Trauma-informed Empowerment for AAPI Resiliency through Services (TEARS) in the time of COVID-19

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Presented by:
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Hosted by:
Asian Pacific Institute on Gender-Based Violence

Agenda

• Introduction: Trauma and API communities
• Legal challenges & trauma
• Trauma-informed care in shelter
• Culture and the cultural community
• Q&A

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“Asians and Pacific Islanders”

Lifetime Spiral of Gender Violence

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Operating through a trauma-informed lens

- Experienced or encountered violence
- Negative experiences with help-seeking
- Prolonged or repeated interactions with those who have gone through trauma
- Displacement, the refugee experience, and resettlement
- Microaggressions, hate, harassment
- Historical persecution and oppression
- Intense fear or distress
- Prolonged stress
- Helplessness
- Feeling loss of control
- Inability to prepare or control what will happen next
- Loss of interest
- Withdrawal
- Numbness
- Lack of apparent emotion
- Irritability
- Anger & lashing out
- Belligerence
- Confusion
- Anxiety
- Terror

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
Legal Challenges & Trauma

Dr. Nusrat Ameen, Senior Director, Daya Inc.
WHO WE ARE

Provide culturally specific services to South Asian survivors of abuse
Confidential helpline
Crisis intervention, case management & individual counseling
Supportive Housing Program
Legal advocacy on immigration and family law
Education & outreach
COVID-19 CHALLENGES

COVID-19 Challenges and Vulnerabilities

- Survivors trapped at home with abusers
- Access to services
- Lack of basic needs
- Access to relief funding
- Impact on mainstream systems: shelter, police, courts
TECH-ENABLED ABUSE

HOW CAN WE STOP TECH-ENABLED ABUSE?

- Recognize role of technology in abuse
- Incorporate technology into safety planning with victim
- Be proactive – you don’t have to be a techie to enable protection or help someone
RACIAL JUSTICE & INTERSECTION OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Impact on Law Enforcement & Judges

2018 ACLU and NIWAP survey
- More than 69% of police officers said domestic violence crimes have become harder to investigate.
- 54% of judges reported court cases were interrupted due to an immigrant crime survivor’s fear of coming to court.
- 82% of prosecutors reported that since Jan 2017, domestic violence is now underreported and harder to investigate and/or prosecute.
National Victim Advocate Survey

3 Out of 4 Advocates report that immigrant survivors have concerns about going to court for a matter related to the abuser/offender

"Immigrant survivors feel that due to their lack of legal status, the justice system is not listening to their side of the story comprised to the perpetrators who most of the time are U.S. citizens. Immigrant survivors also fear that the judge or police may look at them as criminals and not capable of supporting their kids just because they lack a legal status."

"The biggest concern women clients have is being separated from their children. The (abuser/offender) withdraw their court cases "out of fear of being arrested and then placed in removal proceedings."

Immigration Status & Vulnerabilities

- Nearly 75% of abused undocumented women in one survey said that their spouse had never filed immigration papers for them.
- Abuse rates in marriages between U.S. citizens and immigrant women may be 3X higher than in the general U.S. population.
Barriers for Immigrant Survivors

- LANGUAGE
- CROSS-CULTURAL COMMUNICATION
- FEAR OF AUTHORITIES
- COMPLEXITY OF SYSTEM
- ONGOING ABUSE/VIOLENCE
- ECONOMIC CHALLENGES

Complex Challenges & Intersections

- Complicated relationship between law enforcement and domestic violence
- Unrealistic expectations (negative or positive with law enforcement and legal systems)
- The role of advocates
- Exploring healing and justice
Daya’s Perspective on Healing Justice

- What does the client want? (Justice-first mindset)
- Navigating through the criminal justice and legal process
- Expectation management
- Mental health as the primary tool for healing
- Advocacy to improve law enforcement and legal remedies for survivors

How Can You Help?

- Listen and be non-judgmental
- Respect a survivor’s definition and path to justice
- Learn to separate the ideal from the reality

THANK YOU!
Questions?

Confidential helpline: 713-981-7645
www.dayahouston.org

facebook.com/daya.houston
@DayaHouston

Trauma-informed Empowerment for AAPI Resiliency through Services (TEARS) in the time of COVID-19 - an overview of CPAF Shelter Programs

Presented by Patima Komolamit, CPAF Shelter Program Director
WHY WE NEED SHELTERS FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SURVIVORS?

Although women and girls account for a far smaller share of victims of homicide in general than men, they bear by far the greatest burden of intimate partner/family-related homicide, and intimate partner homicide.

*Global Study on Homicide, Executive Summary, 2017, by United Nations Office on Drugs & Crime,

COVID-19 ARRIVES:

The Guardian, March 28, 2020: Lockdowns around the world bring rise in domestic violence

THE INTERPRETER: THE NEW YORK TIMES, APRIL 6, 2020
A New Covid-19 Crisis: Domestic Abuse Rises Worldwide


Psychology Today, May 9, 2020: Why the Increase in Domestic Violence During COVID-19?


Human Rights Watch: July 3, 2020
Women Face Rising Risk of Violence During COVID-19

Center for American Progress, August 10, 2020: Ensuring Domestic Violence Survivors' Safety The Need for Enhanced Structural Supports During and After the Coronavirus Pandemic
CPAF's EMERGENCY & TRANSITIONAL SHELTER

Shelter Services & Programs focus on:

- Recovery
- Hope
- Cultural Competency
- Safety
- Resiliency
- Empowerment
Guidance and Procedures for Covid-19 for CPAF Shelter Sites

Emergency Shelter

- Rest period
- Communal Living
- Women & Children’s Programs
- Other supportive Services, such as basic needs
- Case Management
- Advocacy
- Accompaniment
- Transition/Relocation
- Expectation of residents
**Transitional Shelters**

- Apartment Style Suites
- Women & Children’s Programs
- Education Assistance Program
- Rental Assistance Program

- Case Management
- Advocacy
- Accompaniment
- Transition/Relocation
- Post-residential services

**THANK YOU!!**

CPAF
24x7 Crisis Hotline: 1-800-339-3940
www.nurturingchange.org
Trauma-informed Empowerment for AAPI Resiliency through Services (TEARS) in the time of COVID-19

Presented by Natchawi Wadman, MSW
Community Program Director
Center for the Pacific Asian Family

There is no thing as a single-issue struggle because we do not live single-issue lives.
-Audre Lorde

"I write for those who do not have a voice because they were so horrified, because we are taught to respect fear more than ourselves. We've been taught that silence would save us, but it won't."
-Audre Lorde
Content

- Community Need Assessment
- Overarching themes
- Risk Factors
- Protective Factors to be strengthen

Community Need Assessment

Objective:
Execute a culturally and linguistically appropriate community assessment process that explores two-generation prevention solutions, risk and protective factors in API community, gender norms, role of culture, promising engagement strategies, effective evaluation outcomes and measures, and updating parenting curriculum.

Needs Assessment in 5 Asian/South Asian communities in the Greater Los Angeles Area
Cambodian
Chinese
Korean
North Indian Hindu
Pakistani Muslim
Findings - Overarching Theme

- Male dominance and gender equity
- The role of marriage
- The process of relationship learning
- The centrality of the immigrant experience in the inter-generational framework
- Norms around parental modeling versus direct communication
- Saving face

The distinction between family and community as unit of cultural practice, analysis.
Overarching Theme: Cultural Dynamics

Culture vs. cultural community
“Traditional” vs. “American”
Community experience vs. culture
The role of marriage
Gender roles

Overarching Theme: Domestic Violence

Attitudes & Perceptions
- Not for me to judge
- Control, domination
- Subtle
**Overarching Theme: Family Dynamics**

**Communication**
- Indirect communication about sensitive issues, intimate relationships

**Youth/children observe parental modeling of relationships**
- In lieu of direct communication, children observe

**Parents involved in children’s relationships**
- Arranged relationships, family stature

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**Overarching Theme: Relationship Dynamics**

**Healthy/unhealthy attributes**
- Trust, team, showing respect, extended family, balanced, communicating

“I never understood the idea of like, my friends always telling me like, ‘Oh being in a relationship is so great because you get to spend every single minute together.’ Like, how do you get to be your own person at all?”

**Relationship learning**
- Parents want a more direct teaching process, difficult to overcome barriers of stigma
- Parents reflect on how they were raised, blend to accommodate new context
Risk Factors

**Patriarchal Norms**
“Men are supposed to be dominant, and women are supposed to be under him.”

**Saving face**
“Domestic issues are within the home. You don’t want to involve outside… even if they’re being socially connected through church or friends, it’s within the family unit.”

**External stressors**

**Individual character**

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Strengthening Factors

**Importance of strong female presence in household for attitudes on gender equity**

**Connection**
“I think a good relationship are two people who can depend on each other, who can trust each other, who can work well together, basically a good team.”

**Empathy**
“I think, in a relationship, you should be working mainly for the other person and that’s where your mindset should be, because if both people looking to support each other then it becomes a healthy relationship. But you also have to be open to communication to try your best to understand the other side. And that’s what makes a relationship.”
What does this all mean during COVID-19?

- Social Isolation
- Lack of support
- Increased stressors
- Systematic oppressions and racism

www.nurturingchange.org
Facebook: @CPAForg
Instagram: CPAForg

DOMESTIC & SEXUAL VIOLENCE ADVOCATE

SELF-GUIDED TRAINING MODULES
Pre-recorded presentations, activities, resources, and reflection questions available from Sept 14 - Nov 15

ONLINE TRAINING

CENTER FOR THE PACIFIC ASIAN FAMILY
NURTURING CHANGE TOGETHER
Resources

Bridging the cultural divide: Daya’s cultural wheel

Safety planning videos (Daya, Inc.)
  • What to expect – Fleeing Domestic Violence: in English & Hindi/Urdu
  • Safety planning in the time of COVID-19

Creating Accessible, Culturally Relevant, Domestic Violence and Trauma-informed Agencies: A Self Reflection Tool (Accessing Safety and Recovery Institute)

Special Collection: Trauma-Informed Domestic Violence Services (NCDVTMH and VAWnet)