expect to have sex with his wife whenever he wants it, is the ruler of his home, or that some wives deserve beatings.]*

In the 1995 Yoshihama Study, a study of a random sample of 211 women of Japanese descent living in Los Angeles:

- ♦ 71% of the respondents who had experienced partner violence reported that the following aspects of their Japanese background influenced their experiences with their partner's violence: conflict avoidance, the value of endurance, acceptance of male domination, the value of collective family welfare, and an aversion to seeking help.<sup>58</sup>

Among Chinese women and men aged 50 and older born outside the U.S. (a subset of the Yick Study of 262 Chinese women and men in the Greater Los Angeles area):<sup>59</sup>

- ♦ A substantial minority stated that a husband's violence toward his wife is justified "when the husband catches the wife for having an affair" (41.2% of women and 46.5% of men) and "when the husband finds the wife flirting with someone else" (38.2% of women and 48.8% of men).
- ♦ A significantly larger proportion of men than women believed that a husband's use of physical violence is justified "if the wife always nagged" (2.9% of women and 16.3% of men), "if the husband finds the wife drunk" (5.9% of women and 11.6% of men) and "if the wife is unwilling to have sex" (0% of women and 14.0% of men).
- ♦ A significantly larger proportion of women than men stated that a husband's physical violence toward his wife is justified "when the wife screamed hysterically" (94.1% women and 74.4% of men).
- ♦ In general, men and older adults who were "less acculturated" (as defined by the researchers) were more likely to believe that a husband's use of physical violence toward his wife is justified.

In a telephone interview survey of a random sample of 431 Gujarati adults aged 18-64 in the Greater Detroit Area,<sup>60</sup>

- ♦ Higher support for gendered domestic roles was significantly related to higher perpetration of emotional aggression for men, but not for women.

<sup>56</sup> Yoshihama M. Immigrants-in-context framework: Understanding the interactive influence of socio-cultural contexts. *Evaluation and Program Planning*. 2001; 24:307-318.

<sup>57</sup> Yoshioka M, Dang Q. Asian Family Violence Report: A Study of the Cambodian, Chinese, Korean, South Asian, and Vietnamese Communities in Massachusetts. Boston, MA: Asian Task Force Against Domestic Violence; 2000.

<sup>58</sup> Yoshihama M. Reinterpreting strength and safety in socio-cultural context: Dynamics of domestic violence and experiences of women of Japanese descent. *Children and Youth Services Review*. 2000; 22:207-227.

<sup>59</sup> Shibusawa T, Yick AG. Experiences and perceptions of intimate partner violence among older Chinese immigrants. *Journal of Elder Abuse & Neglect*. 2007; 19:1-17.

<sup>60</sup> Yoshihama M, Bybee D, Blazevski J. Emotional aggression, gender attitudes, and acculturation among Asian Indians: Differences behind "symmetry".



A telephone survey of a random sample of Vietnamese adults (246 women and 194 men) in four U.S. locations (Orange County, CA; Houston, TX; Boston, MA; and Lansing, MI) found:<sup>61</sup>

- ◆ While the majority of the respondents considered that IPV is a problem in the Vietnamese community, only 40% perceived it as “serious or very serious.”
- ◆ On a 5-point scale ranging from 1 = disagree in all situations, to 5 = agree in all situations, the respondents indicated high agreement with statements such as, “Intimate violence should be stopped” (mean score 4.72); “Government should intervene” (mean score 4.50); and “Perpetrators should have mandatory treatment” (mean score 4.43).
- ◆ Relatively lower agreement was found for statements such as, “Perpetrators should be jailed” (mean score 3.30) and “Perpetrators should be prosecuted” (mean score 3.74).

A telephone interview survey of a random sample of 431 Gujarati adults aged 18-64 in the Greater Detroit Area<sup>62</sup> assessed attitudes toward domestic violence:

- ◆ 81.4% of the respondents agreed (“slightly agree,” “agree” or “strongly agree”) with the statement, “A husband is never justified in hitting his wife.” There was no significant difference in the proportion of men (82.8 %) vs. women (80.0%) who agreed with this statement; but difference by country of birth was significant. All U.S.-born respondents agreed with this statement compared to 79.8% foreign-born respondents.
- ◆ 27.1% (24.4% of men and 30.0% of women) said that they “slightly agree,” “agree” or “strongly agree” with the statement, “A husband should have the right to discipline his wife.” Those born outside of the U.S. were significantly more likely to agree with this statement (29.2%) than those who were born in the U.S. (2.9%).
- ◆ 55% of the respondents considered the statement “Domestic violence happens in the Gujarati community” as true. U.S.-born respondents were more likely to consider this statement to be true (85.3%) compared to those who were born outside of the U.S. (52.4%).
- ◆ Acculturation was associated with lower support for both gendered domestic roles and patriarchal attitudes.<sup>63</sup>

In the NAWHO Study of 336 Asian American women aged 18-34:<sup>64</sup>

- ◆ 94% agreed that rape is a serious problem in our society today
- ◆ 18% believed that “rape does not happen between two people who are in a relationship.”

## 5. HELP-SEEKING ATTITUDES AND EXPERIENCES

### (a) Attitudes & Experiences

In the Project AWARE Study:<sup>65</sup>

- ◆ 44.8% of the Asian women surveyed reported that they or other Asian women they knew to have been abused did “nothing” to protect themselves from abusive events
- ◆ 32.1% said they “kept quiet.” The report’s authors noted that “Doing nothing can serve as a strategy of resistance in an attempt [to] avoid or lessen abuse.”

<sup>61</sup> Bui HN. Perceptions of intimate violence and attitudes toward interventions: The role of acculturation. *Journal of Ethnicity in Criminal Justice*. 2005; 3:1-27.

<sup>62</sup> Yoshihama M. The Shanti Project, Baseline Community-Wide Survey. Unpublished raw data.

<sup>63</sup> Yoshihama M, Bybee D, Blazevski J. Emotional aggression, gender attitudes, and acculturation among Asian Indians: Differences behind “symmetry”.

<sup>64</sup> National Asian Women’s Health Organization. *Silence, Not an Option!* San Francisco, CA: Author; 2002.

<sup>65</sup> McDonnell KA, Abdulla SE. *Project AWARE: Research Project*. Washington, DC: Asian/Pacific Islander Domestic Violence Resource Project; 2001.

- ◆ 34.3% of the respondents or other Asian women they knew to have been abused sought help from their family, and 32.1% from friends. Only 15.7% reported having called the police, and 9.0% actually obtained help from an agency.
- ◆ 78.0%, the majority of women who confided in someone about their experience of abuse felt better afterwards, but 35.4% indicated that they felt ashamed.

The Asian Task Force Study found considerable variation in attitudes toward help-seeking and preferred interventions among the ethnic groups studied:<sup>66</sup>

- ◆ 29% of Korean respondents said that a woman who is being abused should not tell anyone about the abuse, whereas 22% of Cambodian, 18% of Chinese, 5% of South Asian, and 9% of Vietnamese did.
- ◆ 82% of South Asian respondents indicated that a battered woman should turn to a friend for help, whereas 44% of Cambodian, 37% of Chinese, 41% of Korean, and 29% of Vietnamese respondents agreed with this statement.
- ◆ 74% of South Asian respondents supported a battered woman calling the police for help, whereas 47% of Cambodian, 52% of Chinese, 27% of Korean, and 49% of Vietnamese respondents did.

In the Yoshihama Study of Japanese immigrant and Japanese American women in Los Angeles:<sup>67</sup>

- ◆ U.S.-born women who had experienced intimate partners' violence, compared to their Japan-born counterparts, were more likely to seek help from friends (82.8% vs. 43.3%); to confront their partners (86% vs. 68%); and to find these methods more effective.
- ◆ Japan-born abused women were more likely to minimize the seriousness of the situation as a strategy to cope with abuse (90.0%) than U.S.-born respondents (57.6%); and rated this strategy as more helpful than did the U.S.-born respondents (3.1 vs. 2.3 on a 4-point scale).
- ◆ A significantly larger proportion of U.S.-born (23.2%) than Japan-born abused women (6.7%) used counseling; however, the rating of satisfaction with counselors was not significantly different between the U.S.-born (3.3) and the Japan-born (4.0).

In the 1993 Statewide Domestic Violence Survey in Hawai'i based on 311 questionnaires completed by women using domestic violence shelters and counseling programs:<sup>68</sup>

- ◆ 55% of the respondents reported having called the police because their partner was physically violent.
- ◆ 63% stated that they were treated fairly by the police.
- ◆ 61% of the women who contacted the police, regardless of whether they felt the police treated them fairly, reported encountering "attitudinal problems," such as acting as if the abuse was not important, making the victim feel as though she was wrong to call the police, and talking story and not doing anything.
- ◆ 22% encountered "procedural problems," such as making the victim leave when she didn't want to, refusing to make the abuser leave, and refusing to take the victim to a shelter or somewhere safe.

In the Tran Study of Vietnamese women in Boston:<sup>69</sup>

- ◆ 16% of the respondents reported having gone to facilities for treatment of injuries caused by the abuse.
- ◆ 71% reported having confided in others about the abuse; 26% confided in family

<sup>66</sup> Yoshioka M, Dang Q. Asian Family Violence Report: A Study of the Cambodian, Chinese, Korean, South Asian, and Vietnamese Communities in Massachusetts. Boston, MA: Asian Task Force Against Domestic Violence; 2000.

<sup>67</sup> Yoshihama M. Battered women's coping strategies and psychological distress: Differences by immigration status. *American Journal of Community Psychology*. 2002; 30:429-452.

<sup>68</sup> Hawai'i State Commission on Status of Women; *Domestic Violence Report*. Honolulu, HI: Author; 1993

<sup>69</sup> Tran CG; Domestic violence among Vietnamese refugee women: Prevalence, abuse characteristics, psychiatric symptoms, and psychosocial factors. Unpublished doctoral dissertation, Boston University, Boston, MA; 1997.

members, 28% to friends, and 43% to staff in service agencies.

The Raj and Silverman Study of 160 South Asian women in Boston found that:<sup>70</sup>

- ◆ 11.3% of respondents reporting IPV indicated receiving counseling support services for domestic abuse.
- ◆ 3.1% of the abused women in the study had ever obtained a restraining order against an abusive partner. *[Note: This rate is substantially lower than that reported in a study of women (of any race/ethnicity) in Massachusetts, in which over one third of women who reported intimate partner violence in the past 5 years had obtained a restraining order.]*

In a study of 62 battered women (20 African American, 22 Hispanic, and 20 South Asian) who had accessed domestic violence services in a northeastern U.S. city (**Yoshioka et al. Study, hereinafter**):<sup>71</sup>

- ◆ South Asian women were more likely to seek help from family members than African American or Hispanic women. There was a significant difference in the proportion of women who disclosed the violence to their father (40.0% of South Asian, compared to 11.1% of African American and 8.7% of Hispanic) or their brother (55.0% of South Asian, compared to 16.7% of African American and 21.7% of Hispanic).
- ◆ Following disclosure, South Asian women were significantly more likely to be advised by family members “to stay in the marriage” than other groups of women.

In an analysis of the data from the Collaborative Psychiatric Epidemiology Surveys:<sup>72</sup>

- ◆ Asians who have experienced partners’ violence were less likely to use mental health services than other racial groups.

National Hotline Data shows that of Asians callers in Calendar Year 2011:

- ◆ 36% said that they heard of the hotline from the Internet, 20% from previous callers, and 12% word of mouth. A smaller proportion identified shelter/DV programs (6%), court/legal agencies (3%), and law enforcement (3%) as the source of information.<sup>73</sup> Similar breakdowns were reported in Calendar Year 2012.<sup>74</sup>

In the Lifecourse IPV & Help-seeking Study,<sup>75</sup> abused women in the San Francisco Bay Area identified the following sources and types of response as most helpful.

### Filipina Women:

- ◆ Sources of most helpful response: Friends (37.9%); family (24.1%); non-Asian domestic violence programs (13.8%); helping professionals (other than legal or medical) such as counselors and case managers (13.8%); and criminal legal system agencies (13.8%).
- ◆ Types of most helpful response: Information and referrals (36.7%); empathic communication e.g., actively listening, being non-judgmental, not blaming the respondent, validating the respondent as a person, and validating the respondent’s dignity (26.7%); and safety planning/advice (26.7%). In addition, 20% of Filipina women identified tangible and concrete assistance (e.g. a place to stay, monetary help, and food) and a range of women-centered responses e.g., providing options, encouraging the respondent to pursue what she wants, lessening isolation/alienation, and telling the respondent “you are not alone” and “it [partner’s violence] is not your fault” to be most helpful.

<sup>70</sup> Raj A, Silverman J. Intimate partner violence amongst South Asian women in Greater Boston. *Journal of the American Medical Women’s Association*. 2002; 57:111-114.

<sup>71</sup> Yoshioka MR, Gilbert L, El-Bassel N, Baig-Amin M. Social support and disclosure of abuse: Comparing South Asian, African American, and Hispanic battered women. *Journal of Family Violence*. 2003; 18:171-180.

<sup>72</sup> Cho H, Kim WJ. Intimate partner violence among Asian Americans and their use of mental health services: Comparisons with White, Black, and Latino victims. *J. Immigrant Minority Health*. Oct 2012;14(5):809-815.

<sup>73</sup> National Domestic Violence Hotline. *Caller demographics: Breakdown by ethnicity CY2011*. Austin, TX: Author; 2012

<sup>74</sup> National Domestic Violence Hotline. *Caller demographics: Breakdown by ethnicity CY2011*. Austin, TX: Author; 2012.

<sup>75</sup> Yoshihama M, Bybee D, Dabby C, Blazevski J. *Lifecourse experiences of intimate partner violence and help-seeking among Filipina, Indian, and Pakistani women: Implications for justice system responses*. Washington, DC: National Institute of Justice; 2010.

### Indian and Pakistani Women:

- ◆ Sources of most helpful response: Asian domestic violence programs (38.3%); friends (25.5%); and family (19.2%). Other sources of most helpful response include: Helping professionals (other than legal or medical) such as counselors and case managers (14.9%); non-Asian domestic violence programs (12.8%); and legal assistance programs (12.8%).
- ◆ Types of most helpful response: Information and referrals (53.7%); displays of caring and/or concern e.g., showing concern for the survivor, willingness to help, “being there for me,” “standing by me,” taking personal interest in the survivor, and being supportive (34.2%); tangible and concrete assistance e.g. a place to stay, monetary help, and food (26.8%); and emotional support (24.4%).

The Chemtob et al. Study asked 25 abused women with children in Hawaii the most important reason for remaining in the abusive relationship in each of five categories of needs:<sup>76</sup>

- ◆ Of basic needs, need for shelter ranked highest (40%); of maternal needs (children’s needs), father for children (72%) and shelter for children (24%) were mentioned; of relationship needs, need for companionship (44%) and need to be a good wife (16%) were mentioned; and of the social needs related to parents, parents’ feelings toward them (24%) and being considered a failure in the marriage (24%) ranked highest. Similarly, of the social needs related to friends, friends’ feelings toward them (12%) and being considered a failure in the marriage (12%) ranked highest.

Immigration and refugee resettlement are often associated with a disruption in the social support network and a sense of isolation:

- ◆ Over 90% of Vietnamese women in Boston interviewed in the Tran Study had 0–2 people as sources of support.<sup>77</sup>
- ◆ In the Yoshihama Study in Los Angeles, first-generation Japanese respondents (those who were born in Japan and immigrated to the U.S. after age 13) had the smallest number of individuals who provided social support, and were the least satisfied with the available social support of the four generations of respondents interviewed in this study.<sup>78</sup>
- ◆ Of the three groups studied in the Yoshioka et al. Study, African American, Hispanic and South Asian women had the fewest family members residing in the local area or in the U.S. compared to the other groups.<sup>79</sup>

### (b) Help-Seeking from Law Enforcement over the Lifecourse

The Lifecourse IPV & Help-seeking Study<sup>80</sup> found that Asian women do in fact call the police, contrary to the common perception that they do not. In the study:

- ◆ 51.7% of Filipina and 55.4% of Indian and Pakistani abused women called the police at least once before the study.
- ◆ If respondents contacted both a domestic violence program and the police, they were more likely to have contacted the police first. Similarly, if respondents reached out to both the police and legal service programs, a majority of them reached out to the police first. The police appear to be an important gateway to services for women.

<sup>76</sup> Chemtob CM, Carlson JG, Perrone P. *Domestic Violence in Hawai’i: Impact on Mothers and Their Children*. Honolulu, HI: State of Hawai’i Department of the Attorney General; 2000.

<sup>77</sup> Tran CG; Domestic violence among Vietnamese refugee women: Prevalence, abuse characteristics, psychiatric symptoms, and psychosocial factors. Unpublished doctoral dissertation, Boston University, Boston, MA; 1997.

<sup>78</sup> Yoshihama M. Battered women's coping strategies and psychological distress: Differences by immigration status. *American Journal of Community Psychology*. 2002; 30:429-452.

<sup>79</sup> Yoshioka MR, Gilbert L, El-Bassel N, Baig-Amin M. Social support and disclosure of abuse: Comparing South Asian, African American, and Hispanic battered women. *Journal of Family Violence*. 2003; 18:171-180.

<sup>80</sup> Yoshihama M, Bybee D, Dabby C, Blazeovski J. Lifecourse experiences of intimate partner violence and help-seeking among Filipina, Indian, and Pakistani women: Implications for justice system responses. Washington, DC: National Institute of Justice; 2010.

- ◆ For abused Filipina and Indian and Pakistani women, younger women were more likely to contact the police compared to older women.
- ◆ For younger women, the likelihood of calling the police generally increased over the lifecourse; however, the likelihood of older women's calling the police remained low throughout their adult years.
- ◆ Filipina and Indian and Pakistani women who experienced physical violence in a given year were more likely to contact the police in the same year.
- ◆ Similarly, Filipina and Indian and Pakistani women who experienced sexual violence in a given year were more likely to contact the police in the same year.
- ◆ For Indian and Pakistani women, experiencing stalking was associated with a higher likelihood of contacting the police in the same year; but the effect for Filipinas was modest.

### (c) Help-Seeking from Domestic Violence Programs over the Lifecourse

Data on the likelihood of seeking help from domestic violence programs in the Lifecourse IPV & Help-seeking Study showed that:<sup>81</sup>

- ◆ 25.3% of Filipina and 41.1% of Indian and Pakistani women used domestic violence shelters at least once prior to the interview.
- ◆ 31.0% of Filipina and 57.1% of Indian and Pakistani women used non-residential domestic violence programs at least once prior to the interview.
- ◆ Younger women were more likely to use domestic violence programs (shelter or non-residential<sup>82</sup>) compared to their older counterparts, regardless of immigration/generational position.
- ◆ Filipina women were more likely to use domestic violence programs in a given year if they experienced physical violence and stalking, respectively, in that year.
- ◆ Indian and Pakistani women were more likely to use domestic violence programs in a given year if they experienced stalking in the same year.
- ◆ Experiencing sexual violence by intimate partners was not associated with the likelihood of using domestic violence programs for both Filipina and Indian and Pakistani women.

### (d) Help-Seeking from Legal Services over the Lifecourse

The Lifecourse IPV and Help-seeking Study found that:<sup>83</sup>

- ◆ 43.7% of Filipina and 60.7% of Indian and Pakistani women sought legal assistance at least once prior to the interview.
- ◆ Younger Filipina and Indian and Pakistani women were more likely to use legal services compared to their older counterparts, regardless of immigration/generational position.
- ◆ Filipina women were more likely to seek help from legal services in a given year if they experienced physical violence and stalking, respectively, in that year. In addition,

<sup>81</sup> Yoshihama, M., Bybee, D., & Dabby, C. F. Lifecourse trajectories of intimate partner violence and health care seeking among Asian women. Poster session presented at: National Conference on Health & Domestic Violence; 2012 Mar 30; San Francisco, CA.

<sup>82</sup> Domestic violence shelter programs and non-residential domestic violence programs were combined because of relatively low rates of use and substantial overlap in use of these two types of programs.

<sup>83</sup> Yoshihama M, Bybee D, Dabby C, Blazevski J. *Lifecourse experiences of intimate partner violence and help-seeking among Filipina, Indian, and Pakistani women: Implications for justice system responses*. Washington, DC: National Institute of Justice; 2010.

Filipina women were more likely to use legal services in a given year if they had experienced physical violence in previous years.

- ◆ Indian/Pakistani women were more likely to seek legal services in a given year if they experienced stalking in the same year or if they had experienced physical violence in previous years.
- ◆ Experiencing intimate partners' sexual violence was not associated with the probability of using legal services for Filipina and Indian and Pakistani women.

## (e) Lifecourse Trajectory of Seeking Health Care

The Lifecourse IPV and Help-seeking Study found that:<sup>84 85</sup>

### Filipina Women:

- ◆ One in four Filipinas (27.6%) sought healthcare related to IPV at least once prior to the interview.
- ◆ The likelihood of seeking healthcare is very low (almost none) over the lifecourse for Filipina women, regardless of their immigration/generational position.
- ◆ Filipina women were more likely to seek healthcare related to IPV in years in which they experienced injuries, physical violence, and stalking, respectively.
- ◆ There was no significant age cohort difference in the lifecourse trajectory of seeking health care. This pattern was different from those found for the likelihood of contacting the police, legal services, and domestic violence programs discussed above where significant age cohort differences were found.

### Indian/Pakistani Women:

- ◆ Half of Indian and Pakistani women (50.0%) sought healthcare related to intimate partner violence at least once prior to the interview.
- ◆ For Indian/Pakistani women, adjusting for the effects of IPV, healthcare seeking probability increased till mid-30's, then declined slightly.
- ◆ Trajectories of health care seeking varied significantly by immigration/generational position; 1st generation Indian and Pakistani women were more likely to seek healthcare compared with the 1.5+ generations.
- ◆ Healthcare seeking was more likely in years in which Indian and Pakistani women experienced injuries, physical violence, and stalking, respectively.
- ◆ There was no significant age cohort difference in the lifecourse trajectory of seeking health care. This pattern was different from those found for the likelihood of contacting the police, legal services, and domestic violence programs discussed above where significant age cohort effects were found.

## (f) Experiences with Non-Residential Services & Support

The Non-Residential Services & Support Study<sup>86</sup> found that:

- ◆ Asian/Asian American women used domestic violence services and support programs more frequently relative to those in other racial groups of participants: 39% of Asian/Asian American participants had been to a program more than 20 times since

<sup>84</sup> Yoshihama M, Bybee D, Dabby C, Blazeovski J. *Lifecourse experiences of intimate partner violence and help-seeking among Filipina, Indian, and Pakistani women: Implications for justice system responses*. Washington, DC: National Institute of Justice; 2010.

<sup>85</sup> Yoshihama, M., Bybee, D., & Dabby, C. F. Lifecourse trajectories of intimate partner violence and health care seeking among Asian women. Poster session presented at: National Conference on Health & Domestic Violence; 2012 Mar 30; San Francisco, CA.

<sup>86</sup> Lyon E, Bradshaw J, Menard A. *Meeting survivors needs through non-residential domestic violence services and supports: Results of a multi-state study*. Washington, DC: National Institute of Justice; 2011.

their first visit, compared to Hispanic/Latina (29%), White (33%), and African American/Black (17%).

- ◆ Asian/Asian American women were less likely to receive support group services initially, i.e., when they first came to the program (18%) compared to other groups (30-46%). However, at the time of the study, 41% of Asian/Asian American survivors were currently receiving support group services. *[Note: This may suggest that survivors became more comfortable or more likely to access support groups after they had been at a program for a while.]*
- ◆ Asian/Asian American survivors were more likely than the other three groups to be, at the time of the study, to be receiving support services, counseling, and legal advocacy.
- ◆ Compared to other groups, Asian/Asian American participants were less likely to have had the opportunity to obtain help in some of the 54 areas listed in the study, including:
  - “Talking to someone who understands my situation” (30% of Asian/Asian American vs. 33-88% of other groups of participants)
  - “Help staying in my community safely” (64% of Asian/Asian American vs. 73-83% of other groups of participants)
  - Help with previous or other forms of abuse (50% of Asian/Asian American vs. 70-77% of other groups of participants)
  - Help with issues related to unwanted sex (56% of Asian/Asian American vs. 63- 81% of other groups of participants)
  - Help stopping the court case against the abusive partner (38% of Asian/Asian American vs. 63-80% of other groups of participants)
  - Help with cash assistance/vouchers (48% of Asian/Asian American vs. 52-71% of other groups of participants)
  - Help with financial matters, e.g., budgeting (43% of Asian/Asian American vs.54-68% of other groups of participants)
  - Help paying rent/utilities bills (43% of Asian/Asian American vs. 54-73% of other groups of participants)
  - Help with transportation (55% of Asian/Asian American vs. 73-86% of other groups of participants)

## (g) Barriers to Help-Seeking

Data compiled by the National Domestic Violence Hotline reported various barriers to direct services experienced by Asian callers, including:

- ◆ In Calendar Year 2011: Language (36%), immigration status (36%), unavailability of services (16%), transportation (11%), gender (6%), mental health (6%), and older children (2%).<sup>87</sup>
- ◆ In Calendar Year 2012: Language (34%), immigration status (30%), transportation (14%), unavailability of services (9%), services at capacity (6%), gender (5%), mental health (5%), services not available in the area (4%), disabilities (3%), older children (2%), same sex relationship (1%).<sup>88</sup>

The Lifecourse IPV and Help-seeking Study<sup>89</sup> found that the majority of abused Filipina, Indian and Pakistani women turned to criminal justice system (CJS) agencies, such as the police for help but nevertheless, encountered barriers.

<sup>87</sup> National Domestic Violence Hotline. *Caller demographics: Breakdown by ethnicity CY2011*. Austin, TX: Author; 2012.

<sup>88</sup> National Domestic Violence Hotline. *Caller demographics: Breakdown by ethnicity CY2012*. Austin, TX: Author; 2013.

<sup>89</sup> Yoshihama M, Bybee D, Dabby C, Blazeovski J. *Lifecourse experiences of intimate partner violence and help-seeking among Filipina, Indian, and Pakistani women: Implications for justice system responses*. Washington, DC: National Institute of Justice; 2010.

- ◆ **Filipina Women** listed most frequent barriers to include: Lack of knowledge/ familiarity (19.1%), fear of consequences/safety concerns (16.7%), and concerns about immigration status (14.3%).
- ◆ **Indian and Pakistani Women's** most frequent barriers were: Shame/reputation/privacy (32.0%); fear of the consequences/safety concerns (28.0%); hope for change or that they were not ready (28.0%); lack of knowledge/familiarity (24.0%); and factors related to CJS agencies (e.g., the perception that CJS cannot be trusted or that CJS interventions are limited/ineffective; 24.0%).

The 1993 Hawai'i Statewide Domestic Violence Survey based on 311 questionnaires completed by women using domestic violence shelters and counseling programs found:<sup>90</sup>

- ◆ 45% of the respondents reported having never called the police.
- ◆ 54% of the women who did not call the police reported that they had not called because they were too afraid, while 20% reported that they did not have access to a phone.

The Project AWARE Study assessed barriers faced when respondents or other abused Asian women they knew tried to end an abusive relationship:<sup>91</sup>

- ◆ Of the 22 possible barriers listed, the largest proportion (51.9%) indicated "needed to stay for the children," followed by "afraid to be alone (49.6%)" and "love for my partner (47.4%)".
- ◆ Shame ("ashamed of what happened to me" 44.4%), hope for change ("my partner will change" 39.8%), financial concerns ("money" 39.1%), and concerns for "partners' family" (36.8%) were mentioned frequently.
- ◆ Other frequently cited barriers included potential negative consequences of leaving, such as fear of what a partner would do (36.1%) and "afraid of getting a bad reputation (for themselves)" in the community (31.6%).

## 6. SERVICE UTILIZATION<sup>92</sup>

### (a) Data from Community Based Organizations<sup>93</sup>

**Apna Ghar, Inc.:** Chicago, IL, FY 2010 - 2011:<sup>94</sup>

- ◆ 12,000 hours of direct services provided
- ◆ 1,820 crisis calls to the hotline
- ◆ Legal Advocacy:
  - 3,409 hours of individual advocacy with civil, criminal and immigration issues
  - 200 clients: 189 adults and 11 children
- ◆ Counseling Services:
  - 1,558 hours of group and individual counseling
  - 119 clients: 91 adults and 28 children
- ◆ Emergency Shelter:

<sup>90</sup> Hawai'i State Commission on Status of Women; *Domestic Violence Report*. Honolulu, HI: Author; 1993

<sup>91</sup> McDonnell KA, Abdulla SE. *Project AWARE: Research Project*. Washington, DC: Asian/Pacific Islander Domestic Violence Resource Project; 2001.

<sup>92</sup> The authors wish to thank Kathy Moore for gathering the data for this section of the report.

<sup>93</sup> The service utilization data is presented as the information sources stated it. The year refers to the specified calendar year, unless stated otherwise.

<sup>94</sup> Apna Ghar. 2010/2011 Annual Report: Reclaiming and Rebuilding Lives. Retrieved from [http://www.apnagar.org/uploads/9/6/4/4/9644061/annual\\_report\\_fy\\_11.pdf](http://www.apnagar.org/uploads/9/6/4/4/9644061/annual_report_fy_11.pdf) (January 30, 2019).



- 5,194 nights of shelter provided
- 64 clients: 47 adults and 17 children
- ◆ Supervised Visitation and Exchange Services:
  - 1,291 supervised visits and safe exchanges conducted
  - 295 clients: 83 custodial parents, 83 non-custodial parents and 129 children
- ◆ Transitional Housing:
  - 9,705 nights of shelter provided
  - 23 clients: 16 adults and 7 children

**ASHA-Ray of Hope:** Columbus, OH, 2011:<sup>95</sup>

- ◆ 466 helpline calls
- ◆ 33 individuals and their 13 dependents received assistance

**AshaKiran:** Huntsville, AL, 2006 - 2012:<sup>96</sup>

- ◆ 2,236 hope-line calls received
- ◆ 372 clients served, including 77 males

**ASHA for Women:** Rockville, MD, 2012:<sup>97</sup>

- ◆ 387 calls to toll free helpline and email inquiries
- ◆ 73 South Asian women and 50 children receiving long time assistance

**Asian/Pacific Islander Domestic Violence Resource Project (DVRP):** Washington, DC, 2013:<sup>98</sup>

- ◆ 141 people served
- ◆ 84 clients served
- ◆ 57 hotline callers served

**Asian Pacific Islander Legal Outreach:** San Francisco, CA, 2012:<sup>99</sup>

- ◆ 475 survivors of domestic violence made safer

**Asian Pacific Women's Center:** Los Angeles, CA, 2006:<sup>100</sup>

- ◆ Over 5,000 shelter beds for battered women and their children
- ◆ Over 200 hours of case management services, counseling, art workshops and children's conflict resolution workshops

**Asian Task Force Against Domestic Violence:** Boston, MA, 2012:<sup>101</sup>

- ◆ 51 clients served and 3,439 bed nights provided at emergency shelter
- ◆ 990 calls responded to on multi-lingual helpline

<sup>95</sup> Asha-Ray of Hope. Retrieved from <http://www.asharayofhope.org/services/> (March 25, 2013).

<sup>96</sup> AshaKiran. AshaVani: Message of Hope (December, 2012). Retrieved from [http://www.ashakiranonline.org/attachments/265\\_E-Ashvani\\_Dec2012-v6.pdf](http://www.ashakiranonline.org/attachments/265_E-Ashvani_Dec2012-v6.pdf) (March 25, 2013).

<sup>97</sup> ASHA For Women. Newsletter Fall 2012. Retrieved from <http://ashaforwomen.org/asha/wpcontent/uploads/2012/11/ASHA-Fall-Newsletter-11-5-2012.pdf> (March 25, 2013).

<sup>98</sup> Asian/Pacific Islander Domestic Violence Resource Project. Annual Report 2013. Retrieved from <http://share.snacktools.com/A9778BEC5A8/fz9qt44a> (March 19, 2013). Retrieved from <http://dvrp.org/about-dvrphone/our-impact/> (March 2, 2015).

<sup>99</sup> Asian Pacific Islander Legal Outreach. Winter 2012. Retrieved from <http://www.apilegaloutreach.org/downloads/2012Winter.pdf> (February 19, 2013).

<sup>100</sup> Asian Pacific Women's Center. Retrieved from <http://www.apwcla.org/about-us/history.html> (March 19, 2013).

<sup>101</sup> Asian Task Force Against Domestic Violence. 2012 Annual Report. Retrieved from [http://www.atask.org/site/images/pdf/annual\\_report/2012\\_annual\\_report.pdf](http://www.atask.org/site/images/pdf/annual_report/2012_annual_report.pdf) (March 19, 2013).

- ◆ 493 clients assisted with safety planning, housing, health care, public benefits, employment, immigration and legal issues, mental health referrals and financial literacy/life skills at community-based sites
- ◆ 34 survivors participated in English classes, gained financial literacy, job readiness and other life skills
- ◆ Over 80 clients received on-site legal advocacy services

**Asian Women's Home:** San Jose, CA, 2012:<sup>102</sup>

- ◆ 1,976 callers responded to over 24-hour crisis line
- ◆ Over 200 victims of abuse sheltered and supported

**Asian Women's Shelter:** San Francisco, CA, FY 2011 – 2012:<sup>103</sup>

- ◆ 1,060 multilingual hotline calls in 40 languages. Of these:
  - 29.9% were from Asian identified callers
- ◆ 48 residents were sheltered. Of those:
  - 83.3% spoke limited English
  - 62.5% of them were API-identified
- ◆ 1,098.3 hours of language support were provided to residents and crisis callers by AWS language advocates

**Asian Women United of Minnesota (AWUM):** Minneapolis, MN, 2010:<sup>104</sup>

- ◆ 666 crisis calls answered
- ◆ 153 people provided temporary emergency shelter; 76 were women and 77 were children
- ◆ 1,317 individuals participated in the community advocacy program

**Center for the Pacific Asian Family (CPAF):** Los Angeles, CA, 2013:<sup>105</sup>

- ◆ 2,568 domestic violence and sexual assault calls received on crisis line in 20 languages
- ◆ 103 women and children surviving domestic violence and sexual assault received 6,680 nights of emergency shelter
- ◆ 5,395 nights of transitional housing provided to 27 women and children

**DAYA, Inc.:** Houston, TX, 2012:<sup>106</sup>

- ◆ 5,582 client calls
- ◆ 315 clients helped; of which 239 were new clients

**Domestic Violence Action Center:** Honolulu, HI, 2012:<sup>107</sup>

- ◆ 2,688 calls received on helpline
- ◆ 289 family court cases opened and 243 cases closed
- ◆ 333 court appearances at family court made by agency attorneys

<sup>102</sup> Asian Women's Home. Retrieved from <http://dv.aaci.org/> (March 19, 2013).

<sup>103</sup> Email communication to Kathy Moore, API Institute from Wei-Mei Hung, Asian Women's Shelter: April 3, 2013.

<sup>104</sup> Asian Women United of Minnesota. 2010 Annual Report. Retrieved from [http://www.awum.org/wpcontent/uploads/2012/08/AWUM\\_annual\\_report\\_2010-FINAL-digital-version.pdf](http://www.awum.org/wpcontent/uploads/2012/08/AWUM_annual_report_2010-FINAL-digital-version.pdf) (March 26, 2013).

<sup>105</sup> Center for the Pacific Asian Family. Annual Report 2012. Retrieved from <https://cpaf-wp-content.s3.amazonaws.com/uploads/2016/11/Annual-Report-20131.pdf> (January 30, 2019).

<sup>106</sup> DAYA, Inc. Statistics on Domestic Violence. Retrieved from <http://www.dayahouston.org/statistics.php> (March 20, 2013)

<sup>107</sup> Domestic Violence Action Center. Annual Report 2012. Retrieved from [https://domesticviolenceactioncenter.files.wordpress.com/2017/05/dvac\\_fy2012\\_annual\\_report\\_web.pdf](https://domesticviolenceactioncenter.files.wordpress.com/2017/05/dvac_fy2012_annual_report_web.pdf) (January 30, 2019).

- ◆ 200 long-term advocacy cases opened and 183 cases closed

**Foundation for Appropriate and Immediate Temporary Help (FAITH):** Herndon, VA, 2010 – 2013:<sup>108</sup>

- ◆ Approximately 40 to 50 clients requesting domestic violence services during the year

**Hamdard Center:** Addison, IL, 2013 – 2014:<sup>109</sup>

- ◆ 1,621 hotline calls received
- ◆ Domestic violence services:
  - 96 clients served
  - 2,715 counseling/advocacy hours
  - 10 clients served in Transitional Housing program
  - 23 men served in Partner Abuse Intervention Program

**Immigrant and Refugee Community Organization (IRCO):** Portland, OR, 2013:<sup>110</sup>

- ◆ 5,357 clients received family and domestic violence services

**International Institute of the Bay Area:** San Francisco, CA, 2009 - 2010:<sup>111</sup>

- ◆ 500 clients gained greater safety

**Kiran, Inc.:** Raleigh, NC, 2012:<sup>112</sup>

- ◆ 243 hotline calls received (January – June)

**Korean Family Services:** Los Angeles, CA, 2013:<sup>113</sup>

- ◆ 139 family violence intervention and prevention clients

**Korean American Family Service Center:** Flushing, NY, 2011:<sup>114</sup>

- ◆ 1,378 domestic violence/sexual assault related hotline calls received
- ◆ 1,135 domestic violence cases
- ◆ 38 support group participants (WISH: Women with Independence, Support and Hope)
- ◆ 41 individual legal clinic participants
- ◆ 2,180 individual (phone and/or in-person) counseling sessions
- ◆ 1,328 units of advocacy services
- ◆ 11 women and children in Transitional Housing units

**Korean Women's Association:** Tacoma, WA:<sup>115</sup>

- ◆ Over 100 victims of domestic violence and sexual abuse sheltered annually

<sup>108</sup> Foundation for Appropriate and Immediate Temporary Help (FAITH) Social Services. Retrieved from [http://www.faithus.org/filemgmt\\_data/files/DVProgramDescription.pdf](http://www.faithus.org/filemgmt_data/files/DVProgramDescription.pdf) (March 20, 2013).

<sup>109</sup> Hamdard Center. Annual Report 2013-2014. Retrieved from <http://www.hamdardcenter.org/annualreportfy12> (March 2, 2015).

<sup>110</sup> Immigrant and Refugee Community Organization. Retrieved from <http://www.irco.org/programs/familyservices/refugee-and-immigrant-family-strengthening/> (March 2, 2015).

<sup>111</sup> International Institute of the Bay Area. IIBA Annual Report 2010. Retrieved from [http://www.iibayarea.org/wpcontent/themes/institute/resources/annualreports/ar\\_2014.pdf](http://www.iibayarea.org/wpcontent/themes/institute/resources/annualreports/ar_2014.pdf) (March 2, 2015).

<sup>112</sup> Garfield, M. (2012, October 30). City weighs response to domestic violence cases. Midtown Raleigh News. Retrieved from <http://www.midtownraleighnews.com/2012/10/30/v-print/18857/city-weighs-response-todomestic.html> (March 20, 2013).

<sup>113</sup> Korean Family Services. Annual Report 2010. Retrieved from <http://kfamla.org/wpcontent/uploads/2013/04/Click-here-for-KFAMs-2013-Annual-Report.pdf> (March 2, 2015).

<sup>114</sup> 4 Korean American Family Service Center. 23rd Annual Benefit Gala: Journey of Hope. Retrieved from [http://www.kafsc.org/images/uploads/whatwedo/23rd\\_KAFSC\\_Annual\\_report.pdf](http://www.kafsc.org/images/uploads/whatwedo/23rd_KAFSC_Annual_report.pdf) (March 20, 2013).

<sup>115</sup> Korean Women's Association. Retrieved from <http://www.kwacares.org/services/domestic-violence-assistance/> (March 26, 2013).

- ◆ 15,700 meals served annually

**MAI Family Services:** Livonia, MI, 2012:

- ◆ 33 new calls on helpline between January – April, 2012<sup>116</sup>
- ◆ 30 new calls on helpline between April – July, 2012<sup>117</sup>
- ◆ 43 new clients assisted between July – December, 2012<sup>118</sup>

**Maitri:** Santa Clara, CA, 2012:<sup>119</sup>

- ◆ Helpline Program:
  - 269 crisis calls received
  - 1,048 ongoing client calls
- ◆ Legal Advocacy Program:
  - 25 crisis intervention
  - 168 individuals (unduplicated) provided legal advocacy in 630 sessions
  - 30 immigration-related help
- ◆ 150 peer counseling sessions
- ◆ Transitional Housing Program:
  - 33 clients served
  - 4,896 bed nights
  - 398 case management sessions

**My Sister's House:** Sacramento, CA, 2012:<sup>120</sup>

- ◆ 5,992 nights of shelter provided
- ◆ 4,286 clients assisted
- ◆ 2,043 crisis line callers helped with safety planning and information

**Narika:** Berkeley, CA, 2012:<sup>121</sup>

- ◆ 1,410 calls received on helpline
- ◆ Over 191 women received case management, referrals, and/or advocacy assistance

**New Mexico Asian Family Center:** Albuquerque, NM, FY 2013 – 2014:<sup>122</sup>

- ◆ 623 individuals received services
- ◆ 50% of direct services were provided to victims and survivors of domestic violence

**New York Asian Women's Center:** New York, NY, 2009 – 2010:<sup>123</sup>

<sup>116</sup> Mai Family Services. News & Views (April 2012). Retrieved from <https://www.maifs.org/Portals/0/April12newsletter.pdf> (January 30, 2019).

<sup>117</sup> Mai Family Services. News & Views (August 2012). Retrieved from <https://www.maifs.org/Portals/0/august12newsletter.pdf> (January 30, 2019).

<sup>118</sup> Mai Family Services. News & Views (December 2012). Retrieved from <https://www.maifs.org/Portals/0/december12newsletter.pdf> (January 30, 2019).

<sup>119</sup> Maitri. Between Friends, Volume 19 Issue 4 (January, 2013). Retrieved from <http://maitri.org/outreach/newsletters/> (March 20, 2013).

<sup>120</sup> My Sister's House. Annual Report: 2012. Retrieved from <https://prezi.com/qdu6ew4mbuyd/my-sisters-houseannual-report/> (March 2, 2015).

<sup>121</sup> Narika. Narika Annual Report (n.d.). Retrieved from [http://www.slideshare.net/megha6/2011-narika-annualreport?utm\\_source=slideshow02&utm\\_medium=ssemail&utm\\_campaign=new\\_embed\\_share](http://www.slideshare.net/megha6/2011-narika-annualreport?utm_source=slideshow02&utm_medium=ssemail&utm_campaign=new_embed_share) (March 20, 2013)

<sup>122</sup> New Mexico Asian Family Center. New Mexico Asian Family Center 2014 Fiscal year Donor's Report. Retrieved from <http://nmafc.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/FY14-Donor-report.pdf> (March 2, 2015).

<sup>123</sup> New York Asian Women's Center. New York Asian Women's Center 2009-2010 Biennial Report. Retrieved from <http://www.nyawc.org/news-pdfs/BiennialReport2009-2010.pdf> (March 20, 2013).

- ◆ 12,705 calls received on multilingual hotline
- ◆ 1,380 domestic violence survivors provided with counseling, safety planning, legal advocacy, help navigating New York City's entitlement system and other services
- ◆ 325 women and children were sheltered in two residences
- ◆ 250 children who witnessed mothers' abuse and/or were abused themselves received services
- ◆ 63 women received assistance finding employment

**Refugee Women's Association (ReWA):** Seattle, WA, 2012:<sup>124</sup>

- ◆ 545 survivors of domestic violence received counseling, assistance and support

**Sahara of South Florida:** Miami, FL, April, 2011 – March, 2012:<sup>125</sup>

- ◆ 36 direct service clients served
- ◆ 126 visits made to clients
- ◆ 360 direct service hours provided
- ◆ 291 referrals made to other community resources

**Saheli for Asian Families (now, Asian Family Support Services of Austin):** Austin, TX, 2011:<sup>126</sup>

- ◆ 280 callers received information, referrals and safety planning through helpline
- ◆ 353 adults and children received legal advocacy, safety planning and access to food and shelter
- ◆ Over 440 hours of culturally specific therapeutic counseling provided

**SEWA-Asian Indian Family Wellness:** Minneapolis, MN, 2012:<sup>127</sup>

- ◆ Average of 30 calls per month received on crisis line
- ◆ Over 250 women benefitted from Women's Empowerment Program activities

**Texas Muslim Women's Foundation:** Plano, TX, 2014:<sup>128</sup>

- ◆ Over 600 clients assisted
- ◆ 109 clients served in the shelter

**Women Helping Women:** Wailuku, HI, July 2010 – June 2011:<sup>129</sup>

- ◆ 1,013 hotline crisis calls
- ◆ 113 women and 118 children sheltered
- ◆ 158 temporary restraining orders prepared

## (b) Statewide Service Utilization Data

**Colorado:** 2011:<sup>130</sup>

<sup>124</sup> ReWA. Retrieved from <http://www.rewa.org/?q=node/21> (March 21, 2013).

<sup>125</sup> Sahara of South Florida. Retrieved from <http://www.saharafi.org/what-do-we-do/statistical-reports.html> (March 21, 2013).

<sup>126</sup> SAHEL for Asian Families. Annual Report 2011. Retrieved from <http://www.saheli-austin.org/d6/sites/saheliaustin.org/files/2011%20SAHEL%20Annual%20Report%20%20Single.pdf> (March 21, 2013).

<sup>127</sup> SEWA-Asian Indian Family Wellness. Retrieved from <http://www.sewa-aifw.org/joomla/achievements> (March 21, 2013).

<sup>128</sup> Texas Muslim Women's Foundation. Retrieved from <http://tmwf.org/news-updates/executive-directorreflections/#.VPU8il05AuQ> (March 2, 2015).

<sup>129</sup> Women Helping Women. February 2012 Newsletter. Retrieved from [http://www.whwmaui.net/images/newsletter\\_2012.pdf](http://www.whwmaui.net/images/newsletter_2012.pdf) (March 21, 2013).

<sup>130</sup> Colorado Department of Human Services. (2011). Domestic Violence Program: 2011 Annual Report. Retrieved from

- ◆ 347 Asian clients were served by domestic violence crisis centers

#### **Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI):<sup>131</sup>**

- ◆ 63 domestic violence victims found refuge in emergency shelters or transitional housing provided by local domestic violence programs, based to statistics collected on a single day, 9-12-2012, by the NNEDV Census

#### **Florida:** July 2011 – June 2012:<sup>132</sup>

- ◆ 97 Asian American and 128 Middle Eastern individuals were served in residential programs
- ◆ 266 Asian American and 176 Middle Eastern individuals were served in non-residential programs

#### **Guam:**

- ◆ 16 domestic violence victims found refuge in emergency shelters or transitional housing based to statistics collected on a single day, 9-12-2012, by the NNEDV Census<sup>133</sup>
- ◆ Over 700 families received family visitation services from 2000 - 2013<sup>134</sup>

#### **Indiana:** July 2011 – June 2012:<sup>135</sup>

- ◆ Approximately 38 Asian and 12 Pacific Islander adult domestic violence victims were served in Indiana emergency shelters

#### **Iowa:** FY 2010:<sup>136</sup>

- ◆ 259 Asian women were served by domestic violence and sexual assault providers

#### **Nebraska:** October 2010 – September 2011:<sup>137</sup>

- \* 161 Asian and 36 Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander clients were served in funded programs funded by HHS and Nevada Department of HHS.

#### **New Jersey:** 2010:<sup>138</sup>

- ◆ Approximately 33 Asian and 3 Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander victims were sheltered
- ◆ Approximately 241 Asian and 27 Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander victims received non-residential services

#### **New Mexico:**<sup>139</sup>

- ◆ Approximately 82 adult victims served by domestic violence service programs from

<http://www.colorado.gov/cs/Satellite?blobcol=urldata&blobheader=application%2Fpdf&blobkey=id&blobtable=MungoBlobs&blobwhere=1251786599822&ssbinary=true> (March 27, 2013).

<sup>131</sup> National Network to End Domestic Violence. 2012 Domestic Violence Counts: Northern Mariana Islands. Retrieved from [https://nnedv.org/mdocs-posts/census\\_2012\\_handout\\_state-summary\\_mp/](https://nnedv.org/mdocs-posts/census_2012_handout_state-summary_mp/) (January 30, 2019).

<sup>132</sup> State of Florida Department of Children and Families. Domestic Violence Annual Report: 7/1/2011 – 6/30/2012. Retrieved from [http://www.dcf.state.fl.us/programs/domesticviolence/publications/docs/DVData2011\\_2012.pdf](http://www.dcf.state.fl.us/programs/domesticviolence/publications/docs/DVData2011_2012.pdf) (March 27, 2013).

<sup>133</sup> National Network to End Domestic Violence. 2012 Domestic Violence Counts: Northern Mariana Islands. Retrieved from [https://nnedv.org/mdocs-posts/census\\_2012\\_handout\\_state-summary\\_gu/](https://nnedv.org/mdocs-posts/census_2012_handout_state-summary_gu/) (January 30, 2019).

<sup>134</sup> Erica's House. Retrieved from <http://ericashouse.150m.com/about.html> (March 20, 2013)

<sup>135</sup> Indiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence. Indiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence Program Statistics July 1, 2011 – June 30, 2012. Retrieved from <http://www.icadvinc.org.php53-6.dfw1-1.websitetestlink.com/wpcontent/uploads/2012/11/2011-2012-Indiana-program-stats.pdf> (March 27, 2013)

<sup>136</sup> Monsoon. Asian Women and Violence in Iowa: Iowa Attorney General's Crime Victims Assistance Division FY 2010 Statistics. Retrieved from <http://www.muawi.org/pages/page.php?pageid=1> (March 20, 2013).

<sup>137</sup> Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services. Performance Progress Report. Retrieved from [http://dhhs.ne.gov/children\\_family\\_services/Documents/FVPSPProgressReport.pdf](http://dhhs.ne.gov/children_family_services/Documents/FVPSPProgressReport.pdf) (March 27, 2013).

<sup>138</sup> New Jersey Coalition for Battered Women. NJCBW Statistical Summary – 2010. Retrieved from [http://www.njcbw.org/documents/NJCBW\\_Statistical\\_Summary\\_10.pdf](http://www.njcbw.org/documents/NJCBW_Statistical_Summary_10.pdf) and <http://www.njcbw.org/documents/RaceChart10color.pdf> (March 27, 2013).

<sup>139</sup> Caponera, B. (2011). Domestic Violence Trends in New Mexico, 2005-2009: An Analysis of Data from the New Mexico Interpersonal Violence Data Central Repository, Abridged. Retrieved from [https://www.nmcadv.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/08/Betty\\_Caponera\\_DV\\_Trends\\_in\\_NM\\_2005-2009\\_ABRIDGED\\_web.pdf](https://www.nmcadv.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/08/Betty_Caponera_DV_Trends_in_NM_2005-2009_ABRIDGED_web.pdf) (January 30, 2019).

2005 – 2009 were Asian

- ◆ 38 Asian adult victims and 3 child victim-witnesses were served by domestic violence service providers in 2009

**Oregon:** January – December 2011:<sup>140</sup>

- ◆ 36 Asian/Southeast Asian, 23 Hawaiian/Pacific Islander and 2 Middle-Eastern/Arab adult survivors were sheltered
- ◆ 343 Asian/Southeast Asian, 198 Hawaiian/Pacific Islander and 89 Middle-Eastern/Arab people were served; of whom:
  - 300 Asian/Southeast Asian, 176 Hawaiian/Pacific Islander and 85 Middle-Eastern/Arab adults and teens were domestic violence survivors
  - 24 Asian/Southeast Asian, 24 Hawaiian/Pacific Islander and 16 Middle-Eastern/Arab adults and teens were survivors of sexual assault
  - 8 Asian/Southeast Asian, 7 Hawaiian/Pacific Islander and 8 Middle-Eastern/Arab adults and teens were survivors of stalking

**Washington:** July 2008 – June 2009:<sup>141</sup>

- ◆ Approximately 335 new Asian adult survivors and children received emergency domestic violence shelter or nonresidential domestic violence advocacy services for the first time from Dept. of Social and Health Services contracted agencies

**Wisconsin Family Strengthening Project:** 2007:<sup>142</sup>

- ◆ 1,673 women, 627 children, and 56 men of Southeast Asian (predominantly Hmong) victims of domestic abuse served
- ◆ Over 900 calls were received on the Statewide Bilingual Hmong-English Hotline

## 7. HEALTH AND MENTAL HEALTH CONSEQUENCES

In the Chemtob et al. Study of abused mothers and their children in Hawaii<sup>143</sup>

- ◆ 46% of mothers and 42% of children were diagnosed with Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) based on the Posttraumatic Diagnostic Scale.
- ◆ Mothers with PTSD had elevated depressive and dissociative symptoms. However, there was no significant association between the likelihood of PTSD in the mothers and likelihood of PTSD in children.

In a study of a convenience sample of 208 South Asian women recruited through community outreach in the Greater Boston area, women who reported intimate partner violence were more likely than those without such violence to:

- ◆ Indicate that they had experienced “poor physical health in 7 or more of the last 30 days” (19.5% vs. 6.7%), “depression [in] 7 or more of the last 30 days” (31.8% vs. 10.2%), “anxiety [in] 7 or more of the last 30 days” (34.1% vs. 20.1%), and “suicidal ideation during the last year” (15.9% vs. 2.5%).<sup>144</sup>

<sup>140</sup> DHS Child Welfare Programs (April 2012). Striving to Meet the Need: Summary of Services Provided by Sexual and Domestic Violence Programs in Oregon. Retrieved from [https://www.oregon.gov/DHS/ABUSE/DOMESTIC/Documents/dv\\_sa\\_11summary.pdf](https://www.oregon.gov/DHS/ABUSE/DOMESTIC/Documents/dv_sa_11summary.pdf) (January 30, 2019). Note, report indicates “a person may identify with more than one ethnicity” (p. 11) and “a person can identify with more than one race or ethnicity, so this is not an unduplicated count” (p. 14, 15, 16).

<sup>141</sup> Washington State Department of Social and Health Services. 2009 Washington State Emergency Domestic Violence Shelter and Advocacy Services. Retrieved from [https://www.dshs.wa.gov/sites/default/files/CA/dv/documents/Dom\\_Violence\\_Report.pdf](https://www.dshs.wa.gov/sites/default/files/CA/dv/documents/Dom_Violence_Report.pdf) (January 30, 2019).

<sup>142</sup> Email communication to Chic Dabby from Sharon Lewandowski, Wisconsin Department of Children and Families: October 22, 2008.

<sup>143</sup> Chemtob CM, Carlson JG, Perrone P. *Domestic Violence in Hawai'i: Impact on Mothers and Their Children*. Honolulu, HI: State of Hawai'i Department of the Attorney General; 2000.

<sup>144</sup> Hurwitz EJH, Gupta J, Liu R, Silverman JG, Raj A. Intimate partner violence associated with poor health outcomes in

- ◆ Report “discolored vaginal discharge in the past year” (36.4% vs. 17.8%), “burning during urination in the past year” (44.2% vs. 20.4%), and “unwanted pregnancy ever” (23.3% vs. 7.4%).<sup>145</sup>

In the Yoshihama Study of a random sample of women of Japanese decent in Los Angeles:

- ◆ 36.4% of women who experienced partner violence were estimated to develop PTSD by age 49 (the maximum age of the respondents)<sup>146</sup> based on a modified National Women’s Study PTSD Module.<sup>147</sup>
- ◆ Compared to those who had not experienced partner violence, the probability of developing PTSD was almost two to three times higher for those who had experienced partner violence.<sup>148</sup>
- ◆ The severity of partners’ emotional violence was associated with the level of current psychological distress.<sup>149</sup>

In the Yoshihama Study of Japanese immigrant and Japanese American women:<sup>150</sup>

- ◆ For the Japan-born, the more effective they perceived “passive/discreet” coping strategies, the lower their psychological distress whereas the more effective they perceived “active” strategies, the higher their psychological distress.
- ◆ In contrast, for U.S.-born Japanese women, the higher the perceived effectiveness of “active” strategies, the lower their psychological distress, and the perceived effectiveness of “passive/discreet” strategies had little effect on their psychological distress.

A study of 61 Asian battered women (in California and Texas) and 100 Caucasian battered women (in Texas) examined the relationships among social support, coping strategies, and psychological outcome.<sup>151</sup> Notable differences between Asians and Caucasians were found:

- ◆ The level of intimate partners’ violence was significantly associated with worse psychological outcome among Asian but not Caucasian battered women.
- ◆ For Asian battered women, psychological outcome was not associated with problem-focused coping, seeking support, or using “passive” coping.
- ◆ In contrast, for Caucasian battered women, use of “passive” coping was associated with worse psychological outcome.

In the Yick Study of a random sample of Chinese men and women in Los Angeles:<sup>152</sup>

- ◆ Those who experienced verbal and physical aggression by a spouse/intimate partner in the last 12 months were more likely to experience depressive symptoms.
- ◆ Those who perpetrated physical aggression against their partner were more likely to experience somatic symptoms.

In the Project AWARE Study:<sup>153</sup>

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U.S. South Asian women. *Journal of Immigrant and Minority Health*. 2006; 8:251-261

<sup>145</sup> Raj A, Liu R, McCleary-Sills J, Silverman JG. South Asian victims of intimate partner violence more likely than non-victims to report sexual health concerns. *Journal of Immigrant Health*. 2005; 7:85-91.

<sup>146</sup> This adjusted estimate is probably still an underestimate of lifetime PTSD, as women over the age of 49 may develop PTSD, but were not represented in the sample.

<sup>147</sup> Yoshihama M, Horrocks J. The relationship between intimate partner violence and PTSD: An application of the Cox regression with time-varying covariates. *Journal of Traumatic Stress*. 2003; 16:371-380.

<sup>148</sup> Ibid.

<sup>149</sup> Yoshihama M. Model minority demystified: Emotional costs of multiple victimizations in the lives of women of Japanese descent. *Journal of Human Behavior in the Social Environment*. 2001; 3:201-224.

<sup>150</sup> Yoshihama M. Battered women's coping strategies and psychological distress: Differences by immigration status. *American Journal of Community Psychology*. 2002; 30:429-452.

<sup>151</sup> Lee J, Pomeroy E, Bohman T. Intimate partner violence and psychological health in a sample of Asian and Caucasian women: The roles of social support and coping. *J. Fam. Violence*. 2007;22(8):709-720.

<sup>152</sup> Yick AG, Shibusawa T, Agbayani-Siewert P. Partner violence, depression, and practice implications with families of Chinese descent. *Journal of Cultural Diversity*. 2003; 10:96-104.

<sup>153</sup> McDonnell KA, Abdulla SE. *Project AWARE: Research Project*. Washington, DC: Asian/Pacific Islander Domestic Violence Resource Project; 2001.



- ◆ Respondents or women they knew had experienced a wide range of “psychological injuries,” by their intimate partners including: feeling helpless (65.2%), lowered self-esteem (62.1%), depressed (59.1%), ashamed (57.6%), hopeless (49.2%), anxious (46.2%), and suicidal (17.4%).

Long-term effects of intimate partner violence were documented in several studies:

- ◆ The participants in the Chemtob et al. Study in Hawaii had been out of the abusive relationship on average more than two years; however, a significant minority (46% of mothers and 42% of children) were suffering from PTSD at the time of the study.<sup>154</sup>
- ◆ Yoshihama and Horrocks found that women who had experienced an intimate partner’s physical and/or emotional violence more than one year ago reported experiencing a larger number of posttraumatic symptoms than those without a history of partner violence.<sup>155</sup>
- ◆ Similarly, the Yoshihama’s study, there was no significant association between the timing of experiencing domestic violence and the probability of developing PTSD; suggesting that the effects of intimate partners’ violence do not necessarily decrease over time.<sup>156</sup>

Emotional abuse (non-physical violence) by a partner also has a significant negative effect on women’s mental health:

- ◆ In the Yoshihama Study in Los Angeles, women of Japanese descent who experienced emotional violence in the absence of physical violence reported a significantly higher number of avoidance symptoms and somewhat elevated re-experiencing of symptoms.<sup>157</sup> [Note: Conventionally, posttraumatic stress disorder includes re-experiencing, avoidance/numbing, and arousal symptoms.]
- ◆ The Tran Study of Vietnamese women in Boston found that the severity of verbal abuse was significantly associated with symptoms of posttraumatic stress, depression, and anxiety; and that the duration of verbal abuse was associated with posttraumatic stress symptoms, depression, and somatic symptoms.<sup>158</sup>

Studies have documented what is referred to as a ‘dose-response type’ of relationship between the severity of violence (‘dose’) and symptom intensity, i.e., worse health outcomes (‘response’):

- ◆ The Tran Study of Vietnamese women in Boston found that both the severity and duration of partner violence were significantly associated with levels of posttraumatic stress and depression symptoms.<sup>159</sup>
- ◆ The Yoshihama Study of Japanese women in Los Angeles found that women who had experienced injuries and/or feared for their life reported significantly higher symptoms of posttraumatic stress, especially re-experiencing and avoidance/numbing symptoms, than those with no experience of partners’ violence in their lifetime.<sup>160</sup>

## 8. EXPOSURE TO FAMILY VIOLENCE IN CHILDHOOD

In the Asian Task Force Study:<sup>161</sup>

<sup>154</sup> Chemtob CM, Carlson JG, Perrone P. *Domestic Violence in Hawai’i: Impact on Mothers and Their Children*. Honolulu, HI: State of Hawai’i Department of the Attorney General; 2000.

<sup>155</sup> Yoshihama M, Horrocks J. Posttraumatic stress symptoms and victimization among Japanese American women. *Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology*. 2002; 70:205-215.

<sup>156</sup> Yoshihama M, Horrocks J. The relationship between intimate partner violence and PTSD: An application of the Cox regression with time-varying covariates. *Journal of Traumatic Stress*. 2003; 16:371-380.

<sup>157</sup> Yoshihama M, Horrocks J. Posttraumatic stress symptoms and victimization among Japanese American women. *Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology*. 2002; 70:205-215.

<sup>158</sup> Tran CG; Domestic violence among Vietnamese refugee women: Prevalence, abuse characteristics, psychiatric symptoms, and psychosocial factors. Unpublished doctoral dissertation, Boston University, Boston, MA; 1997.

<sup>159</sup> Ibid.

<sup>160</sup> Yoshihama M, Horrocks J. Posttraumatic stress symptoms and victimization among Japanese American women. *Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology*. 2002; 70:205-215.

<sup>161</sup> Yoshioka M, Dang Q. Asian Family Violence Report: A Study of the Cambodian, Chinese, Korean, South Asian, and

- ◆ 69% of the overall respondents reported being hit regularly as children. The proportion of respondents who were hit regularly by their parents as children varied slightly across ethnic groups: Cambodian (70%), Chinese (61%), Koreans (80%), South Asians (79%), and Vietnamese (72%).
- ◆ The proportion of respondents who reported having witnessed their fathers regularly hit their mothers was 28% for Cambodians, 18% for Chinese, 30% for Koreans, 8% for South Asians, and 27% for Vietnamese.

In the Yoshihama Study of Japanese immigrants and Japanese American women in Los Angeles:

- ◆ 13.3% of the respondents reported having experienced physical abuse during childhood.<sup>162</sup>
- ◆ 36.4% of the first generation respondents (those born in Japan and immigrated to the U.S. after age 13), and 13.2% of the 1.5, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> generations (U.S. born) generation respondents reported that their father had abused their mother.<sup>163</sup>

In the Shimtuh Study in the San Francisco Bay Area:<sup>164</sup>

- ◆ 33% of the respondents (women and men) reported their fathers hit their mothers at least once.

In the Chemtob et al. Study of abused mothers and their children in Hawai'i:<sup>165</sup>

- ◆ 91% of mothers reported that their children had witnessed their father's violence against their mother (domestic violence by the father); 56% of the mothers stated that their children had attempted to intervene.
- ◆ 80% of the children witnessed the father's domestic violence at least monthly, with 40% witnessing it on a daily basis. In addition, 80% of the mothers considered the level of distress in their children to be "extreme."
- ◆ A majority of children were reported to have suffered abuse: 72% of the mothers reported that their children had been physically abused; and 12%, sexually abused.
- ◆ Over half of the mothers, 56%, rated the level of abuse against their children as "extreme."

## 9. DOMESTIC VIOLENCE RELATED HOMICIDES

The Asian & Pacific Islander Institute on Domestic Violence analyzed 160 cases of domestic violence related homicides in Asian families based on newspaper clippings and information from advocates for a six-year period from 2000–2005.<sup>166</sup>

### Types of Homicides and Fatalities:

- ◆ Of the total of 160 domestic violence related homicide cases identified:
- ◆ 72% (115) were intimate partner homicide cases
- ◆ 16% (25) were non-intimate family killing cases, i.e. child killings, extended family killings, matricide and parricide cases

Vietnamese Communities in Massachusetts. Boston, MA: Asian Task Force Against Domestic Violence; 2000.

<sup>162</sup> Yoshihama M, Horrocks J. Posttraumatic stress symptoms and victimization among Japanese American women. *Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology*. 2002; 70:205-215.

<sup>163</sup> Yoshihama M. Model minority demystified: Emotional costs of multiple victimizations in the lives of women of Japanese descent. *Journal of Human Behavior in the Social Environment*. 2001; 3:201-224.

<sup>164</sup> Shimtuh (Korean Domestic Violence Program). Korean American Community of the Bay Area Domestic Violence Needs Assessment Report. Oakland, CA: Author; 2000.

<sup>165</sup> Chemtob CM, Carlson JG, Perrone P. *Domestic Violence in Hawai'i: Impact on Mothers and Their Children*. Honolulu, HI: State of Hawai'i Department of the Attorney General; 2000.

<sup>166</sup> Dabby C, Patel H, Poore G. *Shattered Lives: Homicides, Domestic Violence and Asian Families*. Oakland, CA: Asian Pacific Institute on Gender-Based Violence; 2009.

- ◆ 12% (20) were collateral, competitor, contract, honor killing and familicide (a killing in which a parent or step-parent kills a current or ex-partner and one or more of the couple's children and/or children from a previous relationship) cases
- ◆ 160 homicide cases resulted in 226 fatalities:
- ◆ 184 adults and children were killed
- ◆ 42 perpetrators committed suicide after killing their victims

#### Victims:

- ◆ 78% of victims were women and girls, 20% were men and boys, 2% unknown.
- ◆ 68% (125) of victims were intimate partners: 70% were current partners (78 women, 10 men); 30% were estranged or ex-partners (33 women, 4 men).
- ◆ 32% (59) of victims were non-intimate family members: 22 were children; 12 were in-laws; 10 were parents; 15 were others.
- ◆ 64% of victims were killed in their homes.
- ◆ 62% of victims were stabbed or shot to death.

#### Children:

- ◆ 22 child fatalities represent the second largest group (after women intimate partners) of homicide victims.
- ◆ Children were the primary victims (13 out of 20 individuals) of familicides.
- ◆ 160 non-fatal child victims included those who survived attempted homicides, were seriously injured in attacks, were eye or ear witnesses to homicides and/or suicides, and/or discovered bodies; thus implying extensive physical and psychological harms.

#### Perpetrators:

- ◆ 83% of perpetrators were men, 14% were women, 3% were unknown.
- ◆ 7 out of a total of 10 men who killed children also killed the children's mothers; whereas 1 out of the total of 4 women who killed her children killed her partner.
- ◆ 70% of killers used guns to commit suicide.

#### In a review of comparative data:

- ◆ 23% of 67 domestic violence-related deaths from 2001 – 2005 in California's Alameda County were Asian and Pacific Islander.<sup>167</sup>
- ◆ 31% (16 out of 51 cases) of domestic violence-related homicides from 1993 – 1997 in California's Santa Clara County were Asian,<sup>168</sup> although Asians comprised only 17.5% of the county's population.
- ◆ 7 intimate homicides were reported in 2000 in Hawai'i.<sup>169</sup> Five of the women killed were of Filipina descent,<sup>170</sup> a disproportionately high rate given that Filipinos represent 12.3% of the total population of Hawai'i.<sup>171</sup>

<sup>167</sup> Alameda County Public Health Department. *Domestic Violence in Alameda County: A Fact Sheet*. Oakland, CA: Author; (n.d.)

<sup>168</sup> Santa Clara County Death Review Sub-Committee of the Domestic Violence Council, *Death Review Committee Final Report*. San Jose, CA: Author; 1997.

<sup>169</sup> Hawai'i State Coalition Against Domestic Violence. *Domestic Violence Deaths in Hawai'i*, 2000. Honolulu, HI: Author; 2001.

<sup>170</sup> Email communication to Chic Dabby, API Institute from Jennifer Rose, J.D. Domestic Violence Action Center (formerly Domestic Violence Clearinghouse and Legal Hotline), Honolulu, HI. April 3, 2002.

<sup>171</sup> Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism. *The State of Hawai'i Data Book 2000*. Honolulu, HI: Author; 2000.

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