INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE

Battering is defined as **A PATTERN** of **assaultive and controlling behavior(s)** between adults in an intimate, sexual, theoretically peer, and usually cohabitating relationship.

Battering occurs without regard for the victim's mental or physical wellbeing. It is done to punish, to intimidate, to control, and to dominate.

PHYSICAL BATTERING – a wide range of behaviors, which include all aggressive behavior done by the offender to the victim's body.

It includes (but may not be restricted to): ❑ pushing ❑ slapping❑ kicking ❑ pinching ❑ punching❑ pulling hair ❑ restraining ❑ Throwing objects at [❑ forced from the home] **❑ biting ❑ burning ❑ choking/strangling ❑ shooting ❑ clubbing ❑ stabbing/cutting ❑ physical violence during pregnancy ❑ assaults while batterer was under the influence of drug/alcohol ❑ required medical attention because of physical/sexual abuse**

SEXUAL BATTERING – includes (but may not be limited to): ❑ physical attacks on the victim's breasts/genitals[❑ forced to accept batterer's infidelity ❑ forced to accept/or be exposed to batterer's use of pornography]❑ forced to perform sex acts that victim finds degrading [❑forced/manipulated pregnancy]❑ **forced sexual activity accompanied by physical violence or the threat of physical violence ❑ forced to have sex with others outside the relationship**

PSYCHOLOGICAL BATTERING – psychological weapons rather than physical attacks.

Controlling victim's activities, *such as* ❑ sleeping ❑ eating habits ❑ social relationships❑ finances [❑ access to a vehicle] ❑ contact with family ❑ spiritual or cultural practices

Constant attacks on victim's self-esteem by ❑ name calling, put downs ❑ screaming ❑ swearing ❑ denial of ideas/feelings ❑ humiliating victim ❑ forced to lie for batterer

Intentionally frightening the victim by ❑ deliberate erratic driving ❑ playing with weapons❑ threatening violence against victim, ❑ friends, ❑ support networks, ❑others ❑ threatening to deport foreign-born partners **❑ involving the victim in illegal activities ❑ Holding victim or ❑ others _____ hostage ❑ threatening to harm or kill victim ❑ threatening suicide ❑ threatening with a weapon (type)_____ ❑ has access to weapons (type) _____ ❑ monitoring victim/staking [including technology]**

Using Children to control victim: ❑ threatening to take children away **❑ threatening violence [harm/kill/abduct] against children ❑ hitting or hurting children ❑ harsh**

punishment of children❑ exposing children to age inappropriate sexual material, or sexual activity ❑ threats to sexually engage with and/or sexual activity with children

DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY AND/OR PETS – The batterer's purpose in destroying property/pets remains to punish, intimidate, control and dominate. In this form of assault victims experience the psychological agony of the destruction as well as the fear that the assaults on property or pets will turn into physical assaults.
❑ Destroying or damaging victims property/ possessions ❑ destroying meals
❑ damaging walls, doors, windows **❑ threatening to, or ❑ harming ❑ killing family pet.**

VICTIM, BATTERER, and COMMUNITY FACTORS

Victim Isolation:
❑ Victim has ❑limited, or ❑ no access to: ❑ shelter❑ police ❑hospital
Established Pattern of Abuse:
❑ the batterer has a history of violence in the family of origin
❑ the batterer's abusive behaviors in the relationship are typical and ongoing
❑ the abuse has increased with frequency and severity
Batterer's Emotional State:
❑ the batterer is experiencing employment or financial problems
❑ the batterer has mental health problems
❑ the batterer is taking prescription medication
❑ the batterer uses street drugs/alcohol
❑ the batterer has unrealistic jealousy toward the victim

Batterer's Attitude towards Authority:
❑ the batterer has a history of criminal activities _____
❑ the batterer has violated prior civil or criminal orders _____
❑ the batterer has avoided prior arrest for assault _____

Victim Responses:
❑ does your situation ever make you think of harming yourself, ❑ your children or,❑ your partner? ❑ have you ever harmed or attempted to harm yourself ❑ your children? ❑ Does your situation cause you to fear for your (or your children's) safety?
❑ have your children ever tried to intervene? ❑ have they been harmed intervening?
❑ have you ever harmed your partner during an abusive episode?
❑ have you ever used violence to defend yourself in an assault by your partner?
❑ do you ever take drugs or alcohol in order to cope with your situation?
❑ have you ever been assaulted while under the influence of alcohol/drugs?
❑ have you left or do you plan on leaving the relationship?

All interview items in **BOLD** print indicate escalated risk for victims**.** Initials indicate the completed guide has been read by the following:

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A number of resources and instruments were drawn from to develop this guide, including:

Ganley A., (2004) Understanding Domestic Violence, Ganley A., (1982). Court Mandated Counseling for Men

Who Batter. BC Institute Against Family Violence & BC Solicitor General (2006). Aid to Safety Assessment and Planning (ASAP). Campbell, J.C., (2003). Danger Assessment. Dutton, D.G., & Kropp,P.R. (2000) a review of domestic violence risk instruments. **Trauma, Violence and Abuse.**