



# South Eastern Domestic Violence Partnership

# Stopping Domestic & Sexual Violence & Abuse in N. Ireland 2016

## **Definition:**

***'threatening, controlling, coercive behaviour, violence or abuse (psychological, virtual, physical, verbal, sexual, financial or emotional) inflicted on anyone (irrespective of age, ethnicity, religion, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation or any form of disability) by a current or former intimate partner or family member'***

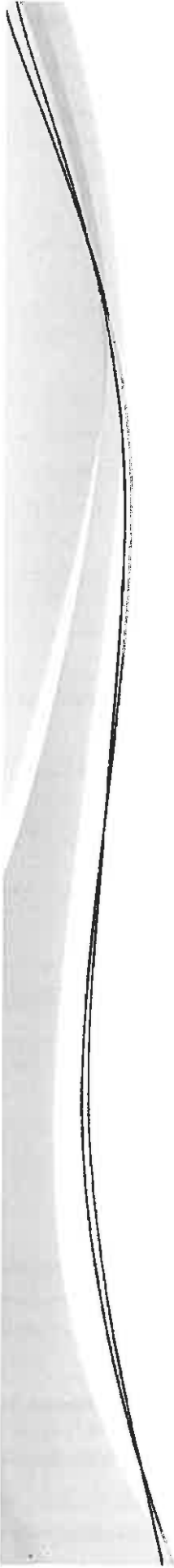
# **Northern Ireland Statistics**

**2014-2015**

- **PSNI responded to 28,287 domestic abuse incidents – Approx. one every 19 minutes**
- **13,426 domestic abuse crimes recorded by PSNI**
- **Approx. one domestic abuse crime every 41 minutes of every day**
- **6 murders with domestic violence motivation (37.5% of all murders)**
- **24 hour Domestic and Sexual Violence Helpline managed 34,420 calls**

# Women and Domestic Violence

- There are likely to have been 33 incidents before a woman reports to PSNI
- Every day across Northern Ireland 5 women and children come to stay in refuge because they are not safe in their own homes.  
(*Women's Aid Federation Annual Report 2013-14*)
- An average of two women die every week in the UK as a result of domestic violence (Not including death by suicide) (*DOH 2005*)
- 1,623 women were referred to MARAC in 2014 (95.7%)



**Statistics for MARAC in N.  
Ireland show that between  
January 2010 and December  
2015 a total of 12,219 children  
were recorded as part of the  
household**

## **Impact of Domestic Violence - The Risks**

- Direct physical or sexual assault on the child
- child abused as part of the abuse against mother
- child used as a “pawn” or spy by the abusive partner in an attempt to control the mother.
- child forced to participate in the abuse/degradation of abused partner.
- emotional abuse to the child witnessing the incident (hearing mum cry/scream, observe bruising, witness ambulance/police call outs to the home)
- unable to invite friends to the home.
- disruption to schooling due to rows which have kept family awake/mum fearful of going out in public to hide bruising etc



## **Children who witness domestic abuse suffer emotional and psychological maltreatment.**

- low self esteem,
- increased anxiety,
- depression,
- anger,
- fear,
- aggressive/violent behaviours,
- lack of conflict resolution skills,
- lack of empathy for others,
- poor peer relationships,
- poor school performance,
- anti-social behaviour,
- pregnancy,
- alcohol/substance misuse,
- self blame,
- hopelessness,
- shame and apathy,
- PTSD symptoms ie hyper vigilance and nightmares.



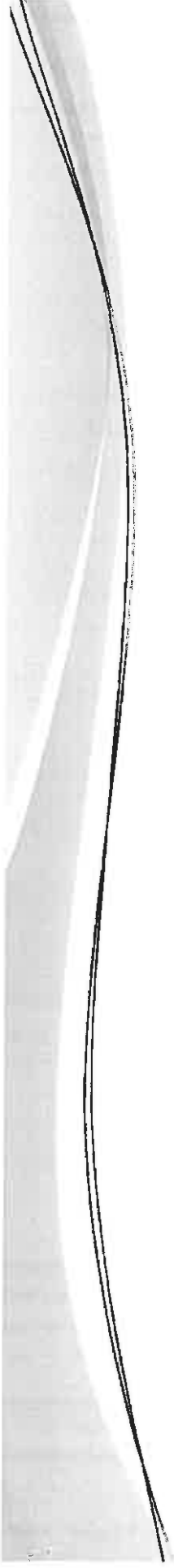
## **The impact will depend on:-**

- The severity/nature of the violence
- Length of time child is exposed to the violence
- Characteristics of the child's gender, age etc
- Warmth and support child receives.

## **The impact of domestic violence on unborn child:-**

- In almost one third of cases domestic violence begins or escalates during pregnancy.
- Mothers may be prevented from seeking ante natal or post natal care.
- Can impact on mum's attachment to the baby particularly if baby conceived through rape.





LDVPs were introduced in the five Health and Social Care Trust's. This initiative aimed to ensure implementation of the *Tackling Violence at Home* Strategy on a local basis. The LDVP are multi-agency partnerships that develop and implement action plans based on the needs of victims in the area taking into account gaps in local services, the needs of minority groups of victims and addressing community issues related to domestic violence.



# Partnership Aims

- To develop and deliver a high quality co-ordinated multi-agency response to domestic violence and abuse.
- To further increase and develop awareness generally about domestic violence and the measures in place to help victims and their children.
- To educate children, young people and the wider public that domestic violence and abuse is wrong and is unacceptable and to enable them to make informed choices.
- To hold perpetrators accountable and provide interventions to address their behaviours.
- To identify and share best practice within and across the Partnership.

# Who Are The Partner Agencies?

ARMY

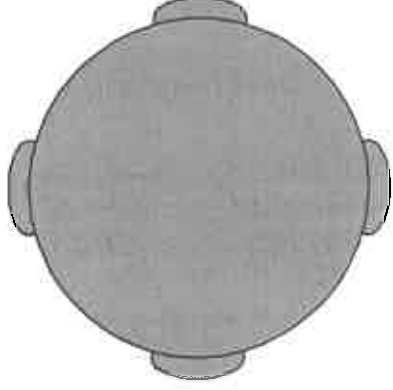
TRADE  
UNIONS

HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE TRUSTS

PUBLIC PROSECUTION SERVICE

POLICE

EDUCATION



VICTIM  
SUPPORT

HOUSING

POLICING & COMMUNITY  
SAFETY PARTNERSHIPS

WOMENS  
AID

PROBATION

COURT  
SERVICES/SOLICITORS

VOLUNTARY/COMMUNITY  
GROUPS



# Structure

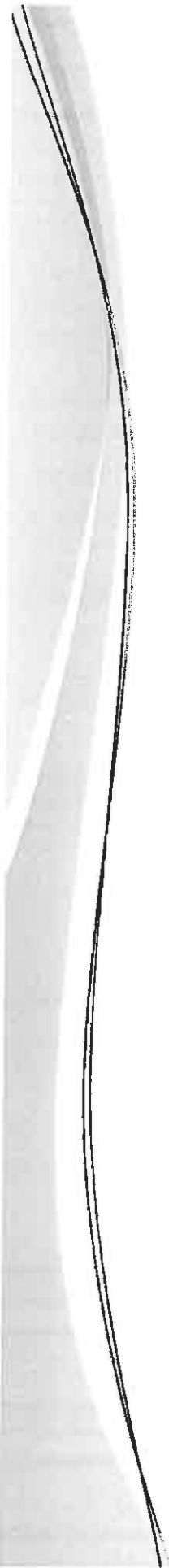
Steering Group – meetings 6 monthly

Subgroups – meetings 3 monthly;

- Down
- Lisburn
- ND & Ards
- Protection & Justice

# Our Response

- Stopping Domestic and Sexual Violence and Abuse Strategy launched March 16
- 5 local area domestic violence partnerships coterminous with HSC Trusts – multi agency/multi-disciplinary membership
- 5 public protection units coterminous with the respective Trusts
- 10 Women’s Aid consortiums
- SARC – The Rowan Centre
- Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) established January 2010
- Public Protection Arrangements for NI (PPANI)
- Safeguarding Board for NI (SBNI)
- NI Adult Safeguarding Panel (NIASP)
- Promoting Positive Relationships Programme (PPRP)

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- Female Genital Mutilation Protection Orders introduced in Northern Ireland
  - Co-Located Women's Aid Worker, Lisburn Police Station.
  - Domestic Violence Listing Arrangements
  - Routine/Targeted Enquiry
  - Domestic Homicide Review – working group
  - 24hr helpline
  - Domestic Violence Prevention Orders
  - New SEDVP Website now in place

<http://www.setrust.hscni.net/services/2685.htm>

# SEDVP Conferences, Seminars & Workshops

“Invisible Victims”



# “Working Together To Support

## BME Families





# “Listening, Sharing & Learning



# Other events

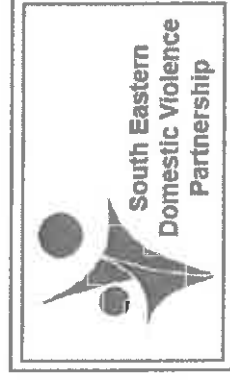
- “Safe Place” Event in Down Arts Centre – followed up in Ballymote Centre in 2013 (Paula Nixon/Heather Holland) and in 2014 (Ellen Brennan)





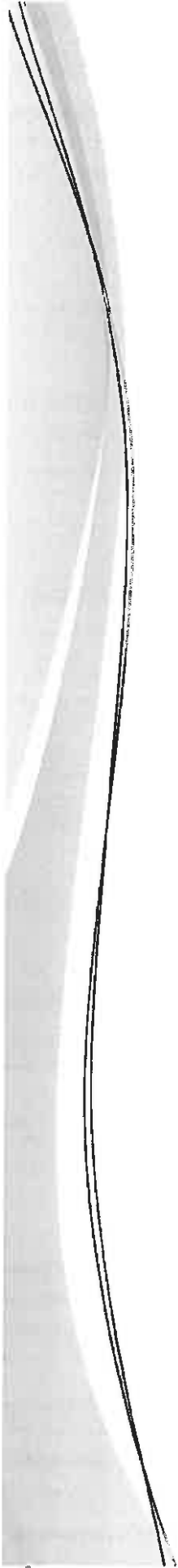
And more .....

- Child Contact Workshop – 02/12/14
- ‘Promoting Rights & Responsibilities in Adult Protection’ - 27/02/15



# Bad Romance





# Cool FM Media Bus



# School Community Events





# Awareness Raising Sessions

Presentations delivered to:

- Schools
- Lay Magistrates
- SBNI
- Psychologists
- Psychiatry
- BME and Young Women's Groups
- Court Services
- Radiographers

# And “Further Afield”!

- Bulgarian/Jordanian Governments







## Awareness Raising/Training

- Awareness Raising continues to be run 3 times yearly throughout the Trust area
- As a result a joint Belfast & SE DVP Training Menu is in the process of being developed
- As part of this “Impact of DV on Children and Parenting” Training piloted in February 2015. Further session planned for June 2015



## Other Work Undertaken

- Rowan Visits in May/June 2014
- New SEDVP Website now in place

<http://www.setrust.hscni.net/services/2685.htm>

- Directory of Services
- Lip Balms
- Plastic cards/posters

# ZOE LODRICK - Domestic & Sexual Violence

## The Human Response



# 16 Day's Of Action – Jane's Story

