

# Request for Concept Papers

January, 1998

Dear Colleague:

The National Institute of Justice (NIJ) and the National Center for Injury Prevention and Control (NCIPC) of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention are initiating in Fiscal Year 1998 a collaborative five-year joint research program to understand the extent of violence against women, why violence against women occurs, and how to prevent it. The long range goal of this initiative is to achieve a highly effective, interdisciplinary, widely useful, and economic approach to the prevention, intervention, and control of violence against women. This research program draws upon the 1996 National Academy of Sciences report "Understanding Violence Against Women." This program will generate a series of announcements on research and evaluation on violence against women. Some will be jointly announced and others will be announced by NIJ or NCIPC separately. Interested researchers are encouraged to contact the National Criminal Justice Reference Service (NCJRS) at 800-851-3420 to be placed on the Family Violence and Violence Against Women mailing list to receive future announcements.

The purpose of this letter is to invite you to submit to NIJ a concept paper to conduct secondary data analysis on issues related to violence against women, including sexual assault, domestic violence, and stalking. A concept paper is a short, informal proposal, which must be no longer than ten double-spaced pages. The paper should include availability and description of data set(s) that would be used (longitudinal data sets are strongly encouraged); hypotheses to be addressed; analysis plans; a statement of policy implications; proposed investigator(s); a statement of qualifications; time frame (not to exceed 15 months); and a budget.

NIJ intends to award from 5 to 10 projects for up to \$150,000 each. The goals of the intended research are two-fold: to address gaps in our understanding of how violent behavior and victimization against women develop; and to identify any information on the developmental antecedents of violence against women.

Concept papers will be peer reviewed and full proposals will be requested of a selected number of applicants. Full proposals will be reviewed and recommendations for further consideration will be made to the NIJ Director according to the usual procedures established by the Institute. Applicants selected to receive funding will be required to submit to NIJ for archiving any data used for the analysis, including data sets not yet archived.

**Ten** copies of the concept paper should be sent to: Violence Against Women Secondary Data Analysis Program, National Institute of Justice, 810 7th Street NW, Washington, DC 20531. For overnight and courier delivery please use zip code 20001. Concept papers are due by 5:00 p.m. on **March 16, 1998**. Attached please find a brief, one page

description of the requirements for the concept paper. This announcement provides all available written information regarding this request for concept papers. Applicants with additional questions are directed to Angela Moore Parmley (202-307-0145 or e-mail [parmleya@ojp.usdoj.gov](mailto:parmleya@ojp.usdoj.gov)) or Bernie Auchter (202-307-0154 or e-mail [auchter@ojp.usdoj.gov](mailto:auchter@ojp.usdoj.gov)).

Sincerely,

**Jeremy Travis**  
Director

# Description of Requirements for the Concept Paper

The National Institute of Justice is soliciting concept papers to conduct secondary data analysis on issues related to violence against women, including domestic violence/intimate partner violence, sexual assault, and stalking. Concept papers are limited to ten double-spaced typed pages inclusive of all the sections listed below.

## **AVAILABILITY AND DESCRIPTION OF DATA SET(S)**

Applicants should provide a detailed description of the data that will be used for the analysis. Appropriate data sources include publicly held data sets, as well as privately held data sets. Applicants may use public health, medical, crime and criminal justice and other relevant data sets for the analysis. Applicants should utilize data sets that best address the issue of causality, such as longitudinal data sets. Data that has already been collected and is in machine-readable format, but not yet analyzed in regards to particular violence against women issues may be utilized. Applicants should demonstrate that the data are appropriate for the proposed goals of the research.

## **HYPOTHESES TO BE ADDRESSED**

The hypotheses that will be tested in the analysis should be delineated. These hypotheses should be related to the goals of this announcement which are to address gaps in our understanding of how violent behavior and victimization against women develop; and to identify information on the developmental antecedents of violence against women. While all research regarding violence against women is encouraged, applicants are encouraged to consider projects that will focus research on minority populations, rural populations, disabled women, and the elderly.

## **ANALYSIS PLANS**

Applicants should describe the proposed methods carefully and clearly. All proposed statistical techniques should be set forth. Of particular importance is demonstrating that the methods and design are appropriate for testing the proposed hypotheses.

## **STATEMENT OF POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

Applicants should provide a statement of the project's anticipated contribution to public policy and practice. Applicants should briefly cite those particular issues and concerns of present-day public policy that stimulate the proposed line of inquiry, and suggest what their own investigation is projected to contribute to current knowledge, policy and practice.

## **STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS**

Applicants should provide a statement of qualifications for the proposed investigator(s) not to exceed one page. Curriculum vitae may be attached to the concept paper.

## **BUDGET**

The budget narrative should list all planned expenditures and detail the salaries, materials, and assumptions used to estimate project costs. The narrative and cost estimates should be presented under the following categories: personnel, fringe benefits, travel, equipment, supplies, consultants, other direct costs, indirect costs, and total cost.