

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Selected media references and sources relating to male victimisation – updated to 2007

Compiled by David J Yarwood

for

Dewar Research

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David Yarwood has previously published on the issue
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NEWSPAPERS & MAGAZINES

Attributed items

2003 and later

Harries, Rhiannon. Why do men find it so hard to admit they are being abused by their partners? *Independent*, 3 February 2008.

Kicked, punched, spat at, burned - and still Johnny Keane [not his real name] didn't leave his girlfriend. Article about the painful experience of a man in his thirties. "It wasn't just an incident once a month, or even once a week even. It was a deeply harrowing incident every day. Sometimes a dozen times a day." Johnny experienced domestic violence in all its forms - "mental torture, manipulation and control through our children, as well as physical violence. But when you love somebody and they tell you they love you, it's very difficult to leave or pursue prosecution. She'd been a victim herself in the past. All I wanted was for it to stop." Comments also by Erin Pizzey; Patrick Jones, a writer from south Wales who spent seven years with an abusive partner; and information about *ManKind*, the only organisation which actually helped him.

Savill, Richard. Woman faces prison after poisoning husband's curry and wine with anti-freeze. *Daily Telegraph*, 30 January 2008.

A woman who tried to murder her husband on their wedding anniversary by putting anti-freeze in his wine and curry is facing a long prison sentence. Kate Knight, 28, poisoned her husband Lee Knight seven years after they were married in an attempt to claim £250,000 in life insurance payments and clear her mounting debts. Her "cowardly" attempt to kill the 37-year-old in April 2005 failed, although he was left in a coma for 16 weeks and was left blind and deaf with brain and kidney damage. Yesterday, Knight, from Stoke-on-Trent, was convicted of attempted murder at Stafford Crown Court and remanded in custody ahead of sentencing. She was warned by Judge Simon Tonking "I will be imposing a very considerable term of imprisonment."

Dugan, Emily. Defender of abused women finds a new cause: male victims. *Independent*, 17 January 2008.

Launching an on-line campaign and research project aimed at bringing the issue out in the open, Ms [Erin] Pizzey is hoping to raise awareness of abuse perpetrated by women against men - a subject she describes as "one of the last taboos." She has put a questionnaire on the website *femininezone.com* that allows women to answer questions anonymously about how they treat men. During the 1970s, Ms Pizzey created safe havens for hundreds of abused women, but she found it increasingly frustrating that people could only see females as victims. No one would consider giving funding to provide similar sanctuaries for male victims. "It's shocking that across the world there are no facilities giving sanctuary for men, and no sympathy. I think it's a deeply held taboo that if a man is assaulted by a woman he is weak, but if a woman is assaulted by a man she is a victim. It's social conditioning." Samantha Wilson, a therapist who specialises in domestic abuse, says she often sees men who were injured by women. According to Ms Pizzey, the issue [of male victims] is greeted with scepticism by police and social services, who, she says, often "refuse to believe" it. Reference also to a female perpetrator, Anna, whose boyfriend Paul became a 'punch-bag'. After several sessions [with a hypnotist] she began to control her anger, and now she and Paul plan to marry.

Magill, Rebecca. Taking steps to help victims. *Camberley & Yately Courier*, 4 April 2007. 'Taking Steps' is a special support group helping both male and female victims of domestic violence take time together to work through their problems.

Simpson, Trudy. Battered men: Help! *The Voice on-line*, Issue 1251, 9 January 2007.
Male victims of domestic violence cry out for assistance as they struggle to cope with their female abusers.

Sandhu, Veenu. Men new 'victims' of domestic violence. *Hindustan Times*, 4 November 2006.
The helpline at the Save Indian Family Foundation (SIFF) has not stopped ringing in the 10 days since the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act came into force. Counsellors are now reporting cases where the male callers are the victims, and the women perpetrators of violence - psychological, emotional or verbal. "Men are now being harassed by their wives with this new weapon" says Swarup Sarkar of SIFF. Supreme Court lawyer Ram Prakash Chugh of the All India Front Against Persecution by Wives corroborates "All our five helplines are clogged with calls from men being blackmailed with the threat of this new law."

Sapsted, David. Judge frees wife who axed cheat husband. *Daily Telegraph*, 23 August 2006.
A wife who axed her cheating husband to death after a decade of lies and deceit was freed by a judge yesterday. Wadanalegeder Chandrasekera, 59, suffered years of humiliation and isolation because of the activities of her philandering husband, who fathered a love child by her niece during a lengthy affair. She [eventually] snapped and, in a blind fury, attacked from behind and struck Sarath Chandrasekera, 57, with an axe 11 times on the back and head at the family home last October. The mother of two was initially charged with murder but a guilty plea to manslaughter on the grounds of diminished responsibility was accepted by the Crown after her mental condition was assessed.

Kin, Chong Chee. Battered husbands driven to kill their wives. *The Straits Times* (Singapore), 8 July 2006.
The courts [in Singapore] acknowledge spousal abuse as an important factor in a case. Indeed, it can mean the difference between life and death. Lawyer Sunil Sudheesan said that courts do take into account provocation that is contextual. Often, the psychological effect of spousal abuse can be so pronounced that the offender's responsibility for his crime is considered diminished and he will be charged with manslaughter, not murder.

Savill, Richard. Life for woman who killed ex-boyfriend. *Daily Telegraph*, 11 March 2006.
A woman who stabbed her Royal Marine former boyfriend to death in a "jealous rage" after he accidentally called her by the name of his new girlfriend was jailed for life yesterday. Danielle Bradley, 26, who was found guilty of murder, plunged a kitchen knife into the heart of James Swallow, 23, as they lay on her bed at her home in Plymouth. The judge told Bradley, who has a seven-year-old daughter, she would serve a minimum term of nine years, less time spent in custody.

Goodchild, Sophie. Record numbers of men are being hit by their stressed-out wives and girlfriends; perpetrators of domestic violence are increasingly female "and it's nothing to joke about, say campaigners." *Independent on Sunday*, 13 November 2005.
For centuries, women have been stereotyped as the passive victims of violence and aggression. Yet experts are now warning that record numbers of men are being physically abused by their stressed-out wives and girlfriends. New figures show that the number of calls to domestic violence helplines from male victims have doubled over the past five years. And now one of the world's leading feminist journals will investigate the issue of male abuse for the first time in its history: the *Psychology of Women Quarterly* will devote a whole edition to research on violent women and their behaviour towards men. The article includes comments from Professor John Archer, Professor Sylvia Walby, and Dr Malcolm George.

Berlins, Marcel. Writ large. *Guardian Law*, 7 November 2005.
She waited until he fell asleep, then glued his testicles to his legs, his penis to his stomach and the

cheeks of his buttocks together, following up by pouring nail polish on his hair. So far, just an everyday example of a scorned women's revenge, for which she was convicted of assault and put on probation. Unfortunately, the cad sued her for damages, and last week a Pennsylvania jury awarded him \$46,200 (£26,000). It wasn't even Superglue- the hospital nurses were able to peel it off. Englishmen contemplating a similar legal action would be lucky to get £500.

Kearns, Martha. Men hurt by women just groan and bear it. *Irish Independent*, 5 November 2005. Male victims of domestic abuse who are perceived as "wimps" certainly don't conform to the macho stereotype portrayed by *Eastenders* hard man Grant Mitchell. They do not make complaints as they feel they will not be believed if they say they could not defend themselves against a woman. Reported comments by Mary Cleary, founder of Amen, a voluntary support group for male victims of domestic violence, after press coverage of an alleged assault of Ross Kemp – who plays Grant Mitchell – by his wife, Sun newspaper editor Rebekah Wade. Also, an account of the prolonged violent experience of Sean, repeatedly assaulted by his wife, Katie, including once when he was nearly killed when she threw a radio into his bath.

Steele, John & Pook, Sally. Sun editor held for 4am 'assault' on TV hard man. *Daily Telegraph*, 4 November 2005.

Rebekah Wade, the editor of *The Sun*, was arrested and held in custody for eight hours yesterday on suspicion of assaulting her husband, the *Eastenders* actor Ross Kemp. She was later released without charge. Kemp, 41, who plays "hard man" Grant Mitchell in the BBC1 soap opera, was said to have declined medical treatment after receiving a cut to his mouth at the couple's home in Battersea. Wade, 37, was arrested at home around 4am for alleged assault. It was unclear who called the police but it is understood there was a 999 call from the couple's home.

Savill, Richard. The lawyer, her lover, and a sharp pain in the backside. *Daily Telegraph*, 6 July 2005.

A Crown Prosecution Service solicitor accused of stabbing her barrister boyfriend in the bottom during a drunken row is hoping to resume her legal career after a criminal charge against her was dropped yesterday. Elaine Hobson, 50, had been suspended for nine months following the allegation that she attacked Ramsay Quaife, 34, leaving him with two small cuts, one to his buttock and the other on his thigh. Hobson, of Probus, Cornwall, denied unlawful wounding. Discharging her, Judge Stephen O'Malley at Taunton Crown Court ruled that the potential damage to the lives of both parties by continuing with the case was "disproportionate" to the scale of the alleged crimes. Commenting on the justification for bringing the case, a spokesman said "We take domestic violence cases particularly seriously. Their domestic nature is an aggravating, rather than a mitigating, factor."

White, Richard. George and the Dragon. *The Sun*, 6 June 2005.

"Battered Best lied to docs to protect lover." George Best nursed two black eyes yesterday after he was beaten up by his lover. Furious Ros Hollidge, 37, attacked the soccer legend, 58, after he went on a booze bender at the Derby. She punched him repeatedly in the face, bruising his eyes and splitting his nose. His injuries were so bad doctors believed his initial story that he had been battered by thugs with an iron bar. Police last night confirmed Ros had accepted a caution for assault and no further action would be taken. Best has told Ros their relationship is over.

Newton Dunne, Tom. Sexy Sgt socked. *The Sun*, 18 April 2005.

A British Army wife at the Gutersloh base in Germany faces assault charges after battering her husband when she found him in bed with her pal. Warrant Officer Class One Karl Chapman, 40, was clobbered by his wife Brenda, an MoD kindergarten teacher, hitting him with a bedside fan. If convicted, she could face a jail term of up to two years.

Methven, Charlie. I never assaulted my wife, insists Marco Pierre White. *Daily Telegraph*, 22 January 2005.

The 14 hours spent in a police cell appeared to have taken their toll on Marco Pierre White, the leading restaurateur, yesterday when he explained how he came to be arrested on suspicion of assaulting his wife. White, 43, stood beside his wife Mati as they both denied that he had attacked her. She blamed her own "stupidity and fiery nature" for dialling 999 unnecessarily during a heated argument. "I did call the police, which I regret very much. I had an argument with my husband and told him to leave the house. When he refused I got rather hysterical, and called the police." "In fact, I had slapped him, rather than the other way round." White said he would complain to the Police Complaints Commission that details of his arrest had been leaked to a newspaper. "They tell me that it is illegal for anyone in the police to make public any details about someone who has been arrested except for their age and gender."

Dennis, Emily. The hidden victims. *Norfolk Eastern Daily Press*, 6 January 2005.

According to officers in Norfolk Police, men in heterosexual or gay relationships are just as likely to become victims of domestic violence as women. PC Tony Barnard, from the force's eastern area domestic violence and hate crime unit in Yarmouth, said that men often found it difficult to report abuse because of the stigma attached to being a male victim. "Seeking help as a male victim can be really hard, and many worry their concerns won't be taken seriously, which is simply not the case." "Men might feel that they have nowhere to turn or feel ashamed about what has happened to them." "Some may also be convinced they have done something to deserve it, or feel people will think they are less of a man for 'allowing' themselves to be abused." "We want to encourage more men to come forward if they are victims of domestic violence and they need to understand that it is not embarrassing."

Bunyan, Nigel. Jail for bride who killed husband. *Daily Telegraph*, 2 January 2005.

A bride who stabbed her husband to death a week after they returned from a honeymoon cruise was jailed for five years yesterday. Catherine Osliffe, 34, a lecturer in anger management, carried out the attack shortly after her husband, Roger, 35, threw a vase and its contents (a bouquet from her mother) over her head as she lay in bed. His wife was so angry about having the bouquet thrown over her that she went downstairs and picked up a kitchen knife. The court heard that Mr Osliffe taunted his wife when she returned with the knife. She then stabbed him, the blow piercing her victim's left shoulder and penetrating his lung. Mr Osliffe later bled to death in hospital after telling paramedics that she had attacked him. The jury at Preston Crown Court cleared Osliffe of murder but found her guilty of manslaughter.

Nugent, Helen. Battered husbands trapped by shame. *The Times*, 11 November 2004.

An overwhelming number of battered husbands have swamped Britain's only refuge for abused men. Workers at the safe-house in Somerset say that there is a constant waiting list of men who have been scratched, kicked, bitten or attacked with bottles and knives. Stephen Fitzgerald, national organiser for the *ManKind Initiative*, which refers men to the refuge, some with their children, said "A lot of these men have suffered both physical and mental abuse for, on average, about six years." "We have spoken to men who have been laid out with iron bars, had glass put in their food, and been set upon with a knife. Others have been stabbed, punched in the face and threatened with an axe." A [2001] study by Dewar Research found that men often endured the abuse because they did not want to walk out on their children. Others were frightened to leave because they had nowhere else to go, and some still loved their partner and hoped that her behaviour would change. One of the main reasons, however, was a fear of being ridiculed. The study also showed that many male victims were critical of the police. Many said that their complaints were not taken seriously and in some cases they were treated as the aggressors. A new support group, *It Does Happen*, has been set up in the north of England by Mike Kenny, 33, a businessman, himself a victim who was in an abusive relationship for

more than two years, during which time he was stabbed and beaten, to help both male and female sufferers. Within a fortnight, more than 20,000 men had contacted the website. Report also of the experience of Steve, who thirteen years after his divorce from a violent wife, still takes anti-depressants and sleeping tablets. "For the last 15 years of my marriage, I was physically attacked all the time. I was punched, my hair was pulled, my ears were pulled, all quite routinely. I was threatened with being stabbed." With two young children in the house, Steve says that he was unable to walk out, believing that they would suffer. "I used to think the abuse came from the bowels of hell. It was the most appalling verbal abuse, horrible language and awful screaming."

Hurst, David. The strong silent type. *Sunday Telegraph Magazine*, 7 November 2004.

Men locked into a relationship with a violent woman have rarely spoken out, not least because no one wanted to listen. But a number of victims are breaking ranks. This three-page article reports the experiences of three male victims. George Rolph, a karate expert and former deep-sea fisherman, 6ft tall and 14st, whose girlfriend subjected him to vicious assaults using weapons to hand, including a plank of wood and knives. Mike Kenny, whose girlfriend beat with a golf club because he played golf without her permission and who later seriously stabbed him. And Martin, who was regularly punched and kicked. On the last occasion, he hit her arm to defend himself and was convicted of ABH and did community service. "We split when she kicked me out of my home, which she still lives in. Even now I can't understand it." Such incomprehension is common among those men who ring organisations like *ManKind*, together with desolation and a desperate, often unfounded, hope that things will change. When one recent caller [to *ManKind*] said that he tolerated weekly beatings because he hoped his wife might "return to being the beautiful woman she was during the first months of our marriage", he was asked how long they had been together. "Thirty years", he replied.

Phagura, Sabi. I beat up my boyfriends. *Daily Express*, 8 April 2004.

A young woman tells how a violent fractured childhood in Ireland drew her into the cycle of physical abuse started by her drunken father and alcoholic mother. "I was a typical abuser who'd torment, then later apologise." She describes the experiences of two of her several relationships, one with severe mutual violence, and the other where she was mostly the initiator. "I've since had counselling to come to terms with the person I became. I so desperately wanted to change. After years of witnessing abuse, suffering abuse, and then becoming an abuser, I've started to have a little hope that I may just find happiness with someone one day."

Savill, Richard. Wife, 81, who lied after killing husband is jailed for two years. *Daily Telegraph*, 13 March 2004.

An 81-year old widow stabbed her sick husband Eric to death as he lay in bed and then tried to cover her tracks by claiming that he had been killed by two burglars she said had broken into their flat, a court was told. After initially blaming intruders, Audrey Hingston later claimed that her husband had committed suicide, and that she faked the burglary to cover up. Finally, after being charged with murder, she confessed to her son that she had killed him. At Plymouth Crown Court yesterday, Hingston denied murder, but admitted manslaughter on grounds of diminished responsibility. She was jailed for two years.

Bird, Steve. Life for the killer wife who faked sex game. *The Times*, 13 February 2004.

An unfaithful wife who stabbed her husband 22 times in the neck and chest and then tied up his naked body to make it appear that he was murdered during a sex game, was jailed for life at Nottingham Crown Court yesterday. Carol Croydon, a 37-year old accountant, killed her husband Phillip after meeting him at a hotel with the promise of saving their three-year marriage. After killing him and fastening ties round his wrists and neck and wrapping a scarf around his face, she showered, changed and left before reporting him missing. A few hours later, she had sex on the sofa at her home with her lover, Nelson Bland, 50. Mr Justice Treacy, sentencing her to life in prison, said she

was a “calculating, devious and cold-hearted killer” and recommended that she serve at least 16 years.

Clarke, Natalie and Gysin, Christian. Don't leave me alone with her! *Daily Mail*, 24 January 2004. Slashed across the face with a razor, scalded in the bath and subjected to humiliating sex sessions in front of nurses. Was that why Stephen Hawking typed out desperate pleas on his computer to be protected from his wife? For the second time in three years police are investigating the claims of violence and abuse. So far, at least ten nurses or carers who have worked for the couple have given statements alleging a catalogue of cruel acts by Elaine Hawking against her husband. He was admitted to casualty at Addenbrooke's Hospital on at least three occasions. His injuries included a broken arm, a broken wrist, a large gash on his face, black eyes and a torn lip. But as a queue forms to give evidence against Mrs Hawking, her husband remains resolute in his defence of her. Refusing to co-operate with the police, he has steadfastly denied the claims. The police are at present compiling a dossier of allegations against Mrs Hawking.

Van Geuns, Sharon. It was Alex who left ME battered and bruised, says soccer legend. *Mail on Sunday*, 18 January 2004.

George Best last night insisted that *he* was the badly beaten victim in the latest bust-up with estranged wife Alex – and that a police report proves it. He said she had left him with a catalogue of injuries and denied he had given her a black eye. Best was arrested at the couple's home on Christmas Day when Alex phoned the police and accused him of attacking her. Now a police medical report confirms that the 57-year old former Manchester United legend suffered cuts to his 'right and left hand, neck, testicles and penis' and a 'bump to the head and left temple' after a 'physical fight between partners'. Alex dropped her charge of actual bodily harm against Best on Boxing Day and he was released.

Doward, Jamie. Battered men get their own refuge. *Observer*, 21 December 2003.

Reference to newly opened small refuge for battered men and their children in south-west England, initiated by the charity *ManKind*. A second centre is planned to open early in 2004 in north-west England, and organisers plan to create a national network eventually. Ian Hancock, the NHS director of psychological services in Dumfries and Galloway, is quoted as saying “It's difficult for anybody if they are being battered but with men their problem is compounded by the fact that they feel they shouldn't allow themselves to be battered by a woman. It affects their self-esteem.”

Getty, Sarah. 'Black widow' is jailed for poison curry killing. (London) *Metro*, 16 December 2003. Bigamist Dena Thompson, 43, dubbed the 'black widow' was sentenced to life in prison yesterday after being convicted of murdering her second husband, Julian Webb, on his 31st birthday by hiding bitter tasting anti-depressants in a hot curry and giving him a drink laced with aspirin. Police began investigating Thompson after she was cleared of trying to kill her third husband, Richard Thompson, in 2000. Detectives reopened the case of Mr Webb, who died in 1994 from an apparent suicide. They exhumed his body and found he had been killed with a drugs overdose. After the Old Bailey verdict, a police officer said “This woman is every man's nightmare. For a decade, she has targeted men sexually, financially and physically.”

Hill, Amelia. It's not just women who are victims. *Observer*, 7 December 2003.

Report on the Montgomeryshire Family Crisis Centre (MFCC) which helps both female victims and male abusers but also offers male victims of domestic violence the same level of help and resources as female victims. Jackie Richardson, senior practitioner at MFCC is quoted as saying: “Our programme to help male victims of domestic violence has been criticised for diverting the help needed by the ever-growing number of female victims. But we believe society discriminates against men in the field of domestic violence. They need just as much help as women to come to terms with

domestic violence and rebuild their lives.”

Beetham, Richard (in Los Angeles) and Paine, Andre. Christian Slater's wife 'attacks him with glass'. (London) *Evening Standard*, 12 November 2003.

Ryan Haddon, 35, the wife of Hollywood star Christian Slater, 34, is facing a year in prison after she was accused of throwing a glass at Slater and then smashing it on his head during a late-night row. Slater needed nine stitches. Police were called to a hotel in Las Vegas early morning where they arrested Ryan Haddon on a domestic violence charge. Police said Slater declined to press charges but prosecutors could pursue a case against Haddon.

Pook, Sally. Bigamous wife 'killed husband by poisoning his curry'. *Daily Telegraph*, 12 November 2003.

Trial of Dena Thompson at the Old Bailey accused of poisoning her second 'husband' Julian Webb nine years ago. Only hours after her husband's death from a supposed overdose of aspirin and the anti-depressant diotepin, Dena Thompson, who was waiting to stand trial for fraud, was trying to get hold of his £35,000 death benefits. She was charged with murder after Mr Webb's body was exhumed two years ago. Thompson had wanted his body cremated. Prosecuting counsel described Thompson as "a disturbed woman who was exceptionally dishonest, manipulative, and a compulsive liar." The trial continues.

Hughes, David. Domestic violence against men. *Right Now*, October/November 2003.

Comment on the "brainwashing" of the British public by the media about the existence of male victims. In the face of increasing evidence published about their existence, the previous suppression of any studies showing the real extent of male victimisation has now been replaced by a carefully selected and one-sided presentation by women's groups of the 'facts' of domestic violence purporting to show that domestic violence is a sex issue, not a social issue.

Sarler, Carol. Husbands can be victims too. *Observer*, 26 October 2003.

"Why do we smile when we learn that Liza Minnelli's husband claims she beat him up?" Comment on the double standards applying to male and female victims of domestic violence. "A relationship counsellor once told me that she considered the battering of men to be one of the final taboos, and that as long as both parties to the violence feel a vested interest in keeping shtoom – the [female] attacker for fear of punishment, the attacked [male] for fear of ridicule - families will continue to play host to the last great unmentionable. I know, I told her, mine did."

Poole, Oliver (in Los Angeles). Liza's savage beatings left me brain damaged, says husband. *Daily Telegraph*, 23 October 2003.

Report on claims made by Liza Minnelli's husband David Gest in divorce proceedings that she regularly flew into drunken rages and beat him so badly that he has suffered brain damage. "Security guards would try to intervene to stop her choking, punching, biting and throwing lamps during the attacks", according to court papers. He also claims that they resulted in neurological damage that caused "severe, unrelenting headaches, nausea, hypertension, scalp tenderness, insomnia and phonophobia - a fear of voices".

Bedi, Rahul (in New Delhi). Indian wives turning men into weaker sex, say abused husbands. *Daily Telegraph*, 13 October 2003.

A group that claims men are the weaker sex is demanding new laws to protect husbands against maltreatment by their wives. The All India Front Against Atrocities by Wives claims to have 40,000 members in about 400 branches. A police officer said "that of about 6,700 cases of marital harassment registered in Delhi over the past year, 10% were of women harassing and beating up their husbands. And their numbers are growing."

Brook, Sally. Men who are beaten by their partners. *The Sun*, 26 September 2003.

The paper has been 'flooded with e-mails from distraught men who have been attacked by their partners'. Plight of six male victims recounted, including one in detail. "I said [my] wife beat me .. and the cop [just] laughed."

Steele, John. Ex-royal dresser's sex abuse claim rejected by judges. *Daily Telegraph*, 25 September 2003.

Jane Andrews, a former dresser to the Duchess of York, yesterday lost her appeal against a conviction for murdering her wealthy lover after the Court of Appeal rejected the latest of five different defences she has offered. Her attempts to bolster her defence by depicting her victim, Thomas Crossman, as a rapist, and her brother, Mark, as a sex abuser, while offering no proof, were described as "despicable" by Mr Crossman's parents. The three appeal judges threw out her claim that her responsibility for the killing was diminished because of the latent effects of suffering childhood sex abuse at the hands of her brother. Andrews had clubbed Mr Crossman unconscious with a cricket bat and then stabbed him to death three years ago. [See Clough, Sue. *Daily Telegraph*, 17 May 2001].

Verkaik, Robert. One man in six 'a victim of domestic violence'. <http://news.independent.co.uk>, 24 September 2003.

Report on speech made by Dame Elizabeth Butler-Sloss to a selected group of judges, lawyers and social reformers [including Cherie Blair and Harriett Harman] at 10 Downing Street earlier this month. Dame Elizabeth said she was concerned that 10% of young women "thought it was acceptable to hit their partner", the equivalent figure for young men being 20%. The judge acknowledged that the majority of victims of domestic violence were women, but added "It must be said there is significant violence committed by a minority of women against men." "Although one in four women would be a victim of domestic violence, and 120 women were killed by a current or former partner every year, 30 men were killed each year in similar circumstances." She concluded "Ultimately, domestic violence is a problem with complex causes. Whilst we should continue to punish and deter the crime, we must also be looking to its causes if we are to move forward. This problem belongs to society as a whole."

Hurst, David. Women who brutalise men. *London Evening Standard*, 15 September 2003.

"Violence against women is a scourge of our society. But it is not just women who suffer. Men are also attacked by their partners, yet rarely seek help, fearing they will be ridiculed. It has been claimed that in London last year 20,000 men were abused". Case studies of two male victims, ex-army captain Matthew Mudge and former deep-sea fisherman George Rolph. Comments by Steve Fitzgerald of *ManKind*. "£22.9 million of Government money [is] promised for refuge provision until 2006. None of this money is available for men and their children. There is not one bed for a male victim of an abusive straight relationship." "Men have virtually no help available."

Jones, Catherine. Safe-house hope for abused men. *Liverpool Echo*, 11 September 2003.

Report on efforts of Steve Dennett, Merseyside regional co-ordinator for *ManKind*, to set up a safe house for Merseyside men who fall victim to domestic abuse at the hands of women. Psychoanalyst Josephine Cropper, who treats men from across the north-west, says that "one in ten of my clients are male victims of domestic violence. It's very hard [for them] to find someone to talk to. They are hardly going to talk to their mates in the pub. They think they should be able to deal with it. It can be such a shock for a man, they can't believe it's happening to them. Most don't report it as they're scared of being ridiculed."

Hoolahan, Sue. Coping alone. *Inside Housing*, 5 September 2003.

Article drawing attention to the lack of crisis support for male victims of domestic violence. Men on the receiving end of domestic violence are being failed by everyone, including the housing sector.

Wansell, Geoffrey. Beckham unexpurgated. *Daily Mail*, 1 September 2003.

Comment on the relationship of David Beckham and his wife 'posh Spice' Victoria (nee Adams). "She has got a temper 'like a blowtorch' and dominates him." She has even been known to turn on David with extraordinary physical violence. "Once [before they were married and in a fit of jealousy], she punched him hard in the face three times - so hard she cut the inside of his mouth."

Richards, John. Innocent, but treated like a criminal. *Mail on Sunday*, 29 June 2003.

Letter reporting experience of a male victim, in particular that false allegations are being acted on by the police and CPS without substantiation.

Howells, Samantha. When a woman beats up her husband. *Best*, Issue 25/03, 24 June 2003. Experience of a male victim who suffered violence and abuse for three years at the hands of his wife. Despite the fact that he dialled 999 on one occasion and the police recorded him as the victim, he still found himself in court accused of hurting his wife and was found guilty. As a result, she obtained an order removing him from his home. With brief comments by psychologist Martina King and Steve Fitzgerald of *ManKind*.

Rowan, Anthea. Sometimes she hits him. *The Times*, 18 June 2003.

Domestic violence is not always against women. Men can be victims too, but their complaints are often met with scepticism. Article describes situation for male victims and their particular difficulty in reporting victimisation. Quotes from Prof. John Archer, Prof. Terrie Moffitt, Accord (Irish counselling service), Dave Gordon of Men's Aid (Fife, Scotland), and Erin Pizzey.

Baig, Anila. Battered husbands 'need our support'. *Telegraph and Argus (Bradford)*, 19 May 2003.

Growing numbers of men who come from Pakistan to marry women in Bradford are being subjected to physical and emotional abuse, a lawyer claimed today. Asama Javed, a top family solicitor, said she was dealing with 200 cases of domestic violence and at least 20% of cases involved a man suffering physical abuse at the hands of his wife or wife's family. "The men come from parts of the world that are very patriarchal where they would be too ashamed to admit something like this was happening to them." One man came to her with iron marks on his arms. "He said he had been held down by his wife while his mother-in-law burned him with an iron, supposedly to show him who is boss." Other men claim to have been hit, beaten and had objects thrown at them. "They don't know what rights they have and often feel very isolated. One man who came to me said his wife would start screaming and tearing her own hair to make it look as if she was being attacked." Bradford West MP, Marsha Singh said he "didn't realise the problem was as severe as this."

McDonagh, Melanie. Women should not be allowed to get away with murder. *Daily Telegraph*, 4 March 2003.

Criticism of Solicitor General Harriet Harman's intention to introduce a plea of self-defence for women who kill their husbands, whilst at the same time removing from men the centuries old defence of provocation when they murder their wives. She concludes that the "answer to the problem of violence against women isn't to reward violence by women."

Paton, Maureen. I never thought my wife would beat me. *Daily Telegraph*, 19 February 2003.

"Some men will never be able to think of women as the gentle sex." Experience of male victim featured in *Dangerous Love*, a programme challenging our assumptions about the gentler sex, broadcast on BBC-1 on 19 February 2003.

Ridley, Jane. The husband beater. *Daily Mirror*, 19 February 2003.

"Like one in six women, Emma just lost it and lashed out." Experience of male victim featured in *Dangerous Love* shown on BBC-1 on 19 February 2003 as part of the channel's *Hitting Home* series

on domestic violence.

Patrick, Guy. Corrie Tracy beats up new hubby on jet. *The Sun*, 10 January 2003.

Coronation Street Tracy Shaw repeatedly punched her new husband on a holiday jet - then burst into tears as he sank his teeth into her hand in retaliation. Fellow passengers watched in amazement as the couple fought in their business class seats on a flight back to England from Nassau. A witness told how the champagne-guzzling Tracy went berserk at TV producer Robert Ashworth for wanting a nap. "She let rip with a torrent of four-letter abuse and then thumped him with her fist in his face - five, six, seven times in a row. It was incredible."

Prior to 2003

Grammaticas, Damian. Hong Kong's abused husbands. *news.bbc.co.uk/asia-pacific*, 13 December 2002.

Hard economic times in Hong Kong are being blamed for the emergence of a serious new social problem involving wives physically assaulting their husbands. The rise in the rates of domestic violence against men has mirrored the rise in unemployment over the past four years. Hong Kong has suffered two recessions in this period. In these tough times, it is middle-aged and older men who have been losing their jobs. At home, the strain is making marriages crumble. Wives who find their husbands can no longer provide for them are hitting out. Hong Kong's economic woes are also accelerating some deep-seated social changes. Women in Chinese societies used to be confined to subordinate roles in the home. Increasingly, they are getting their own jobs, and are becoming more aggressive and assertive. In the hostel for abused men [I visited] they are seeing more and more men who have been beaten for being unfaithful to their wives, or for having a concubine, the old Chinese practice of a second wife.

Paterson, Michael. Abused wife's murder conviction is reduced. *Daily Telegraph*, 6 December 2002. Donna Tinker was jailed for life in April 2000 after a jury found her guilty of the murder of her husband by stabbing him in the back. The Court of Appeal reduced this to manslaughter with a sentence of 7 years.

Orr, Deborah. Are some women getting away with murder? *Independent*, 29 May 2002.

Comment on the recent case of Janet Charlton who was found not guilty of the murder of her live-in lover Daniel O'Brien but guilty of manslaughter on grounds of provocation. Her claim of self-defence was rejected by the jury because her victim was bound, gagged and blindfolded at the time she attacked him with an axe with blows to the head and upper body. "A woman can commit a 'crime of passion' just as easily as a man can, without 'battered woman syndrome' being involved." "We need 'crimes of passion' to be properly understood, for both sexes, not filed erroneously under 'battered woman syndrome'. What really worries me about this case is that it can only fan the flames of resentment from men who already feel that their very lives are seen as less valuable than the lives of women. This is not only happening in the courts. It is in matters of health care that the discrepancies can seem most shocking."

McIntyre, Sinead. £19,000 revenge of wife bitter at her husband's younger lover. *Daily Mail*, 18 February 2002.

After Lyn Drouin discovered that her estranged husband had a young girlfriend, she broke into his new home, smashed household and personal items, and destroyed all the clothes in his wardrobe. Yesterday in court, she was given a two-year rehabilitation order since she did not appear to be at risk of re-offending. The judge told her "so-called domestic violence, be it physical or related to property,

is just as unacceptable when it is committed by a female as opposed to a male.”

Carter, Louise. I felt so guilty when my girlfriend beat me up. (Interview with 6' 2" male victim). *Sunday Express*, 2 September 2001.

Experience of male victim who was subject to irrational outbursts of violence or abuse [by his girlfriend], including a cup of hot tea thrown at him, boiling water from a kettle thrown over his back resulting in scalding and hospital treatment, biting, spitting and kicking. “She could create a row out of the most innocent remark - even a compliment.”

Desmond, Sinead. Is it really true that women are as violent as men? *Sun Woman*, 22 August 2001. Report of interview with Erin Pizzey who says that “there’s been a blanket of silence thrown over the real suffering of men for years”, and brief reference to research by John Archer and Malcolm George, together with a resume of the experiences of three male victims.

Judge, Elizabeth. Men told how to avoid violent women. *The Times*, 13 August 2001. Reference to book *Terrorist Within the Family* being written by Erin Pizzey, and brief mention of current study of male victims of domestic violence by Dewar Research .

Wood, Ruth. Secret anguish of the battered husbands. *Western Daily Press*, 20 July 2001. “They are kicked, punched, scratched and knocked to the floor on a daily basis. Their partners threaten them with knives, attack them with scissors and hurl furniture at them. But these victims are not women. They are men - and their abusers are girlfriends and wives.” Reference to experience of male victim, and interview with Steve Fitzgerald of *ManKind*.

Hartley, Clodagh (in Los Angeles). De Niro: My wife gave me hiding. *The Sun*, 12 July 2001. In a child custody battle, De Niro accused his wife of beating him up on a sailing trip. She flew into a rage and pummelled him after she saw him talking to the cook, the wife of the yacht’s skipper. A second source said “she was screaming and started hitting him.”

McKeown, Kieran. Gender and domestic violence. *Irish Times*, 9 July 2001. Letter from Dr McKeown citing the results of research on couples who sought counselling with Accord and MRCS – the two largest couple counselling services in Ireland. Based on responses from nearly 700 couples, these show broadly similar rates of domestic violence for both men and women. Although not necessarily representative of the population as a whole, the research does undermine the view that men are the only perpetrators and women are the only victims.

Gilham, Cherri. Fergie aide guilty of love rage murder. *Daily Mail*, 24 May 2001. Report of a jealous woman who in a blind rage stabbed her unfaithful boyfriend through the bed cover whilst he was in a drunken sleep. The knife grazed his side and went into his arm. She called an ambulance, and he recovered but did not press charges, and no action was taken against her. The title of the story is taken from the headline last week relating to Fergie’s aide, Jane Andrews, sentenced last week to life imprisonment for the murder of her boyfriend.

Clough, Sue. Duchess’s dresser jailed for life. *Daily Telegraph*, 17 May 2001. Report on the conviction of Jane Andrews, the Duchess of York’s former dresser, who was jailed for life yesterday for murdering her boyfriend Thomas Cressman after he told her that he no longer loved her and did not want to marry her. Sentencing her, Judge Michael Hyam told her: “Nothing can justify what you did, it was a brutal attack and even if you felt yourself wronged and you were emotionally vulnerable, you were attacking an unarmed man who had possibly been asleep a few moments before.” By a majority of 11 to 1, the jury rejected Andrew’s claim to have acted in self-defence when she battered her boyfriend with a cricket bat before stabbing him. The judge said that she then left

him to die “without remorse.” The court heard that the victim had made a despairing 999 call to the police asking for help “before someone gets hurt.” The operator, who constantly interrupted him, merely suggested they calm down and talk about it. The police did not go to the house. [See also Steele, John. Ex-royal dresser’s sex abuse claim is rejected by judges. *Daily Telegraph*, 25 September 2003].

Phillips, Melanie. Man beaters behind closed doors. *Sunday Times*, 19 November 2000. Criticism of reliance on Prof. Betsy Stanko’s one-day ‘snapshot’ of reported incidents of domestic violence in September 2000 to support feminist claims that the great majority of victims of domestic violence are female. Quotes the results of research by Professor John Archer [of the University of Central Lancashire] which shows otherwise. Refers to the experiences of two male victims, and the malign use of false allegations of domestic violence in child proceedings. Concludes that “Britain has fallen victim to the notion that endemic male violence is the symptom of patriarchal power over women. This notion is also convulsing the legal systems in America, Canada, Ireland and much of Europe”.

Martin, Nicole. Violence in the home every six seconds. *Daily Telegraph*, 26 October 2000. Reference to results of one-day ‘snapshot’ of incidents of domestic violence reported to the police on the 28 September 2000, coordinated by Prof. Betsy Stanko, director of the Economic and Social Research Council’s violence research programme at the University of London. During the day, the police received 1,300 calls relating to domestic violence, including 1,150 in England (171 to the Metropolitan Police), 32 in Northern Ireland, 32 in Wales, and 94 in Scotland. Women accounted for 81% of the calls. 4% were women victims of another female. 8% of victims were said to be men attacked by a female partner, while 7% were men attacked by a male partner. [There are doubts about the authenticity of the results, since men are known especially to under-report, and the total number of calls received would have included calls relating to non-physical abuse, and false allegations, and possibly repeat calls].

Wright, Stephen. When home is hell. *Daily Mail*, 26 October 2000. Reference to results of Prof. Betsy Stanko’s snapshot of calls received by the police in the UK on 28 September 2000 relating to domestic violence. See Martin, Nicole above.

Lee-Potter, Lynda. It’s not just men who are violent. *Daily Mail*, 25 October 2000. Comment on phenomenon of claims made by celebrity women of domestic violence or abuse by former husbands or partners, and the other side of the story which the former husband or partner later reveals, eg. Rula Lenska’s false allegations against her former husband Denis Waterman. “I think that there are some women who are manipulative, duplicitous and capable of driving a man to the edge of his control. Unfortunately, there are those who see all women as victims and all chaps as oppressors, which is as insulting to women as it is to men. There are wives who use sex as a lever. They are empowered and energised when they demean and humiliate a man and make him feel inadequate and a failure.”

Cleary, Mary. State ignoring male domestic violence victims. *Irish Times*, 18 October 2000. Criticism of the Irish Government’s persisting biased attitudes towards male victims of domestic violence and the continuing almost total lack of publicly funded support services for them. “While domestic violence is used as an ideological weapon, men, women and children will continue to suffer needlessly. We need to see it for what it is - a personal and a social issue affecting human beings in their most intimate and personal relationships”.

Milne, Jonathan. Battered men want victim status. New Zealand *Nations News*, 13 October 2000. Reference to two New Zealand studies which found that women were as likely, or more likely, than

men to be perpetrators of physical abuse against their partners: (1) the 1998 Otago University study, which followed 1,037 people from birth to their early 20s, and (2) a 1999 Auckland University study. Mens' groups are fighting hard to have men's status as victims of domestic violence recognised, as the Law Commission prepares to report to Parliament on changing the law governing battered defendants.

Savill, Richard. Nagged man broke wife's skull with frying pan. *Daily Telegraph*, 30 August 2000. Christopher Parrott, a henpecked hypnotherapist, who fractured his wife's skull with a frying pan when her back was turned to him after she criticised him in the kitchen of their tied cottage, avoided jail yesterday and was given a two-year probation order after Judge Gabriel Hutton in Gloucester Crown Court was told that the couple had since been reconciled. Mrs Parrott had made a full recovery.

Laframboise, Donna. Violence against men deserves attention, too. *Canada National Post*, 1 August 2000.

Reference to results released last week of the domestic violence telephone survey by Statistics Canada (Statscan) in 1999 when 25,874 people were questioned, the first time male victims had been included in such a survey. The study found that equal proportions of 2% of men and women reported violence against them by their partner during the previous 12 months. Over a longer 5-year period, 8% of women and 7% of men reported experiencing a violent incident with an intimate partner (a proportion of about 46% male victims). The Statscan survey also found that domestic homicide had declined dramatically over the past 20 years, from 15 murders of wives for every million couples in 1979 to 7 per million in 1998, and from 4 murders of husbands per million couples in 1979 to 2 per million in 1998 (a proportion of about 22% male victims). Author is highly critical of sexist response from feminist activists to the findings. "When historians look back at these years, they're going to shake their heads at the hypocrisy of feminist activists who insist that "no amount of violence is acceptable" when the offender is male yet never miss an opportunity to minimise violence when it gets committed by women."

Sears, Neil. Teenager who stabbed and strangled his mother walks free from court. *Daily Mail*, 28 July 2000.

Robert Quilter, who killed his violent and drunken mother when he was aged 16, was given a three-year probation order yesterday by Mr Justice Henriques in Sheffield Crown Court, after hearing that the boy had been subjected to a terrifying ordeal at the hands of his mother after his father had died. The judge said that the teenager had suffered 'battered person's syndrome'.

Philip, Margaret. Husbands also victims of spousal violence: Statscan. *Canada Globe and Mail*, 26 July 2000.

Reference to results of latest Statscan survey of the extent of domestic violence in Canada, experienced by both men and women, the first since the Violence Against Women Survey (VAWS) five years ago. The researchers concluded that domestic violence against women had dropped from the 12% (over a lifetime) recorded in the VAWS to 8% (over a 5-year period) in 1999. 7% of male victims reported assault over a 5-year period in 1999. According to the survey results, 26% of women who reported being assaulted were victims of more than 10 episodes of violence, compared to about 13% of men, and children witnessed the parental violence in 37% of cases.

Phillips, Melanie. The false assumptions that insult all men. *Sunday Times*, 20 February 2000. Critical review of Home Office attitudes on sexual offences and domestic violence, which are based on misleading or spurious statistics and reasoning. In regard to rape, "the government wants more men convicted and doesn't care how." The Home Office ignores the results of its own research on domestic violence, showing women initiate often serious violence against their male companions as frequently as men initiate it - and sometimes more often. Admission of this would hurt the women's

aid industry that attracts funds on the back of the belief that men are invariably victimisers and women their victims. “Not surprisingly, therefore, hapless Home Office officials have come under severe pressure to destroy, repudiate or obliterate their own research showing sexual equivalence [of culpability] in domestic violence.”

Yarwood, David. Male victims of domestic violence. *The Door*, the Diocese of Oxford Reporter, February 2000, No. 109.

Letter criticising the recent diocesan conference on domestic violence which, as reported, ignored the existence of male victims. Evidence for their existence given to counter the conference bias.

Percival, Phillip. Extent of Male Victimisation. *Glasgow Herald*, 22 January 2000.

Long letter from Glasgow University academic Dr Percival complaining at the misrepresentation of domestic violence within Scotland by Women’s Aid representatives, and how this was affecting the Scottish Executive policies on domestic violence. He noted that, for instance, it had been entirely unreported that looking at the 1998 Scottish criminal justice statistics, for the second time in three years, more men had been killed by female partners than women had by male partners, and by as much as 50% more. He noted that male victims were being discriminated against in all aspects of Scottish life and society.

Weaver, Maurice. Six years for husband who killed nagging wife. *Daily Telegraph*, 29 October 1999. David Hampton, a hen-pecked husband who battered his wife to death with a hammer, was sentenced to six years imprisonment yesterday by Judge Francis Allen in Northampton Crown Court, after the judge told him that the dead woman’s behaviour “was calculated to impact on your mind”. Hampton was said to have endured years of criticism and ridicule from his wife. He finally lost control during a prolonged “torrent of abuse.” [This sentence compares harshly with those received by comparable ‘battered women’, often merely probation].

Davies, Hugh. ‘Softie’ is granted divorce from his bullying wife. *Daily Telegraph*, 8 October 1999. Lyndis Hutton, 48, viewed her marriage as “happy, loving and fun-filled”. In fact, the High Court was told that there had been a ‘litany’ of complaints against her by her husband John, also 48, during the 22 years of their marriage. She had slapped him, screeched down the telephone at him, and hurled a copy of *Who’s Who* at him with such force that he was knocked off a kitchen stool. She had also kicked him in bed, damaged his record collection, cut the strings of his guitar, and threw food cooked by him on to kitchen work surfaces. Mr Hutton claimed that she had belittled and denigrated him over his work [as a wine merchant], calling him “pathetic.” The judge agreed to a divorce and ruled that Mrs Hutton should pay three-quarters of his legal costs.

Evenson, Brad and Milstone, Carol. Women emerge as aggressors in Alberta survey. 67% of women questioned say they started severe conflicts. *Ottawa National Post*, 10 July 1999.

Reference to results of 1987 survey led by Marilyn Kwong of Simon Fraser University of 705 men and women in Alberta on intimate violence which were at last published in full this week in the *Canadian Journal of Behavioural Science*. Results were first published by the *Journal* in 1989, but only those relating to female victims, and led to government action on domestic violence focused only at women victims. The studies actually revealed that women were just as violent as men in intimate relationships, and women were almost three times more likely to initiate violence in a relationship. The study showed roughly that 10.8% of men in the survey pushed, grabbed or threw objects at their spouses in the previous year, while 2.5% committed more severe acts, such as choking, kicking, or using a weapon. By contrast, 12.4% of women committed acts of minor violence and 4.7% committed severe violence, higher proportions than for men in both minor and severe instances. The violence was seldom one-sided. Of those surveyed, 52% of women and 62% of men reported that both partners were violent. When questioned about who initiated the most severe conflicts, 67% of women

believed that they had started it; only 26% believed that it was their male spouse. Marilyn Kwong was quoted as writing "Our society seems to harbour an implicit acceptance of women's violence as relatively harmless. ... Furthermore, the failure to acknowledge the possibility of women's violence .. jeopardises the credibility of all theory and research directed toward ending violence against women."

Savill, Richard. Life for wife who shot husband as he slept. *Daily Telegraph*, 5 June 1999.

The widow of a policeman was jailed for life yesterday in the High Court in Glasgow after being found guilty of murdering him by shooting him in the head with his rifle as he lay in bed asleep. The jury rejected Kim Galbraith's claim that years of sexual abuse by her husband had driven her to the limit of her sanity. After the verdict, the dead policeman's parents described his widow as "evil beyond belief" and accused her of blackening their son's name in an attempt to persuade the jury that she was guilty of a lesser crime of culpable homicide. Mairead Tagg from Women's Aid said she planned to begin a campaign on Galbraith's behalf.

Fleet, Michael. Woman killed ex-boyfriend in self-defence. *Daily Telegraph*, 26 May 1999.

A woman who stabbed her violent and drunk ex-boyfriend to death after he traced her and their children to their new home was cleared of murder and manslaughter yesterday by a jury at Winchester Crown Court. Laila Mannon, aged 31, picked up a kitchen knife and stabbed Stephen Crosbie once in the heart. Mr Justice Roger Toulson awarded defence costs after the jury decided she had acted in self-defence.

Tomson, Philippa. Helpline set up for battered husbands. *Wolverhampton Express & Star*, 1 March 1999.

Victims are suffering in silence, warns lone parent's group. A helpline [01902 747078] for male victims of domestic violence is being launched in Wolverhampton after claims by campaigners that they are suffering in silence. The 24-hour helpline aims to offer advice to men who endure not only physical but [also] emotional traumas. It has been launched by Richard Hubbard, chairman of Wolverhampton Lone Parent Group (Gingerbread). He claims that more than 90% of men belonging to the Gingerbread group have suffered domestic violence before the break-up of their relationships.

Yarwood, David J. Domestic Abuse Research. *Family Law*, February 1999.

Reminder of research results confirming an almost equal pattern of aggression in intimate relationships with brief references to the latest studies by Dr John Archer and Prof. Terrie Moffitt.

McGowan, Patrick. Night that wrecked TV Anne's marriage. *London Evening Standard*, 27 January 1999.

Report of argument between Anne Diamond's husband, Mike Hollingsworth, and his Virgin Radio DJ lover Harriet Scott, in which she hit him repeatedly and at one stage tried to grab him round the throat. This resulted in Anne Diamond learning about his affair and seeking a divorce.

Tendler, Stewart (Crime Correspondent). Men suffer equally on violence in the home. *The Times*, 22 January 1999.

Comment on Home Office research published yesterday [Research Study 191] based on the results of the survey carried out in 1995 for the British Crime Survey 1996 for England and Wales. Men are just as likely to be victims of domestic violence as women. 4.2% of men and the same percentage of women said they were assaulted last year [year preceding the survey]. Male victims were likely to be under 25, working part-time and in households where there were financial difficulties. They may have had a long-term illness or disability. The women victims were also young and more at risk if they were at home with children or separated from their partners. The Study also said, however, that women were twice as likely to have been injured, three times more likely to have faced serious threats, and were more likely to have been assaulted at least three times. It suggested that the risk of domestic

violence was increasing and one reason might be that young people had more relationships, living with different partners. The Study estimated that there were 6.6 million incidents of domestic violence in 1995.

Doughty, Steve. Men as likely as women to face domestic violence. *Daily Mail*, 22 January 1999. Reference to results of Home Office Research Study 191 published yesterday (21 January 1999) which showed almost equal proportions of violence by men and women in couple relationships. In the 12-month period preceding the study in 1995 (of 10,000 men and women between the ages of 16 and 59, as a supplement to the 1996 British Crime Survey), equal proportions (4.2%) of men and women reported being physically assaulted by a partner. Over a longer term (lifetime experience), 23% of women and 15% of men reported physical assault by a partner (a proportion of 40% male victims). Although women tended to suffer more injury and repeated [chronic] attacks, one third of those injured and one quarter of chronic victims were male. In response, the Government was accused by Valerie Riches of *Family and Youth Concern* of being over-influenced by feminist ideology which insists domestic violence is rampant. She said “the clear message from this report is that the way to reduce domestic violence is to encourage people to get married and stay married. ... It has been shown again and again that marriage is the safest environment for men, women and children”.

Travis, Alan (Home Affairs Editor). Both sexes equally likely to suffer domestic violence. *The Guardian*, 22 January 1999.

Men are increasingly the victims of domestic violence, and are just as likely as women to be assaulted by a partner, according to Home Office research published yesterday [Research Study 191]. The men most likely to be attacked are in their early 30s and unmarried, but living with a woman. The findings, from the British Crime Survey 1996, show there are some 6.6 million incidents of assault in the home each year, evenly split between men and women. But the research also shows that women are twice as likely to be injured, and are much more likely to suffer repeated attacks. They are also less likely to be in a financial position to be able to leave a violent relationship. It also shows that the rise in domestic attacks on men by women is a 1990s phenomenon. In 1995 just over 4 per cent of men and [of] women said they had been assaulted by a current or former partner in the last year. But 23% of women said they had been assaulted by a partner at some time [in their lives] – compared with 15% of men. The research found that in most cases the violence involved pushing and grabbing, but in 47% of incidents the victims was also kicked, slapped or punched. About half the attacks resulted in injury, most commonly bruising, but one in 10 involved cuts and a small minority broken bones. Throwing things at each other happens in about one in five cases, and in about a third of cases children in the home either witnessed the attack or were aware of it. Only half of victims of domestic assault told anyone about it – normally a friend, neighbour or relative. The police were only told about 12% of incidents.

Betts, Hannah. Women kick men when they are down. *The Times*, 6 January 1999.

Reference to survey reporting on the experiences of 100 male victims of domestic violence conducted for the Channel 4 documentary series *Dispatches*, a summary of the results being screened tomorrow night (7 January 1999). The study found that women often attack men when they are most vulnerable: one third of victims featured in the survey were attacked whilst asleep and a quarter kicked in the testicles. One case involved a woman pouring bleach over her sleeping boyfriend's genitals. The study showed that women can be just as violent as men. 40% of female abusers used some kind of weapon to compensate for their relative lack of strength: knives were the instrument of choice, but hammers, bottles and stiletto shoes also featured. 89% of male victims felt that the police did not take their complaints seriously. Only 7% of women abusers were arrested, and none were subsequently charged. 25% of male victims reported that they were themselves arrested.

Ginn, Kate. BBC girl made up attack after boyfriend called off their affair. *Daily Mail*, 15 December 1998.

BBC journalist Louise Port, 22, wept yesterday after Ealing Magistrates Court threw out her claims that she had been beaten up by her boyfriend, Philip Mercer, 31, a Radio 1 reporter. Mercer's counsel said the presenter "is an aggressive and volatile young woman given to outbursts of violent temper. She has shown herself quite capable of aggression towards men. He said she had become embittered when Mercer refused to continue their relationship after the row. Louise Porter did it out of revenge."

McGarry Patsy. Feminists accused of suppressing truth about battered husbands. *Irish Times*, 11 December 1998.

Reference to comments made by Erin Pizzey at a conference on male victims of domestic violence titled 'The Silence is Over' held at University College, Dublin on 10 December 1998. She reported that of the first 100 women who came into the refuge for battered women and their children she founded in 1971 in Chiswick, London, "62 had been violent to their male partners and children. These women were not so much victims of male violence as victims of their own violent childhoods". When she tried to draw attention to the reality of male domestic abuse she met with resistance only. Mary Cleary, who founded the helpline for male victims of domestic violence AMEN in December last year, said that they had received more than 3,000 calls during the twelve months since then.

O'Keefe, Alan. Seminar hears tales of violent bullying by wives. *Irish Independent*, 11 December 1998.

Report on conference held yesterday in Dublin on domestic violence against men, the first in Europe, organised by AMEN, a support group for male victims founded in December 1997. Mary Cleary, founder of the group, said that the Irish authorities are failing to realise the extent of the problem by heavily discriminating in favour of funding for female victims only. A number of speakers criticised the attitude of the Gardai who fail to deal with male victims with sympathy or understanding. The legal system was also criticised for its treatment of male victims of domestic violence. A new survey in the North East has shown that the public acknowledge that domestic violence against men is a problem which deserves public funding. "But the Government still refuses to fund a men's helpline which has received calls from thousands of Irish males who are being battered physically and psychologically in the home", said Mary Cleary.

King, Evelyn. The silence is over: 3,000 men ring helpline claiming abuse by women. *Irish Examiner*, 11 December 1998.

Report on conference on male victims of domestic violence held in University College, Dublin yesterday, the first ever such conference in Europe, organised by AMEN, the support group for male victims. Dail deputy Rofain Shortall (Labour) urged that "domestic violence against men must be seen as an equality issue, where women who rightly campaign for equal rights must now be prepared to share in the responsibility for society's ills." Jim Higgins (Fine Gael) said the law had to be applied equally. At present, the wording is equal but "it is not interpreted equally." Mary Cleary, who founded AMEN a year ago, said that 3,000 men had called since the helpline was set up last December, claiming they were victims of female violence. She said that men who were physically abused by their partners had difficulty in getting help from the authorities. "They were just told to go home and sort it out themselves."

Phillips, Melanie. Who will speak for the battered man? *Sunday Times*, 15 November 1998. Criticism of the government's recent proposals (to be trailed on TV in Scotland over Christmas) for children to inform on violent fathers (but not violent mothers), and general discussion of the way policies relating to domestic violence and biased against male victims reflect the deliberate use of selective or distorted statistics.

Shooter, Anne and Hewett, Rick. The parting blow. *Daily Mail*, 5 November 1998.

Mike Hollingsworth, 52, the estranged husband of Anne Diamond, has split from his new girlfriend, Harriet Scott, mid 20s, after she gave him a black eye and gashed his face during a row at a Halloween party. Following the argument, Hollingsworth drove to Reading police station to report the 'domestic incident' but was himself arrested and held in a cell overnight because he had driven from the party and refused to take a breath test.

Pearson, Patricia. Bruising truths about the fair sex. *Sunday Times*, 23 August 1998.

Reference to results of study by Professor John Archer reported at meeting of the *International Society for Research on Aggression* held in July in New Jersey. These showed that, in domestic disputes, women were the aggressors as often as men. While the studies also show that women usually sustain greater injury, not all assaulted men emerge unscathed. A year-long survey of American emergency admissions to hospital, published in August 1997, recorded 30,000 domestic violence-related injuries for men. In America, women abuse and kill their children as often as men do: mothers murder the overwhelming majority of newborns killed by a parent. One sixth of serial killers are female. In addition, more than one third of partnered spree killers, are female. "Denying the existence of battered men, of mutual combat in relationships, and of aggressive women, is popular among feminists, but in 25% of violent couples the sole abuser is female. Yet the male aggressor/female victim paradigm still persists."

Zuger, Abigail. A fistful of hostility is found in women. *New York Times*, 28 July 1998.

Reference to results of latest studies by John Archer (reported at a meeting of the *International Society for Research on Aggression* held at Ramapo College in New Jersey earlier in July), who found that although women sustain more serious and visible injuries than men during domestic disputes, overall they are just as likely as men to resort to physical aggression during an argument with a sexual partner. Women who argued with their dates or mates were actually even slightly more likely than men to use some form of physical violence, ranging from slapping, kicking and biting, to choking or using a weapon. Whatever the base rate of physical aggression in the population, women tended to have a slightly higher rate than men. In contrast, women accounted for 65 to 70% of those requiring medical help as a result of violence between partners. According to Dr Anne Campbell of the University of Durham, the results lend support to an emerging theory that women may respond to certain environmental stresses with physically aggressive behaviours that are analogous to men's, although often on a different scale of intensity. At the same meeting, Dr Daniel Nagin of Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh noted that in the last two decades, intimate partner homicides (in America) had declined by about 30%, primarily reflecting a lower proportion of male victims. The availability of resources like shelters for battered women and legal advocacy for them appeared to correlate strongly with lower rates of domestic homicide committed by women.

Pizzey, Erin. Men are strong, men are bullies and men are violent. Men don't cry when their wives beat them up – this is the unreported face of domestic violence. *Observer*, 5 July 1998.

Review of bias against men in attitudes and policies relating to domestic violence. Her experience at the refuge for battered women she opened in Chiswick in 1971, the first in the country, revealed that of the first 100 women coming into the refuge, 62 were as violent as the partners they had left. Since then, research which has shown an almost equal numerical culpability of men and women in domestic conflict has been suppressed or brushed aside by the feminist movement. A bitter war between men and women in child proceedings has become a reality, with unproven allegations of violence or abuse being sufficient for a father to be denied contact with his children. Counselling programmes for 'violent' men are often run by bitter anti-male feminists. Those such as the Duluth programme amount to little more than a very crude form of feminist brainwashing. Meanwhile, the level of violence in lesbian relationships is a source of great embarrassment to the radical feminist movement. In a survey of 1,099 lesbians (to be published soon), Lie and Gentlewarrior found that 52% of the

respondents had been abused by a female lover or partner [almost double the proportion found for women in heterosexual relationships over a lifetime].

De Courcy, Anne. I'm so shocked that I hit my boyfriend. *Daily Mail*, Letter to Femail Dilemmas, 19 February 1998.

"My boyfriend and I have been together for eight years. Our love is very deep but we have a history of rowing and, at Christmas, for the first time, I hit him during one of these." "There are many male victims in Wolverhampton who we don't know about."

Fleet, Michael. Woman jailed for killing son with salt. *Daily Telegraph*, 18 June 1997.

A mother who killed her four-year old son by poisoning him with drinks laced with salt was jailed for life yesterday at Oxford Crown Court. Caroline Lloyd, 26, who gave her son up to six glasses of fizzy drink a day, all with high levels of salt, which caused vomiting, stomach cramps and a swollen brain., admitted manslaughter. Three psychiatrists said her personality disorder was so severe it would be untreatable in hospital.

Stokes, Paul. Mercy for wife who killed husband. *Daily Telegraph*, 18 June 1997.

A woman who had stabbed to death her husband of five years was put on probation yesterday at Newcastle upon Tyne Crown Court because she had been abused as a teenager. After stabbing her husband Mark through the chest twice, Wendy Worrall banged on the bedroom door outside with a bloodstained knife in each hand. She stopped a friend calling an ambulance for her husband. She again attacked him with a vacuum cleaner hose as he was carried out of the house. Mr Worrall, whose marriage was said to have been 'stormy', died after seven hours of surgery. Wendy Worrall admitted manslaughter on the grounds of diminished responsibility, and was put on probation for three years on condition she receives medical help. Her counsel claimed that she had suffered years of emotional and physical abuse from her husband. Mark's mother said afterwards "She is a manipulator and has played the abuse card to get away with murder."

Dawnay, Ivo (in Washington). Husbands take a beating by law. *Sunday Telegraph*, 8 June 1997. Comment on the institutionalised bias against men now applying in gender conflict issues in America. The 1994 Violence Against Women Act has become a hated symbol of what is known as the new Feminist Jurisprudence - the American women's headlong assault on the legal system. The draconian core of the Act is a mandatory arrest policy. After a swift call to 911, a claim by a woman of fear of violence from her male partner is all the police need to be obliged to remove him from the scene. Males are subjected to obligatory counselling programmes, many of them formulated by highly-politicised 'therapists'. The much-favoured Duluth Abuse Intervention Programme submits them to something not far from brainwashing, in which men are told that their actions are the result of social engineering and women that they are blameless.

Satel, Sally L. It's Always His Fault. *US Women's Quarterly*, No.12, Summer 1997.

Critical review of the radical feminist approach to domestic violence and the resulting bias against male victims and men generally. Especially scathing of treatment programs for violent men, including the Duluth program. "Judges are sentencing thousands of men to undergo feminist indoctrination. They believe this will reduce domestic violence. It won't." Refers to results of research on intimate violence by Murray Straus, Richard Gelles and Suzanne Steinmetz in the 70s, 80s and 90s. After reviewing available research, Straus had concluded that 25 to 30% of violent couples are violent solely because of attacks by the woman. About an equal proportion of 25% is initiated by men. The remaining half is classified as 'mutual'. These findings were corroborated by other American studies, including the 1991 Los Angeles Epidemiology Catchment Area study and the 1990 National Survey of Households and Families. The author also refers to other studies revealing the extent of female violence. A 1988 Boston survey found that older wives were more than twice as likely to assault an

elderly husband as vice versa. A 1994 Justice Department report concluded that mothers were responsible in 55% of cases in which children had been killed by their parents. The National Center on Child Abuse Prevention attributed 50% of child abuse fatalities that occurred between 1986 and 1993 to the natural mother, 23% to the natural father, and 27% to boyfriends and others. Jeanie Morrow, director of the Lesbian Domestic Violence Program at W.O.M.A.N. Inc. in San Francisco, believed that physical abuse between lesbian partners is at least as serious a problem as it is among heterosexuals. Susan Gibel of the Battered Women's Justice Project in Minneapolis confirmed this. "Most evidence suggests that lesbians and heterosexuals are comparably aggressive in their relationships." However, the author points out that some survey studies have actually suggested a higher incidence of violence among lesbian partners.

Berger, Sebastien. Husband killed in row over lettuce. *Daily Telegraph*, 29 April 1997.

A Sunday school teacher stabbed her husband to death in an argument about lettuce leaves. Brenda Richardson, 54, plunged a carving knife into her husband, Brian's chest after 29 years of marriage, and the wound penetrated his heart. She was jailed for two years at Manchester Crown Court yesterday after admitting manslaughter. Sentencing her, Mr Justice Buxton praised her refusal to blame her husband and accepted that Mrs Richardson had no murderous intent.

Weaver, Maurice. Battered wife is cleared of murder. *Daily Telegraph*, 23 April 1997.

A battered wife who was accused of murdering her husband with a kitchen knife after 35 years of domestic violence was cleared yesterday at Lincoln Crown Court of both murder and manslaughter. The jury heard how, as Anna and Ronald Coyle prepared supper at home, a row developed into a struggle during which the knife she held penetrated his chest, and accepted her claim that it was an accident.

Wassell, Ted. Don't become a victim of the new sexism. *Men's Health*, March 1997.

"Men are battered at home, discriminated against in the job market, sexually harassed at work, and no one is taking any notice." Article includes reference to experience of a male victim of domestic violence. "We were sitting quietly watching TV. Nothing had happened to provoke her, but she suddenly started lashing out with her foot and began booting me off the sofa." "Over the next three years, Geoff kept making excuses for Donna's escalating attacks." Then Geoff's wife "thrust a broken glass into his head." He managed "to push Donna away as he scrambled up off the floor and ran, cut and bleeding, out of their flat to a neighbour's." Donna must then have called the police because two young police officers later arrived and took him back up to his flat. Meanwhile, Donna had wrecked the living room after he ran out and "tried to make it look as if there had been a big fight. The sleeve on her blouse had been torn, the palm of her left hand was bleeding, and she looked dishevelled." "She was crouching in the kitchen and whimpering as if terrified of me." The two officers had already made up their minds about what had happened. They'd solved the case the instant they saw 5ft10in Geoff and Donna's lightweight 5ft4in frame".

Graves, David. Mother who struck rival is freed for Christmas. *Daily Telegraph*, 21 December 1996.

Debbie Smith, 29, a mother who had spent a week in jail after being sentenced at Manchester Crown Court on the 13 December to 9 months, collapsed in tears yesterday when she was freed by the Court of Appeal, and her sentence substituted by a probation order. Lord Justice Beldam said the trial judge had taken "a far too restrictive view" of the attack, when she had used a stiletto heel to attack her best friend Francine French, 30, after finding her with her estranged husband Jeffery, 31.

Stokes, Paul. Woman put on probation for knife killing of her husband. *Daily Telegraph*, 18 December 1996.

A woman who killed her husband by stabbing him nine times with a kitchen knife was put on probation for three years yesterday at Leeds Crown Court. Marjorie Tooley, 53, was said to have suffered

physical and verbal abuse in her eight-year marriage to Peter Tooley, 54, a licensee, whom she had known since childhood. During this time, her counsel claimed that “she was punched, kicked and strangled, her head banged on the cellar wall and she was locked in that same cellar overnight many times.” Mr Justice Ognall commented that “you are no danger to the public. For this reason you will not receive a custodial sentence. [However] the order I give should not be seen as a licence to kill.”

Waller, Fiona. Men in torment. It's no joke being beaten by your wife. *Walton & Weybridge Informer*, 22 November 1996.

Report on interview with Les Davidson of Merton M.A.L.E. helpline for battered men [closed down in 2001 due to lack of Government support]. “Men of all ages have called the helpline - from 20 to 80. Male victims have difficulty in being believed. The victims are often caring, sensitive men. They are also chivalrous, so they can't hit a woman back.” The report quotes PC Kathy Blythe of north Surrey police's domestic violence unit saying that often women attack their victim when they are most vulnerable, when asleep or sitting down, for example.

Ward Davies, Susan. The men whose lives are ruined by violence ... from women. *London Evening Standard*, 11 November 1996.

Review of increasing awareness of the prevalence of male victims of domestic violence, including reference to the experience of one victim and explanation by an abuser. Dr Malcolm George, neurophysiologist at London University's Queen Mary & Westfield College, comments “women compensate for their (usually) inferior physical strength by strategy, rarely attacking a man face-to-face, but waiting until he is vulnerable – sitting down, asleep, off-guard – and by using weapons. .. Overall, both men and women can use what is called the ‘abuse process’, essentially one individual dominating and controlling the other.” Les Davidson, who set up Merton M.A.L.E., the first national helpline for battered man in 1994, takes about 20 calls a week from male victims and also from the women who abuse them. “I think both men and women are capable of abusing each other, but women are not allowed to admit they are violent. And men feel too humiliated to ask for help.” DI Sylvia Aston of the West Midlands Police Force reports that “some of the most violent people I have dealt with as an officer have been women, and if you don't judge a woman by her crime but by her gender, then not only do you perpetrate the old misleading stereotypes, but you risk such offences recurring, perhaps in another relationship. Domestic violence, as we see it, is not a woman's issue - it's a social issue.”

Pennington, Su. Girls just wanna have fun - fighting and mugging. *Independent on Sunday*, November 1996.

Report on alarming rise in female rates of violence. Dr Sue Bailey, an adolescent forensic psychologist, says “women are becoming increasingly involved in violent crime. We'll have descriptions from the girls [referred to her by the courts or social workers] of them punching, locking, butting and continuing to hurt victims once they're down on the floor.” Austin White died at the hands of his girlfriend, who had viciously attacked him several times before fatally stabbing him through the heart. After stabbing him, she “cleaned the weapon and went to bed, leaving him to die on the floor.” Dr Bailey says that “the real problem is the impact on the next generation as violent young women become mothers. It's particularly important that we intervene early with these girls, so that we don't enter into a cycle where the next generation of girls become increasingly violent.”

Leake, Christopher. Battered husbands: the taboo of modern marriage. *Mail on Sunday*, 10 November 1996.

Reference to results of research in 1994 on 20 male victims of domestic violence in Merseyside area by Dr Sean Stitt and Audrey Macklin of Liverpool John Moores University. The results highlighted a gender bias within current literature, in that it has generally failed to address male issues of domestic violence and acknowledge the possibility that women are not the only victims of spousal abuse. The

study established the types of abuse suffered including physical abuse (punching, kicking, scratching, use of weapons, eg. knives, shoes, teapots), and psychological and emotional abuse (threats, humiliation, isolation, manipulation, deprivation, belittling). It found a significant lack of male oriented resources. Existing statutory and voluntary resources were not geared towards male victims. The authors concluded that "Quite literally, for male victims of female perpetrated domestic abuse/violence, there is 'nowhere to turn', characterised by the dismissive reaction by institutional professionals like the police and social workers and feminist activists".

Fleet, Michael. Six years for killer 'broken by wife'. *Daily Telegraph*, 15 October 1996.

A husband, constantly taunted and abused by his wife, strangled her and then took her body to a police station. Although Reading Crown Court heard that Gurdial Singh Garg, 30, in the past had been beaten with a rolling pin by his wife, Kanwal Kaur, 28, and Mr Justice Hooper accepted that he had suffered abuse "in a life where you have been constantly assaulted, both psychologically and physically", he sentenced him to six years imprisonment. [This compares harshly with women who have been similarly provoked into killing their male partners, who often are given only probation].

Malik, Dina and Fairhead, Julie. Why women like this are turning to violence. *Bella*, 21 August 1996. Report on increase in violent crime by women. "Armed robbery, vicious assaults and muggings were once crimes associated purely with men - but not any longer." Alix Kirsta, author of *Deadlier than the Male* agrees that female violence seems deeply shocking. "Society sees women as mothers, nurturers and protectors. If you've been attacked, you expect a woman to comfort you - not be the attacker. Social conditioning has persuaded most women violence is unacceptable. Now they look at men and think 'if they can do it, why can't I?'" Criminologist Professor Philip Bean of Loughborough University comments that "women have long been involved in things like cheque fraud and shoplifting. But now they're committing robbery and assault."

Sayid, Ruki. I floored Reg in backstage bust-up! *People*, 9 June 1996.

Coronation Street star Sherrie Hewson nearly killed her screen-husband Reg Holdsworth in a real life backstage bust-up. Fiery Sherrie threw a concrete 'cat' at actor Ken Morley, who played Reg, and nearly knocked him out cold. "When he didn't get up, I thought I'd killed him. But instead of going for help, I just ran. I just left him there." Sherrie said later "our rows were legendary on and off the set but this time it all went a bit too far."

Fowler, Rebecca. Girls get violent. *Independent*, 2 May 1996.

Discussion of increasing violence by young women. In the past five years, female violent crime has risen by 12%, four times the rate among young men. Offences involving women carrying out assault, robbery, murder, and drug related crimes, have increased by 250% since 1973. A clear pattern is emerging that women are becoming more violent. "Female harassment against men is also on the increase, and the early evidence suggests the connection between violence and poverty is as strong in women as it is in men." Research at Sheffield University into bullying among 7,000 children, suggested "that girls are just as likely to use physical violence when they are bullied as boys, but they are ashamed to admit it."

Brinkworth, Lisa. Angry young women. The rise of violent female crime. *Cosmopolitan*, February 1996.

Discussion of increasing violent offences committed by women including in the home. Recent Home office statistics have shown that "the number of women committing serious crimes has reached a record level. Women are now far more active in assaults, street robberies and the drugs trade. Vicious girl gangs, armed to the teeth, stalk the streets, threatening and assaulting the public. In the home, women have started battering their partners, sometimes to death." Women make up 20% of patients in special maximum security hospitals. Alix Kirsta, author of *Deadlier Than The Male*,

believes that “women often get as much of a charge as men out of committing very violent acts. Women who kill, whether in the heat of passion or in cold blood, may do so with as much sadistic savagery as any man.”

Usher, Shaun. Wayne: truth behind the stetson. *Daily Mail*, 25 November 1995.

Brief report on career of John Wayne, including the fact that he had been regularly attacked by his second wife, Esperanza ‘Chata’ Baur. Their divorce in 1953, after a stormy marriage, was horrific. Chata set out to destroy him, making up allegations about him being a persistent wife-beater. Humiliatingly, for the top tough guy, Wayne had to testify, backed by a regiment of family-friend witnesses. “I’ve never laid a hand on Chata, except to fend her off. She’d attack me.”

Wilson, Andrew. Why are women turning to violence? *Top Sante*, October 1995.

Review of increasing violence by women, including in the home. Reference to results of 1994 study by Dr Malcolm George (see MORI survey, *Here and Now*, BBC-1, 7 December 1994) which found that while 13% of women had been victims of domestic violence, an astonishing 18% of men had also been hit or beaten by their partners. Interview with Les Davidson of Merton M.A.L.E., a telephone helpline for battered husbands [set up in April 1994 but closed in April 2001 due to lack of government support], who reported that in the first 6 months since the helpline was set up he had received 500 calls from all types of men - including lorry drivers, lawyers, doctors, firemen, builders and diplomats. Results quoted of a study by Leicester Royal Infirmary which had found that about 12% of all accident and emergency hospital admissions resulted from domestic violence involving attacks by females, and also of a study of cohabitating undergraduates carried out by Leicester University which had found that 29% of women confessed to inflicting violence on their partners. Psychiatrist Michael Topaloff, an expert in teenage psychosis, thought “that the idea that women are intrinsically less capable [than men] of acting out violent fantasies is misleading.”

Parkin, Molly. In *TV Quick*, w/e 29 September 1995.

Letter to Quick Advice columnist. “My girlfriend has a violent temper and I’d like to break it off between us, but I’m afraid she will attack me. ... She has warned me that if I ever leave her she’ll find me and I’ll be sorry.” Molly Parkin advises “though there are many cases like yours, where the woman terrifies the man, they are not as well publicised as battered wives, for instance. The reason is male pride. .. This is your life we are talking about. If needs be, tell the police.”

McElroy, Wendy. The unfair sex? *US National Review*, 1 May 1995.

Critical review of the cumulative effects of sexual politics in America on gender-conflict issues, such as rape and domestic violence, and the adoption of publicly funded pro-women policies based on misleading and selective statistics and radical feminist ideology. “In the fight against rape and domestic violence, men are now presumed guilty.” Radical feminists are using the issues of domestic violence and rape to create a new jurisprudence that assesses guilt and imposes punishment based on gender. The 1994 Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) advanced the radical feminist goal of redistributing power from the ruling class (men) to the oppressed class (women). VAWA defines ‘gender-motivated crimes’ as federal civil rights violations, converting domestic violence and rape into ‘hate’ crimes. The law now recognises men and women as antagonistic classes to be governed by different standards of law. VAWA allows not only criminal prosecution but also civil suits for “compensatory and punitive damages, injunctive and declaratory relief as a court may deem appropriate.” In effect, a man can be tried (and punished) twice for the same crime. Furthermore, by making rape a civil offense as well as a crime, women avoid the need to prove rape “beyond a reasonable doubt”. All a court requires is a “preponderance of evidence.” The success of the ‘battered woman syndrome’ as a defence in murder cases also illustrates how standards of justice have been warped by the politicisation of violence against women. Traditionally, a plea of self-defence required imminent danger without possibility of escape. Today, courts are acquitting women

who kill abusive husbands in their sleep. “This sort of injustice is the inevitable consequence of treating men as a separate class, rather than as individuals who share the same humanity as women. They should not be made to stand before a legal system which presumes their guilt.”

Parkin, Molly. *TV Quick*, w/e 3 March 1995.

Letter to Quick Advice columnist. “We hate the way our mum shouts at and hits our dad. She is much smaller than him, but she’s a real bully.” Molly Parkin advises “I’m sure that if you make a real stand over this, you will bring about a change. Domestic violence can become a hard habit to break when a relationship has set in its mould.”

Brinkworth, Lisa. What makes a woman hit a man? *Cosmopolitan*, February 1995.

Report on increasing numbers of men reporting being battered by their female partners, including references to the experiences of seven male victims, including a barrister, cab-driver, property surveyor, construction site worker and rugby player, and an ex-marine. Includes comments by Dr Malcom George, a neuro-physiologist at the University of London; Dr Kevin Browne, a psychologist and Senior Lecturer in Clinical Criminology at the University of Birmingham; Les Davidson, who runs Merton M.A.L.E. a national helpline for battered men; Jenni Manners, who has run a women’s refuge in Wiltshire since 1977 but now also provides counselling for male victims; and Dianne Core, the founder of Childwatch, a counselling service for adults who were abused as children. Also quotes Alix Kirsta, who carried out extensive research into women and violence for her book *Deadlier than the Male*, who believes “women are becoming violent and aggressive for reasons more to do with changing circumstances than any sinister mutation, as is often claimed.” Les Davidson thinks that “violence often begins when there is a change in the balance of power in the household, especially if the woman has the greater earning capacity. She brings her managerial position home and the man becomes a soft target for her ‘self-expression’.” Dr Browne agrees. “Now that women face the same work pressures as men, they too are beginning to use violence as a means of alleviating stress.” In a study by Dr Browne, men and women who had been abused in childhood were found to be three times more likely to behave violently in an adult relationship than non-abused men and women. Dr George reports that women are more likely to use a weapon. “Knives, bottles, and baseball bats are all used. Women also tend to attack men when they are least likely to strike back. The most common attacks are from behind, when the victim is asleep, or in front of the children.” Dianne Core comments that “the extent of planned violence by women takes my breath away. Attacks are often premeditated and more vicious than those by men. Women will use their feet, their fists, knives, scissors, boiling water and poison”. Core says she has witnessed extreme female violence. Once, she was called to the home where a woman was hurling bricks at her husband, smashing up the kitchen in the process. “These women are like whirling dervishes when they get going.” According to Jenni Manners “the only way to tackle all forms of domestic violence is through education and firmer responses from the judicial system.”

Macdonald, Victoria. Battered husbands afraid to seek help. *Sunday Telegraph*, 29 January 1995.

Reference to results of study by Sean Stitt and Audrey Macklin of John Moores University in Liverpool of 20 male victims in the Merseyside area. The results “surprised and horrified” the researchers, who believed that there would be only a small number of cases. Instead, they had been inundated with calls from husbands wanting to tell their story. One victim reported that his hand had been pinned to a kitchen table with a knife, another had scalding water poured over his face, and others had been hit with a variety of implements, including the proverbial rolling pin. Yet when the researchers approached social workers about how male victims were treated, they came across what they could only describe as “anti-male sexism”. Dr Stitt said “male victims cover evidence of their abuse by completely isolating themselves. In many cases, they stay in the marriage because they are afraid for the children.”

Burrell, Ian and Brinkworth, Lisa. Sugar n' spice but not all nice. *Sunday Times*, 27 November 1994. Report on increasing violence by women, in particular the new phenomenon of violent girl gangs. Their targets are invariably young business women returning home from an evening out, who don't expect to be attacked by a gang of young girls. Four women's prisons are among the 13 most violent jails in the country, although there are only 13 female establishments among Britain's 143 jails. On estates in inner cities, police have observed gangs of young girls, some armed with machetes and army knives, competing with men for a share of the drugs trade. A similar pattern of female violence is emerging behind closed doors. The first national helpline [Merton M.A.L.E.] has been swamped with calls from battered husbands. A former Royal Marine found that his wife could become like "a ferocious wild cat. The slightest thing would set her off. She would pull me to the ground, kick me and pull large clumps of hair out of my head. I never fought back because she is a slightly built, petite woman."

Olliver, Victor. I was a battered husband. *Woman's Journal*, November 1994. Experience of a male victim. "When I wept in court, I was told by my own solicitor to pull myself together because, 'the judge won't like that'. They all refused to consider the possibility of a man being victimised by his wife." Merton M.A.L.E. considers "that many abused husbands are damaged as much emotionally as physically. The main tactic of the wife is to isolate the husband from the world by bullying him and then controlling him with physical violence. Men have had teeth knocked out with frying pans, cigarettes stubbed out on them, ankles and jaws broken by wives. When the police are called, the wife accuses the man of abuse and he's arrested."

Kemp, Beverly. Battered by the women of their dreams. *Independent*, 23 July 1994. They are punched, kicked, attacked with bottles, glasses, pans. But burnt, bruised and bleeding, these men still love their tormentors. Experiences of two male victims of domestic violence. The first: "Her violence became a pattern. She would become enraged if I didn't do exactly as she wanted and strike me with whatever came to hand. Once I was in bed asleep and woke to find her pushing a lighted cigarette into my back. I have no idea why she did that. There hadn't been a row or even a disagreement. Another time she thrust a kitchen knife into my arm, then rang the police and reported that I had stabbed her." "Some days she would be like a wild animal and other days she was as placid as can be. The unpredictability was so hard to cope with." The second victim: "The violence started about six months after we got married. At first I tried to keep a note of when it happened, to see if there was a pattern, but it is impossible to tell now what provokes it. It comes out of the blue. It takes a lot of strength not to retaliate."

Morris, Justine. Violent wives and the men who suffer. *Woman's Realm*, 12 July 1994. Discussion of the increase in the number of men reporting attacks by their wives and reference to the experiences of three male victims. Alix Kirsta, author of *Deadlier Than the Male*, believes that "women are becoming more violent. The instincts have always been there, but in the past they have been repressed. With the stresses of life today, women have started to discover their violent instincts and use them in a destructive way. Women are also becoming stronger [through sport]." One male victim reported that "I often went to work with black eyes, bruises and scratches. I would give my colleagues ridiculous excuses, saying things like the cat had attacked me. When Mary started attacking me with knives and scissors, I was in complete fear for my life. I didn't dare phone the police station, I was far too embarrassed - I thought that they would laugh at me." References to Men in Crisis helpline, founded by male victim David, and to Merton M.A.L.E. helpline launched in April this year and run by Les Davidson. Davidson reports that "very few battered husbands leave their partners" [in part probably because there are no refuges for them].

Bassett, Tony. New helpline reveals turmoil of battered men. London *Evening Standard*, 5 May 1994.

Short report on Merton M.A.L.E. (male advice line and enquiries) launched in April 1994 and interview with Les Davidson, the coordinator. Les Davidson reported that “most of the female violence comes when the man is sitting down and it comes from the kitchen area.” Men who have called the helpline “have had boiling liquids thrown over them, been stabbed, and had ashtrays, ornaments and chairs hurled at them.” “In the end, they fear they will lose everything if they report the violence, since they feel the courts aren’t going to be sympathetic.” “Society doesn’t accept that a man is going to be beaten by his wife. They will say he is a wimp or he must have done something to deserve it.”

Marsh, Tim. I live in fear of my wife. *Bella*, 27 October 1993.

Interview with male victim of domestic violence. “I remember the first time she attacked me. We were arguing over what to watch on TV when, out of the blue, she hurled her mug of tea at me. I was astonished. I didn’t know then that it was only the beginning. Almost every evening is the same now.” “How can I leave her when I know I’d have to leave my son living in this hell? It’s not easy for a husband to get custody. Would a judge believe my story? I can’t walk out and take that risk. So I have to stay in this terrible trap, a battered husband with no one to turn to.”

Stacey, Sarah. And Then She Hit Me. *Esquire*, April 1993.

Report on plight of male victims of domestic violence including experiences of five battered men. “She put her arms around me and kissed me hello. She poured me a drink and said how was your day. She brought out a hammer and then she hit me.” A survey of admissions to Leicester Royal Infirmary’s A & E department showed “almost equal numbers of men (142) and women (155) were assaulted in their homes. Eleven men admitted the assailant was their partner compared to 55 women. But an extraordinary 84% of men, and only 36% of women, refused to identify their attacker. Patterns of violence varied. Men used their fists, while women generally employed common household items like knives, scissors, saucepans or lamps and, curiously, baseball bats. The report emphasised that “assaulted men received more injuries than women, lost consciousness more often, and required admission to hospital on more occasions”. Dr Malcolm George, a neurophysiologist at London University, who is compiling a survey of 42 male victims of female violence, found that the abuse by women “was vicious”. “It wasn’t just arguments where the wife lost her temper and hit out. There were ladies who carried hammers in their handbags and kept iron bars under the bed.” “Every man in the study said there were threats and verbal abuse. Their personal possessions were frequently disposed of or destroyed. They were often locked out.” “Several men reported that they had lost their jobs as a direct result of their wife’s behaviour.” When men are tempted to retaliate, even simply to restrain their violent partners, they are often held back by the fear, particularly if they have children, of ending up being charged as the aggressors. Anthony Lawson, a family solicitor who acts for several abused men says “courts favour the woman. It is automatically assumed that the man is the violent one.”

Woolf, Isabel. Domestic violence: The other side. *Spectator*, 28 November 1992.

Sympathetic article about male victims of domestic violence and their particular plight, especially not being believed by the police and the widespread biased attitudes and policies applying against them. Reference to experience of one victim together with quotes from various sources, including Malcolm George of London University, George Gilliland of the *Domestic Rights Coalition* in St Pauls, Minnesota, Anthony Lawson a family solicitor, and Bruce Liddington of *Families Need Fathers*.

Smyth, Angela. Do only women bleed? *Guardian Women*, 15 July 1992.

Reference to need for more support services for battered men. In America, the first shelter for battered man is due to open at the end of this year, founded by the Domestic Rights Coalition in St Paul, Minnesota. George Gilliland, founder of the Coalition and himself a former victim, described

“how his wife regularly used to deliver thumps and kicks, until one day, when she poured hot coffee over him, he called the police. She ran out of the house screaming that she had been battered and I was arrested and taken to jail.” Professor Murray Straus, Co-Director of the Family Research Laboratory of New Hampshire University, accepted that women have the most immediate need of services but said that “it is important to acknowledge that assault works both ways; violence of any sort is a problem and we need to eliminate it. He believed that one of the first steps towards preventing domestic violence is to address society’s tolerance of abuse by women.”

Driscoll, Margaret. All for love? *Sunday Times*, Style & Travel, 7 June 1992.

Report on dramatic increase in violence by women, including violence against other women where love is involved. As William Congreve noted three centuries ago, “heav’n has no rage like love to hatred turned, nor hell a fury, like a woman scorned.” Psychologist Dorothy Rowe, whose new book *Wanting Everything* examines women’s reactions to rejection, says that “women’s attitudes have changed profoundly. They no longer have to fall into the role of martyr and are far more likely to take direct action against a rival, or their spouse.”

Baker, Sam. Men get battered, too. *CHAT*, 18 April 1992.

Experience of Joe Edwards, a male victim of domestic violence. [See also ‘A beaten man’, *Sunday Times*, 13 November 1994].

Kirsta, Alix. Would You Batter Him? *New Woman*, January 1991.

Article exploring male victimisation and including quote of a police officer who said “we have all dealt with a case” of a battered husband.

Kirsta, Alix. Six foot, macho.. and beaten by his wife. *TheTimes*, 10 December 1989.

Report of a six-foot male victim who had suffered violence and physical injuries from his smaller, petite and feminine wife.

Harrison, Jemima. Would you batter your husband? *Woman’s Own*, 24 May 1986.

Report on plight of male victims of domestic violence, including brief reference to the experiences of four victims, one of these a husband who was eventually provoked into retaliation by smashing a vase over his wife’s head and pushing her off the balcony of their ninth-floor flat. Theodore Johnson was subsequently found guilty of the manslaughter of his wife Yvonne, not murder, and jailed for three years. The judge said “I am satisfied you are not a violent man and this happened because of your wife’s provocation.” Psychiatrist Dr John Bonn, who specialises in what he calls “marital disharmony”, thought that “ironically, the more restrained a man is, the more likely it is that he’ll provoke his wife into violence”. Colin Hale, of the charity *Families Need Fathers*, said that “on no account must a man retaliate. The system is weighted against men. In custody cases, the burden is on the father to prove the mother is unfit. If the man hits back, he’ll suffer.” Alex Goldie of the *Campaign for Justice in Divorce* also advised this. If the man retaliates, the wife would still receive “all the sympathy from the police and legal system.” Moreover, he would jeopardise the “few rights he does have when it comes to child custody, care and control, maintenance, division of property and so on.”

Collcutt, Deborah (in Bonn). Freed, the killer wife who blamed her PMT. *Daily Mail*, 13 December 1976.

A woman who stabbed her soldier husband to death walked free yesterday after pleading that pre-menstrual syndrome was a factor in the attack. Angela Fenty, 24, was given a year’s community service by a court martial in Germany after admitting manslaughter. She knifed 35-year old warrant officer Peter Fenty at their home on an Army base in Hohne last December. The hearing was told she was receiving treatment for pre-menstrual syndrome at the time. This, along with psychiatric evidence, was taken into consideration in the sentence. Other factors were her remorse, lack of

premeditation, and the abuse she had suffered at her husband's hands. She had spent a year on remand in custody.

Unattributed items

2003 and later

'Diamond's ex wins £75,000 over 'big lie' by his mistress'. *Daily Telegraph*, 26 May 2007.

Mike Hollingworth, the former husband of Anne Diamond, was yesterday awarded £75,000 libel damages over the "big lie" that he brutally assaulted his 26-year old mistress, after insisting that it was he who had suffered a "good hiding" at her hands.

'Life for Thai wife who had British husband barbecued'. *London Lite*, 6 September 2006.

A Thai wife who barbecued her English husband and had his remains scattered around a tiger sanctuary was jailed for life today. Pannada Charnaud, 35, was told by a judge in Bangkok that even though she had not taken part she had arranged her husband's death "just as if she had struck him herself". Three other defendants from her home village in north east Thailand were also sentenced to life for murder. The court heard that 41-year old Toby Charnaud had sold his farm in Chippenham, Wiltshire, after falling in love with Pannada, whom he met in a Bangkok bar in 1997. They went to live in Thailand but divorced over Pannada's gambling debts. In March last year,, she arranged for friends and relatives to beat Mr Charnaud to death with an iron bar and barbecue his body. His remains were scattered around Kaeng Krajan national park, where they were discovered after Pannada reported her ex-husband missing.

'Grandmother jailed over murder plot'. *Press Association*, 5 July 2006.

A grandmother has been jailed for 20 years after plotting the gruesome torture and killing of her pagan partner. Margaret James, 58, was found guilty at Truro Crown Court of conspiring to murder parish councillor Peter Solheim. The court heard that James had Mr Solheim tortured and killed after she learnt he was to leave her for his mistress of 20 years. His body was found floating in the sea near the Lizard Peninsula. He had been drugged, attacked with a blunt machete, and thrown into the sea where he drowned.

'Inside the house that breaks taboos'. *Woman*, 26 June 2006.

Woman gets exclusive access to the UK's first male refuge [run by the Montgomery Family Crisis Centre]. So why have men had to wait this long? Reference also to the charity *ManKind* which provides three rooms for male victims of domestic violence in the West Midlands and West Country.

'Survey finds male abuse approval'. *BBC News*, 18 June 2006.

6,500 women were surveyed from 36 universities for an international study into attitudes to domestic violence. Of the 200 women at a Glasgow university questioned, 60% said that it was acceptable for women to hit their husbands while 35% admitted assaulting their partner. A total of 8% admitted injuring them. Among European students, only English women were more likely to have carried out assaults, with 41% admitting that they had punched or kicked their partners. Just under a quarter of those in Scotland admitted there were occasions when it would be acceptable for a husband to slap a wife. Worldwide, more than 4,800 female students approved of assaulting their partner and 2,000 admitted to pushing, shoving, slapping, throwing objects, and twisting their partner's arms or hair. Professor Murray Straus, co-author of the study, said that there was a need for better rehabilitation programmes for women with violent tendencies. "The bottom line is that we need to make the same

'big deal' about violence by women as we do about men who behave violently."

'Jane Andrews sentence cut'. *Independent*, 3 May 2006

The Duchess of York's former aide, Jane Andrews, jailed for life for murdering her lover when he refused to marry her, has had her 15-year minimum sentence reduced to 12 years. She was convicted in 2001 of murdering Tommy Cressman by beating him with a cricket bat and repeatedly stabbing him at their home in Fulham, London.

'Lloyd Webber and wife arrested'. *Daily Telegraph*, 20 March 2006.

Julian Lloyd Webber, the world famous cellist, and his third wife, Kheira, were arrested at their west London home following a domestic row, it was disclosed yesterday. The couple were held on suspicion of "assault occasioning actual bodily harm" following the incident in the early hours of March 10. They were found by police, both with cuts and bruises, following an abandoned 999 call, but later released.

'Woman drove car at ex-partner, court told'. *Hampshire Chronicle*, 5 January 2006.

A woman from Alresford has admitted seriously injuring her former partner and his work colleague after she drove her car at them after an argument. Winchester Crown Court heard how the 33-year old followed her former partner, Richard Mills, after he had left for work, driving her Volvo at him with the intention of frightening him. In the event, she caused serious injury both to him and a colleague, Ian Saunders. Judge Patrick Hooton ordered pre-sentence reports and adjourned sentencing until the end of the month.

'Life for wife who got second chance'. *Daily Telegraph*, 13 December 2005.

A wife who murdered her husband three years after he successfully pleaded with a judge to spare her following a previous knife attack was sentenced to life yesterday. Jacqueline Williamson, 46, admitted killing her 59-year old husband, John, with a kitchen knife at their home in South Shields last year. Newcastle Crown Court heard that Williamson first stabbed her husband in 2001, causing him a collapsed lung. She will serve at least another 11 years in jail before parole can be considered.

'Headline findings of the National Crime Council Research Report on Domestic Abuse of Women and Men in Ireland.' *Amen on-line* (www.amen.ie), 20 July 2005.

Findings of the research included: 15% of women and 6% of men suffer severe domestic abuse (physical or emotional); 29% of women and 26% of men suffer domestic abuse when severe and minor abuse are combined; 13% of women and 13% of men suffer physical abuse; 29% of women (1 in 3) and 5% of men (1 in 20) report to the Gardai; 49% of admissions to women's refuges are Travellers; of those turned away from refuges, 46% were for reasons other than the refuges being full.

'Death after boast'. *The Times*, 19 March 2005.

A psychology student stabbed her fiancé to death as he taunted her about having sex with one of her friends, a court was told. Hayley Wallbank, 18, from Hengoed, South Wales, admitted to the manslaughter of Gareth Evans, and was sentenced to eight years youth custody.

'Wife arrested over 'earl murder''. *BBC website*, 28 February 2005.

The wife and brother-in-law of the Earl of Shaftesbury, Anthony Ashley-Cooper, have been arrested by French police on suspicion of his murder. Djamila M'Barek, 37, was arrested in the resort town of Cannes on Friday, while Mohammed M'Barek, 40, was arrested on Saturday in Munich. The 66-year old earl disappeared from Cannes in November last year and police said in December that they were treating his disappearance as a murder. His body has not been found. The earl was estranged from

Djamilia M'Barek, his third wife, at the time of his disappearance.

'Partner accused'. *The Times*, 26 February 2005.

The partner of a parish councillor whose body was found off the Cornish coast in June has been accused of his murder. Margaret James, 56, was accused by magistrates in Truro, Cornwall, of murdering Peter Solheim, 56, with a person or persons unknown and conspiring to murder him. She was remanded in custody.

'Ex-lover jailed'. *The Times*, 11 February 2005.

A jilted woman who ripped off her former lover's testicle with her hands and then tried to swallow it has been jailed for two and half years. Amanda Monti, 24, from Birkenhead, flew into a rage when Geoffrey Jones, 37, rejected her advances at the end of a drunken house party. He said in a statement read to Liverpool Crown Court "The attack has ruined my life."

'Cruel lovers jailed'. *The Times*, 8 January 2005.

Christine Harris, 52, was jailed for ten years and her lover, Graham Dimmer, 51, for four years, after being convicted of 12 charges of assaulting her husband. Truro Crown Court was told that Martin Harris, 51, was on the brink of death after being abused for a year.

'Man assaulted by wife gets divorce'. *The Times of India*, 7 November 2004.

A husband has been able to get a divorce from his wife on grounds of assault and abuse. He first lodged complaints in 1993 when he suffered a fracture after his wife slapped him and pushed him against a wall. The man charged her with both physical and mental cruelty. While the trial court granted him the decree for divorce, his wife challenged it and sort restoration of conjugal rights. A Bench of Justices recently dismissed the wife's plea for restoration of conjugal rights and upheld the decree for divorce that the husband had obtained some ten years before.

'Domestic violence in Leeds'. 2004 Study based on report by the *DTI Women & Equality Unit*.

The study reported a total of 25,033 victims of domestic violence in Leeds in 2004, of which 6,552 were male, a proportion of 26.2%. The proportions for male victims were higher for the categories of more severe assault, 48.8% under 'weapon used', and 46.3% under 'kicked, bit, and hit with fist'.

"The Fist Wives Club". *Sunday Mail*, 8 April 2004 Special Report.

Scotland has been hit by an alarming rise in domestic violence against men by WOMEN. The latest Scottish Executive statistics reveal domestic violence against men has risen 81% since 1999, with the most recent figures showing 3,439 reporting having been beaten up by their partners. A spokesman said "Numbers have gone up due to greater awareness and reporting. But these figures are considerably under the true rate of abuse." The article includes comments by Dr Malcolm George, Helen Wilkinson who carried out research for the think tank Demos, Stephen Fitzgerald, and Erin Pizzey, and two case studies.

'Battered Men: The Painful Truth'. *EBASCO Publishing*. Report by Robert Bittner (last reviewed February 2004). Source: Stop Abuse for Everyone (SAFE).

Today, [American] society is awakening to the fact that domestic violence is a problem that goes beyond gender stereotypes. In other words, domestic abuse is a 'human problem', and battered men, like battered women, need help. Unfortunately, awareness of the problem of abused men has been slow to come. Those who view female-on-male violence as ridiculous are overlooking one fact: the vast majority of such violence involves the use of weapons, according to a 1984 study of 6,200 domestic assaults. Thanks to the equalising effects of guns, knives, boiling water, bricks, and baseball bats, women and men are equally capable of seriously assaulting a domestic partner.

'First UK refuge for male victims of home violence opening in Wales'. *Western Mail*, 21 January 2004. Britain's first dedicated refuge for male victims of domestic abuse is to open in Wales. Montgomeryshire Family Crisis centre (MFCC), one of the UK's leading organisations assisting females, said it had been prompted to open a centre in Mid Wales by the growing numbers of men seeking its help. MFCC, which has offices in Newtown and Welshpool, is looking for a site in Powys for the hostel. Shirley Powell, senior co-ordinator of the project, said "More and more men who are victims are coming forward to seek out help".

'Concern for abused fathers at Christmas'. *Sunday Independent (Ireland)*, December 2003. AMEN, the support group for men who are or have been victims of domestic abuse, has said that Christmas can be a very lonely time for some fathers and children, many of whom will not see each other over the festive period. The group's spokeswoman, Mary Cleary, said there are many men who will spend Christmas sleeping in vans, cars, or couches in friends' houses. "There are no refuges or safe places for men and their children when they have to leave their homes in fear for their lives."

'Evidence shows male victims get raw deal'. *Inside Housing*, 17 October 2003. Letter from Daniel [David] Yarwood criticising dismissive attitude (12 September) of Eleri Butler of Women's Aid in her reply to a sympathetic article about the lack of support services for male victims of domestic violence by Sue Hoolahan in a previous issue (7 September). "Sex equality and human rights law require that seriously affected male victims and their children should be treated equally and fairly, even if they are in a minority. Women's Aid should face up to this."

'Male victims denied voice at conference'. *Third Sector*, 24 September 2003. A charity supporting male victims of female domestic violence is protesting at its exclusion from a national conference in London on the 10 October 'Working Together to Tackle Domestic Violence: Providing Support, Safety and Justice' intended to influence Government policy. The conference organiser Capita originally invited *ManKind* to participate in the event, but recently the invitation was withdrawn on the grounds that "the conference's criteria didn't suit the ethos of *ManKind*". Suzi Bacon, a Capita producer, said "changes were made after discussion with the other speakers [including Rosie Winterton MP and Nicola Harwin of Women's Aid]. We felt the topic was better suited to a separate occasion".

'Sentence reduced for woman who stabbed husband'. *New Malden Times*, 4 July 2003. A woman who stabbed her husband to death had her sentence cut by the Court of Appeal from four years to three years. Jennifer Evans was sentenced at the Old Bailey last October after admitting the manslaughter of her 29-year old husband Lee when she stabbed him through the heart. The Court of Appeal was told that her four children "need her".

'... male victims'. *Richmond and Twickenham Times*, 4 July 2003. Letter from male victim stating that "My ex-wife tried to kill me three times. What help exists for male victims?"

'Innocent, but treated like a criminal'. *Mail on Sunday*, 29 June 2003. Letter from John Richards (of Cornwall), briefly relating his experience as a male victim of domestic violence disbelieved by the police. "If a woman accuses a man of beating her up, it seems that - however little evidence there is - the police will do all in their power to secure a prosecution [against the man]."

'Domestic violence group welcomes equal rights move for male victims'. *Wirral Globe*, 25 June 2003. The Government is expected to announce that men in abusive relationships are entitled to as much protection as women - giving official recognition to the plight of so-called 'battered husbands' for the

first time. Stephen Dennett, the NW representative of the charity *ManKind*, which assists male victims of domestic abuse, backed the announcement. “*ManKind* welcomes any move which will lead to better service provision and greater recognition for male victims.” DC Dave Johnson, of the Wirral Domestic Violence Unit, who has been a DV officer for more than five years, said that there are “significant numbers of men who do not report abuse by their female partner.” “Merseyside Police and the Wirral DV forum are not gender specific and seek to give advice and support to anyone who suffers domestic violence whatever their gender or sexual orientation.”

‘Domestic violence’. *The Times*, 2 June 2003.

Letter from Julie Turner noting with dismay that the Government plans to establish a domestic violence register (report, 26 May) which appears to ignore the needs of male victims. If the police are now willing to deal with the stigma that attends this crime, why not tackle it head on and attempt to remove the stigma that is attached to male victims? At present there are few options open to a man for the safety of himself and his children from a violent wife. This not only leaves him and his family in an extremely vulnerable position but also distorts the statistics, since much of the information on domestic violence is gathered from women’s refuges. Furthermore, out of a sense of misplaced pride, men very rarely complain about incidents of this nature.

‘Riot girls go on Petersfield rampage’. *Haslemere and District Messenger*, 14 May 2003.

Report on a fight in a pub car park after closing time involving two gangs of women between the ages of 25 and 30, which left three men injured, two seriously.

Prior to 2003

‘The hen-pecked killer’. Mercy for farmer who suffered hell at his wife’s hands. *Daily Mail*, 3 October 2002.

A hen-pecked husband who strangled his bullying and abusive wife was told by the judge that his responsibility for her death was ‘minimal’, but was [still] sentenced to three and a half years in jail.

‘Stab case wife freed by judge’. *Daily Telegraph*, 29 June 2002.

A wife who stabbed her husband to stop him leaving her was given a three-year rehabilitation order instead of prison after Judge Valerie Pearlman heard that the husband wanted a reconciliation. [This same Judge Pearlman had urged the annual meeting of the Magistrates Association in November 2001 always to jail domestic violence offenders].

‘Killer wife is spared jail’. *Daily Telegraph*, 3 May 2002.

A woman who was convicted of stabbing her violent husband to death, after she found out he was having an affair, was yesterday found guilty of manslaughter and given a two-year suspended sentence, after the judge accepted that she was acting in ‘self-defence’.

‘Meeting elder abuse victims’ needs’. *Inside Housing*, 5 April 2002.

“Housing officers and social workers need to work together to address the unmet needs of older men who suffer abuse.” That’s the conclusion of new research for the Joseph Rowntree Foundation, which found that “male victims of elder abuse often felt they were not given enough help about housing, finance or legal options available to them. Professionals often did not take allegations of abuse seriously and rarely offered long-term support.”

'Women more violent'. *Irish Sunday Independent*, 24 March 2002.

Reference to results of a study by McKeown et al carried out in 2000 for Marriage and Relationship Counselling Services (MRCS) based on a survey of 530 of their clients. The results showed that women were, in fact, more likely than men to perpetrate domestic violence. The study found that where domestic violence occurs, mutual violence accounted for 33% of cases, female perpetrated violence for 41%, and male perpetrated violence for 26%. The majority (59%) of those interviewed were women and the great majority of women (85%) and of men (94%) agreed with their partner's response to the question of who was responsible for initiating the violence, suggesting that the self-reported prevalence of female violence was quite reliable. [Another survey of 1,000 couples and 1,500 individuals, also carried out by McKeown et al for ACCORD (the catholic marriage counselling service), found that in the 53% of cases where domestic violence had occurred, 46% involved mutual violence, in 30% of cases it had been perpetrated by women only and in 24% of cases by men only].

'The thing is, I still love her'. (Daniel Hoste, pseudonym). *Guardian Women*, 11 March 2002. Experience of a male victim who for six months was repeatedly beaten up by his girlfriend, often for such minor transgressions as keeping his shoes on inside. It was only after he left her that he realised his experience was far from unusual.

'Men fall victim to domestic violence'. *The Times*, 5 March 2002.

Reference to results of research carried out by Prof. Betsy Stanko of calls to the police in London in 2001 alleging domestic violence. These indicated that about 1 in 5 of the 100,000 incidents of domestic violence to which police were called in 2001 were cases of men being attacked by their partners.

'Case study shows how system fails male victims'. South Wales *Western Mail*, 17 December 2001. Experience of a male victim subject to a long and painful ritual of violence against him, including stabbing, smacking with a poker causing broken ribs, pan of hot chip fat thrown at him, and broken glass in his food. "But no help was available from any social agencies."

'Helplines on the way for men who suffer'. South Wales *Western Mail*, 17 December 2001. Reference to efforts by *ManKind* to set up helplines for male victims of domestic violence.

'Violent marriage'. *Daily Mail*, 28 November 2001.

Letter from male victim, saying it was not uncommon for him to be hit by his wife's walking stick, beaten whilst asleep, and have items thrown at his head. His advice to other male victims was "to start afresh, because like violent men, violent women don't change either."

'Two year's probation for wife who stabbed husband as he slept'. *Haslemere Herald*, 22 June 2001. Judge Derek Inman took a compassionate view when sentencing a woman who had been found guilty of stabbing her husband in the neck while he lay in bed asleep. The court was told that she was expecting a baby in the near future and the judge said he thought it preferable for the child to be born out of custody. He therefore sentenced her to a two-year rehabilitation order (formerly known as probation).

'Woman jailed over fight on jet'. *Daily Telegraph*, 9 May 2001.

A woman airline passenger who attacked three cabin crew, after being caught smoking in the lavatory, was jailed for 9 months yesterday by Minshull Street Crown Court, Manchester. It took nine people, including the captain, to eventually restrain Zoe Campbell, age 27, a bouncer, in hand and ankle cuffs.

'Woman stabbed lover in heart, court told'. *Hackney Gazette*, 18 January 2001.

A woman stabbed her lover through the heart with a kitchen knife in a fit of jealous temper - then left him to die, a court at the Old Bailey heard this week. The court was told that Joanne Cole, 32, was a "jealous, angry woman" who struck out at boyfriend Patrick Hemmings, 35, during a violent row. Hemmings staggered out of his flat foaming at the mouth after Cole left him without alerting emergency services. Cole pleaded self-defence. The trial continues.

'Domestic Violence: an equal opportunity problem'. *MALE VIEW* Issue 32, October/December 2000. Reference to recent small changes in attitudes towards male victimisation. A leaflet published jointly by Southwark Council, the Metropolitan Police and the European Campaign Against Domestic Violence admitted that "men also suffer violence at the hands of violent women and it is believed that there is massive under-reporting in this area." In the United States, there are signs that more violent women are being arrested in domestic incidents. Kathleen Parker, a columnist writing for the *Orlando Sentinel* in December 1999 referred to newspaper reports that in many states this year [1999] women have constituted 25% or more of domestic assault arrests. In Concord, New Hampshire, for instance, women were arrested in 35% of domestic assault cases, and in Boulder County, Colorado, 25% of defendants through September were women. Parker observed that social scientists offered a variety of explanations for this: "women are becoming more aggressive, women are hitting other women, men are calling the police more often, female police officers are less likely to let other women off the hook."

'Behavior – Intimate violence gets female twist'. *USA Science News*, 14 October 2000.

Report referring to results of John Archer's study, published in the September 2000 issue of *Psychological Bulletin*, along with commentaries by other psychologists. Archer's new analysis shows that "physical aggression by women must be taken seriously if there is a sincere desire to prevent partner abuse."

'The truth about domestic violence'. *Catholic Herald*, 21 April 2000.

Letter from James Bogle illustrating how women can be more violent than men in relationships, with reference to the experience of a male victim.

'Wife's sudden silence is her cue for violence'. *Sunday Mirror*, 23 May 1999.

Letter to Virginia Ironside, advice columnist, from male victim of domestic violence. "I'm so ashamed. The fact is I get beaten up by my wife." ... "Every week or so she'll take it into her head that I've done something wrong ...(all untrue) ... and she'll be quite silent, and then she'll suddenly attack me when I'm unawares."

'Gentler sex begins to embrace violence'. *Daily Telegraph*, 9 April 1999.

"Violence is becoming an increasingly normal part of women's lives with almost three-quarters of students questioned saying they had a violent female friend." According to a study by the Open University, "violence in a woman is now considered to be a positive characteristic, with assertiveness and aggression being attributes that 'get things done'."

'Battered men'. *Sunday Times*, 22 November 1998.

Letter from Dr Malcolm George, Queen Mary & Westfield College, London congratulating Melanie Phillips on her article 'Who will speak for the battered man?' (Comment, last week). However, the statistic quoted should have read that "5% of married or cohabiting men suffered two or more acts of physical violence from their current partner as opposed to only 1% of married or cohabiting women from their current partner [rather than one or more acts]."

'Man evicted for pushing wife in row over affair'. *Daily Telegraph*, 28 August 1997.

A deputy headmaster was ordered yesterday by the High Court to leave the family home after he

admitted pushing his wife against a door when she confessed to an affair with one of his best friends. Although expressing sympathy for his plight, the two judges Lady Justice Butler-Sloss and Lord Justice Phillips dismissed his appeal against a July ruling in Portsmouth County Court ordering him from the home, despite his undertakings not to harm her. Lady Butler-Sloss said “to have been violent on three separate occasions had been ‘over the top’ and to allow them to live under the same roof would create a situation ‘fraught with emotional trauma’, with the risk of further violence.”

‘Gay stabbing woman jailed’. *Mirror*, 24 January 1997.

A lesbian who tried to murder her married lover when she ended their affair was jailed for 11 years yesterday at Winchester Crown Court. Heather Nicklinson, 36, stabbed Phillipa Orchard, 38 in the back as they lay naked in bed together. The Court rejected her claim that they had made a suicide pact.

‘Ex-Gladiator beat up her husband in row over son’. *Daily Telegraph*, 17 October 1996.

Sandy Young, a kick-boxer who appeared as ‘Phoenix’ in the ITV show *Gladiators*, was sentenced to 150 hours community service yesterday at Worcester Crown Court for beating up her husband in a dispute over custody of their son. Young was said to have launched an attack of “wanton violence and revenge” on her former husband, Steven. The prosecutor said that “Mrs Young went to her ex-husband’s house in a high temper, being aggressive and hostile.” Her current boyfriend, Mark Eustace, was given 80 hours community service for his part in the attack.

‘Television ‘facts’’. *Daily Telegraph*, 11 July 1996.

Letter from Henry Cooper, father of Sara Thornton, rejecting the claims by the paper’s reviewer (8 July) that the script of the BBC ‘docudrama’ *Killing Me Softly* about his daughter ‘was even-handed and the adjustments of factual detail insignificant’. “The final scene depicting Malcolm lighting a cigarette before the stabbing was pure invention and seems to have been included to reinforce in the viewer’s mind that he was not asleep at the time of the killing”. The programme added nothing to the cause of ‘battered wives’. It was a mish-mash of fiction with fact.”

‘Don’t screen this prime time travesty’. *Daily Mail*, 3 July 1996.

Editorial condemning the BBC screening next Sunday of their ‘docudrama’ *Killing Me Softly* about the story of Sara Thornton, who had plunged a knife into her husband Malcolm when he was in a drunken stupor. The production was made before Thornton’s plea of provocation was rejected at her re-trial. “In the eyes of the law, she remains a killer convicted of manslaughter by reason of her own diminished responsibility. The acted-out version for television will present a travesty of the truth and one which is gratuitously distressing to Malcolm Thornton’s family.”

‘Probation for woman who killed husband’. *Daily Telegraph*, 28 May 1996.

A wife who stabbed her husband to death was put on probation yesterday at the High Court in Edinburgh when the judge accepted that she had suffered a “long history of violent abuse”. Margaret Lochrie, 35, killed her husband with a single knife blow to his back. Her counsel said the couple’s marriage was marked by constant rows and fighting. “There were numerous occasions when Mrs Lochrie was abused” and she was treated in hospital for a variety of injuries. “The police were involved with domestic violence at this house on numerous occasions.” The judge, Lord Gill, told her “he could see no useful purpose in sending her to prison.”

‘Husbands who live in terror’. *Daily Express*, 13 January 1995.

A report published today revealed that one in eight men is the victim of attacks in the home. Inspector Stephen Bloomfield, of Kilburn Police, North London, said “ten years ago it wasn’t thought possible. But now we see husband battering on a regular basis.” Dianne Core, of Childwatch, commented “attacks are often more vicious than those by men. Women will use feet, fists, knives, scissors,

boiling water and poison.”

‘Men as Victims of Domestic Violence’. *WWM Working With Men*, 1995.1

Letter from Les Davidson, coordinator of Merton M.A.L.E., a confidential helpline for male victims of domestic violence. “I am appalled from my research how men perceive men ‘victims’ as wimps and letting men down (macho image) - no wonder these men [victims] feel so isolated when other men’s reaction to this issue involves further humiliation.” “In issues of domestic violence, organisations have become gender biased and offer little help or advice to these victims, because they are men. Police procedures, victim support, domestic violence forums - one has only to look at the procedures and policies to identify there is no consideration for men as victims.”

‘A beaten man’. *Sunday Times*, Style, 13 November 1994.

Family life: The battered husband. Experience of a male victim of domestic violence who suffered repeated attacks during 22 years of marriage, although he was 6ft and 15st and his wife only 5ft4in and 8st. During this time, “I hit her back only twice” when under extreme provocation. “I couldn’t tell anyone about the abuse. I was far too afraid of being ridiculed as the henpecked husband. I only told my doctor, early on in our marriage. He thought she suffered from paranoia, but when I refused psychiatric treatment for her, the doctor took us both off his register. [My wife] never acknowledged she had a problem.” In the end, “I walked out of the house and never returned.”

‘Contrary Mary was making of a president’. *Daily Mail*, 8 September 1994.

The wife of Abraham Lincoln, Mary Todd, regularly attacked her husband. Michael Burlingame, a history professor at Connecticut College, says that he was surprised at the extent of abuse he found when researching for *The Inner World of Abraham Lincoln*. “Mary made their home so unhappy that he busied himself with politics just to get out of the house.” Lincoln was “spattered with coffee, smacked in the face, hit with a broomstick, driven from the house, and pelted with books and potatoes.” Mary also physically abused her sons.

‘Women of Violence’. *ME Magazine*, 4 May 1994.

Interviews with and resumes of experiences of four male victims of domestic violence. In one case, the girlfriend virtually cut off his penis with a Stanley knife whilst he was dozing after intercourse with her. He lost six pints of blood before the ambulance men eventually found him slumped in a public phone box. It took surgeons at Bristol Royal Infirmary four hours to sew his penis back on. In August 1989, a year after the attack, his girlfriend was jailed by Bristol Crown Court for 4 years for ‘intent to cause grievous bodily harm’. Dr Malcolm George, a neurophysiologist at London University, commented that “it’s time we recognise that there is a problem. People don’t like to believe it happens because it breaks two taboos. First, that a man can be beaten up by a woman, and second, that a woman can be violent. That’s why it’s been dismissed for so long. It’s seen as a joke.”

‘Wife goes free after attack’. *Daily Telegraph*, 12 January 1994.

A mother of four who attacked her domineering husband with a cricket bat, fracturing his skull, cheekbone and jaw, walked free from Croydon Crown Court yesterday after the judge read a confidential report about the way she had been treated. Sadie Harding, 25, who admitted wounding her husband Andrew, 31, was given 18 months probation.

‘Courts regard female killers as no deadlier than the male’. *Sunday Times*, 9 May 1993.

Letter from Christopher Nuttall, Director of Research and Statistics, Home Office, in which he questions the belief existing at the moment that women accused of domestic homicide (that is, killing husbands, partners, lovers) are treated more harshly than men accused of the same crime. His analysis of the facts behind the 1,071 such killings which took place between 1983 and 1991 does not support this belief. More than 90% of those accused of domestic killing, whether male or female,

were indicted for murder. At the trial, 22% of the women but only 5% of the men were acquitted of all charges. We do not have complete data on the reason for acquittal, but for those women who did not deny the killing and for whom we have information it appears that the most successful defence was one of self-defence. At the trial, of those found guilty of unlawful domestic killing, 81% of the women were found guilty of the lesser charge of manslaughter, whereas only 62% of the men were. Of the men found guilty of manslaughter and for whom we have information about their defence, 47% used the defence of diminished responsibility, 32% provocation and 21% no intent to kill. Of similar women found guilty of manslaughter, 33% used the defence of diminished responsibility, 34% provocation and 33% no intent to kill. There are thus no grounds to claim that women predominantly have to use the defence of diminished responsibility whereas men can use the defence of provocation. As for differences in sentencing those guilty of domestic homicide: between 1989 and 1991, 73% of men convicted of manslaughter received a prison sentence compared with only 29% of women. The average sentence length for men found guilty of manslaughter was 56 months; for women it was 47 months. And 59% of women were sentenced to either probation or a suspended sentence compared with 12% of men.

'A victim of police 'justice''. *Guardian*, 3 April 1993.

Letter (name withheld) complaining at the unequal way men and women are treated by the police and courts. "My common law wife and myself through our 12 years together had a stormy relationship and towards the end she accused me of violence towards her which was never taken to court or proved. However, because she had told the police and various women's aid societies all sorts of allegations, I was arrested and held for 11 hours in police custody on a minor charge. Whilst in custody, the police and the so-called women's aid societies helped strip our house completely of all furniture, fittings, carpets and even down to light fittings, and left me completely destitute. My wife and children were then relocated and I have not seen them since." "Are there rules for one sex and not for the other and are our protection laws for women going too far?"

OTHER REFERENCES

University of Washington. Nearly twice as many women as men said they perpetrated domestic violence in the past year. 29 June 2007.

University of Washington researchers tracing the development of violent behaviour have found a link between teenage violence and domestic violence. Adolescents who engaged in violent behaviour at a relatively steady rate through their teenage years and those whose violence began in their mid-teens and increased over the years are significantly more likely to engage in domestic violence in their mid-20s than other young adults, according to Todd Herrenkohl, an associate professor of social work at the university. The study, published in the journal *Violence and Victims*, also found no independent link between an individual's use of alcohol or drugs and committing domestic violence. In addition it showed that nearly twice as many women as men said that they perpetrated domestic violence in the past year, including kicking, biting or punching a partner, threatening to hit or throw something at a partner, and pushing, grabbing or shoving a partner, said Herrenkohl.

Graham-Kevan, Nicola (University of Central Lancashire). The Re-Emergence of Male Victims. *International Journal of Men's Health*, Vol.6, No.1, Spring 2007, 3-6.

Introduction by author to special issue of the Journal dealing with male victims of violence by women. The author argues that the scholarly neglect of this topic has limited our overall understanding of violence in intimate relationships. A brief overview of the papers is presented.

George, Malcolm J. (Dewar Research). The "Great Taboo" and the Role of Patriarchy in Husband and Wife Abuse. *International Journal of Men's Health*, Vol.6, No.1, Spring 2007, 7-21.

The role of historical memes such as the "Rule of Thumb" is explored and documented to illustrate how the notion of patriarchy defined as "male-dominance over women" is deeply flawed. The "Rule of Thumb" as anything other than a rough and ready measure is shown to be both a historical myth and the result of sophistry by some women's activists.

Dutton, Donald G. (University of British Columbia). Female Intimate Partner Violence and Developmental Trajectories of Abusive Females. *International Journal of Men's Health*, Vol.6, No.1, Spring 2007, 54-70.

A review of the research literature indicates that female intimate partner violence (IPV) is as frequent as male IPV. It is just as severe and has much the same consequences for males as for females. Despite these findings, criminal justice intervention and custody evaluation operate from the unwarranted assumption that males are the greater risk for IPV perpetration.

McNeely, R.L. and Cook, Philip. Notes on newspaper accounts of male elder abuse. Autumn 2006?

A review of twenty recent newspaper accounts from the US, UK, and Russia detailing the abuse of elderly men, yielded five categories of violence: economic abuse, false allegations by the perpetrator of prior abuse, non-relative caregiver abuse, institutional caregiver abuse, and abuse of male elders by family members. One theme emerging from the accounts is that many of the victimised men appear isolated, infirm, lonely, and bereft of vigilant family members concerned about their care. Economic motivations appeared to be at the heart of virtually all of the cases. Poisoning appeared to be the method of choice in cases involving murder. Many of the unscrupulous perpetrators were women, and some of the women had gone undetected for years despite leaving numerous corpses or individuals victimised by other means in their wake. One theme, not particularly explicated in the accounts, is that perpetrators, institutional and otherwise, tend to receive comparatively meagre punishment for their crimes. [See also Jessica Kingsley 'Male Victims of Elder Abuse: Their Experiences and Needs'. Jessica Kingsley Publishers, 2001].

Australian Bureau of Statistics. Personal Safety, Australia 2005. (4906.0)

The Summary of Findings included the following relating to domestic violence. (1) *Violence by current partners.* Since the age of 15, 68,100 of men and 160,100 of women experienced current partner violence. 111,700 of men and women who experienced violence by a current partner reported that they had children in their care at some time during the relationship, and an estimated 60,700 of these said that these children had witnessed the violence. (2) *Violence by previous partners.* 367,300 of men experienced violence from a previous partner compared to 1,135,500 of women. 146,500 of men and 368,300 of women who had ever experienced violence by their previous partner said that there had only been one incident. 667,900 of women who experienced violence by a previous partner were pregnant at some time during the relationship; of these 239,800 reported that violence occurred during a pregnancy and 112,000 experienced violence for the first time when they were pregnant. 822,500 of persons who experienced violence by a previous partner reported that they had children in their care at some time during the relationship and 489,400 said that these children had witnessed the violence.

Sarantakos, Sotirios. Deconstructing Self-Defense in Wife-to-Husband Violence. *Journal of Men's Studies* Vol.12, No.3, Spring 2004, 277-296.

Members of 68 families in Australia with allegedly violent wives were studied to explore the nature of the women's violence at home, and to ascertain whether wives assault their spouses in self-defense. Accounts of children and the wives' mothers were contrasted with husbands' and wives' accounts to ensure a high degree of accuracy of the assessment of the problem, and to test the validity of the spouses' account. Qualitative analysis revealed that the credibility of the wives' accounts was highly questionable and a justification of self-defense for female-to-male violence was unfounded in a majority of cases.

ManKind Initiative. Domestic Abuse: Survey of Male Victims. September 2003.

Summary of the results of three local surveys in the Devon and Taunton areas, with responses from a total of 45 male victims. Male victims wanted access to the same services as women, including helplines, refuges/safe houses, legal/housing/benefits advice, support groups/drop-in centres, and help with children and counselling. They also wanted the issue of male victims to be taken seriously, and complained about the attitudes of both the police and social services. There was a disturbing distrust of both services. They also felt that there was a bias in judicial proceedings and that the mother was favoured regardless of circumstances affecting the well-being of the children.

Legal Services Research Centre. Pleasance, Pascoe et al. (2001). Family Problems - Who does What and When: Further Findings from the LSRC Survey of Justiciable Problems. *Family Law*, July [2003] and November [2003].

LSRC survey of 5,611 adult respondents, drawn from 3,348 households across England and Wales, carried out between June and September 2001, collecting information about the frequency and nature of 18 categories of justiciable problems, including four categories of 'family' problems [divorce, ancillary to divorce or separation, children, domestic violence]. Of these, 2,017 [36%] reported a justiciable problem of some kind, excluding 'trivial' problems. In addition, 337 reported one or more family justiciable problems in the preceding 3.5 years. Of those who reported family problems, 88 [26% of those reporting family problems, 1.6% of total respondents] reported domestic violence. Of these, 36% did nothing to resolve their problems. For domestic violence, gender differences emerged, with inaction being particularly common among male victims (50% compared to 28% for female victims), reflecting a general reluctance of male victims to talk about the abuse they suffer. The LSRC survey provides an in-depth picture of how the population in England and Wales deals with family-type justiciable problems. Different groups react differently to their family problems, for instance, male victims of domestic violence are less likely to do anything about their problem than female victims are.

UNI Bremen, Germany. Domestic violence in cases of separation and divorce: new results 2002.

Results so far from a new study by Professor Amendt show that in cases of separation and divorce: 22% of men and women hit each other; 18% of the men hit the women; 60% of the women hit the men. The study is continuing until 2003, when more results will be available.

Merton M.A.L.E. helpline Report on operation, April 1994 - April 2001. *Merton Refuge Ltd* 2000/2001 Annual Report.

The Merton helpline for male victims of domestic violence was launched in April 1994 after three years of research. Initially, the line was intended for the benefit of Merton residents [in Sutton, Surrey], but through radio and television interest it very quickly became known nationally and internationally. The helpline was closed in April 2001 after the workload became too much for the coordinator, Les Davidson, largely because it was being used as 'an easy option' by the police and other social agencies, which "simply by including the phone number in their leaflets could report that they were responding to all victims and so were complying with their 'equal opportunities policies'", but

also because of lack of Government interest and support. "This particularly alarmed many police forces, as they now had no referral for male, homosexual or lesbian victims. We advised them to challenge their Domestic Violence Forums and Police Consultative Groups to draw up their own strategy. We hope that the work of the line has forced other agencies to recognise other victims and address the issue rather than ignoring it as was previously the case". During the seven years operation, the coordinator responded to 50,000 telephone calls including over 7,000 from male victims, replied to 10,000 letters, gave hundreds of interviews and lectures, and provided training to numerous groups. "We hope that [the introduction of] the new Human Rights Act 1998, will result [in future] in all victims being treated equally".

AMEN (2000). A Study of Male Victims of Domestic Violence.

Study commissioned by AMEN (Navan, Co. Monaghan), a voluntary group founded in December 1997, which provides a confidential helpline and support services for abused men and their children in Ireland. The survey was limited to 40 respondents, all from the Monaghan area. 72% of the men had experienced some form of physical abuse and all had received some form of mental abuse. 15% had been stabbed and 22% threatened with being killed. Hammers, knives, electric irons, ashtrays, scissors and screwdrivers were cited by the men as weapons used by their partners. 22% of the men were left with lasting scars. 50% said their children had also suffered physical abuse. Despite 50% of the respondents reporting their concerns for their children to the relevant agencies, 90% of their partners were still awarded custody. 85% of the men were experiencing access problems. Of the 45% who had contact with the Gardai, almost all (97%) of these felt that they were not taken seriously. When the 55% who did not seek help from the Gardai were asked why not, 80% said they felt they would not be taken seriously and 77% said they feared ridicule and felt ashamed. The respondents were almost unanimous in saying they want society as a whole to become aware of the reality of the male victim and to take this issue seriously. They also said they needed appropriate support services, including sheltered accommodation for themselves and their children when they need to leave particularly violent incidents.

Fiebert, M.S. (2007). References examining assaults by women on their spouses or male partners: an annotated bibliography. Department of Psychology, California State University, Long Beach. USA).

The bibliography examines 209 scholarly investigations, 161 empirical studies and 48 reviews and/or analyses, which demonstrate that women are as physically aggressive, or more aggressive, than men in their relationships with their spouses or male partners. The aggregate sample size in the reviewed studies exceeds 201,500 men and women.

Yarwood, D.J. (1997). Domestic violence statistics 1995/6, England and Wales: Summary of information by police forces in England and Wales in response to private enquiry. Dewar Research, Ascot.

The report is based on information on domestic violence statistics provided by 24 police forces, with a good degree of breakdown provided by 13 of these forces. Proportions of male victims of total incidents recorded as 'domestic' ranged from 3.6% (although this single low figure needed to be regarded with some caution) to 21.4%, with an average of 19.2% in three London MET Divisions.

Proportions of male victims for notifiable crimes of violence recorded as 'domestic' were higher generally and ranged from 7.9% to 46.6%, with an average of 33.7% for non-metropolitan areas and 17.3% for metropolitan areas, and of 24.6% for 7 London MET Divisions. Proportions of male victims in the younger (1 to 15) and older (61+) age groups were markedly higher than for the middle age range, in some cases being over double the lowest proportion.

MORI survey. Female Aggression. Research study conducted for Dr Malcolm George, Queen Mary & Westfield College, October 1996.

As part of MORI's Omnibus, 1,951 people were questioned for this survey in their homes between 4 to 7 October 1996, using a self-completion questionnaire returned in a sealed envelope, in a random, representative spread of 167 sampling points throughout Great Britain. Assaults by men were not included in the survey. The study found that about 1 in 10 adults had been assaulted by a woman during the last 5 years. 9% had been the victims of a 'minor' assault (objects thrown at them, pushing, shoving, grabbing, tripping, slapping, biting, scratching, gouging). 5% had been the victims of a 'moderate' assault (choking, attempt to strangle, punching, beating, kicking, head-butting, 'kneeing'). 3% had been the victims of a 'severe' assault (hitting with object which could have injured, smashing an object (eg. a glass bottle) over them, stabbing with a knife or other pointed object, or a number of such acts). Men were more likely than women to have been attacked by a woman. 14% of men, compared to 7% of women, had had one or more acts of violence committed against them.. Of these, 12% of men reported a minor act (compared to 6% of women), 7% of men a moderate act (compared to 3% of women), and 4% of men reported a severe act committed against them (compared to 1% of women). 30% of men reporting violence by a woman said that the attacker was a spouse or cohabitee/person I live with (compared to 13% of women). This made it the most common response among men, followed by 'a complete stranger to me' (24%), and 'a dating and sexual partner at the time (who did not live with me)' (15%). Of those who reported being attacked by a woman (or women), 35% said they had not suffered any physical injuries or emotional upset, 24% said they had been emotionally but not physically affected, 44% said they had suffered only minor injuries (eg. bruising, minor cuts, grazes), 6% suffered injuries for which they received medical attention, and a further 2% suffered injuries needing medical attention but did not seek medical help. (*Note: these percentages add up to more than 100% probably because some respondents described more than just the most recent attack.*)

MORI survey. Aggression in British Heterosexual Relationships. Survey for *Here and Now*, November 1994. (Results broadcast by BBC-1 on 7 December 1994).

Second nationally representative survey of 2,000 heterosexual adult men and women conducted on behalf of the BBC and Dr Malcolm George. The survey revealed that more men than women reported having been a victim of domestic violence by their partner in heterosexual relationships. Across all relationships, 18% of men reported having been a victim of physical aggression compared to 13% of women. In current relationships, 11% of men and 5% of women reported being a victim. Across all relationships, 11% of women admitted to having used physical aggression against a husband or male partner (compared to 10% of men). 9% of men and 7% of women in all relationships reported experiencing two or more acts of physical aggression, compared to 4% of men and 2% of women in current relationships. 5% of married or cohabiting men in current relationships reported two or more acts of physical aggression against them compared to 1% of married or cohabiting women. Only 4% of violent women explained their behaviour (either physical or verbal) was because of drink or drugs (compared to 10% of men). 47% of women, nearly half of those admitting aggression, said their behaviour (physical or verbal) was because "it was the only way I could get through to him". Working class men (20%) were more likely to have been subjected to physical aggression by a wife or female partner than upper or middle class men (15%). 21% of women who admitted using physical aggression claimed that it had been in self-defence.

MORI survey. The Family: A Survey of Public Attitudes. May 1991.

General survey of the family commissioned by *Readers Digest* questioning 2,075 people. In response to a question about ever hitting a partner, 10% of women, but only 3% of men, admitted having done this. Results reported by Moller, D. in *Readers Digest* 139 of October 1991 under title 'The family: Our national survey for the 1990s'.

RELATED REFERENCES

Dutton, Prof Don (University of British Columbia). Domestic violence isn't one-sided. *National Post*, 14 June 2006.

The stereotype that unprovoked men purposefully assault women, and never the reverse, is so ingrained in our public discourse that participants in research on intimate partner violence (IPV) - not just lay people but health professionals as well - presented with a scenario in which one partner abuses the another, perceive it as abuse only if the assaulter is identified as male. The reality, borne out by independent peer-reviewed studies as well as Statscan, is that women commit more severe IPV, and more IPV in general, than men. For all kinds of relationship types, females are unilaterally more violent than males to non-violent partners. More females strike first in IPV (men are conditioned not to strike first in our society) and, contradicting received wisdom, fear of their male partner is rarely a factor amongst violent women.

O'Neil, Sean. Male victims of abuse 'find it hard to admit'. *Daily Telegraph*, 5 February 2002. Reference to evidence that adolescent boys who have sex with older women are victims of abuse by people who have power over them. Prof. Liz Kelly of the University of North London says the absence of obvious signs of harm does not mean that a victim had escaped unscathed. "These are cases of abuse of authority, privilege and trust. That is wrong and it doesn't matter if the abuser is a man or a woman".

Clarke, Michael. 1m children 'have suffered abuse inside the family'. (Key findings from NSPCC survey). *Daily Mail*, 20 November 2000.

Reference to NSPCC report on child abuse published on 20 November 2000. Amongst the findings, women were more likely to attack their children than men, with mothers responsible for 52% of attacks and fathers for 45%.

Wolff, Isabel. Domestic Violence: the other side. *Spectator*, 28 November 1992.

Quotes Sandra Horley, the [then] director of the Chiswick Family Refuge as saying: "Refuges for women are struggling to survive, and if we put across this idea that the abuse of men is as great as the abuse of women, then it could seriously affect our funding".

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

Newspapers & Magazines

Hope, Jenny. Doctors to ask: Are you a battered wife? Medical Correspondent, *Daily Mail*, 20 June 2007.

Every woman admitted to hospital with an injury should be asked if she has suffered domestic violence, controversial new guidance by the British Medical Association suggests.

Pizzey, Erin. *Daily Mail*, 23 January 2007.

Founder of the battered wives' refuge, on how militant feminists - with the collusion of Labour's leading women - hijacked her cause and used it to try to demonise all men.

'Twenty people a week report domestic abuse'. *Surrey Mirror*, 4 January 2007.

"The number of domestic abuse offences being reported is now consistently higher than it was only a few years ago. But I am convinced there are even more victims suffering in silence." Brian Moore, Deputy Chief Constable of Surrey Police.

'Drink linked to rise in number of women arrested for violence'. *Daily Telegraph*, 30 December 2005.

The number of women arrested for violence has increased by 80 per cent in five years, according to new figures which reveal the rising impact of binge drinking. There were 67,600 arrests of women for "violence against the person" in 2004-2005, up from 37,100 in 1999-2000, according to the Home Office. Nearly a third of arrests last year, 19,400, involved girls aged between 10 and 17. Female arrests for violence are now the second largest category, after theft, which accounted for 87,300 arrests last year.

'Smackwatch'. *Private Eye*, No.1145, 11-24 November 2005.

Satirical article on recent arrest of Rebekah Wade, editor of *The Sun*, after assaulting her partner, Ross Kemp, and despite the newspaper's campaign against domestic violence.

Gibb, Frances. Abuse victims who kill may be spared a jail sentence. Legal Editor *The Times*, 10 May 2005.

Husbands and wives convicted of killing their spouses could escape jail if they have suffered severe abuse over a long time, judges were advised yesterday in draft guidelines proposed by the Sentencing Guidelines Council.

Jenkins, Russell. Abused boy of 12 who raped his teacher is jailed for life. *The Times*, 12 March 2005

A boy aged 12 who attacked and raped his teacher was detained for life yesterday because he is such a danger to the public. His mother, an alcoholic addicted to heroin, was jailed for three years in May 2002 for indecently assaulting the boy, then aged 9. Outside the court, a picture emerged of a psychologically damaged child who had an appalling start in life. A villager recalled how the boy's mother, a violent alcoholic, would beat her partner and scream at the children. The mother would encourage men to get her drunk and take them home to "take turns on her in front of the boys", he claimed.

Andersen, Christopher. Hillary. *Daily Mail*, 5 July 2004.

In their self-serving memoirs, the Clintons brush aside the countless scandals that have dogged their joint career. Now a major new biography of Hilary reveals her as a husband-beater, adulteress, and ruthless political bully. [Abridged and adapted extract from *American Evita: Hillary Clinton's Path to Power*, by Christopher Andersen, published by William Morrow]. 'The sounds of screaming and slamming doors around the White House as Hillary Clinton gave vent to her temper again. The First Lady had just spent two weeks away from Washington, keeping a vigil at the bed of her dying father. Now she had returned to discover that, in her enforced absence, her husband had invited his friend Barbara Streisand, to stay overnight in the White House family quarters. Perhaps, fortunately, for Streisand, the singer had already departed, leaving Bill Clinton to take the brunt of his wife's fury. The next morning, reporters at his daily Press briefing noticed a series of vivid red claw-like wounds on his neck and face'. 'The scratches were among many unexplained cuts and bruises he had sported over the course of his turbulent marriage. Once a bump the size of a goose-egg appeared on his forehead. He claimed he had walked into a door'. 'Hillary's penchant for throwing objects at him -

everything from coffee cups to bunches of keys - was well-known. Both Clintons had hair-trigger tempers, but it was she who seemed to take their rows a step further towards domestic violence.'

Bennett, Rosemary. Driving ban for mothers who refuse child access. *The Times*, 10 April 2004.

A Green Paper this summer will set out new penalties that judges can use if mothers repeatedly defy agreements [for child contact with the father], including taking away driving licences and ordering community service. It is also expected to explore ways to discourage mothers from making false allegations of domestic violence to restrict access. Mothers may also be warned that [making] false allegations could harm their chances over [child] custody.

Hewson, Barbara. Why women should not be 'veiled' in court. *Times*, 1 July 2003.

Criticism of recent Home Office proposal [in *Safety and Justice*] that women [and men] complaining of domestic violence should be given anonymity on so-called "privacy" grounds. "There is another reason to challenge this trend [of anonymity for particular victims]. It promotes a degraded and degrading view of women as fragile creatures who cannot even assume the responsibility of testifying in their own names." Includes reference to Study 191 results which show "by far the commonest instances of assault were pushing, shoving and grabbing, arguably not a crime at all." "Only 17% of women said to have undergone domestic assaults regarded them as a crime." "Yet the authorities are determined to put more women through the criminal justice system. The carrot they offer is anonymity. But there is scant evidence of a crisis which can be solved only by imposing the legal equivalent of the burka."

'Doctor warns of female violence'. *Daily Mail*, 20 June 2003.

The number of violent attacks by women has reached record levels, a doctor claimed yesterday. A&E expert Dr Chris Luke said that half of all assaults on women were carried out by other women and that in all cases alcohol had played a part. "We've seen women bottled by other women, women whose ear lobes have been bitten off, and women who've been head-butted by other women."

Phillips, Melanie. Men are now being turned into un-persons ... and they are even being denied basic justice. *Daily Mail*, 19 June 2003.

Scathing criticism of the latest Home Office proposals to toughen domestic violence law [in *Safety and Justice*, June 2003]. "Men are being demonised as intrinsic rapists, wife beaters and child abusers as part of a broader agenda. It is nothing less than an aim to destroy the married family, cripple 'male power' by emasculating men's role and undermining masculinity itself." The proposals "assume all men are guilty". [They] "go even further; removing men not just from family life, but from the protection of the law itself."

Mayes, Tessa. The wrong stick with which to beat violent men. *Times*, 5 June 2003.

Criticism of Home Office proposal [in *Safety and Justice*] for a register for those convicted of, and at risk of repeating, domestic violence, as a further measure to protect women from violent partners. "Increased surveillance of anyone - including the most violent offender - is turning justice on its head. Instead of being innocent until proved guilty, those convicted are being treated as potentially guilty of additional crimes in the future until proved innocent - and it's unclear whether once registered a name can ever be erased." "In fact, most people solve their personal disputes at home. For those who don't, unless we want to allow policemen into every bedroom to vet our partners, we have to accept that it's impossible to sanitise personal relationships as if there's never any risk."

Phillips, Melanie. Demonised! *Daily Mail*, 13 February 2003.

Critical comment on BBC-1 *Hitting Home* series being broadcast this week, complaining that TV is being used to reinforce one of the great myths of our age: that it's only men who are to blame for domestic violence. "This thinking is now entrenched in official circles. The series steering group

included several Government officials. The extreme feminist agenda of vilifying men through character assassination, distortion and lies has got the full force of the political machine behind it." She regards this as a form of 'gender fascism'.

Adams, Lucy and Dobson, Rachel. Violent siblings let cat out of the bag. *Sunday Times*, 20 October 2002.

Reference to results of a recent study conducted by Roxanne Khan of Glasgow Caledonian University in which detailed interviews were held with 107 children age 11-19 from a variety of backgrounds. The study found that four-fifths of children had physically attacked their brothers and sisters. More than half the children said that they had punched or tried to strangle their siblings in the previous year, with girls behaving as badly as boys.

'Men can be bitchy too'. *Daily Telegraph*, 15 March 2002.

Reference to recent preliminary study by Sarah Forrest of Anglia Polytechnic University, Cambridge. This interviewed 209 men and women in their late teens and 20s, and found that by that age both men and women were just as likely to use direct or indirect aggression. The study found that the popular stereotypes of aggression, in which men use bullying, abuse and violence and women prefer more indirect forms of aggression, were unfounded.

Baxter, Sarah (in New York). Alpha girls just want to have fights. *Sunday Times*, 3 March 2002. Comment on increasing awareness in America of female competitiveness. The phrase 'alpha girl' derives from studies of animal behaviour, which have shown that there is usually a dominant member of the pack. Alpha girls are pretty, clever and bitchy, but they have a mean streak. They dress sexily, act predatorily towards boys and are every bit as aggressive as the opposite sex, but their chief weapon is exclusion not physical violence.

Dalrymple, Theodore. Women are just catching up with violent, drunken men. *Daily Telegraph*, 27 November 2001.

The author, who works as a prison doctor, fears more women will be jailed as their behaviour gets worse. Every year, he sees about 150 women who have been violent, sometimes extremely so, in the home. He considers that "the rise in female criminality throws a lurid and unflattering light on contemporary British society".

Rabinovitch, Dina. Domestic violence can't be a gender issue. *Guardian Women*, 26 November 2001.

Interview with Erin Pizzey, in which she says she now thinks that women can be just as abusive as men. Since she has no publisher for her new book *A Terrorist Within the Family*, which repeats this view, she plans to release it on the internet.

Gaher, Dipish and Boztas, Senay. Hen-night bans come in to stop 'ladette' louts. *Sunday Times*, 24 June 2001.

Hotels and restaurants are refusing to accept bookings from all-female parties following claims that the drunken antics of women are wreaking havoc on respectable venues. Sally Ferris, the senior duty manager at a restaurant said "Men are easier to manage - you take the drink away from them and they say 'Sorry, love', but women become personally abusive."

'Violence is increasing among girls and women'. *Daily Telegraph*, 10 May 2001.

Home Office crime statistics for 1997 show that recorded offences of violence by girls and women in 1997 were double the level of the 1970s. The statistics show that in the mid 80s, violent crime accounted for 3% of recorded offences committed by girls younger than 14. The figure for 1997 was 9%, almost the same number as boys.

Bartlett, Graham. Targeting the abusers. *Police Review*, May 2001.

Review of changes in legislation and reference to a series of rulings in British and European Courts which have resulted in domestic violence moving further up the policing agenda. The policing of domestic violence will undoubtedly be tested in future under the European Convention on Human Rights. "In the response to, and investigation of, domestic violence, the police must ensure that proportional and lawful steps are taken to not only safeguard rights but to further them." Home Office Circular 19/2000 emphasises the importance of a commitment to tackle domestic violence and policies must reflect an expectation of arrest where powers exist. As a result, many forces now require officers to justify their reasons for NOT arresting suspects rather than having to argue why they took positive action. Authorities not only have a positive obligation to protect the life of the abused, but also the abuser. "The police service would do well to anticipate censure in those cases in which their failure to act culminated in the death of either party." In this context, the implications of 'positive arrest policies' should not be ignored. "Many Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships have, in their Community Safety Strategies, a commitment to reduce domestic violence. However, the dearth of support services available to male victims of domestic violence is an indication of Crime and Disorder Partnerships failing to carry out their positive obligations to some sections of society to protect life or protect from degrading or inhuman treatment." "I believe that failures by the police and Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships to discharge their duties in tackling domestic violence will leave them vulnerable under the Human Rights Act 1998."

'Broad rage'. *Girl about Town* No. 1434, 17 April 2001.

Brief report on female anger or 'femi-rage' in couple relationships and in the workplace, with reference to Prof. John Archer's research results published last year and comments by Maggie McKenzie, a psychotherapist and specialist in female anger management.

Phillips, Melanie. 'Hate crime' is a triumph for the thought police. *Sunday Times*, 25 March 2001. Critical review of a growing 'rights culture' and its implications, in particular the creation of the phenomenon of 'hate crime'. "A rights culture turns people into interest groups who challenge each other for supremacy by claiming they are the victims of discrimination. It is also a victim culture. The victim culture in the United States has created the phenomenon of 'hate crime', a concept which has now reached this country, and which according to some police forces includes domestic violence." For example, a dawn raid last week by the Metropolitan Police in the London area which netted more than 100 people who were arrested on charges of 'hate crimes', ie. racist or homophobic abuse or attack and domestic violence. "But the real purpose of categorising hate crime is symbolic, in order to destroy prejudice and alter human nature. These subjective and politicised definitions mean this has the capacity to turn into a witch-hunt."

Mulraney, Stuart. Home Guard. *Police Review*, 5 January 2001.

Reference to attitudes and new policies towards domestic violence and 'hate crimes' by the Metropolitan Police. Includes quote by Det Ch Supt John Godsave, of the Met's diversity directorate, "We have found to our cost that there are many agendas in the domestic violence field. We say it's inclusive while feminists would say it's purely a question of male perpetrator-female victim. There's this 20-30 year old mindset that it's a feminist issue."

'Women as likely as men to get angry, but more likely to get emotional'. *Daily Telegraph*, 18 May 2000.

A study by the Consumer Health Information Centre found that young people aged 16 to 24 who experience pain are the most likely age group to become angry and aggressive as a result. Women were as likely as men to get angry, but more likely to become emotional.

Butler-Sloss, Dame Elizabeth (President of the Family Division). Contact and domestic violence. *Family Law*, May 2000.

Resume of the present legal position in child contact proceedings when allegations of domestic violence have been made by the primary carer (usually the mother). Dame Elizabeth asserts that the majority of victims, according to research, are women but admits that there is a “significant minority” of female perpetrators. [She appears to be unaware of the numerous gender-neutral studies on domestic violence which show an almost equal numerical culpability of men and women in couple relationships]. For the legal position, she refers to hearings by the Court of Appeal on the 22 March 2000 by Thorpe LJ, Waller LJ, and herself, when four appeals for contact, where there had been violence in the home, had been grouped together. (*Re L (Contact: Domestic Violence)*; *Re V (Contact: Domestic Violence)*; *Re M (Contact: Domestic Violence)*; *Re H (Contact:*

Domestic Violence) [2000] 2 FLR 334). In the judgments on these appeals, the Court of Appeal gave some general guidance on this issue. Courts generally should take into account the extent of any violence established, the effect upon the primary carer, the effect on the child, and the ability of the offender to recognise his behaviour and attempt to change it. As the Court of Appeal pointed out in *Re L (Contact: Domestic Violence)*, there is, and there should be, no automatic presumption against contact in a case where domestic violence has been established. It is a highly relevant and important factor, amongst others, which must be taken into account. Courts naturally start with the view that in most cases contact between the child and the non-resident parent is desirable both for the child and the parent. This accords with the general welfare of the child under s.1 of the Children Act 1989, Art. 8 of the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms 1950, and Art. 3 of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child 1989. However, serious cases of physical or psychological violence to the other parent where there are children in the family have to be treated by the courts with an extra degree of caution, recognising that the welfare of the child is paramount.

Pizzey, Erin. Violent fathers are not the only ones to blame. *Daily Mail*, 30 June 1999.

Letter criticising decision to ban ‘violent fathers’ from seeing their children. “In thirty years of working with violence-prone people, I’ve treated just as many violent women as I have men. Fathers have been a political football for the past 30 years.”

Lynn, Angharad. Surveys show that half of arguments between couples are over money ... *Express*, 14 June 1999.

A survey for the Prudential recently found that money is the major cause of stress in 1 in 4 relationships, whilst counselling organisation Relate has discovered that 42% of arguments are over money.

Lee-Potter, Lynda. It’s so easy for a woman to totally destroy a man – it makes me feel so ashamed. *Daily Mail*, 5 December 1998.

Reflections on the ease with which allegations of personal violence can be made by women against men generally, and the devastating effects these can have even if untrue, prompted by the outcome of the allegations of physical violence made by Margaret Moore against Geoffrey Boycott. His long-term girlfriend, Rachel Swinglehurst, was by his side in the French court when he was convicted of beating up Margaret Moore, and is convinced of his innocence. Erin Pizzey, who supports women victims said on television “Women are not always the victims. In this instance, I believe Mr Boycott is the victim, that Margaret Moore is the violent person and that she’s had a violent background.”

Murray, Ian. Bad girls are catching up with the boys at crime. *Times*, 16 October 1998.

Reference to a newly published study *Antisocial Behaviour By Young People* and to comments by Sir Michael Rutter, Professor of Child Psychology at London University’s Institute of Psychiatry, one of the authors. “More young women are becoming aggressive and antisocial, but their criminal careers

are shorter than men's. Women still commit a lower proportion of violent crimes, although they are just as likely as men to take part in domestic violence." "Strong relationships are an important factor in curing antisocial behaviour." "Generally, boys are more prone to antisocial behaviour: rates of conduct disorder are twice as high for boys as for girls, and pervasive and persistent hyperactivity is four times more common among boys. Domestic violence has a similar incidence in both sexes, according to police figures. The peak age for offending is now about 21 for males and 18 for females."

Irwin, Aisling. Girls 'are adopting violent identity'. *Daily Telegraph*, 22 July 1998.

A study of 40 girls aged 14 to 18 by Antoinette Hardy, a post graduate student at Loughborough University, revealed that 32 had been involved in at least one physical fight. Only a quarter of them regretted it while 15% reported a 'high' afterwards. Two thirds of the students interviewed who had been involved in a fight had fought with people outside their families. Fighting included punching, kicking and using broken glass. They showed little remorse. Hardy believed that "it was most likely that violence was as innate to girls as it was to boys but had been more socially repressed."

Murray, Ian. Sober lessons for merry England. *The Times*, 26 November 1997.

Reference to results of survey by the Health Education Authority published on 25 November 1997. The survey estimated that 1 million men and 190,000 women get drunk at least once a week. Half of adults admitted to hospital with head injuries were drunk, and a third of assaults on strangers took place in or around a pub. Alcohol was involved in a third of incidents of domestic violence.

'The weaker sex'. *Daily Telegraph*, 29 August 1997.

Editorial commenting on the High Court ruling this week that a husband who had used minor violence against his wife when he learnt she had been unfaithful should be ousted from the family home. "Each society has its own concept on what is sacred. In this case, our society appears to consider it sacred that men should never use their superior strength against women. It considers it sacred that the woman should be free to have an affair without being judged. It considers that the bond between a mother (rather than a father) and her children is sacred. The tendency is for the decision of what is sacred to be made in favour of the woman." The political correctness of the current generation thus forms an odd coalition with the chivalry of the previous one." "But we are now in danger of creating a legal system in which men are the ones who can never win."

Charen, Mona. Violence against sanity. *Washington Times*, 11 August 1997.

Criticism of the feminist ideology applying to domestic violence which sees violent, aggressive, uncivilised men victimising helpless, innocent, peace-loving women. "Feminists have floated one falsehood after another in service of their vision of domestic violence." As Sally Satel has noted (*US Women's Quarterly*, Summer 1997), they create "new bogus statistics faster than you can shoot them down." Mona Charen cites research by Murray Straus, which concluded that 25 to 30 per cent of violent clashes between partners are the result only of attacks by women. She believes that feminist approaches to the problem may do real harm, in particular the 'must arrest' laws which require the police to arrest one member of the couple (almost always the man).

'More aggro from women'. *Mirror*, 24 January 1997.

Women criminals are becoming increasingly violent and behaving more like aggressive males, according to a study of 294 female offenders at the psychiatric unit in Mid Glamorgan. This showed that 62 of them had been charged with violent offences. Nearly 80% claimed to have been battered or were sexual abuse victims.

Reid, Sue. Fair sex and foul play. *Sunday Times*, 5 May 1996.

Review of increasing violence by women and girls, including in the home. An investigation carried out last year by Demos uncovered some chilling facts about the behaviour of modern women. In its report, called *Freedom's Children* - a reference to the equality breakthrough of the 1960s - 13% of 18 to 24-year old women agreed with the statement 'It is acceptable to use physical force to get something you really want.' The report's author, Helen Wilkinson, says "younger women today are more assertive than in previous generations. In the workplace, they seek success, they are highly driven, prepared to take risks. The flipside of them adopting this masculine stance is that they will use violence to achieve their goals."

Thomas, David. (Not enough jokes – Ed.) *Daily Telegraph*, 1 April 1993.

"Rumours are emerging from the White House that Hillary Clinton has been throwing books, lamps and anything else she can lay her hands on at her husband Bill. Of course, these rumours are entirely unconfirmed, but equally untested allegations of misconduct against women have been enough to finish the careers of a few male American politicians." "In Britain, the Home Affairs Select Committee recently investigated domestic violence. But it declined to listen to evidence either from male victims or from researchers into female violence, a precaution that enabled it to virtually ignore that phenomenon in its report." "In truth, domestic violence has less to do with gender politics than it does with human nature. Both men and women are capable of doing harm."

Thomas, David. Guilty until proven innocent. *Daily Telegraph*, 28 August 1992.

Comment on sex discrimination and double standards now applying against men in family and criminal law. Allegations of violence or child abuse can now be made without a shred of evidence. "Yet the fact that they are taken seriously demonstrates the success of those campaigners who have set out to prove that men are all potential child abusers, rapists and oppressors of womankind." "In the meantime, the man will have discovered that social workers, police, court officials and even his own lawyers will automatically assume he is the guilty party. Current theories of family life are predicated upon male evil and female victimisation."

Pendry, Richard. An icon of sexual politics. *Spectator*, 1 August 1992.

The author argues that the campaign to release a murderess has more to do with feminism than justice. Sara Thornton was found guilty of murder at her trial in 1990 of killing her husband Malcolm, who died from a single, deep wound from her carving knife. At the trial, she had acknowledged she wasn't defending herself against an attack, and because she had deliberately sharpened the knife she used to kill her husband, the defence of killing in 'hot blood' was denied her. But when, a year ago this week, her appeal was turned down and Sara began a hunger strike, protesting that the law failed to take into account the violence she had suffered at the hands of her alcoholic husband, the response of the media was overwhelming. She started a hunger strike, she said, because Joseph McGrail, who had killed his 'nagging wife', had that week walked free from a court with a two-year suspended sentence. The campaign *Free Sara Thornton* was set up by George Delf, a man who fell in love with Sara after visiting her in prison. He had a background in journalism and was accomplished at handling the media. He seemed to be always on the other end of the phone in his home in Durham, ready to give Sara's side of events. It was a tabloid love story. Sara was 35 years old and attractive. Delf was older, softly spoken and sincere. The case had a new glamorous angle. George wrote to Sara nearly every day for 16 months. But less than a year later, he now admits he 'over-simplified' the case in order to maximise media coverage, and he is very critical at the direction her campaign has taken. Sara's own family has had nothing to do with the lobbying on her behalf. Last week her father, who did not attend her trial and has distanced himself from her campaign, said that her supporters had never been in touch with him to verify any of the statements made about her. Some of the evidence heard at Sara's trial, not dwelled on by her campaigners, is startlingly at odds with current perceptions of her case. According to the prosecution, 'Malcolm had told Sara he wanted

a divorce the day he was killed.’ ‘She was afraid she would lose out financially if Malcolm was divorced’. Four days before the murder, Sara told a colleague she was going to kill her husband.’ The court also heard evidence from Malcolm’s son, Martin that Sara had killed his father while he was asleep, not after a furious row as she said.’ He was living with Malcolm and Sara at the time and is adamant that Sara planned the murder. The campaign is now promoted by *Justice for Women*, a year-old feminist pressure group which has a wider agenda than the *Free Sara Thornton* campaign.

Other references

Rosenfeld, Richard. (Professor of Criminology and Criminal Justice, University of Missouri-St Louis). The case of the Unsolved Crime. *Scientific American*, February 2004.

With American crime rates again creeping up after a drop in the 1990s, the author discusses the evidence and explanations for the causes underlying the shifts in national crime statistics. With respect to domestic violence and firearms policies, his research has shown that domestic homicide rates fell more rapidly in cities with the greatest growth in legal advocacy and other services for victims of domestic abuse. However, the research also found that other responses to domestic violence, such as a policy of mandatory arrest, may actually increase the likelihood of homicide under some conditions, presumably because offenders are angered by the legal intervention or because the resulting sanctions are not sufficient to protect victims from further violence.

Cambridge University Press. Sex differences in anti-social behaviour. Moffitt, Terrie; Caspi, Avshalom; Rutter, Michael; and Silva, Phil. 2001 ISBN 521 01066 7.

Includes reference to the equal initiation of domestic violence by the sexes.

Driscoll, Richard (1998). Vive La Difference: Men and Women in Confrontation. *Journal of Men’s Perspectives* Vol.18, No.4.

Observation that in arguments with angry women, men usually lose. Reference to research by John Gottman at the University of Seattle which found that “men tend to be more stressed by marital arguments, compared to women, who are more comfortable with emotional confrontation and better at it.” Contrary to popular expectations, Gottman observed that “men are markedly more intimidated by angry women than women are of angry men. Women dominate in marital arguments. Wives introduce complaints more than husbands, thus starting arguments more often.”

Christensen, Prof. F. (1992). The Other Side of Sexism. Sex Roles, Stereotypes and Discrimination Against Men. Comments to Sociology Department, University of Alberta, January 1989.

Movement for the Establishment of Real Gender Equality, Educational Series 1. Discussion of the double standards applying to men and women, in particular to gender-conflict issues. “Such issues can involve physical or emotional pain or harm, either suffering it oneself or inflicting it on someone else. Problems arise as a result of two pairs of attitudes towards this, together with the behaviour and official policies which stem from them. (1) Stereotypes that tend to see only women as victims of such harm and only men as inflicting it, as the victimisers. (2) Attitudes that say such harm to a woman is more serious than equal harm to a man, while harm by a woman is less blameworthy than equal harm by a man”. Prof. Christensen maintains that such views are long entrenched in our culture, to one degree or other, and have been a very serious source of injustice to men. In recent years, these traditional sexist views have been promoted and intensified by a large segment of feminism.

Related references

'Violence in the home'. *The Times*, 9 December 2003.

Letter in Law section from Julian Nettlefold of Family Practice Press complaining about the ease with which false allegations of domestic violence or abuse can be used in the family courts to oust a 'perpetrator' from the home, and welcoming proposals in the Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Bill [published 2 December 2003] which would result in such allegations being tested properly in a criminal court.

Rosenberg, Joshua. Honest citizens would suffer if we rush changes to the law. *Daily Telegraph*, 5 December 2003.

Critical comment on various changes to the criminal justice proposed by Government. "We must not allow ill-considered changes to the legal system to be rushed through." Particularly critical of proposal in the Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Bill to allow a restraining order to be made by a court against someone actually *acquitted* of harassment (or abuse). If the prosecuting lawyers failed to prove their case beyond reasonable doubt, they could bring forward fresh evidence. To obtain a restraining order, they would need only to prove their case to the, much lower, civil standard [on basis of probability]. "it would be a case of the woman's word against the man's. What chance is there that his denials would be believed? The presumption of innocence would no longer apply. The man's only protection would be a fair-minded judge."

Austin, Suzy. Yellow card warning for wife-beaters. (London) *Metro*, 2 December 2003.

Brief report on proposals contained in new Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Bill [published 2 December 2003], including controversial proposal that men and women charged with domestic violence can still be ordered to keep away from their 'victims' even if they are acquitted, arguably in conflict with the 'presumption of innocence'.

Hinsliff, Gaby. Women's crime wave linked to battering. *Observer*, 16 November 2003.

Women are increasingly turning to serious and violent crimes because they have been brutalised by violence against them, according to a controversial report to be published this week by the Commission on Women and the Criminal Justice System, set up by the Fawcett Society and headed by Labour MP and criminal barrister, Vera Baird. Home Office figures last week showed the majority of female prisoners now re-offend within two years of being released, suggesting that they are becoming more hardened criminals. According to the Commission, half of women prisoners say they have been hit by a partner - at least twice the rates in the general population - and a third said they have suffered sexual abuse.

Rosenberg, Joshua. Wives who kill may be spared life sentences. *Daily Telegraph*, 31 October 2003.

Report on proposals floated today by the Law Commission charged with reviewing law on provocation and self-defence in homicide cases. One of the options being considered by the Commission is a defence of pre-emptive force in self-defence, or self-preservation. This might be used by an abused woman who kills her assailant while he is asleep, or by a bullied school-child. Harriett Harman said earlier this month that such a defence "would reflect the long-held view of the women's movement that women who kill their husbands after suffering long years of violence should have a new partial defence to murder".

Gibb, Frances. Killer husbands will have to face murder charge. *Times*, 4 July 2003.

"Men and women who kill their spouses will have to face a murder trial rather than make an agreed plea of manslaughter" under new guidance from the Director of Public Prosecutions. "At the same

time, the lengths of jail sentences imposed on them are to be reviewed at the request of the Solicitor General, Harriet Harman QC.” The measures are aimed at toughening the approach of the justice system to domestic violence, the topic of a Law Society conference of family lawyers today. “The effect will be that a plea of guilty to manslaughter on the basis of provocation will rarely be accepted.” In a third move, the Law Commission, the law reform body, has announced a review of diminished responsibility and provocation as defences to murder. Ms Harman believes “that provocation as a defence is now outmoded, certainly in domestic violence cases.” In her address today, Ms Harman will say “that whatever a spouse does or says, it can never justify criminal violence.”

Ridley, Carl A. & Feldman, Clyde M. (School of Family and Consumer Sciences, University of Arizona). Female Domestic Violence Towards Male Partners: Exploring Conflict Responses and Outcomes. *Journal of Family Violence*, Vol.18, No.3, June 2003.

Results of study [using 153 female volunteers] showed that seven communication response variables and four outcome variables were significantly associated with the frequency and/or severity of female domestic violence. Relative to non-violent relationships, relationships with female violence had more male and female unilateral verbal aggression, more mutual verbal aggression, more male verbal aggression/female calms things down., more male demand/partner withdraw, more mutual avoidance, and less constructive relative to destructive communication. Relationships with female violence also had poorer resolution of problems and more emotional distance after problem arguments and discussions than their non-violent counterparts.

Highfield, Roger. Aggression ‘fuelled by childhood TV violence’. *Daily Telegraph*, 10 March 2003. Reference to results of two American studies. (1) 15-year study by Drs Rowell Huesmann, Jessica Moise-Titus, Cheryl-Lynn Podolski and Leonard Eron of the University of Michigan of 329 youths as a follow-up to a 1977 study of 557 children growing up in the Chicago area, concluded that, for both boys and girls, habitual early exposure to TV violence is predictive of more aggression by them later in life independent of their own initial childhood aggression. (2) Joint study led by Prof. Jeffrey Johnson of Columbia University and the New York State Psychiatric Institute of more than 700 children, concluded (2002) that teenagers watching more than an hour of television daily are more likely to become violent adults.

Sylvester, Rachel. Killers to lose ‘I was provoked defence’. *Daily Telegraph*, 3 March 2003. Solicitor General Harriet Harman is pressing for a new form of defence that would allow women who kill their husbands after years of physical abuse to be treated more leniently. Director of Public Prosecutions is also drawing up guidance that will encourage prosecutors to charge men who kill their wives with murder rather than manslaughter, and there are plans for a new category of self-defence for women who kill their husbands after being beaten up by them for years.

Watson, Jenny. Wife-beaters learn the art of respect. *Liverpool Daily Post*, 30 October 2002. Wife-beaters are being rehabilitated through art history lessons at Tate Liverpool Gallery as part of a Merseyside Probation Service programme. The Domestic Violence Course is the first of its kind in Britain. According to latest figures, men who have been through the year-long programme are half as likely to re-offend.

Kite, Melissa. Women to get new protection from violent partners. *The Times*, 18 July 2002. Reference to new Home Office proposals [in *Safety and Justice*] to extend the range of restraining orders available, make breach of a non-molestation order a criminal offence, and provide greater witness protection, including anonymity for victims of domestic violence.

Womack, Sarah. Harman to fight domestic violence. *Daily Telegraph*, 25 June 2002. Reference to an address by Solicitor General Harriet Harman to a CPS conference on domestic

violence held yesterday. In this, she called for more protection for women victims, including pursuing a charge even if the woman didn't wish this, offering anonymity to women to encourage them not to drop allegations, and appealing against sentences which she regarded as too lenient.

Rosenberg, Joshua. Wife beater given harsher sentence. *Daily Telegraph*, 17 May 2002.

Reference to two cases yesterday in which the Court of Appeal increased sentences. (1) An academic who had admitted a 'sustained attack' on his wife whilst clinically depressed had his community rehabilitation order increased to 6 months imprisonment. (2) A man who attacked his girlfriend and was convicted of attempted rape, indecent assault and causing actual bodily harm, had his two-year sentence increased to three years.

'Weigh effects of violence on children, judges told'. *Daily Telegraph*, 14 March 2002.

Judges are to be told to take more account of the impact on children of witnessing domestic violence when deciding residence and contact issues. Changes are to be made accordingly to the Adoption and Children Bill, which will also include violence witnessed by a child not in the home but outside such as a parent involved in a street brawl.

Rosenberg, Joshua. Beaten wives may have to testify. *Daily Telegraph*, 29 November 2001.

Under a new policy launched yesterday by the Crown Prosecution Service, victims of domestic violence could be forced to give evidence against their assailants. Those who refused to answer questions in court might be punished for contempt.

Gibb, Frances. Silent women will not save violent husbands. *The Times*, 26 November 2001.

The Director of Public Prosecutions, David Calvert-Smith QC is to announce this week that men who batter their wives or partners will be prosecuted even if the woman refuses to give evidence. Police are to concentrate on collecting additional evidence to support what the victim says, such as witness statements from neighbours or medical evidence of injuries. Where the alleged victim cannot give evidence, a prosecution can still proceed using the victim's statement as evidence under Section 23 of the Criminal Justice Act 1988.

McKay, Susan. When violence becomes something to fight over. Irish *Sunday Tribune*, 2 April 2000. Sceptical report on AMEN conference held in March 2000 in Navan, based on her impression that it was anti-women.

'Beaten wives 'cannot have last word' in prosecution'. *Daily Telegraph*, 8 March 2000.

New guidelines by the Home Office suggest that although the wishes of a reluctant wife must be taken into account, they cannot be the 'final word' in pressing charges against a man. The guidelines say that the CPS must make sure a woman who withdraws her evidence is acting freely. The Home Office also urges local authorities to evict wife-beaters and suggests that employers should reinforce the message to men accused of domestic violence that their behaviour will not be tolerated.

Jenkins, Tiffany. Sexy crime statistics. *LM123*, September 1999.

Criticism of the sensationalist way that distorted or misleading statistics about violence against women are presented. "You might expect a little sensationalism from newspapers, but the police, women's campaign groups, and those at the heart of Government in the Home office are equally adept at presenting conflated crime figures that hype up the level of risk facing women."

Bristow, Jennie. Lies, statistics ... and stalking. *Daily Telegraph*, 28 July 1998.

Scepticism at reliability of increasing numbers of surveys claiming rises in stalkings, date-rapes and domestic violence. "The dynamic behind much of the research into and reporting of issues to do with violence against women is a passionate belief in 'the cause'." But while there is nothing wrong with

fighting for a cause, there is a lot wrong with manipulating statistics to strengthen a particular view.” “Filling a vacuum with half-truths and hunches is a recipe for irrational policy making and hysterical discussion.” “Moral outrage and passionate campaigning both have their place - but only so long as some sober facts exist to allow people to find out the truth.”

Applebaum, Anne. Let's keep sex out of it. *Sunday Telegraph*, 1 March 1998.

Criticism of the increasing 'feminisation' of politics by New Labour. Gender-conflict issues such as sexual violence and domestic violence are criminal issues, not women's issues. They should not be the primary concern of women MPs. It should not be the prerogative of Harriett Harman, because of her seniority, "to push for more stringent laws against wife-beaters." "If such issues are to be taken seriously, men must take them seriously too." "Needless to say, I do not think it is 'anti-woman' to oppose the concept of feminised politics. On the contrary: at their worst, feminised politics might well be bad for women, particularly if the existence of specialised Cabinet committees helps fuel the notion, already current in some circles, that the law is easier on women, or that women only get ahead because they are women."

Willbourne, Caroline and Cull, Lesley-Anne. The emerging problem of parental alienation. *Family Law*, December 1997.

Discussion of the difficulties facing the courts and court officers when a parent with care (usually the mother) is deliberately and often subtly alienating a child against the separated parent, sometimes to the extent that the child no longer wants any contact with the separated parent. The dilemma is that the court has to take into account the expressed wishes of the child, particularly an older child, which may result in the father being prevented from having contact, regularly or at all. At the same time, the court will have to consider the possibility that the child has been alienated to a degree that is tantamount to emotional abuse by the mother, and appreciate the danger of leaving this abuse unresolved.

Phillips, Melanie. Death of the Dad. *Observer*, 2 November 1997.

Critique of the increasing influence on public policy of female supremacism which fundamentally despises, distrusts and dislikes men. "This feminism sees women only as victims of male domination. It advocates the use of state power to promote the independence of women from partnerships with men. Female supremacism has placed the idea of fatherhood itself under siege. Men in general and fathers in particular are increasingly viewed as superfluous to family life. It holds that masculinity is unnecessary or undesirable. Thanks to the wonders of reproductive technology, women can now do without a male presence altogether". In fact, "male breadwinning is neither arbitrary nor anachronistic. It is important both to cement male identity and to civilise male aggression. Employment directs male aggression into pro-social purposes." Because this is being ignored in public policy, "Britain faces a growing crisis among men. The fragmentation of male identity, caused by both male unemployment and the progressive and willed destruction of fatherhood, is creating widening spirals of despair, irresponsibility and violence among men and boys."

Bristow, Jennie. Hype that hurts the victims. *Daily Telegraph*, 31 October 1997.

Criticism of broadening the official definition of domestic violence to include not only physical, but also 'psychological' and 'economic' abuse. "This means violence becomes removed from objectively definable criteria and can effectively mean anything" says Sara Hinchliffe, who teaches women's studies at the University of Sussex. "Phrases such as 'words hurt' now form an accepted part of feminist mantras, and are used to justify the classification of 'domestic violence' for any form of behaviour between 'partners' that is not hunky-dory". "But in broadening that definition of abuse and inflating the statistics in this way, campaigns against domestic violence are taking us down a dangerous route. By making out that home violence is all around us, these campaigns trivialise the experience of women who really have suffered at the hands of their partners."

Johnston, Lucy. Violent women: It's a dangerous myth. *Observer*, 17 November 1996. Sceptical article doubting the substantial extent of female violence in intimate relationships indicated by surveys (MORI) and claimed by organisations such as *Families Need Fathers*.

KEY BROADCASTS

BBC Radio 4, 16 January 2007. *Woman's Hour*. Violent women - male victims of domestic violence. We frequently hear about domestic violence against women, but men can also be victims at the hands of their partners. According to Home Office statistics, one in four women and one in six men are believed to experience domestic violence at some point in their lives. But what effect does domestic violence have on men and what support is available to them? Martha Carney talks to a woman who has abused her former husbands, and to a man who was the victim of domestic violence.

Channel 5, 23 October 2006. *Hidden Lives*. Battered Men.

Nearly a quarter of all reported instances of domestic abuse are against men, though that figure could be higher due to the stigma attached to any man who admits he's been beaten by his female partner. Thoughtfully compiled and presented programme, featuring eight male victims, two of them in some depth, and two previously violent women. Contribution from Dr Sheri Jacobson, a psychotherapist and counsellor. The *ManKind* and *Men's Aid* helplines were given at the end of the programme. This edition of *Hidden Lives* involves a series of first-hand accounts of such abuse from male victims. Tellingly, most conceal their identities, such is the shame that surrounds this difficult subject. But one man is happy to be identified. Having been subjected to frequent barrages of violence from his partner, he recorded one attack with his mobile videophone. The victim was lucky, he escaped. Peter McBride wasn't so fortunate. He was stabbed to death by his partner, by all accounts a woman he loved deeply. To his dying breath he defended her, claiming in his 999 call he had "fallen on a knife".

ITV, 25 November 2004. *This Morning*.

Male victims of domestic violence. Brief discussion of experience of George Rolph. Also contributing Denise Robertson?

BBC Radio 4, 13 November 2004. *Hometruths*.

Domestic violence. Experience of Mike Kenny, a male victim, who was bullied and beaten by his female partner over a period of two and a half years. During this period he was threatened with knives, attacked with a rolling pin and heavy saucepan, once had his leg broken in four places after she caught him trying to call a helpline. The final straw came when he lost six and a half pints of blood after a stabbing. A neighbour was alerted and when police arrived, Mike's partner claimed she was acting in self-defence. His ex-partner is now serving a two-year prison sentence.

ITV1 London, 3 December 2003. *The Bill*.

Police serial, this broadcast featuring the plight of a male victim of domestic violence who was reluctant to report the abuse and who would not retaliate against a woman. Telephone helpline number for male victims given at end of programme.

BBC Radio 5 Live, 2 December 2003.

Late-night interview with BBC correspondent in Nairobi (Kenya), who reported a wave of protests over wives beating up husbands. A new group has been set up to protest.

BBC-1, 24 October 2003. *Kilroy*. Violent women.

Included contributions by Sue Hoolahan of *ManKind* and George Rolph.

BBC Radio 5 Live, 7 September 2003. *Julian Worricker*.

Included discussion about male victims of domestic violence.

BBC-1, 19 February 2003. *Hitting Home* series. Dangerous Love: Tales of Domestic Violence. Mostly experiences of women victims of domestic violence but included case study of one male victim.

BBC London Radio, 10 February 2003. *Inside Out*.

Included views by George Rolph on domestic violence against men.

Harlech TV (HTV), 28 April 2002. *Love Hurts*.

Programme on experiences and plight of male victims of domestic violence, including interviews with three such victims, Matthew, David and Ken, and comments by Dr Malcolm George (neurophysiologist), Steve Fitzgerald (*ManKind*), Lora Allford (A & E nurse), and WPC Caroline Howard. One of a series of programmes on the issue of domestic violence.

BBC-2, 29 March 2001. *Esther Rantzen* programme 'Battered husbands - Domestic violence against men'.

Programme mainly on experiences of male victims, with contributions from Erin Pizzey, Dr Malcolm George and Mary Cleary of AMEN.

BBC-1, 30 March 1999. *Counterblast*. Who's failing the Family?

Viewpoints by Erin Pizzey.

Channel 4, 7 January 1999. *Dispatches*. Battered Men.

Summary of the experiences of 100 male victims of domestic violence in the UK. The results showed that angry women can be just as violent as angry men. 40% used some kind of weapon to compensate for their relative lack of strength. One third of the men were attacked whilst sleeping, one third were kicked in the groin. Victims were often deprived of sleep. Half stayed with their violent partner for more than five years. Among the reasons the men gave for staying was that they didn't want to walk out on their children, some were frightened as they had nowhere else to go, and others still loved their partner and hope her behaviour would change. Many of the male victims were very critical of the police. Those who had contacted the police said their complaints weren't taken seriously and in 25% of cases the male victim was himself arrested and treated as the aggressor. Only 7% of women aggressors were arrested and none subsequently charged, even though the victim had been seriously injured.

BBC Wales, 10 February 1998, *The Fairer Sex?*

Programme on violence and women.

Talk TV, 14 November 1996. *Britain Talks Back*.

Programme on plight of male victims of domestic violence, including interview with Dale Setzler, a victim, comments by Dr Malcolm George, and phone-ins by three women callers, one who understood why women might assault other women (eg. jealousy) but wondered why they should assault men,

another the mother of a battered son, and the third who suffered battering in her first relationship and now acted aggressively in her second.

BBC-1, 11 November 1996. *Panorama*. Violent Women.
Reflected results of MORI survey, October 1996.

BBC-1, 7 December 1994. *Here and Now*. Intimate violence.
Results of MORI survey of 1,978 adults in Great Britain carried out 17-21 November 1994 on behalf of Dr Malcolm George and the BBC

BBC-2, April 1994. *First Sight*. Taking it like a man.
Programme reporting on male victims of domestic violence, with Mike Embley as presenter. Featured the experiences of four male victims and interviews with Dr Malcolm George, neurophysiologist at Queen Mary & Westfield College, London, Sgt Sue Reed of Enfield Police DVU, Jenni Manners of Swindon Women's Aid, Les Davidson of Merton M.A.L.E., and Erin Pizzey, who set up the first women's refuge in Chiswick in 1971. Programme concluded there was a need for more male victims to report and for a widespread change in attitudes towards male victims. Meanwhile, too many male victims remain in the shadows behind closed doors 'taking it like a man'.

BBC-2, 21 March 1991. *40 Minutes*. Battered Men.
A research project carried out by Leicester University revealed that a third of the women questioned admitted that they regularly initiated violence against their menfolk. The research suggested that this was not connected with being male or female but with how much violence there was in the family during childhood. One male victim told how his wife went for him during their nine years of marriage: "she would kick and punch, she'd bite." One in five casualty admissions after violence between couples are men attacked by women.

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