

## 1. Demographics

According to the U.S. Census Bureau's 2016 American Community Survey, there are:

- ◆ 3,912,921 multi-race, multi-ethnic and single-race Filipinos, of which 2,811,885 are single-race. This represents a 1% decrease (-36,263) in the number of single-race, multi-race and multi-ethnic Filipinos and a 0.4% increase (+41,182) of single-race Filipinos since 2015.<sup>a</sup>
- ◆ Of the 1,681,983 Tagalog speakers in the U.S., 68% (1,145,835) speak English 'very well' and 32% (536,148) speak English 'less than very well.'<sup>b</sup>

<sup>a</sup> U.S. Census Bureau 2016 American Community Survey, 1-year estimates. Retrieved February 2018

<sup>b</sup> U.S. Census data on "Language spoken at home for the population 5 years and over," from the 2016 American Community Survey, 5-year estimates. Retrieved February 2018

## 2. Domestic & Sexual Violence

In a face-to-face interview of 1,577 Asians recruited from Asian organizations and gathering places in the greater Houston area in Texas:

- ◆ 22% of Filipino respondents (101 male and female) reported at least one form of intimate partner violence based on the 8-item Conflict Tactics Scale, ranging from "thrown objects at the respondent" to "used a knife or gun on the respondent" during the previous year.
- ◆ This rate was higher than average partner abuse prevalence rates among Chinese (10%), Indian (20%), Japanese (10%), Korean (20%), and Vietnamese (22%) respondents.

Leung P, Cheung M. A Prevalence Study on Partner Abuse in Six Asian American Ethnic Groups in the USA. *International Social Work*. 2008; 51(5):635-649.

In a paper-and-pencil questionnaire survey of a purposive sample of Filipino college students:<sup>\*</sup>

- ◆ 31% of female respondents reported that they had experienced "physical violence since they started dating, such as being hit, pushed, grabbed, etc." by an intimate partner.
- ◆ 21% of male respondents reported having experienced any of these types of physical violence by an intimate partner.

<sup>\*</sup> Participants did not identify whether violence occurred in straight or same-sex relationships.

Agbayani P & Flanagan A. Filipino American Dating Violence: Definitions, Contextual Justifications, and Experiences of Dating Violence. *Journal of Human Behavior in the Social Environment*. 2008; 3(304): 115-133.

A study on lifecourse experiences of intimate partner violence and help-seeking (Lifecourse IPV and Help-Seeking Study), which assessed types of IPV among 87 Filipina victims aged 18-60 who were recruited via various community outreach methods in the San Francisco Bay Area found that:

- ◆ 95% of Filipina victims reported having experienced physical violence by an intimate partner
- ◆ 56% of Filipina victims reported having experienced sexual violence by an intimate partner
- ◆ 68% of Filipina victims reported having experienced stalking by an intimate partner.
- ◆ By age 16, 12% of Filipina victims had experienced physical violence, 10% had experienced sexual violence, and 8% had experienced stalking.

- ◆ Filipina victims who were born in the U.S. (2nd generation) or had immigrated to the U.S. pre-adolescence (1.5+ generation) were more likely to experience intimate partners' physical and sexual violence (but not stalking) than Filipina victims who were born outside the U.S. and immigrated as adults (1st generation).
- ◆ Younger Filipina victims (whether born in the U.S. or not) were more likely to experience intimate partners' stalking than older Filipina victims.

Yoshihama M, Bybee D, Dabby C, Blazevski J. Lifecourse Experiences of Intimate Partner Violence and Help-Seeking among Filipina, Indian, and Pakistani Women: Implications for Justice System Responses. Washington, DC: National Institute of Justice; 2010.

According to a survey of 10 Filipina women in Hawai'i between the ages of 32-53:

- ◆ Men's partner abuse was referred to as their anger, stress, and drunken behavior, rather than as "abuse" towards their spouse.
- ◆ Most Filipina women said that physical violence was unacceptable, particularly when injuries resulted. However, they do believe that many times when women are harmed, it was "inevitable" because the women "likely misbehaved" – i.e. lied or were unfaithful.

Shoultz J, et al. Listening to Filipina Women: Perceptions, Responses and Needs Regarding Intimate Partner Violence. *Issues in Mental Health Nursing*. 2010; 31(1): 54-61.

According to interviews of Native Hawaiian, Filipino, and Pacific Islander women between 21-64 years old who had experienced IPV and were served by participating Community Health Centers in Hawai'i:

- ◆ All 10 Filipina respondents indicated that IPV brings shame to the family and reflects on the broader Filipino community, and that it was "their responsibility to keep the family intact at all costs, particularly if they have children, regardless of IPV being present."
- ◆ Immigrant Filipina women disclosed that their families often expected them to remain in abusive situations particularly if the family was benefitting financially or hoping to immigrate to the U.S.

Magnussen L, et al. Responding to the Needs of Culturally Diverse Women who Experience Intimate Partner Violence. *Hawai'i Medical Journal*. 2011; 70(1): 9-15.

A study conducted in 2004 found that out of a sample of 337 records reviewed at four community health centers, 16% of the IPV experiences were reported by Filipino women, despite the fact that Filipinos comprised only 14% of the total population.

Magnussen L, et al. Intimate Partner Violence: Perceptions of Samoan Women. *Journal of Community Health*. 2008; 33(6): 389-394.

### 3. Homicide: Domestic Violence-Related

According to a review of 45 domestic violence related cases resulting in 62 fatalities occurring in Hawai'i between 2000-2009:

- ◆ While Filipinos constituted 15% of Hawai'i's population, they comprised 24% of domestic violence related fatalities.
- ◆ The majority of victims were Filipino (29%), followed by Europeans/Whites (20%) and those of multiple ethnicities (13%).
- ◆ The majority of perpetrators were Filipino (22%), followed by Europeans/Whites, other ethnic groups, those with multiple ethnicities (17% each) and Japanese (16%).

Ann Pobutsky et al. Results from the Hawai'i Domestic Violence Fatality Review, 2000-2009. *Journal of Injury and Violence Research*. 2014; 6(2): 79-90.

A report on 160 U.S. domestic violence related homicides in Asian families based on newspaper clippings and information from advocates for a six-year period from 2000–2005 found that:

- ◆ 34 of 158 (22%) victims with known ethnicities were Filipino.
- ◆ 23 of 122 (19%) killers with known ethnicities were Filipino.

Dabby C, Patel H, Poore G. *Shattered Lives: Homicides, Domestic Violence and Asian Families*. Oakland, CA: Asian Pacific Institute on Gender-Based Violence. 2009.

Seven domestic violence related homicides were reported in 2000 in Hawai'i. According to the Domestic Violence Clearinghouse and Legal Hotline, 5 of the 7 women killed were of Filipina descent; a disproportionately high rate given that Filipinos represented only 12% of the total population of Hawai'i in that year.

Hawai'i State Coalition against Domestic Violence. *Domestic Violence Deaths in Hawai'i, 2000*. Honolulu, HI: Author. 2001.

Domestic Violence Clearinghouse and Legal Hotline, E-mail communication, Honolulu, HI.

## 4. Help-Seeking

The Lifecourse IPV and Help-Seeking Study found that:

- ◆ 52% of Filipina abused women had called the police at least once, 25% had used domestic violence shelters at least once, 31% had used non-residential domestic violence programs at least once, 25% has used residential domestic violence programs at least once, 44% had sought legal assistance at least once, and 28% had sought healthcare related to IPV at least once.
- ◆ Younger victims were more likely to contact agencies such as the police, legal services, and domestic violence programs (shelter or non-residential) compared to older women, regardless of immigration/generational position.
- ◆ There was no significant age cohort difference in the likelihood of seeking healthcare related to IPV, which remained low throughout the lifecourse.
- ◆ The police appear to be an important gateway to services: if respondents contacted both a domestic violence program and the police, they were more likely to have contacted the police first. Similarly, if respondents reached out to both the police and legal service programs, a majority of them reached out to the police first.

The Lifecourse IPV and Help-Seeking Study found that abused Filipina victims seeking help from friends or outside agencies identified the following as the most helpful:

- ◆ Sources of response: Friends (38%); family (24%); non-Asian domestic violence programs (14%); helping professionals (other than legal or medical) such as counselors and case managers (14%); and criminal legal system agencies (14%).
- ◆ Types of response: Information and referrals (37%); empathic communication e.g., actively listening, being non-judgmental, not blaming the respondent, validating the respondent as a person, and validating the respondent's dignity (27%); and safety planning/advice (27%).
- ◆ Types of assistance: tangible and concrete assistance (e.g., a place to stay, monetary help, and food) and a range of women-centered responses (e.g., providing options, encouraging the respondent to pursue what she wants, lessening isolation/alienation, and telling the respondent "you are not alone" and "it [partner's violence] is not your fault."

Yoshihama M, Bybee D, Dabby C, Blazevski J. *Lifecourse Experiences of Intimate Partner Violence and Help-Seeking among Filipina, Indian, and Pakistani Women: Implications for Justice System Responses*. Washington, DC: National Institute of Justice; 2010.

## 5. Resources

### Translated Materials

Materials on domestic violence in over 110 languages are available from [Hot Peach Pages](#).  
[Ilocano](#) | [Spanish](#) | [Tagalog](#)

### Filipina Women's Network

Filipinas against Violence campaign: V-Monologues, an anti-domestic violence resource guide and magazine.

[Filipina Women's Network](#) | (415) 935-4FWN (415-935-4396) | [filipina@ffwn.org](mailto:filipina@ffwn.org)

<http://www.filipinawomensnetwork.org/vdayfwn>

### National Domestic Violence Hotline

For crisis intervention, safety planning, information about domestic violence and referrals to local service providers. Assistance available in English and other languages through interpreter services.

1-800-799-SAFE (7233) (toll-free)

Livechat at [www.thehotline.org](http://www.thehotline.org)

### Love is Respect

Offers crisis counseling and support to victims of domestic and sexual violence.

Livechat at [www.loveisrespect.org](http://www.loveisrespect.org)

1-866-331-9474 (toll-free)

Text LOVEIS to 22522 (message & data rates may apply)

### Directories

- ◆ [Directory of Domestic and Gender Violence Programs Serving Asians and Pacific Islanders](#)  
[Asian Pacific Institute on Gender-Based Violence](#) | [PDF and online database](#)
- ◆ [Americans Overseas Domestic Violence Crisis Center](#), International Domestic Violence Response
- ◆ [Hot Peach Pages](#), International Directory of Domestic Violence Agencies.

### Asian Pacific Institute on Gender-Based Violence

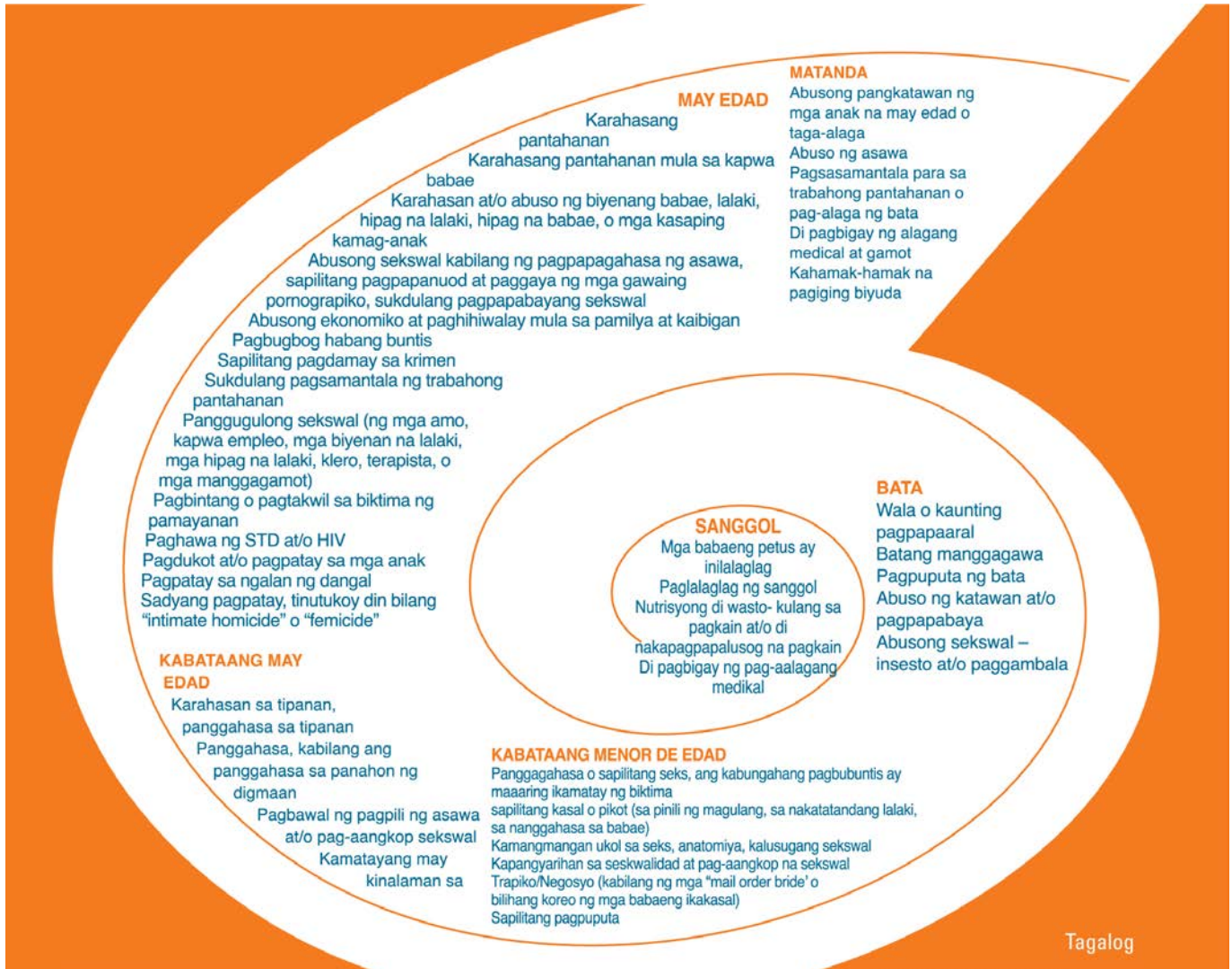
For questions, information, publications, training requests and technical assistance:

[www.api-gbv.org](http://www.api-gbv.org) | 415-568-3315 | [info@api-gbv.org](mailto:info@api-gbv.org)



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## Mga abusong tinitii ng babae sa siklo kanyang buhay Lifetime Spiral of Gender Violence



Translated versions of the Lifetime Spiral in Chinese, Farsi, Korean, Punjabi, Tagalog and Vietnamese available at [api-gbv.org](http://api-gbv.org). January 2002. Revised 2010.



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# Lifetime Spiral of Gender Violence



Translated versions of the Lifetime Spiral in Chinese, Farsi, Korean, Punjabi, Tagalog and Vietnamese available at [api-gbv.org](http://api-gbv.org). January 2002. Revised 2010.

From the aborting of female fetuses to intimate homicide, girls and women may encounter numerous oppressions during infancy, childhood, adolescence, adulthood, and as elders. Some of these are confined to one stage in the lifecycle, some continue into subsequent stages.

The Lifetime Spiral reveals patterns of victimization by enumerating the types of violence, vulnerabilities, and harms women and girls face. It also implicitly shows the presence of different abusers located over the lifecourse. A grandmother may withhold nutritious food for a baby girl, a brother may perpetrate incest, a priest may molest a teen girl, a father may insist on a forced marriage, a college student may date rape a classmate, a co-worker may engage in sexual harassment, a husband may batter during pregnancy, a brother- or sister-in-law may stalk, an ex-boyfriend may kill, a community may ostracize homosexuals, a family may silence or shame.

In addition to physical, sexual, economic and emotional abuses, violence is about living in a climate of fear, shame, coercive control, and devaluation. It is often experienced in the context of additional oppressions based on race, ethnicity, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, type of labor performed, level of education, class position, disability, and immigration or refugee status. Raising awareness about the historical nature of gender violence confronts victim-blaming, informs advocacy, and empowers survivors.

