

# Category A – JUSTICE & RELATED SYSTEMS

VIOLENCE & VICTIMIZATION RESEARCH DIVISION'S  
COMPENDIUM OF RESEARCH ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

1993-2009

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## Category A – JUSTICE & RELATED SYSTEMS

### Advocacy

<b>1997-WT-VX-0006:</b>	<b>An Evaluation of Family Advocacy with a Team Approach</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$150,934</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Arlene Weisz</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Angela Moore Parmley</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

This project, a partnership between researchers, DV advocates, and criminal justice professionals, plans to evaluate the services provided by advocates in police precincts and at the prosecutor's office. The goal is to examine the effectiveness of advocacy using: 1) the rate of completed prosecution and the rate of guilty findings or pleas of guilty; 2) the rate of repeat victimization measured by victim reports, police call reports, arrests, warrant requests, and perceived safety of victims; and 3) satisfaction with services offered. The project will include an ongoing process and outcome evaluation of the efficacy of advocacy services, consisting of formative reports to provide feedback for practitioners and a reference point for interpreting outcomes. The outcome evaluation will employ a quasi-experimental design to include victim surveys and archival research. Research questions will address the relationship between advocacy and victim safety, and between advocacy and victims' responses to the criminal justice system. The survey research will compare 250 female victims in two precincts served by the precinct level intervention team to 250 female victims in two precincts with no precinct intervention team but with access to advocacy at the prosecutor's office and at court. Archival research on these cases will compare the rates of successful prosecution of the abusers, rates of subsequent calls to the police by the victims, and rates of subsequent arrests and warrants against the abusers.

**Product: NCJ# 187107/187110**

**Evaluation of Victim Advocacy within a Team Approach (2001) – A. Weisz, D. Canales-Portalatin, N. Nahan**  
 Using 1057 police reports with 242 telephone interviews, 24% of interviewees had received some type of advocacy. The effectiveness of advocacy was examined through the rate of completed prosecution, the rate of repeat victimization measured by victim reports, police call reports, arrests, warrant requests, and perceived safety of victims; and victim satisfaction with services. Results indicated that the DV teams and advocacy offered by the community were just beginning steps in helping battered women, who are often grappling with multiple problems. The researchers found that although the women appreciated a serious and sympathetic response to incidents of violence by criminal justice personnel, these services were neither intensive enough to increase victims' participation in the prosecution of batterers nor able to increase their safety. There were no associations between a guilty verdict/plea and cases coming from precincts with DV teams or victim's who received advocacy. Similarly, there was no association between receiving advocacy and the reasons for case dismissal. And finally, there was no relationship between the victims' living in precincts with or without DV teams or those victims receiving advocacy and the filing of subsequent police reports.

**Additional NCJ Citations: 194769, 199718, 210058**

<b>1997-WT-VX-0009:</b>	<b>An Evaluation of Victim Advocacy in Ohio</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$114,463</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Diana Ramos</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Bernard Auchter</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

This project will develop a better understanding of how victim advocacy services in Ohio are defined and delivered and assess the effectiveness of those services in helping women to pursue adjudication of the perpetrator and achieve goals in personal functioning. Data will be collected from urban agencies in Ohio that receive funding from the Office of Criminal Justice Services. The first phase of the research is qualitative and will gather in-depth information from program directors, staff, and clients on victim advocacy models. In the second phase, two or more agencies will be selected to receive training in single-case evaluation methods to assess the effectiveness of victim

advocacy services. A multiple baseline research design will be used to evaluate the impact of systematic practice evaluation on service outcomes for 100 cases in two sites. The outcome evaluation of the advocacy services will provide a comprehensive assessment of individual change in eight domains: home, family, psychological/emotional, medical, educational/vocational, legal, social/recreational, and safety/crisis planning.

**Product: NCJ# 182368**

**Victim Advocacy Services in Urban Programs: A Description by Staff and Clients of Service Provision and Gaps (2000) – C. Bohmer, D. Bronson, H. Hartnett, J. Brandt, K. Kania**

This project focused on the evaluating victim advocacy services available in Ohio through the VAWA S.T.O.P. Formula Grants. Phase one mailed a survey to 13 Ohio victim service agencies (shelters, legal services, prosecution and crisis intervention services) to gather comprehensive descriptive services of funding, staffing, victims served and other demographics, which was followed by focus groups with clients and staff. Resources and services that were helpful to victims included transportation, cellular phones, child care, counseling, and support. Gaps in services included safety issues, system problems (e.g. lack of punishment of offenders, problems with divorce and custody), and financial resources to secure housing and other services, and lack of public understanding. Phase 2 developed ways to evaluate service outcomes and focused on evaluating the impact of training law enforcement officers. A number of themes emerged from the client and staff focus groups as most clients and service providers spoke of advocacy in operational terms. The concerns expressed focused on tangible goods and services, emotional support, case management, education, services to children, legal services, and visitation supervision.

**Additional NCJ Citations: 199018, 202564**

<b>1998-WE-VX-0031:</b>	<b>Evaluation of Special Session Domestic Violence: Enhanced Advocacy and Interventions</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$73,594</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Catherine M. Havens</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Katherine Darke</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

This project seeks to understand more about the effectiveness of specialized DV court sessions, and the enhanced advocacy, supervision, and offender interventions they provide for ensuring victim safety and reducing offender recidivism. The project aims to: 1) identify which types of pretrial supervision are most effective, and for which defendants; 2) learn how the role of the specialized victim advocate is affected by increased resources and court emphasis on sanctions; 3) learn which types of probation supervision are most effective and for which defendants; and 4) learn more about the similarities and differences in the experiences of African American, Latina, and Caucasian victims of DV in the context of a special court which provides enhanced advocacy and extra resources focused on offender accountability. The researcher/practitioner measures will be developed to describe the services and collaborative contracts provided by: the specialized family violence victim advocates; the intensive pretrial supervision program staff; the treatment program staff; and by adult probation officers. Measures will be tested with 225 DV defendants and in-depth interviews will be conducted with 60 DV victims, drawing equally from African American, Latina, and Caucasian women.

**Product: NCJ# 197858/197860**

**Special Session Domestic Violence Courts: Enhanced Advocacy and Interventions (2002) – E. Lyon**

The study sought to understand more about the effectiveness of specialized DV court sessions, and the enhanced advocacy, supervision, and offender interventions they provide for ensuring victim safety and reducing recidivism. Interviews were conducted with DV victim advocates working at three specialized courts, and 60 DV victims whose current or former partner had appeared in one of those courts. Data were also analyzed through an automated family violence victim service record developed specifically for this study. The study found that: 1) being heard is imperative to women who have experienced domestic abuse, which strongly influences their reaction to legal system interventions; 2) police and advocates are key to women’s experience of legal system interventions; 3) women’s experience and decisions are strongly influenced by their children’s needs; 4) many women do not consider their experience of violence to be their most pressing life issue; 5) their assessment of risk, circumstance, and priorities often change during court case processing; 6) language and culture may contribute to differences within Latina DV victims compared to African-American and Caucasian victims; and 7) although nearly half of the women were no longer in the abusive relationship, many women did not want the relationship to end; rather, they wanted an end to the violence.

<b>2000-WE-VX-0014:</b>	<b>Impact Evaluation of Special Session Domestic Violence: Enhanced Advocacy and Interventions</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$347,009</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Eleanor Lyon</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Nicole Gaskin-Laniyan</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

This project will evaluate how EVOLVE, Connecticut’s new 26-week curriculum for male DV offenders, affects the participants and their female partners. Project objectives include: 1) learning if men who complete EVOLVE have lower rates of repeat physical and psychological abuse and whether their partners feel safer; 2) comparing characteristics of men who do and do not complete EVOLVE; 3) learning how partners of men with multiple arrests or serious charges assess the risks they face and options available to them, how they react to the legal system intervention, and how better advocacy and community resources affect their safety; and 4) developing measures to improve initial screening of defendants and assessments of victim safety.

**Product: NCJ# 210362/210363**

**Impact Evaluation of Special Session Domestic Violence: Enhanced Advocacy and Interventions – E. Lyon**

Program EVOLVE, implemented in three urban courts in 2000, addresses issues of fathering and the impact of violence on children. In addition, the program integrates substance abuse education and includes a multi-session component on sexuality and sexual violence. The evaluation focused on: 1) the program's impact on subsequent rates of physical and emotional abuse, partners' safety, and safety planning; 2) rates of program completion compared to the more general 26-week programs in place in other courts; and 3) how the victim advocate's role was affected. The evaluation used a sample of 420 men who attended at least one session of EVOLVE and a sample of 124 men who attended at least 1 session at the comparison site. Data were collected through interviews at program intake and at 3, 6, and 12 months after intake. The two groups completed their programs at similar rates: 63.5% for EVOLVE and 65.2% for the comparison group. Regarding recidivism, 6 months after leaving the program, 83.4% of those who successfully completed EVOLVE had no subsequent arrests leading to conviction, compared to 58.3% of those negatively discharged from the program. Recidivism patterns were similar across racial/ethnic groups for program completers. Victim advocates' primary concerns were inconsistent court responses, limited resources, and clarification of their role in relation to group facilitators.

## Arrest and Prosecution

<b>1993-IJ-CX-0021:</b>	<b>Impacts of Arrest on the Social Control of Violence Among Intimates</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$24,870</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Jeffrey Fagan</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Christy Visher</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

This grant will review the promises and limitations of the criminalization efforts in domestic violence. This grant will: 1) review the history of the development of modern legal reforms in domestic violence and examine their theoretical underpinnings; 2) review the empirical evidence on the deterrent effects of criminal and civil legal sanctions for domestic violence; 3) examine the unique context of domestic violence to identify factors that influence the deterrent effects of criminal justice reforms; and 4) conclude with an agenda for building an empirical base for knowledge and policy to control domestic violence.

**Product: NCJ# 157641**

**Criminalization of Domestic Violence: Promises and Limits (1995) – J. Fagan**

During the past 30 years, the criminalization of domestic assault has developed along three parallel but generally separate tracks: 1) criminal punishment and deterrence of batterers; 2) batterer treatment; and 3) restraining orders designed to protect victims through the threat of civil or criminal legal sanctions. Each policy track has been informed, advanced, and supported by victim advocacy groups. However, research and evaluation have generated weak or inconsistent evidence of deterrent effects on either repeat victimization or repeat offending. Weak research and evaluation designs, lack of integration of violence theories with theories of domestic assault, and many other



factors have hindered this research. Therefore, a research program is needed and theory is essential. Testable ideas should be identified from theoretical advances, formative evaluations of innovative practices, and qualitative studies of battering careers. This analysis of research and policy related to the criminalization of domestic assault concludes that the inconsistent findings to date point to the need for a program of research and development to advance the current state of knowledge on the effects of legal sanctions for spouse abuse. Stable and sufficient resources will be required to support these development, evaluation, and research efforts.

**Additional NCJ Citations: 153919, 198454**

<b>1993-IJ-CX-0039:</b>	<b>Prosecution of Domestic Violence Offenses</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$197,530</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Cabell Cropper</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Bernard Auchter</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

The current study seeks to fill information gaps with regard to the local prosecutor’s role in the prosecution of domestic violence misdemeanors and felonies and the perspective of domestic violence victims of the local prosecutor’s handling of these cases. This study will be primarily descriptive in nature with the following objectives: 1) to assess the state of domestic violence programs within local prosecutors offices, both formal and informal, throughout the United States; 2) to identify needs of local prosecutors; 3) to explain common obstacles to successful prosecution of these offenses, and 4) to provide recommendations for the improvement of domestic violence prosecution effectiveness. Researchers from the American Prosecutors Research Institute (APRI) devised the national mail survey instrument with the help of information from focus group and advisory committee meetings and personnel from APRI’s National Center for the Prosecution of Child Abuse. The purpose of the survey is to collect baseline information on the local prosecution of domestic violence and included open-ended question formats to provide a wide range of responses conducive to exploratory studies, as well as closed-ended questions.

**Product: NCJ# 161526**

**Prosecution Response to Domestic Violence: Results of a Survey of Large Jurisdictions (1996) – D. Rebovich**

The first section of the questionnaire queried prosecutors on how they were organized to manage domestic violence cases. The second section explored how decision-making on domestic violence case screening and charging compared with decision-making on other offenses. The third section centered on the types and strengths of prosecutor office policies to protect domestic violence victims from retribution. The fourth section inquired about the extent to which prosecutor offices chose post-discharge diversion options to suspend case processing while the abuser underwent treatment. The final sections posed questions on special features of domestic violence trials, the sentencing of violent offenders and the extent to which sentences reflected offense seriousness, and the support provided by prosecutor offices to satisfy the needs of victims. Survey results demonstrated a growing commitment by district attorneys to vigorously prosecute domestic violence cases. Prosecutors seemed to be persistently searching for the most effective means of bringing violent offenders to justice. Many local prosecutors were inclined to support domestic violence diversion, offender counseling, and victim advocacy programs. Prosecutors relied heavily on the use of protective orders as a remedy, even though they acknowledged the questionable effectiveness of this option. The lack of adequate prosecutorial resources was a factor in the priority level afforded domestic violence cases. Finally, prosecutors reported a high percentage of cases in which the victim would not serve as a witness.

**Additional NCJ Citations: 161517**

<b>1994-IJ-CX-K001:</b>	<b>Evaluating a Domestic Violence Training Program</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$46,979</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>William Holmes</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Angela Moore Parmley</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

The study evaluated six domestic violence programs in the state of Massachusetts using experimental and quasi-experimental methods to determine the impact of domestic violence training programs. Program goals included changing attitudes, increasing knowledge of domestic violence, and influencing behavior. The programs were located in the Suffolk County District Attorney’s Office, Cambridge Police Department, the Attorney General’s Office, and the Criminal Justice Training Council.

**Product: NCJ# 157406**

**Domestic Violence Training: Strategy and Tactics (1995) – W. Holmes, R. Kohl, D. Brensilber, C. Kaufman**

The study evaluated domestic violence programs in the state of Massachusetts using experimental and quasi experimental methods to determine the impact of domestic violence training programs. The Cambridge, Massachusetts Police Department has four goals in its handling of DV which include: 1) integrating DV case handling with community policing; 2) using a department liaison to monitor follow-up action on DV; 3) creating a database to track DV perpetrators and incidents; and 4) training police officers in the handling of DV. The fourth department goal which sought to help police officers respond to victims of violence and elder abuse was evaluated in this study. Department training objectives focus on conveying information, providing moral and administrative support, and offering an opportunity to role play different responses. The strategy was evaluated with a separate concern for DV victims and elder abuse victims. The evaluation illustrated that both projects attempted to modify trainee knowledge, attitudes, and behavior. Police officers and other trainees became more aware of laws and regulations governing their actions and learned about background circumstances that affect the situations to which they responded. Many police officers reported changes in their attitudes toward DV as a result of the training experience.

**Additional NCJ Citations: 157408, 157409**

<b>1994-IJ-CX-0009:</b>	<b>Community Policing of Domestic Violence: Neighborhood and the Effect of Arrest</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$6,589</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Charles F. Wellford</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Carrie Smith</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

This purpose of this study was to examine the effect of neighborhood characteristics on recidivism in domestic violence. Using arrest data from the 1989 Milwaukee DV experiment and Milwaukee’s census tract data for 1980 and 1990, a sample of 1200 suspects arrested for a misdemeanor DV were examined to determine whether neighborhood characteristics interact with individual characteristics to affect prevalence and frequency of future DV. The research hypothesis posits that those living in the underclass and/or socially disorganized areas will be less deterred by arrest than those living in other areas. This research explored how individual characteristics combine with neighborhood context to affect individual responses to arrest.

<b>1994-IJ-CX-0052:</b>	<b>Domestic Violence Cases: Effects of a Specialized Court</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$199,658</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Barbara Smith</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Janice Munsterman</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

This project was one of two projects funded by the National Institute of Justice, which examined domestic violence experiments in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. This experiment evaluated the effectiveness of a special domestic violence court that opened in September 1994, and the second experiment (1995-IJ-CX-0105, listed below) assessed the impact of a change in the district attorney’s screening policy that admitted more cases into the special court. The primary intent of the special domestic violence court was to speed up disposition of cases in order to reduce backlogs, reduce the amount of time the victim had to change her mind about prosecution, and reduce opportunities for pretrial violence. The liberalized prosecutorial screening policy was intended to determine whether cases normally rejected by the district attorney for prosecution because victims failed to attend the prosecutor’s charging conference could still be successfully prosecuted.

**Product: NCJ# 200103**

**Increasing the Proportion of Domestic Violence Cases that are Prosecuted: A Natural Experiment in Milwaukee (2003) – R. Davis, B. Smith, B. Taylor**

During the 1970’s, law enforcement agencies and the criminal justice system came under fire for treating cases of domestic violence too leniently. The outcome of campaigns to treat domestic violence like any other assault case was the proliferation of mandatory and presumptive arrest policies in which police officers are compelled to arrest the aggressor of domestic violence where probable cause exists. One result of these policies is an increase in the number of cases brought to prosecutors for adjudication. In many instances, the cases are difficult to prosecute and

the prosecutor may be dealing with a victim who never wanted her partner arrested or prosecuted to begin with. Prosecutors are faced with either screening out difficult cases and focusing resources on more clear-cut cases or prosecuting as many cases as possible. The authors studied a natural experiment in which the Milwaukee prosecutor opened up his case screening process to double the number of domestic violence case filings. The results of doubling the domestic violence case prosecutions were: 1) the time to disposition doubled; 2) conviction rates decreased; 3) the level of pre-trial crime increased; and 4) victim satisfaction decreased. The authors concluded that policies that mandate arrest and prosecution of domestic violence crimes without regard to victim preferences may not be the best way to focus limited staff and financial resources. The good intentions of policymakers need to be coupled with a realistic expectation of what can be accomplished by the criminal justice system.

**Additional NCJ Citations: 169110, 169111, 173568, 188067**

<b>1995-IJ-CX-0054:</b>	<b>Beyond Arrest: The Portland, Oregon Experiment</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$199,994</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Annette Jolin</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Cynthia Mamalian</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

This study seeks to explore whether arrest, in the context of a coordinated DV response system, has a greater deterrent effect than arrest by itself. The combined efforts of the Portland Police Bureau, the Multnomah County District Attorney’s Office, and the Family Violence Intervention Steering Committee provided an opportunity to examine this question. This study evaluates the effectiveness of the Portland Police Bureau’s Domestic Violence Reduction Unit (DVRU) which is a product of the Police Bureau’s community policing implementation efforts. A citizen’s advisory group identified violence as a high priority problem in the city. In light of thousands of arrests for misdemeanor DV that are dismissed by prosecutors each year, the group recommended the creation of a police unit with the specific aim of enhancing sanctions and/or treatment for perpetrators of violence. Hence, the DVRU was created with the aim of reducing violence in Portland. Its specific charge is to enhance prosecutions and empower victims of domestic violence. The Portland Chief of Police gave his full support to the randomized research design proposed here, thus creating a unique opportunity to conduct a field experiment involving a law enforcement response to DV that goes beyond arrest and traditional policing methods.

**Product: NCJ# 179968**

**Beyond Arrest: The Portland, Oregon Domestic Violence Experiment (1998) – A. Jolin, W. Feyerherm, R. Fountain, S. Friedman**

In a randomized, double-blind field experiment designed to evaluate the effectiveness of the Portland’s DVRU, an experimental group received a program intervention that included program investigative strategies and victim empowerment strategies, while a control group received no intervention. Victim empowerment strategies included development of safety plans, instruction on how to access criminal justice and community victims services, and assistance with transportation. With a 6 month follow-up, following the offender’s arrest, significantly fewer persons within the experimental group reported more DV. Interviews were conducted with 386 female victims of misdemeanor DV, where the male was arrested at the scene and taken to jail. Batterers from the treatment group were more likely to be prosecuted, convicted and sentenced; whereas, treatment group victims were more likely to request batterer release information and call the police after revictimization. Arrest plus police-initiated follow-up compared to simple arrest led to increased prosecutions, conviction, and sanctions for batterers.

**Additional NCJ Citations: 167228, 202564**

<b>1995-IJ-CX-0097:</b>	<b>Targeting Cycles of Domestic Violence: Assessment, Review, and Recommendations</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$228,738</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Dan Fleissner</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Cynthia Mamalian</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

The purpose of this study was to develop more useful measures of DV by focusing on gathering information linked to cycles of violence. A primary objective of this study will be to tap the expertise available at the University of Washington and the Institute for Social Analysis to identify new and useful kinds of information, new sources of information, and consider creative policy responses to domestic violence. The study will rely on multiple methods of

data collection, including literature reviews, key informant interviews, focus groups, database analysis, and epidemiological techniques. The study will provide detailed empirical information for the DV units to use in evaluating existing programs, developing new programs, and integrating new sources of information into the department's routine data gathering system.

**Product: NCJ# 182435**

**Police Use of Domestic Violence Information Systems (1997) – J. Roehl**

To assist the Seattle Police Department, the Justice Research Center surveyed police departments known for their development and use of advanced DV information systems, identifying innovative systems through government reports and literature related to law enforcement handling of DV and contacts with key Federal clearinghouses and agencies concerned with DV. Telephone interviews were conducted in 11 police departments in Massachusetts, Illinois, Colorado, Kentucky, Florida, Minnesota, Tennessee, New York, Pennsylvania, Oregon, and California. Many departments had only recently developed DV information systems or were currently in the process of developing them. All police departments had separate DV units, and six police departments maintained DV databases that varied in content, comprehensiveness, and age. For the most part, these databases contained information drawn from standard incident reports and were used by police departments for case investigation, especially to identify repeat offenders and to track caseload status.

<b>1995-IJ-CX-0102:</b>	<b>The Effects of Court Dispositions on the Likelihood of Rearrest for Domestic Violence</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$54,738</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>John Wooldredge</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Angela Moore Parmley</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

The purpose of this research project is to assess the effectiveness of pretrial detention, conviction, or jail sentences for preventing and delaying further domestic violence for suspects arrested for misdemeanor domestic violence in Cincinnati, Ohio. Using arrest reports, intake interview forms and court record data, the researcher will compare re-arrest, and length of time to re-arrest for domestic violence for the three court dispositions. Multivariate regression techniques, as well as event history analysis, will be used to analyze the data. Anticipated results of this study will inform policy makers of effective policies related to the control of domestic violence.

**Product: NCJ# 173565**

**Severity of Dispositions and Domestic Violence Recidivism (1998) – A. Thistlethwaite, J. Wooldredge, D. Gibbs**

The effects of court dispositions on re-arrest for DV were examined for a sample of 3,362 adults arrested for misdemeanor DV in Hamilton County (Cincinnati) Ohio. It examined the main effects of court dispositions as well as how those effects may be conditioned by informal social controls. The study included empirical tests of the effectiveness of court dispositions in reducing or delaying recidivism, an examination of the relationship between recidivism and individual- and aggregate-level measures of stake in conformity, analyses of the conditioned effects of court dispositions by stake in conformity on recidivism, maps depicting the geographic distribution of DV, and descriptive analyses of the time until recidivism for suspects in specified disposition groups occurred. Findings revealed that: 1) offender programs and split sentences (probation and jail) were more effective for reducing and/or delaying re-arrest among offenders with higher individual-levels of stake in conformity; 2) the prevalence and incidence of re-arrest were lower for offenders from lower-stake neighborhoods serving split sentences; 3) sentences of jail alone had a greater incapacitation effect compared to probation alone and probation combined with jail; and 4) although suspects whose cases were ignored ended up with high recidivism likelihoods, these recidivists actually had longer delays to re-arrest.

**Additional NCJ Citations: 188509, 193268, 196621, 204093, 208203**

<b>1995-IJ-CX-0105:</b>	<b>Domestic Violence Cases: What Happens When Courts are Faced with Uncooperative Victims</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$43,928</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Barbara Smith</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Bernard Auchter</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

This project was one of two projects funded by the National Institute of Justice that examined domestic violence experiments in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The first experiment (1994-IJ-CX-0052, listed above) evaluated the effectiveness of a special domestic violence court that opened in September 1994, and the current experiment assessed the impact of a change in the district attorney's screening policy that admitted more cases into the special court. The primary intent of the special domestic violence court was to speed up disposition of cases in order to reduce backlogs, reduce the amount of time the victim had to change her mind about prosecution, and reduce opportunities for pretrial violence. The liberalized prosecutorial screening policy was intended to determine whether cases normally rejected by the district attorney for prosecution because victims failed to attend the prosecutor's charging conference could still be successfully prosecuted.

**Product: NCJ# 169110/169111**

**Prosecuting Domestic Violence Cases with Reluctant Victims: Assessing Two Novel Approaches in Milwaukee (1997) – R. Davis, B. Smith, L. Nickles**

Milwaukee officials reasoned fewer defendants would threaten or harm victims and fewer victims would change their minds about cooperating with authorities if they could simply reduce the amount of time it took to dispose of domestic violence cases. Data obtained from case records and victim interviews showed the special domestic violence court was generally successful. Case processing time was substantially reduced after the court began, and this reduction was the result of applying speedy trial concepts to domestic violence cases. Convictions increased with the new court, indicating more defendants were getting into treatment programs. Less frequent use of jail time by the new court was consistent with victim desires. The prevalence of pretrial crime declined after the start of the court due to a smaller window of opportunity to inflict new harm. Despite increased convictions and reduced pretrial crime, however, victim satisfaction with various aspects of the criminal justice process did not increase. The district attorney's liberalized charging policy had several effects, none of them positive. One effect was to bring into the court system a larger proportion of cases with victims who were not interested in seeing the defendant prosecuted. Another effect was that case processing time increased as the special court became overwhelmed with cases.

**Additional NCJ Citations: 173568, 188067, 200103**

<b>1995-WT-NX-0004:</b>	<b>Evaluation of a Coordinated Community Response to Domestic Violence</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$125,722</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Stan Orchowsky</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Angela Moore Parmley</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

The purpose of this evaluation is to assess the effectiveness of the Alexandria, Virginia Domestic Violence Intervention Project (DVIP) which combines a mandatory arrest policy for instances of DV with a no-drop prosecution strategy and court mandated treatment for batterers. In addition, the DVIP provides services for battered women such as an emergency shelter, counseling, and court advocacy. The study will seek to determine the short-term and long-term outcomes for a sample of 200 women who used the services of the project. Interviews with 100 women who received services will be conducted at one, three, and six months after the initial abuse incident and will be questioned regarding reoccurrences of physical or verbal abuse, changes in their living situations, impacts of the abuse on themselves and their children, and their assessments of the DVIP and their staff. Long-term outcomes will be assessed via interviews with a sample of 100 women who have received services from the DVIP between 1993 and 1995. Additional methods of assessing program effectiveness include re-arrest rates of abusers from the DVIP database, interviews with program staff, judges, prosecutors, and magistrates, and surveys of police officers.

**Product: NCJ# 179974**

**Evaluation of a Coordinated Community Response to Domestic Violence: The Alexandria Domestic Violence Intervention Project (1999) – S. Orchowsky**

This study evaluated the Alexandria Domestic Violence Intervention Program, a coordinated community response to DV, to determine program effectiveness. The study conducted multiple interviews with female victims of DV perpetrated by intimate partners to determine program satisfaction, recidivism, and other elements compared with the responses of a sample of DV victims in Virginia Beach, Va. A total of 106 women in Alexandria and 64 women in Virginia Beach participated in a series of interviews designed to determine the services received, satisfaction with services, and their subsequent experiences with abuse. Findings conclude that the Intervention Program is doing a good job in providing services to DV victims. The Alexandria Police Department's mandatory arrest policy received

positive ratings from the officers which seem to have resulted in a greater proportion of arrest from DV calls. Victims in Alexandria experienced less non-physical re-victimization than those in Virginia Beach. In addition, 3½ years of data on DV offenses were used to examine factors related to the recidivism of DV offenders in Alexandria. Recidivism among DV offenders was related to both prior offense history and sentencing for the offense.

**Additional NCJ Citations: 202564**

<b>1996-IJ-CX-0058:</b>	<b>The Effect of Procedural Justice in Spouse Assault: A Reanalysis of the Milwaukee Domestic Violence Experiment</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$17,421</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Raymond Paternoster</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Angela Moore Parmley</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

This secondary data analysis of the Milwaukee Domestic Violence Experiment examined suspects’ perception of police fairness in relation to subsequent spouse assault. The analysis examined; 1) whether the prevalence and frequency of subsequent spouse assault was lower for those given a warning than for those arrested if arrested offenders perceived they were treated unfairly; 2) whether those arrested for spouse assault, who believed they were treated unfairly were more likely to commit future spouse assault; 3) whether the perceived procedural fairness of the arrest was as important as the outcome of the arrest; 4) whether procedural fairness inhibited subsequent spouse assault under both favorable and unfavorable outcome conditions; and 5) whether the effect of perceived procedural fairness on re-offending interacted with a person’s stake in conformity.

**Product: NCJ# 169870**

**Do Fair Procedures Matter? The Effect of Procedural Justice on Spouse Assault (1997) – R. Paternoster, R. Bachman, R. Brame, L. Sherman**

Data collected for the Milwaukee Domestic Violence Experiment between April 1987 and August 1988 were used in the analysis. About 91 percent of suspects in the experiment were male. The dependent variable was the number of spouse assault incidents reported to the Milwaukee domestic violence hotline for each individual suspect. Consistent with expectations, procedural justice suppressed subsequent violence even in the face of adverse outcomes. When police officers acted in a procedurally fair manner when arresting suspects, the rate of subsequent DV was significantly lower than when they did not. Similarly, suspects who were arrested and believed they were treated fairly had subsequent spouse assault rates as low as the rates for suspects given more favorable arrest outcomes. The suppression effect of procedural justice did not depend on the suspects’ personal characteristics.

<b>1996-IJ-CX-0098:</b>	<b>Domestic Violence Intervention Project</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$96,530</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Maria Teresa Viramontes</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Cynthia Mamalian</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

The overall goal of this research partnership is to initiate a long-term process to design and implement a scientifically based approach to the problem of domestic violence that unites the criminal justice and rehabilitative/treatment models into a single comprehensive continuum. In this first stage, the focus will be on the least studied and most problematic element of that continuum- where the cop on the beat confronts the tragedy and chaos of a violent household. Goals of this project will be to: 1) develop a simple domestic violence screening tool to aid police decision-making; 2) field test and refine the screening instrument; 3) assess the reliability of the instrument; 4) work with the Berkeley Police Department to refine its Management Information System to obtain information necessary for managing an ongoing domestic violence intervention program; and 5) develop a written training curriculum to train officers in utilization of the instrument.

**Product: NCJ# 182781**

**Creating a Structured Decision-Making Model for Police Intervention in Intimate Partner Violence (2000) – M. Wordes**

A collaboration consisting of the Berkeley Police Department (California), the East Bay Public Safety Corridor partnership, and the National Council on Crime and Delinquency created two instruments for a more structured system of police decision-making in handling domestic violence incidents. One instrument required patrol officers

to complete a Domestic Violence Safety Assessment/Supplemental Report according to protocol and data collection for the Domestic Violence Prevention Unit (DVPU) and the District Attorney, while the second instrument was a risk assessment instrument to be used by the DVPU to classify offenders according to risk. All police reports were entered into a database. In order to have enough recidivists on which to base a model of re-offending, cases were stratified by recidivism status before sampling. Using the data gathered from the full police reports (n=138), a series of analyses examined the relationship between re-offending and various factors compiled from the records. Overall, the project succeeded in creating a useful Domestic Violence Safety Assessment/Supplemental Report for the Berkeley Police Department, and developed a preliminary risk assessment tool that the DVPU could use to develop appropriate interventions based on risk of recidivism. The project further developed and sustained a locally initiated partnership between researchers and practitioners.

<b>1996-WT-NX-0004:</b>	<b>Factors Related to Domestic Violence Court Disposition in a Large Urban Area: The Role of Victim/Witness Reluctance and Other Variables</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$115,773</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Joanne Belknap</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Angela Moore Parmley</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

The purpose of this 15 month study is determine factors that influence judicial and prosecutorial decision-making in domestic violence cases, and factors that influence victim/witness reluctance in bringing batterers to successful adjudication. The goal is to fill the knowledge gap about what happens with domestic violence cases where the alleged batterers were arrested, once they leave law enforcement agencies. Specifically, the goal is to identify factors which influence whether city misdemeanor domestic violence cases where batterers were arrested by the police, result in dismissals, acquittals, or convictions in the courts. Key to this understanding is an awareness of victim/witness reluctance, as domestic violence cases are widely known to have large numbers of victims who do not testify against their batterers, or who may actively try to get the charges dropped, possibly to the extent of testifying to support their batterers' "innocence". Data for this study will be collected from a variety of key actors and sources in the criminal justice system decision-making process, including prosecutors, judges, pretrial services, prosecutor files, court dockets, and court transcripts. Domestic violence victims also will be interviewed in order to better understand the factors related to their decisions of whether to pursue court cases against their batterers.

**Product: NCJ# 184232**

**Factors Related to Domestic Violence Court Disposition in a Large Urban Area: The Role of Victim/Witness (2000) – J. Belknap, D. Graham**

This study examined factors that influence judicial and prosecutorial decision-making in domestic violence cases, and factors that influence victim/witness reluctance in bringing batterers to successful adjudication, i.e. convictions. Specifically, the goal was to identify factors which influence whether city misdemeanor DV cases where batterers were arrested by the police, result in dismissals, acquittals, or convictions in the courts. Results from this study indicate that the two most significant factors related to guilty outcomes were the number of times the prosecutor met with the victim and the prosecutor's caseload– if the caseload was above the mean, defendants were less likely to be found guilty. Other factors related to guilty outcomes included victim/offender relationship and victim statement/testimony. If the victim and offender were still in a relationship, the defendant was more likely to be convicted. In addition, if the victim testified the defendant was more likely to be found guilty; and if the victim recanted the defendant was less likely to be convicted.

**Additional NCJ Citations: 184112, 200643, 200644, 202564**

<b>1997-IJ-CX-K014:</b>	<b>A Domestic Violence Electronic Monitoring Project in San Diego County</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$474,130</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Lawrence T. Brillson</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Chris Miles</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

The project evaluated the effectiveness of a specially configured electronic monitor for use in screened and selected domestic violence cases. The purpose of the study was to determine the effect of this technology on preventing further violence of the offenders on their victims, and the impact on the courts and enforcement agencies, and on enforcement of court-issued protection orders, as well as the ability for this technology to deter misdemeanants from

proceeding to more serious involvement in the criminal justice system.

**Product: NCJ# 207132**

**Electronic Monitoring of Domestic Violence Cases: A Study of Two Bilateral Programs (2004) – E. Erez, P. Ibarra, N. Lurie**

There has been limited systematic research concerning the use of electronic monitoring for persons charged or convicted of DV. In DV cases, surveillance and control technology is not only used for control of the perpetrator, but for protection of the victim, requiring their participation in the bilateral electronic monitoring (BEM) program. The current study examined key aspects of two BEM programs for DV cases located in two Midwestern States. Data included official records from the probation department; in-depth interviews with victims (30), defendants and convicted offenders (27), criminal justice professionals (34), and victim assistance professionals (8); and field observations of equipment installation, program explanation to participants, and supervisory visits. Results revealed that most referrals to both BEM programs were made by lower courts, but the type of defendant referred to BEM differed between programs. One of the programs only considered cases in which the victim was judged to have no further contact with the defendant. This approach was considered unresponsive to research about the “cycle of violence”. The processes of restriction also varied between programs, with one having much more flexible supervision and restriction requirements. Despite their differences, victims involved with both programs perceived increased safety as a result of the program. Other jurisdictions should consider the use of BEM for DV cases.

**Additional Publications: Erez, E., & Ibarra, P.R. (2005). Victim-centric diversion? The electronic monitoring of domestic violence cases. *Behavioral Sciences & the Law*, 23, 259-276.**

<b>1997-WE-VX-0131:</b>	<b>Violence Against Women in the City of El Paso, Texas: Developing Researcher Practitioner Partnerships</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$46,020</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Andrew Giacomazzi</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Bernard Auchter</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

This project builds upon an existing interagency collaborative partnership established in 1996 and initiated by the El Paso Police Department in an effort to reduce the occurrence of domestic violence in the city. Key components of the project include: 1) the introduction of researchers from the University of Texas at El Paso as academic resources for the collaborative partnership in the areas of domestic violence theory, training, policies, and program evaluation; 2) the continuation and strengthening of the collaborative partnership under the "Four T" approach; 3) the monitoring of the process of interagency collaboration in the area of domestic violence; and 4) a comprehensive outcome evaluation of the effects of domestic violence training. Four experimental designs with pretest and posttest measurements will assess the effect of police officer training on: 1) attitudes toward domestic violence interventions; 2) the amount of time spent at the scene of the domestic violence episode; 3) the acceptance for prosecution by the District Attorney's Office; and 4) the number of convictions.

**Product: NCJ# 191840**

**Collaborative Effort and the Effectiveness of Law Enforcement Training Toward Resolving Domestic Violence (2000) – M. Smitley, S. Green, A. Giacomazzi**

The evaluation of the police officer training gauged the extent to which planned intervention and training affect police officer perceptions of DV measured through multi-dimensional indicators, including myths surrounding family violence, sexism, and attitudes towards victims of DV. Further analysis focused on the training's effect on the amount of time police officers spent on the scene with victims and data collected from police department and district attorney's office were used to determine whether training initiatives led to a higher number of prosecuted cases as well as more convictions. The comprehensive outcome evaluation on the effects of officer training indicated that the training produced no change in attitudes toward DV, that it had no effect on an officer's opinion toward mandatory arrest, and that the training did not make it easier for an officer to identify the perpetrator or to determine whether victims wanted to cooperate with officials to end the violence. Additionally, the DV training did not change the length of time the police officers spent at the scene, acceptance of cases for prosecution, or the number of resulting convictions.

**Additional NCJ Citations: 199701, 199716, 202564**

<b>1997-WT-VX-0002:</b>	<b>Investigation of the Role of Stalking in Serious Cases</b>
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**Amount:** \$26,276  
**PI:** Cindy Kimilar  
**Monitor:** Bernie Auchter  
**Status:** Completed

The purpose of this 12-month project is to examine the role of stalking in serious cases of DV and the effectiveness of anti-stalking efforts. The project will investigate the role of stalking in harassment (stalking and non-stalking), DV, DVERT and non-DVERT (Domestic Violence Enhanced Response Team), aggravated assaults, and homicide cases to: 1) explore the presence of stalking behavior in cases not charged under the stalking statute but meeting the researchers' operational definition of stalking and 2) examine the relationship between stalking and DV cases (which may be classified under many different laws depending on severity of violence). The effectiveness of anti-stalking laws will be examined in terms of arrest, conviction, and sanction rate in the arrest categories included in the study. Data (6,296 cases) from Police and District Attorney files in Colorado Springs, Colorado will be used for analyses. Descriptive analyses, including means and standard deviations, will be calculated for all continuous variables and frequencies will be calculated for all categorical variables. Chi-square and log linear analyses will be conducted for the presence of stalking, charges, type of case, age group, ethnicity, estimated socio-economic status, gender, conviction, and type of sanction. ANOVA will be conducted with categorical independent variables and dependent variable, amount of sanction.

**Product: NCJ# 187346/187446**

**Stalking: It's Role in Serious Domestic Violence Cases (2000) – P. Tjaden, N. Thoennes**

The study reviewed 1,785 DV crime reports generated by the Colorado Springs Police Department April through September 1998. Bivariate and multivariate analyses were used to determine: 1) the prevalence of stalking allegations in DV crime reports; 2) risk factors associated with DV stalking; 3) the frequency with which suspects of intimate partner stalking are charged; 4) differences in presenting conditions in DV crime reports with and without stalking allegations; and 5) differences in law enforcement outcomes in DV crime reports with and without stalking allegations. Reports with stalking allegations were significantly less likely to mention physical abuse or victim injury in the presenting condition, to involve victims and suspects who were using alcohol at the time of the report, and to involve households with children. Victims who alleged stalking by their partners were significantly less likely than victims who did not allege stalking to be emotionally distraught at the time of the report, but significantly more likely to have an active restraining order against the suspect and to request notification of further action in the case. Police were significantly less likely to make an arrest or issue a companion summons if the victim alleged stalking and routinely charged stalking suspects with harassment or violation of a restraining order instead of stalking charges in this study.

**Additional NCJ Citations: 187727**

**1998-WE-VX-K010:** Evaluating the DVERT Program in Colorado Springs  
**Amount:** \$100,114  
**PI:** Craig Uchida  
**Monitor:** Angela Moore Parmley  
**Status:** Completed

This project will involve a process evaluation of a comprehensive, systemic approach to curtailing domestic violence with the Colorado Springs Domestic Violence Enhanced Response Team (DVERT). The objective of this project is to closely examine the DVERT intervention process, with emphasis on the following questions: 1) what are the characteristics of domestic violence-related incidents in Colorado Springs and surrounding jurisdictions; 2) what is the effect of the intervention and prevention activities of the DVERT Team; 3) what is the nature of the intervention; 4) how do cases handled by DVERT compare to other domestic violence incidents; 5) what is the nature and extent of the collaboration among criminal justice agencies; 6) what are the dynamics of the collaboration; 7) how successful is the collaboration; and 8) what is the potential for an impact evaluation. The project will analyze the collaboration among the 15 agencies that participate in DVERT. This project will track the flow of cases from referral of domestic violence incidents through their adjudication or resolution, while also tracking the flow of cases that enter and exit DVERT.

**Product: NCJ# 188261**

**Evaluating a Multi-Disciplinary Response to Domestic Violence: The DVERT Program in Colorado Springs**

**(2001) – C. Uchida, C. Putnam, J. Mastrofski, S. Soloman, D. Dawson**

Over the past 20 years the Colorado Springs Police Department has received over 15,000 calls for service annually for domestic violence. In response to this the department created a non-traditional DV unit called DVERT. This evaluation examined case files from 1996 to 2000, observations of DVERT activities, interviews with members of DVERT, and interviews with victims of DV in addition to a process evaluation of a comprehensive and systemic approach to curtailing DV. The findings of the process evaluation suggest that DVERT is a unique blend of social service and criminal justice components which focuses primarily on the safety of victims and does not follow the traditional model of DV special units. DVERT takes a more balanced approach to the problems of DV as it spreads responsibility for the problem to a number of agencies, not just the police. As a result, these activities have provided better services for victims and their children, more awareness of DV issues by the criminal justice system, the perception of a reduction in violence, and a high level of cooperation and collaboration among city and county agencies.

**Additional NCJ Citations: 190230, 190231**

<b>1998-WT-VX-K014:</b>	<b>Evaluation of a Coordinated Response to Domestic Violence</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$70,504</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Susan Pennell</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Angela Moore Parmley</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

This project will evaluate the San Diego Sheriff's Department efforts to implement a detectives unit where domestic violence cases are centralized, based on objectives outlined in a 1997 Department of Justice project to encourage arrests for domestic violence. In order to identify changes in response to call for services, arrests, complaints, filings, and other measures, the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) compiled baseline data on 2,247 domestic violence incidents reported in 1996 to the Sheriff's Department. SANDAG also conducted a pretest of unit deputies' knowledge of state laws concerning appropriate responses to domestic violence. This evaluation will build on these tasks and document efforts to train deputies, use the automated tracking system, and conduct activities to improve victim safety using cell phones, body alarm devices, and audiovisual surveillance. The project will examine the baseline data and identify outcome measures and comparison areas for the impact evaluation. Project members will attend domestic violence unit meetings and department training, review program documentation, and conduct interviews with unit staff. Analysis will be primarily descriptive and qualitative, with frequency distributions and cross-tabulations.

**Product: NCJ# 197051**

**Centralized Response to Domestic Violence: San Diego County Sheriff (2002) – S. Pennell, C. Burke**

In 1997, through funding from Violence Against Women Act, the sheriff's office in San Diego County developed a specialized unit charged with responding to DV calls. This report was an evaluation of the effectiveness of this specialized unit. The evaluators of this unit convened monthly with representatives from victim advisory groups, prosecutors, public defenders, probation officers, the medical community, treatment providers, and members of the sheriff's DV unit to monitor research and the data collection methods. A survey of field deputies concerning their knowledge of DV laws, source documents from the DV unit including training materials, phone interviews with victims, and case tracking of reported cases of DV indicate that having a specialized unit comprised of experts with training in DV had a positive impact on cases in San Diego County. One problem that was revealed through this research was that officers in this unit experienced "burn out" to a greater degree than officers who were not in a specialized unit.

<b>1998-WT-VX-0001:</b>	<b>The Richmond/ Police Foundation Domestic Violence Partnership</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$258,984</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Rosann Greenspan</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Angela Moore Parmley</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

The purpose of this project is to conduct an evaluation of The Second Responders Program in Richmond, Virginia, which is a collaborative effort between the Richmond Department of Social Services and the Richmond Police Department. The Second Responders are social workers who are called to the scene of domestic violence incidents, joining the police at the site of the call, which was implemented in two out of the four policed precincts in

Richmond. Using interviews with 80 control subjects (2 traditional precincts) and 78 experimental subjects (2 Second Responders precincts), this research interviewed adult female victims of assault.

**Product: NCJ# 199717**

**Second Responders Program: A Coordinated Police and Social Service Response to Domestic Violence (2004) – E. Lane, R. Greenspan, D. Weisburd**

On all measures of satisfaction with services, experimental subjects assessed the Responders highly, and the police were rated as performing their services better when the Responders service was provided as well. The experimental subjects experienced reduction in the incidence and prevalence of repeat violence when compared to control subjects. As there were initial problems with the researcher/ practitioner partnership, the researchers concluded that success could be better ensured if police officers recognize the benefits of the new procedure, such as Second Responders, while leadership demonstrates a firm commitment to that new procedure. In most situations, the Second Responders provide victims with information about services and assist in the development of a plan to access these services by referring each night's DV cases to the Family Violence Prevention Program in the Department of Social Services. Evaluation researchers used a quasi-experimental design, with an experimental group and a control group. There were no significant differences between the experimental and control groups on demographics, including age, race, marital status, living situation, education, work status, income, and household size. The evaluation found that the Second Responders frequently provided safety assessments and information services on a range of social services and legal resources, though direct services were provided less often. Many more experimental subjects than control subjects were contacted by a worker shortly after the incident; however, 45% of experimental subjects reported they had not been contacted by a worker after the DV incident. Experimental subjects had much more positive views of the police encounter than control subjects and there were significant differences between the groups regarding the type and extent of services provided by the police. These findings show significant promise for the program and for similar interventions that combine social worker and police services at the site of the initial response to domestic violence.

**Additional NCJ Citations: 199701**

<b>1998-WT-VX-0003:</b>	<b>Prosecutors' Charging Decisions in Sexual Assault Cases</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$173,460</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Cassia Spohn</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Andrew Goldberg</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

This project will examine prosecutors' charging decisions in sexual assault cases in three large urban jurisdictions (Chicago, Philadelphia and Kansas City). The jurisdictions represent variations in procedures for screening and prosecuting sexual assault and sexual abuse cases. The objectives are to: 1) identify the factors affecting charging decisions in assault cases; 2) test whether prosecutors are more likely to file charges in aggravated SA cases than in simple SA cases; 3) test whether the effect of victim characteristics on prosecutor's charging decisions will be greater in simple than in aggravated SA; 4) to compare case outcomes and the relative importance of victim characteristics, offender characteristics, and evidence factors on the prosecution of SAs involving children and those involving adults; and 5) examine the impact (on the likelihood of charging and the likelihood of conviction) of a special unit for prosecuting SA cases. The disposition of filed cases will also be examined. The researchers will collect data on all SA and sexual abuse cases referred to the prosecutors' offices for screening in each of the three jurisdictions during 1996 and 1997. They will examine police and prosecutor case files to obtain information on offender, the victim, and the circumstances of the crime. Approximately 5,000 cases will be collected.

**Product: NCJ# 199720**

**Prosecuting Sexual Assault: A Comparison of Charging Decisions in Sexual Assault Cases Involving Strangers, Acquaintances, and Intimate Partners (2004) – C. Spohn, D. Holleran**

The study analyzed data on sexual assaults that resulted in arrest in Kansas City and Philadelphia. Victim characteristics were subdivided into background factors and “blame and believability” factors (victim characteristics that might cause justice officials to blame the victim and/or question her credibility). Researchers controlled for whether the victim physically resisted her attacker or made a prompt report to the police, whether the victim's “moral character” was in question, and whether the victim engaged in any type of risk-taking activity at the time of the incident. The suspect’s age, race, and prior criminal record were included in the analysis. In both jurisdictions approximately half of the SA cases that resulted in an arrest were prosecuted. The decision to charge was based on a

combination of victim, suspect, and case characteristics. Prosecutors were more likely to file charges if there was physical evidence connecting the suspect to the crime, if the suspect had a prior criminal record, and if there were no questions about the victim’s character or behavior. The relationship between the victim and the suspect had no effect on the decision to charge. The presence of physical evidence to connect the suspect to the crime had a strong significant effect on charging in all types of cases, but had a more pronounced effect in cases involving strangers than acquaintances or relatives.

**Additional NCJ Citations: 190494, 197048, 199701**

**Additional Publications: Spohn, C., Beichner, D., & Davis-Frenzel, E. (2001). Prosecutorial justifications for sexual assault case rejection: Guarding the “Gateway to Justice”. *Social Problems, 48*, 206-235.**

**Beichner, D. & Spohn, C. (2005). Prosecutorial charging decisions in sexual assault cases: Examining the impact of a specialized prosecution unit. *Criminal Justice Policy Review, 16*, 461-498.**

<b>1998-WT-VX-0015:</b>	<b>Predicting Reporting and Non-Reporting of Sexual Assault to the Police: A Multivariate Analysis</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$27,990</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Libby Ruch</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Shelly Jackson</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

The goal of the project is to investigate variables that facilitate and hinder the reporting of sexual assault to the police and the implications for treatment centers and criminal justice agencies. The proposed study will utilize data collected as part of a study funded by the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH). The sample includes 746 female victims (14 years or older) of non-incestuous sexual assault, who were seen at a treatment center within 1 year of assault. Variables relating to the assault (e.g., completed or attempted, stranger or known assailant, physical injury) were measured to examine whether stereotypical or "classic" sexual assaults were more likely to be reported. The variables about the victims include her demographic characteristics, social support, trauma level, and post-assault behaviors (e.g., time between assault and seeking treatment). Data analysis will examine differences between reporting and non-reporting victims in the entire sample, and in the immediate and delayed treatment seeker sub-samples with Student's t-tests, Chi-square tests, and logistic regression analysis with reporting status as the dependent variable.

**Product: NCJ# 184179**

**Reporting Sexual Assault to the Police in Hawaii (2000) – L. Ruch, B. Coyne, P. Perrone**

The study involved a sample of 709 female victims of non-incestuous sexual assault, 14 years old or older, who were treated at the Sex Abuse Treatment Center (SATC) in Honolulu, Hawaii. Within the sample, 75% sought treatment within 72 hours of the assault ("Immediate Treatment Seekers"), and 25% sought treatment over 72 hours after the assault ("Delayed Treatment Seekers"). Bivariate relationships between a single independent variable and the report of sexual assault were examined by computing two-variable frequency tables, and the significance of the relationship between the independent variable and reporting status was assessed through Chi-Square tests. The multivariate analysis show that the following seven variables that relate to the victim positively correlated with reporting the sexual assault to the police: 1) assailant threatened to harm or kill the victim; 2) victim attempted to flee and escape her attacker; 3) victim yelled or screamed for help; 4) victim tried to track or fool the assailant; 5) victim sustained no physical injury in addition to the sexual assault; 6) victim was a member of a non-Asian ethnic group; and 7) the victim attributed no or low self-blame to herself for the assault.

**Additional NCJ Citations: 188264**

<b>1998-WT-VX-0029:</b>	<b>Evaluation of Efforts to Implement No-Drop Policies: Two Central Values in Conflict</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$216,160</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Laura Nickles</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Katherine Darke</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

This 18 month project includes both process and impact components in order to achieve the following three goals, to

examine: 1) whether no-drop policies led to actual changes in prosecution of domestic violence; 2) the extent to which no-drop policies, if implemented successfully, change the pattern of dispositions and sentences in domestic cases; and 3) the effect of no-drop policies on victims of domestic violence. During the process component investigators will collect written materials from four selected sites, interview criminal justice officials, and conduct on-site observations. Together, these data sources will be used to produce models describing how the handling of domestic violence cases has changed as a result of no-drop policies. The impact phase of this evaluation will use the program models to define specific outcome measures to gauge the success of the no-drop implementation. Four-hundred cases will be sampled from prosecutor's files at each of the four sites. For the sampled cases, data will be collected from prosecutor's files and victims will be interviewed about their experiences in the criminal justice system, their feelings about no-drop practices, and their satisfaction with the criminal justice system and officials.

**Product: NCJ# 187772**

**Evaluation of Efforts to Implement No-Drop Policies: Two Central Values in Conflict (2001) – B. Smith, R. Davis, L. Nickles, H. Davies**

Three sites were selected that recently adopted no-drop policies for this 18-month project because they seemed the clearest about implementing a strong no-drop policy. At each site, 200 cases in the year prior, and 200 cases in the year post policy implementation were examined. Study information also came from interviews with criminal justice officials, onsite observations, a review of written policies, analysis of case examples, and victim interviews. At one site pre-policy information was not available. Findings indicated that no-drop policies were not rigidly implemented, and really amounted to evidence-based prosecution. At the two sites where pre- and post- information was available, there was a large increase in convictions, trials, and processing time. Judges must be on board regarding admitting hearsay and excited utterances from victims and statement from defendants, or documentation of prior bad acts. In one site where judges were reluctant to admit this kind of evidence, the no-drop policy was weak, and prosecutors often failed to prosecute if victims were uncooperative. No-drop policies are expensive, involving considerable training and resources.

**Additional NCJ Citations: 193235, 199701, 199719, 202564**

<b>2000-WT-VX-0007:</b>	<b>Evaluating a Joint Police-Social Service Program</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$34,802</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Robert C. Davis</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Richard Titus</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

The proposed research will examine studies of New York City's Domestic Violence Intervention Education Project (DVIEP), which uses multidisciplinary crisis response teams to follow up on the initial police response to domestic violence complaints in attempting to reduce revictimization. The DVIEP in New York City was evaluated three times using the same experimental design: random assignment of victims to either the DVIEP home-visit intervention (experimental) group or a non-intervention (control) group. The data sets are comprehensive and compatible, and include demographic, case characteristics and other information obtained from criminal justice sources and follow-up interviews with victims in the experimental and control groups. Outcome data will include the number of new calls for police services within six months following the trigger incident, self-reports of victimization, and the time between the trigger incident and the first new incident of abuse. Preliminary analysis of two of the databases produced ambiguous and seemingly contradictory results; the third database was not analyzed. The ambiguity of the results is at least partially attributable to the fact that repeat abusive incidents were rare and most cases have no repeat instances. A Poisson regression model will be used to address analytical and interpretation issues posed by the highly skewed distribution for this variable. A Cox regression model will be used to examine the time from the trigger event to the first new victimization. Analyses will also be conducted to determine if there were significant differences between the background or case characteristics of the experimental and control groups that may be associated with case outcomes.

**Product: NCJ# 200608**

**Preventing Repeat Incidents of Family Violence: A Reanalysis of Data from Three Field Tests (2002) – R. Davis, C. Maxwell**

On three separate occasions between 1987 and 1997, three separate field tests were conducted in order to evaluate the basic approaches used in prevention programs in New York City. These field tests were aimed at public housing residents that reported family violence to police. The field-test interventions consisted of a follow-up home visit to

households reporting a domestic incident by a police officer and social worker, and a public education program using community meetings, posters, and flyers to educate participants about family violence. The results of all the field tests were inconsistent. Since the composition of the samples varied across studies (two used family violence incidents and the third elder abuse incidents), it could be construed that the prevention programs had different effects with different populations. A series of re-analyses was conducted to try to resolve earlier inconsistencies. The results of the re-analysis of data from three separate field tests of the same interventions unequivocally demonstrate that the interventions caused an increase in reporting of new abusive incidents to authorities and to research interviewers. Those groups assigned to receive home visit or public education interventions reported more abuse than control groups. The fact that the findings were so consistent across the three studies indicates that increased reporting of abuse is not idiosyncratic to one of the samples, but holds across the three different types of samples used in these studies. The results suggest the need for monitoring and strong supervision of programs that intervene in households whose residents have recently reported domestic violence.

<b>2002-WG-BX-0001:</b>	<b>Temporal Variation in Rates of Police Notification by Victim</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$34,998</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Eric Baumer</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Catherine McNamee</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

This research project uses data from the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS) for the years 1973-1999 to explore whether legal, political and cultural reforms implemented during the past three decades have affected the likelihood that victims of rape and sexual assault notify the police of their victimization. The research will address: 1) whether overall rates of reporting among victims of rape and sexual assault have increased since the early 1970s; 2) whether any observed increase in rates of police notification have been prominent among women raped or sexually assault by non-strangers; and 3) whether differences in rates of reporting between strangers and non-strangers have diminished over time. Data from the 1973-1992 NCVS are being used to explore changes in the likelihood of police notification by victims of rape (n=1,844), and data from the redesigned survey for 1992-1999 will be used to examine these issues during the 1990s (n=155). The dependent variable will be measured as a dichotomy, scored 1 for incidents in which victims or somebody else reported the incident to the police and 0 for incidents in which the police were not notified and, accordingly, logistic regression will be used to evaluate its response on the key independent variables: year of the incident and victim-offender relationship.

**Product: NCJ# 204619**

**Changes in Police Notification for Rape: 1973-2000 (2003) – E. Baumer, R. Nelson, S. Messner**

Previous research indicates that the social and legal climate of the early 1970's, coupled with public perceptions of low probability of arrest, prosecution and conviction in rape cases, discourage police notification by victims, especially those victims raped by acquaintances or intimates. The anti-rape reform movement of the 1970s attempted to increase awareness of rape and to lobby for reform of rape laws that were viewed as antiquated and unjust. So, some of the institutional and cultural barriers that seemed to serve as disincentives to police notification by rape victims have been diminished or removed during the past three decades. Using data from the National Crime Survey (NCS) and the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), this study will examine changes in the likelihood of police notification in rape incidents. Data from the NCS examined changes between 1973 and 1991 and data from the NCVS examined changes between 1992 and 2000. Research results suggest that rates of police notification for incidents of rape have increased since the early 1970s. The increase in reporting during the 1970's and 1980's was due to changes in third-party reporting and changes in victim reporting of non-stranger rapes. During the 1990's, the rates of change accelerated and broadened in scope: there was an increase in both victim and third-party reporting of rapes committed by strangers, as well as non-strangers. The increase during the 1970s and 1980s in reporting of rape was limited to non-stranger rapes and third-party reporting. The scope and momentum of the large-scale media and social campaigns appear to have accelerated increases in police notification among both victims and third-parties and both stranger and non-stranger rapes.

**Additional NCJ Citations: 207497**

<b>2002-WG-BX-0002:</b>	<b>Police Intervention and the Repeat of Domestic Assault</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$34,867</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Richard B. Felson</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Richard Titus</b>

**Status:** Completed

This project will examine the effects of police intervention on whether offenders repeat assaults against their domestic partners. The researcher will examine re-offending as a function of whether the victim or third party reported the incident to police and whether the police made an arrest during a 3½ year period following the assault. The goal of this study is to determine whether notification of the police or arrest deters offenders from repeating assaults against their female partners under some conditions, and accordingly, to determine what type of intervention works best. Objectives are to examine: 1) the effects of notification and arrest on re-offending in felony and misdemeanor assaults; 2) assaults by women as well as assaults by men; 3) the conditions under which police notification and arrest affect re-offending; and 4) whether offenders retaliate when the victim's actions led to their arrest.

**Product: NCJ# 210301**

**Police Intervention and the Repeat of Domestic Assault – R. Felson (2004) – R. Felson, J. Ackerman, C. Gallagher**

Experimental studies of the effects of arrest on domestic violence may have missed the incidents that have the highest risk of being repeated- incidents that are not reported to the police. This research expands upon that literature by broadening the universe of interest to include all incidents of intimate partner violence, whether the police are involved or not. This analysis is based on data from the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), 1992-2002. The researchers analyzed 2564 assaults committed by spouses, partners and ex-partners, and determined whether they were repeated during the remaining time the victim remained in the survey. The researchers include both misdemeanors and felonies and assaults committed by both men and women. These data are used to test the deterrent or inflammatory effects of whether: 1) the incident was reported to the police; 2) the victim or third parties called the police; 3) the police made an arrest; and 4) the victim signed a complaint. Equations included controls for the seriousness of the offense, prior violence of the offender, and socioeconomic variables. The longitudinal analyses suggest that police involvement has a strong deterrent effect while the effect of arrest is small and statistically insignificant. In addition, researchers found no support for the hypothesis that offenders retaliate when victims (rather than third parties) call the police or when victims sign a complaint. Nor did they find evidence that the effects of reporting or arrest depend on the seriousness of the offense, a history of violence by the offender, or social-demographic characteristics. These results suggest that the best policies for reduction of repeated intimate violence will be those that encourage victims and third parties to report domestic violence to the police.

**Additional NCJ Citations: 211125**

<b>2003-IJ-CX-1010:</b>	<b>Police Notification for Assault and Sexual Assault</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$35,000</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Richard B. Felson</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Brett Chapman</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

The current study will use data from the Survey of Violence and Threats Against Women and Men, a nationally representative sample, to explore the issue of police notification for both sexual and non-sexual assault. Using adult survey data from 6,971 reported incidents of assault and 1,845 reported incidents of sexual assaults, the study will examine the following: 1) whether victims and third parties are less likely to report assaults involving family members or other people who know each other as opposed to assaults involving strangers, and whether these effects depend on gender; 2) whether victims and third parties are less likely to report sexual assaults by people they know than sexual assaults committed by strangers; 3) whether the reporting of domestic and sexual assaults has increased in the last thirty years; 4) whether differences in rates of reporting between incidents involving non-strangers and strangers have diminished significantly over time; and 5) whether those reasons have changed over time.

**Product: NCJ# 209039**

**Reporting of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault by Non-strangers to the Police (2005) – R. Felson, P. Pare**

Research has found that violence, in general, is often unreported. Domestic violence and sexual assault in particular are incidences of violence hidden from society's view and are typically not reported to the police. It is important to determine whether domestic violence and sexual assaults are less likely than other forms of violence to be reported to the police. Utilizing data from a sample of 6,291 physical assaults and 1,787 sexual assaults from the National Violence Against Women Survey for 1995 to 1996, this study examined the effects of the gender of the victim and

offender and their relationship to each other on whether sexual and physical assaults were reported to the police. In addition, it examined the reasons victims provided for not reporting assaults and if reporting patterns changed over time. Results from the study indicate: 1) victims were almost twice as likely to report incidents as third parties, but only about one out of four incidents were reported; 2) less than a quarter of the incidents involved sexual assaults; 3) victims were less likely to have been assaulted by other family members than by partners, strangers, and other known offenders; 4) the most common reason victims gave for not reporting the assault was that it was too minor; and 5) two-thirds of the incidents occurred since 1980. In summation, theoretical discussions that emphasize inhibitions about reporting family members or barriers to women cannot explain the reporting patterns that are observed in this study.

**Additional Publications: Felson, R.B., & Pare, P. (2005). The reporting of domestic violence and sexual assault by non-strangers to the police. *Journal of Marriage & Family*, 67, 597-610.**

<b>2004-WG-BX-0002:</b>	<b>Preventing Repeat Incidents of Family Violence: A Randomized Multi-Site Field Test of Second Responders</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$411,961</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Robert Davis</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Carrie Mulford</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Closed</b>

The aim of the proposed research is to determine how second responder programs can be structured in ways that are likely to reduce domestic abuse and minimize the risk for subsequent victimization. The study will involve a randomized trial to test a version of a second responder program in Redlands, California, which is close to the kind used in most jurisdictions. Second responder programs are ones in which case workers follow up on domestic violence incidents reported to police. Previous research on second responder programs has produced contradictory results, with one study showing an increase in continuing abuse among those who received the intervention. The current research will test the timing of the second responder intervention (immediate, delayed, or none). Seventy five cases will be assigned to the immediate and delayed condition, and 150 to the no response condition (total n=300). The outcome measure will include new official reports of abuse six months after intake. Victim interviews will also take place at six months after intake and will obtain information on new abuse, positive changes in victim's lives, and their assessment of the services provided by the program.

**Product: NCJ 219840**

**Preventing Repeat Incidents of Family Violence: A Randomized Field Test of a Second Responder Program In Redlands, CA (2007) – R. Davis, D. Weisburd, E. Hamilton**

The findings showed no reduction in another incident of domestic abuse within 6 months of the initial police response because of any of the randomly assigned conditions for a planned second response by police. These findings, combined with earlier research results, indicate that second-response programs and policies are at best no factor in preventing Reoffending and at worst may increase the likelihood of a repeat of the abuse. Beginning January 1, 2005, and continuing through December 3, 2005, domestic violence victims who called the Redlands Police Department (California) with a complaint were randomly assigned to receive a second response within 24 hours (n=75), or within 7 days (n=77), or not at all (n=148). Victims who received a second response, whether within 24 hours or 7 days, were visited by a social worker or a specially trained domestic violence police officer, who talked with victims about the nature of domestic violence, helped them develop a safety plan, and informed them about various services and legal alternatives available to provide protection from future abuse. Reoffending was determined from police records and surveys with victims 6 months after the initial complaint was made.

<b>2004-WG-BX-0004:</b>	<b>Evaluating the Impact of a Specialized Domestic Violence Policing Unit</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$93,878</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Paul Friday</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Bernard Auchter</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Closed</b>

This project will focus on the efficiency and effectiveness of a specialized domestic violence (DV) unit (DVU) in the Charlotte-Mecklenburg, North Carolina Police Department (CMPD). The researchers will establish standardized, objective screening criteria to assign cases to this unit, which reviews all DV reports and selects the most serious for



intensive intervention. The project goals are to determine: 1) whether DV cases, victimization and offending, assigned to the DVU track have lower recidivism (prevalence, incidence, and severity) rates than do cases assigned to the officer track; 2) for each processing track; which victim, offender, and case characteristics best predict lower recidivism; 3) which program services are associated with selected case outcomes such as lower recidivism rates and higher rates of prosecution, conviction, and victim compliance; 4) whether there is a difference across tracks in the likelihood of future arrest of the victim for violence against his or her abusive partner; and 5) whether cases assigned only to DVU detectives have higher conviction and prosecution rates, lower recidivism rates, and higher proportions of victims actively seeking support services and becoming actively involved in the court process.

**Product: NCJ 215916**

**Evaluating the Impact of a Specialized Domestic Violence Police Unit (2006) - P. C. Friday, V. B. Lord, M. L. Exum, J. L. Hartman**

The process evaluation found that the DVU selected the most severe cases of domestic violence, as intended. The outcome evaluation found that the DVU reduced the number of suspects who reoffended but did not reduce the number of repeat offenses by those who did reoffend compared to the suspects processed by regular patrol units. Among the DVU cases, repeat victims experienced less severe abuse than in prior incidents. The role of the prosecution and courts apparently undermined potential positive effects of the DVU in failing to prosecute or convict a relatively high percentage of DVU suspects. Recommendations are offered for how the DVU can improve its work and collaboration with other criminal justice agencies. The DVU's activities included investigating serious domestic violence cases; interacting with service and treatment agencies to prevent further violence and assist victims; training officers, victims, and community members in how to deal with domestic violence; and acting as a liaison for officers. The process evaluation assessed the criteria used to select the domestic violence cases for DVU intensive intervention and the factors that distinguished how cases were handled. The outcome evaluation tracked case outcomes through police, court, and jail statistics. The outcomes of cases handled by the DVU were compared to the outcomes of cases handled by regular patrol officers. Only cases that involved a single suspect and single victim were included in the analysis. A total of 891 cases were analyzed, with 25 percent of these involving the DVU. Both suspects and victims were traced through official records for previous and subsequent domestic violence incidents.

<b>2004-WG-BX-0009:</b>	<b>Examining the Effect of Different Case Screening Practices Upon Domestic Violence Recidivism</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$433,942</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Scott Millstein</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Bernard Auchter</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

Widespread adoption of pro-arrest policies by police and adoption of tougher prosecutor stances in domestic violence cases have seriously taxed the resources of prosecutors in the last decade. One way in which many prosecutors have adapted to the strain is to decline to file arrests in which victims expressed unwillingness to cooperate with prosecutors. Today, there are widely divergent views among prosecutors about whether cases ought to be filed regardless of whether that is what victims seem to want. This research will take place in two sites in New York City where prosecutors have adopted different screening policies: Kings County (Brooklyn) and the County of the Bronx. However, since the sites are comparable in many other ways (including police arrest policies, court rules and administration, and state laws and requirements), there will be a strong quasi-experimental design. The researchers will track a sample of cases that the prosecutor declined to prosecute in one borough (Bronx) and a sample of similar cases that were prosecuted in the other borough (Brooklyn). They will test for differences between the samples in recidivism, stalking behavior, women’s satisfaction with the justice system, and utilization of victim services, willingness to report future incidents, victim empowerment and allocation of prosecutor and court resources.

<b>2005-WG-BX-0005:</b>	<b>Coordinating the Criminal Justice Response to Intimate Partner Violence: The Effectiveness of Councils in Producing Systems Change</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$356,830</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Nicole Allen</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Bernie Auchter</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

Communities across the US are focusing on creating a coordinated community response (CCR) to intimate partner violence (IPV). Beginning in 1990, the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts created a network of Family Violence Coordinating Councils (FVCC) across 22 Judicial Circuits. While FVCC are the primary vehicles for the creation of CCRs nationwide, there is limited empirical evidence regarding whether they facilitate desired systems change in the criminal and civil justice response to IPV (CCJ). The proposed study will examine Illinois FVCC and their statewide structure by investigating: a) the extent to which FVCCs have an impact on proximal goals and distal goals; and b) those factors and processes that facilitate FVCC success. The proposed study will employ a multi-method approach including key informant interviews with FVCC coordinators, survey research with FVCC members, archival analysis of CCJ statistics and FVCC documents and ethnographic methods. Study participants, recruited with the aid of FVCC coordinators, will include multiple stakeholders (N=2000): IPV survivors; advocates; law enforcement and probation officers; prosecutors; court personnel; judges; human service providers; child protection workers; school personnel; faith-based leaders; and/or concerned citizens. Statewide data will be accessed from the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority (ICJIA) from 1996 to present regarding various CCJ and service utilization statistics (e.g., arrest rates, order of protection rates, referral rates to shelter programs). To examine research questions, quantitative (e.g., multilevel modeling, social network analysis) and qualitative methods will be employed. The proposed study has important implications for examining the FVCC in their promotion of a CCR, an area of inquiry that has received little consideration but requires urgent attention given the widespread implementation of FVCC to produce systems change.

<b>2005-WG-BX-0011:</b>	<b>Investigative Strategies for the Successful Prosecution of Intimate Partner Violence</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$180,042</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Andre Rosay</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Bernard Auchter</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

The key goal of this research project is to examine how investigative strategies affect the successful prosecution of IPV cases. More precisely the project will examine the extent to which 1) the thoroughness and timeliness of the officer’s investigation; 2) whether a follow-up investigation was performed, and 3) whether a local police presence, if available, affects case outcomes and the reasons for case outcomes. The key objective of this research project is to create an empirically-based investigation guide for law-enforcement personnel to increase the likelihood of full and successful prosecution of IPV cases.

<b>2006-IJ-CX-0005</b>	<b>The Effects of Prosecution of Violence Between Intimate Partners</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$ 34,425</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Joel Garner</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Bernie Auchter</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Complete</b>

This research will systematically determine the extent to which the central findings about effectiveness of criminal sanctions on repeat offending reported by Wooldredge & Thistlethwaite (2005) can be reproduced from the archived data. This research will build upon the existing analyses to construct new analyses that will extend our understanding of the crime control effects of prosecution, conviction and sentence severity. New variables will be constructed to measure case disposition and the role of an offender's stakes in conformity. In addition, the use of propensity scores will be explored to address analytical biases introduced by the processing of criminal cases.

**Product: NCJ# 222907**  
**Crime Control Effects of Prosecuting Intimate Partner Violence in Hamilton County, Ohio: Reproducing and Extending the Analyses of Wooldredge and Thistlethwaite (2008) –J. Garner, C. Maxwell**

Researchers found that the prosecution, conviction, and sentencing of IPV arrestees to probation was associated with less repeat offending; however, the sentencing of IPV arrestees to a treatment program was not associated with less repeat offending. Sentencing of convicted IPV offenders to jail was associated with more repeat offending. Offender employment was consistently associated with less repeat offending; however, the effectiveness of prosecution, conviction, or sentencing severity did not vary by offender employment status. Being married had no direct effect on repeat offending. No other sanction type was influenced by the offender's marital status. Although the analyses of

the current study confirm most of the findings published by the original authors, the current finding that prosecution, conviction, and sentencing to probation for IPV offenders reduced reoffending was stronger than the findings they reported. The findings show the importance of verifying the published results of criminological research.

<b>2006-WG-BX-0001</b>	<b>A National Portrait of Domestic Violence Courts</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$275,064</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Michael Rempel</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Bernie Auchter</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

The study will involve the identification of criminal domestic violence courts throughout the country; site visits to 15 courts; and a national survey of domestic violence courts. The result will be a detailed national portrait of domestic violence court goals, policies and practices. This portrait will be used by the project team of researchers and practitioners to identify best (and worst) practices and testable hypotheses for future domestic violence court research.

<b>2006-WG-BX-0004</b>	<b>Crime Control Effects of Prosecuting Intimate Partner Violence</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$113,203</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Joel Garner</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Bernie Auchter</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

This research seeks to assess the extent to which the prosecution, conviction and enhanced sentences of offenders reduce repeat intimate partner violence. A secondary focus is to determine whether the effectiveness of criminal justice interventions is conditioned upon an offender’s stakes in conformity (i.e., employment, marriage, etc.). Investigators will compile the existing automated data on the crime control effects of the prosecution of intimate partner violence collected by previously completed studies and archived at the University of Michigan data archive. The researchers will reproduce the original analyses of each study and construct a consistent set of re-analyses testing the conditions under which criminal justice interventions are more effective. When and if appropriate, they will combine data from different studies to produce some limited cross-site analyses. This research will improve our understanding of the results of prior research, provide a more solid basis for current public policy, and help identify measurement, methodological and substantive issues that ought to be addressed in future research on the criminal justice response to intimate partner violence.

<b>2006-WG-BX-0007</b>	<b>Victim Participation in Intimate Partner Violence Prosecution: Implications for Safety</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$498,726</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Karin Rhodes and Catherine Cerulli</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Bernie Auchter</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

This project will examine the impact of victim participation on risk of revictimization, measured both within the civil and criminal justice systems (subsequent IPV-related 911 calls, arrests, petitions for civil protection orders), and within the healthcare system (use of ED services). Kalamazoo County, Michigan is the site in which these justice and health data will be merged for 1094 partner violence assault cases from the year 2000. Qualitative data will be used to both inform and interpret the quantitative data. After the conclusion of the quantitative data analysis, another series of focus groups will be assembled to help understand the context of the findings and to explore in depth the mechanisms by which victim experiences, empowerment, and safety, and experiences within the justice process influence the decision to participate in prosecution. The study will provide the data necessary to begin to inform the development of interventions that can help empower female IPV victims to make efficient and effective use of the criminal justice system in ways that maximize their health and safety and to inform policy and practice in the implementation of victim advocacy within the criminal justice system.

<b>2007-M-07032</b>	<b>Practical Implications of Current Domestic Violence Research Part 1: Law Enforcement</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$16,200</b>

<b>PI:</b>	<b>Andrew R. Klein</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Bernie Auchter</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Complete</b>

The purpose of this work is to describe to law enforcement practitioners what the research tells us about domestic violence, including perpetrators and victims, and the impact of current responses to domestic violence and, more particularly, the implications of research for day to day real world responses to domestic violence by law enforcement officers.

**Product: NCJ# 222319**

**Practical Implications of Current Domestic Violence Research Part I: Law Enforcement**

Based on prevalence research, law enforcement agencies must commit time and resources to domestic violence that are comparable to that allotted for any other major crime. The deployment of the bulk of these resources should focus on shifts between 6 PM and 6 AM. Responding officers and investigators should be alert to possible sexual abuse as well as physical abuse in domestic violence cases. In attempting to reduce homicides of women generally, agencies should give priority to protection for female victims of domestic assault. A full investigation of a particular domestic assault incident may reveal even more serious incidents of domestic violence than that which prompted the investigation. Consequently, officers should always inquire about prior unreported assaults for evidence of the primary aggressor and additional charges that may be filed. Research suggests that arrest should be the default response for officers in all domestic violence incidents. If the perpetrator has fled the scene by the time officers arrive, finding and arresting the abuser should be a priority. If an agency's pattern of arresting both partners exceeds the national average, agencies should develop and implement primary-aggressor policies and protocols. Other implications for law enforcement practice are drawn for research findings that address specific prevalent characteristics of offenders and victims, the role of substance abuse, the risk for reoffending, gender issues, the presence of firearms and other weapons, and risk markers for severe injury and homicide.

<b>2007-M-07032</b>	<b>Practical Implications of Current Domestic Violence Research Part 2: Prosecution</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$16,200</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Andrew R. Klein</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Bernie Auchter</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Complete</b>

The purpose of this work is to describe to prosecutors what current research tells us about domestic violence, with a focus on perpetrators and victims, and the impact of current responses to domestic violence and, more particularly, the implications of research for day to day real world responses to domestic violence by prosecutors.

**Product: NCJ# 222320**

**Practical Implications of Current Domestic Violence Research Part II: Prosecution—A. Klein**

Among the issues addressed in the reviewed research are the prevalence of nonfatal domestic violence, the rate at which domestic violence reaches the courts, whether arrest is the best response, perpetrator and victim characteristics, risk for reoffending and homicide, whether prosecution of offenders deters reabuse, and the current level of domestic-violence prosecutions across the country. Also discussed are the evidence typically available for prosecuting domestic violence cases, the dispositions most suspects receive, whether specialized prosecution units are effective, sentences for convicted batterers, and whether batterer intervention programs prevent reabuse. One of the implications drawn from research on the prevalence and adverse impact of domestic violence on victims is that prosecutors must commit sufficient resources and attention to ensure that domestic violence cases are handled efficiently and effectively. Given the severity of injuries and high risk for homicide in domestic violence cases, prosecutors must adopt policies that provide protection for victims, their children, other family members, and responding law enforcement officers, as well as to protect abusers from suicide. Another recommendation based on research findings is that prosecutors should encourage law enforcement agencies to arrest abuser suspects by filing charges and committing resources to the prosecution of those arrested. In cases where both intimate partners are arrested by police, prosecutors should independently determine who the primary aggressor was and proceed against only that suspect. Prosecutors should take all steps possible to have firearms removed by the court as soon as abusers are arrested and obtain guilty verdicts so that Federal firearm prohibitions apply. Prosecution deters domestic violence if it imposes appropriate intrusive sentences, including supervised probation and incarceration.

**Offender Interventions**

<b>1994-IJ-CX-0047:</b>	<b>The Brooklyn Domestic Violence Experiment: A Twelve Month Follow-Up Investigation</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$328,155</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Robert Davis</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Bernard Auchter</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

This study is one of the first attempts to conduct a test of batterer treatment using a true experimental design. The design will randomly assign 376 court-mandated batterers to batterer treatment or to a treatment irrelevant to the battering problem (community service). All men assigned to batterer treatment were mandated to 39 hours of class time; some will be assigned to complete the treatment in 26 weeks and others in 8 weeks. Men assigned to the control condition will be sentenced to 40 hours of community service. For all cases in the study, interviews will be conducted with victims and batterers at 6 months and 12 months after the sentence date. In addition, records of criminal justice agencies will be checked to determine if new crime reports or attempts have occurred involving the same defendant and victim.

**Product: NCJ# 180772**

**Does Batterer Treatment Reduce Violence? A Randomized Experiment in Brooklyn (2000) – R. Davis, B. Taylor, C. Maxwell**

For all cases in the study, interviews were attempted with victims and batterers at 6 months and 12 months after the sentence date and justice records were checked to determine if new crimes or arrests occurred during the treatment involving the same defendant and victim. Results from a randomized experiment did not support the model of treatment as a change process based on re-offending and lack of altered attitudes toward spouse abuse. The groups did not differ significantly at either 6 or 12 months in terms of new reported incidents and the results indicate that batterer intervention has a significant effect on suppressing violent behavior while batterers are under court control, but may not produce cognitive changes that lead to long-term behavior modification.

**Additional NCJ Citations: 187428, 195079, 200331**

<b>1996-WT-NX-0008:</b>	<b>A Test of the Efficacy of Court-Mandated Counseling for Domestic Violence Offenders: A Broward County Experiment</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$132,639</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Lynette Feder</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Bernard Auchter</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

This research in Broward County, Florida will use an experimental design in randomly assigning convicted domestic violence offenders placed on probation to either a control or experimental group. The experimental group will be mandated into a twenty-six week batterer counseling intervention based on the Duluth model while the control group will not be court-mandated into counseling. The subjects will be followed for one year after assignment to probation with follow-up evaluations conducted at six and twelve months. Information on the subjects will include probation reports, monthly treatment attendance and participation reports, police contacts, as well as offender and victim reports of violence pre- and post-treatment.

**Product: NCJ# 184631/184752**

**Test of the Efficacy of Court-Mandated Counseling for Domestic Violence Offenders: A Broward County Experiment (2000) – L. Feder, D. Forde**

The study investigated the effectiveness of court-mandated counseling in reducing repeat violence among men convicted of misdemeanor domestic violence using a classic experimental design whereby all male defendants convicted of misdemeanor DV in Broward County Courthouse between May 1 and September 30, 1997 (N=404) were randomly assigned to batterer treatment or a no treatment control group. The study followed these individuals for 12 months in the community. Researchers analyzed data in terms of both Treatment Assigned (experimental vs. control) as well as Treatment Received (since a man could be assigned to treatment and not go, or alternatively). Findings indicate no significant difference between the experimental and control groups in their attitudes, beliefs, and behaviors regarding DV. Both groups were equally likely to engage in both minor and severe partner abuse

according to offender self-reports and victim reports. No significant differences were maintained between the two groups in official measures of recidivism such as violations of probation and re-arrest. While no differences were found, a closer look revealed that completing the batterers' program lessened the likelihood of a violation of probation and re-arrest for both those in the experimental and control conditions. This gain was offset, however, by the increased likelihood of violation of probation and arrest associated with assignment to group counseling.

**Additional NCJ Citations: 195079, 199701, 199729, 200331**

<b>1998-IJ-CX-K014:</b>	<b>Sacramento Batterer/ Drug Intervention Experiment</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$99,905</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Carole Barnes</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Bernard Auchter</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

This study will evaluate the effects of the Sacramento Sheriff's Batterer/Drug Intervention Program on reducing domestic violence using an experimental design. The program is an early intervention program to provide domestic violence and drug treatment education for DV arrestees during their time of detention before going to court. The research will randomly assign six hundred batterers to either the batterer treatment wing of the jail or the no-treatment control group in another wing. The objectives of the research will be to evaluate the effectiveness of this program against the no-treatment group on reductions in domestic violence recidivism, attitudes toward domestic violence, use of non-violent conflict resolution skills, on receptivity to long term treatment, and on drug and alcohol relapse measures. Interviews will be conducted with victims and batterers shortly after the arrest, six months post arrest, and twelve months post arrest (victims only). Also, official police data on recidivism will be analyzed. This study will be a cooperative effort between NIJ, the Sacramento Sheriff's Department, and the Institute for Social Research at California State University.

**Product: The Effects of a Short-Term Batterer Treatment Program for Detained Arrestees: A Randomized Experiment in the Sacramento County, California Jail – B. Taylor**

This study evaluated the effects of an early intervention program to provide domestic violence education for domestic violence arrestees on reducing repeat domestic violence through an experimental design. The study randomly assigned 629 arrest cases for male perpetrated domestic violence to either the batterer treatment wing of the Sacramento County Sheriff's Department's Main Jail or to a no-treatment control group in another wing of the jail. Data were collected for about 10 months, September 27, 1999 through August 6, 2000. The study used a modified version of the Conflict Tactics Scale II, which included sub-scales for controlling behavior, psychological abuse, threats of physical assault, actual physical and sexual assault and injuries. The study found that: 1) for both the treatment and control group, the highest proportion of domestic violence, based on batterer self-reports, was for psychological abuse; 2) the men assigned to the treatment group had a 74% reduction in the likelihood of having a new incident of controlling behavior, thereby creating a longer safety period of non-controlling behavior for the victim; 3) there was no difference between the treatment and control group in 6-month prevalence, frequency, and time-to-failure for victim reported acts of controlling behavior by the perpetrator; and 4) the batterer treatment program had an effect on the least serious form of domestic violence (controlling behavior prevalence, frequency, and time-to-failure), based on batterer self-reports. The experiment was executed as designed, with no subsequent changes in group assignment.

<b>1998-WT-VX-0014:</b>	<b>Predicting Levels of Abuse and Reassault Among Batterer Program Participants</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$94,981</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>D. Alex Heckert</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Anna Jordan</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

The proposed study employs a conditional prediction model of multiple outcomes of batterer intervention in an effort to advance the prediction research of batterers. The objectives of the project are to: 1) identify demographic, personality, and behavioral risk markers of multiple outcomes; 2) assess the prediction of risk assessment instruments using multiple outcomes; 3) examine the prediction of batterer typologies interacting with program type; and 4) describe the dynamics of conditional prediction of multiple outcomes using qualitative case material. This project will use an extensive multi-site longitudinal database of batterers and their female partners from four batterer programs established by CDC. The project includes a large sample (n=840), high response rates (70 percent of

women), and multiple data sources (men, women, and police records). Outcomes will include non-abusive behavior, verbal abuse only, threats, minor re-assault, and chronic re-assault. Intervening factors assessed during 15-month follow-up include batterer or victim employment, partner contact and new partners, alcohol and drug use, batterer alcohol or psychological treatment, women's use of victim services, and additional criminal justice intervention.

**Product: NCJ# 202997**

**Predicting Levels of Abuse and Reassault Among Batterer Program Participants (2004) – D.A. Heckert, E. Gondolf**

The goal of the present research was to improve prediction using multinomial logistic regressions with multiple outcomes and conditional factors for risk markers, simulated risk instruments, and batterer personality types. Another goal was to explore for alternative batterer types and abuse outcome categories that might further improve prediction. The multiple outcomes included no abuse, verbal abuse or controlling behavior, threats, one re-assault, and repeated re-assaults during a 15-month follow-up while conditional factors included living together, relationship troubles, antisocial behaviors, and a woman filing a protection order. Results of these analyses were compared with equations for conventional prediction with only dichotomized outcomes in order to identify any improvement in prediction. Using multiple outcomes did improve prediction with risk markers. The need to distinguish “repeat re-assault” from “one-time re-assault” as an outcome was confirmed while prediction was not improved by including conditional variables. Simulated risk instruments and batterer personality types did not improve prediction over the risk marker analyses. The study concludes that the use of psychological assessments for identifying the extent of intervention or level of constraint may not be that useful in prediction. Risk assessment instruments seem to offer only modest prediction and should be used with caution by batterer programs and the criminal justice system.

**Additional NCJ Citations: 186751, 195176, 197684, 199701, 199730, 200057, 206487, 208765, 210809**

<b>1999-WT-VX-0012:</b>	<b>Change and Associated Treatment Outcomes in Assaultive Men</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$223,532</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Chris Eckhardt</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Katherine Darke</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

The immediate goal of this project is to understand the relationship between the characteristics of men the court has referred to batterer intervention programs and subsequent attrition and recidivism rates in Dallas County, Texas. The ultimate goal is to develop treatment and referral guidelines based upon stages of change profiles for use by criminal justice professionals. The first phase of the project will involve a baseline assessment of attendance/attrition rates among 300 men ordered by the Dallas County Domestic Violence Court to receive treatment for partner assault in 1998. The study will administer a variety of self-report questionnaires and structured interviews assessing stages of change, psychological distress, relationship disturbances, and other psychological characteristics prior to treatment. Additional assessments will be conducted four times during the 24-week treatment period. Interviewers will also periodically phone participant’s partners and assess the presence of new acts of relationship violence during treatment and six months afterward. The study will then assess the ability of change readiness, change process use, and participant attrition/completion of treatment to predict domestic violence and other criminal conduct six months following treatment. The study will analyze arrest records, probation officer reports, and post-treatment with participants and their current partners.

**Product: NCJ# 205022**

**Stages and Processes of Change and Associated Treatment Outcomes in Partner Assaultive Men (2003) – C. Eckhardt**

This study investigated 199 men ordered by the Dallas County Domestic Violence Court to attend a batterer intervention program (BIP). They were administered a computer-assisted structured interview assessing stages of change, processes of change, psychological distress, relationship conflict, and other characteristics prior to BIP. Also, 60 female partners of male participants reported on new instances of physical and emotional abuse, perceptions of safety, risk for future violence, and perceptions of male change. Five assessments were conducted over a 13-month period. The results indicated that 40% of men mandated to attend a BIP did not complete their program, 27% were rearrested, and 62% reported new acts of male-to-female violence. Cluster analysis revealed four to five distinct stages of change groupings, with all but one of those clusters representative of men that were either mildly or reluctantly predisposed toward change. Men of African-American race, and higher re-contemplation scores predicted BIP attrition. High pre-contemplation, low action, more alcohol problems, and higher levels of

anger prior to treatment predicted re-arrest. Men in the Borderline/Dysphoric and Generally Violent/Antisocial subtypes were more likely to drop out of treatment and be rearrested.

<b>2001-WT-BX-0003:</b>	<b>Culturally-Focused Batterer Counseling for African-American Men</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$356,321</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Edward W. Gondolf</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Bernard Auchter</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

The purpose of this research is to test the relative effectiveness of culturally-focused batterer counseling for African-American men as compared to conventional batterer counseling. Recent program evaluations show that African-American men are more likely to drop-out of conventional batterer counseling and re-assault their partners. The clinical literature in related fields recommends culturally-focused counseling to improve effectiveness with this population which would recognize and respond to cultural issues that emerge in group sessions. The researchers hypothesize that: 1) African-American men assigned to culturally-focused batterer counseling will have lower dropout, re-assault, and re-arrest rates than men assigned to conventional counseling in both an African-American-only group and a racially-mixed group; 2) improved outcomes for culturally-focused counseling over conventional counseling will persist for program completers over dropouts, in what is considered a dose-response as opposed to intention-to-treat design; and 3) men with more culturally-specific attitudes will benefit the most from the culturally-focused counseling – that is, culturally-specific attitudes will moderate the counseling outcomes.

**Product: NCJ# 210828**

**Culturally-Focused Batterer Counseling for African-American Men (2005) – E. Gondolf**

Clinicians and researchers have strongly recommended the implementation of culturally-focused counseling with African-American men arrested for domestic violence. This recommendation has been supported with evidence of the substantial portion of African-American men being mandated to batterer counseling higher dropout and re-arrest rates for these men, and differences in the men’s cultural outlook and experience. An experimental clinical trial was used to test the effectiveness of culturally-focused batterer counseling against conventional cognitive-behavioral counseling. African-American men arrested for domestic violence in Pittsburgh were randomly assigned to one of three options (n=501): 1) culturally-focused counseling in all-African-American groups; 2) conventional counseling in all-African-American groups; and 3) conventional counseling in racially-mixed groups. The principal outcomes measures were program dropout (less than the required 16 weekly group sessions), re-assault reported by the men’s partners during a 12-month follow-up period, and re-arrest for domestic violence according to local police records during the 12-month follow-up. There was no apparent benefit from the all-African-American groups with conventional counseling or culturally focused counseling. The completion rate for the 16-week program was approximately 55% across all three counseling options. There was also no significant difference in the re-assault rate reported by the men’s female partners. Men in the racially-mixed groups were, moreover, half as likely to be re-arrested for domestic violence as the men in the culturally-focused groups. While men with high racial identification were more likely to complete the culturally-focused groups, their re-assault and re-arrest rates were not significantly improved in that option. These results were confirmed by logistic regressions controlling for a variety of batterer characteristics and showing program dropout to be significantly associated with re-assault and re-arrest.

**Additional NCJ Citations: 206487, 207194**

<b>2001-WT-BX-0506:</b>	<b>Testing the Impact of Court Monitoring and Batterer Intervention Programs</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$294,129</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Michael Rempel</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Bernard Auchter</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

Recent research raises questions about the efficacy of batterer intervention programs but suggests that intensive court monitoring may be effective in reducing recidivism. To develop more effective responses to domestic violence and to target resources appropriately, court administrators need information about the independent effects of batterer programs and intensive court monitoring on recidivism. They also need to understand whether specific sub-groups benefit more than others from either batterer intervention programs or intensive court monitoring. This project will randomly assign 800 convicted batterers in the Bronx Misdemeanor Domestic Violence Court to four distinct groups ordered to participate in: 1) batterer intervention programs plus monthly court monitoring; 2) batterer intervention



programs plus graduated court monitoring; 3) monthly court monitoring only; or 4) graduated court monitoring only. Analyses will test the impact of group assignment on rates of program compliance, new arrests within 6 months and 12 months of sentence, and new domestic violence incidents reported by the same victim. Analyses would also measure effects on program compliance and recidivism of criminal history, charge, and selected demographics.

<b>2003-IJ-CX-1030:</b>	<b>Processes of Resistance in Domestic Violence Offenders</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$165,652</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Deborah Levesque</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Bernard Auchter</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

This research extends the work on the application of the Trans-theoretical Model of Change (TTM) to domestic violence offenders by examining processes of resistance, which is a new TTM construct that represents activities that inhibit stage progression or increase risk of regression. Subjects will be 766 male domestic violence offenders involved in group counseling for partner violence at participating Rhode Island programs. The sequential method for scale development includes: 1) a literature review, focus group with batterers, and interviews with experts to generate ideas for inclusion in the process of resistance measure; 2) the measure will be administered to 350 adult males in batterer treatment; 3) principal components analysis and item analysis will be conducted to refine the measure and determine its dimensionality and content; and 4) preliminary statistical analyses will be conducted to assess the measure’s external validity. Subsequently, the measure will be administered to a separate sample of 350 domestic violence offenders at treatment intake and again 3 months later in order to confirm and validate the measure. Finally, the researchers will return to the literature and experts on domestic violence treatment and conduct additional focus groups with batterers to identify best practices for dealing with resistance in batterer treatment.

**Product: NCJ# 223620**

**Processes of Resistance in Domestic Violence Offenders – Deborah A. Levesque**

Using the Transtheoretical Model of Change (stage of change) framework, three studies were conducted to examine resistance in domestic violence offenders. In Study One, an 88-item draft measure of resistance was developed and administered to 346 adult males in batterer treatment. The study yielded a 38-item measure that assessed eight resistance dimensions: 1) System Blaming, 2) Problems with Partner, 3) Problems with Alliance, 4) Social Justification, 5) Hopelessness, 6) Isolation, 7) Psychological Reactance, and 8) Passive Reactance. In Study Two, the measure was administered to a separate sample of adult males at batterer program intake (N=358) and again two months later (N=256) in order to confirm the measure’s factor structure and to further examine its external validity. Resistance over time was related to stage progression and regression and use of psychological aggression, mild physical aggression, and severe physical aggression against a partner since program start. Only three types of resistance, System Blaming, Problems with Partner, and Hopelessness, decreased from program intake to follow-up, suggesting that domestic violence programs may be most attentive to those types of resistance, but may need to do more to address other forms of resistance. In Study Three, interviews with experts on domestic violence treatment were conducted in an initial attempt to identify strategies for dealing with resistance in batterer treatment. The current project and future research on resistance can help the field become more attuned to different forms of resistance and their potential impact on partner violence and offenders’ engagement in treatment.

<b>2003-MU-MU-0002:</b>	<b>Supplemental Mental Health Treatment for Batterer Program Participants</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$435,269</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Edward Gondolf</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Bernard Auchter</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

Approximately one quarter of the men sent to batterer counseling would qualify for mental health treatment. The nature and extent of such treatment, has not, however, been documented and its effectiveness has not been evaluated. The purpose of this research is to: 1) describe the nature and extent of mental health treatment obtained by batterers with diagnosable mental disorders and 2) to test the relative effectiveness of such mental health treatment for batterer program participants through an experimental clinical trial. Court-ordered batterer counseling supplemented with mental health treatment will be compared to batterer counseling only. At batterer program intake, men court-ordered to batterer counseling will be screened for mental health disorders using the Psychiatric Diagnostic Screening Questionnaire and Brief Symptom Inventory (N=400). Those men who show evidence of a

disorder on the self-report instrument will be randomly referred to a local mental health outpatient clinic for assessment and appropriate treatment. The effectiveness of the mental health treatment will be tested using a 12-month follow-up study design. Phone interviews with the batterer’s female partners will be conducted at 3-month intervals to determine re-assault, and arrest records will be obtained and coded to determine further criminal offenses.

**Product: NCJ# 223030**

**Supplemental Mental Health Treatment for Batterer Program Participants (2007) – E. W. Gondolf**

The study concluded that increased efforts, procedures, coordination, and costs of implementing a mandatory screening and referral system for batterer mental health treatment did not improve outcomes related to program completion and meaningful reductions in partner abuse. In general it is difficult to justify investment in the process required for mandatory referral for mental health treatment because of the relatively small portion of men involved and the small net improvement in outcomes. However the option of referral for men with observed or self-reported mental health problems seems justified. One instructive finding is that batterer program participants are not likely to comply with voluntary referrals for mental health treatment. Accountability through court mandate, oversight, and sanctions should substantially improve compliance, and the men who do comply should benefit from treatment. The authors caution that the findings must be viewed with caution, because of the small portion of men who actually received treatment and the lack of improvement in mental health status for the referred men as a whole.

<b>2003-WG-BX-1002:</b>	<b>Evaluating and Improving Risk Assessment and Schemes for Sexual Recidivism: A 25 Year Follow-up of Convicted Sexual Offenders</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$249,940</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Raymond Knight</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Bernard Auchter</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

The goal of this research project is to address the critical need to improve accuracy in risk assessment for sexual offenders and hence improve decision-making about sexual offenders. The study will investigate the most widely used actuarial instruments for facilitating correct decisions relating to the management of sexual offenders. The study will examine the instruments under conditions of greater methodological rigor than previous research has allowed, explore the contexts in which specific instruments are maximally useful, and apply advances in psychometrics and predictive statistics to generate improved actuarial instruments. The research will focus on the outcome data of an original study that was completed before actuarial instruments had been developed. The participants in the original study were selected from two groups of sexually aggressive offenders evaluated at the Massachusetts Treatment Center (MTC) for Sexually Dangerous Persons between 1959 and 1984. Between 1985 and 1987 all of the participants in the study were tracked through four follow-up record sources. These data will provide the basis of the multiple outcome measures for the study.

**Product: NCJ#217618**

**Evaluating and Improving Risk Assessment Schemes for Sexual Recidivism: A Long –Term Follow-up of Convicted Sexual Offenders – R. Knight, D. Thornton**

Highlights of the results were: (1) for the average predictability over all measures, the Bridgewater Observations sample (BOs) were better predicted than Bridgewater Treatments sample (BTs), despite a significantly lower recidivism rate; (2) the cross-temporal pattern of prediction differed between rapists and child molesters, with rapists being predicted better at shorter follow-up periods and child molesters better at longer intervals; (3) all actuarials showed moderate reliability and predictive accuracy with few significant differences; (4) five factors accounted for all of the predictive variance in the existing actuarials; (5) the Structured Risk Assessment (SRA) Needs Assessment consistently had the highest area under the Receiver Operating Characteristic (ROC) curve (AUCs) for the entire sample and for rapists and child molesters separately; (6) age was not found to constitute an important moderator for predicting outcome, and a complex relation among age at index offense, age at discharge, and outcome status emerged; and (7) promising additional subgroup specific predictors for child molesters and rapists were identified. Risk assessment plays a central role in the management of sexual offenders. The study assessed the comparative accuracy of the major risk instruments over time and over sub samples, explored their underlying factor structure, examined the accuracy of a new assessment protocol, the SRA Needs Assessment, and explored the potential for generating improved predictive instruments. To accomplish this, archival files from a prior study which followed

599 offenders referred to the Massachusetts Treatment Center (MTC) from 1959 and 1984 were used. The offenders were referred from both Bridgewater Treatment (BT) and Bridgewater Observation (BO). They were coded on the modern actuarials that have been developed since 1998 and on a new experimental measure, the SRA Needs Assessment.

<b>2003-WG-BX-1005:</b>	<b>Integrating Fatherhood into Batterer Programs: A Comparative Field Test</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$314,346</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Chris O' Sullivan</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Bernard Auchter</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

The goal of this project is to determine whether a domestic violence curriculum with a strong emphasis on the effects of domestic violence on children, produces a better outcome than the standard curriculum. Researchers will conduct both a process and outcome evaluation. The study sample will consist of 200 men entering Safe Horizon domestic violence programs over a 12 month period of time and signing up for classes in the Bronx or Brooklyn. Upon consenting to participate in the study, half of the men will be assigned to the test group (a 26-week standard curriculum program compressed into a 16-week period, plus a 10-week module focusing on the impact of domestic violence on children) and half to the control group (a standard 26-week curriculum, which includes one session devoted to the effects of violence on children). Semi-structured, in-person interviews will be conducted with each of the participants at the first session after orientation, at the halfway mark, and at the final session. Subsequent telephone interviews will be conducted 3 months after course completion. Recidivism will be tracked by collecting information on each participant's arrest one year after enrollment in the program.

**Product: NCJ# 223029**

**Introducing the Impact of Domestic Violence on Children into a Batterer Program Curriculum: Does an Emphasis on the Kids Improve the Response? (2007) – Safe Horizon**

The evaluation involved 123 men mandated to and enrolled in the Safe Horizon domestic violence Accountability Program in Brooklyn, NY, between July 14, 2004, and December 31, 2005. They were randomly assigned to either the child-focused curriculum or the partner/victim-focused curriculum. Forty-six completed the child-focused curriculum, and 35 completed the partner-focused curriculum. Rearrests were determined for the period of 1 year after program completion or termination. Instructors for the two programs were asked about their impressions of participant interest and responses to the curriculum. Despite the instructors' impression that the men in the child-focused curriculum were more thoughtful about and interested in the material than participants in the curriculum that focused only on the partner/victim, men in the child-focused curriculum were equally likely to be terminated from or drop out of the classes. The only factors significantly associated with a lower rearrest rate were completing the program, regardless of whether it was child-focused or partner-focused; being older; and having no criminal history. This evaluation, as well as previous evaluations of batterer programs, suggests that there may be a group of chronic offenders who commit domestic violence along with other crimes, for whom arrest is not a deterrent and batterer programs, regardless of content, are not effective. This report recommends that instead of continuing to modify program content in the hope of finding material that will cause positive behavioral change in batterers, efforts should focus on other variables such as improved monitoring and increasing batterers' stake in conformity through employment services

<b>2004-WG-BX-0001:</b>	<b>Stages of Change and the Group Treatment of Batterers</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$236,176</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Pamela Alexander</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Bernard Auchter</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

One individual difference in response to treatment among batterers may be readiness to change, best conceptualized by the stages of change (SOC) model. It is the purpose of this project to: 1) compare the effectiveness of a 26-week SOC group treatment with a standard 26-week cognitive-behavioral gender-reeducation (CBTGR) group treatment; 2) assess the integrity of the two treatments with respect to therapist adherence, therapist competence, and processes of change; 3) conduct exploratory analyses on individual readiness to change as a moderator of treatment condition in predicting outcomes; and 4) conduct exploratory analyses comparing the effectiveness of these two approaches in Spanish-speaking groups. Two-hundred-and-forty court-ordered English-speaking male batterers will be randomly

assigned to one of two treatment conditions, for a total of 12 groups in each condition and 10 men per group. In addition, 80 court-ordered Spanish-speaking male batterers will be randomly assigned to one of the two conditions, for a total of four groups in each condition. Effectiveness will be indicated by: a) increased involvement in treatment (lower attrition, higher working alliance, higher group cohesion), b) increased readiness to change, and c) desistance from violence (according to batterer self-report at post-treatment and partner reports at post-treatment, six and twelve month follow-up). Groups will be conducted over the course of two years at the Montgomery County, Maryland Abused Persons Program (APP), with initial, mid-group, and post-treatment assessments collected on all group participants. Initial, post-treatment, six month and twelve month partner follow-up assessments will be collected as a function of Montgomery County APP's participation in a project funded by the CDC (R49/CCR 319813-01) to predict batterers' response to treatment.

<b>2004-WG-BX-0005:</b>	<b>Court Responses to Batterer Program Noncompliance: A National Perspective</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$142,631</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Greg Berman</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Leora Rosen</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

The purpose of this study is to investigate how courts use batterer program mandates to keep defendants under tight court supervision. This study will involve a survey of criminal courts, batterer programs, and battered women's programs in each of the 50 states. An average of three communities per state will be surveyed (n=150). Selection criteria will include whether the community has a batterer program, battered women's agency, and a court that can respond. All communities whose courts mandate batterer programs pre-disposition will be included. The survey will assess: 1) how the court uses batterer programs pre- and post-disposition; 2) what policies exist for responding to noncompliance; and 3) how respondents perceive the message the court's enforcement practices send about the seriousness of intimate partner violence.

<b>2004-WG-BX-0011:</b>	<b>Long Term Efficacy of Court Intervention on the Reduction of Repeat Battering</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$78,391</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Douglas Wilson</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Carrie Mulford</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

The proposed research is a plan to discover the long-term effects of criminal justice and court interventions on the pattern of offender domestic violence. The goal is to discover what combination of court intervention safeguards the same or different victims from repeat domestic violence offenses. The study will extend the database on 353 domestic violence offenders who were arrested from July 1995 through February 1996 for misdemeanor assaults and violations of protective orders in East Norfolk Domestic Violence Court in Massachusetts. Their arrest and civil order histories will be followed through 2004, providing a ten year longitudinal study of offender abuse and other criminal behavior. Longitudinal record data will be supplied by the Massachusetts Criminal History Board. Additional data on arrest will be obtained from courthouse records to determine if additional offenses have been committed against the same or new victims. The analyses will apply methods used to analyze criminal careers.

**Product: NCJ#215346**  
**Longitudinal Study of a Cohort of Batterers Arraigned in a Massachusetts District Court 1995 to 2004 (2006)**  
**– D. Wilson, A. Klein**

The findings revealed that the men arrested for domestic violence in this study cohort were generally antisocial, persistently criminal, and engaged in domestic violence as part of their general criminal activities. Police arrested 75 percent of the 342 men for subsequent crimes involving substance abuse or violence (including domestic violence), or both. Men in the cohort were commonly arrested for a new crime before the courts disposed of an earlier crime. The commission of a new crime before the disposition of a previous crime did not adversely impact the criminal justice outcome for the defendant, but actually seemed to work in the defendant's favor as both offenses were typically handled by the court in one disposition while the court's sentence remained unaffected. Statistical analyses indicated that the courts displayed consistency in the application of deterrence responses/sentences in domestic violence cases, which included the use of probation, suspended sentences, split sentences, and jail. Given the criminal histories of the men in the cohort, the authors suggest it is unlikely that a deterrence approach alone, or even deterrence combined with batterer treatment, will deter these men from committing future crimes, particularly

domestic violence. The findings also illustrate that in order to properly evaluate the impact of criminal justice responses to domestic violence, it is necessary to consider the responses within the broader context of an abuser's general criminal behavior. Data were drawn from the State's criminal history file and from individual court criminal and civil records for 342 men who were originally arrested for domestic violence within the jurisdiction of an eastern Massachusetts District Court between February 1995 and March 1996. Data were analyzed using cross tabulations, Fisher's exact test, bivariate and multivariate logistical analysis, and survival analysis.

<b>2005-WG-BX-0004:</b>	<b>Evaluation of California's Batterer Intervention Systems</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$250,092</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Dag MacLeod</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Bernard Auchter</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

This project will evaluate batterer intervention systems with an eye toward teasing out the contributions of different parts of the system. The project will take advantage of the size of California's population currently in the criminal justice system and the length of its statutorily mandated batterer intervention programs. California's 52-week programs are among the longest in the country. The common statutory framework in California combined with the variation in the operation of courts and batterer treatment programs within that framework provides an ideal environment for conducting a quasi-experimental study, making it easier to distinguish the effects of specific components of batterer-intervention systems. Various qualitative and quantitative measures will be used to examine the characteristics of different components of the systems and their interactions. A multi-method research design will begin by creating typologies of the batterer intervention system in six different jurisdictions in the state and the batterer intervention programs within these systems. Measures of program fidelity will be constructed so that outcomes may be evaluated relative to differences in program design and implementation. Program completion, a key element of compliance with the terms of probation, and reduced recidivism, specifically reduced recidivism for domestic violence offenses, will be the key indicators of effectiveness and will be measured by tracking records from law enforcement, the courts, and batterer intervention programs. An estimated sample size of approximately 2,000 will be selected from batterers enrolled in intervention programs in six project sites. The goal of this research is to assist in building a national consensus on the components of these systems that are most effective.

<b>2006-WT-BX-0001</b>	<b>Evaluating the Effectiveness of Sex Offender Registration and Notification Policies for Reducing Sexual Violence Against Women</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$484,106</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Elizabeth Letourneau</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Karen J. Bachar</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

The study examines the effectiveness of sex offender registration and community notification policies in reducing sexual violence against women and girls. Because registration and notification policies were federally mandated and have been implemented across the country, they represent the most comprehensive attempts at the prevention and reduction of serious sexual violence. To date, the effects of broad registration and notification policies (e.g., policies that do not distinguish between different offender risk levels and that apply for life) have been almost entirely exempt from empirical review. The present study will evaluate broad sex offender registration and notification policies as applied in South Carolina to determine whether these policies have deterred new sexual offenses (Aim 1) or reduced sexual recidivism (Aim 2). Additionally, this study will examine whether an unintended effect has occurred: that is, whether the prosecution or conviction of individuals arrested for serious sexual offenses might have declined since policy implementation, perhaps due to perceived harshness of these policies (Aim 3). Because general crime rates have declined over the past decade, data on robbery and aggravated assault will also be examined in the context of some analyses to control for reductions in sex offenses that might be due to non-specific factors. Data from 1991 to 2003 to be analyzed include all South Carolina "registry" sexual offense charges and convictions; all robbery and aggravated assault charges and convictions (for comparison); and victim reports of sexual offenses (also for comparison purposes). Patterns of pre-policy (1991-1995) charges and convictions will be compared with post-registration policy data (1996-1999) and with post-Internet notification policy data (2000-2003). This study will represent the first empirical examination of broad registration and notification policies, such as were implemented by approximately half of all U.S. states. These policies have been in effect for over a decade, and examination of their effectiveness is overdue.

**2006-IJ-CX-0018: Megan’s Law: An Empirical Analysis**  
**Amount: \$38,252**  
**PI: Kristen Zgoba**  
**Monitor: Karen J. Bachar**  
**Status: Completed**

This study assesses the empirical efficacy of New Jersey’s Megan’s Law (in its home state). Megan’s Law was enacted in New Jersey in 1994 after the death and sexual molestation of Megan Kanka in Hamilton, New Jersey. President Bill Clinton signed the federal version of Megan’s Law in 1996, giving states two years to implement the law, or risk losing federal funding. Today all fifty states have a version of Megan’s Law. Despite widespread community and legislative support, there is no empirical evidence that such community notification and registration laws reduce the frequency of sex offenses. Additionally, what is not known is the true cost of implementing Megan’s Law and the sex offender registry websites within the criminal justice system. As such, this study will approach the problem with a triangulated methodology. The main study goals are 1) to establish the prevalence of sexual offenses in New Jersey for the five years prior to the implementation of Megan’s law and the five years after the inception of Megan’s Law, 2) to compare a matched sample of sex offenders who left New Jersey State Prisons (NJSP) prior to Megan’s law and were therefore not subject to the law to offenders who were released after the implementation of Megan’s law and subject to its provisions, 3) Determine direct costs of program operation since the implementation of Megan’s Law. Additional activities include report/manuscript writing, code book development and dissemination.

**Product: NCJ# 225370**

**Megan’s Law: Assessing the Practical and Monetary Efficacy (2008) – K. Zgoba, P. Witt, M. Dealessandro, B. Veysey**

This study investigated: 1) the effect of Megan’s Law on the overall rate of sexual offending over time; 2) its specific deterrence effect on reoffending, including the level of general and sexual offense recidivism, the nature of sexual reoffenses, and time to first re-arrest for sexual and nonsexual reoffenses (i.e., community tenure); and 3) the costs of implementation and most recent annual expenditures of Megan’s Law. Phase One was a 21-year trend study (10 years prior and 10 years after implementation, and the year of For Phase Two, data on 550 sexual offenders released during the years 1990 to 2000 were collected, and outcomes of interest were analyzed. Phase Three collected implementation and ongoing costs of administering Megan’s Law for 15 of New Jerseys’ 21 counties. Findings showed that: 1) Megan’s Law has no effect on community tenure (i.e. time to first rearrest); 2) Megan’s Law showed no demonstrable effect in reducing sexual reoffenses; 3) Megan’s Law has no effect on the type of sexual reoffense or first time sexual offense (still largely child molestation/incest); and 4) Megan’s Law has no effect on reducing the number of victims involved in sexual offenses.

## Courts & the Criminal Justice System

**1995-IJ-CX-0027: Understanding, Preventing, and Controlling Domestic Violence Incidents**  
**Amount: \$151,593**  
**PI: Eve Buzawa**  
**Monitor: Bernard Auchter**  
**Status: Completed**

The study examines the effects of judicial intervention upon approximately 400 batterers sentenced in Quincy, Massachusetts District Court. Data is collected through official records and in-depth interviews with batterers and victims. The Quincy Court Domestic Violence Program has been lauded as a national model for batterer treatment and was recently named a winner of the Ford Foundation’s “Innovations in State and Local Government Award”. The study will provide an evaluation of this program, focusing specifically on the measurement of re-abuse by perpetrators and the perceptions of both victims and batterers upon the process. This study provides critical information about batterer’s perceptions and interpretations of informal (social) and formal (legal) sanctions, while also providing similar information about the perceptions of victims regarding the effectiveness of these sanctions. Utilizing structured interviewing techniques, offenders and victims are being interviewed at two points in time (at sentencing/ dismissal and one year later). This data enables a comparison of the initial perceptions of both the

offenders and the victims about their particular case to the reality of what these sanctions actually entailed. By collecting data on both perceptions and behavior, a clearer picture of the relative importance of formal and informal deterrence mechanisms is expected to emerge.

**Product: NCJ# 181427/181428**

**Response to Domestic Violence in a Pro-Active Court Setting (1999) – E. Buzawa, G. Hotaling, A. Klein, J. Byrne**

This study examined the characteristics of 353 domestic violence offenses, offenders and victims in the Quincy, Massachusetts District Court. The majority of cases did not involve alcohol or drugs; 71% involved the use of violence, and 10% of victims experienced serious injury. The majority of offenders had prior contact with the criminal justice system and 59% had prior “crimes against persons” charges. Three quarters of the victims had called the police on a prior occasion. Offenders with an active restraining order were twice as likely to offend against the same victim within a year of follow-up. Those with previous restraining orders were 13 times more likely to offend against another victim. Most victims were satisfied with the police response; 65% of victims were satisfied with the prosecutor’s response, and 34% were dissatisfied. Victim advocates were appreciated; victims had more ambivalence toward the courts than police or prosecutors; and victims were largely capable of assessing their danger. The only significant predictors of re-offending were prior criminal history and age at first offense. Offenders who were placed on probation were more likely to re-offend during the study period compared with those who were prosecuted without subsequent court supervision, or who were not prosecuted. Completion of batterer treatment had no impact on re-offending behavior.

**Additional NCJ Citations: 202564**

<b>1995-WT-NX-0003:</b>	<b>Prosecution Strategies in Domestic Violence</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$98,452</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Carolyn Hartley</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Angela Moore Parmley</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

This study is a collaborative effort between the University of Iowa School of Social Work and Iowa Prosecutors. The purpose of this study is to examine the prosecution strategies of domestic violence related cases, to identify those strategies associated with a successful outcome of conviction on the original charge. Strategies of prosecution will be identified by examining the trial transcripts of a sample of domestic violence related felonious assaults, homicide and attempted homicides in the state of Iowa. To assess the success of strategies, cases where convictions on the original charge were won are being compared with cases of convictions on lesser charges, to see if there are differences in the prosecution strategies employed. In particular, cases are being examined to determine the extent to which prosecutors were able to present evidence of the context of the abusive relationship and history of prior violence, in helping the fact finders understand the current charge. The analytic procedures employed are qualitative, content analysis.

**Product: NCJ# 194074/194075**

**Prosecution Strategies in Domestic Violence Felonies: Telling the Story of Domestic Violence: Anticipating and Meeting Defense Claims (1998) – C. Hartley, R. Ryan**

Trial transcripts were used to identify the prosecution strategies used in the 40 trials, which involved both fatal and nonfatal DV felonies. The trial transcripts suggested that prosecutors were generally aware of the likely defense to be used, and they structured their prosecution strategies to anticipate these defenses which included self-defense or provocation, attempting to downgrade the offense to a lesser charge, diminished responsibility, and the raising of reasonable doubt whether the defendant committed the offense. Various defense strategies included attempting to manipulate common public misconceptions and myths about DV. In countering such defense efforts to build on jurors' conditioned misconceptions of the dynamics of DV, prosecutors must assist jurors in understanding the dynamics of DV by “telling the story” of DV. In DV cases, the incident by itself is not an adequate unit of information for jurors. Context information about the relationship or prior abuse completes the story and can dispel some myths about DV. The use of expert testimony would be the most direct method for “educating” jurors about the dynamics of DV. The testimony of experts who have researched the phenomenon of DV can help the jury to understand the context of the larger abusive relationship and the rationale behind the victim’s actions.

**Additional NCJ Citations: 188129, 194064, 200134, 202564**

<b>1995-WT-NX-0006:</b>	<b>Models of Community Coordination in Response to Partner Violence</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$104,289</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Alissa Worden</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Angela Moore Parmley</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

Building on data collected from statewide surveys of local criminal justice practitioners and domestic violence organizations, and site visits to five criminal justice agencies, this 18-month study is: 1) developing a typology of community coordination models; 2) assessing the role of leadership, conflict, and resources in the growth of different types of coordination models; and 3) assessing the impact of alternative coordination approaches on victims' safety, perceptions of system effectiveness, re-victimization, and satisfaction with responses. The project complements an ongoing analysis of the impact of legislated reforms in family violence cases in New York state. The research includes intensive interviews with community leaders and samples of victims (approximately thirty), observation, focus groups, and information gathering about case processing through coordination networks.

**Product: NCJ# 187351**

**Models of Community Coordination in Partner Violence: A Multi-Site Comparative Analysis (2001) – A. Worden**

The study found that, despite strong policy interest in arrest and numerous reforms at the State and local levels in the direction of less discretionary arrest policies, the mandatory or discretionary nature of the arrest decision was only one dimension of law enforcement practice in domestic violence cases. Other dimensions included prosecutorial policies and victim involvement. The research included intensive interviews with community leaders and samples of victims (approximately thirty), observation, focus groups, and information gathered about case processing through coordination networks. Findings from this study indicate that the most actively engaged, collaborative communities detected, apprehended, and processed offenders at higher rates, and kept better records about the process; police practices remain critical in establishing the upper limits of a community's accountability net; judges' attitudes determine the outcome of a case as the effects of their personal philosophies are felt backwards throughout the system; and regardless of the intensity of coordination efforts, or the details of policies or practices in effect, the overwhelming majority of incidents slip through the system before conviction or sentencing.

**Additional NCJ Citations: 202564**

<b>1997-WT-VX-0005:</b>	<b>King's County Felony Domestic Violence Court Research Partnership: Exploring Implementation and Early Impacts</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$179,961</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Michele Sviridoff</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Bernard Auchter</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

This researcher-practitioner partnership will provide for an evaluation of the King's County Felony Domestic Violence Court. The court, which opened in June 1996, has a guiding principle of continuous judicial supervision. This principle includes rigorous monitoring of defendants and continual updates on the delivery of assistance to victims. The research includes: 1) a collaborative research planning effort; 2) a process evaluation; and 3) an impact evaluation. A mix of quantitative and qualitative methods will be used, including practitioner interviews, court observations, documentation of victims' services providers, and of defendant compliance with court orders, case file review, and a pre-post analysis of case outcomes, violations of protection and recidivism for a sample of 400 defendants indicted on felony domestic violence charges.

**Product: NCJ# 191861**

**Specialized Felony Domestic Violence Courts: Lessons on Implementation and Impacts From the Kings County Experience (2001) – L. Newmark, M. Rempel, K. Diffily, K. Kane**

This researcher-practitioner partnership provided an evaluation of the King's County Felony Domestic Violence Court. The study found that the use of the court model resulted in changes in several areas. The District Attorney's Office was more likely to indict less serious cases in order to bring enhanced resources and victim services to these cases. New state laws resulted in many protection order violations being prosecuted as felonies rather than misdemeanors. Conviction rates did not change, but guilty pleas were more common and trials less common. Probation violations did not appear to change under the new court model, being reported among one third of



probationers. Sentencing practices did not become more punitive, probably due to the broader mix of cases. The Court itself produced a higher rate of disposition by guilty plea, which saves the system time and money. Interpretations of recidivism findings are severely constrained by limitations in the recidivism data and the pre/post design. Criminal history, especially criminal contempt of court orders, predicted how well defendants performed pre- and post-disposition.

**Additional NCJ Citations: 199701, 199723, 202564**

<b>1998-WT-VX-0002:</b>	<b>Domestic Violence Courts: Jurisdiction, Organization, Performance Goals and Measures</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$124,170</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Susan Keilitz</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Bernard Auchter</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

This project will build a common understanding of the goals and operations of the various models of domestic violence courts, and it will develop measures that these courts and others can use to assess their performance. The project will create the first comprehensive catalogue of domestic violence courts in the United States and it will develop a set of performance goals and related measures with the advice of practitioners and domestic violence professionals. The catalogue will be developed through a mail survey and follow-up telephone interviews of identified domestic violence courts. The goals and measures will be generated through a Delphi study involving thirty diverse panel members selected from practitioners in domestic violence courts and experts in domestic violence issues. A committee of individuals who have experience in implementing and managing domestic violence courts and domestic violence professionals with expertise in understanding the needs of domestic violence victims will guide the project.

**Product: NCJ# 186192**

**Specialization of Domestic Violence Case Management in the Courts: A National Survey (2000) – S. Keilitz**

The information in this report derives from three sources: the responses of 103 courts to a written questionnaire; telephone interviews with representatives of 82 of these courts; and a modified Delphi study with a panel of 27 professionals, including judges and court managers in courts that use specialized processes for managing and adjudicating domestic violence cases as well as other noted DV experts and practitioners. The findings indicate that court specialization for DV caseloads is in its initial stages of development. Although the concept of specializing court structures and operations for DV courts is gaining momentum, the court community has yet to develop and test models based on a shared vision about the goals of DV courts. The most common reasons courts cite for implementing specialized processes for DV cases are improved assistance to victims, enhanced victim safety, and increased batterer accountability. In the majority of courts, however, these goals are not supported by the key services and practices needed for survivor safety and batterer accountability. Nevertheless, knowledge of the variation and prevalence of different structures and practices can inform judgments about future program implementation and provide a foundation for future comparative evaluation.

**Additional NCJ Citations: 177403, 181033, 199701, 199724**

<b>1998-WT-VX-0024:</b>	<b>A Longitudinal Study of Battered Women in the System: The Victims' and Decision Makers'</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$416,921</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Joanne Belknap</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Leora Rosen</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

This is a longitudinal, multi-site study of approximately 300 battered women (100 at each site), who will be interviewed three times after their final court disposition. The three sites are: Boulder, and Denver, Colorado, and Lansing, Michigan. The victims will be interviewed after their final disposition, and at 6 months and 12 months post disposition. Prosecutors and district attorneys at the three sites will also be interviewed. Victims and prosecutors will be interviewed about their perceptions of the problem, and what influences their decisions. The objectives of the study are to determine factors that influence victim's choices to pursue or not to pursue actions against their batterers; factors that significantly influence judicial decision-making in women battering cases; the relationship between victim and prosecutor reports regarding factors influencing case disposition; and the factors influencing

women’s subsequent need for use of the justice system over time.

**Product: NCJ# 202946**

**Longitudinal Study of Battered Women in the System: The Victim’s and Decision-Makers’ Perception (2002) – J. Belknap, C. Sullivan**

The study was conducted between March 1999 and December 2000. The women were interviewed at three points in time: shortly after their final court dispositions, 6 months after the court dispositions, and 1 year after disposition. The types of variables measured in the survivor interviews were indicators of the violence and resulting injuries; indicators of the context of women's lives (race, relationship with the assailant, and economic dependence); indicators of survivors' experiences with the legal system's processes and outcome; and survivors' perceived control over and satisfaction with the various aspects of the criminal legal system. The interviews with the prosecutors focused on their perceptions of victims, defendants, how domestic-violence cases differ from other cases, and how the system could be improved. The study found that women who were in the "Somewhat Satisfied" cluster felt they had more control over the court process than did women in the other clusters. Control also mediated the site differences in satisfaction with the outcome. Contrary to expectations, the effects of incident characteristics on women's satisfaction with the system were weak. Overall, the study determined that prior experiences with the criminal justice system did influence future intentions to use the legal system. Women who were treated with respect by the police and prosecutors during the incident at issue were more likely to indicate they would use the legal system again. This suggests the importance of police and prosecutor behavior in gaining the cooperation of domestic assault victims.

**Additional NCJ Citations: 193612, 210258**

<b>1999-WT-VX-0008:</b>	<b>Effects of Prosecutorial Policies on Victim Empowerment &amp; Outcomes</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$230,945</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Mary Finn</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Katherine Darke</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

The proposed project will examine the effects of no-drop prosecutorial strategies on victim empowerment and self-efficacy, case outcomes, and the reoccurrence of violence after case disposition. The objectives of the project are to address the effects of no-drop prosecutorial strategies on: 1) court outcomes and their deterrence to prosecuted batterers; 2) victim empowerment and self-efficacy, and subsequent court outcomes and re-occurrences of domestic violence victimizations; and 3) acts of batterer retaliation and reductions in rates of victims reporting domestic violence incidents to the police. The proposed project will employ a quasi-experimental, longitudinal design that compares the effects of the three prosecutorial strategies. Data will be collected from official court records and interviews conducted with a fixed panel sample of 600 adult female victims of domestic violence recruited from two solicitor offices in large suburban counties. Victims will be interviewed at three points: 1) screening; 2) disposition; and 3) six months after case disposition. Interview data will be used to identify prosecutorial strategies, measure victim empowerment and self-efficacy, and document the reoccurrence of violence. Data on court outcomes will be collected from official court records.

**Product: NCJ# 202983**

**Effects of Victims' Experiences with Prosecutors on Victim Empowerment and Re-Occurrence of Intimate Partner Violence (2003) – M. Finn**

Results of the study indicate that the presence of a no-drop policy did not result in more coercive strategies being used. Coercive strategies were just as likely to occur regardless of whether the solicitor’s office had a no-drop policy or not. Giving the victim the choice to withdraw the complaint, regardless of the prosecution’s decision to continue, was more prevalent in the office that did not have a no-drop policy. Overall, coercive actions were used in a relatively small number of cases: 12% of respondents were subpoenaed to testify because they were unwilling to do so and 11% were threatened with arrest if they refused to testify or withdrew the complaint. Personal empowerment and self-efficacy are highly related concepts and appeared to be influenced by the same factors. Actions taken by prosecutors did not affect victims’ level of self-efficacy or personal empowerment, but did influence their level of court empowerment, the expectation to be afforded fair and equitable treatment by the court. Levels of court empowerment declined for all victims from the initial interview to the initial disposition of the case, with the exception of those allowed to withdraw their complaint. The greatest declines in court empowerment were for those with minimal contact with the prosecutors’ offices or those coerced into participating in the process. Incompatible

goals between the prosecution and the victim were not related to changes in court or personal empowerment. Lastly, the relationship between victims' levels of empowerment and the re-occurrence of abuse and violence was examined and none of the effects reached statistical significance at the .05 level. Findings suggest that prosecutors should re-assess whether coercing victims is worth the costs. Use of coercive actions has the effect of lowering victims' empowerment, and this should not be an acceptable outcome for prosecutors.

<b>2000-WT-VX-0003:</b>	<b>The Cook County Court Target Abuser Call (TAC): An Evaluation of a Specialized Domestic Violence Court</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$379,665</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Carolyn Hartley</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Katherine Darke</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

The goal of the project is evaluate the TAC (Cook County Target Abuser Call) program, with regard to conviction rates, satisfaction and sense of empowerment. This evaluation will compare three court system responses to domestic violence, which vary in the amount of outreach and resources provided to victims and in the coordination of court call. The study will recruit about 300 intimate partner domestic violence cases from each of the three court programs for a nine-month period. Data sources will include in-depth interviews assessing victims' experiences with the prosecution process, courthouse victim surveys, court and services provider records, case tracking, and observation of courtroom interactions. Each victim will be surveyed when she comes to the courthouse for her assigned court date and will be followed for 6 to 12 months. In addition, a sub-sample of 50 victims will be selected to participate in an in-depth life history interview. The study team will also observe criminal justice personnel interactions with victims in all three prosecution groups.

**Product: NCJ# 202944/202945**  
**Cook County Target Abuser Call (TAC): An Evaluation of a Specialized Domestic Violence Court (2003) – C. Hartley, L. Frohmann**

The primary objective of the TAC program is to increase women's engagement in the prosecution process. The cases selected for TAC must have a prior history of domestic violence based on convictions, dismissals, arrests, and unreported history, injury to the woman, use of weapons with threats, and include domestic battery accompanied by threats. The study compared randomly selected TAC prosecuted cases with randomly selected cases from the general court. The evaluation examined traditional prosecution outcomes as well as differences in offender and victim characteristics, women's experiences prior to and while at court, women's sense of empowerment with the criminal justice system, and advocacy and service delivery outcomes, among other things. The study found that the victim appearance rate for the TAC program was 73%, compared to an appearance rate of 40% for the general court. The offenders processed under the TAC program were more likely to have a prior history of DV charges and other violent crimes than the defendants in the general court. The women victims in the general court cases were more likely to want charges dropped. The women in the TAC program had substantially more contact with court personnel and were more likely to be fairly satisfied with these contacts.

<b>2000-WT-VX-0015:</b>	<b>Lexington County Domestic Violence Court</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$212,743</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Geoffrey P. Alpert</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Angela Moore Parmley</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

The University of South Carolina College of Criminal Justice and the Lexington County Sheriff's Department will assess the process through which the Criminal Domestic Violence Court (CDVC) has been implemented, and evaluate the impact of the court on domestic violence incidents in Lexington County. The evaluation will address multiple research questions on case outcomes, system processing and outcomes, communication and collaboration among the key stakeholders, and will allow the CDVCs to monitor their own performance. This research will help increase the understanding of the role that domestic violence courts can have in enhancing victim safety, holding offenders more accountable, and improving the accountability of the system in its response to domestic violence. The results from the project will include a sustained partnership between the Lexington County Sheriff's Department and the University of South Carolina College of Criminal Justice, and the possible creation and utilization of Criminal Domestic Violence Courts in Lexington County and the surrounding area.

**Product: NCJ# 204023**

**Lexington County Domestic Violence Court: A Partnership and Evaluation (2003) – A. Gover, J. MacDonald, G. Alpert, I. Geary**

The Criminal Domestic Violence Court (CDVC) combines the efforts of law enforcement, judges, prosecutors, mental health professionals, and victim advocates to improve the safety of domestic violence victims and hold offenders accountable. A process and outcome evaluation was undertaken to measure the extent to which the CDVC was successful in implementing its goals of establishing an effective court that enhances victim safety and provides a model of therapeutic jurisprudence. Results from the process evaluation indicate that an effective courtroom workgroup emerged and that important systemic changes occurred in the manner in which DV cases were processed. The court had changed the focus of DV prosecution from a traditional passive approach to an active approach that emphasized victim safety, offender accountability, and batterer treatment. Results from the outcome evaluation suggest that DV can be affected by increasing the coordinated attention of representatives from the criminal justice system. Recidivism for DV offenders was significantly reduced during a period when the overall number of arrests increased.

**Additional NCJ Citations: 203428**

<b>2000-WT-VX-0019:</b>	<b>Criminal Justice Intervention in Domestic Violence: Victim Preferences, Victim Satisfaction and Factors Impacting on Revictimization</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$50,000</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Gerald Hotaling</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Katherine Darke</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

The proposed study will analyze data collected in a previous study on the processing of domestic violence cases in the Quincy (Massachusetts) District Court. This research will utilize information collected on a sample of 353 men charged with domestic violence in the Quincy District Court, their victims, the nature of the incidents, and the processing of offenders by the criminal justice system. The project's objectives are as follows: 1) to determine the feasibility of identifying both high-risk victims of domestic violence and high-risk offenders; 2) to identify the characteristics of victims whose preference is for no arrest or no prosecution of offenders and the implications of those preferences for the criminal justice system; and 3) to uncover the characteristics of victims, offenders, incidents of violence, and criminal justice processing that predict victim dissatisfaction with the course of justice. The goal is to develop new information that may help criminal justice policy-makers and practitioners utilize their limited resources more effectively in serving the needs of victims.

**Product: NCJ# 195668**

**Victim Satisfaction with Criminal Justice Case Processing in a Model Court Setting (2003) – G. Hotaling, E. Buzawa**

This study analyzed data collected in a previous study on the processing of domestic violence (DV) cases in the Quincy District Court (1995-IJ-CX-0027). The study examined how victim satisfaction with criminal justice intervention in a DV case was related to five variables: 1) demographic characteristics of the victim; 2) specifics of the case; 3) history of offending and victimization; 4) outcomes of the criminal justice system response; and 5) differences between victim preferences and criminal justice action. The study utilized information collected on a sample of 353 men charged with DV, their victims, the nature of the incidents, and the processing of offenders by the criminal justice system. The study found that actions taken by the criminal justice system did not predict levels of victims' satisfaction. Variables most predictive of satisfaction were: victim injury, offender's use of weapons, offender's criminal history, whether the prosecutor made the victim feel in control, whether the threat of prosecution scared the victim, whether the threat of prosecution scared the offender, whether the victim's arrest preferences were ignored, whether the victim and the prosecutor disagreed about the criminal charges. The study concluded that control over the criminal justice system interventions is of paramount victim concern.

**Additional NCJ Citations: 195667, 212261, 212265**

<b>2002-WG-BX-0011:</b>	<b>Impact Evaluation of the Rhode Island Probation Specialized Domestic Violence Supervision Unit</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$300,000</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Andrew Klein</b>

**Monitor:** Bernard Auchter  
**Status:** Completed

This study will examine a replication of the Quincy, Massachusetts model domestic violence probation program in Rhode Island and will determine whether it results in more accountable offenders and less domestic abuse in the State. The Domestic Violence Unit (DVU) of the Rhode Island Department of Corrections (DOC) administers the specialized probation program in five catchment areas in the northern half of the State. In contrast to other probation officers in the State, this program's probation counselors have received special domestic violence training and manage only cases involving domestic violence offenders. In addition, this program holds offenders with two or more domestic violence convictions to higher probation standards. The goal of the study is to conduct a quasi-experimental evaluation (considering re-offending and abuse rates) of the specialized adult probation program implemented by the Rhode Island DVU and to provide information on the administration and content of effective probation standards.

**Product: NCJ# 222912**

**Evaluation of the Rhode Island Probation Specialized Domestic Violence Supervision Unit (2005) – A.R. Klein, D. Wilson, A. H. Crowe, M. DeMichele**

The evaluation found that under the supervision of the Rhode Island domestic violence probation supervision unit (DVU) offenders had significantly lower rates of reoffending and arrest-free periods, almost twice as long as those for domestic-violence offenders under traditional probation supervision. DVU probation officers tended to hold offenders more accountable, as evidenced by 44 percent of the DVU caseload being charged with a technical violation, compared to 25 percent of those under traditional supervision. These findings provide important preliminary guidance for the community supervision of domestic-violence offenders that could be implemented and evaluated in other locations. The DVU was distinguished from traditional probation in that DVU cases were seen more often by probation officers, DVU victims were more likely to be contacted by their abusers' probation officers, and DVU probation officers were more likely to return probationers to court for technical violations. In all the sample included 552 male misdemeanor domestic-violence offenders on probation (370 DVU and 182 traditional) and were monitored from January 1, 2003, through January 1, 2004 in order to measure recidivism that was indicated by a new arrest, a victim report, or a police report. Offender characteristics and behavior were assessed in order to identify differences between the supervision strategies. A sample of victims was interviewed about how probation officers affected victims' experience related to probation supervision.

**2003-IJ-CX-1031: Juvenile Domestic and Family Violence: The Effects of Court-Based Intervention Programs on Recidivism**  
**Amount:** \$275,060  
**PI:** Brenda Uekert  
**Monitor:** Carrie Mulford  
**Status:** Completed

The proposed study's goals are to: 1) identify components of specialized programs for juvenile domestic and family violence offenders that could be adopted nationwide; 2) determine socio-demographic variances among juvenile domestic violence and family violence offenders; 3) assess treatment effectiveness by comparing juvenile offenders completing the treatment with those who do not; and 4) determine the intervention's effect on recidivism rates and post-adjudication behaviors. Researchers will compare two court systems with specialized interventions to a court system that has none. This quasi-experimental study will expand on an ongoing study of the Santa Clara County, California Juvenile Domestic and Family Violence Court. Issues addressed include: 1) availability of local services; 2) interagency coordination; 3) training for court personnel; and 4) court, probation, and treatment abilities to address language and cultural factors.

**Product: NCJ#216614**

**Juvenile Domestic and Family Violence: The Effects of Court-Based Intervention Programs on Recidivism (2006) – B. Uekert, I. Sagatun-Edwards, A. Crowe, T. Peters, F. Cheesman, D. Kameda**

The results of this evaluative study showed that the interventions were most beneficial for younger and first-time offenders. However, it is important to initiate programs with age appropriate services and graduated sanctions. Highlights of the findings include: (1) the specialized intervention programs in both counties had a deterrent effect on first-time offenders; (2) recidivism rates for offenders with prior records were remarkably consistent across sites;

and (3) the greatest determinant of the probability of recidivism was background characteristics of the offender. In California, the Santa Clara County Superior Court (1999) and the San Francisco Superior Court (2001) created unique approaches to address both juvenile domestic and family violence. Both the Santa Clara County and the San Francisco County specialized juvenile domestic and family violence courts have proven to be innovative programs addressing a serious social issue. It has been demonstrated that many of the offenders assigned to these courts come from families with a history of parental domestic violence, child abuse, criminal behaviors, and substance abuse. These court-based programs have some similar features: (1) an intake process which includes assessment for domestic and family violence; (2) specialized prosecution and defense; (3) dedicated docket; (4) intensive supervision; (5) offender programs, and (6) victim services. What distinguishes the two programs from each other are operational differences, such as the use of formal probation and a law enforcement protocol. In 2003, the National Center for State Courts, along with the American Probation and Parole Association received a grant from the U.S. Department of Justice, National Institute of Justice to study the effectiveness of Santa Clara County and San Francisco County’s court-based intervention programs. The methodology utilized involved two separate phases: contextual analysis and program evaluation. In addition, juvenile and adult recidivism information was collected which included 304 closed cases.

<b>2007-M-07032</b>	<b>Practical Implications of Current Domestic Violence Research Part 3: Judges</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$16,200</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Andrew R. Klein</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Bernie Auchter</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Complete</b>

The purpose of this work is to describe to judges what current research tells us about domestic violence, with a focus on perpetrators and victims, and the impact of current judicial responses to domestic violence and, the implications of research for day to day real world responses to domestic violence by the bench.

**Product: NCJ#222321**

**Practical Implications of Current Domestic Violence Research Part 3: Judges**

The research findings reviewed pertain to the prevalence of domestic violence, what percentage of domestic violence cases reach courts, whether arrest should be encouraged, characteristics of perpetrators and victims, the recidivism rate, the characteristics of recidivists, characteristics of abusers at highest risk for killing their partners, whether prosecution and sentencing of offenders deters recidivism, whether aggressive prosecution and sentencing increases the demand for trials, and appropriate sentences for convicted batterers. Other research reviewed pertains to whether batterer intervention programs prevent reabuse, the effectiveness of civil protective orders, and whether specialized domestic violence courts are effective. Regarding research on the prevalence and adverse impact of domestic violence on its victims, this study recommends that judges commit sufficient resources and attention to ensure that domestic violence cases are handled efficiently and effectively. It further advises judges to identify stalking behavior and recognize the importance of affording victims maximum protection against these potentially lethal abusers. Also, judges' decisions in domestic violence cases must give priority to the protection of victims, their children, other family members, responding police officers, as well as abusers at risk for suicide. In this regard, judges must insist they receive sufficient information on any pattern of systemic, abusive behaviors that place victims at high risk. In deciding on remedies and sentences upon conviction, judges should assume that the behavior at issue is not unique to the single case. Judges should also be aware that reducing assault charges to nonassault charges allows convicted abusers to retain firearms otherwise prohibited under Federal law. Pretrial and sentencing decisions should consider victim protection, such that abusers are controlled through incarceration or intensive supervision in the community.

<b>2007-WG-BX-0012:</b>	<b>Adolescent Sexual Assault Victim’s Experiences with SANE-SARTs and the Criminal Justice System</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$319,921</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Rebecca Campbell</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Karen J. Bachar</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

The study uses two approaches to answer three questions related to adolescents and Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (SANE) and Sexual Assault Response Teams (SART). The first is a quantitative quasi-experimental design that

examines eight years of reporting and prosecution data in two counties that differ in terms of how their SANE programs function within multidisciplinary SART teams. The second study involves qualitative interviews with adolescent victims who received SANE-SART services to learn how these experiences influenced their participation in prosecution. The questions the study seeks to answer: 1) Which cases make it through the system and why? 2) What role do SANE-SARTs play in encouraging victims to participate in prosecution? 3) What are teen victim's concerns about seeking formal help in the first place? This study will assist in filling a gap in the literature because while research has shown that SANE-SART programs can be helpful throughout reporting and prosecution this topic has not been studied with adolescents.

<b>2008-WG-BX-0001:</b>	<b>Do Domestic Violence Courts Reduce Recidivism? A Statewide Impact Evaluation in New York</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$278,824</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Melissa Labriola</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Bernie Auchter</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

There are currently more than 300 specialized domestic violence courts in the United States. These courts all seek to improve the criminal justice response to domestic violence, but with little nationwide coordination and information exchange among them, today's domestic violence courts reflect a considerable diversity of goals, policies, and practices. Although not uniformly embraced, many consider the reduction of offender recidivism to be an important goal. Yet, only a limited number of studies have been conducted. This study involves a statewide evaluation of 25 domestic violence courts across New York. Not only will this evaluation bring new clarity to the fundamental question of whether these courts reduce recidivism, it will also illuminate under what contextual conditions, and for which categories of defendants, domestic violence courts do and do not have positive effects. Secondly, it will examine the impact of domestic violence courts on case processing speed, conviction rates, and sentencing practices as well. Two-year defendant samples will be drawn from 25 New York State domestic violence courts, encompassing large urban, suburban, small city, and rural jurisdictions. Each court's defendants will be matched to a quasi-experimental comparison group from the same jurisdiction. Data collection will include community-level characteristics, court-level policies and practices, and defendant data on criminal history, charges, demographics, and rearrests.

## Courts & the Civil Justice System

<b>1998-IJ-CX-0021:</b>	<b>Estimating the Population at Risk for Violence During Child Visitation</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$44,797</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Chris O' Sullivan</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Leora Rosen</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

The project will examine family court records to determine the extent to which women attempting to separate from a violent partner face risk of violence when fathers exercise child visitation rights. Three sources of data will be used. First, approximately 4,500 visitation and custody cases will be reviewed and cross-checked with records of protection orders to determine the proportion of women involved in custody or visitation disputes that have protection orders against the non-custodial parent. Secondly, the researchers will interview lawyers who provide legal services to battered women in Family Court to conduct a qualitative assessment of: the context in which violence occurs; the risks or benefits of visitation by a father who has been an abusive partner in the perception of the attorneys and of their clients; and the lawyers' experiences raising these issues in court. The third source of data will be a sample of 500 cases in special domestic felony courts. These cases will be reviewed to determine constitution of the family, the status of the relationship between the abuser and victim, and the context in which violence is occurring. Particular attention will be paid to violations of orders of protection.

**Product: NCJ# 195792/195793**

### **Domestic Violence, Visitation and Custody Decisions in New York Family Courts (2002) – C. O'Sullivan**

The study was conducted in New York City and Westchester County using a random sample of custody and visitation cases in New York City Family Courts, a full sample of visitation cases in the White Plains Family Court (West Chester County), and interviews with attorneys who represented victims of DV in Family Courts in New

York City and Westchester. The findings in New York City indicate that half the visitation petitions and a third of the custody petitions were granted. Though fathers were more often the petitioners, there was no difference between mothers and fathers in rate of success in securing court orders. Fathers who successfully petitioned the court for a protection order against the mother were significantly more likely to be granted custody than fathers that did not. In White Plains, results showed that visitation was granted in 47% of the cases, and there was no difference between the dispositions of mothers' and fathers' petitions. Lawyers practicing in family court reported a number of problems with the courts handling of visitation in domestic violence cases. There was considerable violence against their clients in the course of visitation. In these cases, the attorney was unable to secure a suspension of visitation or supervised visitation from the court. Most attorneys reported threats rather than actual violence, or non-cooperation, such as keeping the children longer than specified in the visitation order.

**Additional NCJ Citations: 186261, 210899**

<b>1999-WT-VX-0013:</b>	<b>Child Custody and Visitation When Father Batters Mother</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$249,963</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Allison Morrill</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Leora Rosen</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

The goal of this research is to assess the impact of two aspects of the Model Code provisions regarding child custody and visitation, and provisions regarding judicial knowledge of domestic violence issues on custody and visitation order in cases of domestic violence. The research will be conducted at: 1) one jurisdiction with both aspects of the Model Code in place, namely, the presumption against custody or primary residence being awarded to a perpetrator of domestic violence, and safety accorded to the child and battered parent; 2) one jurisdiction with neither of these provisions; 3) two jurisdictions each with only one of the provisions. After a further selection of cases of disputed custody/visitation in which there was a contested hearing and final order entered, research staff will determine whether the mother has been subjected to violence perpetrated by the father. Outcomes will include: 1) the extent of parental rights granted to the batterer and 2) conditions designed to protect the safety of the child or battered women.

**Product: NCJ# 210900**

**Child Custody and Visitation Decisions When the Father has Perpetrated Violence Against the Mother (2005) – A. Morrill, J. Dai, S. Dunn, I. Sung, K. Smith**

Using hundreds of custody and/or visitation orders where the father perpetrated domestic violence (DV) against the mother, this study evaluated the effectiveness of statutes (the Model Code on Domestic and Family Violence) mandating a presumption against custody to a perpetrator of domestic violence and judicial education about DV. The goal of this study was to assess the direct and indirect impact of two aspects of the Model Code: 1) provisions regarding child custody and 2) provisions on judicial education, specifically on custody and visitation order cases where the mother had been subjected to violence by the father. Over many years of research, the adverse effects of domestic violence on children have been well-documented. However, research indicates that judges are resistant to considering DV as a factor in custody adjudications. In 1994, the Model Code on Domestic and Family Violence was developed by the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges and intended to represent the best current expertise concerning legal approaches to DV containing guidelines on custody and visitation and judicial education. Across 6 States, 393 custody and/or visitation orders were examined where the father perpetrated DV against the mother. In addition, 60 judges who entered those orders were surveyed. More orders gave legal and physical custody to the mother and imposed a structured schedule and restrictive conditions on fathers' visits, except where there was a presumption for joint custody. The statutory presumption against custody to a perpetrator does appear to be effective in reducing orders that give legal custody to a father who has battered the mother. However, even with the presumption, 40 percent of the fathers were given joint custody. In all six States, the vast majority of judges (86 percent) received DV education, irrespective of legislative mandate. However, they scored no better in knowledge or attitudes. It was suggested that efforts should concentrate on improving the quality and usefulness of judicial education

<b>1999-WT-VX-0015:</b>	<b>Mandatory Custody Mediation</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$249,841</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Dennis Saccuzzo</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Leora Rosen</b>



**Status:** Completed

The goals of the project are to: 1) compare violent and nonviolent families on factors that affect child adjustment in order to determine whether group differences are reflected in the custody and visitation plans, thus bringing empirical data to bear on the issue of equity of outcomes; 2) study custody decisions from mandatory custody mediation, including visitation plans and other variables for violent nonviolent families; and 3) evaluate custody decisions in terms of the safety dimension, that is, the extent to which battered women are exposed to such dangers as unsupervised child exchanges. The study will analyze 400 randomly selected mediation reports in San Diego Family Court (200 with formal allegations of domestic violence and a comparable 200 without allegations). Groups will be compared in terms of custody/visitation outcomes and factors affecting child adjustment, including spousal adjustment, co-parent relationship, parent-child relationship, and child characteristics. Content analysis will be accomplished by trained raters evaluating specifiable indicators for each of the aforementioned factors. Variables will include the father’s adjustment, co-parent relationship conflicts, mother’s adjustment, network support, father-child relationship, mother-child relationship, and child characteristics.

**Product:** NCJ# 195422

**Mandatory Custody Mediation: Empirical Evidence of Increased Risk for Domestic Violence Victims and Their Children (2003) – D. Saccuzzo, N. Johnson, W. Koen**

In this study, the authors sought to evaluate the mediation process and outcomes when it is used in cases where there has been past record of domestic violence. Content analysis was conducted on a sample of 200 mediations in San Diego County, CA, in which there were indicators of DV in the case file that was available to the mediator. These cases were compared to a control group of 200 mediations from the same county, in which no indicators of DV were in the file available to the mediator. Results revealed that, the court screening form that was used prior to mediation often failed to screen for DV or abuse. Secondly, even when DV was noted as a problem in the case file, during mediation the DV was not addressed in many of the cases. Most alarmingly, the results revealed that when DV is brought up as an issue during mediation, the victim of DV and her children received no more protections, and sometimes even fewer, than cases in which the violence was neither noted nor discussed. This leads to the conclusion that victims of violence who are mandated to child custody mediation would be better served to remain silent about their victimization.

**Additional NCJ Citations:** 210898

<b>2000-WT-VX-0016:</b>	<b>History of Intimate Partner Violence and the Determination of Custody and Visitation Among Couples Petitioning for Dissolution of Marriage</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$280,460</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Victoria Holt</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Leora Rosen</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

The goal of the study is to examine the relationship between a history of intimate partner violence (IPV) and determination of child custody and visitation agreements among couples undergoing dissolution of marriage. The objectives are to determine the percentage of couples in which: 1) the mother is designated primary residential parent; 2) visitation is denied to the non-residential parent; 3) restrictions are placed on the non-residential parent’s visitation with the children; 4) the court orders supervised visitation for the non-residential parent; and 5) the court orders restrictions on the non-residential parent’s decision-making regarding the children. The project will compare the frequency of occurrence of each of the five outcomes mentioned above among couples with a known history of IPV to that among couples with no known history of IPV. Subjects will comprise Seattle couples with minor children who filed for divorce in the King County Superior Court between January 1, 1998 and December 31, 1999. The presence of any eligible police or court-reported incident of IPV prior to filing will identify the exposed group (a sample of 2,500 couples). The unexposed group will have no known history of IPV (a sample of 784 divorcing couples).

**Product:** NCJ# 210897

**Children in the Crossfire: Child Custody Determinations among Couples With a History of Intimate Partner Violence (2005) – M. Kernic, D. Monary-Ernsdorff, J. Koepsell, V. Holt**

Although most states mandate consideration of intimate partner violence in child custody proceedings, little is known about how often a preexisting history of IPV is effectively presented to the courts in dissolution cases and,

when it is, what effect it has on child custody and visitation outcomes. This retrospective cohort study examined the effects of a history of IPV, further categorized by whether substantiation of that history existed and whether the court handling the custody proceedings knew of that history, on issues of concern regarding the reality of child custody among families with a history of IPV. These include two primary concerns: 1) a lack of identification of IPV even among cases with a document, substantiated history, and 2) a lack of strong protections being ordered even among cases in which a history of substantiated IPV is known to exist. The researchers found that 11.4% of Seattle marriage dissolutions involving children had a history of substantiated, male-perpetrated, police- or court-reported IPV.

## Forensic and Investigative Methods

<b>1997-WT-VX-0008:</b>	<b>Medical Records as Legal Evidence of Domestic Violence</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$164,025</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Nancy Isaac</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Leora Rosen</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

This existing researcher-practitioner partnership involving legal, medical and victim advocacy communities will evaluate the utility of medical record information as evidence of domestic violence. The project will quantify the proportion of battered women’s medical charts that provide adequate documentation of abuse (by legal standards), and will enumerate the types and prevalence of various flaws in documentation. The empirical analysis will be based on a review of the medical records of a prospective series of 100 domestic violence victims assisted through the Law Clinics of the Northeastern University School of Law, in Boston, Massachusetts. For each client, all medical charts that may reflect abuse will be obtained and a semi-structured clinical interview will be performed to detail the woman’s self-reported history of abuse.

**Product: NCJ# 188564**

**Documenting Domestic Violence: How Health Care Providers Can Help Victims (2001) – N. Isaac, P. Enos**

This study described from a legal perspective, how domestic violence is being documented in abused women’s medical charts. Ninety-six medical charts of 86 battered women covering 722 visits were reviewed. The subjects were referred through a law clinic and partnering organizations that serve battered women. In 24% of these visits, detailed information was abstracted on the medical record documentation because of an indication of domestic violence, or injury, or both. The study found significant shortcomings of current medical charts as legal evidence including poor handwriting, insufficient use of photographs and body maps, the use of legal jargon that could damage the victim’s case such as alleged abuser, failure to use excited utterances (an exception to the hearsay rule) in medical history-taking, and to document details of the incident such as the name of the perpetrator, the time and place of the assault, and the demeanor of the victim. The study contains recommendations regarding relatively minor changes that could be made in record-keeping that would substantially enhance the value of medical records as legal evidence in domestic violence cases. Such records could even be used in the absence of direct testimony from the medical provider.

**Additional NCJ Citations: 184528, 184530, 195076**

<b>1998-WT-VX-0027:</b>	<b>Impact Evaluation of a SANE Unit in Albuquerque, New Mexico</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$262,853</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Cameron Crandall</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Leora Rosen</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

The project will conduct a comprehensive impact evaluation that will address four areas; victim advocacy, law enforcement, prosecution, and health care services, devoting considerable attention to their interconnectedness. The evaluation will use a quasi-experimental design, comparing perceptions before and after the implementation of the collaborative. Project researchers will measure the impact of programs in the four areas of interest, using a variety of techniques, including telephone and mail surveys; review of case files, court records, and medical charts; and semi-structured interviews. To foster ongoing collaboration on UNM researchers with community leaders, key individuals from the four interest areas will be identified and invited to attend collaborative meetings with investigators. The

project will conduct a stratified random sample of adult women, ages 18 and older at the time of the survey, who have received SANE services at the Albuquerque Collaborative. To provide a measure of comparison, the project will collect data from a group of historical controls. Analysis procedures will include several standard statistical techniques, including both standard non-parametric and parametric techniques such as the Wilcoxon Rank Sum Chi Square, and t-test procedures will be used to test statistical significance. Qualitative data will be compiled and analyzed using content analysis methods.

**Product: NCJ# 203276**

**Impact Evaluation of a Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) Program (2003) – C. Crandall, D. Helitzer**

The experiences of women who sought services at the University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center in the two years prior to the inception of SANE (1994-1996) were compared with the experiences of women who sought services at the Albuquerque SANE Collaborative after inception (October 1996) through the end of 1999. Information was also obtained from 28 key informants. Ten qualitative and quantitative methods were used. Qualitative methods included an advocate focus group, victim services interviews, health care interviews, law enforcement interviews and prosecution interviews. Quantitative methods included reviews of pre-SANE medical charts, SANE medical charts, law enforcement records, and a victim telephone survey. Post SANE victims received more medical services for sexual assaults and a greater number and more comprehensive referrals to victim services. More SANE victims reported to police, and had more evidence kits collected. Police filed more charges post SANE, had higher conviction rates and longer sentences. The data strongly suggest that a SANE unit greatly enhances the healthcare quality of women who have been sexually assaulted, improves the quality of forensic evidence, improves law enforcement’s ability to collect information and to file charges, and increases the likelihood of successful prosecution.

<b>2000-WT-VX-0014:</b>	<b>An Intervention to Improve Documentation of Domestic Violence in Medical Records</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$220,817</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>V. Pualani Enos</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Catherine McNamee</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

This project will develop, implement, and evaluate a protocol and practitioner training intervention that will improve documentation of abuse in health care settings. The project’s goal is to increase the frequency with which the medical charts of abuse victims contain information that can be used to their legal benefit. The training intervention will be based on prior research findings and will be informed by the expertise of an interdisciplinary practitioner-researcher partnership and by focus groups of survivors and medical providers (e.g., physicians, nurses, and social workers). In the early stages of the project, three sets of focus groups will provide information for effective training. The process evaluation will provide a complete description of how many sessions of the intervention were delivered, with what content, and to which audience. For the impact evaluation, post-intervention sessions will be assessed at each intervention site and will be compared to a series of pre-intervention records. The charts of women who have documented DV will be reviewed and information will be abstracted using a tool developed in the previous research project.

**Product: NCJ# 207146**

**Intervention to Improve Documentation of Intimate Partner Violence in Medical Records (2004) – V. Paulani Enos, J. Linden, L. Tieszen, J. Bernstein, J. Brown**

This project developed, implemented, and evaluated an intervention designed to improve the abuse documentation practices of health care providers by encouraging them to apply diagnostic and documentation skills traditionally understood to fall within the medical realm of professional competence and responsibility. This project builds upon the previous work of a unique medical-legal, researcher-practitioner collaboration by addressing assessment and response to IPV in medical setting and then developing a training program focused primarily on the documentation of intimate partner violence. The research team developed a training that presented a recommended response to IPV that emphasized documentation employed a patient empowerment model and relied on an interdisciplinary team approach. The curriculum development was conducted through focus groups with emergency medical technicians, paramedics, nurses, and residents from each study site. A separate focus group was conducted with IPV survivors, IPV advocates, social workers, and hospital administrators. The curriculum development team formulated a 50-minute training for each provider group using a team-based approach that describes the benefits of a health care

response to IPV, presents concrete strategies for assessment and documentation of IPV, and details a limited intervention that all providers can deliver within a 5-minute interaction regardless of patient disclosures or readiness to take action. The findings related to the effectiveness of the training remain inconclusive due to the small number of IPV records written by providers who had attended the training. While some changes in practices did occur, further study of the intervention is needed to fully ascertain its potential. The evaluation speaks to the feasibility of IPV training in an emergency medical setting and the challenges related to evaluating provider practices.

<b>2002-WG-BX-0007:</b>	<b>Criminal Justice Effects of Rape Services</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$159,614</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Peg Langhammer &amp; Andrew Klein</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Catherine McNamee</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

Various rape law reforms and rape service reforms have been initiated since the 1960's. The intersections of these reforms can provide critical points of leverage in the judicial pursuit of rape accountability. Ideally, the forensic exam, accompanied by support of the police command structure, effectively standardizes the development of rape evidence and the early involvement of victim services and the prosecutor. Unfortunately, there have been few rigorous studies of the effects of these services. The current view is that, taken together, studies have shown limited reform effects. Studies of the criminal justice effects of rape services have been anecdotal and unsupported by case outcomes data. The Sexual Assault and Trauma Resource Center of Rhode Island (SATRC) in partnership with BOTEC Analysis Corporation is undertaking, during a two-year study period, an evaluation of the criminal justice outcomes of the sexual assault response team initiated by SATRC. A quasi-experimental comparative change design is proposed. It is hypothesized that an integrated, interagency sexual assault response team will produce higher rates of criminal investigations, arrest and convictions.

**Product: NCJ# 210584**

**An Evaluation of the Rhode Island Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) (2005) – D. Wilson, A. Klein**

The SART process in Rhode Island is a coordinated effort between the victim, the Sexual Assault Trauma Resource Center (SATRC), the police department, and the Rhode Island Department of the Attorney General. The SART program was initiated in January 2002. The evaluation covers assaults from September 2002 through August 2003, which includes 238 sexual assaults. These cases were followed until July 2004. The program has demonstrated positive effects as there is demand among sexual assault victims for SART services. Victims who seek SART services have significant odds of being assaulted by a friend, acquaintance or relative, have had a subsequent forensic exam, and believe that the offense was first degree sexual assault. The evaluation found that the estimated probability of a victim choosing to be a SART client, whose assault is without these assault characteristics and the police find probable cause is 3%, while the probability of a victim seeking SART services with all of these assault characteristics and the police do not initially find probable cause is 89%.

<b>2003-IJ-CX-1027:</b>	<b>Visiting Fellowship Program: Police Investigation of Rape: Roadblocks and Solutions</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$149,942</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Martin Schwartz</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Leora Rosen</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

The project will look into the views of police officers on the frustrations and obstacles to the successful completion of a rape investigation. Through a survey methodology at least 150 patrol officers and sheriff's deputies will be queried about the problems inherent to rape investigations, and their responses will be examined against a highly validated rape myth scale. They will then be asked for their views on ways that they or others have overcome these obstacles and successfully completed investigations. The second group to be studied will be 25 experienced investigators, who will be asked similar questions, only in a qualitative format in more depth and covering more issues, such as female offenders, false reports, false confessions, male victims and lesbian rape. These investigators will be asked about marginalization, stress, time management, and other problems. They will be asked what techniques that they use in addition to basic police work, such as team investigation or profiling. The goal of this research is not only to discover what police officers themselves see as the problems that they have in carrying out their duties, but also to highlight their successes in overcoming problems.

**2003-WG-BX-1003:      Testing the Efficacy of the SANE-SART Programs**  
**Amount:                    \$275,000**  
**PI:                            M. Elaine Nugent**  
**Monitor:                    Nicole Gaskin-Laniyan**  
**Status:                      Completed**

The goal of the study is to establish the efficacy of SANE-SART as a tool in the criminal justice system. Primary research objectives are to determine whether SANE-SART interventions have an impact on rates of arrest, prosecution, and conviction. The research will also examine whether SANE-SART involvement has an impact on the frequency of guilty pleas, the charges at case disposition, and sentencing. From the population of adult female rape cases reported to the largest law enforcement department in each jurisdiction, the research team will select a random sample comprising equal numbers of SANE-SART and non SANE-SART cases. Data will then be drawn from case records on the dependent variables of criminal justice outcomes, and on selected intervening or control variables that may impact on outcomes, including relationship between perpetrator and survivor, length of time between incident and report, race of survivor and perpetrator, use of weapons, perpetrator’s prior criminal record, and survivors’ participation in the process. Study findings will contribute to the discussion concerning the expansion of SANE and SART programs to jurisdictions that do not have these programs currently. In addition, it is hoped that those locations that do have the programs will be able to use the results to improve and enhance existing efforts.

**Product: NCJ# 214252**

**Testing the Efficacy of SANE-SART Programs: Do They Make a Difference in Sexual Assault Arrest and Prosecution Outcomes? (2006) – M. Nugent-Borakove, P. Fanflik, D. Troutman, N. Johnson, A. Burgess, A. Lewis O’Connor**

The goal of this study was to test the efficacy of SANE-SART programs as a tool in the criminal justice system. The American Prosecutors Research Institute and Boston College tested whether SANE-SART exams increase arrest and prosecution rates for sexual assault. Five questions were asked: 1) is the arrest rate higher in cases where a SANE-SART exam is performed when compared with cases in which no exam is performed; 2) is the indictment/charging rate higher in such cases; 3) are guilty pleas more likely to be entered in such cases and are pleas likely to be to the existing charge or to a lesser charge; 4) is the conviction rate higher in such cases; and 5) is the sentence more severe in such cases. The project team randomly selected up to 125 sexual assault cases in which there was a SANE or SART intervention and 125 cases in which there was no SANE-SART intervention—which resulted in a total of 262 SANE-SART cases and 268 non-SANE-SART cases. Case information was collected from SANE-SART prosecution files in Monmouth County, NJ, Sedgwick County, KS, and Suffolk County, MA. The results indicated that compared to non-SANE-SART cases, SANE-SART cases are reported more quickly, have more evidence available (particularly DNA), and have more victim participation. SANE-SART intervention: a) was a factor in the identification and arrest of a suspect; b) the strongest predictor that charges will be filed; and c) helped increase the likelihood of a conviction. Insufficient information was available to determine the impact of SANE-SART intervention on penalty and length of sentence. Overall, the findings are supportive of SANE-SART programs and their efficacy as a tool in the criminal justice system.

**2005-WG-BX-0003:      A Systems Change Analysis of SANE Programs**  
**Amount:                    \$389,925**  
**PI:                            Rebecca Campbell**  
**Monitor:                    Karen J. Bachar**  
**Status:                      Completed**

The proposed project adds to the current literature by determining the circumstances and contexts under which SANE programs increase prosecution by identifying the mediating mechanisms that explain how and why SANE programs affect case outcomes. Using a systems change theoretical perspective, the proposed project has the following five objectives, it will: 1) compare prosecution charging rates and court outcomes for cases examined in a SANE program (intervention group) to a sample of adult sexual assault cases examined using standard hospital protocols in the same community prior to the implementation of the SANE program (comparison group); 2) identify victim, case, and forensic medical evidence characteristics that predict prosecutors’ charging decisions; 3) examine SANEs impact on police as a mediating pathway to increased prosecution rates; 4) explore how the emotional support provided to victims/survivors by the SANE program and victim advocates increased their participation

during investigation and prosecution; and 5) create a practitioner-oriented program evaluation toolkit that can be used by other communities to assess post-SANE systems change. A series of studies are planned to address these objectives, which will include rigorous quantitative quasi-experimental designs and in-depth qualitative interviews with prosecutors, police, and victims/survivors. This study will examine the interrelationships between SANEs, legal professionals, victim advocates, and victims/survivors as these linkages may be critical in explaining how and why SANE programs increase prosecution rates.

**Product: NCJ # 226497**

**Systems Change Analysis of SANE Programs: Identifying the Mediating Mechanisms of Criminal Justice System Impact (2009) – M. Greeson, R. Campbell, & S. Kobes**

The first goal of this project was to determine whether adult sexual assault cases in a Midwestern community were more likely to be investigated and prosecuted after the implementation of a Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) program, and to identify the “critical ingredients” that contributed to that increase. The second goal of this study was to understand why there was an increase in criminal justice system case progression after the implementation of the SANE program. This twelve year analysis of criminal justice system case outcomes revealed that more cases were moving through the system to higher levels of disposition (i.e., guilty pleas or guilty convictions) after the implementation of a SANE program. The authors were able to conclude that these effects are reasonably attributed to the efforts of the SANE program and not due to other changes over time in this community. The SANE programs’ work with law enforcement and their patients, though separate and philosophically distinct, is mutually reinforcing and provides instrumental resources for successful case prosecution.

**Product: NCJ #226499**

**Step-by-Step Practitioner Toolkit for Evaluating the Work of Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) Programs in the Criminal Justice System (2009)- M. Greeson, R. Campbell, & S. Kobes**

Based on the findings of NCJ #226497, the authors developed a practitioner-oriented Toolkit. This Toolkit outlines a step-by-step process for other communities to assess what kinds of changes have taken place post-SANE and what factors are most critical in their communities that attributed to that success. The goal of this Toolkit is to assist SANE program staff in evaluating how their program affects the reporting, investigation, and prosecution of sexual assault cases in their community. The focus of this Toolkit is the impact of SANEs on the progression of sexual assault cases through the criminal justice system.

<b>2005-WG-BX-0010:</b>	<b>Developing, Testing, and Evaluation of the Use of Polygraphs to Combat Violence Against Women</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$324,877</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Douglas Wilson</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Christine Crossland</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Complete</b>

DeKalb County Georgia Probation Department is developing an innovative program to test the application of polygraph technology to supervise, contain, and treat high risk misdemeanor abusers who are in the community. This 24-month experiment will have three parts: Phase I will initiate the implementation of the program and the random assignment of batterers to experimental (polygraph) and control (no polygraph) groups, and pre-test the operation of the program with a small number of polygraph tests with appropriate probationary follow-up; Phase II (operations) will last until the 18th month. It is expected that 240 high risk offenders (120 treatment and 120 controls) will be identified by DeKalb Probation, assigned to the cooperating batterer treatment program (Riveros Counseling Services), and their victims interviewed by the Victim Liaison employed by Riveros, Court procedures applied to both groups will remain unchanged to avoid confounding the outcomes (measures of post-conviction criminal behavior will include interview data from victims and criminal record data; and Phase III (analysis) will involve analysis of process and outcome data, using cross-tabulations, survival analysis, and logistic regression.

**Product : NCJ# 222115**

The findings indicate that polygraph testing can assist probation departments in managing the risky behaviors of domestic-violence probationers who have an elevated risk of repeated criminal behaviors as specified in this study (illegal drug use other than marijuana; the possession or handling of firearms; and involvement in additional physical abuse, regardless of gender). The polygraph's identification of these risky behaviors predicted subsequent

arrests within the study period. Such polygraph findings can inform appropriate interventions that can modify the risky behaviors. Thus, the use of polygraph testing for high-risk, domestic-violence probationers can assist in interdicting specific behaviors in supplementing curricula of family violence programs. For this study, the DeKalb County State Court Probation Department (Georgia) identified 321 high-risk, domestic-violence probationers who had a mix of previous violent and nonviolent misdemeanor convictions. These probationers were allocated to a family violence intervention site and 10 analogous control sites in the county. At the conclusion of 1 month of psychoeducational classes, the treatment facilitator asked the enrolled men if they would volunteer for a polygraph test; and if they continued their enrollment, asked them again to take a second polygraph test at the end of the fourth month of classes. The treatment and control group samples balanced the demographic and criminal characteristics of the men at the treatment site and control sites across 11 demographic and criminal-record variables. Forty-three of the 87 men assigned to the treatment site completed at least 1 polygraph. 7 tables, a 26-item bibliography, and appended Victim History of Domestic Violence Survey

**2007-WG-BX-0003: A Statewide Study of Stalking and its Criminal Justice Response**  
**Amount:** \$182,738  
**PI:** Andrew Klein  
**Monitor:** Bernie Auchter  
**Status:** Ongoing

The study will explore the impact of identifying and charging for the crime of stalking in the state of Rhode Island on offender accountability as measured by successful prosecution as well as victim safety, as measured by re-arrest for domestic violence within two years. Researchers will use a multi-methods approach that includes secondary data analysis of a mandated law enforcement reporting system as well as court based data regarding prosecution and qualitative interviews with select Rhode Island law enforcement officers, prosecutors, defense lawyers and court advocates for a more complete understanding of the factors influencing the criminal justice response to stalking. The researcher plans to explore answers to the question, “Does identifying the crime of stalking have an effect on prosecution outcomes, as well as longer terms outcomes in regard to subsequent arrests for domestic violence?” A sample of 1297 incident and arrest reports where citations have been made by police for threats and harassment between January 1, 2001 and December 31, 2005 will be reviewed to extract those cases where stalking charges should have been brought against the suspects. These extracted cases will be compared with 140 cases during the same period where the suspects were actually cited for stalking. Comparisons will be made on a variety of characteristics, with the end result being the development of a more complete profile of stalkers. Qualitative interviews (group) with 30 key informants from smaller cities in Rhode Island will be conducted to assess factors that may influence the criminal justice response to stalking.

**2007-WG-BX-0011: Testing the Efficacy of Judicial Monitoring a Randomized Trial at the Rochester Domestic Violence Courts**  
**Amount:** \$335,208  
**PI:** Melissa Labriola  
**Monitor:** Bernie Auchter  
**Status:** Ongoing

While judicial monitoring has been shown to be effective with other criminal justice populations, few studies, and none involving a randomized control design, have been conducted with domestic violence offenders. This study will fill this gap through a randomized trial to determine the efficacy of a carefully designed, robust model of judicial monitoring. In addition to examining the impact of monitoring on official recidivism and victim reports of re-abuse, the impact on intervening offender perceptions regarding the swiftness, certainty, and severity of further sanctions in response to violations of the court’s orders will also be examined.

**2008-D6-BX-K015: Stranger Rape Analysis Project**  
**Amount:** \$914,471  
**PI:** Don Pierce  
**Monitor:** Catherine McNamee  
**Status:** Ongoing

This project focuses on the implementation of the quick- turnaround DNA testing pilot project, which uses public-private partnerships to increase the clearance rate for stranger rapes and sexual assaults. The project coordinator will contact every law enforcement agency and the detectives who process rape cases to educate them about the program and its processes. Information and training about the program will also be given to community based and system based sexual assault advocates and to sexual assault nurse examiners at local hospitals. After a stranger rape occurs that meets the criteria established by a group of stakeholders, a DNA sample will be obtained. The sample will be sent to a private laboratory operated by Orchid Cellmark for processing. The sample will be tested and the results returned within 30 days. The DNA analysis will be submitted to the Washington State Patrol Crime Laboratory for quality assurance testing. The Crime Lab will submit the results to state and federal DNA databases. Any resulting matches will be reported to the originating law enforcement agency. Case outcome data will be collected and analyzed in order to determine the effect of this quick turn-around DNA analysis policy.

**2008-WG-BX-0002: Police Department’s Use of Lethality Assessments: An Experimental Evaluation**  
**Amount:** \$581,232  
**PI:** Jill Messing  
**Monitor:** Bethany Backes  
**Status:** Ongoing

This research proposes to implement and evaluate the use of a Lethality Assessment protocol and intervention with 6 police departments in Oklahoma, a State where a substantial proportion of IPV victims are Native American. The intervention consists of 2 components: a brief Lethality Assessment, conducted by police at the scene of an IPV incident, designed to determine whether the victim is at high risk for homicide and, if so, immediate coordination with local social service providers. A nonequivalent groups quasi-experimental design is proposed to examine the effectiveness of a Lethality Assessment Intervention (LAI) at decreasing violence and increasing help seeking behaviors for victims of IPV. This research has four aims. The Evaluation Aim will examine the effectiveness of the Lethality Assessment Intervention (LAI) at decreasing the rates of repeat, lethal, and near lethal violence, and increasing the rates of help seeking behaviors among victims of IPV. The Validation Aim will assess the predictive and concurrent validity of the Lethality Assessment (LA), which is a shortened version of the Danger Assessment (DA). The Implementation Fidelity Aim will assess the fidelity of the implementation of the Lethality Assessment protocol with the appropriate high risk victims. Finally, the Satisfaction Aim will assess victim satisfaction with the police response and the Lethality Assessment Intervention. This research will introduce nationally a combined criminal justice and social service intervention that can be implemented in most jurisdictions throughout the US affecting both policy and practice responses to the problem of IPV.

**Protection Orders**

**1993-IJ-CX-0035: Effectiveness of Civil Protection Orders in Deterring Domestic Violence**  
**Amount:** \$204,462  
**PI:** Susan Keilitz  
**Monitor:** Bernard Auchter  
**Status:** Completed

The National Center for State Courts will conduct a two-year multi-court study of the effectiveness of civil protection orders in preventing domestic violence and assisting the victims of domestic violence in three courts; Denver County Court, the Family Court of Wilmington, Delaware, and Washington, D.C. The study builds on the pioneering studies of civil protection orders by examining and documenting how protection orders are processed, what types of relief are encompassed by the orders, what ancillary services are available to the victims, the extent of coordination of those services by the court, and how orders are monitored and enforced. Empirical data gathered from 300 case records and interviews with 300 petitioners for protection orders to evaluate whether the particular terms of the orders are more effective than others in preventing further violence, whether particular services provided to the petitioners are associated with greater effectiveness of the orders, and whether particular monitoring and enforcement practices lead to greater success in preventing further violence. Staff also will conduct observations of hearings for protection orders and on-site interviews with judges; court, prosecution and law enforcement personnel; victim advocates; attorneys; representatives of social and mental health services; and others involved in the civil protection order process.



**Product: NCJ# 164866/172223**

**Civil Protection Orders: The Benefits and Limitations for Victims of Domestic Violence (1996) – S. Keilitz, P. Hannaford, H. Efke**

This study involved interviews with women who filed protection orders. Through the interviews, researchers concluded that victims' views on the effectiveness of protection orders vary with the courts' accessibility and how well established the links are between public and private services and support resources for victims. In addition, violations of the protection order increase and reported effectiveness decreases as the criminal record of the abuser becomes more serious. In the majority of cases, victims felt that civil protection orders protected them against repeated incidents of physical and psychological abuse and were valuable in helping them regain a sense of well-being. A protection order alone was not as likely to be effective against abusers with a history of violent offenses. The researchers noted that criminal prosecution of these individuals may be required to curb such behavior. The study confirmed previous research showing a strong correlation between the severity and duration of abuse--the longer women experience abuse, the more intense the behavior is likely to become and the more likely women are to be severely injured by their abusers.

<b>1996-IJ-CX-0070:</b>	<b>Locally Initiated Research Partnership: Framingham, MA Police Department and Social Science Research and Evaluation, Inc.</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$98,491</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Robert Apsler</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Cynthia Mamalian</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

This project will establish a partnership between police and researchers in Framingham, Massachusetts. The Framingham Police Department's innovative use of cellular phones to assist recipients of restraining orders will be rigorously evaluated. Pairs of victims who took out restraining orders will be matched, and a cellular phone will be assigned randomly to one of the two victims. The effects of the program on victims, police officers, and offenders will be assessed. It is predicted that the distribution of cellular phones will result in: 1) more arrests of offenders; 2) fewer violations of restraining orders; 3) reduced anxiety for victims; 4) faster resolution of calls; 5) reduced officer stress; and 6) greater job satisfaction experienced by officers. At a minimum the partnership will produce three technical and three non-technical reports by the end of the grant period. All reports will include: 1) the issues on which the report focuses; 2) a literature review; 3) a description of the methods used; 4) results; and 5) conclusions and recommendations. If warranted, each pair of reports will be followed by an article prepared for a professional journal.

**Product: NCJ# 187103**

**Locally Initiated Research Partnership: The Framingham, Massachusetts Police Department and Social Science Research and Evaluation, Inc. (2000) – R. Apsler, S. Carl, M. Cummins**

This research on DV included an experimental evaluation of the use of cellular telephones to enforce restraining orders and a study of differences among female victims of DV who come to the attention of the police. Additional research focused on perceptions of the police by victims of DV served by this suburban police agency and the role of social supports for victims of DV. Results revealed that few women fit the stereotypic profile of a severely abused woman desperate to escape her abuser; instead, most victims had experienced less severe abuse. Results also indicated that most victims called for police help themselves, that victims' had positive ratings of the helpfulness of the police, that the presence of helpful social supports was associated with several positive factors, and that social supports were not enough to resolve victims' problems with DV. Other research projects developed by the partnership focused on an officer exchange program planned by the Framingham and Chelsea police agencies, the broken-windows theory applied to highway safety, reducing the impact of non-emergency 911 calls, and organizational stress in police agencies.

**Additional NCJ Citations: 197412, 202666**

<b>1999-WE-VX-K011:</b>	<b>2000-WE-VX-K001:</b>	<b>Evaluation of Grants to Encourage Arrest Policies in Domestic Violence Cases</b>
<b>Amount:</b>		<b>\$70,500</b>
<b>PI:</b>		<b>Roxanne Ryan</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>		<b>Bernard Auchter</b>
<b>Status:</b>		<b>Completed</b>

The proposed study will compare the results achieved by the Protective Order Enforcement Team (POET), with those achieved by the State’s previously established Domestic Assault Response Teams (DART). The primary goals of this evaluation are to: 1) determine the level of effectiveness of POET; 2) assess the effectiveness of DART; 3) compare the levels of effectiveness of POET and DART; 4) make recommendations as to which type of program produces better results with respect to the needs of domestic abuse victims; and 5) develop a quality-of-life subscale that can be used by agencies funded through the Violence Against Women Act. The process evaluation will employ a traditional comparative analysis format. Data from the following three treatments will be analyzed: 1) the POET project; 2) DART projects; and 3) an area of the state that has not received either treatment. The evaluation will measure effectiveness in terms of quantifiable data that typically include arrest rates, protective order violations, and filings of additional criminal charges related to the primary domestic assault. Quantifiable data generated by means of a quality-of-life survey will also be used and will be assessed from the victim’s perspective.

**Product: NCJ# 203980**

**Evaluation of Protection Order Enforcement Team (POET) Evaluation (2003) – R. Ryan, P. Petrzelka**

The Protective Order Enforcement Team (POET) used a formal risk assessment instrument to identify those high-risk cases that would require the deployment of extra resources to focus resources on cases that pose a greater risk of death for the victims. The evaluation involved structured interviews with POET members, analysis of POET progress reports, and semi-structured interviews with victims in target cases. The process evaluation found that team members did not work well together, due to several factors, and substantial turnover in staff exacerbated the difficulties. Similarly, team members did not reach any consensus regarding the primacy of victim safety as the guiding principle of team efforts. The use of the risk assessment instrument was not effective due to the reluctance of victims to share information with the team as victims did not trust that the information would be used to help them rather than the abusers. Consequently, victims refused to complete the risk assessment form, and victim advocates refused to share with police or prosecutors the information needed to help assess risk. The operation of the POET project was compared with the operation of other DARTs and showed that a team must be well-established before assuming an additional focus, such as risk assessment. Given the finding that risk assessment cannot be done effectively by a newly formed team with low levels of trust, the report advocates development in the following arenas prior to the launching of team operations: 1) support for the program by the highest level administrators of the agency; 2) the development of communication skills and overall understanding of the dynamics of domestic violence; and 3) team familiarity with effective small group dynamics.

<b>1999-WT-VX-0014:</b>	<b>Protection of Women: Health and Justice Outcomes</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$249,870</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Fred Rivara</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Katherine Darke</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

The goal of the project is to conduct a second-year follow-up of victims of domestic violence participating in the Protection of Women (POW): Health and Justice Outcomes Study. The original study included women who obtained a protection order; women who obtained an order but did not have prior police contact, and women with police contact who did not have any sort of order. A follow-up survey will be administered only to those women who entered the original study between October 1997 and December 1998 and who completed the baseline, 3-month, and 9-month interviews in the original study (approximately 359 women). Depending on the participant’s preference, a telephone interview, a self-administered mail questionnaire, or an in-person interview will be conducted. Information will be obtained on updated general demographics, current relationship with named abuser and contact with abuser since initial survey, and perception of safety and physical and mental health and well-being, updated legal information, and updated use of community resources. Follow-up data will also be collected to determine outcomes of subsequent episodes of domestic violence reported to police, violation of court orders, additional contact with courts, new injuries requiring emergency or hospital care, and deaths of study subjects.

**Product: NCJ# 196566**

**Civil Protection Orders and Risk of Subsequent Police-Reported Violence (2002) – V. Holt, M. Kernic, T. Lumley, M. Wolf, F. Rivara**

The purpose of this study was to assess associations between obtaining a protection order and risk of subsequent police-reported intimate partner violence. This was a retrospective cohort study of 2691 adult female residents of

Seattle, Washington with an incident of male intimate partner violence reported to the Seattle Police Department between August 1, 1998 and December 31, 1999 who had not obtained a permanent protection order in the prior 12 months. Using police reports, the study categorized subsequent IPV incidents as those including physical abuse (assault, reckless endangerment, or unlawful imprisonment) and those including psychological abuse (harassment, menacing stalking, threats, disturbance, criminal trespass, custodial interference, interfering with IPV reporting, or property damage). Overall rates of police-reported physical and psychological abuse in the 12 month follow-up were 13.5% and 12.3%, respectively. After controlling for cohabitation at the time of the index incident and index incident offense type, women with temporary protection orders in effect were more likely than women without protection orders to be psychologically abused, and women with permanent protection orders were less likely than those without orders to be physically abused. The study concluded that permanent, not temporary, protection orders are associated with a significant decrease in risk of police-reported violence against women by their male intimate partners.

**Additional NCJ Citations: 199722, 200762**

<b>2000-WT-VX-0020:</b>	<b>Increasing Victim Safety and System Accountability</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$212,384</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Judith McFarlane</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Katherine Darke</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

A 2-year randomized controlled trial will implement and test the efficacy of an advocacy case management intervention for all women qualifying for a protection order against an intimate at a specialized district attorney's office. The theoretically-based intervention is designed to increase safety planning behaviors, improve physical, emotional, and social well-being, decrease frequency and severity of abuse, and increase work productivity. A consecutive sample of woman 18 years and older filing for protection orders against an intimate will be invited into the study group until a total of 150 participants is reached. The participants will then be randomly split into two groups: 75 will be assigned to a 15- minute advocacy case management intervention group, and 75 will be assigned to a routine district attorney processing group, which is the control group. Safety, health, and work productivity measures will be collected at baseline and at 3, 6, 12, and 18 months, following an initial 15-minute intervention session at the time of application for the protection order, and six 15-minute supportive telephone calls will be made over an 8- week period to the intervention group. This group will receive education on safety planning and the protection order process, crisis management, supportive care, and guided referrals.

**Product: NCJ# 201944/201945**

**Increasing Victim Safety and System Accountability: Evaluating a Collaborative Intervention between Health Care and Criminal Justice (2003) – Texas Women’s University**

The objective for this study was to find more safety-seeking behaviors, lower experienced violence, higher physical and emotional functioning, and less employment harassment among women that qualify for a protection order and receive the Advocacy-Case Management intervention as compared to women in a placebo group. Using random assignment, researchers used a two-group experimental design with an intervention, and placed women in a control group (usual District Attorney procedures) or experimental group (Advocacy Case Management Intervention), with measurement at 3, 6, 12, and 18 months. The sample consisted of all women, 18 years or older, applying and qualifying for a protection order against a sexual intimate. The results show that adoption of safety behaviors significantly increased over time for women in the intervention group. The effect of the intervention was large at 3 months, substantial at 6 months, and then stabilized and remained consistent at 12 and 18 months. The intervention group that received the advocacy case-management and assistance with their protection order processing received no more protection orders and in no shorter time than the control group that received standard processing. There were significant differences in relationship status at intake between the women that subsequently received or dropped the protection order.

**Additional Publications: McFarlane, J., Malecha, A., Gist, J., Watson, K., Batten, E., Hall, I., Smith, S. (2002). Intimate partner violence against immigrant women: Measuring the effectiveness of protection orders. *American Journal of Family Law*, 16, 244-252.**

**McFarlane, J., Malecha, A., Gist, J., Watson, K., Batten, E., Hall, I., Smith, S. (2004). Protection orders and intimate partner violence: An 18-month study of 150 Black, Hispanic, and White women. *American Journal of Public Health, 94*, 613-618.**

<b>2003-WG-BX-1004:</b>	<b>Use and Outcomes of Protection Orders by Battered Immigrant Women</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$249,993</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Mary Ann Dutton</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Nicole Gaskin-Laniyan</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

This study will investigate how battered immigrant women use civil protection orders as a means of protecting themselves and their children from intimate partner violence. Among the issues of special interest to the researchers are the barriers that immigrant women encounter in applying for and obtaining protection orders, the decision-making factors involved in seeking these orders, and the accessibility and effectiveness of these orders for immigrant women subjected to IPV. Participants will be drawn from an estimated pool of 740 battered immigrant women from Asian, Latino, Middle Eastern, and European communities who are seeking help for IPV from one of five agencies in the Metropolitan Atlanta area that offer legal advocacy services. Data will be collected primarily through face-to-face interviews with the female victims at the agency locations. The interviews will be conducted by a trained study interviewer using both quantitative and qualitative methods. At 3 and 6 months following the initial interview, the participants will be contacted for a follow-up interview at the same location as the initial interview. Hypotheses will be tested using multivariate logistic regression and analysis of variance methods.

**Product: NCJ # 218255**

**Use and Outcomes of Protection Orders by Battered Immigrant Women (2006) Dutton, M.A., Ammar, N.; Orloff, L. Terrell, D.**

Findings show that the sample of immigrant women (n=153) who sought services related to intimate partner violence (IPV) experienced a high level of violence. Most women reported being worried about their own or their children's safety. Before seeking help from the agency from which the women were recruited, 60.9 percent had no prior knowledge of protection orders. After receiving services from an advocacy agency, 68 percent of the women filed a protection order against their abusive partner. Most women who had filed for a protection order reported them to be "helpful" (22.7 percent) or "very helpful" (65.2 percent). A substantial proportion of the women (36.8 percent) indicated they believed the protection order would increase their danger. A significant proportion of participants reported experiencing symptoms of posttraumatic stress disorder, a condition associated with exposure to traumatic events of experiences. Women in the sample reported high levels of exposure to violence in addition to IPV, with an average of three prior trauma exposures. The findings suggest that protection orders are effective in reducing those acts that would constitute violations of protection orders. These include not only violent and abusive behavior but also other types of violations. The 153 women came from predominately low-income households and were 21-46 years old. They were recruited from 14 partner organizations that offer advocacy services to battered immigrant women. The immigration status of most participants was undocumented (43.85 percent). The COSMOS Study Questionnaire was used in face-to-face structured interviews. The interviews assessed specific domains of demographic information, acculturation, intimate partner violence, protection order, depression, and posttraumatic stress disorder.

<b>2004-WG-BX-0007:</b>	<b>The Impact of Proactive Enforcement of No-Contact Orders on Victim Safety and Repeat Victimization</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$446,542</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Robert Brame</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Bernie Auchter</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

This research will examine the impact of intensive enforcement of court imposed no-contact orders (NCOs) on offender and victim behavior. Eight hundred cases of misdemeanor criminal domestic violence in which NCOs are imposed as a bond condition will be randomly assigned to either routine enforcement or to intensive enforcement, which will include proactive contacts and surveillance by officers while the orders are in place. Interviews will be conducted six weeks and six months following imposition of the NCO with 300 victims sampled at random from the 800 cases. The interviews will obtain information on compliance with the NCO, new victimization, police and

justice systems responses to reports of victimization, and feelings of safety and well-being. These and official records data will be used to develop models that examine both the prevalence and frequency of outcomes. This research will determine whether intensive enforcement reduces NCO violations and re-offending, and increases victim safety and well-being. This is a 33 month study. The first 6 months will involve planning and pre-testing the instrument. Victim interviews will occur during the first two years of the project.

<b>2005-WG-BX-0008:</b>	<b>A Rural and Urban Multiple Perspective Study of Protective Order Violation Consequences, Responses, and Costs</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$650,033</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>TK Logan</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Bernard Auchter</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

This study addresses two critical gaps in the research literature on civil protective orders by identifying the factors associated with effectiveness of protective order enforcement, and by assessing justice system costs associated with partner violence, protective orders, and differential responses to protective order violations. This study will triangulate the sources of information (using victim self-reports, key informant interviews, and court data on offenders) in order to address the major questions for this study. Specifically, this study aims to: 1) follow 105 rural and 105 urban women at baseline, 3-months and 6-months after receiving a protective order to examine partner violence 6-months prior to obtaining a protective order as well as violations, consequences of violations, the justice system responses, and outcomes of justice system responses 6-months after obtaining a protective order; 2) describe the civil and criminal system histories and responses to protective order violations using official records on protective order respondents in the cases corresponding to the rural (n=105) and urban (n=105) women who participate in the study; 3) examine key informant (n=140) perceptions of decision factors associated with responses to protective order violations from four main perspectives: individual victim, police, prosecution, and judges, using bounded rational theory to guide interviews; 4) identify the primary case, incident, and community characteristics influencing civil and criminal justice system responses to protective order violations in two rural and one urban jurisdiction; and 5) examine personal and social costs of ongoing partner violence, including justice system costs, 6-months before and 6-months after a protective order is obtained for 210 rural and urban women to better understand the full spectrum of costs associated with partner violence as well as costs associated with differential justice system responses to protective order violations.

## Policy and Legislation

<b>1995-IJ-CX-0009:</b>	<b>Public Access to Information Concerning the Whereabouts of Abuse Victims</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$50,000</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Gwen Holden</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Bernard Auchter</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

The National Criminal Justice Association (NCJA) conducted a study of the means by which abusive spouses may obtain information concerning the addresses or locations of their former or estranged spouses. The purpose of the NCJA study was to formulate recommendations on potentially effective and enforceable regulation of access to domestic violence victims' address information. Section 40508 of the Violence Against Women Act instructs the Attorney General to conduct a study on the means by which address information on victims of domestic violence may be retrieved, and to submit to the Congress a report on the findings of the study, which would include an analysis of the practicability of regulating access to such information.

**Product: NCJ# 164064**

**Confidentiality of Domestic Violence Victims' Addresses (1995) – National Criminal Justice Association**

The report reveals that information on the location of victims of violence is readily available through a variety of legitimate means. Postal service, voter registration records, motor vehicle records, school records, credit bureaus, computerized databases, and caller ID are all sources of critical information that might, in the wrong hands, lead to further abuse and criminal actions. This report highlights the importance of balancing the confidentiality of personal information of victims against the importance of providing public access to address information for legitimate purposes and in compliance with constitutional constraints. It recommends education as the primary tool to

accommodate that balance. Employees who handle personal information need a greater understanding of privacy rights. Victims of violence must be made aware both of the technology that compromises their security and the services and options that may help guard confidential information about themselves. The report also recommends that States re-evaluate their privacy and confidentiality statutes to determine their effectiveness. Public agencies should adopt or improve internal protocols that govern the dissemination of personal information. Private companies should examine their procedures associated with the confidentiality and possible disclosure of information that may place victims and their families at risk.

<b>1997-WT-VX-0007:</b>	<b>Study of the Effectiveness of State Anti-Stalking Efforts and Legislation</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$200,779</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Tom McEwen</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Bernard Auchter</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

This project is designed to provide both a national assessment of the status of state anti-stalking laws and a more focused assessment of how those laws are being implemented in two sites. It will provide information on the status of state anti-stalking efforts and legislation; and it will provide policymakers and practitioners with detailed examples of successful anti-stalking programs. The study objectives are to: 1) assess the status of implementation efforts for state anti-stalking legislation; 2) collate available case statistics information; 3) report subjective opinions of legislative strengths and weaknesses; 4) identify problems and strengths of agency practices and procedures developed in response to anti-stalking laws; 5) identify model implementation efforts; 6) better define the scope of the need for anti-stalking laws and their content; and 7) identify ways in which the effectiveness of anti-stalking efforts and laws can be strengthened. The national assessment will entail the collection of all available published materials on state anti-stalking laws; surveys of state and local agencies; and synthesis and analysis of data collected. A follow-up telephone survey of selected agencies will focus on special law implementation initiatives. State stalking offense statistics will be collated, reviewed, and integrated to determine estimates of the incidence of reported stalking offenses.

**Product: NCJ# 197066**

**Stalking Laws and Implementation Practices: A National Review for Policy Makers and Practitioners (2001) – N. Miller**

This study analyzed stalking and related legislation in the 50 States, reviewed leading court decisions interpreting those laws, and conducted a survey of police and prosecutor agencies across the country to determine how the laws were being implemented. Field reviews were done in jurisdictions with innovative, special anti-stalking efforts, and study findings were integrated with the existing research literature on stalkers and their behavior. Study results found that misperceptions of what constitutes stalking are widespread. Public awareness that stalking is a crime is lacking, and many criminal justice personnel also lack an understanding of their States’ anti-stalking laws. The likely number of stalking cases is over two million felony cases and four million misdemeanor cases annually -- far greater than previously estimated. Although every State recognizes that stalking is a crime distinct from other offenses, many State laws lack adequate penalties. Shortcomings include the lack of warrantless arrest for misdemeanor stalking in most States, and the absence of required training on stalking for law enforcement and prosecution. Stalking laws have been the focus of considerable litigation. Current special anti-stalking programs demonstrate the usefulness of developing staff expertise with stalking cases and provide models for other jurisdictions.

<b>1998-IJ-CX-0015:</b>	<b>Impact Assessment of Sex Offenders Notification in Wisconsin Communities</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$49,972</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Richard Zevitz</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Voncile Gowdy</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

Using Wisconsin as a case study, the proposed work examines the effects that various approaches used by local criminal justice officials to notify a community that a sex offender is living in their neighborhood has on the community and its member. Specifically, the proposed work seeks to assess Wisconsin's recently enacted Sex Offender Registration and Community Notification law. Data will be gathered through several methods: 1) field research and statewide surveys of law enforcement officers, parole/probation agents, and community residents

where sex offenders are or will be located; 2) observations of communication notifications meetings; and 3) in-depth interviews with sex offenders under supervision in the community. This small grant will require 12 months to complete. Project findings will be of value to policy makers, Federal, state, and local correctional administrators seeking techniques and model correctional interventions for tracking sex offenders and assessing its impact on the criminal justice system and the local community.

**Product: NCJ# 179992**

**Sex Offender Community Notification: Assessing the Impact in Wisconsin (2000) – R. Zewitz, M. Farkas**

Information came from surveys of 704 neighborhood residents at 22 community notification meetings, observations of these meetings, and a statewide survey of police and sheriffs’ agencies, field observations and a statewide survey of probation and parole agents, and personal interviews of 30 convicted sex offenders who were the topics of community notification, news media reports, or both. Results indicated that the public needs additional information about the purpose of notification meetings and the limits of notification laws. The percentage of attendees who left meetings feeling more concerned about the sex offender was nearly equal to the percentage who felt less concerned. Law enforcement agencies experienced few problems carrying out tasks prescribed by the notification law, but the cost of labor resources necessary for notification was an issue. Notification laws increased the workload of probation and parole officers who monitor sex offenders, especially for high-profile Special Bulletin Notification cases. All but one of the sex offenders interviewed stated that the community notification process adversely affected their transition from prison to the outside world. Housing resources for sex offenders released to notification areas were scarce. The analysis concluded that although the law’s primary goal of community protection is being served, law enforcement and corrections agencies bear a high cost in terms of personnel, time, and budgetary resources.

**Additional NCJ Citations: 181480**

<b>2004-IJ-CX-0025:</b>	<b>Preventing Firearm Violence among Victims of Intimate Partner Violence: An Evaluation of a New North Carolina Law</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$114,784</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Kathryn Moracco</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Carrie Mulford</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

The proposed study will assess the effects of North Carolina State law S.L. 2003 410 (S919), enacted in December 2003. The new law prohibits people subject to a domestic violence protective order (DVPO) from owning or possessing firearms or ammunition. The study will evaluate the extent to which the law is implemented, the impact of the law on gun-related conditions in the DVPOs, and victims' subsequent experiences with firearms violence. The project will describe the implementation and assess the impact of S.L. 2003 410. The project objectives are to: 1) describe the scope and nature of gun possession by male defendants in DVPO cases; 2) describe female plaintiffs' experiences of gun-related violence; 3) assess changes in judges' inquiries about gun possession and gun-related prohibitions in DVPO; and 4) assess changes in the surrender and confiscation of guns among defendants in DVPO cases. Objectives 2, 3, and 4 will be assessed before and after enactment of the law.

**Product: NCJ#215773**

**Preventing Firearms Violence Among Victims of Intimate Partner Violence: An Evaluation of a New North Carolina Law (2006) - K. Moracco, K. A. Clark, C. Espersen, J. M. Bowling**

Over one-third of the defendants in DVPO filings had access to firearms at the time of the filing, and over 25 percent of them had used firearms against the plaintiffs within 12 months of the filing. Less than half of the DVPO plaintiffs in the study reported being asked by the judge about defendants' access to firearms as part of the ex parte hearing; this proportion did not change after the enactment of the Homicide Prevention Act, even though it requires that "the court shall inquire of the plaintiff, at the ex parte or emergency hearing, the presence of, ownership of, or otherwise access to firearms by the defendant...;" however, after the legislation, judges were significantly more likely to check firearm-related conditions on the ex parte orders. The proportion of respondents who indicated that their partners kept their guns after the issuance of the DVPO did not change after the legislation. Study data were obtained from DVPO case files in the study county and a subset of eligible cases that contained longitudinal interview data collected as part of the Court Ordered Protection Evaluation (COPE) study. Data were also obtained from criminal record checks of all the defendants named in the ex parte DVPOs filed. The study obtained COPE interview and DVPO case file information for 221 eligible women who filed for DVPOs in a county adjacent to the county that was the focus of the study.

<b>2006-IJ-CX-0018:</b>	<b>Megan’s Law: An Empirical Analysis</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$38,252</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Kristen Zgoba</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Karen Bachar</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

This research study seeks to be the first of its kind to assess the empirical efficacy of New Jersey’s Megan’s Law (in its home state). Megan’s Law was enacted in New Jersey in 1994 after the death and sexual molestation of Megan Kanka in Hamilton, New Jersey. President Bill Clinton signed the federal version of Megan’s Law in 1996, giving states two years to implement the law, or risk losing federal funding. Today all fifty states have a version of Megan’s Law. Despite widespread community and legislative support, there is no empirical evidence that such community notification and registration laws reduce the frequency of sex offenses. Additionally, what is not known is the true cost of implementing Megan’s Law and the sex offender registry websites within the criminal justice system. As such, this study will approach the problem with a triangulated methodology. The main study goals are 1) to establish the prevalence of sexual offenses in New Jersey for the five years prior to the implementation of Megan’s law and the five years after the inception of Megan’s Law, 2) to compare a matched sample of sex offenders who left New Jersey State Prisons (NJSP) prior to Megan’s law and were therefore not subject to the law to offenders who were released after the implementation of Megan’s law and subject to its provisions, 3) Determine direct costs of program operation since the implementation of Megan’s Law. Additional activities include report/manuscript writing, code book development and dissemination.

<b>2006-WG-BX-0002:</b>	<b>Evaluating the Effectiveness of Sex Offender Registration and Notification Policies for Reducing Sexual Violence Against Women</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$484,106</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Elizabeth Letourneau</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Karen Bachar</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

The purpose of this study is to examine the effectiveness of sex offender registration and community notification policies in reducing sexual violence against women and girls. Because registration and notification policies were federally mandated and have been implemented across the country, they represent the most comprehensive attempts at the prevention and reduction of serious sexual violence. To date, the effects of broad registration and notification policies (e.g., policies that do not distinguish between different offender risk levels and that apply for life) have been almost entirely exempt from empirical review. The present study will evaluate broad sex offender registration and notification policies as applied in South Carolina to determine whether these policies have deterred new sexual offenses (Aim 1) or reduced sexual recidivism (Aim 2). This study will represent the first empirical examination of broad registration and notification policies, such as were implemented by approximately half of all U.S. states.

## Victim Services

<b>1994-IJ-CX-0050:</b>	<b>Corporate Sector Response to Domestic Violence</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$47,039</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Nancy Isaac</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Bernard Auchter</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

The purpose of this study is to explore the responsiveness of the corporate sector to domestic violence through a survey of individuals working in employee assistance programs (EAPs), interviews with EAP and other corporate professionals, and an in-depth case study. EAPs are the focal point for corporate response to the personal and work related problems of employees. They are also frequently involved in preventive health programs for employees such as stress management workshops and are therefore a logical target for a survey intended to describe the current



corporate responsiveness to the issue of domestic violence as it affects the workforce. Depth and context will be added to the survey's development and findings through in-person interviews with approximately 60 corporate professionals from EAPs and other corporate departments.

**Product: NCJ# 166616/166617**

**Corporate Sector Response to Domestic Violence (1997) – N. Isaac**

The study used three broad strategies to examine this issue. This report presents highlights of findings from each of the study components. The survey of Employee Assistance Programs (EAP's) found that a large majority have dealt with specific partner abuse scenarios in the past year, including an employee with a restraining order, 83%, or an employee being stalked at work by a current or former partner, 71%. Although policies or guidelines on workplace violence apparently have increased, similar documents that address domestic violence and the workplace are rare. There is an increasing awareness that domestic violence is a problem employees may bring to the EAP. Suggested action steps of companies are to acknowledge the problem; provide educational outreach to employees; provide supervisors and managers with information on the warning signs of abuse and how to handle suspected cases; review current personnel policies and guidelines to determine how they can be applied to assist employees for whom abuse is an issue; and consider developing an ongoing alliance with a shelter or other domestic violence program.

<b>1995-WT-NX-0002:</b>	<b>An Exploration of the Experiences and Needs of Former Intimate Stalking Victims</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$74,625</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Mary Brewster</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Angela Moore Parmley</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

This research study will explore the experiences of “ordinary” (non-celebrity) former intimate stalking victims. Specifically, the research will identify the evolution and patterns of stalking behavior; the psychological, financial, physical, and behavioral effects of stalking on its victims; the effectiveness (or ineffectiveness) of legal mechanisms for protecting victims; the various needs of stalking victims; the factors related to subsequent violence in stalking cases; and other issues related to stalking and its victims. Interviews will be conducted with 200 female victims of stalking in southeastern Pennsylvania. The content of the interviews will be analyzed to identify patterns in the victims’ experiences. In addition, comparisons of the experiences of victims from different social classes will be made.

**Product: NCJ# 175475**

**Exploration of the Experiences and Needs of Former Intimate Stalking Victims (1998) – M. Brewster**

This study was based on interviews with 187 women in southeastern Pennsylvania who had been stalking victims of former intimates during the previous five years. The final sample resulted in women aged, 18 to 74. The victims provided data on the nature of the stalking, the relationship between victim and stalker, victims' responses to the stalking, consequences of the stalking for the victims, the victims' needs and fulfillment of those needs in terms of victim services and the criminal justice system. The stalkers, on average, tended to be younger than the victims and the victim-stalker relationship varied between marriage, living together, and dating. The length of stalking ranged between 1 and 456 months, with a median of 12 months. The stalking proved to be a serious offense with great impact on victims' lives. The study found that victims suffered as a result of leaving their partners and then as a consequence of the relatively scarce or ineffective assistance in discouraging the stalker and meeting the victim’s needs. Stalkers used a wide variety of tactics, and many of them reportedly had drug or alcohol problems. This report includes ten policy recommendations for law enforcement agencies, courts, legislatures, and victims services agencies, as well as, eight recommendations for future research.

**Additional NCJ Citations: 188347, 192489, 195837, 201979, 202564**

<b>1997-IJ-CX-0007:</b>	<b>Domestic Violence Shelter Population in San Diego</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$39,732</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Susan Pennell</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Angela Moore Parmley</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

The proposed study will develop a central repository to compile comprehensive profiles of domestic violence shelter clients in San Diego County. In order to adequately describe shelter clients, a standardized intake form called the

C.O.R.E. (Compilation of Research and Evaluation) form will be developed by SANDAG. The C.O.R.E. form will be administered by shelter staff to all domestic violence shelter clients admitted over a 12-month period to the seven shelters in San Diego County. Data from the central repository will be analyzed to determine the number and characteristics of domestic violence shelter clients, including whether the incident was reported to the police, types of services needed, gaps in services provided, as well as assist in the development of recommendations for improving delivery of services to meet the client's needs.

**Product: NCJ# 191838**

**Violence Against Women in San Diego (2000) – S. Pennell, C. Burke, D. Mulmat**

Nearly 4,000 reports of DV to San Diego County law enforcement in 1996 were examined using a standardized interview instrument method and interviews with shelter staff. The goal of was to compile and analyze data about incidents of DV in order to enhance understanding of the nature and scope of violence against women. One out of four of the 599 clients was Hispanic and 33% were Caucasian, and 19% were African American. More than one-half had come to the shelter from some place other than their own residence, and nearly one-quarter had been to some shelter prior to the most recent incident, suggesting that abuse had been occurring prior to the incident that led them to the shelter. Nearly three-quarters of the clients came to the shelter with their children. Regarding types of abuse, 97% had experienced verbal abuse, 95% physical abuse, 93% mental or emotional abuse, and 50% sexual abuse. There was an association between abuse and the abuser having been abused in childhood. A substantial proportion of shelter clients have experienced legal involvement; specifically, having the police come to their households due to abuse.

**Additional NCJ Citations: 202564**

<b>1998-WT-VX-0013:</b>	<b>Using a Longitudinal Data Set to Further Our Understanding of the Trajectory of Intimate Violence Over Time</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$99,117</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Cris Sullivan</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Shelly Jackson</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

The proposed project will analyze the results of a 10-week intervention program for women leaving a domestic violence shelter. The proposed secondary data analyses will answer the following six research questions: 1) do the promising intervention effects continue to the 36 month time point; 2) what are the mediation processes by which the advocacy intervention affected reduction in victimization; 3) what other antecedents account for the differences in victimization of women in some types of situations than for others; 5) were some interventions more effective than others, and if so, what were the components of a “successful” intervention; and 6) what factors explain differences in repeated victimization over time. Analytical strategies will include doubly-multivariate measures of covariance, repeated measures of MANCOVA's individual variables, calculation of multivariate confidence intervals, and hierarchical linear modeling.

**Product: NCJ# 185728**

**Using a Longitudinal Dataset to Further Our Understanding of the Trajectory of Intimate Violence Over Time (2000) – C. Sullivan, D. Bybee**

Data collected during 1989-96 from 278 women who had been residents of a shelter for battered women formed the basis of this analysis of several aspects of domestic assault, with emphasis on the impacts of access to victim services on further abuse and on the duration of positive outcomes. The study focused on the factors that explained victimization over time and differences in victimization by former partners over time. The data came from interviews conducted immediately upon the women’s exit from the shelter; at 10 weeks later; 6, 12, 18, 24, and 36 months after. The 10-week post-shelter intervention involved randomly assigning trained advocates to work one-on-one with women, helping generate and mobilize community resources they needed to reduce their risk of repeated victimization. Results supported the hypothesis that increased social support and access to community resources improved the quality of life of women with abusive partners and protected them from further victimization over time. Furthermore, women who received the free services of a community-based, strengths-based intervention were more likely than others to report increased social support and less difficulty obtaining access to community resources; these factors led to higher quality of life and reduced risk of future victimization over time.

**Additional NCJ Citations: 185938, 199727, 202564**

**Additional Publications:** Bybee, D.I., & Sullivan, C.M. (2002). The process through which an advocacy intervention resulted in positive change for battered women over time. *American Journal of Community Psychology, 30*, 103-132.

Sullivan, C.M. (2003). Using the ESID model to reduce intimate male violence against women. *American Journal of Community Psychology, 32*, 295-303.

<b>1999-WT-VX-0004:</b>	<b>Treatment of Incarcerated Women with Substance Abuse and Post Traumatic Stress Disorder</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$75,251</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Caron Zlotnick</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Katherine Darke</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

The goals of this research are to evaluate the efficacy, feasibility, and acceptance of a treatment known as Seeking Safety (SS) among a sample of incarcerated women with co-morbid post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and substance abuse disorder (SUD). Study participants will be drawn from the substance abuse treatment program in the minimum security arm of a women's prison facility. The study will have two phases. Phase I will consist of an open feasibility trial of the treatment with six women with PTSD and SUD. Measures of feasibility will include attrition from treatment, attrition at various follow-up intervals, and reasons for attrition. Based on the results and feedback from various sources, the researchers will then refine and modify the treatment manual. In Phase II, 24 women who attend a substance abuse treatment program in prison and who report substance abuse prior to incarceration as well as current PTSD will be randomly assigned to either Seeking Safety group therapy or standard treatment in the prison. Measures of efficacy will include a number of substance abuse days, degree of PTSD symptoms, and severity of legal problems. The study will assess these outcomes prior to treatment, following treatment, six weeks after release from prison, and three months after release.

**Product:** NCJ# 195165/195166

**Treatment of Incarcerated Women with Substance Abuse and Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (2002) – C. Zlotnick**

The study conducted an open feasibility trial of SS treatment in a sample of six incarcerated women with SUD and PTSD and performed a randomized controlled pilot study to evaluate the initial efficacy, feasibility, and acceptability of the proposed treatment as an adjunct to treatment as usual (TAU). The researchers compared this experimental group to a TAU control group in a sample of 22 incarcerated women with co-morbid PTSD and SUD. Patient satisfaction with treatment and therapists' assessments were also determined. In the open trial of women who received SS treatment as an adjunct to TAU, there were significant improvements in PTSD symptoms from pretreatment to post-treatment, and this was maintained through 3 months after release. At 6 weeks post-release, there were significant decreases in severity of substance use and degree of legal problems. Only 35 percent of the women had used an illegal substance within 3 months after release. The study found no differences between the group that received SS treatment as an adjunct to TAU and the TAU group on any of the indexes of interest. One explanation is that the small sample size in the control group made it difficult to detect differences between the treatment and the control groups. An expansion of SS treatment to the post-release period may substantially improve the long-term impact of the prison-based treatment.

**Additional NCJ Citations:** 208703

<b>2002-WG-BX-0003:</b>	<b>Sexual Assault Among Intimates: Frequency, Consequences, and Treatments</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$254,322</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Judith McFarlane</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Catherine McNamee</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

The project will: 1) describe the frequency and consequences of sexual assault within intimate relationships specific to ethnicity and immigrant status to compare these findings to a similar group of women who have not experience intimate partner sexual assault and 2) recommend treatments for intimate partner sexual assault. Objectives include a description of the type and extent of intimate partner sexual assault, the proximal and distal consequences of sexual assault on women, children, and family functioning; individual woman and family risk and protective factors for

sexual assault; the temporal sequencing of sexual assault within the context of a intimate partner violence; and treatments used by women of intimate partner sexual assault. A mixed-model analysis plan will test for significant between-group differences for women reporting sexual abuse compared to women not reporting sexual abuse, as well as within-group differences of racial/ethnic identification and immigrant status. These results will describe the extent and consequences of intimate partner sexual abuse among an urban population that comes to the District Attorney for assistance. This information can be used to design training programs for providers of justice services, as well as assistance and prevention programs for sexually abused women.

**Product: NCJ# 211678**

**Sexual Assault Among Intimates: Frequency, Consequences, & Treatments (2005) – J. McFarlane & A. Malecha**

Intimate partner sexual assault is common, outnumbering both stranger and acquaintance sexual assault with 14-25% of women reporting sexual assault by their intimate partners at some time during their relationship. Although much information exists on the health and emotional effects of intimate partner physical abuse, little to no information is available on intimate partner sexual assault. In order to describe the frequency and consequences of sexual assault within relationships, the present study used a longitudinal cohort design by sampling sexually assaulted and not-sexually assaulted women derived from a prior NIJ study on protection orders. Among the 150 women participating in the protection order study, 148 were living two years later and structured interviews and scored instruments were administered to the 148 women to gather: a) a description of the type and frequency of sexual assault; b) consequences of sexual assault on women’s health and their children’s functioning; and c) treatments used by women to end sexual assault. The study found the following: 1) 68% of physically abused women also reported sexual assault; 2) 79% of sexually assaulted women reported repeated episodes of forced sex, with the frequency of sexual assault highest among white women; 3) justice contact, either with the police or through a protection order, was associated with up to a 70% reduction in the risk of re-assault; 4) not contacting the police after the first sexual assault doubled a woman’s risk of re-assault and not applying for a protection order tripled her re-assault risk; and 5) 88% of the children were exposed to the violence against their mothers, with 64% of the children witnessing the abuse by age 3—only 30% of the children received counseling. Following the results, the author’s recommendation that justice, health, and social service professionals assisting abused women should routinely receive training about the frequency, health and safety consequences of intimate partner sexual assault as well as routinely assess for the type and frequency of sexual assault

<b>2002-WG-BX-0006:</b>	<b>An Evidence-Based Review of Rape and Sexual Assault Preventive Intervention Programs</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$230,358</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Shannon Morrison</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Nicole Gaskin-Laniyan</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

The purpose of this study is to communicate what is known and to make recommendations on promising, efficacious and effective rape and sexual preventive interventions by conducting a systematic, evidence-based review of current results of evaluated sexual assault prevention programs. Little known about the effectiveness of rape and sexual assault preventive interventions and their deterrence of future sexual violence as evaluating preventive intervention programs has continually proved to be a challenge and results are often weak and contradictory in nature. To bring forth more systematic and well-informed studies, it is essential for researchers to know which sexual assault preventive intervention programs have been evaluated and the results of these evaluations. This requires conducting a rigorous, systematic review of the effectiveness and applicability of evaluated and unevaluated preventive intervention programs; and, developing a comprehensive compendium of effective sexual assault preventive interventions programs. Therefore, the objectives of this study are to conduct a systematic, evidence-based review of current results of evaluated sexual assault preventive intervention programs and provide several documents for dissemination to a broad audience that includes stakeholders at the national, state, and local levels.

**Product: NCJ# 207262**

**An Evidence-Based Review of Rape and Sexual Assault Preventive Intervention Programs (2004) – S. Morrison, J. Hardison, A. Mathew, J. O’Neil**

The project sought to bring forth a more systematic and well-informed study of sexual violence by evaluating the effectiveness of sexual assault preventive interventions (SAPIs) in deterring future sexual violence. Researchers

conducted an evidence based review of SAPIs, documented what is known about SAPI evaluation research, identified significant gaps, and provided recommendations for future sexual assault prevention practice and research. The systematic, comprehensive literature review of English-language articles evaluating SAPIs generated study-specific descriptions as well as summary information on a variety of study characteristics. Researchers followed rigorous methodology developed by three organizations recognized internationally for facilitating evidence-based reviews. A total of 59 studies were reviewed for this report, including 9 studies that reported evaluation results of SAPIs focusing on individuals with disabilities. The data provided summary descriptions of the SAPI studies highlight the methodological diversity across the studies, which precluded a rigorous meta-analysis of the finding. Although, the results of the analytic strategy indicate that 14% of the studies reported positive intervention effects at post-test or follow-up and 80% reported mixed results. The methodological limitations evident in the field of SAPI research should be kept in mind, along with other sources of bias; however, these findings suggest that the majority of SAPIs produce some positive attitudinal and behavioral change among program participants and that very few of the programs appear to adversely affect these outcomes.

<b>2002-WG-BX-0008:</b>	<b>Reducing Repeat Sexual Assault Victimization: Design and Testing of a Risk Reduction Program in an Urban Sample</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$299,990</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Rob Davis</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Catherine McNamee</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

The Vera Institute of Justice in partnership with Safe Horizon and the Center for Sexual Assault and Traumatic Stress at the University of Washington's Harborview Medical Center are developing an intervention to help sexual assault survivors reduce the risk of further assault. In the exploratory phase, in-depth interviews will be conducted with survivors of multiple sexual assaults in New York and Seattle, in order to identify factors surrounding revictimization in an urban community sample. The intervention uses a harm reduction/psycho-educational approach, intended not to heal the psychological wounds, which many require an extensive course of therapy, but to keep the survivor safe while recovering from the assaults. In the second phase, the intervention will be field-tested on another sample of survivors of multiple sexual assaults currently receiving counseling services. Follow-up measures will be collected on the field test sample and on a control group of survivors of multiple assaults who have not received the intervention. Follow-up measures will assess the program's short-term impact on: 1) risky behaviors; 2) cognitions about control and self-blame; and 3) revictimization. The goal is to develop an approach that will assist rape counselors in helping vulnerable survivors reduce the risk of re-assault while in counseling and afterwards.

**Product: NCJ# 216002**

**Reducing Sexual Revictimization: A Field Test with an Urban Sample (2006) – R. Davis, P. Guthrie, T. Ross, C. O'Sullivan**

Results indicated that in comparison to a matched control group that did not receive the workshop intervention, the workshop intervention was not effective in reducing sexual revictimization among participants over a 6-month follow-up period. Specifically, the workshop did not raise awareness of risky situations or reduce self-blame for prior victimization. On the other hand, women in the intervention group did improve on measures of post-traumatic stress from the baseline to the 6-month follow-up assessment as well as on the measure of confidence in their ability to handle potentially dangerous situations. Participants were 84 previously sexually victimized women who were randomly assigned to participate in the intervention workshop or to a control condition with no intervention training. Both groups completed a series of questionnaires both prior to the workshop and again 6 months after the workshop. Questionnaires focused on knowledge of sexual assault risk factors, confidence in handling risky situations, attributes for past victimizations, post-traumatic stress disorder symptoms, behavior in dating situations, and sexual victimization. Data were analyzed using analysis of variance (ANOVA) tests. The discussion considers reasons why the intervention workshop showed no effect on revictimization risk, including measurement problems, a small sample, and a lengthy follow-up period. The findings suggest many avenues for future research, such as exploring adult learning principles more thoroughly and developing better measures of sexual assault attitudes.

<b>2005-WT-BX-0002:</b>	<b>An Evaluation of Sexual Violence/Harassment Prevention Program in Middle Schools</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$425,210</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Bruce Taylor &amp; Nan Stein</b>

**Monitor:** Carrie Mulford  
**Status:** Completed

Sexual violence and harassment (SV/H) can lead to serious injuries for victims, and particularly young women. Schools that do not address SV/H among students can become training grounds for future violence and sexual assault. The goals are to enhance the capacity of programs to prevent SV/H by increasing knowledge about the efficacy of prevention programs through the most rigorous and cost-effective evaluation methods available. Guided by the ‘Theory of Reasoned Action’, the researchers will employ an experimental, longitudinal design for the proposed two-year study. This study employed random assignment of one hundred 6th and 7th grade classrooms in the Cleveland area to one of three conditions: Treatment 1: a gender socialization-based curriculum that addresses SV/H by focusing on construction of gender roles, power and control in relationships, hyper masculinity, and compulsory heterosexuality and healthy relationships; Treatment 2: a criminal justice-based curriculum for SV/H prevention focusing on deterring aggressive behavior and teaching self-control; and Control group: this group will not receive any of the elements of Treatments 1 or 2. Quantitative surveys will be administered before, immediately after, and 6 months after treatment and a small number of key informant interviews with program staff and focus groups with teachers will be conducted. The objectives are to answer: 1) whether SV/H prevention programs in middle schools reduce the probability of SV/H perpetration/victimization, have no effect, or lead to negative effects; 2) what are the effects of providing prevention programs compared to no prevention; 3) are prevention programs that incorporate a gender socialization component (Treatment 1) more effective in changing knowledge, attitudes, and behavior than programs that are fact-based (Treatment 2), or than no programming at all (control group); 4) do moderator variables affect the relationship between treatment and outcomes; and 5) how cost-effective are the two interventions.

**Product: NCJ# 221892**

**Experimental Evaluation of Gender Violence/Harassment Prevention Programs in Middle Schools**

Results show that the intervention appeared to reduce self-reported peer violence victimization and self-reported perpetration on some of the measures in these areas, though there was a conflicting finding regarding self-reported dating violence perpetration. The intervention seemed to increase self-reported dating violence perpetration for some of the measures in this area, but not self-reported dating violence victimization. Sexual harassment and gender violence, including interpersonal or dating violence, are serious problems in K-12 schools. Previous research shows that gender violence and harassment (GV/H) can lead to severe injuries for victims, poorer mental or physical health, more high-risk or deviant behavior, and increased school avoidance. Many schools that address GV/H do so by developing and implementing intervention programs. However, little is known about the effectiveness of these interventions. This report provides a detailed account of the results of an experimental evaluation, supported by the U.S. Department of Justice, National Institute of Justice that used a randomized controlled trial of a GV/H prevention program for sixth and seventh grade students in three suburban school districts bordering Cleveland, OH. Approximately 100 sixth and seventh grade classrooms were assigned randomly to either receive 1 of 2 intervention curricula or a true no-treatment control condition. Through student surveys, the study assessed whether GV/H prevention programming reduced the probability of self-reported GV/H perpetration and victimization, had no effect, or led to negative effects. The study also explored the impact of the prevention curricula on student self-reports of attitudes, knowledge, and behavioral intentions as they related to GV/H and sexual harassment.

**2006-WG-BX-0008:** Testing a model of domestic abuse against older women and barriers to help seeking  
**Amount:** \$469,590  
**PI:** Fred Newman  
**Monitor:** Carrie Mulford  
**Status:** Ongoing

This research focuses on how older women in the community experience and internalize domestic abuse, and tests a Barriers to Help-Seeking (BHS) model based on results of the earlier study and two existing models, i.e., the Theoretical Model of Elder Mistreatment (National Research Council, 2003) and the Grigsby & Hartman Model (1997). Data from 450 older women representing race/ethnicities of Hispanic, African American non-Hispanic and White non-Hispanic will undergo a series of structural equation and regression analyses. Face-to-face interviews will be used to clarify relationships identified between abuser behaviors and help-seeking barriers. Interview data will be analyzed using ATLAS qualitative data analysis software. Specific aims for the project are: Aim 1: Using a

model derived from the DVAOW study that describes the relationships of an abuser’s behaviors to an elder victim’s internal and external perception of barriers to help-seeking, determine which indicators, and in what arrangement with the underlying factors, will provide the best fit of an overarching Barriers to Help-Seeking model. Aim 2: Describe the relationships between barriers to help-seeking and abusive behaviors. Aim 3: Determine the goodness of fit of the model or models to each of three race/ethnicity subgroups: Hispanic, African American non-Hispanic, White non-Hispanic. Aim 4: Describe the extent to which the proposed model(s) has the best fit with key variables (1) type of abuser and (2) type of abuse. Aim 5: Use the resulting best fitting model(s) for each ethnic group and identified predictive values of type of abuser and type of abuse plan.

<b>2007-IJ-CX-K022:</b>	<b>Domestic Violence Shelter Study</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$253,000</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Eleanor Lyons</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Angela Moore</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

This study describes the experiences of a sample of 3,000 residents of domestic violence shelter programs in up to eight states. States will be selected to maximize the diversity of programs and survivors; they will include programs with a broad range of survivor racial/ethnic/cultural diversity, staff size, capacity, and specialization, as well as including all major national geographic regions and types of local economies. Shelter residents will be asked to complete two brief surveys—one at the time of admission (“Shelter 1”) and a different one as close as possible to shelter exit (“Shelter 2”). The two surveys are based on instruments developed and piloted as part of the “Documenting Our Work” project. They cover such issues as, for Shelter 1, the survivors’ shelter entry experiences, and the types of help they want (from a list of 36 items); and for Shelter 2, the degree to which they received the listed services, as well as nine short-term outcomes for themselves and three for their children. Shelter 2 also contains items regarding respectful treatment by shelter staff and special areas of service, in addition to questions about shelter rules and other issues or concerns. Both surveys also include demographic information (race/ethnicity, age, number of children and number with her in shelter, sexual orientation, and completed education). Programs will also complete a brief survey that will include questions about the number of shelter staff, the services provided to residents, the shelter capacity, staff language capacity, the maximum length of stay, the population and demographic characteristics of the city/town in which the shelter is located, and any specialization the shelter may have. Analysis will focus on descriptions of survivors and their needs, their experiences in shelter (the extent to which they obtained the services they wanted, their perceptions of treatment and issues they encountered), and immediate outcomes. Analysis will also examine the ways in which survivors’ demographic characteristics and local program and community variables may be related to service receipt, perceived treatment, and outcomes.

**Product: NCJ# 225025**

**Domestic Violence Shelters: Survivors Experiences (2008) – E. Lyon, S. Lane, & A. Menard**

Using data collected over a six month period from 3,410 residents of 215 domestic violence shelters in eight states, researchers obtained information to make meaningful comparisons of services, immediate outcomes, and experiences of domestic violence survivors. Detailed findings showed specific differences in particular needs across race/ethnicity, age, education, presence of children, and language in which surveys were completed. The study shows that domestic violence shelters address compelling needs that survivors cannot meet elsewhere. Shelter programs provide a complex array of services to victims of abuse and their children; most prominent are safety, information, help with children and help with emotional distress. Most needs are met for most residents, and most problems are resolved. Implications for policy and programming are discussed, and include expanding diversity of shelter staff, expanding conflict resolution training for staff (and perhaps offering it to residents), re-consideration of time limits and eligibility requirements for shelters that have them, and further research on the full array of services (including nonshelter services) provided by domestic violence programs.

**Product: NCJ# 226046**

**Meeting Survivors’ Needs: A Multi-State Study of Domestic Violence Shelter Experiences, Summary of Findings (2009) – E. Lyon, S. Lane, & A. Menard**

This study is designed to help fill gaps in current knowledge about the range of services that domestic violence shelters provide, the needs and experiences of survivors who turn to shelters for help, and the types of help they receive at shelter programs. Data were collected from October 2007 to March 2008 through surveys completed by 3,410 residents of 215 domestic violence shelters—81 percent of the shelters in eight states. Nearly three-quarters of

survivors (74 percent) rated the assistance they received as very helpful and another 18 percent said it was helpful. The results make clear that domestic violence shelters serve a critical need for people who have experienced abuse, which many survivors described as lifesaving. Respondents reported that if the shelter did not exist, the consequences for them would be dire: homelessness, serious losses including loss of their children, actions taken in desperation, or continued abuse or death. The researchers found that the services provided to residents (as well as nonresidential program clients) have become complex and comprehensive.

<b>2007-WG-BX-0001:</b>	<b>Custody Evaluation Where There are Allegations of Domestic Violence: Practices; Beliefs, and Recommendations of Professional Evaluators</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$113,951</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Michael Davis, Chris O’Sullivan</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Bethany Backes</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

This study will explore the methods used and theories applied by mental health professionals appointed by family law judges to provide expert evaluations in child custody and visitation disputes between parents in cases in which there are allegations or evidence of domestic violence, threats of violence, or acts of intimidation. The applicants proposed to conduct case reviews and in-depth interviews with custody evaluators in a sample of 200 recent Family Court and Supreme Court custody evaluations. Case reviews will include legal filings, custody evaluator’s reports and court orders (whether as a result of settlement or trial.) The cases will be drawn from the files of three non-profit organizations that provide legal assistance in cases involving allegations of domestic violence. Interviews will be conducted with 20 of the evaluation authors. The research will explore the impact of evaluator’s theoretical orientations, views of the significance of domestic violence for custody and access management, and use of collateral sources on their reports to the court.

<b>2008-WG-BX-0003:</b>	<b>Dating Abuse Prevention in Teens of Moms With Domestic Violence Protection Orders</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$375,125</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Vangie Foshee</b>
<b>Monitor:</b>	<b>Bethany Backes</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

The purposes of the proposed research are to 1) revise an existing parent-based intervention to prevent dating abuse in 12 to 15 year old teens exposed to domestic violence (Aim 1) and 2) conduct a randomized trial to pilot test the procedures that would be used in a future larger randomized trial to test program efficacy (Aim 2). The intervention will be designed to be implemented by mothers who are victims of domestic violence and are identified through the North Carolina court system because they have obtained a domestic violence protection order. Development of Moms for Safe Dates, the proposed intervention, will involve formative research to adapt an already developed, theory-based, rigorously evaluated adolescent dating violence prevention program, Families for Safe Dates, for this highly vulnerable population of youth. Like Families for Safe Dates, Moms for Safe Dates will consist of six booklets mailed to study mothers, followed by health educator telephone calls two weeks after each mailing. To address Aim 1 the research team will recruit 32 women and their 12 to 15 year old adolescents through courthouse-recruitment procedures that were used in a recent study conducted by co-investigators to participate in three focus groups to provide feedback on program booklets. To address Aim 2, the research team will recruit 50 mothers and their 12 to 15 year old adolescents, through the same courthouse-recruitment procedures, to participate in a randomized trial. Mothers and adolescents will each complete a 25-minute baseline telephone interview, half the families will be randomly allocated to receive Moms for Safe Dates, and mothers and adolescents will complete another 25-minute telephone interview three months after treatment families complete the program. The conduct of the pilot randomized trial will allow for piloting of all the procedures that would be used in a future efficacy trial and to obtain estimates of participation and retention rates. The study is innovative in that it will be laying the groundwork for the first randomized trial of a family-based program for preventing dating abuse among adolescents exposed to domestic violence and it uses a unique approach to recruitment.



For an index of all grants, go to <http://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/223572-grants-index.pdf>.