The A to Z Inventory of Practice has been developed by the Asian Pacific Institute on Gender-Based Violence to document the range of work and issues addressed by advocates serving Asian and Pacific Islander (API) survivors of gender-based violence and how culturally-specific advocacy is operationalized and continually expanded by them in the A-Z Advocacy Model.

There are items on the list that require no explanation — for those that do, we have provided a brief description to clarify their meaning and/or explain how they apply to or why they belong in an inventory of practice on gender-based violence. We invite advocates to add items by contacting us at info@api-gbv.org.

Categories listed include:

- Types of gender-based violence addressed
- Services/interventions offered
- Community engagement/prevention activities
- Languages of service (Only Asian and Pacific Islander languages are listed)
- Ethnic groups served
- Demographic groups served
- Systems that community-based organizations work with, and
- Other activities such as research and policy advocacy.

To read more about the A-Z Advocacy Model for Asian & Pacific Islander Survivors, download our report at https://www.api-gbv.org/resources/a-z-advocacy-model-report/
Gender-Based Violence:
Abandonment
Abduction, child
Abortion: forced by partner, in-laws
Abusive international marriage
Adoption coercion: mothers forced to relinquish infant daughters, children from previous marriage
Adultery: survivors forced to accept or be blamed for men’s affairs, polygamy (emotional/sexual abuse)
AIDS/HIV transmission and IPV
Alcohol-facilitated rape/assault

Services | Interventions:
Acculturation: classes, guidebooks, tip sheets for new immigrants, refugees
Addiction recovery programs
Alternatives to violence programs
Anger management counseling
Art therapy for children, adults
Asylum: gender-based asylum applications prepared and filed to USCIS
Autonomy: services that promote survivor autonomy

Prevention | Community Engagement:
Accountability: practices to ensure accountability from abusers; from systems to mitigate barriers; from communities to change cultural norms;
After-school programs for children
Art: to raise awareness
Attitudes to women: tools, activities, curricula to change gender norms that devalue women/girls

Demographic Groups:
Adolescents, Adults, Asylees

Ethnic Groups:
Afghani, Arab

Languages:
American Sign Language (ASL), Arabic, Assamese

Systems Advocacy:
AIDS/HIV clinics, APS: Adult Protective Services

Gender-Based Violence:
Body shaming/ humiliation: making critical, humiliating comments (as in fat shaming); behaviors designed to humiliate a victim’s body (e.g., in-laws forcing their daughter-in-law to take her clothes off, pointing or prodding and ridiculing parts of her body)
Body modification that is forced; coerced plastic surgery; hymen examination for proof of virginity
Branding: using hot branding iron (as used on cattle) on trafficked victim to show they are the property of a certain pimp, part of his ‘stable’

Services | Interventions:
Batterer Intervention Programs (BIPs)
Behavioral health services
Bereavement support and resources: especially for immigrant survivors prevented from contact with natal family in home country, or not being allowed to mourn death of natal family member
BIA | Board of Immigration Appeal accredited services
Boys groups
Burial for intimate homicide victims that marital family refuses to or natal family cannot conduct

Prevention | Community Engagement:
Bride price: addressing abusive aspects of this practice

Demographic Groups:
Batterers, Bisexuals, Boys, Buddhists

Ethnic Groups:
Bangladeshi, Bengali, Bhutanese, Burmese

Languages:
Bahasa Indonesia, Bahasa Malaysia/Malay, Bangla/Bengali, Bhojpuri, Bhutanese, Burmese

Systems Advocacy:
Buddhist temples
Gender-Based Violence:
Campus sexual assault
Child abuse, neglect, abandonment
Child trauma from exposure to domestic violence or maternal homicide
Clergy abuse
Coercive control
Crime-syndicate controlled trafficking
Criminal entrapment: coercion by abuser to engage in criminal activities (e.g., driving getaway car)
CSEC | Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children
Custodial rape: by police, refugee camp personnel, immigration/border officers, prison guards
Custody-related abuses and battles: coercion, threats, actions to silence domestic violence disclosure; false allegations that mothers are child abusers; refusing to pay child support
Cyber-stalking

Services | Interventions:
Campus assault-related advocacy for foreign and other non-citizen students
Cars: car donation programs for survivors; car insurance payments
Case management
CCR: Coordinated Community Response teams
Childcare: services; accessing respite care
Child custody: legal services; obtaining support; parenting time arrangements; accompaniment to child custody evaluation, mediation
Children’s services in residential and non-residential programs
Citizenship: assistance; classes/education
Computer literacy training
Conflict zones: services for victims who experienced sexual violence in conflict zones, camps
Cooking: teaching skills; as healing, restoring normalcy
Counseling services for adults, teens, children
Court accompaniment
Crisis intervention/counseling
Cultural adjustment: support, resources, “cultural brokers” to assist at-risk families during initial contact with social services
Cultural competency | culturally-responsive trainings for systems, other providers
Cultural defense: serving as expert witness/providing consultation to claim or rebut cultural defense

Prevention | Community Engagement:
Chai Chats: outreach, awareness raising
Child abuse prevention education
Civic engagement: multilingual voter registration, census participation drives
Civil legal remedies: assistance, accompaniment, direct services, referrals
Civil rights advocacy: protections against discrimination
Cultural change work: analysis, critique of culture and cultural explanations of domestic violence

Demographic Groups:
Children, COFA migrants from Palau, Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia
College students

Ethnic Groups:
Cambodian, Carolinian, Chamorro, Chin, Chinese, Chuukese

Languages:
Cantonese, Carolinian, Cebuano, Chamorro, Chin, Chuukese

Systems Advocacy:
Campus administration, Child custody, Child protection/Child welfare, Churches, Civil justice system, Civil rights organizations, Consulates, Criminal justice system

Gender-Based Violence:
Date rape
Dating violence
Death threats
Debt bondage, aka debt slavery for trafficked victims
Devaluation of girl children: withholding nutritious food, medical care, education from girls; having sex-selected abortion
Digital abuse
Disaster zones: sexual violence victimization after natural/man-made disasters
Divorce-related: forced divorce; religious divorce without civil divorce; abusers falsifying income, assets to avoid child support and/or to obtain spousal support from victim
DMST | Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking
Domestic violence
Dowry-related abuse/death threats to exhort post-marriage payments
Drug-facilitated rape/assault
Drug-muling: being forced by traffickers to smuggle drugs across borders by swallowing or inserting them into a body cavity

**Services | Interventions:**
Defense issues: advocacy, resources for battered women who use violence
Deportation: advocacy in U.S. and/or home country for at-risk survivors, perpetrators, children, refugee youth
Disaster zones: addressing sexual violence victimization in disaster aftermath
Driver’s education; learner’s permit classes
DUI/risk reduction intervention course

**Prevention | Community Engagement:**
DACA | Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (aka DREAMers): advocating for them, supporting them; movement related work

**Demographic Groups:**
Deaf/Hard of Hearing; Disabilities i.e., survivors w/cognitive, physical, psychological disabilities; Domestic workers suffering sexual/labor exploitation; DREAMers

**Ethnic Groups:**
Dhivehi/Maldivian

**Languages:**
Dari

**Systems Advocacy:**
Defense attorneys/Public defenders

**Gender-Based Violence:**
Economic abuse: withholding access to income, bank accounts, joint assets, etc.; ruining victim’s credit; not paying child or spousal support; leaving victim responsible for failed business, mortgage payments
Elder abuse

**Services | Interventions:**
Economic assistance: cash grants, small loans, emergency funds; economic relief through protection orders; credit repair
Economic security/empowerment: economic literacy; homebuyer education; micro-credit loan applications, management; debt repayment structuring
Elder abuse intervention
Emergency disaster relief and recovery
Emergency Protection Orders
Emergency domestic violence shelter program
Emergency food assistance
Emergency safe housing
Emotional intelligence curricula for children, survivors
Employment-related assistance
Expert witness testimony provision

**Prevention | Community Engagement:**
Education-related: awarding/findings scholarships for survivors, their kids; school enrollment; emergency tuition loans
Empowerment workshops
ESL | ESOL classes

**Demographic Groups:**
Elders

**Ethnic Groups:**
East Asian

**Systems Advocacy:**
Economic institutions and services, Elder abuse service programs, Employment-related

**Gender-Based Violence:**
Familicide (killing partner and children)
Family-controlled trafficking
FGM | FGC: Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting
Fiancé(e) abuse: U.S.-based individuals refusing to marry K visa holder they sponsored
Forced divorce
Forced marriage by parents: to pre-selected husband/much older man; to one’s rapist; to block same-sex marriage, relationships

**Services | Interventions:**
Faith-based interventions: including working with religious professionals
Family justice center
Family law assistance
Family support program, therapy
Fatherhood: responsible fatherhood programs, fathering after battering programs
Food stamps (SNAP) application assistance
Prevention | Community Engagement:
Familicide prevention
Food-related: food security, collecting and distributing food to needy families, food pantry
Foster-parenting: recruiting, training API families

Demographic Groups:
Fathers, Foreign students

Ethnic Groups:
Fijian, Filipino

Languages:
Farsi, Fijian, Filipino, French (for Vietnamese, Cambodian, West African refugees), Fujian, Fuzhou

Systems Advocacy:
Family courts: mediators, evaluators, GALs, parenting coordinators, Foster care, Funding: advocating for sustainable programs, giving input in state plans

Gender-Based Violence:
Gambling-related abuse: depleting or withholding family income causing poverty, food insecurity
Gang-controlled trafficking
Grooming/Sexual predation

Services | Interventions:
GED classes
Gender-based asylum (also listed under ‘A’)
Group counseling for residential and non-residential survivors

Prevention | Community Engagement:
Gardening to promote healing
Gender analysis: norm change; inter-generational awareness-raising; education on gender-based violence, misogyny, sexism
Gender equity: curricula, strategies to promote gender equity and democracy

Demographic Groups:
Gay men and youth, Girls

Languages:
Gouyu/Mandarin, Gujarati

Gender-Based Violence:
Harassment, sexual: by clergy, coaches, teachers, professors, extended family members, therapists, doctors, supervisors, co-workers, military personnel
Harassment in public spaces: streets, buses, trains
HIV | AIDS: forced to have unprotected sex by infected partner; buyers forcing prostituted minors, adults to have unprotected sex
Homicide-related: Danger Assessment; assessing family-, community-generated risks; supporting surviving children; emotional and legal support for victim’s parents in Asia for access/custody of grandchildren; (burial for victims under ‘B’)
Honor killing
Hooking-up related abuse and coercion

Services | Interventions:
Harm-reduction
Hate crimes-related: advocacy for victims
Healing: culturally-rooted individual and group healing practices
Healthcare access: ACA enrollment, increasing access, accompaniment, enrolling survivors’ children, training providers on culturally-specific domestic violence dynamics, ensuring use of trained medical interpreters
Health services: on-site clinics; primary care clinic partnerships; referrals/services for uninsured, undocumented immigrants, documented immigrants subject to 5-year bar
Helpline
HIV | AIDS: identifying Asian-specific risk-factors for survivors, counseling, early intervention, testing support
Home visitation
Housing: temporary, emergency, establishing/using safe home networks, Section 8 assistance
Hotline

Prevention | Community Engagement:
Healthcare awareness: for survivors, specific groups e.g., Vietnamese nail salon workers, refugees, elders
Healthy marriage programs
Homophobia: addressing it within programs, in communities
Honor killing: safety planning in U.S. and home country for at-risk women, girls, LGBTQ

Demographic Groups:
Hard of Hearing individuals, Hindus, H-4 visa holders
Ethnic Groups:
Hawaiian, Hmong

Languages:
Hawaiian/‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i, Hindi, Hmong/Mong, Hokkien

Systems Advocacy:
Healthcare, Health insurance, Hindu temples, Homeland Security, Hospitals, Housing

Gender-Based Violence:
Immigration-related abuse and threats depending on survivor’s status
Incest
In-laws perpetrating domestic/family violence
International Marriage Broker | IMB-contracted relationships: abuse by men in U.S. with domestic violence histories
Intimate Partner Violence
Isolation: blocking all contact with natal family, friends; withholding warm clothes, shoes so victim is housebound

Services | Interventions:
I-751 battered spouse waiver for conditional residents abused by U.S. citizen spouse
IEP | Individual Educational Plan accompaniment
Immigration law services/assistance
International collaboration for transnational case management, referrals
Interpretation: in spoken language for survivors with limited English proficiency
Interpretation: in sign language for survivors who do not know/use ASL

Prevention | Community Engagement:
Imams: enlisting/training them in prevention and survivor-centered intervention
IMBRA (International Marriage Bureaus Regulation Act) policy advocacy
Islamic jurisprudence research, tools to challenge misinformation on religious justification

Demographic Groups:
Immigrants, Incarcerated or formerly incarcerated survivors, Indigenous groups

Ethnic Groups:
Indian, Indonesian, Iranian, Iraqi

Languages:
Ilocano

Systems Advocacy:
Immigration court, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, International Marriage Bureaus

Gender-Based Violence:
Jewelry given as wedding gifts is withheld/stolen from bride by in-laws (economic abuse)

Services | Interventions:
Job training
Judicial collaboration, training
Juvenile refugees and immigrants: advocacy for deported or at-risk youth risk
Juvenile visa | SIJS: obtaining Special Immigrant Juvenile Status for abused, abandoned, neglected minors needing humanitarian protection

Demographic Groups:
Juveniles U.S.- and foreign-born, Juvenile refugees deported for status offenses/crimes

Ethnic Groups:
Japanese, Jordanian

Languages:
Japanese, Javanese

Systems Advocacy:
Juvenile justice

Gender-Based Violence:
Kidnapping, bride: aka marriage by capture/abduction

Ethnic Groups:
Karen, Kazakh, Khmer/Cambodian, Korean, Kosrean, Kuwaiti

Languages:
Kannada, Kapampangan, Karen, Karenni, Kashmiri, Kazakh, Khmer, Konkani, Korean, Kurdish, Kutchi
Gender-Based Violence:
Labor exploitation: of elderly parents for housework, childcare; extreme exploitation of household labor by husband and in-laws in servile marriages; of domestic helpers/maids
Labor trafficking
LGBTQ intimate partner violence, abusers claiming victimization, coerced to come out or stay closeted
LGBTQ-related: homophobic parents blocking/controlling gender expression, identity, preference, sexual orientation; forcing heterosexual marriage

Services | Interventions:
Legal services: advocacy, representation, hotlines
Licensed child care services
LPR status: obtaining Legal Permanent Resident status for survivors

Prevention | Community Engagement:
Leadership training for survivors as part of movement building
Life-after-divorce program
Life skills training
Lifetime Spiral of Gender Violence, using it w/survivors, for community organizing
Literacy classes

Demographic Groups:
LEP | Limited English Proficient survivors, Lesbians

Ethnic Groups:
Laotian, Lebanese

Languages:
Lao

Systems Advocacy:
Language access policy advocacy across multiple systems

Gender-Based Violence:
Marital rape
Marry-and-dump: husbands divorce wives within few months and abandon them in home country or in U.S.
Mental health coercion: undermining survivors’ sanity, credibility; labelling or making them feel ‘crazy’; preventing help-seeking; interfering with medications
Military-related: abuse of U.S. and foreign-born Asian wives on U.S. and foreign bases; sexual assault of service women
Molestation
Mother-child bonding disruption: not letting mothers hold, nurse, care for children

Services | Interventions:
Marriage counseling
Medicaid application assistance
Mental health services
Mindfulness training, meditation
Mother-child bonding: rebuilding ruptured bonds
Multilingual services

Prevention | Community Engagement:
Media campaigns to raise awareness, educate communities
Men: engaging men; confronting men’s violence, toxic masculinity
Mentoring teen girls, boys
Mother-child suicide prevention
Movement building
Multi-generational family programming to change norms, prevent abuse

Demographic Groups:
Male victims, Military personnel, Mothers, Muslims

Ethnic Groups:
Malaysian, Maldivians/Dhivehi, Mandaean, Marshallese, Middle Eastern, Mien, Mongolian

Languages:
Maay Maay, Malay/Bahasa Malaysia, Malayalam, Mandarin/Guoyu, Marathi, Marshallese/Ebon, Marwari, Mien, Mon, Mongolian/Khalkha Mongol

Systems Advocacy:
Maternal health, Mental health, Mosques
Prevention | Community Engagement:
Needs assessments
Networks to share promising practices

Ethnic Groups:
Native Hawaiian, Nepalese

Languages:
Nepali

Prevention | Community Engagement:
Organizational trauma-informed practices
Outreach events such as kite-flying, movie festivals and discussion, Blue Collar outreach, Chai Chats

Ethnic Groups:
Other races served by API agencies include survivors from following communities: African American, African Diaspora, American Indian and Alaskan Native, Latino, Middle East and North Africa (MENA), White

Languages:
Odia
Other non-API languages

Systems Advocacy:
OBGYN

Gender-Based Violence:
Pimp-controlled trafficking
Polygamy
Pornography: being forced to watch and enact porn
Pregnancy-related: physical abuse onset, rape by partner during and after pregnancy
Psychological abuse

Services | Interventions:
Parenting programs, support, workshops
Peer counseling and referrals
Peer mediation training for youth
Pets: sheltering survivors with pets
Professionals who are foreign-trained: assist survivors to obtain U.S. credentials, licenses, insurance coverage; get recertified to practice medicine, accounting, etc.
Pro se litigants: accompaniment/assistance in navigating systems
Protection Orders
Psychotherapy

Prevention | Community Engagement:
Patriarchy and power analysis to confront power structures
Policy advocacy
Pre-marital counseling, especially for survivors re-marrying
Prevention programs

Demographic Groups:
Pregnant women, Pro se litigants/petitioners, Prostituted adults and minors

Ethnic Groups:
Pacific Islander, Pakistani, Palauan, Palestinian, Persians, Pohnpeian, Punjabi

Languages:
Palauan, Pashto, Persian, Pohnpeian, Pothohari, Punjabi, Pwo Karen

Systems Advocacy:
Pediatrics, Prosecutors’ offices, Psychological services, Public benefits, Public defenders’ offices

Gender-Based Violence:
Queer/same-sex/same-gender violence

Demographic Groups:
Queer/LGBTQ

Systems Advocacy:
Queer/LGBTQ service agencies
Gender-Based Violence:
Religion used by abusers and faith professionals to justify/condone GBV, silence and subjugate women, support abusers
Reproductive coercion and/or sabotage: to cause pregnancy
Revenge porn: sexually explicit portrayal distributed without person’s consent

Services | Interventions:
Referrals: extensive referral networks/agreements for medical, housing, legal services
Refugee resettlement including orientation/case management/family strengthening programs;
Rental/mortgage assistance
Reproductive health education/services
Respite care: providing/obtaining services for caretaking of children, elders, special-needs children
Rural/remote areas: access/services for immigrant, LEP survivors

Prevention | Community Engagement:
Racism: mitigating impact on survivors of color, anti-oppression work within API groups, assisting victims of racial profiling
Religious study: curricula challenging interpretations/justifications that condone GBV
Restorative justice programs
Risk assessment to prevent homicide

Demographic Groups:
Refugees, Runaway homeless youth

Ethnic Groups:
Refaluwasch, Rohingya

Languages:
Rohingya

Systems Advocacy:
Refugee agencies
Runaway Homeless Youth (RHY) programs

Other:
Research projects/partnerships to inform practice,
EBP: Evidence-Based Practice research within agency,
Culturally-sensitive protocols to collect data, design outcome measures

Gender-Based Violence:
Separation-related abuse given heightened danger when leaving an abuser
Sex-selected abortion
Sexual assault/violence/coercion against infants, children, teens, young adults, adults, elders
Sexual harassment
Sibling abuse
Stalking
Surveillance: monitoring movements, email, phones, social media; by partner, in-laws, community members
Suicide: increased risk due to abuse for LGBTQ and trafficked youth, adults, elders; coerced suicide pacts; abetted suicide
STI | STD transmission from coerced sex, unprotected sex, condom sabotage

Services | Interventions:
Safety planning
School-based support groups, counseling for young women survivors
Shelter
Special Immigrant Juvenile Status visas
Special-needs children of survivors: advocacy, support groups to mitigate barriers faced by both
Substance abuse gender-sensitive treatment programs or support services
Supervised visitation, safe exchange
Support groups, survivor mentorship programs
Systems navigation

Prevention | Community Engagement:
Self-defense classes
Self-help, self-reliance, self-sufficiency resources/training
Senior fitness classes
Sex education
Small business support program for survivors
Sports programs to empower immigrant/refugee girls
Story-telling: training survivors, creating digital stories, collecting stories for policy advocacy
Suicide prevention for youth, adults, abused mothers, elders’ suicide pacts

Ethnic Groups:
Samoan, Saudi Arabian, Singaporean, Sinhala, South Asian, Southeast Asian, Sri Lankan, Syrian
Languages:
Samoan, Saraiki, Shanghainese, Sign Languages (other than ASL), Sindhi, Sinhala

Systems Advocacy:
Sexual assault programs, SANE (Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners), SART (Sexual Assault Response Teams), Schools, SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program)

Gender-Based Violence:
Teen relationship abuse
Torture
Trafficking, domestic
Trafficking, international
Transnational abandonment

Services | Interventions:
TANF: access, accompaniment, policy advocacy
Tax preparation (part of economic security program)
Teens: hotline, workshops
Temporary Restraining Orders
Translated materials: safety plans, brochures, forms, etc. to increase LEP access
Translation services
Transportation assistance
Trauma-informed care
Trauma-specific interventions
T visas

Prevention | Community Engagement:
Take Back the Night events
Tutoring

Demographic Groups:
Teens, Trafficked individuals, Transgender

Ethnic Groups:
Tahitian, Taiwanese, Tamil, Thai, Tibetan, Tokelauan, Tongan, Turkmen

Languages:
Tagalog, Tai Dam/Black Tai, Taishanese/Toisanese, Taiwanese, Tajik, Tamil, Telugu, Teochew/Chiu Chow, Thai, Tibetan, Tongan, Turkish

Systems Advocacy:
TANF, Technical assistance, Training for partner/collaborative agencies, systems

Gender-Based Violence:
Uxoricide (wife-killing)

Services | Interventions:
Utility assistance
U visas

Ethnic Groups:
Uzbek

Languages:
Urdu, Uzbek

Gender-Based Violence:
Vicarious trauma aka secondary trauma due to exposure to gender violence
Victim-blaming by community, natal and marital families
Virginity tests

Services | Interventions:
VAWA I-360 self-petition application
Victims of crime assistance
Vocational training classes
Volunteer attorney support

Prevention | Community Engagement:
VAWA: policy advocacy, grassroots organizing
Voter registration drive

Ethnic Groups:
Vietnamese

Languages:
Vietnamese, Visayan

Systems Advocacy:
Victims Of Crime Assistance (VOCA), Victim-Witness
Gender-Based Violence:
Wartime rape
Widowhood: demeaning widows, forcing them into extreme isolation
Withholding food, clothing, daily necessities (soap, toothpaste, etc.), medication, healthcare
Workplace-related abuse: sexual assault, sexual harassment

Services | Interventions:
Women survivors who use violence: obtain legal services, support legal team

Prevention | Community Engagement:
Well-being/wellness classes: yoga, meditation, exercise
Workplace domestic violence prevention

Demographic Groups:
Widows, Workers, Women survivors who use violence

Ethnic Groups:
West Asian/Middle Eastern

Systems Advocacy:
Welfare

Prevention | Community Engagement:
Yoga classes
Youth centers: leadership development, mentoring, healthy relationships groups

Demographic Groups:
Youth

Ethnic Groups:
Yapese, Yemeni

Prevention | Community Engagement:
Xenophobia: addressing anti-immigrant sentiments

Prevention | Community Engagement:
Zakat: Islamic practice of giving money to the poor and needy, used by community-based organizations to raise awareness and funds for survivors