

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SURVIVORS AND HOUSING

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Legal Advocates, YWCA Spokane
April 26, 2018



WHAT WE DO

- **Our Mission:** The YWCA Spokane is dedicated to eliminating racism, empowering women, and promoting peace, justice, freedom, and dignity for all
- **Our Vision: EQUALITY FOR ALL:** By harnessing the potential of every woman, we bring real change to the fight for gender equality and racial justice, creating the building blocks for a world where social justice exists for everyone.
- **Values:** Courage, Compassion, Commitment

WHAT WE DO

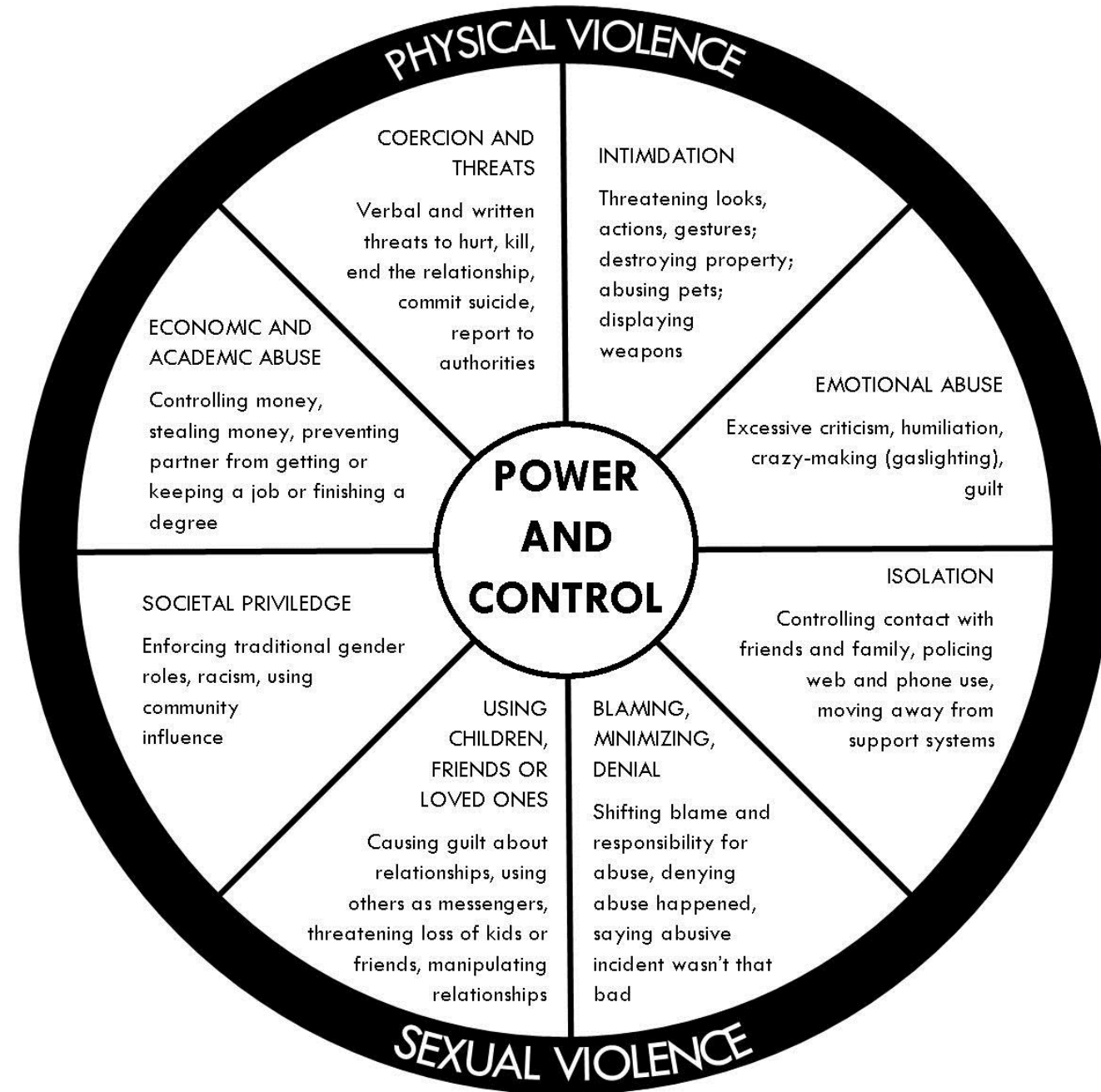
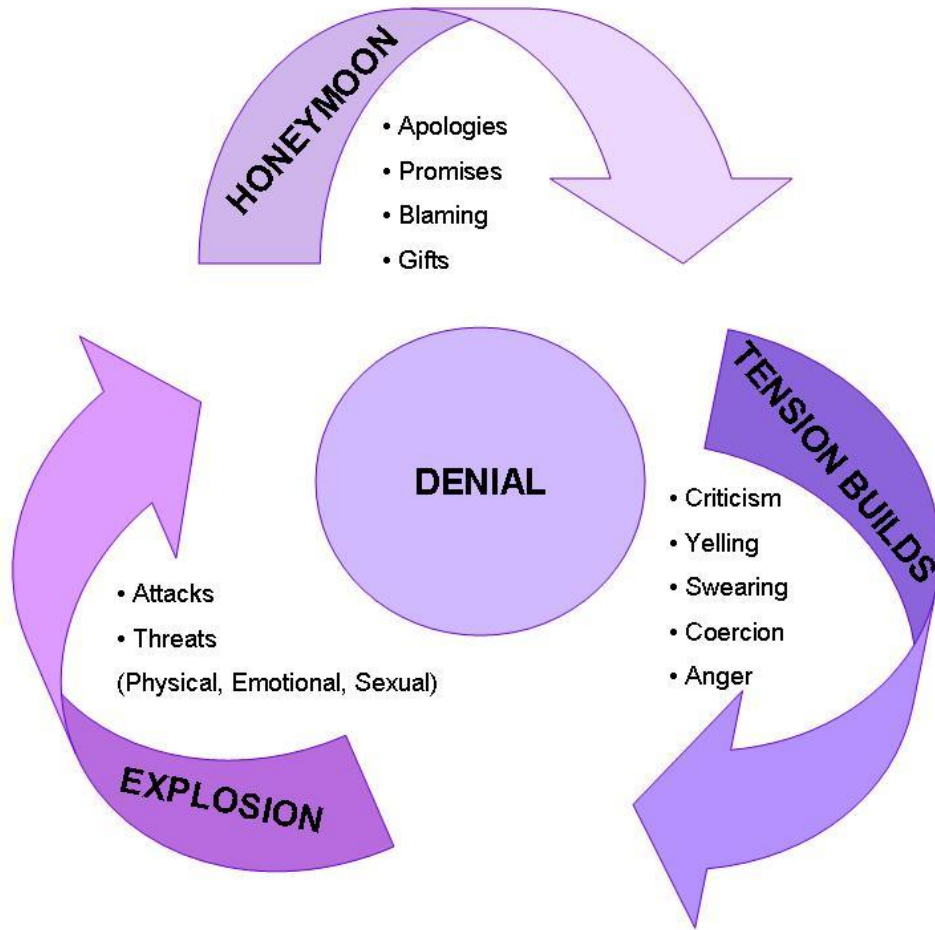
	Average number of Survivors Assisted/Year
Shelter/Safe Housing	600
Legal	2200/400
Counseling	2500
WOC	2000
Necessities	2000
Education	1000

WHO ARE SURVIVORS?



- Domestic Violence affects everyone
- 1 in 3 women and 1 in 7 men will experience Domestic Violence in their lifetime
- Women ages 16-24 are more vulnerable to intimate partner violence (IPV) than other age groups
- Socioeconomic status and education level do not necessarily prevent DV

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE



TRAUMA SYMPTOMS

- Trauma and the Brain
- Survivors might be in a place where they have not been able to deal with their trauma
- Symptoms can present in negative ways
- If possible, take a second to consider what the person in front of you might be dealing with unrelated to current situations





BARRIERS TO HOUSING FOR SURVIVORS

- Perpetrators have a lot of power in DV relationships, including housing
- Survivors may have minimal or negative rental history
- Certain housing providers may be hesitant to rent to survivors

LANDLORD/TENANT ISSUES FOR DV SURVIVORS

Washington

- Survivors can legally end their leases after meeting 3 conditions
 - 1. DVPO or a letter from a qualified third party
 - 2. Landlords must be notified in writing that survivor is a victim of domestic violence and attach DVPO or 3rd party letter
 - 3. The move must take place within 90 days of the incident
- Survivors are protected from evictions or refusal to renew lease based off of their status as a victim
- Landlords must change locks if respondent in a DVPO is also on the lease and cannot provide copies of new keys to the respondent

LANDLORD/TENANT ISSUES FOR DV SURVIVORS

VAWA 2013

- Continuation of core protections
- Emergency transfers
- Protections against adverse effects of abuse
- Low-barrier certification process



RE: Doe, Jane

Rental Properties, Inc.
555 Landlord Way
Spokane Valley, WA 99216

To Whom It May Concern:

I was a victim of an act that constitutes a crime of domestic violence.

On, 04/02/2018, I reported that incident to a qualified third party pursuant to the Residential Landlord Tenant Act. I have attached a copy of a record of my signed report to a qualified third party.

This letter is to notify you that I am vacating my unit on as soon as I can find another place to live with my four children in accordance with the Residential Landlord Tenant Act.

Sincerely,

Jane Doe



I, Jane Doe, am a victim of: Domestic violence as defined by RCW 26.50.010.

Brief description of incidents of domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking: Domestic Violence Assault in the 4th Degree. The incident(s) that I described above occurred on the following date and time, and in the following locations: March 23, 2017 at Spokane, WA 99204.

The incident(s) that I described above were committed by the following person(s): John Doe

I state under penalty of perjury under the laws of the state of Washington that the foregoing is true and correct.

Dated this 23rd of April 2018 at Spokane, Washington,

Signature of Tenant or Household Member

I verify that the person whose signature appears above was a victim of an act that constitutes a crime of domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking, and that the individual informed me of the name of the alleged perpetrator of the act.

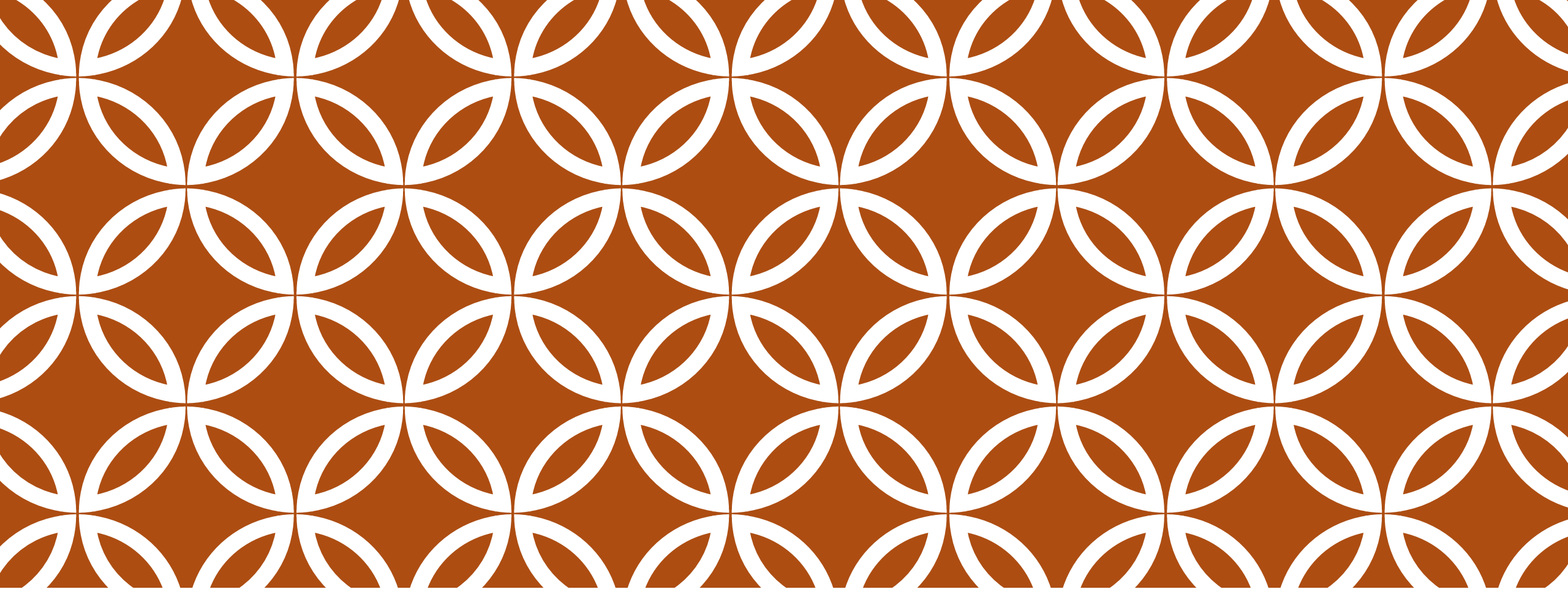
Dated this 23rd of April 2018 at Spokane, Washington,

Emily Morgan
Legal Advocate
YWCA of Spokane

Signature of Qualified Third Party

PROTECTION ORDERS

- Superior Court vs. District Court
- Pros/Cons of filing DVPO
- Process of filing DVPO
 - Petition/Paperwork
 - Ex-parte
 - Service
 - Hearing
 - Final decision



QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

