



**Intimate Partner  
Violence (IPV)**

**The Community Advocacy Project (CAP)**

**Michigan  
2010 Statistics**

**41.8% of women have  
been the victim of IPV  
in their lifetime.<sup>1</sup>**

*Of those women:*

**32.8% reported fear or  
concern for their safety**



**27.9% reported  
Post-Traumatic Stress  
Disorder symptoms**



**22.8% had an injury and/  
or needed medical care**

**Data Source:**

1. National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey (NISVS), 2010

For more information:  
[www.cap.vaw.msu.edu](http://www.cap.vaw.msu.edu)

[www.injurycenter.umich.edu](http://www.injurycenter.umich.edu)

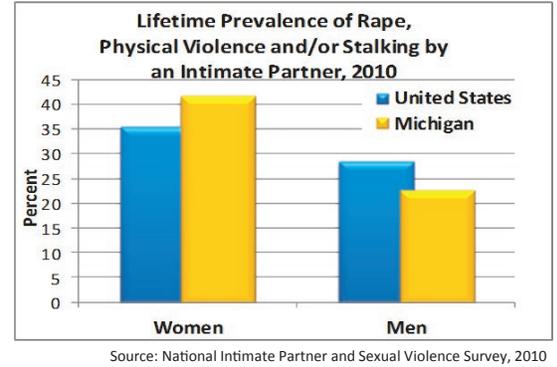
734-232-2105

[UMInjuryCenter@umich.edu](mailto:UMInjuryCenter@umich.edu)

**What Is the Problem?**

*United States Statistics:*

- 24% women have been the victim of severe physical violence by an intimate partner in their lifetime, compared to 14% of men.<sup>1</sup>
- 81% of women who were victims of rape, stalking, or physical violence by an intimate partner, reported significant short- and long-term health impacts, compared to 35% of men.<sup>1</sup>
- Of those with lifetime intimate partner violence (IPV), 36% of female and 16% of male victims reported a need for at least one IPV-related service (e.g., housing or legal services).<sup>1</sup>



**What Is One Solution?**

The Community Advocacy Project (CAP) is an evidence-based program created to help female survivors of intimate partner violence re-gain control of their lives. Developed by Dr. Cris M. Sullivan, Director, Michigan State University Research Consortium on Gender-based Violence, the intervention increases battered women's access to needed community resources and support.

**Program Components**

- Family-centered model and a strengths-based, survivor-driven approach
- 10-week intervention, 4-6 hours/week, occurs in the home and community locations
- Phases: assessment, implementation, monitoring, secondary implementation, and completion
- Delivered by trained female undergraduate students
- Primary aims:
  - ◆ help women protect themselves and their children from further violence
  - ◆ generate and mobilize community resources women report needing

**Evaluation**

Participants were randomized into: 1) an experimental group that received free advocacy services or 2) a control group that received services as usual. Women were followed for two years and reported on psychological abuse, violence from partners and ex-partners, quality of life, depression, social support, and their effectiveness obtaining resources in the community.<sup>a</sup>

**Evidence of Effectiveness**

- *Immediate:* The advocacy group reported being significantly more effective in reaching their goals compared to women in the services-as-usual (control) group.<sup>a,b</sup>
- *Short-term:* The advocacy group reported lower rates of further physical violence and depression and higher quality of life and social support compared to the controls.<sup>a</sup>
- *Long-term:* Quality of life for the advocacy group consistently improved post-intervention and explained the intervention's positive effects on social support at the 12-month follow-up, and access to resources and re-abuse at the 24-month follow-up.<sup>c</sup>

**Publications**

- Sullivan, Cris M., and Deborah I. Bybee. "Reducing violence using community-based advocacy for women with abusive partners." *Journal of consulting and clinical psychology* 67.1 (1999): 43.
- Sullivan, Cris M., et al. "An advocacy intervention program for women with abusive partners: Initial evaluation." *American journal of community psychology* 20.3 (1992): 309-332.
- Bybee, Deborah I., and Cris M. Sullivan. "The process through which an advocacy intervention resulted in positive change for battered women over time." *American journal of community psychology* 30.1 (2002): 103-132.