Men as Victims of Intimate Partner Violence

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Senior researcher NKVTS
• Do men become victims of IPV?
• What types of IPV is experienced by men?
• What are the reactions of male victims of IPV?
• Do male victims of IPV ask for help?
• What assistance do they get?
How is partner violence distributed between men and women in Norway?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Women</th>
<th>Men</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Partner-violence</td>
<td>17 %</td>
<td>17 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perpetrator of opposite sex</td>
<td>98 %</td>
<td>97 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Michael Johnson’s types of IPV

• Common couple violence
  – Based on conflicts
  – Both men and women as perpetrators

• Intimate terrorism
  – Based on power and control
  – Mainly men as perpetrators - women as victims
Intimate terrorism vs. common couple violence

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<th>Men</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Intimate terrorism</td>
<td>48 %</td>
<td>36 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Common couple violence</td>
<td>52 %</td>
<td>64 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\( x^2 p = 0.004 \)
Severity of the IPV

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Women</th>
<th>Men</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Only less severe partner violence</td>
<td>46 %</td>
<td>89 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Severe partner violence</td>
<td>54 %</td>
<td>11 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Psychological reactions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Intimate terrorism vs. Common couple violence</th>
<th>Mean ptsd score</th>
<th>Mean hscl – score (anxiety and depression)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Women</td>
<td>Men</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No partner violence</td>
<td>,3476</td>
<td>,2523</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Common couple violence</td>
<td>,5960</td>
<td>,4084</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intimate terrorism</td>
<td>,9303</td>
<td>,6822</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# Help seeking after IPV

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Option</th>
<th>Women</th>
<th>Men</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reported to the police</td>
<td>28 %</td>
<td>23 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Had a medical examination</td>
<td>22 %</td>
<td>25 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Talked to health personnel about psychological problems</td>
<td>33 %</td>
<td>19 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Did not tell anyone</td>
<td>21 %</td>
<td>39 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Assistance to male victims of IPV

Inventory 2009:

• Few specialised services for male victims

• Gender-neutral services did not communicate they were also for men

• Stereotypes – also in the services:
  – Men seen as perpetrators – not as victims
  – Male victims seen as week – less men?
Assistance to male victims of IPV

- From January 1th. 2010 – Gender neutral shelter law
- All municipalities obliged to give protection and assistance to women, men and children that are victims of IPV
- 2013: 42 out of 46 shelters had service for men
Shelters for men

- Physically apart from shelters for women
  - 19 shelters in separate building
  - 11 in same building but separate entrance
  - 12 in provisional or temporary premises (rented flats, hotel rooms etc.)
Men staying at the shelters

Number of stays from men
Male day users

2008: 81, 4
2009: 80, 9
2010: 91, 40
2011: 92, 156
2012: 220, 220
2013: 247, 129
2014: 255, 136

www.nkvtso.no
Male users of the shelters

- Interviews with 30 men staying or being day users at the shelters
- Stories of both psychological and physical IPV – very similar to stories from female users
- Violence had been going on for a long time
- Fear of loosing shared custody for children
- Fear of getting the blame for the violence
- Fear of retaliating /becoming the perpetrator
Male users of the shelters

ALL THE INTERVIEWED MEN WERE VERY CONTENT WITH THE ASSISTANCE AND SUPPORT FROM THE SHELTERS