

Domestic Violence and Reentry

**Satellite Conference and Live Webcast
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Faculty

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Domestic Violence and Incarcerated Women

- **82% of incarcerated women have been abused physically or sexually**
- **1-7 women will be a victim of domestic violence**
- **1-3 women will meet an abuser**

What Is Domestic Violence?

- **Domestic violence is physical, mental, sexual, or emotional abuse in an intimate relationship**
- **It occurs when one person uses abusive tactics to gain power and control over a partner or former partner**

Tactics Abusers Use

- **Physical assaults**
- **Sexual assault**
- **Psychological and emotional abuse**
- **Threats and intimidation**
- **Isolation**
- **Manipulation of children**
- **Economic control**
- **Destruction of property or pets**

Incarcerated Victims of DV

- **Many criminal theorists hypothesize that physical and sexual abuses are the greatest reasons women commit the crimes that cause them to end up in prison**

Incarcerated Victims of DV

- Some argue that the traumatic effects of gender-based violence lead women to engage in criminal and destructive behavior including illicit drug use, sex trade, and violent crime

Incarcerated Victims of DV

- One of the most common forms of violence that women experience is domestic violence at the hands of a boyfriend or husband
- Others theorize women's pathways into crime most often comes from a desire to leave an abusive situation

Incarcerated Victims of DV

- The criminal behavior derives from an effort to flee or cope with the violence
 - Such as drug use or sex crimes
- Sometimes crimes are committed under the coercion of the abuser
- Some crimes are committed to earn money to escape the abuser

Incarcerated Victims of DV

- Women are less likely than men to commit violent crimes
- Most violent crimes committed by women are towards an intimate partner
- When women are violent, they are often violent against their abusers in an attempt to end the abuse

Re-entry Issues

- Pre-incarceration
 - Growing up in domestic violence
 - Pre-dispositions to becoming a victim
- Pathways to incarceration
 - Domestic violence led to crimes
 - Domestic violence indirectly led

Re-entry and Domestic Violence

- Domestic violence still at place of return
- Surrogate abusers are in place

Domestic Violence In Prison

- **Prison may not protect from abusive tactics**
- **Prison creates domestic violent relationships**
- **Correctional officers may perpetuate abusive tactics or re-traumatize victims**

Successful Re-entry

- **Address mental health**
 - **Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, depression, anxiety, and substance abuse**
- **Assess for risk and safety**
- **Plan for safety**
- **Develop plans to recognize triggers and how to develop healthy relationships**

Contact Us

**Alabama Coalition
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www.acadv.org