



Tribute to Raewyn Good

It is with profound sadness and an enormous sense of loss that we record the unexpected death of Raewyn Good.

Raewyn worked for the Ministry of Social Development (MSD) as a Principal Analyst, and did a huge amount of work for the Social Policy Evaluation and Research Committee (SPEaR). She represented MSD at the University of Canterbury Centre for Social Science Research (SSRC) among many other things.

Raewyn was the quintessential un-bureaucratic bureaucrat, an exceptional and effective networker. She wove connections within and between community, social science and official policy. A key to this, along with her extensive personal network, was a knowledge society approach that looked for innovative policy development methodologies that could overcome policy silos by connecting across boundaries, sectors and countries.

She had the rare ability to identify and support innovative connecting concepts and innovative connecting people.

Raewyn's academic background was in social anthropology and public policy. She was an acute observer. She took time to learn te reo Maori; lived and related well to people from diverse cultures especially Samoans and new settlers – those recently arrived in Aotearoa New Zealand. She had enormous empathy, particularly with women who had suffered in abusive relationships.

She made constant efforts to ensure the rich but often unheard voices of diverse communities were heard and taken seriously at policy levels and in publications.

Many people say they want innovation, but in practice, they often do not recognise it, and if they do they run a mile from it. Raewyn genuinely wanted innovation and recognised innovative practice and did much to support and implement it.

Raewyn was truly authentic and her approach to social policy development was based on authentic care about developing a truly inclusive society, by weaving and building connections from the flax-roots through to the top-level decision-makers.

Raewyn would have wanted this kind of connecting to continue. Hers will be a hard act to follow but we should try.

Written by Hazel Ashton and reprinted with permission.

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Redevelopment plans

Welcome to the January 2009 issue of the New Zealand Family Violence Clearinghouse (NZFVC) Newsletter. There have been some changes since the last newsletter, you may be aware that the NZFVC website is now being hosted and operated by the Ministry of Social Development (MSD). Also, our partnership relationship with the NGOs continues to provide an Outreach Coordinator who works out of NCIWR National Office.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the University of Canterbury and Te Awatea Violence Research Centre for all of the great work that they have done with NZFVC to date.

Now, I know what you're thinking – the Government hosting the Clearinghouse? Crazy!! Not at all: bringing the NZFVC into MSD will not compromise the way that it has always been run. The website will be hosted on the MSD server, but will continue to stand alone. Information on the site will still be neutral and we will be running the same moderation processes and working closely with the Outreach Co-ordinator and NGO consortium as has been the case. We are committed to keeping the integrity of the NZFVC.

Currently we are undertaking a redevelopment of the NZFVC website: there is a wealth of information on the site and we would like to improve accessibility and make it easier to use. It is important that we find out what people want and need in the site so we have undertaken a user survey. The survey is now closed. If you have missed out please feel free to contact me directly. While we are working on the site redevelopment we do not have the same level of staff resource that the Clearinghouse has had in the past. This will change after June 2009, so please do bear with us in the interim. I know that Philip Worthington (NZFVC Information Manager) and Jessica Trask (NZFVC Outreach Co-ordinator) will continue to do an amazing job of ensuring that you have what you need.

I have come on board to manage the redevelopment of the website, and am happy to discuss your ideas, answer your questions or chat about what you would like to see in general – please do feel free to contact me any time. I am passionate about the elimination of family violence and have worked in the field before so it is great for me to be able to be part of this project. I am also project managing the Community Study as part of the research and evaluation work being done to support the Campaign for Action on Family Violence.

There are some great articles in this issue of the newsletter, please take the time to read through it. And remember, you can get all of this information and more through the NZFVC website!

Kāti ake nei

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NZFVC Enquiries

Please contact us if you have any enquires, or if you have research you would like to contribute to the Clearinghouse.

Email: info@nzfvc.org.nz

Phone: 04 916 3720

Postal: c/- Knowledge Sharing and
Communications
Ministry of Social Development
PO Box 1556
Wellington 6140

Sexual violence research project first of its kind

The Ministry of Women's Affairs (MWA) is leading Strong and safe communities: effective interventions for adult victims of sexual violence in partnership with the Ministry of Justice and the New Zealand Police (Police). This two-year sexual violence research project currently underway is the first of its kind to be funded by Government, one of several factors that make the research project unique.

The broad scope of the work streams and the wide range of methods being employed in the research also set the project apart.

One work stream, which is an international and national literature review on best practice and challenges for agencies that respond to survivors of sexual violence, has been completed in draft form. A study on the attrition rate for sexual violation offence charges recorded by Police between July 2005 and December 2007 is also completed and the data is being analysed. This is the first New Zealand study that will provide information on how many sexual violence survivors withdraw during the different stages of the criminal justice process, after initially making a complaint.

An "environmental scan" of systems, agencies, and organisations that are available to adult victims and survivors of sexual violence is underway. This includes in-depth case studies in three locations. This study will provide information and a better understanding of our current capacity to respond

effectively to survivors as well as examining factors that hinder response.

The final work stream is a qualitative study that centres on the victim and involves surveys and interviews with both male and female survivors. This will give us insight into survivors' health and well-being and will help improve our understanding of how survivors seek help and cope with their experience, both short-term and long-term.

The research findings from all four work streams will fill important gaps in information on survivors' help-seeking; reporting and prosecuting of sexual offending; has the potential to improve support systems for survivors of sexual violence; and enhance the likelihood of victims/survivors reporting to police and persisting through the criminal justice system, where appropriate.

These varied work streams will result in a strong evidence base for the final report and recommendations to Government. The research is one initiative contributing to a wider programme aimed at reducing family and sexual violence in New Zealand. The research project recommendations will centre on improving responses to survivors across the criminal, justice, and health sectors.

The research project manager is Dr Denise Lievore and the research co-ordinator is Nicole Benkert. The team is working closely with NGOs to support the work of the project.

For more information:
www.mwa.govt.nz/our-work/svrproject



2009 Events and Conferences

[Dissociation of the Personality and Childhood Traumatization: Theory, Research and Treatment](#)

13-14 February - Auckland
18-19 February - Wellington
23-24 February - Christchurch

[The 5th ANZATSA Conference](#)

5-7 March
Sydney, Australia

[2009 Early Intervention Association of NZ Conference](#)

Quality Practices: New Practices

30 March - 1 April - Auckland

[Un-Masking Violence Conference](#)

28-29 April - Hawera, Taranaki
To Register: contact HRC by email, post or phone for a registration form
Phone/fax: 06 278 6399
Email: hrcfc@xtra.co.nz
Post: Summit House, 6 Furlong St, PO Box 196, Hawera 4640

[Sixth ISPCAN African Regional Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect](#)

4-6 May - Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

[International Conference on Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence & Stalking](#)

18-20 May - Anaheim, California

[11th European Conference on Traumatic Stress](#)

Violence and Trauma in Lives and Communities - Roads to Prevention and Repair
15-19 June - Oslo, Norway

For more events and conferences, see
www.nzfvc.org.nz/events.aspx

Accounting for Safety: A Sample of Women Victims' Experiences of Safety through the Waitakere Family Violence Court report

This research report, commissioned by the Ministry of Justice, looks into the safety experiences of women whose partners have been convicted of violence against them is the third study in a programme of evaluative research of the Waitakere Family Violence Court.

The aim of this study was to understand the experiences of some women victims who have been clients of community victim advocates during and after court proceedings in which their partners were sentenced to "come up if called upon" as a result of pleading guilty to family violence charges. How the court's provision of victim advocacy services affects safety outcomes for victims and their families is a particular focus.

An interpretivist research methodology was chosen in order to identify diversity and accommodate the diverse experiences within the narrative accounts of the participants. The particular methodology of Interpretive Phenomenological Analysis (IPA) was chosen as the most appropriate because it utilises the meanings ascribed by individuals to events as the central research concern. Interviews were conducted with nine women victims and three key informant advocates to identify super-ordinate and subordinate themes.

Key findings from the interviews are presented according to the themes identified.

The researchers conclude that the arrest of an intimate partner for a violent offence constitutes a crisis within an ongoing pattern of controlling violence and abuse. Familial, community and social expectations leave women victims carrying multiple burdens of responsibility for their own victimisation and for their safety as well as the protection of their children. In this situation, victim advocacy involves collaborative interagency responses that are able to share a few of the burdens of these responsibilities at times when victims are experiencing traumatic re-offending. Community victim advocates play a vital role in working with women victims to provide reliable information on their safety to the court. They bring specialist knowledge of the psycho-social effects of ongoing intimate violence into the court's decision making process. In meeting the goal of protecting victims, community victim advocates are at the heart of the responses that enhance their safety. Building stronger, better resourced and more extensive coordinated responses provides the best opportunities for sharing the victims' burdens more widely. The responsibility for stopping the violence remains with the perpetrators and within social relationships that continue to support violence in our homes.

The report can be accessed here:
www.nzfvc.org.nz/14518.pub

DVD Review: *She'll Be Sweet*

This DVD looks at the way some men assert power and control over their partners through psychological abuse. It begins with two scenarios that clearly show the men involved asserting power and control over their wives/partners and their children. These two scenarios show how children are affected both directly and indirectly by the choices made by their fathers – in one case it is the physical health of the child that is put at risk by the decision of her father to pursue his own activities first and put the needs of his child second.

The story continues to focus on these two families, their friends and extended family and is centred on the birthday celebrations of a child turning two. The story is full of incidents that show how these men continue the psychological abuse of their partners as they focus on their own interests and self gratification. At all times in the story children are present as witnesses, as victims and as their father's pawns as they continually seek to exert power and control over their families.

There is a workbook to accompany this DVD. The workbook discussed the different methods shown in the video by which men exercise power and control over partners and children. It suggests possible advice and sources of support for people in abusive relationships, and looks at how they can move towards positive change. The workbook also suggests questions for facilitators to raise when leading discussions after the DVD. This DVD available for loan at <http://www.nzfvc.org.nz/14502.pub>

Introducing...

Jessica Trask
Outreach Coordinator
for NZFVC



Kia Ora

My name is Jessica and I'm excited to introduce myself as the new Outreach Coordinator for NZFVC. I first became interested in the issues surrounding violence against women through academic studies of Women's Studies and Political Science at Victoria University. I've rounded this out with a number of rich and colourful years working for organisations committed to supporting families and whānau experiencing family violence. During this time I have held positions within Refuge in both New Zealand and Sweden, which has had a strong impact on my analysis of family violence.

Most recently I've been living in my home town of Mt Maunganui and working as the Family Violence Coordinator for the Tauranga Moana Abuse Prevention Strategy (TMAPS), a relatively new community project aimed at providing an earlier, better coordinated and more effective response to families experiencing family violence within Tauranga Moana.

I am very passionate about community development and excited about the opportunity to work alongside your organisations in the incredibly important work you do. I found Sheryl Hann and the Clearinghouse an invaluable source of information and support during my time as TMAPS Coordinator and look forward to continuing and further expanding on the great work already done.

I look forward to speaking and meeting with you in the near future.

Kind Regards
Jessica

04 801 2707
Jessica@refuge.org.nz

And...

Philip Worthington
NZFVC Information
Manager



Greetings one and all

My name is Philip and I am Information Manager for the NZFVC. I've been in the role since the start of 2008 when I took over from Peggy McConnell.

My background is mainly in librarianship. I qualified in 1989 and have practised mainly as a reference librarian. Over the years I have worked in the Health Department, Parliamentary Library, Turnbull and National Libraries and most recently the Ministry of Social Development. I had a couple of years at the National Library as a user representative on large library technology projects. I began with the Ministry of Social Development in December 1998 when it was the Department of Social Welfare. A major appeal of my move there was the prospect of working in the social policy area.

I've always had a strong social conscience, gained no doubt from my parents. My father was a caring and progressive secondary principal and my mother, who has strong feminist principles, worked for the Palmerston North Women's Refuge for many years and was also a secondary school teacher. I am blessed to be married to Robin and have two young adult sons who do us proud.

I'm thrilled to be in my current role, supporting people who are working to eliminate family violence in Aotearoa New Zealand – it feels like a very good fit to me

I'm the person who maintains the website and the Information Collection and I'm looking forward to working with you in the New Year – there is much to do

Philip

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Philip.Worthington001@msd.govt.nz

Applications are invited for the fourth round of the It's not OK Campaign's Community Action Fund

The Community Action Fund (CAF) is a key part of the Government's Campaign for Action on Family Violence and has funded 97 community projects since it began.

CAF is intended to support locally developed initiatives to prevent family violence and change community attitudes towards family violence. Projects range from media campaigns to street flags to community wide strategies. A few of the funded projects are described below.

Igniting Change, funded in the first CAF round, is a local campaign in the Canterbury region which aims to show people the affects of family violence and what they can do to prevent it. This campaign is long term and multi faceted with components that include a survey of community attitudes, raising visibility with billboards on buses, wristbands and displays, as well as developing strategies with the local business community.

Ngati Kahungunu, one of the largest iwi according to the 2006 Census, was funded to develop Whakamoe Patu, a project which supports rangatahi (young people) in developing performances based on experiences of family violence. Rangatahi participate in workshops and wananga (discussions) leading up to the production, raising their awareness around all forms of violence and the impact that violence has on the lives of those affected. This initiative comes out of the Ngati Kahungunu Violence Iwi Strategy.

Their original drama Whakamoe Moe Patu - Lay Your Arms to Rest toured the lower half of the North Island to widespread acclaim.

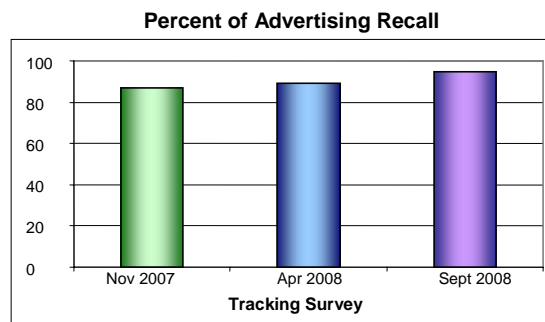


Projects focusing on creating violence-free environments in neighbourhoods, sports clubs, marae and businesses have been funded in a number of places.

The next round of CAF applications is open now and runs through 31 March 2009. Projects which focus on making protecting children and older people everyone's business will be prioritised. For more information go to www.areyouok.org.nz

If you are thinking of applying please call CAF before you start writing your application to discuss your project ideas. Contact [Cristy Trewartha](mailto:Cristy.Trewartha@nzfvc.org.nz) on 04 916 3922 or [Sally Rye-Dunn](mailto:Sally.Rye-Dunn@nzfvc.org.nz) on 04 9784190.

Reach and Retention: A tracking survey which measures the reach and retention of the TV advertisements from the first two phases of the mass media campaign for Action on Family Violence tell us that people are getting the message.



The data was collected through a telephone survey; overall 889 persons aged 18 to 49 years were included in the survey. Recall of the Campaign was high; 95% of the total sample recalled something from September 2008. These results are from the third tracking survey and this was an increase from 87% in the first tracking survey in November 2007 and 89% in the second tracking survey in April 2008.

Over one in five people (22%) who have seen the TV advertisements reported taking some action as a result. The most common actions reported by those who recalled the advertisements were:

- talked to family or friends about violence (14%)
- obtained information about family violence (8%)
- contacted some other organisation, professional or community leader to talk about violence they were worried about (5%).

For more information, go to www.nzfvc.org.nz/Initiatives.aspx

Shakti Community Council Opens Wellington Office in November



Shakti Community Council Inc has opened its office in Central Wellington in an effort to effectively lobby government policy and strengthen Shakti's presence at national and international levels. The office will be staffed by Organisation and Policy Development Coordinator, Priyanca Radhakrishnan.

Shakti was founded in response to immigrant issues and the rate of domestic violence in the Asian, African and Middle Eastern migrant and refugee communities in Aotearoa New Zealand. Shakti's first refuge was established in 1998 and currently the organisation has four ethnic women's refuges providing cultural-competent services besides other advocacy and support services. The organization provides an important space for the women seeking freedom from male violence and domination. Along with safe accommodation, other services include culturally appropriate counselling, advocacy, health support and life skills support.

For further information contact Priyanca on 021 516118 or 0800-SHAKTI.



Don't miss out!

Subscribe to the [NZFVC Newsletter](#) and keep yourself informed about:

- news
- research and evaluation
- conferences and events
- new books and reports

Men's Stuff

In a lighter vein:

A Bloke's Guide to Wearing Coloured Ribbons

White ribbon: Relax - this is not a threat. All it means is you don't think it's alright to hit a woman. Nothing else. End of story.

Yellow ribbon: This one's mainly about kids not feeling stink and killing themselves. Alright? No problem.

Pink ribbon: No worries - this one's about preventing breast cancer and that's not hard to support is it?

Red ribbon: Hmmm, now you do have to think a little about this one: it's about AIDS awareness. You know, that disease that cropped up in the 1980s that affected gay men more than most people? Well the good news is wearing a red ribbon means that you care about people with the disease and says nothing about your own sexuality. Okay?

There might be more ribbons, but that'll do for now.

XY is a website that provides access to information related to men, masculinity and gender politics. The site promotes personal and social change through exploring how gender and sexuality affects the everyday lives of men and women. XY "starts from the belief that many of our society's attitudes about masculinity are harmful to men and boys in a variety of ways, as well as being oppressive to women and children."

The hosts call the site "male positive" and aim to generate a "forum for men who are seeking to build life-affirming, joyful, and non-oppressive ways of being." The site contains articles ranging from topics on growing up male, fatherhood, intimacy, gay men, men's rights and men's liberation, as well as masculinity in relation to ethnicity, class, sexuality, criminology and family violence. There is an impressive volume and range of information available at www.xyonline.net

Book Reviews

In *It's Time We Started Telling These Stories* by Jane Tolerton,

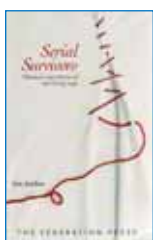
eight people talk about the family violence they experienced as children and how this affected the rest of their lives. They shared these stories to give hope to others that their lives can be healed and that the cycle of violence can be broken.

The idea for the book came from a women's hui about family violence held in Hamilton in 2006. The stories show the devastating effects of family violence as it is passed on from one generation to the next.

These stories are intended to help others who have suffered from family violence and to help New Zealanders understand the impact of family violence on individuals, their families and their communities.

Family violence thrives in secrecy – so the more we talk about it and understand it the more likely we are to prevent it.

Request the book here:
www.nzfvc.org.nz/14509.pub



*Serial survivors: Women's Narratives of Surviving Rape by Dr Jan Jordan

Serial Survivors collects the stories of some of the women who were raped by serial rapist Malcolm Rewa. It looks at the processes involved in surviving rape, and in particular the various aspects of the survival journey from surviving the attack itself, through the police and court processes and the parallel healing and recovery journey. Dr Jordan focuses on

the experiences of the women as they describe them. The book is alive with the words of these survivors, telling their individual stories from their own point of view. As one survivor says: "What some of us have experienced has been an hour with the counsellor or three hours in court, or nine hours giving the statement. And for a specific reason – questioned for a specific reason with a specific purpose". In contrast, Dr Jordan has ensured that these women's stories are the very centre and fabric of this book.

The courage of the women interviewed is clearly evident from the fullness of their accounts, which also gives the reader a strong sense of how motivated they were to be heard, valued and acknowledged. A real strength of the book is the depth of understanding the reader gets of how varied and complex each stage of the journey is. The cumulative impact of the individual stories demonstrates how each aspect of the process is an exercise in survival itself: "Surviving the assault, managing police interviewing, surviving and coping with going to court, surviving all the many impacts on their lives, and also managing how those close to them were affected."

As well as challenging the notion that survival is a oneoff event *Serial Survivors* also illuminates the divergent ways that these women used resistance, self-defence and survival strategies even when they were being victimised by a serial rapist or whilst being positioned as 'witnesses', an adjunct to the real action, in our

adversarial criminal justice system. It is this focus on the women's acts of resistance and survival that makes this book, despite its challenging content, one of the 'good, real and accessible' books about surviving rape that the participants were so motivated to contribute to.

Also read: Annette King, former Justice Minister's [speech](#) at the book launch. Request the book here: www.nzfvc.org.nz/14511.pub



*Surviving and Moving On: Self-help for Survivors of Childhood Sexual Abuse by Dr Kim McGregor

Surviving and Moving On is a book that was born out of repeated requests from survivors for more 'good, real and accessible' books about the journey of surviving sexual abuse. The book is a revised and (much) expanded edition of *Warriors of Truth* published in 1994. The warmth, practicality and depth of *Warriors of Truth* remain compelling in the new edition which also benefits from Dr McGregor's additional 15 years working with survivors and in the field of sexual abuse support.

The book is written specifically for adults who have survived childhood sexual abuse and their supporters. It is also clearly useful for those in the community working with all aspects of human wellness. The book is divided into sections; an information and educative resource on the nature, extent and con-

* Reviews by Paulette Benton-Greig, Auckland Sexual Abuse HELP Foundation. Reviews kindly supplied courtesy of the Foundation. If you would like to receive HELP's newsletter please contact them at admin@sexualabusehelp.org.nz with your contact details.

sequences of child sex abuse. Using the words and stories of survivors, the myths and preconceptions about how children, families and offenders are implicated in abuse are dispelled and negated. In their place is the opportunity for all of us to know and understand the reality of child sex abuse.

The second and largest section of the book is packed full of tools and techniques for survivors to make use of on their journey of healing. Chapters such as 'recognising ways you have coped' and 'getting rid of self blame' recognise the diversity of impacts that abuse may have had in a survivor's life and provides practical exercises for acknowledging the strengths and limitations of coping strategies and for beginning to make changes.

Recognising that when one child is hurt by sexual abuse, a whole family and community are hurt, section three gives caregivers and supporters practical advice on the best ways to help. Openly addressing how challenging it can be to be a caregiver or supporter, the information and advice aims to empower supporters to be an important part of a survivor's healing process.

Request the book here:
www.nzfvc.org.nz/14501.pub

It's About Boys: the Good Man Project by Celia Lashlie and Kathleen Pivac

This report is an outcome of The Good Man Project which aimed to develop a working definition of what makes a good man in the context of the education of boys in single-sex

boys' schools in New Zealand. The key research questions at the start of the project were: What is the definition of a good man?; What is the essence of being male?; What does it mean to be a young man in the 21st century?; and What makes a good man in the 21st century?

The project methodology involved 'total immersion' visits of three days duration to 24 schools from September 2002 to August 2003. During each visit the author conducted and recorded a series of exploratory open-ended conversations with staff, management and as wide a range of students as possible. The project hoped to influence the direction taken by boys' schools in the education of their students. The report is intended as a discussion document about the needs of boys in today's world and discusses ways to deliver appropriate life skills to all boys in schools. It seeks to stimulate informed discussion about male rites of passage.

The author suggests the development of a training module for schools that seeks to maximise the inherent strengths of boys' schools and includes a module designed specifically for women teachers. She was surprised at how well developed boys thoughts were and how articulate they could be when given both the time to think about the question and then deliver their answer. It is suggested that schools need to create the opportunity to develop the art of conversation, including active listening, and outlines how this may operate from years 11-13. She also sees merit in investigating the potential positive impact of

exploring in depth the concept of Maori warrior culture.

Request the book here:
www.nzfvc.org.nz/14516.pub



Boys Raising Babies: Adolescent Fatherhood in New Zealand by Gareth Rouch

Teenage fathers are not well regarded in society and there is a dearth of research on this group both here and overseas, whereas research on teenage mothers is prolific. In addition the author suggests that much of the research that is available on this group is based upon assumptions which are open to challenge. Barnardos chose to publish this research in order to share more of what is known about teenage fathers and their potential to be effective loving parents. The adolescent fathers were recruited with the aid of guidance counselors at high schools in the North Island. Discourse analysis is used to explore and present the in-depth views of the 12 teenage boys about the experience and emotional impact of becoming fathers for the first time.

Contrary to prevailing stereotypes the boys were found to have undergone a transformative experience and seek to create a better life for the child they have fathered. The young fathers have a strong sense of duty and responsibility towards their children and want them to avoid the mistakes they themselves have made. Mike Coleman of Barnardos contributes a chapter which considers policy

implications arising from the research.

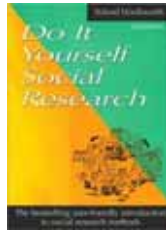
Request the book here:
www.nzfvc.org.nz/14499.pub



***In Love and in Danger: A Teen's Guide to Breaking Free of Abusive Relationships* by Barrie Levy**

Many high school students experience some form of physical abuse—being hit, slapped, or physically hurt on purpose by a boyfriend or girlfriend. Even more teens report emotional and psychological abuse in their relationships. This book is a revised and updated edition which is written for teenage readers. It aims to help teenagers who have questions about abusive dating relationships understand the causes and consequences of their situation learn what they can do about it, find help from parents and other adults, and discover how to build healthier relationships. It addresses young adults directly in a straightforward and non-condescending manner. It includes facts about dating violence, tips for how to tell if your relationship is abusive, information on dating abuse and on what you can do if you are being abused by (or are abusing) someone you love.

Request the book here:
www.nzfvc.org.nz/14508.pub



Do it Yourself Social Research by Yoland Wadsworth

This introduction to social research methods became a runaway bestseller when it was first published. For 15 years it has been used by students and professionals in sociology, social work, community development, education, health, welfare, psychology, management, environmental studies, legal studies and many other fields. Now thoroughly revised and updated, it takes the reader through the basics of research, including:

- Where to start
- How to manage a research project
- Methods, techniques and resources
- Interpretation, analysis and communication
- Examples and resources

Do It Yourself Social Research will continue to be an essential reference for anyone doing research in the social sciences and human services."-- Publisher's description.

Request the book here:
www.nzfvc.org.nz/14503.pub

Improvements to Sexual Violence Legislation in New Zealand: Public Discussion Document by the New Zealand Ministry of Justice

This discussion document from the Ministry of Justice seeks the views of the public on a number of possible law changes to the

Crimes Act and the Evidence Act. The changes aim to improve the response of the criminal justice system to sexual offending. The areas of change under consideration are: the legal definition of consent and extending the rape shield (that is limits on the ability of the accused to cross-examine the complainant). For each issue, the current New Zealand law is set out followed by examples from Australia, Canada and the United Kingdom. The issues are discussed and disadvantages and advantages are considered. Options are provided and a preliminary proposal is presented as a possible preferred option for consideration and comment. Finally, questions are raised in order to get feedback on each issue. In addition the paper presents examples of some alternative models and practices that are designed to provide more positive experiences and outcomes for victims of sexual violence. These are the use of an inquisitorial rather than adversarial approach, the use of restorative justice processes, and specialisation of staff and agencies. Public feedback is sought in a more general way on these models and practices before policy options are developed for consideration by the Taskforce for Action on Sexual Violence and the Government.

Request the document here:
www.nzfvc.org.nz/14507.pub

Hamilton Abuse Intervention Project Campaign

An exciting campaign by the Hamilton Abuse Intervention Project (HAIP) works alongside other campaigns run by the Hamilton City Council (HCC) and New Zealand Police. These campaigns have been launched using violence-free messages. The HAIP campaign utilises messages on the side of buses to support Hamilton families and whānau to have violence-free homes. The campaign uses both billboards and newspaper advertising to send similar messages utilising terminology from the national *Its Not Ok* initiative. It also uses television and local newspaper articles and personal family stories highlighting family violence and the effects.

HAIP received funding from the Community Action Fund (CAF) for a campaign which began in November featuring messages displayed on the sides of local buses. The messages linked with White Ribbon Day.



HAIP have also set up a special phone line to invite a response to their campaign and offer support where requested. The 0800 No2ABUSE hotline is available Mon-Fri 9-5pm during the campaign period. Two more bus campaigns are planned for during the 2009 Hot Air Balloon Festival and V8 Racing; in June another is planned during Hamilton's Field-days when visitors are at their maximum capacity.

The HCC media campaign has been well supported by the Hamilton community by involving well known local people (including the Mayor) and linking with the images and themes of the campaign.

For further information regarding this campaign please contact [Lila Jones](#) at 07 834 3148.

DVD Review: He Drove Me Mad

This is a dramatised documentary for service providers that explains mental illness and substance abuse resulting from domestic violence. Many people in frontline jobs encounter women with these issues. Usually, however, they will not be aware of what's going on behind a woman's "difficult" behaviour or will feel ill equipped to deal with the multiple problems she presents. This dramatised documentary is designed to help police, social service agencies, lawyers, health professionals, voluntary and NGO services to understand the difficult women they meet and take constructive action to help them. The documentary presents the viewers with:

- ▶ Dramatised experiences of women who have been abused – and are mentally unwell or drunk – as they attempt to get help. The situations are taken from real-life stories, demonstrating a number of the barriers that women in this situation encounter when trying to access help
- ▶ Information about the size and scope of the problem in New Zealand and how agencies can constructively help
- ▶ The stories that can lie behind that difficult client.

It has a teaching resource, which consists of:

- ▶ Handouts about domestic violence; the mental health effects of domestic violence; what to do and what not to do; specialised services; and current responses to victims of domestic violence with mental health/substance abuse problems.
- ▶ PowerPoint presentation that supports the information on the DVD
- ▶ A booklet that explains how to use the teaching resource, suggested teaching activities and a teaching programme using the documentary.

The script was developed under the guidance of women who have lived through these circumstances. Raising awareness of these women's predicament and providing constructive responses can free women from lives of violence and abuse, break the process of intergenerational abuse, contribute to the elimination of violence against women, and promote peaceful homes and communities. This DVD also has a companion website (www.hedrovememad.com), which is an online community support group for people who have been traumatised by domestic violence. It features a forum, events calendar and news section. This DVD is available for loan at <http://www.nzfvc.org.nz/14504.pub>

Victims of Domestic Violence Policy Changes

The Department of Labour (DoL) has announced a series of changes to improve access to the Victims of Domestic Violence (VDV) Immigration Policy. These changes were agreed upon by Cabinet in September 2008 and are set to be implemented in March 2009. The Ministry of Women's Affairs, Shakti and several other stakeholders provided significant input during the policy review process.

The VDV policy affects foreign-born partners of New Zealand citizens and residents. It seeks to better protect foreign-born partners of New Zealand citizens if they had intended to seek residence on the basis of that relationship: if the relationship ended because of domestic violence on the part of the sponsor, they are able to apply for a work or residence permit, which allows the applicant the opportunity to apply to remain in New Zealand without requiring to be sponsored. This policy change also gives consideration to the difficult circumstances that the applicants of work permits and residence under the VDV policy face and all application fees are waived. DoL is set to review the policy 12 months after the proposed changes are implemented.

Policy changes

The following changes intend to enable more applicants to meet policy criteria.

- A policy objective statement will recognize New Zealand's international obligations to protect victims of domestic violence.
- The policy will be broadened to recognize that domestic violence may have been perpetrated by anyone in a "domestic relationship" with the applicant (not just their partner).
- Applicants for temporary work permits under the policy will be allowed to demonstrate only that domestic violence has occurred, rather than having to prove both domestic violence and their inability to return home.
- The temporary work permit under the policy will be extended to up to nine months.
- The VDV policy will be extended to allow the use of non-judicial forms of evidence for domestic violence. This evidence will be statutory declarations completed by the applicant and two further statutory declarations completed by competent persons in different professions. This creates an alternative option to approaching the Police for evidence.
- The requirement that applicants be referred to the DoL by a Child, Youth and Family Services approved refuge be removed so that applicants can choose who they wish to support them, or refer themselves.
- The criteria for gauging whether a person cannot be returned to their country of origin will have to be broadened so that applicants need only show that if they returned, they would either:
 - have no means of independent financial support from employment or other means
 - be at risk of abuse or exclusion from their community because of stigma.

Key messages for early intervention arising from the research

The culture of cool: getting in early to prevent domestic violence

The underlying thesis of this project is that men's violence towards women is preventable. This study aims to identify the social and cultural values and beliefs that inform ownership practices and in doing so increase the possibilities for preventing men's violence towards women by bringing the language, values and beliefs that support ownership practices out of the unspoken realm and into conscious awareness. When the language, values and beliefs that inform ownership practices are made overt, the history of them, the impact of them and the behavioural trajectories of them are open to critical appraisal. These appraisals open up possibilities for resistance.

If young people are more informed about these practices they will be more able to resist them in their own relationships. The practices of dominance and entitlement that emerge from social and cultural pressures can no longer be considered "natural" or "just the way things are" for men and women. Young people's actions in relationships become informed conscious choices.

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The culture of cool

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The intention of this research is that the knowledge uncovered can be employed to construct new curricula in schools and to inform existing curricula which work towards the early intervention and the prevention of domestic violence. It is hoped that these curricula will involve critically reflecting on our cultural heritage - questioning historical and current media representations and other institutional practices that promote ways of being which work against ethical and just behaviour in boyfriend/girlfriend relationships - and promoting egalitarian relationships which appear to protect women from men's domestic violence.

This research demonstrates that qualitative research of this nature can provide important knowledge about the relationship between culture and violence and can usefully inform early intervention and prevention practices.

Early intervention involves identifying the early warning signs. In this study the following early warning signs of a controlling or possessive relationship were identified through focus group discussions with young women:

- ▶ the boyfriend has a sense of entitlement – he assumes he knows what the young woman wants
- ▶ he acts as if he owns her
- ▶ he makes increasing denigrations of things she likes such as her dress sense
- ▶ there are increasingly extreme put-downs commonly involving her sexuality
- ▶ he engages in surveillance – this begins with frequent loving phone calls and increase to demands that she account for how she spends her time
- ▶ she loses her sense of pleasure and her sense of her own identity
- ▶ she becomes increasingly isolated from friends and family.

Recommendations for prevention are:

- ▶ young people are taught, through critical cultural studies, to critically appraise contemporary cultural constructions which objectify women and which limit identities of men
- ▶ links are made between the objectification and the subjugation of young women in media representations and the treatment of young women as possessions in relationships

- ▶ education campaigns promote ethical and just relationships
- ▶ the Campaign for Action on Family Violence be opened up to address the violence experienced by young women from their boyfriends
- ▶ early intervention be directed towards young women through education campaigns available at sites of their everyday activities.

Key messages for people working in the NZ family violence sector:

- ▶ That qualitative research is used to provide new understandings to assist in the development of a prevention focus towards domestic violence and in the development of knowledge that would contribute to prevention programmes.
- ▶ That existing women's organisations seek funding for young women's education programmes.
- ▶ That social service providers, school guidance counsellors, health providers, mental health services and family planning staff learn about young women's experiences of ownership practices by boyfriend
- ▶ Ensure that the opportunities exist for young people to get education about the early warning signs and about ethical and respectful relationships and decision-making.
- ▶ Use young people's language - the language of cool to promote ethical and just relationships.
- ▶ Ensure social service and health providers routinely enquire about the young person's relationships and about how decisions are made within this relationship: about the quality of the relationship.
- ▶ Ensure social service and health providers enquire about the relationship between drug and alcohol use and relationship problems.
- ▶ Identify the early warning signs - teach young women, their parents and caregivers to be aware of the early warning signs of ownership practices and to be able to identify ethical and justice decision-making in relationships.

Request [The Culture of Cool](#) from the New Zealand Family Violence Clearinghouse.

Acknowledging (some) of those who have gone before and showing some new faces

The NZFVC is the national centre for collating and disseminating information about domestic and family violence in Aotearoa New Zealand. We provide free information and resources for people working towards the elimination of family violence.

This photo shows some past and present staff who have contributed to the NZFVC. Clockwise from top right:

Philip Worthington, Information Manager

Raewyn Good, Principal Analyst. Raewyn sadly and suddenly left us for family violence prevention heaven on 2 December, having given much. She continues to watch over us.

Jeff Sheerin, Manager Knowledge Sharing & Communications, the unit at MSD which houses the NZFVC and Information Collection.

Sheryl Hann, the first Outreach Coordinator now works with the It's Not OK Campaign team within Family and Community Services at MSD.

Nick Fahey, the founding Project Manager and now works as Crime Prevention Facilitator for the Christchurch City Council.

Desiree Brown, Jeff's predecessor, now Enterprise Content Manager at MSD.

Jude Hamer, Research/Database Administrator over many years with the NZFVC in

Christchurch. She is currently interested in a family violence-related role in Christchurch.

Yvonne Crichton-Hill, former Project Leader and is Deputy Head of the School of Social Work and Human Services at the University of Canterbury.



Legislative Update

Domestic Violence Amendment Act 2008

The Domestic Violence Amendment Act 2008 has been passed but is not yet in force. It will come into force on date to be appointed by the Governor-General. The changes in the Act were introduced as the Domestic Violence Reform Bill 304-1 (2008). The Explanatory note of this Bill sets out the rationale for the changes: "A Ministry of Justice evaluation conducted in 2000, and further research commissioned by the Ministry of Women's Affairs in 2007, concluded that the domestic violence legislative regime did not need a major overhaul. The Act therefore aims to strengthen the current regime to provide better protection to domestic violence victims." The main changes are to the Domestic Violence Act 1995, the Care of Children Act 2004, the Sentencing Act 2002 and the Bail Act 2000. A complete version of the act can be found at www.legislation.govt.nz/act/public/2008/0077/latest/viewpdf.aspx

Domestic Violence Reform Bill 304-1 (2008):
www.legislation.govt.nz/bill/government/2008/0304-1/latest/DLM1642906.html

Domestic Violence (Enhancing Safety) Bill

Public submissions are now being invited on the Domestic Violence (Enhancing Safety) Bill. The closing date for submissions is Friday, 27 February 2009

The bill amends the Domestic Violence Act 1995, the Sentencing Act 2002 and the Bail Act 2000. The key enforcement initiative is the introduction of an "on the spot" order issued by the Police for the purpose of protecting victims of domestic violence.

Information on making a submission:

<http://www.parliament.nz/en-NZ/SC/SubmCalled/0/8/e/49SCJEdomesticviolence200902271-Domestic-Violence-Enhancing-Safety.htm>

For information on the bill and the first reading in Parliament: www.parliament.nz/en-NZ/PB/Legislation/Bills/a/0/4/00DBHOH_BILL8993_1-Domestic-Violence-Enhancing-Safety-Bill.htm