

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE POLICY

FEEDBACK & DOC RESPONSE

COMMENT PERIOD: APRIL 18 – MAY 2, 2011

Why not use the words intimate partner violence? Seems much of the community has updated their terminology already.¹

This policy is directed at men only. We should use Men in the title then.²

Against Women Survey published in 2000: Each year, women experience about 4.8 million intimate partner related physical assaults and rapes. Men are the victims of about 2.9 million intimate partner related physical assaults. Has this number been updated?

I worry that with this particular risk area the DOC has failed to follow the science of this behavior and its best treatment practice and have instead allowed political agenda and rhetoric to dictate the best practice.

“Historically, social and cultural norms and beliefs have created an environment for domestic violence to occur and must be changed”

This is not accurate in that this is only partly true. “Some” social and cultural norms and believe this. This is connecting the political agenda and “movement” to the problem of inter/intimate partner violence. This does not allow DOC to flex with updated and better treatment protocols. Kinda like the Duluth model is still stuck at its inception that is 30 years old now. What other programs does DOC follow that are more than 30 years old?

It would be nice to see the DOC follow the science of interpersonal violence and not the political agenda.

Do some of our offenders and an interpersonal violence problem? You betcha!. Can all interpersonal violence be “shoved” into the Duluth model? Nope not in my opinion.

————— DOC’s Response

¹ DOC is reviewing current research regarding effective correctional programming. The policy does not deter the DOC from employing best correctional practice.

² It is not gender-specific.

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<http://www.2homekids.org/ARTICLE%20-Differentiation%20among%20types%20of%20intimate%20partner%20violence1.pdf>

Line 65 and 66 reek of a political agenda getting in the way of good behavioral science. Above is a link that better explains my thinking on where I think we should be going as a department.

The prevalent attitude that anyone who disagrees with the “movement” is either a batterer or uneducated needs to change in order to allow for good dialogue based on what works and current behavioral research around the complexities of intimate partner violence.

A few online information sources that I like to read are below. Please if you know of other respected peer reviewed free journals that are related I’d love to start reading them as well.¹

<http://jiv.sagepub.com/>

<http://www.annals-general-psychiatry.com/>

<http://archpsyc.ama-assn.org/current.dtl>

<http://www.gjpsy.uni-goettingen.de/>

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/journals/119/latest/>

<http://www.saveservices.org/2010/10/effectiveness-of-duluth-model-hotly-debated/>

DOC’s Response

¹ We are not aware of additional peer-reviewed journals.

Minor recommendation in language¹

“The Workgroup will develop recommendations related to Department policy and practice related to domestic violence.” (Lines 24, 25 and 26)

Change to

“The Workgroup will develop recommendations for Department policy and practice related to domestic violence services.”

Thanks for your work on this!

If you heard a man telling a denigrating or sexist joke about your daughter, you wouldn’t tolerate it and you’d tell him to stop. So why are there so many men who hear denigrating and sexist jokes about someone else’s daughter and laugh?

DOC’s Response

¹ Recommendation accepted. Thanks.

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Policy Statement: I hope this doesn't result in a cookie cutter approach to treatment.

This policy is pretty thin. Doesn't say much¹.

_____ DOC's Response

¹This is consistent with the AHS Policy. The Manual will have the detail to support the Policy.

l. 19: add "and stakeholders"

I'm assuming this manual to be a public record.¹

_____ DOC's Response

¹Yes, the Manual will be available to the public.

I hope the external stakeholders will include a few offenders (male and female) who have completed the program and are no longer under supervision.¹

_____ DOC's Response

¹We would be open to this, but currently we have not requested offender participation.