Domestic Violence
The Male Perspective

Domestic Violence is often seen purely as a female victim/male perpetrator problem but the evidence demonstrates that this is a false picture.
We will look at...

- What the statistics show
- What support services there are for men
- Academic studies relating to male victims

The statistics and other evidence show that the male victim/female perpetrator scenario accounts for a substantial minority of incidents.
The picture (an etching by Hogarth) demonstrates that the male victim was a recognized stereotype in the 17th/18th centuries.
Proportions of male victims
Based on numbers of victims of partner abuse in last year estimated by detailed BC Surveys of intimate abuse

Sources: Home Office Research Studies and Statistical Bulletins

This slide shows the number of male victims as a percentage of the total number of victims in the years under review – broadly speaking, since 2008, just under 40% of Domestic Violence incidents relate to male victimization.

References/Sources.
Year 2001: Home Office Research Study 276, March 2004, Table 2.2
Year 2004/05: Home Office On-line Report 12/06, 2006, Table A.1
Year 2005/06: Home Office Statistical Bulletin 02/07, 25 January 2007 Table 3.1
Year 2006/07: Home Office Statistical Bulletin 03/08, 31 January 2008, Table 3.01
Year 2007/08: Home Office Statistical Bulletin 02/09, 22 January 2009, Table 3.01
Year 2008/09: Home Office Statistical Bulletin 01/10, 21 January 2010, Table 3.01
Partner abuse in Scotland 2008-09
Proportions of male victims

Slightly higher figures are shown for Scotland for the year 2008/09

References/Sources
Scottish Crime and Justice Survey 2008-09, Partner Abuse, Annex 1, Table A1.2
### Prevalence of partner abuse among adults (age 16 to 59) in last 12 months

#### England and Wales

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentages</th>
<th>BCS Study</th>
<th>2006/07</th>
<th>2007/08</th>
<th>2008/09</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sample size</td>
<td>23,838</td>
<td>23,426</td>
<td>23,467</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Any partner abuse (incl sexual)</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women</td>
<td>5.6</td>
<td>4.9</td>
<td>4.8</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men</td>
<td>4.3</td>
<td>4.1</td>
<td>2.9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% men</td>
<td>43.4</td>
<td>45.5</td>
<td>37.7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Severe force (non-sexual)</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women</td>
<td>1.8</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men</td>
<td>1.7</td>
<td>1.4</td>
<td>0.9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% men</td>
<td>48.6</td>
<td>48.3</td>
<td>37.5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Home Office Statistical Bulletins

This slide shows the degree of prevalence as between female and male averaging out since 2008 at just under 40% male victims.

**Reference/Sources**

Year 2006/07: Home Office Statistical Bulletin 03/08, 31 January 2008. Table 3.01

Year 2007/08: Home Office Statistical Bulletin 02/09, 22 January 2009, Table 3.01

Year 2008/09: Home Office Statistical Bulletin 01/10, 21 January 2010, Table 3.01
One of the problems is that the police often ignore male victims and this slide shows that often the police take action against the male involved whatever the circumstances.

**References/Sources**

2. Mankind Initiative, Taunton: Helpline survey results Sept 08 – Aug 09
In terms of severity this slide demonstrates that, the more severe the form of assault, the higher the proportion of male victims affected, e.g. the proportion is higher for grievous bodily harm than for abuse overall. The figures are taken from responses submitted from individual police authorities in a pilot study of nine forces.

**References/Sources**

This slide shows that despite the evidence that there are substantial numbers of female perpetrators, prosecutions are overwhelmingly against men (41,000 against less than 3,000 and in terms of convictions just under 29,000 as against about 1,800).

References/Sources
Dewar Research FOI Request, CPS 4 March 2010
Estimated numbers of victims of intimate violence in 2008/09, age 15 to 59
England and Wales

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1000's</th>
<th>Men</th>
<th>Women</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>% men</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Any domestic abuse (inc sexual)</td>
<td>692</td>
<td>1,015</td>
<td>1,641</td>
<td>38.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Any partner abuse (excl sexual)</td>
<td>430</td>
<td>708</td>
<td>1,138</td>
<td>37.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Home Office Statistical Bulletin

This slide bears out the earlier statistic, i.e. in 2008/09 just under 40% of the total numbers of victims were men.

References/Sources
HOSB 01/10, 21 January 2010, Table 3.04
The pattern of partner assault is replicated in other English speaking countries e.g. Australia, Ireland, New Zealand and The United States.

**References/ Sources**

Australia: Personal Safety Survey, Australia 2005. Age 18 and over
USA: Intimate Partner Violence in the United States 1993-2004. Age 12 and over
It is sometimes suggested that male victims are not generally subject to repeated partner abuse but this slide refutes that argument, eg., 25% of victims have been abused between six and twenty times.

**References/Sources**

HOSB 01/10, 21 January 2010. Homicides, Firearm Offences and Intimate Violence 2008/09: (Supplementary Volume 2 to Crime in England and Wales 2008/09), Table 3.11

Note: Partner abuse includes non-physical abuse, threats, force, and sexual assault.
The effects on male victims can be severe and include severe injury and mental/emotional effects.

**References/Sources**
### Refuge support for female and male victims

in England and Wales

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Spaces in Refuges</th>
<th>Spaces in Safe houses</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>For female victims</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dedicated</td>
<td>7,500</td>
<td>?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sources: Women’s Aid/Refuge.

One of the great injustices is that there is little or no support for male victims (nor indeed their children). For female victims, the number of refuge spaces in England and Wales is estimated at 7,500.

**References/Sources**

For female victims: Women’s Aid/Refuge
### Refuge support for female and male victims in England and Wales

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Spaces in</th>
<th>Spaces in</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Refuges</td>
<td>Safe houses</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### For female victims
- Dedicated: 7,500
- Available*: ---
- Total spaces: **> 7,500**

#### For male victims
- Dedicated: 23
- Available*: ---
- Total spaces: **83 (max)**

* (Available to males if not being used by females)

Note: In Scotland and Northern Ireland, no refuges or safe houses exist specifically for male victims.

Sources: Women's Aid/Refuge. Mankind Initiative.

In contrast, for males, it is maximum of 83 places, in other words a gross under provision.

**References/Sources**

For female victims: Women’s Aid/Refuge
For male victims: Mankind Initiative
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Academic studies of intimate abuse</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>271 reputable academic studies of intimate abuse were listed in November 2009 as being published world-wide.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>An annotated bibliography of these studies, compiled by Dr Martin Fiebert, is published at:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.csulb.edu/~mfiebert/assault.htm">www.csulb.edu/~mfiebert/assault.htm</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The results of the studies demonstrate consistently that women, by their own admission, can be as physically aggressive, or more aggressive, than men in intimate relationships.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Apart from the official statistical evidence, there are a large number of academic studies published worldwide showing consistently that women, **by their own admission**, can be as aggressive as their male counterparts in partner relationships.
## Summary

The evidence shows:

- Approx 40% of the victims of domestic violence are men
- Many of the victims are severely affected
- Support services are virtually non-existent
- Academic studies support this view
John Mays (Chair of PARITY)

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