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**THE NEXT MILLENNIUM CONFERENCE:
Ending Domestic Violence
How Do We Learn More:
Including Women's Voices
August 29, 1999**

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BOS: MHB

... We're happy that some of you are here. That all of you are here and that we've got some people today is what I meant, because we weren't sure whether there were going to be people here at all or not.

Anyway-

... Excuse me (inaudible).

... Okay.

... Okay, thank you.

... What we decided to do was to be very informal and I think each one of us introduce ourselves and that way it will be faster and also we'll be able to leave more time for really discussion, and maybe a dialogue, more than we did last time, this is of course the second time we do this and we'll see how this goes.

Would you like to start?

... My name is Deborah Beckmassey, I'm with Domestic Violence Initiative for women with disabilities out of Denver Colorado.

We're an agency that's been in existence for the last 15 years working exclusively with women with disabilities who have been victims of domestic violence and caregiver abuse.

I come from kind of a research background, I have a BA

in Sociology. A minor in psychology in women's studies, and have done numerous speaking engagements concerning both disability issues, violence issues, caregiver issues, across the United States and locally within Colorado.

... My name is Chris Hernandez, I'm the cofounder of Transition House, which is a women's shelter on the east coast for battered women in 1975 and also cofounded another shelter by the name of Phoenix House, which has a special mission to serve those who are not served by other shelters. I'm also a former battered woman.

... Good morning my name is Judy Chan, I'm the director of the Asian and Pacific Islander Women and Family Safety Center in Seattle Washington.

I'm a former bureaucrat and I'm just curious who today here would say they are a researcher or academic?

Okay, any women's advocate? Anyone else? Vendors, administrators?

Okay, sorry? More than one hand, okay. Therapists?
Okay, thank you.

... I'm Booya Bahida and I definitely wear more than one hat.

I'm an assistant research professor in the department of psychology at Georgia State University and as my title indicates, I am a researcher.

At the same time, however, I also coordinate the Latino

Families at risk program. Which is a program in Atlanta Georgia that serves immigrant Latino families that are affected by domestic violence.

So, as a result of that, I-this kind of tension between community and research is a constant in my life and it's really a very welcoming thing for me.

I think that we'll start this morning is by really putting a context into our talk today and if Deborah and Chris had made some notations up there about the women, do you want to say specifically what you have done?

... One of the things I was thinking about was that if you can't serve somebody, you know, provide services for a particular type of battered woman, you probably won't be able to reach them to provide research either, you know, so it sort of made sense to me, so, I looked at it more as an advocate, like how would I reach out to those people that are not being served and bring them into the middle, I don't know who said it, but, it was at the discussion at one of our mornings, bringing people that are on the fringes to the middle, you know, and there are so many of them and we thought that there was a certain way that we could think about that, an approach.

First of all to identify them, and then to figure out what the problems are, why we can't reach them, and then to think of how we can reach them, you know and to bring them

in and there are certain obstacles, for instance, a screening process. Do we screen them out, is that why they're not coming, are they crying for help, but we are screening them out as advocates, you know, I'm not sure, there's probably a lot of reasons why we're not able to reach them, so, Deborah has made a list over here, I don't know if you wanted to ask (inaudible a conversation going on).

... See if I can trip myself real good, as my hat falls, all sorts of neat stuff going on here.

This is just a partial list. This is like a brain storming list, and I'm quite sure each one of you from your perspectives can think of a lot more, either to add or subtract from this and it's entitled forgotten populations, absence or screened out and some of the ones that we had brained stormed and came up with were the incarcerated women, men and youth, disabled women, immigrant women, homeless women and children, migrant women and children, mothers that are underground, older individuals, individuals in nursing homes, assisted living and alternative living situations, multi-racial individuals, they don't fit into what is a clean category, they're not African American, they're not Asian American, they're a combination of two, so, where do you put them, cause most of our research forms don't have a box to put somebody in that doesn't fit in nice

and clean into the little square.

Prostitutes of all types, disabled, cultural, along that line, they have life stories and issues that they need to have addressed just as much as everybody else.

Mail order brides, that have been brought to America for one or another reason, and often times at extremely young ages and for whatever reasons may no longer be married or maybe are and they have a lot of issues that we need to be discussing.

Women of different faiths, often times we don't look at the women within the faiths.

And then women who were revictimized by the system because, you know, heaven forbid that we talk about the fact that the system has revictimized somebody, you know, we're there to help and not to do any harm, but, more often than not, we have done almost as much harm as maybe the original crime. Just through our willingness to want to help or something like this.

How to reach them, not being afraid to go where they are, you know, we can't necessarily put something in a newspaper and say, Hey, we're doing this research subject, would you please come in to such and such a street, and we'll pay you \$25 to participate, or whatever like this, maybe we have to go and crawl underneath the bridges, or go to the soup kitchens, or go to the communities and find the

underground parts that people often reside in and in using different methods, you know, referrals from other agencies, contact agencies who provide services, find who they provide it with and while they're referring any of their clients, we at least approach them with the subject matter.

Are there populations in that going into say the Muslim population and saying would you women be willing and participate in this?

Self referrals, the soup kitchens, again, like I said the bridges, using different methodology and using different screenings and at often times we don't have clean cut subjects, so, you know, we may be missing some very, very vital information and vital understanding of problems because we don't have what we were taught in colleges as clean screenings and then this is just, sometimes you have to break titles down, like disabled, don't just get caught into the fact to somebody being in a wheelchair, or on crutches, because there's only 10% of disabilities that are visible, the other 90% are invisibles, so you have the development disabilities.

Mental illnesses, the physical disabilities, just as few, you know, do your research and find out all of the types, as well as immigrant.

A lot falls under that immigrant title of other cultures, the mail order brides, the sex slaves, the child

brides, all of this take and often go in and it isn't as clean as we'd often like or our researchers that teaches that in our colleges when we're freshmens and juniors and stuff and learning how to do research methodology and we don't think we're going to remember all of this and it does stick in our mind and then we're going, Oh! We can't do that research because my professor in that in 1976 said that I couldn't do this.

... I was wondering if anybody else had more ideas of hitting populations that we could expand our list, this is just something that we've brain stormed, it's not like an official list or anything like that, but, I'm sure if you look into your own lives, you'll think of people, the native American people too, it's hard to reach, there are certain cultures. Orthodox religions, and various other types, Greek Orthodox, Catholic Orthodox, there's a whole series of them, but, I bet, if you look into your lives too, you'll find some.

I don't know if you would like to contribute to the list, but we would really appreciate it, you know, cause--yeah?

... I think there's a population that is very hard to reach, that is, men.

... Men, who have been battered?

... No, men in general. Most of the time when we do

research, or when I do research, let me say Latino men then, when I do research, I do research with men who are already kind of converted, (inaudible).

... To men who have been abused you mean?

... No, no, just regular men. In (inaudible) communities, for example, it's very difficult to reach the men who are really, what do I say?

... Are you talking about main stream men.

... Main stream! That's right.

... Because it's easier if you get them already. I think when we're researching, different populations, we go for that particular population, or abused women, or we go to a shelter and do that.

But, what you're talking about, I think, is what Antonio is talking about also, is that we don't get to the main stream people, and see how they really think about this, or about the stuff that could be happening.

There may be batterers in the main stream that are not in the program, we're not getting to them, to be able to look at what has happened.

... I was just curious also, can you tell us how you came up with the list, the list that you broke down for immigrant, I was curious about that list.

... These are ones that we have worked with in our agency and then I kind of brain stormed with Chris and I don't, you

know, we don't, I don't want to say we're experts, cause we're not, in that, but, I was trying to at least spark some ideas for people, cause invariably, like mail order brides, more often you find, Asian brides that have been brought over to America, or of the various cultures, you know, Vietnamese, you know, stuff like this, so, they fall into a couple of categories of being both immigrant women and a specific, like a mail order bride, or the new phenomenon now is that mothers are selling their young daughters for sex slaves, and the men are bringing them into the United States underneath the prefix of being fiancé that they can marry.

The United States has an immigration law that allows you to bring them in for six months before they have to marry them.

I think that's called a fiancé visa, I just wanted to offer, I think I have some other information that would change that list and I think if anyone is interested in that later, they could talk to me about it.

... I also think that (inaudible) non-English speaking women that could (inaudible) and also same sex (inaudible) so, men who are battered, women who are battered in the same gender relationship (inaudible).

... Yeah?

... Well, I can only speak for my agency, but, we were (inaudible).

... Could you speak up a little?

... I'm sorry. One of the populations we realized was same sex population that we weren't seeing and also, strangely enough, but, professional women in our town, cause we're the only shelter and we work professionally with a lot of these people, you know, I've had friends that please come in and talk to somebody-

... I've never thought of that.

... But, I have to go and present a support group tomorrow night, let us come in and talk about what's going on with you personally.

... Ah, hah, yep.

... What about those role area, that one is very hard to reach.

... Anybody with any type of addiction, you know, drug addict, substance abuser, you know, they're screened out, we need to look at our screening processes too, for the-- I'm talking about advocates and shelters, you know, more so than the research, researchers and also widen our concept of what is abuse, for instance, you know, if you're in an electric wheelchair, and your person you're living with disconnects your battery, you know, that means your stuck to there all day, you can't get out of the chair to fix your battery and so, what's that, isn't that abuse.

If your personal care attendant doesn't give you your

medication, is that abuse, or what? We have to like look at what we're talking about, when we say abuse.

... We're talking about definitions.

... Definitions of what it is when we're screening people, you know, to make sure that we don't screen people out and the thing that I'm most concerned with is if somebody has a speech slur and they call a hot line, they're screened out immediately, this is throughout the whole country, this is a phenomenon that's going on so many people with disabilities have speech slurs, you know, it's assumed that these individuals are drunk and they're referred to detoxes.

... I'd like to--thank you, how about I--using this as a context now of the hidden populations and the people that might have been left out completely, left out of research, were misplaced, if you will.

What I'd like to do very briefly is give a background of context of the difference of perception about research. From the perspective of researchers and the perspective of advocates.

In this country, as in many countries also, we are working very much under very traditional and respected way of doing things, which is very reflective of your American values and traditions and most of us who are researchers were trained in that, actually, I want to say all of us who are researchers, and that model, and we're very much guided

still by an ideal that this is a scientific endeavor and only scientists should really attempt this, okay, this is the kind of thing that we're doing.

We have had in academia a very reluctant, a great deal of reluctance about the need or the appropriateness about community coming in and doing this kind of different models of research.

We as, of course, as academics are the experts, we are seen as the experts, we like to think of ourselves as the experts, and we have traditionally thought that people without degrees, people with limited education, people with limited English, or abilities, or disabilities, foreign language for example, have had little to add to the research process.

It's also we have to admit research is vital to academics, that's how we get tenure, that's how we get promoted, that's how we get funded, that's how we get notoriety, okay, and we do cover the personal agenda that's the kind of thing that happens and also advocates and battered women, research has been seen and very rightfully so, with a great deal of suspicion.

They get the data and run syndrome has been very, very widely used. There is a great fear that probing questions and the message will revictimized the women that you were talking about, also, about the resource and interpretations

are going to be used to field stereotypes about any of these groups, as apposed to really helping to understand processes, or situations, or different kinds of things, for example, (inaudible) specifically and what that experience is like, instead of helping us understand that its going to field stereotypes.

Also, the fact that we study one population, or a small group of women or children, or men, or whoever it is, and we generalize to a whole context, we study Asian, we define them as researchers and generalized to all Asians, when we know the diversities immense as does among Latinos, for example, or among people of African decent, any of those things, so.

Also battered women and advocates have often been left out of the loop. Seldom consulted about specifics and they're brought in when there's a need for collaborative endeavors.

Also, for example, the types of research that is funded is different depending on the need. For example, things that many times is prevalent studies are very important for granters, from the perspective of granters, of academicians, and public health officials, it's very important to know prevalence rates and for some advocates too, Mike.

It's got to be the ones for advocates and women, what's very important to know exactly what kind of prevalence

rates.

... What does it mean by the way?

... Good, like question. It's how often does a specific thing happen in population, okay, what's the rate of domestic violence in a population. See this is a perfect example, I just use jargon, okay, it's scientific jargon that is almost like a shorthand method of us talking in academia.

It's not, and I'm really glad that you said that, because I think that we get into that mode, and we don't realize not everybody understands what a prevalence study is, so therefore this is a kind of thing that if we need advocates also to keep us honest about how to even talk about things like that.

... Well, you know, I think that as a director of a shelter I have turned researcher away over and over again, I think because they've used things like prevalence rate.

... There we go.

... And I was like, no, you can't do that, and I had really no idea what it was and if they had said that I may have been a lot more open to the idea of somebody coming in and you know-

... We were talking before in our previous-Judy was talking that prevalence for her, the prevalence in her own community was something that she would really like to know, how many

people in your community were actually victims, because it's important for funding and things like that, so, it's not that everything is good or bad, it's just what context is it in, what is it going to be used for, for whose benefit is it going to be used, that's the whole thing that we're talking about.

The other things for example, is like the choice of research design. Many times, for example, we have had the traditional way of doing things is between groups, how do Latinos differ from Asian in terms of domestic violence.

... Who cares?

... Well, the point is we may know how they differ, but, how does it really help the people who are serving the Latinos, and the people who are serving Asian women.

Other than to know we are very different, as Italians, or Europeans, we're very different from Asian women, okay, but that doesn't tell us anything very specific, to the people that come to your shelter, you know, how are they going to be doing that.

So, that's the kind of thing that in many ways that has been a difference of perception of how that should be done and the choice of research questions, sometimes when we are in academia, when we're at the university, we do not necessarily know by just staying there what kinds of things are really, really urgent to know about, it really know

something that may be is interesting, but, is that really the thing that is going to make a difference to the people. So, as a result of that, what was being said here this morning, in terms of going to the people and asking the questions about what is it about what we're going to be needing to know as a community and being able to create that kind of a atmosphere, maybe a much more productive way of maybe using our resources, or our time, our knowledge as well.

Also, the research procedures, for researchers it's been very important to have very strict and very clear procedures, so that they're standardized, they're the same they're used the same and every single case that we can actually say that this is the way that it was applied and as a result of that there's-we can believe the results.

It does sound very good on paper, it's very clean cut, okay, however, most of us know that communities are not clean cut.

When we start out in the community and start to do something, usually it's exactly the opposite of what we have thought about was going to happen, because it's just human nature, we're out there and we're surrounded by people and by situations that we really can't control, so, this is community research that we're talking about and that has to be much more flexible and really answering to the people and

to the needs of the community as apposed to just being something that we do and we come in from a very rigid perspective and it doesn't mean that we have to do bad work, it doesn't mean that, what it means is that we take into consideration the unexpected if you will, and go along with that so that we can have that kind of thing.

... You're going to have to do that if you're gong to reach out to the people on the fringes, you're going to have to contact the homeless shelter staff that brings blankets to the men and women who are sleeping under the bridges for instance, many of them are battered, many of the women are battered there.

Maybe you could pass out the blankets as you're doing the research, something like that.

... And that answer would mean for example that the timing in which we say things, the timing in which we ask the questions, the timing in which we are able to apply the questioners the kinds of things that may have to be not in our own time as researchers, but, at the time that the advocates, the people working—the service providers are able to do it.

It may not be when a woman comes into a shelter and is in crisis, this is not the time to be able to ask the questions, because we could be victimizing that person.

It may be that we have to wait for an appropriate time

when it's respectful to do so.

So, therefore we have to be very flexible about that and learn how to do that and learn how to do that.

One of the things, (inaudible) interpretation of results, as I have mentioned before, sometimes been used in ways that are less than favorable, and they have been used in ways that are really detrimental because they're taken out of context and one of the things that I always think about the need to be in a constant dialogue with the people that are really as collaborators to be able to get their input before we even bring anything out, and say, look this is what I'm finding, in non-jargon by the way, this is what I'm finding, does this make sense, I don't understand this, could you help me understand what this is about because I really don't understand this, usually the people have incredible insights, as to why things are because it's reality for them and remember if we see really the people that we are doing research with as the experts, not ourselves, then they really are going to have a lot of the answers to some of the results that we get, and also to be able to interpret those results.

One thing also, and then we'll open it up for just a regular actual examples of things that have been positive, is the question of ethics, I don't think we can emphasize enough this issue of ethics it goes beyond what we learn in

school, regarding the legal ramifications of what we do, and the need to be able to have someone's informed consent, that's what it's called, that they have agreed to participate, that they know that there are some risks involved if they are, that they can stop at any time, all that kind of stuff, it goes beyond that, I think for me it begins, it must begin not when we're asking the person to sign the informed consent, but, way before that, when we first start to formulate the questions, when we first start to think about a project, if we don't bring in the people at that time, I think that we're reaching an ethical principle, because it's at that time that when we need to be able to ask the hard questions, is this the way that it's really going to be good for the people, is this really going to be the way that we're going to be able to get at what is going to be useless for this population and for this community and I think that when we then ask the individual women or men, or children, and that's another thing, the children, and how we protect them as well, one of the things that has to happen then, is that we have to make sure that if we have had people from the community from the very beginning we are able to in all honesty and the advocates then will also be able to say, you know, this is an okay thing cause we're in it, we've gone the whole time, where there were women here like yourself, who had a say in this and this seems to be

okay, that's a probably different thing, that putting advocates in a way saying that, well yeah, there's this research that we need to do or that we decided we would do, would you please do it, it's a very different thing, it's a very different thing, I think also when we're talking about doing research with populations like we listed one of the things is that we have even more of an ethical responsibility to them, because they usually don't know what their rights are, they usually do not know that they have a right to say no, that they have recourse, that they have any of those things—

... They don't know that they're being battered either.

... Exactly.

... Sometimes.

... Sometimes and some of the same things happen when we're talking about research, that we come and there is that power differential and that if we don't use that power differential in a very, very ethical way we can very well, without meaning to I'm sure, we victimize.

... Okay, thank you Julia. I have a couple of handouts that Elizabeth very graciously handed out and one of them says Commentary on Domestic Violence by Suzanne McGee, did everyone get a copy of that?

... There weren't enough.

... Oh, okay, if you don't, maybe you could come up to the

front, and share with your neighbor, I was able to borrow this from (inaudible) here and I think this is just an excellent checklist for advocates in domestic violence programs to look at, if we want to do research, I'm sorry, I don't think there's enough, but, maybe you could-
... (Inaudible).

... This is an excellent checklist for women's advocates if you are ever approached by a researcher, or a researcher project to go through these 14 questions and one of them is who are they, do I know who they are, how will my project benefit from that, have you ever asked battered women's programs what would be helpful for them to know, you know, some really good questions.

What would happen if a battered woman discussed committing a crime during an interview, because we know that there's no good or bad battered women and we all do the things we need to do to survive and what if I said that I've tried to kill him when he tried to kill me, well, what would happen?

What if the interviews were requested under the freedom of information act, even if the researcher says they're going to be held confidential, what if my batterer was able to put in a request for that information, how would the researcher keep it confidential, so, those are just some good questions for us to be aware of and take back the power

in that relationship that we have with academia and the universities.

I'm going to talk a little bit about my program, I come from a very small program in Seattle Washington, where just to give you an idea this is the first year that we've had both heat and hot water, so, as you can imagine the money that research programs can offer us can be sometimes very alluring, and we've had to make some really difficult decisions, so I want to share with you what we've come to and how we've come to that, and some examples of what we've done ourselves.

We're a domestic violence community organizing project, the Asian and Pacific Islander community, which I think that's a real US term and people come to this country no one says I'm Asian and Pacific Islander, they'll say I'm Chinese American, or I'm Chinese, or I'm from this particular province, or something like that.

A lot of the terms that we use have absolutely no meaning for the people who we work with and that's something to be aware of, but, Asian Pacific Islander are the largest ethnic population in our state and in our county and in our city, very diverse, over 55 different languages, and very distinct cultures, and historical experiences.

So, why would we want to do research? I guess when Julia was talking about prevalence, you know, the kinds of

things that I'm interested in are what are different communities experiences of domestic violence, what are the kinds of violence that women experience, how do they deal with that violence, and those are just a lot of questions that we don't know the answers to.

So, that's why I'm interested in things like prevalence or people say that you can't do that kind of work with non-English speaking low income refugee or immigrant women, you can't do that kind of work with them, you have to do focus groups with them.

Well, I'll just give you an example of an amazing study that I'd like to see in our domestic violence movement, two people who were able to hire for a project Dr. Barb Louis, and Dr. (Inaudible), did a prevalence study of reproductive health with visiting over 1,000 households of refugees, South East Asian women who are non or limited English speaking to talk about things like sex, birth control, abortion, there are thoughts and experiences of those things, and it was a very successful study that was published with support from the Centers for disease control, so that's just an example that we can do that work with our communities, we can do it.

Let me give you an example of something that, is anyone here from Seattle area? No, okay.

An example of something that I would say is not my

favorite, there is our local, let's just say our local government decided that there was a need to do a study with which they obtained a very large federal grant to do, to do focus group studies on how shelters-main stream shelters can better serve different specialized populations of women immigrants of different ethnic groups that were sort of randomly chosen with very little input from all the agencies in the area (inaudible) different groups, and my response to that this influx of about a million dollars, is give me a million dollars and I'll tell you that in about five minutes, shelters can do a better job serving our communities, we don't need to do a study to find that out, we already know, right, who is saying that they don't know that, and why, that's my question, and what would happen with that data, how would that data guide funding decisions in a way that don't have to, that remove contact with actual programs, you know, so, you know why would I want to do research? Or, have research for my agency, because we lack information about what domestic violence looks like and a lot of these communities, we don't know how battered women access in formal help or different kinds of services, there aren't domestic violence services.

For example through mutual aid societies, we don't know how battered women are hurt by working with the criminal justice system in many of our communities, how it endangers

women who do not use these systems willingly, for example, we just finished a needs assessment for safe housing for Asian Pacific Islander women and we found—one of the things we found was looking at some data from the intake forms, you know, the county or who ever your funder collects all that data and lot of times they don't have any money to go through it, so, some of this, allowed us to go through that, we found that 18% of the women who Asian Pacific Islander over a certain number of years had been threatened by deportation by their abusers, that's a very significant percentage and that tells us a little bit about why women wouldn't want to call 911, because batterers can actually try to do that, especially, even if I had my papers, if I don't look like I belong here, and he steals all my papers and burns them, and calls INS and says come pick her up, you know, it happens, it's just happened a couple of weeks ago, actually in our area to a women I just found out about.

We want guidance for our programs, what we should be doing for those of us who are thinking about what we should be doing, instead of thinking that, well, no, cause I know that we don't know and it validates what we're doing in the communities we're working with, and I'm going to talk a little bit some statistics we collected on fatalities.

In our-

... (Inaudible).

... Well, you know it's not like, well we have about three staff, paid staff, so it's not like we're doing this big project, what we have done over since 1991; every time we saw a murder that looked like that person might be part of our communities, we'd put it in-we clipped it and put it in our photo album, or in a file folder, so, we just kept this pile of news clippings of so, and so, was murdered, and then this year we decided we'd do an annual community vigil in front of our courthouse that's to remember Asian and Pacific Islander women who have been murdered, and we decided we wanted to have more information to put out this year, so, we went through our press clippings, and we contacted Margaret Hobard at the Washington State Coalition against domestic violence, she's working on the fatality review project, and for any of you, a lot of states have a fatality review project on domestic violence and we're able to consult with her, and access a lot of the data that she had collected and then we called a lot of advocates who knew, and said if there was anyone who we were leaving out and we had a lot of internal conversation about how to do this and we came up with a list of actually over 20, about 25; and then we went through and looked at what are the cases that are closed, we couldn't include those, that's why we got the advice from Margaret, and then we came up with a list of 18 and then we looked at, okay, how many fatalities were there in the two

county area, King and Pierce County, 18 fatalities that were women and children their current boyfriends, their mothers, you know, just everyone who had died and then what was the total number of domestic violence fatalities for those two counties and what we came up with was 13% of those fatalities had been from our community, and that was incredible for us, it was really horrible, but it was also very affirming, and this is the other thing, it's so many times we are doing this work everyone is telling us we are crazy, right, that doesn't happen, what's wrong with you, band even though it was really hard to come up with this list and see those names, it was very affirming for staff, and I really encourage you think about doing this, because it really said to staff what you're doing and what you're seeing is absolutely the right thing, you know it's happening, all these people who you deal with everyday who says that's not happening in our community, you are right, and how can we bring that information out and use it for education, and that's the second biggest reason or biggest benefit that we've had from doing that work.

We put the information in a press release, we used it at the vigil, I'm been using it for grants, so it's been good that way. I was told that some of you got the press release that we passed around, I will say that only one community based paper published that press release, none of

the daily papers picked it up, I thought, to us it was hot, hot news, right? Hot, hot news, but, why didn't they pick up? Well, because we chose not to publish the names, we figured it was all public information, we got it from the press clippings, they can certainly find it right? But, we really decided we didn't want to sensationalize it have people calling us and say well, what did-what happened in this particular case and what did she do wrong and all that kind of stuff that we're really used to hearing, because that would retraumatize staff, and we decided not to do that, and the families of course, that was really-we didn't want to retraumatize them.

That was one of the biggest ethical issues, so, sometimes we do remember her name kind of campaigns, and that was-we weren't able to do that because people were very sensitive about using those names.

A lot of the people who were included in that list I think that they're families would say they weren't victims of domestic violence. Kind of ironic.

The second thing that we did was this huge study which I gave you an executive summary of, this right here, this piece of paper is \$41,000, and I said that we have three paid staff, there's a lot of other people, but, right now there's three paid staff, soon to be five.

You know what \$41,000 means to us, right, that's a

chunk of change, but, we decided that we needed, our goal is to develop some kind of safe housing, maybe a shelter, maybe transitional, and now we know a combination, we decided that we didn't know what we needed, and we weren't going to, we were in a position to benefit from, you know there's all these-there's about seven or eight Asian women's shelters and one Native Hawaiian shelter that's been up around the country and we decided that we could benefit from their experience, but, we didn't know what women in our community needed and we wanted to find out rather than assume, so, what we did is we hired, well, what first started out, the board saying, well gee, you should do it, right, in your spare time, well, that didn't work, so, then we were able to get money, and we got it from some kind of nontraditional sources, we got money from neighborhood matching fund, which is usually used for neighborhood improvements, but, we decided this was a neighborhood improvement, and were able to convince them, we got money from the Presbyterian of Seattle, we got money from Reach and 10 office of womens health, and those are all-by the way, your different region office for women's health and public health service are good source of funds.

We were able to put together the money and to be able to hire two people to do this work, and we were able to hire Bard (inaudible) and I'll just say a little bit about them,

and why did we hire them.

Well, they're not domestic violence researchers, they've never done any work on domestic violence before, and we could have chosen some other people to work with, but, we decided that it was most important to have people who are familiar with our local Asian Pacific Islander community who knew the politics of that community, who are well versed in the cultural dynamics, who knew about the boundaries and barriers and the access problems that women had, and that we could help them with the DV expertise they already knew the community and a lot of people would flip that around and say we weren't the people who had the DV expertise and we'll help them in the community, but, you can, in my view, you can't do that, it doesn't work.

Nobody would have talked to them if we had hired other people (end of side one) difficulties working with interpreter services.

Looking at the King county data, 44% of the clients required working with an interpreter, as I said before 18 of them had been threatened with deportation, 18%.

80% of the women had been in the relationship for over two years. 90% of them reported being depressed, now why is that important? Because it tells us something about risk for suicide.

How does domestic violence look different in different

communities, I'm really interested in suicide, for example and we also found we're doing the focus groups and the surveys.

In one of the focus groups not one participate could name any place that a woman could go to get safe at all. What does that say about our domestic violence outreach and education in the communities, so, what did we find?

We found yes there is a need for safe housing, what a surprise, right, but, what it told us is what does that need look like what is that about, and we also, we were really just stunned by the lack of information that people had, but, at the same time we were also surprised that a lot of people acknowledged that there was a problem with domestic violence in the community, and you know the stereotype that I always had in my mind is nobody cares, or secondary trauma, nobody cares only we do, but, I was wrong, people do care, they know, they just don't know what to do about it.

It told us about what kind of model could work in our community, we have a lot of resources, how could we work with the other groups to create a transitional and safe housing program that would be just unique for us, what could we have done differently, we really should have done a lot more focus groups, we did, for example, we did, you know, we did a focus group with lesbian and bisexual women, but, we didn't do a focus group with (inaudible) the small community,

even though we work, we have a small community project. We didn't do work with Chia, which is the South Asian Domestic Violence program. We didn't include enough my own staff, this project almost made me crazy and that's a real issue, and I guess coming back to, what are the-I got in trouble at the last workshop that we did, cause I said I was anti research and then all these researchers got mad at me, but, I guess what do I look for, why do I say no, when so far, this is not to say it will always be this way, but, every time so far that we've been approached, I've always said no, why is that?

Well it's because we haven't had a relationship with that person, have had no idea who this person is, and they have had no relationship with anyone who I know, so, where's that trust?

There has been for the types of research they've suggested there has been no direct use for us, how would this help us? You know, that's my directive, as a director, is to use our staff resources to advance our mission, right, and the projects that they have suggested have nothing to do with our mission really, hasn't helped us advance it. Or it's been on an exploitative topic, for example, you know a lot of people have used the term mail order bride, and you know just in the public eye, for the last couple of years, in fact, the reason we started this vigils because three

women were murdered in the King County courthouse in 1995 one of whom, Susanna Blackwell, was a so called mail order bride, and to me that's a very exploit-that can be used in a very exploitative way, because it doesn't really matter to me how they met, a lot of people meet in relationships through the mail and there's nothing wrong with that, it's more the dynamics of the relationship that matter, or the power and control that matters and when people say that they want to do research on mail order brides, I say thank you very much, but, I'm not interested. Because there's nothing new that they could tell me, right?

There's a lot of other things on that list that we need to know and there's no way to pay for it, you know, a lot of times people will say, well, we'll do-we would like to engage you to do focus groups, and it will be \$28 per hour for recruitment, well, for these focus groups, well, recruitment is not mailing things out to women and posting them, recruitment means going door to door, talking to people, calling them a couple of times, offering to pick them up, saying we'll have childcare, we'll pay you for dinner, we'll have dinner there, and I know these people and I trust them, and you won't be used in this, you know, you can't do that with one hour, that's many, many hours, right, for example, for the lesbian and bisexual focus group, I think we had maybe eight women there, and that I probably

spent 16 hours at least recruiting for that, at least, with a lot of followup, I know, oh, no, no, no and then the other question is what would happen with the data, how is this going to be used, what's the politically were is-how will our funders react to that information that, what's going to happen with it.

So, thank you very much for listening to us, or at least to me, I don't know what's going to happen next. ... I have a couple of little things to say that and maybe Deborah would too.

Well I don't really dislike research, that much, because I actually did get involved with a research project with one of our guests at our shelter, we call all the people that live in our shelter guests and she actually got five percent of the royalties of the book that was published as a result of her work with a researcher and that's why I agreed to that, you know, there was some cash involved for her, and it was going to be long term, she'll be getting this money for ever, it's going to-it's a textbook, out of the University of Kentucky, so, that's one time.

Another time, Deborah, and I both worked with a wonderful researcher, I forget her name, her first name is Anew, what's her-

... Charma, Anew Charma.

... Anew Charma, and we've been working with her for over a

year, but, you know what, I don't even think of her as a researcher, to tell you the truth, you know, she's formed collaboratives, with us, and done such wonderful work it's been very-she's had a feminist approach, the ends do not justify the means, I think I got that right, in other words, the means doesn't justify the ends.

She-each mean, is an end in itself, put it that way and she's very, very gentle, and, boy we're so comfortable talking with her, it's wonderful, it took a long time, she's actually been to our shelter, she had been working out of the-

... NCR and Aetna, as well, with Pennsylvania coalition-
... The NCR, I don't know if you know about that, the National Domestic Violence, Resource Center on Domestic Violence, and anyway, she's done a lot of good work, she's no longer there, I'm not sure where she is right now, but, she's a good researcher and she's somebody that I would hold up as an example, because of her approach and (inaudible) just like a really wonderful working with her, and we became educated as a result and the guests that she met were all enlightened as a result of her work, it was just like such an experience, I don't even think of her as a researcher.

Okay, this is for Deborah.

... I became involved in this movement and in that as a result are using my talents in the disability community, one

because I became disabled, two because I was a battered woman, and a survivor on that, both in battering and as well as sexual assault, so, I thought I had a lot of, at least, understanding while my experience was not unique, and at least gave me the key to open the door a crack to try and help other women, and I became involved with domestic violence initiative because as Judith was talking about, you know there's this wealth of information, is often sitting in organizations that have been going for 10, 20, or so years, and they just don't have the staff to correlate it, to take and do something with it, to take and use it, it's like gold mines that are sitting buried in filing cabinets, and when I became involved with DVI, I was looking for one single answer to a question and Sharon Hickman, the founder and director had asked us, one single question for over 15 years, on the end of her intake form, was your disability a result of domestic violence, 15 years worth of answers were in her filing cabinet, I went through just three years, by looking through the files that were complete and could fit in with criteria that the university of Northern Colorado said that I had to do for my masters degree, I was able to come up with 300 cases out of three years, and out of that 300 cases, and that there were 169 positive answers, 169 women had said yes, my disability is a direct result of the domestic violence that was done to me.

Now this was a wealth of information, and it was a question that no one else through the domestic violence community, the disability community, you know, the research community, had even thought to take and ask and my question was, well, how many women are becoming disabled, how prevalent of women's disabilities are related back to the violence that they had endured often times from childhood, cause some of these women on it were victims of their dad's rage,, and had, had their backs broken, or had, had traumatic brain injuries and stuff when they were like eight and 10 years old, so, while it became child abuse, it was also a result of domestic violence and yet nobody had asked this one simple question, I went to go do research and that point and time I had to go to Canada, Australia, New Zealand and Great Britain to even find any kind of stats on women with disabilities and violence, because the United States had not even thought that was an important subject matter, so, it was something that was very simple, it was driven because of my need, it was driven because I'm seeing a gap and yet I didn't have to even involved the women, because it was dead research, because it was there and it was in the files and we often have many, many questions that could be answered without involving their names, without involving them at all, just by looking at some of the dead research, but, often times this is ignored because it's not as

thrilling, it doesn't garner as much attention, most people don't stop to think that maybe there's these caches of wealth that are already sitting around done for them, and on the other side of the table and at the service agencies themselves, don't realize what they're sitting, this is just something that they've been doing, they bring (inaudible) services to their clients to populations and stuff like this, and this has been sitting here, they keep it for the amount of time they go, oh, yeah, well in 1998 we did 125 more cases than we did in 1997, and that's as far as it generally goes, because they don't have the staff to take and put it into computer systems, they don't have the staff to create databases, they have just barely enough staff to provide the needed services.

So, often times there's a wealth of information, how many disabled women was involved, how many immigrant women were involved, how many women were dual arrests, how many women were incarcerated for having killed their abuser. How many children were involved, how many disabled children, the wealth of information that since working for DVI I have just as many women coming through with disabilities who also have disabled children, or we have women that do not have disabilities, but, they have children who have, ADHD, or cerebral palsy, because they were battered and the children were battered in utero, and so this became a disability for

the children, so, there's a garden of information that you just need to go in and be plucked, and be taken, and come up with what we need, so, again, it's we need to create the bridges, so if it's not them, and if it's not us, you know, we've got information that we could share with researchers, the researchers on that often don't realize the wealth of information that we're sitting on, and if we can either share the wealth through the research, or show the wealth through the information, I think the clients that we serve, will take and have a better service to them, and we will have a more concrete amount of information that out's there that isn't just stroking someone's ego, but, it's actually doing some much needed good, educating funders, educating policy makers, educating our law makers as to what is actually going on outside of the Ivory Towers.

I want-one of the things that I wanted to personally to talk about the issue of what happens when we are people of color in our communities, and we became by being community advocates and service providers, and then decide to become academicians, what happens so that we don't feel like we're selling out, like we are going forgetting where we come from, right ,what do we do to be able to combine the two things, and I think it's a struggle, but, I think it can be done, and what you were talking about Deborah, in terms of building bridges, I think that's an excellent image I don't

thing that that's exactly what we need to do, I think for to long, for the past 25 years at least, in this movement, we have had a very much of a little undeclared war, I think, going on in terms of researchers and academia and the community as it relates to domestic violence, and I think sometimes what we need to do is a little bit of changing the paradigm because if it's the advocates who become the people who are asking about the research if it's the community saying we don't know this, can you help us find out?

Most of you have access to universities, but, those of you that are in outlying areas, that don't know anybody, I'm sure that there is a way that we can connect you with people in your area might be able to help out, for example, you hire people-you hired people, you hired researchers, who did not know domestic violence, but, new research, you I imagined educated them, know you, you educating them about domestic violence, as I say we shelter that, there were two more people there who now are in academia and know about domestic violence, so it's a win, win situation, and its something that can be done, but, if it's the people from the community saying a specifically what it is, it's a much better deal, to give you a very quick example in Atlanta, we there have been a number of courts-court advocates, okay, who in the court are asking for court watches, to see about what the judges are doing and how they're dealing with

domestic violence cases and stuff like that, but, of course, the advocates didn't have enough people, but, the universities have an awful lot of students who would like to do this kind of thing, so, they have been sending the contacted the university, and the department of Anthropology, I think it is in our university, is sending out students to do this kind of work, they help them set it out, and stuff like that, it's very much they want to do it, this is something that they very much need to do, and there's lots of stuff-

... (Inaudible) front line too as their doing it, that's what I would like.

... The what?

... They would do some work while they're there for the shelter.

... This isn't the courts though.

... Oh, no, I'm talking about the shelter.

... Well, the other thing about that, is that anytime that I have, for example, students working on-they want to do research in the community, one of the first things that happens is I ask them to go and volunteer in the community, so that they're able to know exactly what it is, what does it feel like, what are the people like that they're going to be doing a study with, who is it that they're going to, when they're asking the questions, when they're getting their

questionnaires ready and everything like that, they can come at it not just from up here, but, also they can put some of their heart into it, because they have actually seen the people, and they're not subjects, they are participants and collaborators, so, if you think about research in that way where it can be a tool to communities, where it can be something that is a positive rather than a negative.

I think it can be a win, win situation.

How about if we open it up for comments and discussion and all that.

... Anybody want to ask any questions? Or have any ideas for research or shelters better.

... One thing that I would like to make a comment on and it's something that DVI has just gotten involved in, the university of Denver, law school, and the university proper, has started a new program that was sanctioned by President Clinton, and that is the fact if the students are going to be using work study type money, that they be based within the community, and so in the last three years DU has started placing their work study students and students who want to do research projects with screened service providers, and community based organizations, and so consequently the students are being paid by the university, the service providers are getting the free help, and as a volunteer basis, and considered employees, the students can then take

and have a direct access to do their research, to do work, to become community wise as far as understanding of the communities that they are in and it's becoming a win, win situation and that to the point that the first year there was 10 organizations that had approached DU for work study students, this year they had 95 organizations, that have approached and been screened through DU to take and have work study students and this is everything from the Denver botanic garden, all the way to the legislature and domestic violence organization, children's organizations, sexual assault organizations, you name it and it has the whole gamut, so it's a win, win situation, and that's something that you might want to go back and approach your university or colleges and say did you know that this is part of President Clinton's education plan, and is your organization willing to set up a community work study to take and provide students to take and help out in the community while they do their work study work, and so that they aren't just on the campuses doing it and I think that would be a very good way of getting extra help as well as providing the students with ways that they can either spark interest and do research.

... Thank you Rebecca. So, we wanted to open it up for questions, comments, looks like you have a question up here in the front?

... No.

... No, okay. You know it's kind of early in the morning.

... I have a question, actually, for the audience. Has anyone who is an advocate had been approached from a researcher to do research and you've either gone ahead with it or turned them down.

... I've been approached by (inaudible) to do research(inaudible).

... Can you talk a little bit about why you turned them down and how that-

... Well their approach was always that they wanted to come in and observe (inaudible).

... And you said.

... That's it, right away I was so turned off by that word observe, I just said, we don't have observers in our support group.

... Okay, anybody else, Did it happen to anyone else, or? Yes?

... I have been approached a number of times, what would happen is that these would be Asian students, and it seemed like because they were Asians we were obligated, not just because somebody's parent had called, or somebody's teacher had called, we thought we were the only available resource for them, so, sometime, even if they send that they want to (inaudible) we found that we would take permission from the (inaudible) women, and if the women said yes, then only we

would allow, but, this happened about six months, and after that no was the answer.

... Why did you get to that point?

... We got to that point because I felt that they were coming with a cause which was we want information to do a study a class project, or (inaudible) and then what we found is after they had information, and you began to have the consent sheets and all of the contractual sheets, (inaudible).

... All of the consent sheets.

... That was the cause that we did not have a staff (inaudible).

... Let me ask you something and I think this is an important question, how do we provide access to those people who might get turned on to domestic violence who might never hear about that otherwise and from the communities, and at the same time be able to be very respectful of the processes that those women are going through?

... Well, a good (inaudible) if I look at the whole (inaudible) this institution was able to really instill the newness of social services, and to the younger or the older group, not only as one in terms of researcher, but, it also provided an impetus to say it will stay here, so, if nothing else, and I think that (inaudible) so it did create a bridge as well as a base for people to say yes (inaudible).

... I have a comment on that if I may. What I do is I kind of keep a running list in my head of what are the things that are sort of research oriented that students could do, so, you know, the fatalities list, that was actually a student who did that, and I think that she actually wanted to do something else, and I said, well this is what I really need, and you kind of have to sell it you know, this is so exciting, and blah, blah, blah, but, she was the one who put it together, so, it's more like what do I need, you know the same way when reporters call us, and they start talking about I want to talk to you about you know, why your culture excuses violence, you know, well actually I really think what would be exciting for you to look at is blah, blah, blah, you know, so, it's the same sort of cultural change stuff that we do, I was curious, one of the things that we started in our previous workshop was a list of all the things that we would like to see research done one, because it's that thing of we can always say, no, no, no, we don't want this, but, what would we like to tell researchers that we would like to see, that would help us, and who is going to make the list, and then the previous list that we had is going to go into that, you know that group that's working on the national agenda on domestic violence, so, now's your opportunity to have impact on our national agenda and just to get you started, one of the things that we have looked at

was happens to women in the criminal justice system, and I'm sort of curious if anyone has specific things they'd like to know.

... Everybody's really sleepy, okay.

... I would like to know (inaudible), for example, I know that (inaudible) they're very, very unlikely to (inaudible) but that doesn't necessarily mean that we're not accessing the (inaudible) where are they going, what other agency's system in our community are people accessing (inaudible) but those system agencies (inaudible).

... That's a really good question, I'm just going to repeat it, so it get's on the tape recorder thing.

How do women who are marginalized access help, if they're not our domestic violence system, and another thing that I would be curious about is how do women who, who is not calling the police, and why, and for example, I don't know about the other sexual minority groups, but, I know in a lot of the lesbian communities people won't call the police because-a lot of times the police will end up arresting the victim because it's two women and the batterer is the one whose so manipulative and able to manipulate the police into arresting the victim instead of find the batterer arresting me, or dual arrests. So to get some more information on that cause that could really have an impact on all of our-I think there's a lot of consequences to

mandatory arrest that we didn't anticipate.

... I think that goes back to something that I mentioned at the beginning and that is the difficulty in accessing the ones who do not call the police.

We have to be very, very creative about how to be able to, it's not that it's impossible, like you say, it's really like nothing is impossible if you're really creative about it, and if you have the lead way in terms of research ideas and research methods of how to access these people, those you don't have on file, you do not have in shelters, you do not have in police records, any of those kinds of things, so, how to do that, it's going to be very interesting.

.... Oh, I'm sorry, go ahead, I feel like Oprah.

... (Inaudible).

... One of the projects that we did in 1998, with my colleague, Emma Catagy who some of you met here, whose a domestic violence community organizer, was we were thing to figure out what communities would be willing to work with us, in-house, so she went around and did a needs assessment, but, it wasn't like a study, what she did was go around talks to bilingual social workers, because a lot of our communities the bilingual social workers are the gatekeepers, they're the ones who everybody goes to and says I need help filling out my tax forms, how do I do it, or you know CPS has called and I don't know what to do, or you

know, my kid's in trouble, what do I do? They're the ones that everyone goes to, so, she went and talked to all these bilingual social workers, who are not domestic violence people, and have a lot of ideas about domestic violence that, you know, that I don't agree with or that a lot of people in this room wouldn't agree with right, but, they knew that there was a problem, it's just our job to help them reframe how they think about it and they are the ones who are able to give us a lot of information, that we had not had access to before.

... Expanding our ideas about where to get the information.

... Yeah, and they are the ones who were talking to women who don't call the police.

... It kind of reminds me of the beginning of the movement, from battered women in general, battered women, there was no way to reach battered women, because there was no such thing as a battered woman, I don't know if you know about this, but, at one time all battered women were called masochist and they were all sent to mental hospitals, this was in the early 1970s' you know at that time what we had to do is put flyers in lady's room doors, on the inside, any place where a batterer would not be, gynecological exam rooms, various things like that, we had to get really creative and this is on manual typewriters we had to type these up in those days, there was no such thing as computers then, you know, and we

just thought of where would a woman go, how about the laundromat, how about this, how about that, and really try to think and reach out to these people to get battered women to come to this shelter, cause, there was, of course, no such thing as them, they were totally absent in general, now, they're present, but, we have to reach out to others.

... (Inaudible).

... Okay, so we don't have to evacuate yet, but-

... (Inaudible several conversations going on).

... There was a comment over here.

... I actually, (inaudible) we have a lot of questions about, it's kind of related to people who don't call the police, but there's a lot of battered programs, and obviously the numbers (inaudible) people who are perpetrating and how does that relate in terms of the numbers that we're getting in the programs.

... Very good question.

... Women coming into the daily program?

... Well, actually comparing how many are we getting through the criminal justice system in terms of identifying perpetrators versus are we getting the same (inaudible) .

... When you say DV programs, do you mean women? Or are you talking about batterer's intervention?

... No, I'm talking about women, I'm talking about advocate programs, legalize the (inaudible) program, shelters,

outreach program-

... Okay, you're reforming about perpetrators versus
(inaudible).

... Batterer's treatment, my favorite topic. Right, when
we say there's a lower (inaudible) rate, what is that mean,
does that mean that we're training batterer's how not to get
arrested, is that what a batterer's treatment program is?
Very good question, that's my little commentary.

... (Inaudible) and some of the concern that I have around
that, there has been discussion in my county that they will
not (inaudible) the victim's assistance program with the
criminal justice systems in terms of (inaudible) and I have
a lot of concerns about that, in order to give them numbers,
and I think that they're trying to take a much larger step,
than a simple study might be able to get information and
it's the same kind of thing, (inaudible) to help us ,
(inaudible)there's a lot of concerns about confidentiality,
and other issues (inaudible).

... Yeah, I don't know why you'd need that information,
like, who cares? Good question, I think there's another one
in the back?

... Two things, (inaudible) research on research or on us,
I would like to know like a researchers review, I would like
to know what the research is going to be used for, where is
it being published, who are the consumers of that research,

and particularly I know the second part of that is, that I think we have zero control over our abuser because it's connected to (inaudible) and so the research become something that's forced on program, in order to justify something, in order you have to do this research, (inaudible) you have no control as to what those questions are, or how they're grading.

... (Several people talking at one time).

... Another avenue of that to, is that is the number of very worthwhile funded research that has never been published and that it's sitting in somebody drawer somewhere, or some sociology, psychology, human resources, professors on drawing it, it became (inaudible) but it was not deemed worthy enough, or important enough to have taken and been done in an academic drill, or being published and being put in somebody's library so that there's a data base on int, and so consequently we get a lot of young very good, very talented researchers out there who throw up their hands and say well, I'm not going to do this anymore, because it didn't spark enough interest, or it never got published, or along those lines where they move on to other things and they had some great skills, good people skills, and then it just wasn't a subject matter that was the flavor of the month.

... There's an addendum for that, and that is the-almost

the opposite side of that, and that was how when we are published, where are they published, because if they stay in academic journals, there's a lot of people that don't read academic journals, somebody just (inaudible) Ebony magazine was read more that (inaudible)

So, I think it's a question of how does it get disseminated, how do you tell.

... How do you tell the story, who do we tell it to, and what form do we do that.

D... I also talking about information and asking, in trying to reach women who are not accessing services that the traditional violence program, I've been working trying to reach older women and women with disabilities for quite a few years, and it's becoming more, and more clearer the access of information is controlled by (inaudible) information from various agencies on aging, for example, a third Axiom, control to some of their people information that gets to older people, and all of a sudden I'll be working with a deaf community, and many people in the (inaudible) community are men, and do not necessarily (inaudible) and how to access information.

... Thank you, I have one-I'm sorry, yes?

... How (inaudible) services that sometimes they are (inaudible) but, they get a lot of money, and they (inaudible), population, they don't' know (inaudible) they

keep on using this.

... This is just a hypothetical, right?

... Well I have some strategies, and other people here do to, but, we can share one of the things that I, you know the hypothetical thing about the information that I brought up, that of course isn't really happening around the focus groups, I got in the car and so what do I immediately do ai call my colleague, over at Refugee Women's Alliance, and Conseho, and some of the other programs and say this is what's happening and what do you think?

I guess that we can-you know that thing about putting ourselves in that power and control, a lot of times, and I'm just thinking, am I just crazy that I'm thinking this, you know, am I crazy, and you know, that's how bad women you know, we use battered women (inaudible) and talking to other people and saying no I'm not and lets organize to say no, we're not going to do this, we're not going to do it that way, organizing with the other programs, really has been helpful for us.

So, does anyone have any other strategies they want to share?

... I do think that talking in these forums it also, this actually is going to the (inaudible) what we say here it does go up over to the national, so as comments and really products of this pork chops we really appreciate the brave

souls that came here on the very last workshop and we really thank you for the input and for the listening ears, and I hope that you go back and tell thoughts in your communis, thank you very much.