

Male Survivors Resource Sheet

Compiled by michael munson

1 in 6					
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boys are sexually abused before age 18

Even in our progressive culture, organizations and individuals continue marginalizing, isolating, disbelieving and often denying the existence of victims of various identities and experiences. As the sexual assault/domestic violence movement grew out of the women's community and from a place of empowerment and healing by and for women, a significant portion of the population of victims were ignored at best, and re-victimized, ridiculed and denied services, at worst. This population consists of male victims (as well as any gender victims when the perpetrator is female).

Male victims are far less likely to report violence committed against them. The male victims that do report and/or seek professional help are often faced with challenges such as:

- society's stigma for not protecting themselves
- victimization because they fail to conform to the Macho man stereotype
- being perceived as a wimp
- not being believed because they are men
- being denied the status of victim
- are removed from or asked to leave their homes because it is the easy option
- have no support systems in place - they have no "listening ear"

About Gay men:

Various studies estimate that partner abuse among gay men ranges from 12-36%, which is comparable to the rates of domestic violence among straight women. (In recent years, studies have shown that the rate of domestic violence is almost identical across all sexual orientations and gender identities.)

A study of 2800 interviews of gay men in San Francisco, Los Angeles, New York and Chicago, published in December of 2002 in the American Journal of Public Health, found that violence between intimate male partners has been "virtually ignored as a public health problem." About 34 percent had suffered psychological/symbolic battering, 22 percent physical battering and 5 percent sexual battering.

Due to the fact that most DV shelters and services are constructed around heterosexual women victims, gay (and straight) men who are battered or abused by women or men have no place in many organized systems for helping victims. Often, male victims are told that the only shelter options available to them are emergency housing for homeless people.

Disclaimer: We at FORGE hope that the following links and resources help provide the information and support that you or someone you know may need to advance the healing process from violence. We encourage you to explore these websites, articles, books, and other resources to gain additional information that may help address your needs.

Please note that FORGE is not responsible for the content or accuracy of the information provided on other websites or in books published by other authors. Though we support the good intentions of these resources, FORGE neither endorses nor assumes any responsibility for any of the views or policies of the organizations, individuals or institutions represented here. Please exercise good judgment when accessing or acting upon any information obtained from any site on this list. Remember, too, that if you are currently in a domestically violent relationship to consider using a computer at the library or other location, where your abuser does not have access to your internet history.

WEBSITES:

Male Survivor: Overcoming Sexual Victimization of Boys & Men

(A website committed to preventing, healing, and eliminating all forms of sexual victimization of boys and men through support, treatment, research, education, advocacy, and activism.)

<http://www.malesurvivor.org/>

Stop Abuse for Everyone

<http://www.safe4all.org/info>

Domestic Abuse Helpline for Men (and Women)

(A key resource in providing crisis intervention and support services to all victims of domestic violence and their families in order to help survivors recover from the trauma of domestic violence. We work towards the elimination of domestic violence by increasing public awareness and decreasing tolerance of domestic violence through community collaboration and education.)

www.noexcuse4abuse.org

Jim Hopper, Ph.D.

(An instructor of psychology in the Department of Psychiatry at Massachusetts General Hospital & Harvard Medical School)

<http://www.jimhopper.com/male-ab/>

1 in 6

The mission of 1in6 is to help men who have had unwanted or abusive sexual experiences in childhood live healthy, happy lives.

<http://www.1in6.org/>

Male Survivor – Ontario, Canada

(a website and services to reduce the impact of sexual abuse and/or sexual assault against males by coordinating and supporting the development and provision of community-based services in Ontario.)

<http://www.malesurvivor.on.ca/index.htm>

Male Abuse Survivor Support

(support for male survivors)

<http://www.aest.org.uk/survivors/male/>

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