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Norwegian Centre for Violence
and Traumatic Stress Studies

Men as Victims of Intimate Partner Violence

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- 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?

	Women	Men
Partner-violence	17 %	17 %
Perpetrator of opposite sex	98 %	97 %

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

	Women	Men
Intimate terrorism	48 %	36 %
Common couple violence	52 %	64 %

(χ^2 p = 0,004)

Severity of the IPV

	Women	Men
Only less severe partner violence	46 %	89 %
Severe partner violence	54 %	11 %

Psychological reactions

Intimate terrorism vs. Common couple violence	Mean ptsd score		Mean hscI – score (anxiety and depression)	
	Women	Men	Women	Men
No partner violence	,3476	,2523	1,3220	1,2200
Common couple violence	,5960	,4084	1,4590	1,3935
Intimate terrorism	,9303	,6822	1,7132	1,5070

Help seeking after IPV

	Women	Men
Reported to the police	28 %	23 %
Had a medical examination	22 %	25 %
Talked to health personnel about psychological problems	33 %	19 %
Did not tell anyone	21 %	39 %

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 weak – less men?

Assistance to male victims of IPV

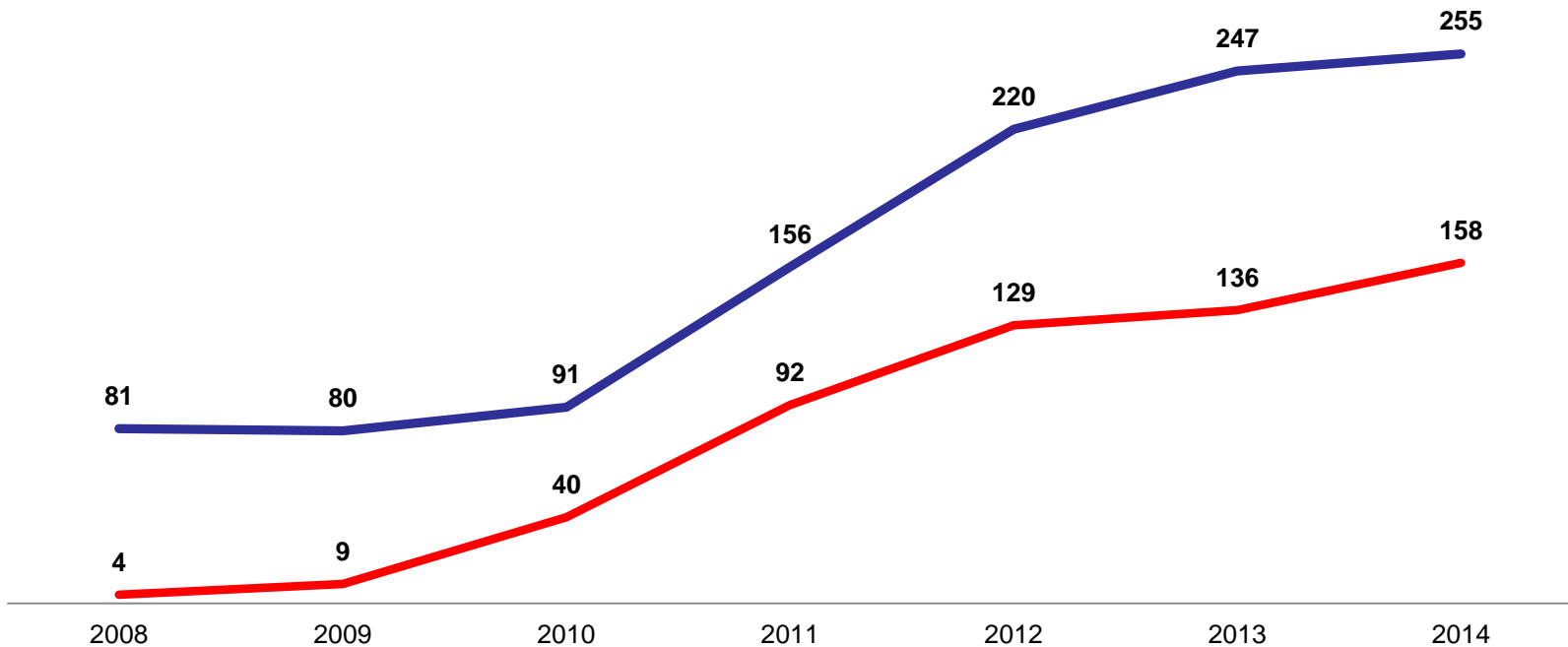
- From January 1th. 2010 – Gender neutral shelter law
- All municipalities obliged to give protection and assistance to women, men and children that are victims of IPV
- 2013: 42 out of 46 shelters had service for men

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



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**



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