



# Facts & Stats Report, Updated & Expanded 2020 Domestic Violence in Asian & Pacific Islander Homes

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## INTRODUCTION

The Asian Pacific Institute on Gender-Based Violence has been compiling and updating statistics on domestic violence in our communities since 2001. Building on the previous editions (2009, 2015, 2019), *Facts & Stats Report: Domestic Violence in Asian and Pacific Islander Homes: Updated and Expanded 2020* includes new data along with expanded information.

Domestic violence takes many forms and can include coercive control and physical, sexual, emotional, financial, spiritual, and instrumental violence. It occurs in all populations regardless of race, ethnicity, culture, class, faith, immigration status, age, education, gender identity, or sexual orientation. Myriads of socio-cultural, linguistic, economic and political barriers influence help-seeking and compromise survivor safety and well-being.

The magnitude of the problem may be considerably greater than available data indicate, given that survey data tend to involve underreporting, and statistics from service or data collection agencies are limited to reported cases. The description of study methodology, the presentation of results in the terms used by the researchers, and where necessary, the authors' clarifying comments in this report serve to contextualize the data.

*Facts & Stats Report: Domestic Violence in Asian and Pacific Islander Homes* raises awareness about the experiences of Asian and Pacific Islander survivors of domestic violence, counters denial about the problem, emphasizes the need for socio-culturally effective prevention and intervention, and serves to guide future research and inform public policy.

## MORE FROM THE INSTITUTE

[TA Brief: Domestic & Family Violence Dynamics in Asian and Pacific Islander Homes \(2018\)](#)

[Factsheet: Statistics on Gender-Based Violence in Asian and Pacific Islander Communities \(2017\)](#)

[Factsheet: Statistics on Sexual Violence in Asian and Pacific Islander Communities \(2018\)](#)

### **Ethnic-or Community-Specific Factsheets:**

- ◆ [Chinese Factsheet \(2012\)](#)
- ◆ [Filipino Factsheet \(2018\)](#)
- ◆ [Hmong Factsheet \(2019\)](#)
- ◆ [Korean Factsheet \(2012\)](#)
- ◆ [Muslim Factsheet \(2011\)](#)
- ◆ [Native Hawaiian Factsheet \(2020\)](#)
- ◆ [Pacific Islander Factsheet \(2018\)](#)
- ◆ [South Asian Factsheet \(2017\)](#)
- ◆ [Vietnamese Factsheet \(2012\)](#)
- ◆ [Youth/Teen Factsheet \(2020\)](#)

## 1. EXTENT OF THE PROBLEM | PREVALENCE

Based on studies that used some type of probability samples (e.g., random or representative samples) of Asian women of specific ethnic background:

- ◆ 16–55% of Asian women report experiencing intimate physical and/or sexual violence during their lifetime.<sup>1</sup>

Estimating the prevalence of domestic violence, also known as intimate partner violence, is challenging. Survey research, no matter how well it is designed, involves various biases and errors. Only a small number of studies have used a probability sample to help estimate the prevalence of domestic violence in specific Asian communities. Many studies conducted in Asian communities have used a non-probability sample (e.g., a convenient sample recruited via community outreach, word of mouth and/or referrals from assistance programs and various other organizations). Use of a non-probability sample is not suitable to estimate the prevalence of domestic violence due in part to self-selection bias, yet these studies provide critical information to understand the scope and dynamics of domestic violence in Asian communities in the U.S. (see **Section 2 Domestic Violence in Specific Communities** for detail).

Most, but not all, studies using a national or regional representative sample have a larger sample size and good response rate. However, these studies tend to suffer from aggregation (Asians of all ethnic and cultural backgrounds are lumped together), exclusion of certain segments of the population (e.g., studies conducted only in English leave out those with limited English proficiency), and restricted measurement (e.g., a small number of questions assessed a limited range of domestic violence).<sup>2</sup> The prevalence rates found in these large studies tend to be lower than those found in studies in specific Asian communities. Please exercise caution and pay attention to the type of sample, sample size, response rate, methods of data collection, measures used (e.g., what types of domestic violence were included/excluded), and timeframe (e.g., lifetime, current relationship, past year) when citing findings from specific studies.

Below are some of the national and regional studies that used a probability sample of aggregated Asians. While large variations exist, these studies collectively report that between 9 and 20% of Asian women are estimated to have experienced partner physical and/or sexual violence sometime in their lifetime.

In the 2010 National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey (NISVS),<sup>3</sup> telephone interviews were conducted with a nationally representative sample of 18,049 non-institutionalized English and/or Spanish speaking adults, 9,970 women and 8,079 men (response rate: 27.5-33.6%); 4.7% of the sample was of Asian or Pacific Islander descent:

- ◆ 19.6% of Asian or Pacific Islander women have experienced rape, physical violence, and/or stalking by an intimate partner in their lifetime. Estimated prevalence rates for other groups were: 46.0% for American Indians or Alaska Native women, 43.7% for Black women, 37.1% for Hispanic women, 53.8% for multiracial women, and 34.6% for White women. [Note: Separate rates for rape, physical violence, and stalking were not reported for Asian or Pacific Islander women due to a small number of cases.]

<sup>1</sup> The estimated prevalence of 15.7% was reported in a study by Hicks, M. The prevalence and characteristics of intimate partner violence in a community study of Chinese American women. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*. 2006;21(10):1249-1269; and the estimate of 55% was reported in a study by Yoshihama M, Horrocks J. The relationship between intimate partner violence and PTSD: An application of Cox regression with time-varying covariates. *Journal of Traumatic Stress*. 2003;16(4):371-380.

<sup>2</sup> For methodological issues, see Yoshihama M. Literature on intimate partner violence in immigrant and refugee communities: Review and recommendations. In: Family Violence Prevention Fund, editor. *Intimate partner violence in immigrant and refugee communities: Challenges, promising practices and recommendations*. Princeton, NJ: Robert Wood Johnson Foundation; 2009. p. 34-64.

<sup>3</sup> Black M, Basille K, Breiding M, Smith S, Walters M, Merick M, Chen J, Stevens M. *The National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey: 2010 summary report*. Washington, DC: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; 2010. <https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/datasources/nisvs/summaryreports.html>

In the National Latino and Asian American Study (NLAAS), face-to-face interviews were conducted with a nationally representative household sample of Latinos and Asians in the U.S. (2,095 Asian and 2,554 Latino/a) in English, Spanish, Cantonese, Mandarin, Tagalog, and Vietnamese<sup>4</sup> A secondary analysis of the 1,470 NLAAS respondents who were of Asian descent and married or living with a partner at the time of the interview found:<sup>5</sup>

- ◆ 10.2% of Asian women reported experiencing “minor violence” (defined by the researchers to include: pushing, grabbing or shoving, throwing something, slapping or hitting); and 1.5% reported “severe violence” (defined by researchers to include: kicking, biting or hitting with a fist, beating up, choking, burning or scalding, or threatening with a knife or a gun) at the hands of an intimate partner during the course of the relationship.
- ◆ Younger age, higher socio-economic status, alcohol- and substance-use disorders, depression, and being U.S.-born were associated with a higher risk of intimate partner violence.

In a secondary analysis of the above mentioned NLAAS data using the subset of 543 Asian women between the ages of 18 and 65 who had been married for 5 years or longer:<sup>6</sup>

- ◆ 6.5% of married Asian women reported having experienced physical violence by their husband sometime during the 12 months prior to the interview.
- ◆ Women whose income was equal to or higher than that of their husband were more likely to report having experienced physical violence by their husband compared to those whose income was lower than their husband.
- ◆ The probability of husband’s violence against his wife was lowest when housework was shared, regardless of the relative income between the couple.

The 2005 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) survey<sup>7</sup> (annual, state-based random-digit-dialing telephone survey of non-institutionalized U.S. civilian population aged 18 and older) assessed physical or sexual violence by a current or former intimate partner in 16 states and two territories (response rate not reported):

- ◆ 9.7% of Asian women reported having ever experienced at least one type of physical or sexual violence (threatened, attempted, or completed physical violence or unwanted sex) by a current or former intimate partner. The rates for other racial/ethnic groups were: 26.8% for White, non-Hispanics; 20.5% for Hispanics; 29.2% for Blacks; 43.1% for multiracial people; 39.0% for American Indian/Alaska Natives; and 29.6% for other races.

The 2007 California Health Interview Survey (CHIS) assessed a wide range of health topics, including domestic violence, via telephone interviews with a representative sample of 51,048 non-institutionalized adults across the state, including 1,402 Chinese, 787 Filipino, 667 Korean, 490 Vietnamese, 477 South Asian, 567 Japanese, and 273 adults of other and/or mixed Asian heritage (response rate not reported). Interviews were conducted in English, Spanish, Cantonese, Mandarin, Korean, and Vietnamese. An analysis of 37,330 respondents aged 18-65 found:<sup>8</sup>

- ◆ 8.5% of Asian women and men reported having experienced physical or sexual intimate partner violence since age 18; the rates for other groups were: 13.7% for Latino, 20.6% for White, 24.4%

<sup>4</sup> The final weighted response rate for the Latino sample was 75.5%, and 65.6% for the Asian overall sample (69.3% for primary respondents and 73.6% for secondary respondents); for detail, see Heeringa SG, Wagner J, Torres M, Duan N, Adams T, Berglund P. Sample designs and sampling methods for the Collaborative Psychiatric Epidemiology Studies (CPES). *International Journal of Methods in Psychiatric Research*. 2004;13(4):221-240.

<sup>5</sup> Chang DF, Shen B-J, Takeuchi DT. Prevalence and demographic correlates of intimate partner violence in Asian Americans. *International Journal of Law and Psychiatry*. 2009;32(3):167-175. The analysis focused on heterosexual relationships.

<sup>6</sup> Chung GH, Tucker MB, Takeuchi D. Wives' relative income production and household male dominance: Examining violence among Asian American enduring couples. *Family Relations*. 2008;57(2):227-238.

<sup>7</sup> Black MC, Breiding MJ. Adverse health conditions and health risk behaviors associated with intimate partner violence—United States, 2005. *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*. 2008;57:113-118.

<sup>8</sup> Zahnd E, Grant D, Aydin M, Chia YJ, Padilla-Frausto DI. *Nearly four million California adults are victims of intimate partner violence*. Los Angeles, CA: UCLA Center for Health Policy Research; 2010, April. The 2007 CHIS sample design included over-sampling of Vietnamese and Korean. <https://healthpolicy.ucla.edu/publications/search/pages/detail.aspx?PubID=76>

for African American, and 33.9% for American Indian/Alaska Natives. [Note: Gender breakdown was not reported.]

- ◆ Foreign-born Asians (7.1%) were less likely to experience intimate partner's physical or sexual violence than U.S.-born Asians (13.4%). A similar pattern was observed for foreign-born Latinos (10.5%) compared to U.S.-born Latinos (17.9%). [Note: Gender breakdown was not reported.]

## 2. DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IN SPECIFIC COMMUNITIES

In this section, we present findings from studies conducted in specific Asian communities. While some studies used a probability sample (e.g., a random or representative sample), many studies used a non-probability sample (e.g., a convenient sample recruited via community outreach, word of mouth and/or referrals from assistance programs and various other organizations). Use of a non-probability sample is not suitable to estimate the prevalence of domestic violence due largely to self-selection bias; however, these studies provide important information to understand the scope and dynamics of domestic violence in Asian communities in the U.S. Please exercise caution and pay attention to the type of sample, sample size, methods of data collection, response rate, measures used (e.g., what types of domestic violence were included/excluded), and timeframe (e.g., lifetime, current relationship, past year) when citing findings from specific studies.

### (a) Cambodian

The Asian Task Force Against Domestic Violence in Boston, MA asked people attending ethnic fairs and community events to fill out a questionnaire.<sup>9</sup>

- ◆ 47% of Cambodians surveyed said they knew “a woman who has been shoved, pushed, slapped, hit, kicked, or has suffered other injuries by her partner.”
- ◆ 44% said they knew of “a woman whose partner insults or humiliates her regularly.”

In a focus group study of 43 Cambodian women recruited from an organization serving refugees and via community outreach in the Seattle area, WA:<sup>10</sup>

- ◆ Participants stated that domestic violence is relatively common in their community, including physical violence, emotional abuse, controlling of financial resources, and restriction on mobility (e.g., work, schooling, and social activities).

### (b) Chinese

In an interview study of a random sample of 181 women of Chinese descent in the Greater Boston Area, MA (response rate: 56%):<sup>11</sup>

- ◆ Of the 166 women who had ever had an intimate partner, 26 women (15.7%) reported having ever experienced partner's violence, and 6 (3.6%) during the previous 12 months. Eight women reported having been physically injured.

<sup>9</sup> Yoshioka M, Dang Q. *Asian family violence report: A study of the Cambodian, Chinese, Korean, South Asian, and Vietnamese communities in Massachusetts*. Boston, MA: Asian Task Force Against Domestic Violence; 2000. <https://www.atask.org/site/publications/family-violence-report.html>

<sup>10</sup> Bhuyan R, Mell M, Senturia K, Sullivan M, Shiu-Thornton S. "Women must endure according to their karma": Cambodian immigrant women talk about domestic violence. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*. 2005;20(8):902-921.

<sup>11</sup> Hicks, M. The prevalence and characteristics of intimate partner violence in a community study of Chinese American women. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*. 2006;21(10):1249-1269.

In the Population Study of Chinese Elderly in Chicago,<sup>12 13</sup> face-to-face interviews were conducted with a representative sample of 3,157 Chinese women and men aged 60 and older residing in Chicago, IL; interviews were conducted in Cantonese, Mandarin, Teochew, Toishanese, and English (response rate: 91.9%).<sup>14</sup>

- ◆ 6.5% reported having experienced intimate partner violence including being physically hurt, insulted, threatened with harm, screamed and cursed at, and touched intimately when it was unwanted; 5.3% reported psychological violence, and 2%, physical/sexual violence.
- ◆ 15.2% reported having experienced elder abuse: psychological (9.8%), physical/sexual abuse (1.2%), financial exploitation (9.3%), and caregiver neglect (11.2%).

A retrospectively chart review study examined the intake and progress reports of 210 Chinese women who sought assistance from a community-based organization serving Chinese survivors of intimate partner violence in New York City, NY between August 2004 and September 2009; there were 166 pairs of Chinese immigrant victim-offender (the remaining cases involved perpetrators from other ethnic groups, and were not reviewed for this study).<sup>15</sup>

- ◆ The seriousness of abuse was not significantly associated with abusers' English proficiency or legal status (defined by researchers as whether individuals had U.S. citizenship or permanent residency).
- ◆ Women without U.S. citizenship or permanent residency and women with lower English proficiency were more likely to be seriously abused by their partner. However, women who had U.S. citizenship or permanent residency status tended to be abused for a longer period of time.
- ◆ Abuser's employment status and educational level were associated with the seriousness of abuse; abusers who were employed and those who had more than a high school diploma were more likely to seriously abuse their partners.
- ◆ Women's employment status and educational level were also related to the seriousness of abuse but in different directions; employed women were more likely to be abused seriously while women with higher educational level were less likely to be abused seriously.

In a telephone interview study of a random sample of 262 Chinese immigrant and Chinese American adults (133 men and 129 women) in Los Angeles County, CA (response rate: 20%).<sup>16</sup>

- ◆ 18.1% of respondents (women and men) reported experiencing "minor physical violence" by a spouse or intimate partner during their lifetime, and 8.0% of respondents reported "severe physical violence" during their lifetime.<sup>17</sup> [Note: Gender breakdown was not reported.]
- ◆ 6.8% of respondents (women and men) reported experiencing "minor physical violence" and 1.6% reported experiencing "severe physical violence" by a spouse or intimate partner during the past year. [Note: Gender breakdown was not reported.]
- ◆ More acculturated respondents (as assessed by the researchers) were twice as likely to report partner violence compared to less acculturated counterparts. [Note: The study's author states, "It is possible that traditional cultural values serve as a protective buffer against stressors engendered by immigration" (p. 263). However, higher rates among more acculturated

<sup>12</sup> Dong X & Wang B. Associations of child maltreatment and intimate partner violence with elder abuse in a US Chinese population. *JAMA Internal Medicine*. 2019;179(7):889-896.

<sup>13</sup> Wang B, Dong X. Life course violence: Child maltreatment, IPV, and elder abuse phenotypes in a US Chinese population. *Journal of the American Geriatrics Society*. 2019;67(S3):S486-S492.

<sup>14</sup> Simon MA, Chang ES, Rajan KB, Welch MJ, Dong X. Demographic characteristics of U.S. Chinese older adults in the Greater Chicago area: Assessing the representativeness of the PINE Study. *Journal of Aging and Health*. 2014;26(7):1100-1115.

<sup>15</sup> Kim C, Sung HE. The effects of acculturation on intimate partner violence among Chinese immigrants in New York City. *Journal of Family Violence*. 2016;31(3):325-336.

<sup>16</sup> Yick AG. Predictors of physical spousal/intimate violence in Chinese American families. *Journal of Family Violence*. 2000;15:249-267.

<sup>17</sup> The minor-severe classification is based on the widely used Conflict Tactics Scale, where "minor physical violence" includes throwing something at a partner; pushing, grabbing, or shoving a partner; and slapping a partner; and "severe physical violence" includes kicking, biting, or hitting with a fist; hitting or trying to hit a partner with some object; beating up a partner; threatening a partner with a knife or gun; and using a knife or gun on a partner.

*respondents may be due to their increased willingness to report abuse. Importantly, immigration-related stressors are not necessarily the cause of domestic violence.]*

In a face-to-face interview study with a convenience sample of 1,577 Asians recruited from Asian organizations and gathering places in the greater Houston area, TX (43.6% male, 55.0% female, and 1.4% unknown):<sup>18</sup>

- ◆ 9.7% of 610 Chinese respondents including 70 Taiwanese (male and female) reported having experienced at least one form of intimate partner violence (based on the 8-item Conflict Tactics Scale, ranging from “throwing objects at the respondent” to “using a knife or gun on the respondent”) during the previous year. [*Note: Gender breakdown was not reported.*]

In the 2013 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) in the state of Hawai‘i:

- ◆ 3.6% Chinese respondents (female and male) reported having ever been hit, slapped, pushed, kicked, or hurt in any way by a current or former intimate partner. [*Note: Gender breakdown was not reported.*]<sup>19</sup>
- ◆ 2.1% of Chinese respondents (female and male) reported having ever experienced unwanted sex by a current or former intimate partner. [*Note: Gender breakdown was not reported.*]<sup>20</sup>

### (c) Filipina

The Lifecourse Experiences of Intimate Partner Violence and Help-Seeking Study<sup>21</sup> interviewed 87 abused Filipina women (and 56 Indian and Pakistani women) aged 18-60 recruited via various community outreach methods in the San Francisco Bay Area, CA. While this study was not designed to estimate the prevalence of intimate partner violence,<sup>22</sup> it provided information about Filipina women’s experiences *over their lifecourse*, including:

- ◆ Filipina women who were born in the U.S. or immigrated to the U.S. pre-adolescence (1.5 or higher generations) were more likely to experience intimate partner’s physical and sexual violence (but not stalking) compared to those who were born outside the U.S. and immigrated post-adolescence (first generation).
- ◆ Younger Filipina women, whether they were born in the U.S. or not, were more likely to experience intimate partner’s stalking than older Filipina women.
- ◆ Younger Filipina women were more likely to contact the police, legal services, and domestic violence agencies than their older counterparts.
- ◆ Filipina women were unlikely to seek healthcare for the intimate partner’s violence regardless of their immigration/generational position.<sup>23</sup>
- ◆ An additional analysis found that the probability of experiencing intimate partner’s physical violence increased over the early portion of the lifecourse and then declined.<sup>24</sup>

<sup>18</sup> 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.

<sup>19</sup> Hawai‘i Health Data Warehouse, Hawai‘i State Department of Health, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS). *Experienced physical abuse by a current or former intimate partner, for the State of Hawai‘i, for 2013*. Honolulu, HI: Author; 2015. [http://hhdw.org/wp-content/uploads/BRFSS\\_Intimate\\_Partner\\_IND\\_00002\\_2013.pdf](http://hhdw.org/wp-content/uploads/BRFSS_Intimate_Partner_IND_00002_2013.pdf)

<sup>20</sup> Hawai‘i Health Data Warehouse, Hawai‘i State Department of Health, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS). *Experienced sexual abuse by a current or former intimate partner, for the State of Hawai‘i, for 2013*. Honolulu, HI: Author; 2015. [http://hhdw.org/wp-content/uploads/BRFSS\\_Intimate\\_Partner\\_IND\\_00001\\_2013.pdf](http://hhdw.org/wp-content/uploads/BRFSS_Intimate_Partner_IND_00001_2013.pdf)

<sup>21</sup> 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. <https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/grants/236174.pdf>

<sup>22</sup> Because the study’s inclusion criteria were women aged 18-60 who have experienced an intimate partner’s physical violence, sexual violence and/or stalking, by design, all respondents have experienced some form of partner’s violence.

<sup>23</sup> Yoshihama, M, Bybee, D, & Dabby, C. *Lifecourse trajectories of intimate partner violence and health care seeking among Asian women*. Poster presented at: National Conference on Health & Domestic Violence; 2012 Mar 30; San Francisco, CA.

<sup>24</sup> Yoshihama M, Bybee D. The Life History Calendar method and multilevel modeling: Application to research on intimate partner violence. *Violence Against Women*. 2011;17(3):295-308.

In a face-to-face interview study with a convenience sample of 1,577 Asians recruited from Asian organizations and gathering places in the greater Houston area, TX (43.6% male, 55.0% female, and 1.4% unknown):<sup>25</sup>

- ◆ 21.8% of 101 Filipina respondents (men and women) reported at least one form of intimate partner violence (based on the 8-item Conflict Tactics Scale, ranging from “throwing objects at the respondent” to “using a knife or gun on the respondent”) during the previous year. [Note: Gender breakdown was not reported.]

In the 2013 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) Survey in the state of Hawai'i:

- ◆ 5.9% Filipino respondents (female and male) reported having ever been hit, slapped, pushed, kicked, or hurt in any way by a current or former intimate partner. [Note: Gender breakdown was not reported.]<sup>26</sup>
- ◆ 1.2% of Filipino respondents (female and male) reported having ever experienced unwanted sex by a current or former intimate partner. [Note: Gender breakdown was not reported.]<sup>27</sup>

In a survey of undocumented women conducted by the Immigrant Women's Task Force of the Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights and Services based in San Francisco, CA:<sup>28</sup>

- ◆ 20% of 54 Filipina women reported having experienced some form of intimate partner violence, including physical, emotional, or sexual abuse, either in their country of origin or in the U.S.

#### (d) Hawaiians & Other Populations in Hawai'i

The studies below reported data on people in Hawai'i, a large proportion of whom are of Asian, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander descent.

In the 2013 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) Survey in the state of Hawai'i:

- ◆ Overall, 12.2% of female and 6.8% of male respondents reported having experienced physical abuse by a current or former intimate partner.
- ◆ The following ethnic breakdown was provided: 6.6% of Black, 13.1% of Caucasian, 3.6% of Chinese, 5.9% of Filipino, 6.3% of Japanese, 12.6% of Native Hawaiian, and 14.1% of other Pacific Islander respondents reported physical abuse by a current or former intimate partner. [Note: Gender breakdown within specific ethnic groups was not provided.]<sup>29</sup>
- ◆ 3.6% of respondents (5.1% of Caucasian, 4.4% of Black, 4.7% of Native Hawaiian, 4.1% of other Pacific Islander, 2.8% of Japanese, and 2.1% of Chinese respondents 1.2% of Filipino) reported sexual abuse by a current or former intimate partner. [Note: Gender breakdown was not provided.]<sup>30</sup>

<sup>25</sup> 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.

<sup>26</sup> Hawai'i Health Data Warehouse, Hawai'i State Department of Health, *Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS). Experienced physical abuse by a current or former intimate partner, for the State of Hawai'i, for 2013*. Honolulu, HI: Author; 2015. [http://hhdw.org/wp-content/uploads/BRFSS\\_Intimate\\_Partner\\_IND\\_00002\\_2013.pdf](http://hhdw.org/wp-content/uploads/BRFSS_Intimate_Partner_IND_00002_2013.pdf)

<sup>27</sup> Hawai'i Health Data Warehouse, Hawai'i State Department of Health, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS). *Experienced sexual abuse by a current or former intimate partner, for the State of Hawai'i, for 2013*. Honolulu, HI: Author; 2015. [http://hhdw.org/wp-content/uploads/BRFSS\\_Intimate\\_Partner\\_IND\\_00001\\_2013.pdf](http://hhdw.org/wp-content/uploads/BRFSS_Intimate_Partner_IND_00001_2013.pdf)

<sup>28</sup> Hoagland C, Rosen K. *Dreams lost, dreams found: Undocumented women in the land of opportunity*. San Francisco, CA: Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights and Services, Immigrant Women's Task Force; 1990.

<sup>29</sup> Hawai'i Health Data Warehouse, Hawai'i State Department of Health, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS). *Experienced physical abuse by a current or former intimate partner, for the State of Hawai'i, for 2013*. Honolulu, HI: Author; 2015. [http://hhdw.org/wp-content/uploads/BRFSS\\_Intimate\\_Partner\\_IND\\_00002\\_2013.pdf](http://hhdw.org/wp-content/uploads/BRFSS_Intimate_Partner_IND_00002_2013.pdf)

<sup>30</sup> Hawai'i Health Data Warehouse, Hawai'i State Department of Health, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS). *Experienced sexual abuse by a current or former intimate partner, for the State of Hawai'i, for 2013*. Honolulu, HI: Author; 2015. [http://hhdw.org/wp-content/uploads/BRFSS\\_Intimate\\_Partner\\_IND\\_00001\\_2013.pdf](http://hhdw.org/wp-content/uploads/BRFSS_Intimate_Partner_IND_00001_2013.pdf)

- ◆ 12.6% of Native Hawaiian respondents (female and male) reported having ever been hit, slapped, pushed, kicked, or hurt in any way by a current or former intimate partner. [Note: Gender breakdown was not provided.]<sup>31</sup>
- ◆ 4.7% of Native Hawaiian respondents (female and male) reported having ever experienced unwanted sex by a current or former intimate partner. [Note: Gender breakdown was not provided.]<sup>32</sup>

A retrospective chart review at four community health centers in Hawai'i found that 9% of the 337 records reviewed (31 cases) involved report of intimate partner violence:<sup>33</sup>

- ◆ Of the 31 intimate partner violence cases, 10 (32.3%) were reported by Native Hawaiian women and 5 (16.1%) by Filipina women and Hawaiian/mixed Hawaiian, respectively. Women of other Asian and Pacific Islander backgrounds (e.g., Japanese, Laotian) reported 1-2 cases.

A study conducted in collaboration with community health centers in Hawai'i recruited 10 Native Hawaiian women (aged 27-61); 5 women who had experienced intimate partner violence were interviewed individually, and other 5 women took part in focus groups:<sup>34</sup>

- ◆ Participants described that intimate partner violence “starts in the home” and is learned in the family and in the community.

In a study conducted at a rural Oahu obstetrics-gynecology clinic in 1996:<sup>35</sup>

- ◆ 18% (11 of 60 women patients) indicated that they had been “slapped, punched, kicked, or otherwise physically hurt by an intimate partner” at least once.

In a study of 25 mothers and 25 children recruited from domestic violence programs in Hawai'i:<sup>36</sup>

- ◆ 56% of mothers reported having been subjected to partner's verbal abuse daily, 24% weekly, and 12% monthly. A large majority (72%) rated the intensity of verbal abuse as “extreme” while 20% considered it “severe.”
- ◆ 32% of mothers reported experiencing partner's physical abuse weekly, 28% monthly, and 20% bi-monthly; 80% rated the intensity of physical abuse as “extreme.”

## (e) Hmong

In a study of 42 (33 female and 9 male) Hmong respondents aged 18-64 who had histories of domestic violence, recruited through snowball sampling in St. Paul and Minneapolis, MN:<sup>37</sup>

- ◆ 28.0% of respondents reported that they had been abused by their partner for 0-5 years; 14.3% for 6-10 years, 14.4% for 11-20 years, 12.0% for 21-30 years, and 4.8% for 31-45 years.
- ◆ 26.2% reported having experienced abuse by family members.

<sup>31</sup> Hawai'i Health Data Warehouse, Hawai'i State Department of Health, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS). *Experienced physical abuse by a current or former intimate partner, for the State of Hawai'i, for 2013*. Honolulu, HI: Author; 2015. [http://hhdw.org/wp-content/uploads/BRFSS\\_Intimate\\_Partner\\_IND\\_00002\\_2013.pdf](http://hhdw.org/wp-content/uploads/BRFSS_Intimate_Partner_IND_00002_2013.pdf)

<sup>32</sup> Hawai'i Health Data Warehouse, Hawai'i State Department of Health, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS). *Experienced sexual abuse by a current or former intimate partner, for the State of Hawai'i, for 2013*. Honolulu, HI: Author; 2015. [http://hhdw.org/wp-content/uploads/BRFSS\\_Intimate\\_Partner\\_IND\\_00001\\_2013.pdf](http://hhdw.org/wp-content/uploads/BRFSS_Intimate_Partner_IND_00001_2013.pdf)

<sup>33</sup> Magnussen L, Shoultz J, Oneha MF, et al. Intimate partner violence: A retrospective review of records in primary care settings. *Journal of the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners*. 2004;16(11):502-512.

<sup>34</sup> Oneha MF, Magnussen L, Shoultz J. The voices of Native Hawaiian women: Perceptions, responses and needs regarding intimate partner violence. *Californian Journal of Health Promotion*. 2010;8(1):72-81.

<sup>35</sup> Kubany E, Mckenzie W, Haynes S, Owens J. *Routine clinical use of a protocol for trauma history: PTSD screening in an ob-gyn medical practice*. 1996. Unpublished raw data. Cited in Kubany ES, McKenzie WF, Owens JA, Leisen MB, Kaplan AS, Pavich E. PTSD among women survivors of domestic violence in Hawai'i. *Hawai'i Medical Journal*. 1996;55:164-165.

<sup>36</sup> Chemtob CM, Carlson JG, Perrone P. *Domestic violence in Hawai'i: Impact on mothers and their children*. Honolulu, HI: State of Hawai'i Department of the Attorney General; 2000.

<sup>37</sup> Chang A. *Social factors related to domestic violence among Hmong adults*. Master of Social Work Clinical Research Papers, St. Catherine University School of Social Work. St. Paul, Minnesota; 2015. [https://sophia.stkate.edu/msw\\_papers/428/](https://sophia.stkate.edu/msw_papers/428/)

In an online survey with a random sample of 231 Hmong college students (return rate: 57%) in California's Central Valley, home to the second largest Hmong community in the U.S.:<sup>38</sup>

- ◆ Of the 119 female respondents who answered questions about partner violence, 32.8% reported having experienced some form of violence by a romantic partner.
- ◆ Commonly reported types of violence include: being hit, punched, or kicked (13.4%); had something thrown at or their property destroyed (14.3%); being yelled at, insulted, or called names (23.5%); had e-mails or phone calls checked (17.6%), being isolated from friends and family (15.1%); and being coerced or attempted to be coerced into sexual contact without consent (12.6%).

## (f) Japanese

In a face-to-face interview study of a random sample of 211 of Japanese descent, including immigrant women (first generation) and Japanese American women (second, third, or fourth generations), in Los Angeles County, CA (response rate: 52%):

- ◆ 55% of respondents reported having experienced one or more forms of partner's physical and/or sexual violence sometime during their lifetime.<sup>39</sup> [Note: This estimate is based on a measure that assessed 31 types of physical violence and 3 types of sexual violence, including socio-culturally rooted manifestations of abuse, such as overturning a dining table or throwing liquid at a woman.]
- ◆ The 1999 study used an expanded measure that included 31 items of physical violence (including socio-culturally rooted manifestations of abuse), 11 items of sexual violence, and 21 items of emotional violence. The study proposed two methods for estimating the prevalence of intimate partner violence.<sup>40</sup>
  - The first method, similar to most other studies, assessed whether respondents experienced any form of abuse without taking into consideration their perceived abusiveness. Based on this method, 51.7% reported having experienced partner's physical violence, 29.9%, sexual violence, and 75.8% emotional violence during their lifetime.
  - Another method took into consideration the perceived abusiveness rated by the respondents on a 4-point scale, ranging from 1=not at all abusive to 4=very abusive. Based on this method, 39.8% reported having experienced partner's physical violence, 20.4%, sexual violence, and 50.7% emotional violence that they considered abusive sometime during their lifetime.
  - Overall, 61.1% of respondents reported having ever experienced some form of partner's physical, sexual, or emotional violence that they considered abusive.
- ◆ An additional analysis that took into account the probability that some women who have not been victimized at the time of the interview may be abused at a later date. In this analysis, which used a statistical analysis method called survival analysis (also known as time to event analysis), 57.4% of women are estimated to experience an intimate partner's physical violence by age 49; and 35.2% are estimated to experience an intimate partner's sexual violence by age 49.<sup>41</sup>

<sup>38</sup> Takahashi Y & Lee S. Culture in transition: Awareness and appropriate response to domestic violence among Hmong American college students. *Journal of Ethnicity in Criminal Justice*. 2018;16(2): 156-176.

<sup>39</sup> Yoshihama M, Horrocks J. The relationship between intimate partner violence and PTSD: An application of Cox regression with time-varying covariates. *Journal of Traumatic Stress*. 2003;16(4):371-380.

<sup>40</sup> Yoshihama M. Domestic violence against women of Japanese descent in Los Angeles: Two methods of estimating prevalence. *Violence Against Women*. 1999;5:869-897.

<sup>41</sup> Yoshihama M, Gillespie B. Age adjustment and recall bias in the analysis of domestic violence data: Methodological improvement through the application of survival analysis methods. *Journal of Family Violence*. 2002;17:199-221.

- ◆ Another analysis found no significant generational differences across the first, second, third and fourth generations in the probability of experiencing intimate physical, sexual or emotional violence during their lifetime.<sup>42</sup>

In a face-to-face interview study with a convenience sample of 1,577 Asians recruited from Asian organizations and gathering places in the greater Houston area, TX (43.6% male, 55.0% female, and 1.4% unknown):<sup>43</sup>

- ◆ 9.7% of 72 Japanese respondents (male and female) reported having experienced at least one form of intimate partner violence (based on the 8-item Conflict Tactics Scale, ranging from “throwing objects at the respondent” to “using a knife or gun on the respondent”) during the previous year. [Note: Gender breakdown was not reported.]

In the 2013 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) in the state of Hawai‘i:

- ◆ 6.3% Japanese respondents (female and male) reported having ever been hit, slapped, pushed, kicked, or hurt in any way by a current or former intimate partner. [Note: Gender breakdown was not provided.]<sup>44</sup>
- ◆ 2.8% of Japanese respondents (female and male) reported having ever experienced unwanted sex by a current or former intimate partner. [Note: Gender breakdown was not provided.]<sup>45</sup>

## (g) Korean

As part of the 2006-2007 health survey—telephone interviews with a representative sample of 592 adult Korean women residing in California (70% completion rate), 495 women who have had a partner in the past year answered the questions about partners’ violence:<sup>46</sup>

- ◆ 2.0% of respondents reported having experienced physical assault from an intimate partner, 27.4%, psychological aggression, 17.3%, sexual coercion, and 1.2%, injury during the past year.
- ◆ Younger women (aged 18-39) were more likely to report psychological aggression from an intimate partner in the past year (34.5%) compared to women aged 40-54 (26.3%) and those aged 55 and older (18.3%).
- ◆ Older women (aged 55+) were less likely to report sexual coercion from an intimate partner in the past year (6.7%) compared to women aged 18-39 (19.6%) and those aged 40-54 (20.5%).

In a 1993 telephone interview study of 256 Korean men from randomly selected Korean households in Chicago, IL and in the New York area (especially Queens Borough), NY (response rate not reported):<sup>47</sup>

- ◆ 18.0% of respondents reported having committed at least one form of physical violence against their wives during the past year.
- ◆ 6.3% of respondents reported having committed what the researchers classified as “severe violence” (kicking, biting, hitting with a fist, threatening with a gun or knife, shooting, or stabbing) against their wives during the past year.
- ◆ 33% of “male-dominated relationships” experienced at least one incident of physical violence during the past year, whereas 12% of “egalitarian” relationships did. [Note: Researchers

<sup>42</sup> Yoshihama M, Horrocks J. Posttraumatic stress symptoms and victimization among Japanese American women. *Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology*. 2002;70:205-215.

<sup>43</sup> 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.

<sup>44</sup> Hawai‘i Health Data Warehouse, Hawai‘i State Department of Health, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS). *Experienced physical abuse by a current or former intimate partner, for the State of Hawai‘i, for 2013*. Honolulu, HI: Author; 2015. [http://hhdw.org/wp-content/uploads/BRFSS\\_Intimate\\_Partner\\_IND\\_00002\\_2013.pdf](http://hhdw.org/wp-content/uploads/BRFSS_Intimate_Partner_IND_00002_2013.pdf)

<sup>45</sup> Hawai‘i Health Data Warehouse, Hawai‘i State Department of Health, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS). *Experienced sexual abuse by a current or former intimate partner, for the State of Hawai‘i, for 2013*. Honolulu, HI: Author; 2015. [http://hhdw.org/wp-content/uploads/BRFSS\\_Intimate\\_Partner\\_IND\\_00001\\_2013.pdf](http://hhdw.org/wp-content/uploads/BRFSS_Intimate_Partner_IND_00001_2013.pdf)

<sup>46</sup> Liles et al. Prevalence and correlates of intimate partner violence among young, middle, and older women of Korean descent in California. *Journal of Family Violence*. 2012;27(8):801-811.

<sup>47</sup> Kim JY, Sung K. Conjugal violence in Korean American families: A residue of cultural transition. *Journal of Family Violence*. 2000;15:331-345.

*classified couples into four types of relationships—egalitarian, divided power, male-dominated, and female-dominated—based on the respondents’ answers about how the couple made decisions.]*

- ◆ Nearly 39% of husbands who were categorized as experiencing “high stress” perpetrated physical violence against their wives during the past year whereas one out of 66 husbands categorized as experiencing “low stress” did so. [Note: This correlation does not necessarily mean that stress causes or leads to domestic violence. Many women and non-abusive men are also exposed to high stress but do not resort to domestic violence.]

In a questionnaire study of a convenience sample of 136 first generation Korean women who came to the U.S. after age 16, recruited from places frequented by Korean women (e.g., Korean hair salons and Korean nursery schools) in Austin and Dallas, TX:<sup>48</sup>

- ◆ 29.4% reported having experienced partner’s physical assault, 72.8%, psychological aggression, and 25.0%, injury in the past year.

In a face-to-face interview study with a convenience sample of 1,577 Asians recruited from Asian organizations and gathering places in the greater Houston, TX (43.6% male, 55.0% female, and 1.4% unknown):<sup>49</sup>

- ◆ 19.5% of 123 Korean respondents (males and females) reported having experienced at least one form of intimate partner violence (based on the 8-item Conflict Tactics Scale, ranging from “throwing objects at the respondent” to “using a knife or gun on the respondent”) during the previous year. [Note: Gender breakdown was not reported.]

In a survey of a convenience sample of 214 Korean women and 121 Korean men in the San Francisco Bay Area, CA conducted by Shimtuh, a project serving Korean women in crisis:<sup>50</sup>

- ◆ 41.9% of respondents said they knew of a Korean woman “who has been slapped, hit, kicked, or suffered any physical injury by her husband or boyfriend.”
- ◆ 50.2% of respondents knew of a Korean woman “whose husband or boyfriend insults or humiliates them regularly.”

In a 1986 study of face-to-face interviews with a convenience sample of 150 Korean women living in Chicago, IL:<sup>51</sup>

- ◆ 60% reported having experienced physical abuse, and 22% sexual violence, by an intimate partner at some time in their lifetime.

## (h) Pacific Islander

In the 2013 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) in the state of Hawai’i:

- ◆ 14.1% of Pacific Islander respondents (female and male) reported having ever been hit, slapped, pushed, kicked, or hurt in any way by a current or former intimate partner. [Note: Gender breakdown was not provided.]<sup>52</sup>
- ◆ 4.1% of Pacific Islander respondents (female and male) reported having ever experienced unwanted sex by a current or former intimate partner. [Note: Gender breakdown was not

<sup>48</sup> Lee E. Domestic violence and risk factors among Korean immigrant women in the United States. *Journal of Family Violence*. 2007;22:141-149.

<sup>49</sup> 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.

<sup>50</sup> Shimtuh (Korean Domestic Violence Program). *Korean American community of the Bay Area Domestic violence needs assessment report*. Oakland, CA: Author; 2000.

<sup>51</sup> Song-Kim YI. Battered Korean women in urban United States. In: Furuto SM, Renuka B, Chung DK, Murase K, Ross-Sheriff F, Eds. *Social Work Practice with Asian Americans*. Newbury Park, CA: Sage; 1992:213-226.

<sup>52</sup> Hawai’i Health Data Warehouse, Hawai’i State Department of Health, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS). *Experienced physical abuse by a current or former intimate partner, for the State of Hawai’i, for 2013*. Honolulu, HI: Author; 2015. [http://hhdw.org/wp-content/uploads/BRFSS\\_Intimate\\_Partner\\_IND\\_00002\\_2013.pdf](http://hhdw.org/wp-content/uploads/BRFSS_Intimate_Partner_IND_00002_2013.pdf)

provided.]<sup>53</sup>

In a study conducted at an O'ahu community clinic, focus groups were conducted with 7 Chuukese women (aged 28-58) who had recently migrated to Hawai'i from Chuuk, one of the four states of the Federated States of Micronesia:<sup>54</sup>

- ◆ Participants were aware that intimate partner violence happened in their cultural group.
- ◆ Participants spoke of a cultural norm that placed responsibility of maintaining family peace on women; they stated that women are expected to tolerate the abuse in silence.

According to unpublished raw data from the Guam Police Department, there were 1,035 cases of family violence in Guam involving 1,172 victims in 2006:<sup>55</sup>

- ◆ 77% of victims were female.
- ◆ 82% of cases involved threat or use of violence, 21% involved sexual assault, and 9% involved stalking or harassment.
- ◆ 14% of victims required medical attention.

The first Samoa Family Health and Safety Study (SFHSS), collaboratively conducted by the Secretariat of the Pacific Community and the United Nations Population Fund, interviewed a representative sample of 1,646 women and 664 men aged 15-49 (response rate: 82.5% for women, 83.0% for men), using the measures developed for the World Health Organization Multi-Country Study on Women's Health and Domestic Violence. An analysis of the 1,212 women and 386 men who were ever in a relationship (ever-partnered women and men, hereinafter) found:<sup>56</sup>

- ◆ 46.4% of ever-partnered women have experienced some form of partner abuse: 37.6% reported physical abuse, 18.6% emotional abuse, and 19.6%, sexual abuse.
- ◆ 29.5% of women who have been physically abused reported having ever been injured, and 15.3% during the previous year.
- ◆ Among women currently using contraception, a significantly larger proportion of ever abused women (14.7%) indicated that their partner had opposed to contraceptive use compared to those who have never been abused by their partner (5.3%).
- ◆ The study also assessed perpetration of abuse by male respondents: 18% of the ever-partnered men reported having perpetrated physical abuse toward their partners, and 45% reported having perpetrated emotional abuse toward their partners, with 12% reporting perpetration of both physical and emotional abuse toward their partners.
- ◆ None of the ever-partnered men reported having sexually abused their partners. [Note: *The report's authors state that "It is possible that men were embarrassed to admit to having forced sex upon their partners; the discrepancy may also reflect differing perspectives of the issue of abuse" (p. 89).*]

The Cook Islands Family Health and Safety Study used the version 10 of the World Health Organization Multi-Country Study on Women's Health and Domestic Violence questionnaire and interviewed a representative sample of 919 women aged 15-64 (response rate: 98.7%):<sup>57</sup>

- ◆ 33% of ever-partnered women reported physical and/or sexual violence by an intimate partner

<sup>53</sup> Hawai'i Health Data Warehouse, Hawai'i State Department of Health, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS). *Experienced sexual abuse by a current or former intimate partner, for the State of Hawai'i, for 2013*. Honolulu, HI: Author; 2015. [http://hhdw.org/wp-content/uploads/BRFSS\\_Intimate\\_Partner\\_IND\\_00001\\_2013.pdf](http://hhdw.org/wp-content/uploads/BRFSS_Intimate_Partner_IND_00001_2013.pdf)

<sup>54</sup> Shoultz J, Magnussen L, Hansen K, Selifis SM, Ifenuk M. Intimate partner violence: Perceptions of Chuukese women. *Hawaii Medical Journal*. 2007;66(10):268-271.

<sup>55</sup> Guam Police Department. *Family violence incidents* (Unpublished raw data) 2006, cited in University of Guam Violence Against Women Prevention Program. <https://www.uog.edu/schools-and-colleges/college-of-liberal-arts-and-social-sciences/vawpp/domestic-and-dating-violence>.

<sup>56</sup> Secretariat of the Pacific Community, United Nations Population Fund. *The Samoa Family Health and Safety Study*. Noumea, New Caledonia: Secretariat of the Pacific Community 2006. <https://pacific.unfpa.org/sites/default/files/pub-pdf/SamoaFamilyHealthandSafetyStudy.pdf>

<sup>57</sup> Cook Islands Ministry of Health, Cook Islands National Council of Women, United Nations Population Fund. *Te ata o te ngakau: Shadows of the heart - The Cook Islands Family Health and Safety Study*. Rarotonga, Cook Islands: Cook Islands Ministry of Health; 2014.

<https://pacific.unfpa.org/sites/default/files/pub-pdf/CIFHSSReportweb.pdf>

sometimes in their lifetime, and 9.1% sometime during the previous year.

- ◆ 30.2% of ever-partnered women experienced partner's physical violence in their lifetime, and 6.7%, during the previous year.
- ◆ Nearly half (46.7%) of the physically abused women reported having been injured at least once as a result of the partner's violence.
- ◆ 7.8% of women who have ever been pregnant reported experiencing partner's physical violence during pregnancy.
- ◆ 13.1% of ever-partnered women experienced partner's sexual violence sometime during their lifetime, and 4.6% during the previous year.

In the 2007 Tuvalu Demographic and Health Survey of a representative sample of 851 women aged 15-49 and 558 men aged 15 and older:<sup>58</sup>

- ◆ 33.3% of women reported having experienced partner's physical violence, 10.0% sexual violence, and 28.1% emotional violence during their lifetime.

### (i) South Asian<sup>59</sup>

In a study of a convenience sample of 215 South Asian women (aged 20-65) recruited via community outreach in San Francisco, CA; Chicago, IL; New York, NY; and Huston, Austin, and Dallas, TX:<sup>60</sup>

- ◆ 38% of participants reported experiencing one or more forms of abuse by an intimate partner in the past year: 10.2% reported physical abuse; 35.8%, psychological abuse; and 12.6%, sexual abuse.
- ◆ 9 respondents (11% of those reporting some type of partner's abuse in the past year) reported having been injured.

The Lifecourse Experiences of Intimate Partner Violence and Help-Seeking Study<sup>61</sup> interviewed 56 abused Indian and Pakistani women (and 87 Filipina women) aged 18-60 recruited via various community outreach methods in the San Francisco Bay Area, CA. While this study was not designed to estimate the prevalence of intimate partner violence,<sup>62</sup> it provided information about Indian and Pakistani women's experiences *over their lifecourse*, including:

- ◆ Indian and Pakistani women who were born in the U.S. or immigrated to the U.S. pre-adolescence (1.5+ generations) were more likely to experience all three forms of intimate partner violence—physical violence, sexual assault, and stalking—compared to those born outside the U.S. and immigrated post-adolescence (first generation).
- ◆ Younger Indian and Pakistani women were more likely to experience stalking by intimate partners compared to their older counterparts.
- ◆ In general, younger women were more likely to contact outside agencies, such as the police, legal services, and domestic violence programs.
- ◆ The likelihood of contacting the police, legal services, or domestic violence programs did not vary significantly between the first generation and the 1.5+ generations.
- ◆ 1.5 generation women and those born in the U.S. were more likely to seek healthcare compared

<sup>58</sup> Central Statistical Division (TCSD), The Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC), Marco International Inc. *Tuvalu Demographic and Health Survey 2007*. Naumea, New Caledonia: Secretariat of the Pacific Community; 2009, October. <https://pacific-data.sprep.org/dataset/tuvalu-demographic-and-health-survey-dhs-report-2007>.

<sup>59</sup> Refers to those who trace their origins to the countries or diasporas of Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, Pakistan or Sri Lanka.

<sup>60</sup> Mahapatra N. South Asian women in the U.S. and their experience of domestic violence. *Journal of Family Violence*. 2012;27:381-390.

<sup>61</sup> Yoshihama M, Bybee D, Dabby C, Blazeovski 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. <https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/grants/236174.pdf>

<sup>62</sup> Because the study's inclusion criteria were women aged 18-60 who have experienced an intimate partner's physical violence, sexual violence and/or stalking, by design, all respondents have experienced some form of partner's violence.

to their first generation counterparts.<sup>63</sup>

In a study of a convenience sample of 116 South Asian women aged 20-64 recruited from a medical clinic and two community centers located in predominantly South Asian neighborhoods in Chicago, IL:<sup>64</sup>

- ◆ 27 women (23.3%) reported having experienced physical violence, and 33 women (28.4%), non-physical abuse

In a web-based survey with a convenience sample of 535 South Asian women aged 18-49 currently living in the U.S.:<sup>65</sup>

- ◆ 163 women (30.5%) reported having experienced some form of intimate partner's physical and/or sexual violence since the age of 18.

In a study of a convenience sample of 160 South Asian women who were married or in a heterosexual relationship, recruited through community outreach such as flyers, snowball sampling, and referrals in Greater Boston, MA:<sup>66</sup>

- ◆ 40.8% reported ever experiencing physical or sexual abuse by their current male partners; 36.9% reported experiencing some form of partner's violence in the past year.
- ◆ 30.4% reported having experienced partners' physical abuse, and 18.8%, sexual abuse; 65.2% of the women reporting physical abuse also reported sexual abuse during their lifetime.
- ◆ 15.8% reported injury or the need for medical services as a consequence of a partner's violence.
- ◆ No significant difference was found in the report of intimate partner violence between arranged marriages and non-arranged marriages. [*Note: Arranged marriages refer to the practice of parents selecting a spouse for their adult child.*]
- ◆ An additional analysis found that, although not statistically significant, women not born in the U.S. were 3.5 times as likely to report partner's physical violence and 4 times as likely to report injury related to partner's violence.<sup>67</sup>

In a study of a convenience sample of 208 South Asian women recruited through community outreach in the Greater Boston area, MA:<sup>68</sup>

- ◆ 21.2% reported having ever experienced physical and/or sexual abuse at the hands of their intimate partner; 14.9% reported such experience during the previous year.

In a face-to-face interview study with a convenience sample of 1,577 Asians recruited from Asian organizations and gathering places in the greater Houston, TX (43.6% male, 55.0% female, and 1.4% unknown):<sup>69</sup>

- ◆ 19.5% of 154 Indian respondents (male and female) reported having experienced at least one form of intimate partner violence based on the 8-item Conflict Tactics Scale, ranging from "throwing objects at the respondent" to "using a knife or gun on the respondent") during the previous year. [*Note: Gender breakdown was not reported.*]

<sup>63</sup> Yoshihama, M, Bybee, D, & Dabby, C. *Lifecourse trajectories of intimate partner violence and health care seeking among Asian women*. Poster presented at: National Conference on Health & Domestic Violence; 2012 Mar 30; San Francisco, CA.

<sup>64</sup> Soglin LF, Ragavan MI, Li JC, Soglin DF. A validated screening instrument for identifying intimate partner violence in South Asian immigrant women. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*. 2019;0886260518822344.

<sup>65</sup> Nitasha Chaudhary N, Vyas AN, McDonnell KA, DiPietro L. Understanding health, violence, and acculturation among South Asian women in the US. *Journal of Community Health*. 2018;43(3):543-551.

<sup>66</sup> Raj A, Silverman J. Intimate partner violence amongst South Asian women in Greater Boston. *Journal of the American Medical Women's Association*. 2002;57:111-114.

<sup>67</sup> Raj A, Silverman JG. Immigrant South Asian women at greater risk for injury from intimate partner violence. *American Journal of Public Health*. 2003;93(3):435-437.

<sup>68</sup> Hurwitz EJH, Gupta J, Liu R, Silverman JG, Raj A. Intimate partner violence associated with poor health outcomes in U.S. South Asian women. *Journal of Immigrant and Minority Health*. 2006;8:251-261.

<sup>69</sup> 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 study of Nepali women in New York City, NY 45 out of 60 women recruited by a female community leader, responded to a questionnaire:<sup>70</sup>

- ◆ 35.6% reported some form of physical violence by a partner; 15.6% reported having been physically injured and needed to seek medical services.
- ◆ The majority of respondents (75.6%) reported partner's emotional/psychological abuse; 35.5% said that their partner had threaten to deport them.
- ◆ Respondents reported various form of restrictions on their mobility imposed by their partners, such as having to seek partner's permission to go to friends' or relatives' house and being restricted from going to work or school.

## (j) Vietnamese

In a paper-and-pencil questionnaire survey of a convenience sample of 200 Vietnamese men recruited from Vietnamese churches, temples, and social and civic organizations in the Dallas/Fort Worth area, TX:<sup>71</sup>

- ◆ 31.0% reported having perpetrated at least one physically abusive act against their partner during the previous year.
- ◆ Men who were younger, with less education, or with reported attitudes that “supported use of partner abuse in certain situations” were more likely to report having perpetrated physical abuse against their partners in the past year. However, neither alcohol consumption frequencies nor alcoholism levels (as measured by the Michigan Alcohol Screening Test, MAST) was associated with the likelihood of physical abuse perpetration.

In a face-to-face interview study with a convenience sample of 1,577 Asians recruited from Asian organizations and gathering places in the greater Houston area, TX (43.6% male, 55.0% female, and 1.4% unknown):<sup>72</sup>

- ◆ 22.4% of 517 Vietnamese respondents (male and female) reported having experienced at least one form of intimate partner violence (based on the 8-item Conflict Tactics Scale, ranging from “throwing objects at the respondent” to “using a knife or gun on the respondent”) during the previous year. [Note: Gender breakdown was not reported.]

In a study of a convenience sample of 30 Vietnamese women recruited from a civic association serving Vietnamese women in Boston, MA:<sup>73</sup>

- ◆ 47% reported having experienced physical violence by an intimate partner at some time in their lifetime, and 30%, during the previous year.

## (k) Violence Against Young Women

As part of a clinical screening for a group therapy study, a computer assisted self-interview was conducted with a convenience sample of 173 Chinese, Korean, and Vietnamese women, who were 1.5 and 2nd generation, aged 18-35 and unmarried, recruited via various community outreach approaches in Greater Boston, MA:<sup>74</sup>

- ◆ 15.3% reported experiencing physical assault from an intimate partner in the last six months.

<sup>70</sup> Thapa-Oli S, Dulal HB, Baba Y. A Preliminary study of intimate partner violence among Nepali women in the United States. *Violence Against Women*. 2009;15(2):206-223.

<sup>71</sup> Nguyen TD, Yoshioka M. Alcoholism level differences between Vietnamese batterers and non-batterers. *Journal of Family Violence*. 2007;21:401-406.

<sup>72</sup> 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.

<sup>73</sup> Tran CG; *Domestic violence among Vietnamese refugee women: Prevalence, abuse characteristics, psychiatric symptoms, and psychosocial factors*. Unpublished doctoral dissertation, Boston University, Boston, MA; 1997.

<sup>74</sup> Maru M, Saraiya T, Lee CS, Meghani O, Hien D, Hahn HC. The relationship between intimate partner violence and suicidal ideation among young Chinese, Korean, and Vietnamese American women. *Women & Therapy*. 2018;41(3-4):339-355.

- ◆ 4.3% reported suffering an injury and/or physical pain due to intimate partner violence in the last six months.
- ◆ 40.4% reported experiencing sexual coercion from an intimate partner in the last six months.
- ◆ 63.8% reported experiencing at least one type of psychological aggression (including being insulted or sworn at, being called fat or ugly, having a belonging destroyed, and threats of violence) from an intimate partner in the last six months.

The National Asian Women’s Health Organization (NAWHO) conducted telephone interviews with a random sample of 336 Asian American women aged 18–34 residing in the San Francisco and Los Angeles areas, CA.<sup>75</sup>

- ◆ 19% of respondents reported having experienced “pressure to have sex without their consent by an intimate partner” since age 18, and 44% of them (or 8% of the total sample) reported experiencing completed rape.
- ◆ 12% reported that an intimate partner “had hurt or had attempted to hurt them by means of hitting, kicking, slapping, shoving, object throwing, or threatening their lives with weapons.”

In a paper-and-pencil questionnaire survey of a purposive sample of Filipino college students:<sup>76</sup>

- ◆ 31.4% of female respondents reported that they had experienced “physical violence such as being hit, pushed, grabbed, etc.” by an intimate partner since they started dating.

In a study conducted at three public high schools in Hawai’i, 339 students completed an individual face-to-face interview (response rate: 37.3%). Of the 247 who have ever dated or gone out with someone and indicated their ethnic background as Filipino, Japanese, Hawaiian, or Samoan:<sup>77</sup>

- ◆ 58.3% (57.1% female and 60.0% male) reported some form of dating victimization; ethnic breakdown was: 67.5% for Filipino (67.9% female, 66.7% male), 36.8% for Japanese (18.2% female 62.5% male), 60.3% for Samoan (55.9% female, 65.5% male), and 52.4% for Hawaiian (55.1% female, 48.5% male).

In a secondary analysis of the data from the World Health Organization Multi-Country Study on Women’s Health and Domestic Violence:<sup>78</sup>

- ◆ 47.5% of 181 young women in Samoa aged 15-24 who had ever been in intimate relationship reported some form of physical and/or sexual violence by an intimate partner some time in their life, and 33.5%, during the previous 12 months.

In an online survey with a random sample of 231 Hmong college students (return rate: 57%) in California’s Central Valley, home to the second largest Hmong community in the U.S.:<sup>79</sup>

- ◆ Of the 119 female respondents who answered questions about partner violence, 32.8% reported having experienced some form of violence by a romantic partner.
- ◆ Commonly reported types of violence include: being hit, punched, or kicked (13.4%); had something thrown at or their property destroyed (14.3%); being yelled at, insulted, or called names (23.5%); had e-mails or phone calls checked (17.6%), being isolated from friends and family (15.1%); and being coerced or attempted to be coerced into sexual contact without consent (12.6%).

<sup>75</sup> National Asian Women’s Health Organization. *Silence, not an option!* San Francisco, CA: Author; 2002.

<sup>76</sup> Agbayani-Siewert P, Flanagan AY. Filipino American dating violence: Definitions, contextual justifications, and experiences of dating violence. *Journal of Human Behavior in the Social Environment*. 2001;3:115-133.

<sup>77</sup> Choi-Misailidis S, Hishinuma ES, Nishimura ST, Chesney-Lind M. Dating violence victimization among Asian American and Pacific Islander youth in Hawai’i. *Journal of Emotional Abuse*. 2008;8(4):403-422.

<sup>78</sup> Stöckl H, March L, Pallitto C, Garcia-Moreno C. Intimate partner violence among adolescents and young women: prevalence and associated factors in nine countries: A cross-sectional study. *BMC Public Health*. 2014;14(1):751. doi: 10.1186/1471-2458-14-751

<sup>79</sup> Takahashi Y & Lee S. Culture in transition: Awareness and appropriate response to domestic violence among Hmong American college students. *Journal of Ethnicity in Criminal Justice*. 2018;16(2): 156-176.

## (I) Violence Against Male Partner

Data on intimate partner violence against Asian and Pacific Islander men are currently limited and come mostly from national surveys in which Asian and Pacific Islander men are aggregated into one group. Care should be exercised in understanding the data: male victims may be straight or gay; women may not be primary aggressors, but rather defending themselves and/or their children or using retaliatory violence. In general, women are disproportionately affected by intimate partner violence, including sexual violence by intimate partners, coercive control, and/or attempted or completed domestic violence related homicides. A greater proportion (81%) of women who experienced rape, stalking or physical violence by an intimate partner reported significant short- or long-term impacts, such as posttraumatic stress disorder symptoms and injury compared to 35% of men who report such impacts.<sup>80</sup>

In the CDC's 2010 National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey (NISVS), telephone interviews were conducted with a nationally representative random sample of 18,049 non-institutionalized English and/or Spanish speaking adults, 9,970 women and 8,079 men (response rate: 27.5-33.6%); 4.7% of the sample was of Asian or Pacific Islander descent.<sup>81</sup>

- ◆ 8.4% of Asian or Pacific Islander men reported having experienced physical violence by an intimate partner sometime during their lifetime. Estimated prevalence rates for other groups were: 45.3% for American Indians or Alaska Native men, 36.8% for Black men, 26.5% for Hispanic men, 38.8% for multiracial men, and 28.1% for White men. *[Note: The rates for stalking and rape among Asian or Pacific Islander men were not reported due to a small number of cases.]*

In the National Latino and Asian American Study (NLAAS), face-to-face interviews were conducted with a nationally representative household sample of Latinos and Asians in the U.S. (2,095 Asian and 2,554 Latino/a) (Response rates: 65.6% for the Asian sample and 75.5% for the Latino/a). An analysis of the 1,470 NLAAS respondents who were of Asian descent and married or living with a partner at the time of the interview found:<sup>82</sup>

- ◆ 12.0% of Asian men reported having experienced “minor violence” (defined by the researchers to include: pushing, grabbing or shoving, throwing something, slapping or hitting), and 2.6% “severe violence” (defined by researchers to include: kicking, biting or hitting with a fist, beating up, choking, burning or scalding, or threatening with a knife or a gun) at the hands of an intimate partner during the course of the relationship.

In the 2005 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) survey (annual, state-based random-digit-dialing telephone survey of the non-institutionalized U.S. civilian population aged 18 and older) assessed physical or sexual violence by a current or former intimate partner in 16 states and two territories:<sup>83</sup>

- ◆ 8.1% of Asian men reported having ever experienced at least one type of physical or sexual violence (threatened, attempted, or completed physical violence or unwanted sex) by a current or former intimate partner. *[Note: The estimate for Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander men was not reported due to a small number of cases.]*

<sup>80</sup> Black M, Basille K, Breiding M, Smith S, Walters M, Merick M, Chen J, Stevens M. *The National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey: 2010 summary report*. Washington, DC: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; 2010. <https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/datasources/nisvs/summaryreports.html>

<sup>81</sup> Black M, Basille K, Breiding M, Smith S, Walters M, Merick M, Chen J, Stevens M. *The National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey: 2010 summary report*. Washington, DC: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; 2010. <https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/datasources/nisvs/summaryreports.html>

<sup>82</sup> Chang DF, Shen B-J, Takeuchi DT. Prevalence and demographic correlates of intimate partner violence in Asian Americans. *International Journal of Law and Psychiatry*. 2009;32(3):167-175. The analysis focused on heterosexual relationships.

<sup>83</sup> Black MC, Breiding MJ. Adverse health conditions and health risk behaviors associated with intimate partner violence—United States, 2005. *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*. 2008;57:113-118.

The first Samoa Family Health and Safety Study (SFHSS), collaboratively conducted by the Secretariat of the Pacific Community and the United Nations Population Fund, interviewed a representative sample of 1,646 women and 664 men aged 15-49 (response rate: 82.5% for women, 83.0% for men), using the measures developed for the World Health Organization Multi-Country Study on Women's Health and Domestic Violence. An analysis of the 386 men who were ever in a relationship (ever-partnered women and men, hereinafter) found:<sup>84</sup>

- ◆ 2% of ever-partnered men reported having experienced partner's physical abuse, 45%, emotional abuse, and 3%, sexual abuse during their lifetime. Of the eight men who reported experiencing partner's physical abuse, five indicated having physically abused their partners. [Note: As reported in **(h) Pacific Islander** above, 37.6% of ever-partnered women reported having experienced partner's physical abuse, 18.6%, emotional abuse, and 19.6%, sexual abuse during their lifetime. The report's authors indicate that the perceptions of what constitutes emotional abuse differ significantly between men and women" (p. 89).]

According to the caller demographics collected by the National Domestic Violence Hotline, a 24-hour, confidential, toll-free hotline that provides support, information, referrals, safety planning, and crisis intervention:

- ◆ 5% of Asian callers were male victims in Calendar Year 2011, and 6% in 2012.<sup>86</sup>

In a face-to-face interview study with a convenience sample of 1,577 Asians recruited from Asian organizations and gathering places in the greater Houston area, TX (43.6% male, 55.0% female, and 1.4% unknown):<sup>87</sup>

- ◆ 17.6% of male respondents reported having experienced at least one form of intimate partner violence (based on the 8-item Conflict Tactics Scale, ranging from "throwing objects at the respondent" to "using a knife or gun on the respondent") during the previous year. [Note: 15.3% of female respondents reported having experienced intimate partner's violence.]

In a 1993 telephone interview study of 256 Korean men from randomly selected Korean households in Chicago, IL and in the New York area (especially Queens Borough), NY (response rate not reported):<sup>88</sup>

- ◆ 8.2% of respondents reported having experienced their wife's physical violence during the past year, with 0.8% reporting what the researchers categorized as "severe violence" (kicking, biting, hitting with a fist, threatening with a gun or knife, shooting, or stabbing) in the past year.

### 3. TYPES OF ABUSE

In this section, we focus on several types of abuse and do not attempt to present data on the entire range of physical, sexual and emotional abuse, including coercive control.

#### (a) General Trends

Caller Demographics collected by the National Domestic Violence Hotline provide a snap shot of trends of intimate partner violence Asian women are experiencing:

- ◆ Of the Asian victims, 95% reported emotional/verbal abuse, 77%, physical abuse, 34%, economic abuse, 6%, sexual abuse; and 6%, stalking during Calendar Year 2011.<sup>89</sup>
- ◆ Similar trends were reported in Calendar Year 2012: 96% of Asian victims reported

<sup>84</sup> Secretariat of the Pacific Community, United Nations Population Fund. *The Samoa Family Health and Safety Study*. Noumea, New Caledonia: Secretariat of the Pacific Community 2006. <https://pacific.unfpa.org/sites/default/files/pub-pdf/SamoaFamilyHealthandSafetyStudy.pdf>

<sup>85</sup> National Domestic Violence Hotline. *Caller demographics: Breakdown by ethnicity CY2011*. Austin, TX: Author; 2012.

<sup>86</sup> National Domestic Violence Hotline. *Caller demographics: Breakdown by ethnicity CY2012*. Austin, TX: Author; 2013.

<sup>87</sup> 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.

<sup>88</sup> Kim JY, Sung K. Conjugal violence in Korean American families: A residue of cultural transition. *Journal of Family Violence*. 2000;15:331-345.

<sup>89</sup> National Domestic Violence Hotline. *Caller demographics: Breakdown by ethnicity CY2011*. Austin, TX: Author; 2012.

emotional/verbal abuse, 69%, physical abuse, 35%, economic abuse, 7%, sexual abuse, and 6%, stalking.<sup>90</sup>

- ◆ 1% of Asian callers reported elder abuse, in both Calendar Years 2011 and 2012.

## (b) Abuse by In-Laws

In a study of a convenient sample of 210 South Asian women recruited via community outreach, 169 women who were married at the time answered the question about abuse by in-laws:<sup>91</sup>

- ◆ 5.9% of participants reported having experienced emotional abuse by in-laws (e.g., being sworn at, called stupid or crazy, kept from seeing family or friends).
- ◆ The proportion of women reporting emotional abuse by in-laws was significantly higher among those who reported partners' violence in their current relationship (15.4%) than those who did not report such violence (3.1%).

In a telephone interview survey of a random sample of Gujarati adults aged 18-64 in the Greater Detroit Area, MI (response rate: 64.6%):<sup>92</sup>

- ◆ 6.6% of female respondents reported that their in-laws had called them names during the previous 6 months.

As part of the 2010 National Non-Residential Domestic Violence Services and Supports Study,<sup>93</sup> 1,467 respondents from 90 domestic violence programs participated in surveys and focus groups; 7% of respondents were Asian/Asian American:

- ◆ 13% of Asians/Asian American respondents identified in-laws as the persons committing the abuse for which they sought help from a domestic violence program. This proportion is higher than those found for other groups: 4% for Hispanics/Latinos, 3% for Whites, and 1% for African Americans/Blacks.

Project AWARE (Asian Women Advocating Respect and Empowerment) in Washington, DC conducted an anonymous survey with a convenience sample of 178 Asian women recruited through a snowball method:<sup>94</sup>

- ◆ 28.5% of participants knew of a woman who was being abused by her in-laws.

In another study conducted by Project AWARE (Asian Women Advocating Respect and Empowerment), 21 women were surveyed and 9 were interviewed in Washington, DC, Maryland, and Virginia; participants' countries of origin included China, India, Iraq, Japan, Pakistan, the Philippines, Thailand, the U.S., and Vietnam.<sup>95</sup>

- ◆ 35% of participants reported that they knew of a woman who is being abused by her in-laws.
- ◆ Over half of participants believed that abuse of women by in-laws is "somewhat" to "very" common for Asian women.

<sup>90</sup> National Domestic Violence Hotline. Caller demographics: *Breakdown by ethnicity CY2012*. Austin, TX: Author; 2013.

<sup>91</sup> Raj A, Livramento KN, Santana CM, Gupta J, Silverman JG. Victims of intimate partner violence more likely to report abuse from in-laws. *Violence Against Women*. 2006;12:936-949.

<sup>92</sup> Yoshihama M. The Shanti Project, baseline community-wide survey. Unpublished raw data.

<sup>93</sup> Lyon E, Bradshaw J, Menard A. *Meeting survivors needs through non-residential domestic violence services and supports: Results of a multi-state study*. Washington, DC: National Institute of Justice; 2011. <https://nij.ojp.gov/library/publications/meeting-survivors-needs-through-non-residential-domestic-violence-services-and>

<sup>94</sup> McDonnell KA, Abdulla SE. *Project AWARE: Research Project*. Washington, DC: Asian/Pacific Islander Domestic Violence Resource Project; 2001. <https://dvrp.org/project-aware/>

<sup>95</sup> Asian/Pacific Islander Domestic Violence Resource Project. *Project AWARE fact sheet*. Washington, DC: Asian/Pacific Islander Domestic Violence Resource Project; n.d. <https://dvrp.org/project-aware/>

In a focus group study of 43 Cambodian women recruited from an organization serving refugees and via community outreach in the Seattle area, WA:<sup>96</sup>

- ◆ Participants reported “oppression” by mothers-in-law, fathers-in-law, and other older family members, as well as daughter-in-law.

As part of a community-based participatory study conducted at four community health centers in Hawai’i, 8 Samoan women (aged 24-63) participated in focus groups:<sup>97</sup>

- ◆ Participants reported that family members, such as the husband’s mother and sisters, sometimes contribute to the abuse.

## (c) Stalking

The Lifecourse Experiences of Intimate Partner Violence and Help-Seeking Study<sup>98</sup> interviewed 87 Filipina women and 56 Indian and Pakistani women aged 18-60 recruited via community outreach in the San Francisco Bay Area, CA. While this study was not designed to estimate the prevalence of intimate partner violence,<sup>99</sup> it provided information about Filipina, Indian and Pakistani women’s experiences over their lifecourse:

- ◆ 67.8% of Filipina and 75.0% of Indian and Pakistani women reported having experienced stalking by an intimate partner sometime before the interview.
- ◆ Stalking often took place during the relationship, not limited to the period of separation or post-relationship.
- ◆ For some, experience of intimate partner’s stalking began during teen years: 8.0% of Filipina and 7.1% of Indian and Pakistani women experienced stalking by an intimate partner at or before age 16.
- ◆ Experiencing intimate partner’s stalking was associated with help-seeking for Filipina, Indian and Pakistani women. They were more likely to contact the police, seek legal assistance, or use a domestic violence program in the year in which they experienced intimate partner’s stalking.
- ◆ An additional analysis found that experiencing intimate partner’s stalking was also associated with seeking healthcare for Filipina, Indian and Pakistani women in the year in which they experienced intimate partner’s stalking.<sup>100</sup>

The Minnesota Asian Women’s Health Survey, commissioned by the Minnesota State Legislature and led by the Minnesota Department of Health, used a written survey with a representative sample (response rate: 4%) and a convenience sample (response rate: 37%). A total of 425 women of Chinese, Hmong, Indian, Japanese, Karen, Nepalese, Vietnamese, and other backgrounds completed the survey.<sup>101</sup>

- ◆ 12% of women who responded to the stalking questions reported some of the following types of stalking during the past year, and 24%, during their lifetime: receiving unwanted phone calls or messages; receiving unwanted letters, emails, or texts; having been secretly followed or watched; having had someone waiting for them or show up at home, work, or other places;

<sup>96</sup> Bhuyan R, Mell M, Senturia K, Sullivan M, Shiu-Thornton S. "Women must endure according to their karma": Cambodian immigrant women talk about domestic violence. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*. 2005;20(8):902-921.

<sup>97</sup> Magnussen L, Shoultz J, Hansen K, Sapolu M, Samifua M. Intimate partner violence: Perceptions of Samoan women. *Journal of Community Health*. 2008;33(6):389-394.

<sup>98</sup> 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. <https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/grants/236174.pdf>

<sup>99</sup> Because the study’s inclusion criteria were women aged 18-60 who have experienced an intimate partner’s physical violence, sexual violence and/or stalking, by design, all respondents have experienced some form of partner’s violence.

<sup>100</sup> Yoshihama, M, Bybee, D, & Dabby, C. *Lifecourse trajectories of intimate partner violence and health care seeking among Asian women*. Poster presented at: National Conference on Health & Domestic Violence; 2012 Mar 30; San Francisco, CA.

<sup>101</sup> Rainbow Research, on behalf of the Working Group on Violence Against Women and Children. *A report on violence against Asian women and children in Minnesota*. St. Paul, MN: Minnesota Department of Health; 2016.

<https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/equity/reports/violence/index.html>. The survey was printed in English with instructions to call if translation was needed in six additional languages (i.e., Cambodian, Hindi, Hmong, Karen, Lao, and Vietnamese).

having had someone post offensive comments about them on the internet; and having intimate/private photos or videos shared electronically (via internet or mobile phone).

The National Asian Women’s Health Organization (NAWHO) conducted telephone interviews with a random sample of 336 Asian American women aged 18–34 residing in the San Francisco and Los Angeles areas, CA.<sup>102</sup>

- ◆ 14% reported that “[someone] had ever repeatedly followed or spied on them, appeared at unexpected locations, and/or had stood outside their home, school, or place of work.”

#### (d) Socio-culturally Rooted Manifestations of Abuse

A face-to-face interview study of a random sample of 211 Japanese women (immigrant and U.S.-born) in Los Angeles County, CA<sup>103</sup> included questions pertaining to socio-culturally rooted manifestations of domestic violence, which had been found in previous studies in Japan.<sup>104</sup>

- ◆ Women of Japanese descent in the U.S. reported having experienced some forms of socio-culturally rooted violence such as throwing liquid, overturning a dining table, and forced sexual intercourse despite women’s concerns about other people nearby.
- ◆ An additional analysis found that the use of a more socio-culturally inclusive measure resulted in an 18% increase in the reported rate of intimate partner’s physical violence (51.7%), compared to the rate obtained using the Conflict Tactics Scale (CTS), a widely used measure (33.6%). This finding underscores the importance of paying attention to the socio-cultural variations in manifestations of domestic violence.<sup>105</sup>

In an online survey of a convenience sample of 62 individuals (45 female and 17 male) recruited through email, social media websites, and popular online Hmong discussion forums:<sup>106</sup>

- ◆ 65% of participants either strongly agreed or agreed with the statement, “The Hmong culture plays a big role in domestic violence against women.”

As part of a community-based participatory study conducted at four community health centers in Hawai’i, 8 Samoan women (aged 24-63) participated in focus groups:<sup>107</sup>

- ◆ Participants identified the husband’s family as both protector and perpetrator. They said that in Samoa newlyweds reside with the husband’s family in open housing, which allows intervention by others, and this type of protection is lost in Hawai’i where newlyweds live separately from the husband’s family in enclosed, single family dwellings. Participants also spoke of abuse by in-laws (such as the husband’s mother and sisters). Abusive International Marriage<sup>108 109</sup>

<sup>102</sup> National Asian Women’s Health Organization. *Silence, not an option!* San Francisco, CA: Author; 2002.

<sup>103</sup> Yoshihama M. Domestic violence against women of Japanese descent in Los Angeles: Two methods of estimating prevalence. *Violence Against Women*. 1999; 5:869-897.

<sup>104</sup> Yoshihama M, Sorenson SB. Physical, sexual, and emotional abuse by male intimates: Experiences of women in Japan. *Violence and Victims*. 1994;9(1):63-77.

<sup>105</sup> Yoshihama M. Immigrants-in-context framework: Understanding the interactive influence of socio-cultural contexts. *Evaluation and Program Planning*. 2001; 24:307-318.

<sup>106</sup> Moua, H. *The Hmong community: Acculturation and utilization of domestic violence services*. Master of Social Work Clinical Research Papers, St. Catherine University School of Social Work. St. Paul, Minnesota; 2013. [https://sophia.stkate.edu/msw\\_papers/234](https://sophia.stkate.edu/msw_papers/234)

<sup>107</sup> Magnussen L, Shoultz J, Hansen K, Sapolu M, Samifua M. Intimate partner violence: Perceptions of Samoan women. *Journal of Community Health*. 2008;33(6):389-394.

<sup>108</sup> A term coined by Hmong advocates to identify the practice of older Hmong men in the U.S. marrying/having relationships with adolescent girls and young adult women. To learn more about abusive international marriages, visit <https://www.api-gbv.org/about-gbv/types-of-gbv/abusive-international-marriage/>

<sup>109</sup> Dabby C. *Abusive international marriages: Hmong advocates organizing in Wisconsin*. Oakland CA: Asian Pacific Institute on Gender-Based Violence; 2012. <https://www.api-gbv.org/resources/abusive-international-marriages-hmong-advocates-organizing-wisconsin/>. Also see, Dabby C, Yoshihama M. Gender-based violence and culturally specific advocacy in Asian and Pacific Islander communities. In: Geffner R, Vieth V, Vaughan-Eden V, Rosenbaum A, Hamberger LK, White J, editors. *Handbook of interpersonal violence and abuse across the lifespan*. New York: Springer; 2020.

The Minnesota Asian Women’s Health Survey,<sup>110</sup> commissioned by the Minnesota State Legislature and led by the Minnesota Department of Health, used a written survey with a representative sample (response rate: 4%) and a convenience sample (response rate: 37%). A total of 425 women of Chinese, Hmong, Indian, Japanese, Karen, Nepalese, Vietnamese, and other backgrounds completed the survey:

- ◆ 4% of the married women reported in the written survey that their spouse has another wife.
- ◆ Findings from the focus groups and interviews indicate that abusive international marriages are happening in Hmong, Thai, Pakistani, and Indian communities.

## 4. ATTITUDES TOWARDS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

The Asian Task Force Against Domestic Violence in Boston, MA asked people attending ethnic fairs and community events to fill out a questionnaire.<sup>111</sup>

- ◆ The average score for all respondents on male privilege was 8.5 out of 24. *[Note: Higher the scores indicate greater beliefs in male privilege. While there were some variations across different groups, the average score of 8.5 indicates that overall, respondents do not believe that a husband has the right to discipline his wife, can expect to have sex with his wife whenever he wants it, is the ruler of his home, or that some wives deserve beatings.]*
- ◆ Immigration status and level of education were not associated with the likelihood of justifying a husband’s use of violence against his wife.

A telephone interview survey of a random sample of 431 Gujarati adults aged 18-64 in the Greater Detroit Area, MI assessed attitudes toward domestic violence.<sup>112</sup>

- ◆ 81.4% of the respondents “slightly agreed,” “agreed” or “strongly agreed” with the statement, “A husband is never justified in hitting his wife.” There was no significant gender difference in the proportion of men and women who agreed with this statement (82.8% men vs. 80.0% women); but difference by country of birth was significant. All U.S.-born respondents agreed with this statement compared to 79.8% foreign-born respondents.
- ◆ 27.1% (24.4% of men and 30.0% of women) “slightly agreed,” “agreed” or “strongly agreed” with the statement, “A husband should have the right to discipline his wife.” Those born outside of the U.S. were significantly more likely to agree with this statement (29.2%) than those who were born in the U.S. (2.9%).
- ◆ 55% of respondents considered the statement “Domestic violence happens in the Gujarati community” to be true. U.S.-born respondents were more likely to consider this statement to be true (85.3%) compared to those who were born outside of the U.S. (52.4%).

An analysis of responses from 373 Gujarati adults (187 women and 186 men) residing in the Greater Detroit Area, MI, aged 18-64 who were married and cohabiting at the time of the interview (a subset of the above mentioned the Yoshihama et al study’s random sample of 431 Gujaratis interviewed via telephone) investigated factors associated with perpetration of intimate partner violence, and found important gender difference:<sup>113</sup>

- ◆ The length of residency in the U.S. was associated with lower support for both gendered domestic roles and patriarchal attitudes; those who have lived in the U.S. longer were less likely

<sup>110</sup> Rainbow Research, on behalf of the Working Group on Violence Against Women and Children. *A report on violence against Asian women and children in Minnesota*. St. Paul, MN: Minnesota Department of Health; 2016. <https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/equity/reports/violence/index.html>. The survey was printed in English with instructions to call if translation was needed in six additional languages (i.e., Cambodian, Hindi, Hmong, Karen, Lao, and Vietnamese).

<sup>111</sup> Yoshioka M, Dang Q. *Asian family violence report: A study of the Cambodian, Chinese, Korean, South Asian, and Vietnamese communities in Massachusetts*. Boston, MA: Asian Task Force Against Domestic Violence; 2000. <https://www.atask.org/site/publications/family-violence-report.html>

<sup>112</sup> Yoshihama M. *The Shanti Project, baseline community-wide survey*. Unpublished raw data.

<sup>113</sup> Yoshihama M, Blazevski J, Bybee D. Gender (a)symmetry in correlates of perpetration of intimate partner violence: The role of gender attitudes. *Violence Against Women*. 2020;26(9):1033-1054.

to support gendered role divisions in the domestic sphere, as well as male privilege/entitlement.

- ◆ While reported perpetration of emotional aggression toward partner was similar for men and women, higher support for gendered domestic roles was significantly related to higher perpetration of emotional aggression for men, but not for women. [Note: *The study's authors state "underneath what appears to be symmetrical, there may be different pathways for men and women" (p 1045).*]

Another analysis of responses from 373 Gujarati adults (187 women and 186 men) residing in the Greater Detroit Area, MI, aged 18-64 who were married and cohabiting at the time of the interview (a subset of the above mentioned Yoshihama et al study's random sample of 431 Gujaratis interviewed via telephone) examined the role of *enculturation*—retaining and enhancing attributes of the culture of origin:<sup>114</sup>

- ◆ The overall degree of enculturation was significantly associated with attitudes supporting intimate partner violence; those with higher degrees of enculturation (endorsing, retaining and incorporating values and practices of the culture of origin) were more likely to condone intimate partner violence.

In a face-to-face interview study of a random sample of 211 Japanese immigrant women and Japanese American women in Los Angeles County, CA:<sup>115</sup>

- ◆ 71% of respondents who had experienced partner violence reported that the following aspects of their Japanese background influenced their experiences with their partner's violence: conflict avoidance, the value of endurance, acceptance of male domination, the value of collective family welfare, and an aversion to seeking help.

In a telephone interview study of a random sample of 262 Chinese immigrant and Chinese American adults (133 men and 129 women) in Los Angeles County, CA (response rate: 20%):<sup>116</sup>

- ◆ The majority of respondents considered a partner's various physical acts and threats as domestic violence: Punching spouse's/partner's face really hard (97.7%), throwing objects like an ash tray at spouse/partner (97.7%), pushing spouse/partner (87.4%), and constantly threatening to use a butcher knife to hurt (98.1%).
- ◆ A smaller proportion of respondents considered various acts of psychological acts as domestic violence: Demanding to know the spouse's/partner's whereabouts (37.8%), criticizing spouse/partner in front of others (34.4%), not allowing spouse/partner to make decisions (51.9%), always disregarding spouse's/partner's opinions (35.5%), and not allowing spouse/partner to have a bank account in their name (40.5%).
- ◆ The majority (89.3%) regarded forcing one's spouse to have sex as domestic violence.
- ◆ The majority said that "Violence that occur between family members or in the home is a crime" (85.1%) and "There should be more laws protecting victims who experience violence in their homes" (94.3%).
- ◆ While 88.1% of respondents said that the police should be called when one witnesses a man hitting a women, a smaller proportion (42.4%) indicated that people should help a women if someone sees a man yelling at her.

<sup>114</sup> Yoshihama M, Blazeovski J, Bybee D. Enculturation and attitudes toward intimate partner violence and gender roles in an Asian Indian population: Implications for community-based prevention. *American Journal of Community Psychology*. 2014;53(3):249-260.

<sup>115</sup> Yoshihama M. Reinterpreting strength and safety in socio-cultural context: Dynamics of domestic violence and experiences of women of Japanese descent. *Children and Youth Services Review*. 2000;22:207-227.

<sup>116</sup> Yick AG. Domestic violence beliefs and attitudes in the Chinese American community. *Journal of Social Service Research*. 2000;27(1):29-51.

Among 77 Chinese women and men aged 50 and older born outside the U.S. (a subset of the above mentioned Yick study's sample of 262 Chinese immigrant and Chinese American adults in Los Angeles County, CA):<sup>117</sup>

- ◆ A substantial minority stated that a husband's violence toward his wife is justified "when the husband catches the wife for having an affair" (41.2% of women and 46.5% of men) and "when the husband finds the wife flirting with someone else" (38.2% of women and 48.8% of men).
- ◆ A significantly larger proportion of men than women believed that a husband's use of physical violence is justified "if the wife always nagged" (2.9% of women and 16.3% of men), "if the husband finds the wife drunk" (5.9% of women and 11.6% of men), and "if the wife is unwilling to have sex" (0% of women and 14.0% of men).
- ◆ A significantly larger proportion of women than men (94.1% vs. 74.4%) stated that a husband's physical violence toward his wife is justified "when the wife screamed hysterically."
- ◆ In general, men and older adults who were "less acculturated" (as defined by the researchers) were more likely to believe that a husband's use of physical violence toward his wife is justified.

In a telephone survey of a random sample of Vietnamese adults (246 women and 194 men, aged 18-75) in four U.S. locations (Orange County, CA; Boston, MA; Lansing, MI; and Houston, TX):<sup>118</sup>

- ◆ While the majority of respondents stated that intimate violence is a problem in the Vietnamese community, only 40% perceived it as "serious or very serious."
- ◆ 62% of respondents knew that intimate violence is a crime.
- ◆ On a 5-point scale (ranging from 1=disagree in all situations to 5=agree in all situations), respondents indicated high agreement with statements such as, "Intimate violence should be stopped" (mean score 4.72); "Government should intervene" (mean score 4.50); and "Perpetrators should have mandatory treatment" (mean score 4.43).
- ◆ Relatively lower agreement was found for statements such as, "Perpetrators should be jailed" (mean score 3.30) and "Perpetrators should be prosecuted" (mean score 3.74).

In a web-based survey, a convenience sample of 152 Asian Indian women recruited from community events (e.g., cultural events, a conference for local community leaders) responded to hypothetical vignettes depicting various types of intimate partner violence:<sup>119</sup>

- ◆ Respondents were more likely to perceive physical and sexual violence as abuse than emotional and verbal violence.

As part of a community-based participatory research project, 10 Filipina women (aged 34-52) were recruited from community health centers in Hawai'i; 5 women who had experienced intimate partner violence were interviewed individually, and other 5 women took part in focus groups:<sup>120</sup>

- ◆ Participants stated that, in general, partner's physical violence is not acceptable, especially if it resulted in physical injuries; however, they excused physical violence "when it was seen as a loss of control during a conflict between partners" (p. 59). They also saw partner's physical violence as inevitable in some circumstances, such as "when conflict escalates over finances, alcohol use, or stress" (pp. 58-59).
- ◆ Some participants were not aware that calling names and putting down or degrading a partner was a form of abuse.

<sup>117</sup> Shibusawa T, Yick AG. Experiences and perceptions of intimate partner violence among older Chinese immigrants. *Journal of Elder Abuse & Neglect*. 2007;19:1-17.

<sup>118</sup> Bui HN. Perceptions of intimate violence and attitudes toward interventions: The role of acculturation. *Journal of Ethnicity in Criminal Justice*. 2005;3:1-27.

<sup>119</sup> Kim E, Hogge I. Intimate partner violence among Asian Indian women in the United States: Recognition of abuse and help-seeking attitudes. *International Journal of Mental Health*. 2015;44(3):200-214.

<sup>120</sup> Shultz J, Magnussen L, Manzano H, Arias C, Spencer C. Listening to Filipina women: Perceptions, responses and needs regarding intimate partner violence. *Issues in Mental Health Nursing*. 2010;31(1):54-61.

In the first Samoa Family Health and Safety Study (SFHSS), a representative sample of 1,646 women and 664 men aged 15-49 were interviewed face-to-face (response rate: 82.5% for women, 83.0% for men).<sup>121</sup>

- ◆ 46% of respondents (men and women) thought that husband's physical violence toward his wife is justified "if she is disrespectful to his parents/family"; other justifiable reasons included "if she is disobedient to him" (22%), "if she is not caring for children" (20%), "if she is having an affair with another man" (31%), and "if he suspects her having an affair" (13%).
- ◆ 43% of abusive men believed that the husband's physical abuse toward his wife is justified if she is disobedient to him.

In the Samoa Demographic and Health Survey of a representative sample of women aged 15-49 and men aged 15-54:

- ◆ In 2009, 45.3% of men and 60.8% of women justified a husband's hitting or beating his wife for at least one of the following reasons pertaining to the wife's behavior: burning the food; arguing with him; going out without telling him; neglecting the children; and refusing to have sexual intercourse with him.<sup>122</sup>
- ◆ In 2014, 30.0% of men and 36.5% of women justified a husband's hitting or beating his wife for at least one of the specified reasons pertaining to the wife's behavior: burning the food; arguing with him; going out without telling him; neglecting the children; and refusing to have sexual intercourse with him.<sup>123</sup>
- ◆ In both the 2009 and the 2014 surveys, the reason that received justification from the largest proportion of respondents was the wife's neglecting the children: 40.0% of men and 48.2% of women in 2009; 22.0% of men and 28.5% women in 2014.

In the 2012 Tonga Demographic and Health Survey of a representative sample of 3,068 women aged 15-49 and 1,742 men aged 15 and older (response rate: 96.7% for women; 93.9% men):<sup>124</sup>

- ◆ 18.4% of men and 28.9% of women justified a husband's hitting or beating his wife for at least one of the following reasons pertaining to the wife's behavior: burning the food; arguing with him; going out without telling him; neglecting the children; and refusing to have sexual intercourse with him.
- ◆ The reason that received justification from the largest proportion of respondents was the wife's neglecting the children: 15.7% of men and 23.8% of women.

In the 2007 Tuvalu Demographic and Health Survey of a representative sample of 851 women aged 15-49 and 558 men aged 15 and older:<sup>125</sup>

- ◆ 69.9% of men and 70.0% of women justified a husband's hitting or beating his wife with at least one of the following reasons pertaining to the wife's behavior: burning the food; arguing with him; going out without telling him; neglecting the children; and refusing to have sexual intercourse with him.
- ◆ The reason that received justification from the largest proportion of respondents was the wife's neglecting the children: 60.8% of men and 66.1% of women.

<sup>121</sup> Secretariat of the Pacific Community & United Nations Population Fund. *The Samoa Family Health and Safety Study*. Noumea, New Caledonia: Secretariat of the Pacific Community 2006. <https://pacific.unfpa.org/sites/default/files/pub-pdf/SamoaFamilyHealthandSafetyStudy.pdf>

<sup>122</sup> Samoa Ministry of Health, Samoa Bureau of Statistics, ICF Macro. *Samoa Demographic and Health Survey 2009*. Apia, Samoa: Samoa Ministry of Health; 2010. <https://sdd.spc.int/search?s=DHS+2009>. 2,657 women (response rate: 87.6%) and 1,307 men (response rate: 77.4%) were interviewed.

<sup>123</sup> Samoa Bureau of Statistics, Samoa Ministry of Health. *Samoa Demographic and Health Survey 2014*. Apia, Samoa: Samoa Ministry of Health; 2015, June. <https://sdd.spc.int/media/349>. 4,805 women (response rate: 90.3%) and 1,669 men (response rate: 82.4%) were interviewed.

<sup>124</sup> Tonga Department of Statistics, Tonga Ministry of Health, Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). *Tonga Demographic and Health Survey 2012*. Noumea, New Caledonia: Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC); 2013.

<sup>125</sup> Central Statistical Division (TCSD), The Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC), Marco International Inc. *Tuvalu Demographic and Health Survey 2007*. Noumea, New Caledonia: Secretariat of the Pacific Community; 2009, October. <https://pacific-data.sprep.org/dataset/tuvalu-demographic-and-health-survey-dhs-report-2007>.

## 5. HELP-SEEKING ATTITUDES AND EXPERIENCES

### (a) Attitudes & Experiences

In a face-to-face interview study of a random sample of 211 Japanese women, immigrant women from Japan and Japanese American women, in Los Angeles County, CA:<sup>126</sup>

- ◆ U.S.-born women who had experienced intimate partner's violence, compared to their Japan-born counterparts, were more likely to seek help from friends (82.8% vs. 43.3%); confront their partners (86% vs. 68%); and find these methods more effective.
- ◆ Japan-born abused women were more likely to minimize the seriousness of the situation as a strategy to cope with abuse (90.0%) than U.S.-born respondents (57.6%); and Japan-born women rated this strategy as more helpful than did the U.S.-born respondents (3.1 vs. 2.3 on a 4-point scale ranging from 1=not at all helpful to 4=very helpful).
- ◆ A significantly larger proportion of U.S.-born (23.2%) than Japan-born abused women (6.7%) used counseling; however, the rating of perceived helpfulness of counselors was not significantly different between the U.S.-born (3.3) and the Japan-born (4.0).
- ◆ Overall, Japan-born women were less likely to use *active* strategies than U.S.-born women. While Japan-born and U.S.-born women were equally likely to use *passive/discreet* strategies, Japan-born women were more likely to perceive *passive/discreet* strategies significantly more effective than U.S.-born women.<sup>127</sup>

In the Lifecourse Experiences of Intimate Partner Violence and Help-Seeking Study of 87 abused Filipina women and 56 abused Indian and Pakistani women aged 18-60 recruited via community outreach in the San Francisco Bay Area, CA:<sup>128</sup>

- ◆ Abused Filipina women identified the following sources and types of response as most helpful.
  - Sources of most helpful response: friends (37.9%) and family (24.1%). Other sources of most helpful response included helping professionals (other than legal or medical) such as counselors and case managers (13.8%); non-Asian domestic violence programs (13.8%); and criminal justice system agencies (13.8%).
  - Types of most helpful response: Information and referrals (36.6%); empathic communication (26.7%); safety planning/advice (26.7%); tangible and concrete assistance, such as a place to stay, monetary help, and food (20.0%); and women-centered responses (20.0%).
- ◆ Abused Indian and Pakistani women identified the following sources and types of response as most helpful.
  - Sources of most helpful response: Asian domestic violence programs (38.3%); friends (25.5%); and family (19.2%). Other sources of most helpful response included helping professionals (other than legal or medical) such as counselors and case managers (14.9%); non-Asian domestic violence programs (12.8%); and legal assistance programs (12.8%).
  - Types of most helpful response: Information and referrals (53.7%); displays of caring and/or concern (34.2%); tangible and concrete assistance, such as a place to stay, monetary help, and food (26.8%); and emotional support (24.4%).

<sup>126</sup> Yoshihama M. Battered women's coping strategies and psychological distress: Differences by immigration status. *American Journal of Community Psychology*. 2002;30:429-452.

<sup>127</sup> A factor analysis found two broad types of strategies of coping: "active" strategies, such as confronting the partner, seeking help from friends and family, seeking information, seeing a counselor, suggesting that the partner get help, and leaving the relationship temporarily or permanently); and "passive/discreet" strategies, such as focusing on positive aspects of the partner/relationship, minimizing the seriousness of situation, avoiding a potentially violent situation, doing things to calm down or relax, and using alcohol or drugs).

<sup>128</sup> Yoshihama M, Bybee D, Dabby C, Blazeovski 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.

<https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/grants/236174.pdf>

- ◆ One commonality found, regardless of ethnic background or immigration/generational position, participants, was the importance of emotional support. Filipina, Indian, and Pakistani women most frequently indicated that emotional support (e.g., “you are not alone” and “I will be there for you”) was the most helpful response.<sup>129</sup>

In an online survey of a convenience sample of 62 Hmong (45 female and 17 male) recruited through email, social media websites, and popular online Hmong discussion forums:<sup>130</sup>

- ◆ 77% of participants either strongly agreed or agreed with the statement, “The best thing for a woman who is experiencing domestic violence is to seek help from outside domestic violence resources, such as domestic violence shelters and legal advocates and services.”
- ◆ 23% of participants either strongly agreed or agreed with the statement, “The best thing for a woman who is experiencing domestic violence is to seek help from her family or the Hmong 18-clan system”; 25% said neither agree nor disagree with the statement, and 52% disagreed or strongly disagreed with the statement.

As part of a community-based participatory research project, 10 Filipina women (aged 34-52) were recruited from community health centers in Hawai’i; 5 women who had experienced intimate partner violence were interviewed individually, and other 5 women took part in focus groups:<sup>131</sup>

- ◆ Participants stated their faith, prayer, and ability to endure suffering helped or would help cope with the abuse.
- ◆ Participants reported having received help from a range of sources, such as family, friends, domestic violence agencies/shelters, healthcare programs, the courts, and welfare agencies.

A community-based participatory research project investigated perceptions, responses, and needs regarding domestic violence; 22 Chuukese (Micronesian), 10 Filipino, 10 Native Hawaiian, and 11 Samoan women were recruited from community health centers and domestic violence programs. Those women who had experienced intimate partner violence were interviewed individually, and other women took part in focus groups:<sup>132</sup>

- ◆ Chuukese participants (those from Chuuk, one of the four states of the Federated States of Micronesia), spoke of the role of the Chief/the head of the clan in Chuuk; the Chief provides advice and assistance in cases of intimate partner violence and could order the perpetrator to leave the community. In Hawai’i, church pastors would assume this type of role.
- ◆ Filipina participants spoke of “a strong sense of interdependence that leads to concept of reciprocity and balance, *utang ng loob*”; they stated that abused women “must consider not only themselves and their nuclear family, but also their extended family in decisions” (p. 12).
- ◆ Native Hawaiian participants spoke of the importance of “defending the collective”; intimate partner violence is considered as a family matter: “... family business is family business and don’t shame the family” (p. 12).
- ◆ Samoan participants described the role of Chief in cases of intimate partner violence in Samoa; the Chief would ask the perpetrator to leave the village if the violence continues.

In a study of 42 Hmong respondents (33 female and 9 male) aged 18-64 who had histories of domestic violence, recruited through snowball sampling in St. Paul and Minneapolis, MN:<sup>133</sup>

- ◆ 33.3% reported the abuse to the authorities.

<sup>129</sup> Rai A, Choi YJ, Yoshihama M, Dabby C. Helpful responses and barriers to help-seeking among battered immigrant Filipina, Indian, and Pakistani women in the United States: Implications for socio-culturally effective support. Under review.

<sup>130</sup> Moua, H. *The Hmong community: Acculturation and utilization of domestic violence services*. Master of Social Work Clinical Research Papers, St. Catherine University School of Social Work. St. Paul, Minnesota; 2013. [https://sophia.stkate.edu/msw\\_papers/234](https://sophia.stkate.edu/msw_papers/234)

<sup>131</sup> Shoultz J, Magnussen L, Manzano H, Arias C, Spencer C. Listening to Filipina women: Perceptions, responses and needs regarding intimate partner violence. *Issues in Mental Health Nursing*. 2010;31(1):54-61.

<sup>132</sup> Magnussen L, Shoultz J, Richardson K, et al. Responding to the needs of culturally diverse women who experience intimate partner violence. *Hawaii Medical Journal*. 2011;70(1):9-15.

<sup>133</sup> Chang A. *Social factors related to domestic violence among Hmong adults*. Master of Social Work Clinical Research Papers, St. Catherine University School of Social Work. St. Paul, Minnesota; 2015. [https://sophia.stkate.edu/msw\\_papers/428/](https://sophia.stkate.edu/msw_papers/428/)

In a study of a convenience sample of 215 South Asian women (aged 20-65) recruited via community outreach in San Francisco, CA; Chicago, IL; New York, NY; Huston, and Austin, and Dallas, TX, 57 reported some type of partner's abuse in the past year and answered the question about help-seeking:<sup>134</sup>

- ◆ 67% used at least one personal strategy to deal with the abuse: for example, 80% of them maintained silence at least at times, 71% talked back to their partners, 58% avoided the abuser, and 47% attempted to calm or please their abusers.
- ◆ Of the 57 respondents, 61% (35) reported seeking some type of help in the past year: 35% (20) sought only informal help, and 24% (14) sought both formal and informal help. Only one respondent reported having sought only formal help.
- ◆ Of the 34 women who sought informal help, the majority (88%) sought help from friends, 47% from immediate family, 47% from spouse's/partner's family, 35% from extended family, and 32% from coworkers.
- ◆ Of the 15 women who sought formal help, 73% contacted counselors, 60% doctors/nurses, 40% lawyers, 33% the police, 33% social workers, 27% domestic violence shelters, and 20% South Asian women's organizations.
- ◆ Those who sought help rated the perceived helpfulness of specific sources of help on a 5-point scale (ranging from 1=not at all helpful to 5=extremely helpful). The mean perceived helpfulness for the informal help sources ranged from 2.25 (spouse's/partner's family) to 3.67 (friends). The mean perceived helpfulness for the formal help sources ranged from 2.36 (counselors) to 3.50 (domestic violence shelters).

In a study of a convenience sample of 160 South Asian women who were married or in a heterosexual relationship, recruited through community outreach methods in Greater Boston, MA:<sup>135</sup>

- ◆ 11.3% of respondents reporting intimate partner violence indicated having received counseling support services for domestic abuse.

In a web-based survey, a convenience sample of 152 Asian Indian women recruited from community events (e.g., cultural events, a conference for local community leaders) responded to hypothetical vignettes depicting various types of intimate partner violence:<sup>136</sup>

- ◆ Respondents indicated more willingness to seek help from informal helpers than formal sources, regardless of the type of intimate partner violence; they were least willing to seek criminal justice services.
- ◆ Younger women and those reporting high levels of perceived social stigma indicated less willingness to seek counseling services.
- ◆ Respondents reporting greater enculturation were less willing to seek counseling whereas those reporting greater acculturation were more likely to seek counseling.

An analysis of the 44 South Asian women who reported experiencing partner violence in their current relationship (a sub-sample of the 210 respondents who participated in the anonymous survey in the Great Boston Area, MA):<sup>137</sup>

- ◆ 23 (52%) reported having sought no help.
- ◆ Among those who have sought help, sources frequently used are friend (39%), mothers (25%), counseling/therapy (14%), South Asian community leaders (11%), and community-based organizations (9%).

<sup>134</sup> Mahapatra N & DeNitto DM. Help-seeking behaviors of South Asian women experiencing domestic violence in the United States. *Partner Abuse*. 2013;4(3):295-313.

<sup>135</sup> Raj A, Silverman J. Intimate partner violence amongst South Asian women in Greater Boston. *Journal of the American Medical Women's Association*. 2002;57:111-114.

<sup>136</sup> Kim E, Hogge I. Intimate partner violence among Asian Indian women in the United States: Recognition of abuse and help-seeking attitudes. *International Journal of Mental Health*. 2015;44(3):200-214.

<sup>137</sup> Raj A, Silverman JG. Domestic violence help-seeking behaviors of South Asian battered women residing in the United States. *International Review of Victimology*. 2007;14(1):143-170.

- ◆ None reported having used criminal legal services, such as contacting the police or applying for a restraining order.
- ◆ The vast majority reported that they never attempted to leave the relationship (86%).

In a study of a convenience sample of 30 Vietnamese women recruited from a civic association serving Vietnamese women in Boston, MA:<sup>138</sup>

- ◆ 71% reported having confided in others about the abuse: 26% confided in family members, 28% friends, and 43% staff in service agencies.

Project AWARE (Asian Women Advocating Respect and Empowerment) in Washington, DC conducted an anonymous survey with a convenience sample of 178 Asian women recruited through a snowball method.<sup>139</sup>

- ◆ 44.8% of respondents reported that they or other Asian women they knew to have been abused did “nothing” to protect themselves from abusive events, and 32.1% said they “kept quiet.” [Note: The report’s authors stated “Doing nothing can serve as a strategy of resistance in an attempt [to] avoid or lessen abuse.”]
- ◆ 34.3% of respondents or other Asian women they knew to have been abused sought help from their family, and 32.1% from friends; 15.7% reported having called the police.
- ◆ The majority of women who confided in someone about their experience of abuse (78.0%) felt better afterwards, but 35.4% indicated that they felt ashamed.

The Minnesota Asian Women’s Health Survey, commissioned by the Minnesota State Legislature and led by the Minnesota Department of Health, used a written survey with a representative sample (response rate: 4%) and a convenience sample (response rate: 37%). A total of 425 women of Chinese, Hmong, Indian, Japanese, Karen, Nepalese, Vietnamese, and other backgrounds completed the survey, and 8% reported having experienced intimate partner violence (emotional, physical, or sexual) during the last year, and 15%, sometime during their lifetime:<sup>140</sup>

- ◆ 44.4% of women did not know where to find information or resources.
- ◆ Respondents’ preferred communication channels for learning about services were: the internet (60.2%), friends (38.1%), community (31.1%), and a healthcare provider (29.9%).

The Asian Task Force Against Domestic Violence asked people attending ethnic fairs and community events in Boston, MA to fill out a questionnaire. The study found variations in attitudes toward help-seeking and preferred interventions across various Asian ethnic groups:<sup>141</sup>

- ◆ 29% of Korean respondents said that a woman who is being abused should not tell anyone about the abuse, whereas 22% of Cambodian, 18% of Chinese, 5% of South Asian, and 9% of Vietnamese did.
- ◆ 82% of South Asian respondents indicated that a battered woman should turn to a friend for help, whereas 44% of Cambodian, 37% of Chinese, 41% of Korean, and 29% of Vietnamese respondents agreed with this statement.
- ◆ 74% of South Asian respondents supported a battered woman choosing to call the police for help, whereas 47% of Cambodian, 52% of Chinese, 27% of Korean, and 49% of Vietnamese respondents did.

<sup>138</sup> Tran CG; *Domestic violence among Vietnamese refugee women: Prevalence, abuse characteristics, psychiatric symptoms, and psychosocial factors*. Unpublished doctoral dissertation, Boston University, Boston, MA; 1997.

<sup>139</sup> McDonnell KA, Abdulla SE. *Project AWARE: Research Project*. Washington, DC: Asian/Pacific Islander Domestic Violence Resource Project; 2001. <https://dvrp.org/project-aware/>

<sup>140</sup> Rainbow Research, on behalf of the Working Group on Violence Against Women and Children. *A report on violence against Asian women and children in Minnesota*. St. Paul, MN: Minnesota Department of Health; 2016.

<https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/equity/reports/violence/index.html>. The survey was printed in English with instructions to call if translation was needed in six additional languages (i.e., Cambodian, Hindi, Hmong, Karen, Lao, and Vietnamese).

<sup>141</sup> Yoshioka M, Dang Q. *Asian family violence report: A study of the Cambodian, Chinese, Korean, South Asian, and Vietnamese communities in Massachusetts*. Boston, MA: Asian Task Force Against Domestic Violence; 2000. <https://www.atask.org/site/publications/family-violence-report.html>

In a study of a convenience sample of 62 battered women (20 African American, 22 Hispanic, and 20 South Asian) who had accessed domestic violence programs in a northeastern U.S. city:<sup>142</sup>

- ◆ South Asian women were more likely to seek help from family members compared to African American or Hispanic women. There was also a significant difference in the proportion of women who disclosed the partner's violence to their father (40.0% of South Asian, compared to 11.1% of African American and 8.7% of Hispanic) or their brother (55.0% of South Asian, compared to 16.7% of African American and 21.7% of Hispanic).
- ◆ Following disclosure, South Asian women were significantly more likely to be advised by family members "to stay in the marriage" than other groups of women.

A study of 25 mothers and 25 children recruited from domestic violence programs in the state of Hawai'i assessed reasons for remaining in the abusive relationship in each of five categories of needs:<sup>143</sup>

- ◆ Of basic needs, need for shelter ranked highest (40%).
- ◆ Of maternal (and children's) needs, father for children (72%) and shelter for children (24%) were mentioned.
- ◆ Of relationship needs, need for companionship (44%) and need to be a good wife (16%) were mentioned.
- ◆ Of the social needs related to parents, parents' feelings toward them (24%) and fear of being considered a failure in the marriage (24%) ranked highest.
- ◆ Of the social needs related to friends, friends' feelings toward them (12%) and being considered a failure in the marriage (12%) ranked highest.

In the first Samoa Family Health and Safety Study (SFHSS), a representative sample of 1,646 women and 664 men aged 15-49 were interviewed face-to-face (response rate: 82.5% for women, 83.0% for men).<sup>144</sup>

- ◆ 53.7% of women who experienced partner's physical abuse ever told anyone about the abuse prior to the interview: 25.0% told their parents, 11.5% friends, and 9.8% partner's family.
- ◆ 4.7% women who experienced partner's physical abuse ever sought help from the police, 7.2% from hospital/health center, 5.3% from local leader, and 2.5% from priest/religious leader.
- ◆ The most frequently cited reason for seeking help from outside/formal agencies was "couldn't stand anymore," followed by "afraid of serious injury or being murdered."
- ◆ By far the most frequently cited reason for not seeking help from outside agencies was a belief that physical abuse is "normal and not serious" (endorsed by 72.5% of women who experienced partner's physical abuse); other reasons mentioned include: "bad for family reputation" (4.1%); "might end the relationship" (2.7%); and "fear of more abuse" (2.5%).
- ◆ Asked who could have given more help, while 40.2% said "no one," 35.9% said "family," and 21.7%, "(the respondent's) mother."

In the Cook Islands Family Health and Safety Study, face-to-face interviews with a representative sample of 919 women aged 15-64 (response rate: 98.7%):<sup>145</sup>

- ◆ About 28% of women who experienced partner's physical and/or sexual violence never told anyone about the violence.

<sup>142</sup> Yoshioka MR, Gilbert L, El-Bassel N, Baig-Amin M. Social support and disclosure of abuse: Comparing South Asian, African American, and Hispanic battered women. *Journal of Family Violence*. 2003;18:171-180.

<sup>143</sup> Chemtob CM, Carlson JG, Perrone P. *Domestic violence in Hawai'i: Impact on mothers and their children*. Honolulu, HI: State of Hawai'i Department of the Attorney General; 2000.

<sup>144</sup> Secretariat of the Pacific Community & United Nations Population Fund. *The Samoa Family Health and Safety Study*. Noumea, New Caledonia: Secretariat of the Pacific Community 2006. <https://pacific.unfpa.org/sites/default/files/pub-pdf/SamoaFamilyHealthandSafetyStudy.pdf>

<sup>145</sup> Cook Islands Ministry of Health, Cook Islands National Council of Women, United Nations Population Fund. *Te ata o te ngakau: Shadows of the heart - The Cook Islands Family Health and Safety Study*. Rarotonga, Cook Islands: Cook Islands Ministry of Health; 2014. <https://pacific.unfpa.org/sites/default/files/pub-pdf/CIFHSSReportweb.pdf>

- ◆ Those who told someone mostly confided in friends (39.8%) and family members (parents, 23.8%; siblings 16.0%; uncle or aunt 8.0%); 12.5% told doctor/health worker.
- ◆ Nearly two-thirds (63.5%) of women who experienced partner’s physical and/or sexual violence never sought help from formal services or authorities, such as the police and health centers. Among those who sought help from formal services or authorities, the police (34.5%) and hospital/healthcare centers (16.4%) were most commonly mentioned.

## (b) Social Support

Immigration and refugee resettlement are often associated with a disruption in the social support network.

In a study of a convenience sample of 30 Vietnamese women recruited from a civic association serving Vietnamese women in Boston, MA:<sup>146</sup>

- ◆ Over 90% reported having only 0–2 people as sources of support.

In a face-to-face interview study of a random sample of 211 women of Japanese descent in Los Angeles County, CA:<sup>147</sup>

- ◆ First generation respondents (those who were born in Japan and immigrated to the U.S. after age 13) reported the lowest degree of social support of the four generations of respondents: On average, first generation women had 5.4 people on whom they could depend currently, compared to 5.8 people (second-generation), 5.6 people (third-generation), and 7.4 people (fourth-generation).
- ◆ First generation respondents were the least satisfied with the available social support of the four generations of respondents.

In a study conducted by Project AWARE (Asian Women Advocating Respect and Empowerment), 21 women were surveyed, and 9 were interviewed in Washington, DC, Maryland, and Virginia; participants’ countries of origin included China, India, Iraq, Japan, Pakistan, the Philippines, Thailand, the U.S., and Vietnam.<sup>148</sup>

- ◆ 72% of participants indicated they did not have family members of their own in the D.C. area.

In a study of a convenience sample of 62 battered women (20 African American, 22 Hispanic, and 20 South Asian) who had accessed domestic violence programs in a northeastern U.S. city:<sup>149</sup>

- ◆ South Asian women had the fewest family members residing in the local area or in the U.S. compared to African American and Hispanic women.

In a study of a convenience sample of 160 South Asian women who were married or in a heterosexual relationship, recruited through community outreach in Greater Boston, MA:<sup>150</sup>

- ◆ 28.1% reported having no family in the U.S., and 10% said they have “no social support if abused.”

<sup>146</sup> Tran CG; *Domestic violence among Vietnamese refugee women: Prevalence, abuse characteristics, psychiatric symptoms, and psychosocial factors*. Unpublished doctoral dissertation, Boston University, Boston, MA; 1997.

<sup>147</sup> Yoshihama M, Horrocks J. Posttraumatic stress symptoms and victimization among Japanese American women. *Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology*. 2002;70(2):205-215.

<sup>148</sup> <sup>148</sup> Asian/Pacific Islander Domestic Violence Resource Project. *Project AWARE fact sheet*. Washington, DC: Asian/Pacific Islander Domestic Violence Resource Project; n.d. <https://dvrp.org/project-aware/>

<sup>149</sup> Yoshioka MR, Gilbert L, El-Bassel N, Baig-Amin M. Social support and disclosure of abuse: Comparing South Asian, African American, and Hispanic battered women. *Journal of Family Violence*. 2003;18:171-180.

<sup>150</sup> Raj A, Silverman JG. Immigrant South Asian women at greater risk for injury from intimate partner violence. *American Journal of Public Health*. 2003;93(3):435-437.

Importantly, multiple scholars and studies point to the important role that isolation, a tactic used by abusive partners and their family members, plays in diminished social support and creating barriers to assistance.<sup>151 152 153 154 155 156</sup>

### (c) Help-Seeking from Law Enforcement over the Lifecourse

The Lifecourse Experiences of Intimate Partner Violence and Help-Seeking Study of 87 Filipina women and 56 Indian and Pakistani women (aged 18-60) recruited via community outreach in the San Francisco Bay Area, CA found that abused Asian women do in fact call the police, contrary to the common perception that they do not. The study found:<sup>157</sup>

- ◆ 51.7% of Filipina and 55.4% of Indian and Pakistani abused women called the police at least once before the study.
- ◆ 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 police appears to be an important gateway to assistance programs for women.
- ◆ Younger Filipina, Indian and Pakistani women were more likely to contact the police compared to older women.
- ◆ For Filipina, Indian and Pakistani women, the likelihood of calling the police among younger women generally increased over the lifecourse; however, the likelihood of older women's calling the police remained low throughout their adult years.
- ◆ Filipina, Indian and Pakistani women who experienced physical violence in a given year were more likely to contact the police in the same year.
- ◆ Similarly, Filipina, Indian and Pakistani women who experienced sexual violence in a given year were more likely to contact the police in the same year.
- ◆ For Indian and Pakistani women, experiencing stalking was associated with a higher likelihood of contacting the police in the same year; but this effect for Filipinas was modest.

The Minnesota Asian Women's Health Survey,<sup>158</sup> commissioned by the Minnesota State Legislature and led by the Minnesota Department of Health, used a written survey with a representative sample (response rate: 4%) and a convenience sample (response rate: 37%). A total of 425 women of Chinese, Hmong, Indian, Japanese, Nepalese, Karen, Vietnamese, and other backgrounds completed the survey, and 8% reported having experienced intimate partner violence (emotional, physical, or sexual) during the last year, and 15%, sometime during their lifetime:

- ◆ Of the women who experienced violence, only 11% reported the incident to the police.
- ◆ 88.5% of women who had experienced violence did not report it to the police.

<sup>151</sup> Abraham M. Domestic violence and the Indian diaspora in the United States. *Indian Journal of Gender Studies*. 2005;12(2-3):427-451.

<sup>152</sup> Bui HN. Help-seeking behavior among abused immigrant women: A case of Vietnamese American women. *Violence Against Women*. 2003;9(2):207-239.

<sup>153</sup> Jordan A, Bhandari S. Lived experiences of South Asian women facing domestic violence in the United States. *Journal of Ethnic & Cultural Diversity in Social Work*. 2016;25(3):227-246.

<sup>154</sup> Raj A, Silverman JG. Domestic violence help-seeking behaviors of South Asian battered women residing in the United States. *International Review of Victimology*. 2007;14(1):143-170.

<sup>155</sup> Bhuyan R, Mell M, Senturia K, Sullivan M, Shiu-Thornton S. "Women must endure according to their karma": Cambodian immigrant women talk about domestic violence. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*. 2005;20(8):902-921.

<sup>156</sup> Takahashi Y & Lee S. Culture in transition: Awareness and appropriate response to domestic violence among Hmong American college students. *Journal of Ethnicity in Criminal Justice*. 2018;16(2): 156-176.

<sup>157</sup> 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.

<https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/grants/236174.pdf>

<sup>158</sup> Rainbow Research, on behalf of the Working Group on Violence Against Women and Children. *A report on violence against Asian women and children in Minnesota*. St. Paul, MN: Minnesota Department of Health; 2016.

<https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/equity/reports/violence/index.html>. The survey was printed in English with instructions to call if translation was needed in six additional languages (i.e., Cambodian, Hindi, Hmong, Karen, Lao, and Vietnamese).

- ◆ Reasons for not reporting included: feeling that the incident was not that bad; shame or embarrassment; having dealt with it themselves or with family; did not know where to go to receive assistance; thinking it was their own fault; feeling that it would make the abuse worse; and not wanting partner to be arrested.

In the 1993 Statewide Domestic Violence Survey in Hawai'i based on 311 questionnaires completed by women using domestic violence shelters and counseling programs:<sup>159</sup>

- ◆ 55% of respondents reported having called the police because their partner was physically violent.
- ◆ 63% stated that they were treated fairly by the police.
- ◆ 61% of respondents who contacted the police, regardless of whether they felt the police treated them fairly, reported encountering "attitudinal problems," such as acting as if the abuse was not important and making the victim feel as though she was wrong to call the police.
- ◆ 22% encountered "procedural problems," such as making the victim leave when she didn't want to, refusing to make the abuser leave, and refusing to take the victim to a shelter or somewhere safe.
- ◆ 45% of respondents reported having never called the police.
- ◆ 54% of women who did not call the police reported that they had not called because they were too afraid, while 20% reported that they did not have access to a phone.

#### (d) Help-Seeking from Domestic Violence Programs over the Lifecourse

In the Lifecourse Experiences of Intimate Partner Violence and Help-Seeking Study of 87 Filipina women and 56 Indian and Pakistani women who have experienced intimate partner violence in the San Francisco Bay Area, CA:<sup>160</sup>

- ◆ 25.3% of Filipina and 41.1% of Indian and Pakistani women used domestic violence shelters at least once prior to the interview.
- ◆ 31.0% of Filipina and 57.1% of Indian and Pakistani women used non-residential domestic violence programs at least once prior to the interview.
- ◆ Younger Filipina, Indian and Pakistani women were more likely to use domestic violence programs (shelter or non-residential<sup>161</sup>) compared to their older counterparts, regardless of immigration/generational position.
- ◆ Filipina women were more likely to use domestic violence programs in a given year if they experienced physical violence and stalking, respectively, in that year.
- ◆ Indian and Pakistani women were more likely to use domestic violence programs in a given year if they experienced stalking in the same year.
- ◆ Experiencing sexual violence by intimate partners was not associated with the likelihood of using domestic violence programs for Filipina, Indian and Pakistani women.

As part of the 2010 National Non-Residential Domestic Violence Services and Supports Study, 1,467 respondents from 90 domestic violence programs participated in surveys and focus groups; 7% of them were Asian/Asian American:<sup>162</sup>

- ◆ Asian/Asian American women used non-residential domestic violence services and support

<sup>159</sup> Hawai'i State Commission on Status of Women; *Domestic violence report*. Honolulu, HI: Author; 1993

<sup>160</sup> Yoshihama, M., Bybee, D., & Dabby, C. F. *Lifecourse trajectories of intimate partner violence and health care seeking among Asian women*. Poster presented at: National Conference on Health & Domestic Violence; 2012 Mar 30; San Francisco, CA.

<sup>161</sup> Domestic violence shelter programs and non-residential domestic violence programs were combined because of relatively low rates of use and substantial overlap in use of these two types of programs.

<sup>162</sup> Lyon E, Bradshaw J, Menard A. *Meeting survivors needs through non-residential domestic violence services and supports: Results of a multi-state study*. Washington, DC: National Institute of Justice; 2011. <https://nij.ojp.gov/library/publications/meeting-survivors-needs-through-non-residential-domestic-violence-services-and>

programs more frequently compared to those in other racial groups of participants: 39% of Asian/Asian American participants had been to a program more than 20 times since their first visit, compared to Hispanic/Latina (29%), White (33%), and African American/Black (17%).

- ◆ Asian/Asian American women were less likely to receive support group services initially, i.e., when they first came to the program (18%) compared to other groups (30-46%). However, at the time of the study, 41% of Asian/Asian American survivors were currently receiving support group services. [Note: This may suggest that survivors became more comfortable or more likely to access support groups after they had been at a program for a while.]
- ◆ Compared to other groups, Asian/Asian American participants were less likely to have had the opportunity to obtain help in some of the 54 areas assessed in the study, including:
  - Talking to someone who understands my situation (30% of Asian/Asian American vs. 33-88% of other groups of participants).
  - Help staying in my community safely (64% of Asian/Asian American vs. 73-83% of other groups of participants).
  - Help with previous or other forms of abuse (50% of Asian/Asian American vs. 70-77% of other groups of participants).
  - Help with issues related to unwanted sex (56% of Asian/Asian American vs. 63-81% of other groups of participants).
  - Help stopping the court case against the abusive partner (38% of Asian/Asian American vs. 63-80% of other groups of participants).
  - Help with cash assistance/vouchers (48% of Asian/Asian American vs. 52-71% of other groups of participants).
  - Help with financial matters, such as budgeting (43% of Asian/Asian American vs. 54-68% of other groups of participants).
  - Help paying rent/utilities bills (43% of Asian/Asian American vs. 54-73% of other groups of participants).
  - Help with transportation (55% of Asian/Asian American vs. 73-86% of other groups of participants).

## (e) Help-Seeking from Legal Services over the Lifecourse

In the Lifecourse Experiences of Intimate Partner Violence and Help-Seeking Study of 87 Filipina women and 56 Indian and Pakistani women who have experienced intimate partner violence (aged 18-60) in the San Francisco Bay Area, CA.<sup>163</sup>

- ◆ 43.7% of Filipina and 60.7% of Indian and Pakistani women sought legal assistance at least once prior to the interview.
- ◆ Younger Filipina, Indian and Pakistani women were more likely to use legal services compared to their older counterparts, regardless of immigration/generational position.
- ◆ Filipina women were more likely to seek help from legal services in a given year if they experienced physical violence and stalking, respectively, in that year. In addition, Filipina women were more likely to use legal services in a given year if they had experienced physical violence in previous years.
- ◆ Indian and Pakistani women were more likely to seek legal services in a given year if they experienced stalking in the same year or if they had experienced physical violence in *previous years*.
- ◆ Experiencing intimate partners' sexual violence was not associated with the probability of using legal services for Filipina, Indian and Pakistani women.

<sup>163</sup> 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. <https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/grants/236174.pdf>

In a study of a convenience sample of 160 South Asian women who were married or in a heterosexual relationship, recruited through community outreach in Greater Boston, MA:<sup>164</sup>

- ◆ 3.1% of the abused women in the study had ever obtained a restraining order against an abusive partner. [Note: This rate is substantially lower than that reported in a study of women (of any race/ethnicity) in the state of Massachusetts, in which over one third of women who reported intimate partner violence in the past 5 years had obtained a restraining order.]

## (f) Lifecourse Trajectory of Seeking Healthcare

The Lifecourse Experiences of Intimate Partner Violence and Help-Seeking Study of 87 Filipina women and 56 Indian and Pakistani women who have experienced intimate partner violence (aged 18-60) recruited via community outreach in the San Francisco Bay Area, CA found:<sup>165</sup>

### Abused Filipina Women:

- ◆ One in four Filipinas (27.6%) sought healthcare related to intimate partner violence at least once prior to the interview.
- ◆ The likelihood of seeking healthcare is very low (almost none) over the lifecourse for Filipina women, regardless of their immigration/generational position.
- ◆ Filipina women were more likely to seek healthcare related to intimate partner violence in years in which they experienced injuries, physical violence, and stalking, respectively.
- ◆ There was no significant age cohort difference in the lifecourse trajectory of seeking healthcare. This pattern was different from those found for the likelihood of contacting the police, domestic violence programs, and legal services discussed above where significant age cohort differences were found.

### Abused Indian and Pakistani Women:

- ◆ Half of Indian and Pakistani women (50.0%) sought healthcare related to intimate partner violence at least once prior to the interview.
- ◆ For Indian and Pakistani women, adjusting for the effects of intimate partner violence, the probability of seeking healthcare increased till mid-30's, then declined slightly.
- ◆ Lifecourse trajectories of seeking healthcare varied significantly by immigration/generational position; 1st generation Indian and Pakistani women were more likely to seek healthcare compared with the 1.5+ generations.
- ◆ Seeking healthcare was more likely in years in which Indian and Pakistani women experienced injuries, physical violence, and stalking, respectively.
- ◆ There was no significant age cohort difference in the lifecourse trajectory of seeking healthcare. This pattern was different from those found for the likelihood of contacting the police, domestic violence programs, and legal services discussed above where significant age cohort effects were found.

In an analysis of the data from the Collaborative Psychiatric Epidemiology Surveys:<sup>166</sup>

- ◆ Asians who have experienced partners' violence were less likely to use mental health services compared to other racial groups.

<sup>164</sup> Raj A, Silverman J. Intimate partner violence amongst South Asian women in Greater Boston. *Journal of the American Medical Women's Association*. 2002;57:111-114.

<sup>165</sup> Yoshihama, M., Bybee, D., & Dabby, C. F. *Lifecourse trajectories of intimate partner violence and health care seeking among Asian women*. Poster presented at: National Conference on Health & Domestic Violence; 2012 Mar 30; San Francisco, CA.

<sup>166</sup> Cho H, Kim WJ. Intimate partner violence among Asian Americans and their use of mental health services: Comparisons with White, Black, and Latino victims. *Journal of Immigrant Minority Health*. 2012;14(5):809-815.

In a study of a convenience sample of 30 Vietnamese women recruited from a civic association serving Vietnamese women in Boston, MA:<sup>167</sup>

- ◆ 16% of respondents reported having gone to facilities for treatment of injuries caused by the abuse.

## (g) Barriers to Help-Seeking

Data compiled by the National Domestic Violence Hotline reported various barriers to direct services experienced by Asian callers, including:

- ◆ In Calendar Year 2011: Language (36%), immigration status (36%), unavailability of services (16%), transportation (11%), gender (6%), mental health (6%), and older children (2%).<sup>168</sup>
- ◆ In Calendar Year 2012: Language (34%), immigration status (30%), transportation (14%), unavailability of services (9%), services at capacity (6%), gender (5%), mental health (5%), services not available in the area (4%), disabilities (3%), older children (2%), and same sex relationship (1%).<sup>169</sup>

The Lifecourse Intimate Partner Violence and Help-Seeking Study of women who have experienced intimate partner violence (aged 18-60) recruited via community outreach in the San Francisco Bay Area, CA <sup>170</sup> found that the majority of abused Filipina, Indian and Pakistani women turned to criminal justice system (CJS) agencies, such as the police for help but nevertheless, encountered barriers:

- ◆ **For abused Filipina women**, most frequent mentioned barriers included: Lack of knowledge/familiarity (19.1%), fear of consequences/safety concerns (16.7%), and concerns about immigration status (14.3%).
- ◆ **For abused Indian and Pakistani women**, most frequent barriers mentioned included: Shame/reputation/privacy (32.0%); fear of the consequences/safety concerns (28.0%); hope for change or that they were not ready (28.0%); lack of knowledge/familiarity (24.0%); and factors related to CJS agencies (e.g., the perception that CJS cannot be trusted or that CJS interventions are limited/ineffective; 24.0%).
- ◆ An additional analysis of found the following important differences in barriers to seeking help from the CJS agencies by immigration/generational position:<sup>171</sup>
  - First generation women most frequently mentioned immigration-related issues (57.9%) followed by socio-cultural reasons (36.8%).
  - In contrast, 1.5 and higher generation women most frequently cited socio-cultural reasons (62.1%), suggesting that, even for acculturated Asian women, socio-cultural norms of their or their family's home country might strongly influence their help-seeking from the CJS.

Project AWARE (Asian Women Advocating Respect and Empowerment) in Washington, DC conducted an anonymous survey with a convenience sample of 178 Asian women recruited through a snowball method:<sup>172</sup>

- ◆ Of the 22 possible barriers listed, the largest proportion (51.9%) indicated “needed to stay for the children,” followed by “afraid to be alone” (49.6%) and “love for my partner” (47.4%).
- ◆ Shame (“ashamed of what happened to me” 44.4%), hope for change (“my partner will change”

<sup>167</sup> Tran CG; *Domestic violence among Vietnamese refugee women: Prevalence, abuse characteristics, psychiatric symptoms, and psychosocial factors*. Unpublished doctoral dissertation, Boston University, Boston, MA; 1997.

<sup>168</sup> National Domestic Violence Hotline. *Caller demographics: Breakdown by ethnicity CY2011*. Austin, TX: Author; 2012.

<sup>169</sup> National Domestic Violence Hotline. *Caller demographics: Breakdown by ethnicity CY2012*. Austin, TX: Author; 2013.

<sup>170</sup> Yoshihama M, Bybee D, Dabby C, Blazeovski 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.

<https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/grants/236174.pdf>

<sup>171</sup> Rai A, Choi YJ, Yoshihama M, Dabby C. Helpful responses and barriers to help-seeking among battered immigrant Filipina, Indian, and Pakistani women in the United States: Implications for socio-culturally effective support. Under review.

<sup>172</sup> McDonnell KA, Abdulla SE. *Project AWARE: Research Project*. Washington, DC: Asian/Pacific Islander Domestic Violence Resource Project; 2001. <https://dvrp.org/project-aware/>

39.8%), financial concerns (“money” 39.1%), and concerns for “partners’ family” (36.8%) were mentioned frequently.

- ◆ Other frequently cited barriers included potential negative consequences of leaving, such as “fear of what a partner would do” (36.1%) and “afraid of getting a bad reputation (for themselves)” in the community (31.6%).

In an analysis of the 23 abused South Asian women who participated in an in-depth interviews (a subset of the 210 respondents participated in the anonymous survey in the Great Boston Area, MA in 2001-2002):<sup>173</sup>

- ◆ Participants reported a range of barriers to help-seeking for their experiences of partner’s violence: fear of stigmatization, fear of escalation of abuse, and lack of knowledge about available services.

As part of a community-based participatory study conducted at four community health centers in Hawai’i, 8 Samoan women (aged 24-63) participated in focus groups:<sup>174</sup>

- ◆ Participants spoke of various factors that hinder women from disclosing their partner’s violence, including: shame, fear of being blamed for the abuse, and not wanting people to know that they are controlled by their husbands.

In a study conducted at an O’ahu community clinic, focus groups were conducted with 7 Chuukese women (aged 28-58) who had recently migrated to Hawai’i from Chuuk, one of the four states of the Federated States of Micronesia:<sup>175</sup>

- ◆ Participants spoke of various barriers to seeking help, including the culturally ascribed role of women as responsible for maintaining family peace, shame, and fear of being blamed.

As part of a community-based participatory research project, 10 Filipina women (aged 34-52) were recruited from community health centers in Hawai’i; 5 women who had experienced intimate partner violence were interviewed individually, and other 5 women took part in focus groups:<sup>176</sup>

- ◆ Participants indicated they were not likely to seek help from the police; they spoke of fear of involvement of the police and possible adverse consequences that might result, such as effects on immigration/legal status, loss of income if the partner gets incarcerated, and bringing shame to the family.

In the Chemtob and colleagues’ study of 25 mothers and 25 children recruited from domestic violence programs in Hawai’i:<sup>177</sup>

- ◆ 46% of mothers and 42% of children were diagnosed with Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) based on the Posttraumatic Diagnostic Scale.
- ◆ Mothers with PTSD had elevated depressive and dissociative symptoms. However, there was no significant association between the likelihood of PTSD in the mothers and likelihood of PTSD in children.

In the Yoshihama study of face-to-face interviews with a random sample of 211 women of Japanese descent in Los Angeles County, CA:<sup>178</sup>

- ◆ 36.4% of women who had experienced intimate partner violence were estimated to develop

<sup>173</sup> Raj A, Silverman JG. Domestic violence help-seeking behaviors of South Asian battered women residing in the United States. *International Review of Victimology*. 2007;14(1):143-170.

<sup>174</sup> Magnussen L, Shoultz J, Hansen K, Sapolu M, Samifua M. Intimate partner violence: Perceptions of Samoan women. *Journal of Community Health*. 2008;33(6):389-394.

<sup>175</sup> Shoultz J, Magnussen L, Hansen K, Selifis SM, Ifenuk M. Intimate partner violence: Perceptions of Chuukese women. *Hawaii Medical Journal*. 2007;66(10):268-271.

<sup>176</sup> Shoultz J, Magnussen L, Manzano H, Arias C, Spencer C. Listening to Filipina women: Perceptions, responses and needs regarding intimate partner violence. *Issues in Mental Health Nursing*. 2010;31(1):54-61.

<sup>177</sup> Chemtob CM, Carlson JG, Perrone P. *Domestic violence in Hawai’i: Impact on mothers and their children*. Honolulu, HI: State of Hawai’i Department of the Attorney General; 2000.

<sup>178</sup> Yoshihama M, Horrocks J. The relationship between intimate partner violence and PTSD: An application of the Cox regression with time-varying covariates. *Journal of Traumatic Stress*. 2003;16:371-380.

PTSD by age 49 (the maximum age of the respondents in the study<sup>179</sup>) based on a modified National Women’s Study PTSD Module.

- ◆ Compared to those who had not experienced intimate partner violence, the probability of developing PTSD was almost two to three times higher for those who had experienced intimate partner violence.

An analysis of data from the Yoshihama study of women of Japanese descent in Los Angeles County, CA examined the relationship between psychological distress and coping strategies used by abused women.<sup>180</sup> Significant differences were found between Japan-born and U.S.-born women in not only the types of coping used but also their relationships to psychological well-being, suggesting the importance of a match between cultural values and coping strategies:<sup>181</sup>

- ◆ For U.S.-born Japanese American women, the higher the perceived effectiveness of *active* coping strategies, the lower their psychological distress, and the perceived effectiveness of *passive/discreet* strategies had little effect on their psychological distress.
- ◆ In contrast, for the Japan-born, the more effective they perceived *passive/discreet* coping strategies, the lower their psychological distress whereas the more effective they perceived *active* strategies, the higher their psychological distress. This finding suggests that for women who immigrated from Japan, the use of active coping strategies, such as confronting, seeking outside help, and leaving the relationship, might be detrimental to psychological well-being: it is possible that such strategies may be frowned upon, which might lead to reduced social support from family members and friends, which in turn might result in psychological distress.
- ◆ The study’s findings suggest that a match between coping strategies and socio-culturally rooted expectations and proscriptions, rather than the choice of strategies, serves as a protective or risk factor for psychological distress for abused women.

A study of a convenience sample of 61 Asian battered women (in California and Texas) and 100 Caucasian battered women (in Texas) examined the relationships among social support, coping strategies, and psychological outcome. Notable differences between Asians and Caucasians were found:<sup>182</sup>

- ◆ The level of intimate partner violence was significantly associated with worse psychological outcome among Asian but not Caucasian battered women.
- ◆ For Asian battered women, psychological outcome was not associated with problem-focused coping, seeking support, or using “passive” coping. In contrast, for Caucasian battered women, use of “passive” coping was associated with worse psychological outcome.

In the Population Study of Chinese Elderly in Chicago, face-to-face interviews were conducted with a representative sample of 3,157 Chinese women and men 60 years or older in Chicago, IL:<sup>183</sup>

- ◆ Respondents with a history of intimate partner violence was more likely to report worse overall health status.

<sup>179</sup> This adjusted estimate is probably still an underestimate of lifetime PTSD, as women over the age of 49 may develop PTSD but were not represented in the sample.

<sup>180</sup> A factor analysis found two broad types of strategies of coping: “active” strategies, such as confronting the partner, seeking help from friends and family, seeking information, seeing a counselor, suggesting that the partner get help, and leaving the relationship temporarily or permanently); and “passive/discreet” strategies, such as focusing on positive aspects of the partner/relationship, minimizing the seriousness of situation, avoiding a potentially violent situation, doing things to calm down or relax, and using alcohol or drugs).

<sup>181</sup> Yoshihama M. Battered women's coping strategies and psychological distress: Differences by immigration status. *American Journal of Community Psychology*. 2002;30:429-452.

<sup>182</sup> Lee J, Pomeroy E, Bohman T. Intimate partner violence and psychological health in a sample of Asian and Caucasian women: The roles of social support and coping. *Journal of Family Violence*. 2007;22(8):709-720.

<sup>183</sup> Dong X & Wang B. Associations of child maltreatment and intimate partner violence with elder abuse in a US Chinese population. *JAMA Internal Medicine*. 2019;179(7):889-896. Interviews were conducted in Cantonese, Mandarin, Teochew, Toishanese, and English.

An interview study with a representative sample of 181 women of Chinese descent in the Greater Boston Area, MA:<sup>184</sup>

- ◆ The probability of experiencing major depression was 4 times higher among women with a history of intimate partner violence.
- ◆ A history of intimate partner violence was also associated with a higher probability of 12-month and current major depression.

In a telephone interview study of a random sample of 262 Chinese immigrant and Chinese American adults in Los Angeles County, CA:<sup>185</sup>

- ◆ Those who experienced verbal and physical aggression by a spouse/intimate partner in the last 12 months were more likely to experience depressive symptoms.
- ◆ Those who perpetrated physical aggression against their partner were more likely to experience somatic symptoms.

In a study of a convenience sample of 208 South Asian women recruited through community outreach in the Greater Boston area, MA, women who reported intimate partner violence were more likely than those without such violence to have experienced:

- ◆ Poor physical health in 7 or more of the last 30 days (19.5% vs. 6.7%), depression in 7 or more of the last 30 days (31.8% vs. 10.2%), anxiety in 7 or more of the last 30 days (34.1% vs. 20.1%), and suicidal ideation during the last year (15.9% vs. 2.5%).<sup>186</sup>
- ◆ Discolored vaginal discharge in the past year (36.4% vs. 17.8%), burning during urination in the past year (44.2% vs. 20.4%), and unwanted pregnancy in their current relationship (23.3% vs. 7.4%).<sup>187</sup>

Project AWARE (Asian Women Advocating Respect and Empowerment) in Washington, DC conducted an anonymous survey with a convenience sample of 178 Asian women recruited through a snowball method:<sup>188</sup>

- ◆ Respondents or women they knew had experienced a wide range of “psychological injuries” by their intimate partners including: feeling helpless (65.2%), lowered self-esteem (62.1%), depressed (59.1%), ashamed (57.6%), hopeless (49.2%), anxious (46.2%), and suicidal (17.4%).

In another study conducted by Project AWARE (Asian Women Advocating Respect and Empowerment), 21 women were surveyed, and 9 were interviewed in Washington, DC, Maryland, and Virginia; participants’ countries of origin included China, India, Iraq, Japan, Pakistan, the Philippines, Thailand, the U.S., and Vietnam.<sup>189</sup>

- ◆ Nearly one in five participants reported having felt suicidal at some point in their life.
- ◆ 75% of participants reported suffering from anxiety related to intimate partner’s violence, 71%, depression.

As part of a clinical screening for a group therapy study, a computer assisted self-interview was conducted with a convenience sample of 173 Chinese, Korean, and Vietnamese women, who were 1.5 or 2nd generation, aged 18-35 and unmarried, recruited via community outreach in Greater Boston,

<sup>184</sup> Hicks MH, Li Z. Partner violence and major depression in women: A community study of Chinese Americans. *The Journal of Nervous and Mental Disease*. 2003;191(11):722-729.

<sup>185</sup> Yick AG, Shibusawa T, Agbayani-Siewert P. Partner violence, depression, and practice implications with families of Chinese descent. *Journal of Cultural Diversity*. 2003;10:96-104.

<sup>186</sup> Hurwitz EJH, Gupta J, Liu R, Silverman JG, Raj A. Intimate partner violence associated with poor health outcomes in U.S. South Asian women. *Journal of Immigrant and Minority Health*. 2006;8:251-261

<sup>187</sup> Raj A, Liu R, McCleary-Sills J, Silverman JG. South Asian victims of intimate partner violence more likely than non-victims to report sexual health concerns. *Journal of Immigrant Health*. 2005;7:85-91.

<sup>188</sup> McDonnell KA, Abdulla SE. *Project AWARE: Research Project*. Washington, DC: Asian/Pacific Islander Domestic Violence Resource Project; 2001. <https://dvrp.org/project-aware/>

<sup>189</sup> Asian/Pacific Islander Domestic Violence Resource Project. *Project AWARE fact sheet*. Washington, DC: Asian/Pacific Islander Domestic Violence Resource Project; n.d. <https://dvrp.org/project-aware/>

MA:<sup>190</sup>

- ◆ 81.5% of women who had experienced partner's physical and/or sexual violence had ever experienced suicidal ideation, compared to 58.0% of women who had not experienced such violence.

In a study of a convenience sample of 215 South Asian women (aged 20-65) recruited via community outreach in San Francisco, CA; Chicago, IL; New York, NY; and Huston, Austin, and Dallas, TX:<sup>191</sup>

- ◆ 20% of women with an experience of partner's abuse in the past year reported having thought about taking their own lives to cope with the situation.

Studies have documented what is referred to as a "dose-response" type of relationship between the severity of violence (*dose*) and symptom intensity (*response*), such as worse health outcomes:

- ◆ The Tran study of Vietnamese women in Boston, MA found that both the severity and duration of partner violence were significantly associated with levels of posttraumatic stress and depressive symptoms.<sup>192</sup>
- ◆ In the Yoshihama study of Japanese women in Los Angeles County, CA, the severity of partners' emotional violence was associated with the level of current psychological distress.<sup>193</sup>
- ◆ An analysis by Yoshihama and Horrocks of response from Japanese women in Los Angeles County, CA found that women who had experienced injuries and/or feared for their life reported significantly higher symptoms of posttraumatic stress, especially re-experiencing and avoidance/numbing symptoms, than those with no experience of partners' violence in their lifetime.<sup>194</sup>
- ◆ The Hicks study of women of Chinese descent in the Greater Boston Area, MA found that the number of threats and the number of physical violent events were positively associated with the severity of lifetime major depression.<sup>195</sup>

Long-term effects of intimate partner violence have been documented in a number of studies:

- ◆ The participants in the Chemtob and colleagues' study in Hawai'i had been out of the abusive relationship on average more than two years; however, a significant minority (46% of mothers and 42% of children) were suffering from PTSD at the time of the study.<sup>196</sup>
- ◆ In the Yoshihama and Horrock study in Los Angeles County, CA, Japanese women who had experienced an intimate partner's physical and/or emotional violence more than one year ago reported experiencing a larger number of posttraumatic symptoms than those without a history of partner violence.<sup>197</sup>
- ◆ Similarly, in another study by Yoshihama and Horrocks, there was no significant association between the timing of experiencing intimate partner violence and the probability of developing PTSD, suggesting that the effects of intimate partner's violence do not necessarily decrease over time.<sup>198</sup>

<sup>190</sup> Maru M, Saraiya T, Lee CS, Meghani O, Hien D, Hahn HC. The relationship between intimate partner violence and suicidal ideation among young Chinese, Korean, and Vietnamese American women. *Women & Therapy*. 2018;41(3-4):339-355.

<sup>191</sup> Mahapatra, N., & DiNitto, D. M. (2013). Help-seeking behaviors of South Asian women experiencing domestic violence in the United States. *Partner Abuse*, 4(3),295-313.

<sup>192</sup> Tran CG; *Domestic violence among Vietnamese refugee women: Prevalence, abuse characteristics, psychiatric symptoms, and psychosocial factors*. Unpublished doctoral dissertation, Boston University, Boston, MA; 1997.

<sup>193</sup> Yoshihama M. Model minority demystified: Emotional costs of multiple victimizations in the lives of women of Japanese descent. *Journal of Human Behavior in the Social Environment*. 2001;3:201-224.

<sup>194</sup> Yoshihama M, Horrocks J. Posttraumatic stress symptoms and victimization among Japanese American women. *Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology*. 2002;70:205-215.

<sup>195</sup> Hicks MH, Li Z. Partner violence and major depression in women: A community study of Chinese Americans. *The Journal of Nervous and Mental Disease*. 2003;191(11):722-729.

<sup>196</sup> Chemtob CM, Carlson JG, Perrone P. *Domestic violence in Hawai'i: Impact on mothers and their children*. Honolulu, HI: State of Hawai'i Department of the Attorney General; 2000.

<sup>197</sup> Yoshihama M, Horrocks J. Posttraumatic stress symptoms and victimization among Japanese American women. *Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology*. 2002;70:205-215.

<sup>198</sup> Yoshihama M, Horrocks J. The relationship between intimate partner violence and PTSD: An application of the Cox regression with time-

Emotional abuse (non-physical violence) by an intimate partner has a significant negative effect on women's mental health:

- ◆ In the Yoshihama and Horrocks study in Los Angeles County, CA, Japanese women who experienced partner's emotional violence in the absence of partner's physical violence reported a significantly higher number of avoidance symptoms and somewhat elevated re-experiencing of symptoms.<sup>199</sup> [Note: Conventionally, posttraumatic stress disorder includes re-experiencing, avoidance/numbing, and arousal symptoms.]
- ◆ In the Tran study of Vietnamese women in Boston, MA, the severity of partner's verbal abuse was significantly associated with symptoms of posttraumatic stress, depression, and anxiety; and the duration of partner's verbal abuse was associated with posttraumatic stress symptoms, depression, and somatic symptoms.<sup>200</sup>

In a study conducted in collaboration with community health centers in Hawai'i 10 Native Hawaiian women (aged 27-61) were recruited; 5 women who had experienced intimate partner violence were interviewed individually, and other 5 women took part in focus groups:<sup>201</sup>

- ◆ Participants spoke of the natural elements of the land, mountain, ocean, wind, and stars as "a source of 'security,' an avenue to release *pilikia* (troubles), a sense of belonging, and relaxation or calm."

In the first Samoa Family Health and Safety Study (SFHSS), a representative sample of 1,646 women and 664 men aged 15-49 were interviewed face-to-face (response rate: 82.5% for women, 83.0% for men).<sup>202</sup>

- ◆ Women who have been abused by their partner were more likely to have contemplated or attempted suicide.
- ◆ Among the women currently using contraception, a significantly larger proportion of ever abused women (14.7%) indicated that their partner had opposed to contraceptive use compared to those who have never been abused by their partner (5.3%).

In the Cook Islands Family Health and Safety Study face-to-face interviews with a representative sample of 919 women aged 15-64 (response rate: 98.7%).<sup>203</sup>

- ◆ Women who experienced partner's physical and/or sexual violence were more likely to have thought of suicide (14.3%) and have ever attempted suicide (4.2%) compared to women without experience of partner's violence (7.2% and 2.0%, respectively).

## 6. EXPOSURE TO FAMILY VIOLENCE IN CHILDHOOD

In the Population Study of Chinese Elderly in Chicago,<sup>204</sup> <sup>205</sup> face-to-face interviews were conducted with a representative sample of 3,157 Chinese women and men 60 years or older in Chicago, IL:

varying covariates. *Journal of Traumatic Stress*. 2003;16:371-380.

<sup>199</sup> Yoshihama M, Horrocks J. Posttraumatic stress symptoms and victimization among Japanese American women. *Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology*. 2002;70:205-215.

<sup>200</sup> Tran CG; *Domestic violence among Vietnamese refugee women: Prevalence, abuse characteristics, psychiatric symptoms, and psychosocial factors*. Unpublished doctoral dissertation, Boston University, Boston, MA; 1997.

<sup>201</sup> Oneha MF, Magnussen L, Shultz J. The voices of Native Hawaiian women: Perceptions, responses and needs regarding intimate partner violence. *Californian Journal of Health Promotion*. 2010;8(1):72-81.

<sup>202</sup> Secretariat of the Pacific Community & United Nations Population Fund. *The Samoa Family Health and Safety Study*. Noumea, New Caledonia: Secretariat of the Pacific Community 2006. <https://pacific.unfpa.org/sites/default/files/pub-pdf/SamoaFamilyHealthandSafetyStudy.pdf>

<sup>203</sup> Cook Islands Ministry of Health, Cook Islands National Council of Women, United Nations Population Fund. *Te ata o te ngakau: Shadows of the heart - The Cook Islands Family Health and Safety Study*. Rarotonga, Cook Islands: Cook Islands Ministry of Health; 2014.

<https://pacific.unfpa.org/sites/default/files/pub-pdf/CIFHSSReportweb.pdf>

<sup>204</sup> Dong X & Wang B. Associations of child maltreatment and intimate partner violence with elder abuse in a US Chinese population. *JAMA Internal Medicine*. 2019;179(7):889-896.

<sup>205</sup> Wang B, Dong X. Life course violence: Child maltreatment, IPV, and elder abuse phenotypes in a US Chinese population. *Journal of the American Geriatrics Society*. 2019/08/01;67(S3):S486-S492.

- ◆ 11.4% of respondents (male and female) reported having experienced child maltreatment: psychological (2.4%) and physical/sexual (10.2%) [Note: Gender breakdown was not reported.]
- ◆ Those who had experienced child maltreatment were more likely to report experiencing intimate partner violence compared to those who had not experienced child maltreatment (13.4% and 5.6%, respectively). [Note: Gender breakdown was not reported.]
- ◆ Elder abuse was more prevalent among those who reported child maltreatment (25.2% vs 13.8%) and intimate partner violence (48.8% vs 12.9%). [Note: Gender breakdown was not reported.]

In the Yoshihama study of face-to-face interviews with a random sample of 211 women of Japanese descent in Los Angeles County, CA:

- ◆ 13.3% of respondents reported having experienced physical abuse during childhood.<sup>206</sup>
- ◆ 36.4% of first generation respondents (those born in Japan and immigrated to the U.S. after age 13), and 13.2% of the 1.5, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> generation respondents reported that their father had abused their mother.<sup>207</sup>

In a web-based survey with a convenience sample of 535 South Asian women aged 18-49 currently living in the U.S.:<sup>208</sup>

- ◆ 72 women (13.5%) reported that their mother had been battered.
- ◆ 21.1% reported having experienced some form of sexual abuse during childhood (e.g., exposure, touching, attempted penetration); 5.4%, physical abuse, and 16.3%, verbal abuse during childhood.

In the Chemtob and colleagues study of 25 mothers and 25 children recruited from domestic violence programs in Hawai'i.<sup>209</sup>

- ◆ 91% of mothers reported that their children had witnessed their father's violence against their mother; 56% of the mothers stated that their children had attempted to intervene.
- ◆ 80% of children witnessed their father's domestic violence at least monthly, with 40% witnessing it on a daily basis. In addition, 80% of mothers considered the level of distress in their children to be "extreme."
- ◆ 72% of the mothers reported that their children had been physically abused; and 12%, sexually abused. Over half of mothers (56%) rated the level of abuse against their children as "extreme."

In a study conducted by Project AWARE (Asian Women Advocating Respect and Empowerment), 21 women were surveyed, and 9 were interviewed in Washington, DC, Maryland, and Virginia; participants' countries of origin included China, India, Iraq, Japan, Pakistan, the Philippines, Thailand, the U.S., and Vietnam.<sup>210</sup>

- ◆ Half of the 20 participants who had children reported that children were present during some or many of the abusive incidents.

In a questionnaire study of a convenience sample of 136 first generation Korean women who came to the U.S. after age 16, recruited from places frequented by Korean women (e.g., Korean hair salons and Korean nursery schools) in Austin and Dallas, TX:<sup>211</sup>

- ◆ 72.8% of participants reported having experienced physical violence, and 73.5%, psychological

<sup>206</sup> Yoshihama M, Horrocks J. Posttraumatic stress symptoms and victimization among Japanese American women. *Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology*. 2002; 70:205-215.

<sup>207</sup> Yoshihama M. Model minority demystified: Emotional costs of multiple victimizations in the lives of women of Japanese descent. *Journal of Human Behavior in the Social Environment*. 2001;3:201-224.

<sup>209</sup> Chemtob CM, Carlson JG, Perrone P. *Domestic violence in Hawai'i: Impact on mothers and their children*. Honolulu, HI: State of Hawai'i Department of the Attorney General; 2000.

<sup>210</sup> Asian/Pacific Islander Domestic Violence Resource Project. *Project AWARE fact sheet*. Washington, DC: Asian/Pacific Islander Domestic Violence Resource Project; n.d. <https://dvrp.org/project-aware/>

<sup>211</sup> Lee E. Domestic violence and risk factors among Korean immigrant women in the United States. *Journal of Family Violence*. 2007;22:141-149.

aggression during childhood.

In a survey of a convenience sample of 214 Korean women and 121 Korean men in the San Francisco Bay Area, CA:<sup>212</sup>

- ◆ 33% of respondents (women and men) reported that their fathers hit their mothers at least once.

The Asian Task Force Against Domestic Violence in Boston, MA asked people attending ethnic fairs and community events to fill out a questionnaire:<sup>213</sup>

- ◆ 69% of the overall respondents reported having being hit regularly as children. The proportion of respondents who were hit regularly by their parents varied slightly across ethnic groups: Cambodian (70%), Chinese (61%), Koreans (80%), South Asians (79%), and Vietnamese (72%).
- ◆ The proportion of respondents who reported having witnessed their fathers regularly hit their mothers was 28% for Cambodians, 18% for Chinese, 30% for Koreans, 8% for South Asians, and 27% for Vietnamese.

The Utah Department of Health conducted telephone interviews with 605 Pacific Islander adults living in Utah; interviews were conducted in Samoan, Tonga, and English:<sup>214</sup>

- ◆ 41% (34% of females and 48% of males) reported having experienced verbal abuse as children.
- ◆ 37% (30% of females and 43% of males) reported having experienced physical abuse as children.
- ◆ 9% (10% of females and 8% of males) reported having experienced sexual abuse as children.
- ◆ 31% (26% of females and 37% of males) reported having witnessed domestic violence as children.

In the first Samoa Family Health and Safety Study (SFHSS), a representative sample of 1,646 women and 664 men aged 15-49 were interviewed face-to-face (response rate: 82.5% for women, 83.0% for men):<sup>215</sup>

- ◆ 33% of ever-partnered men (42% of abusive men and 31% of non-abusive men) said that they had seen/heard their father beat their mother.
- ◆ Of the 205 male respondents who were aware that their fathers had beaten their wives, 12% stated that their fathers' action was right.

## 7. DOMESTIC VIOLENCE RELATED HOMICIDES

Using data from the Centers for Disease Control National Center for Health Statistics, homicides of 236 Asian/Pacific Islander adult women (18+ years old) from the 2003 to 2014 were analyzed.<sup>216</sup>

- ◆ 118 (57.8%) of the homicides were related to intimate partner violence. Of these IPV-related homicide cases:
  - 81% of perpetrators/suspects were a current intimate partner, 9.5% were a former intimate partner, and 9.5% of suspects were deemed 'other.'
  - 12.9% had experienced violence in the past month, 11% of incidents were precipitated

<sup>212</sup> Shimtuh (Korean Domestic Violence Program). *Korean American community of the Bay Area domestic violence needs assessment report*. Oakland, CA: Author; 2000.

<sup>213</sup> Yoshioka M, Dang Q. *Asian family violence report: A study of the Cambodian, Chinese, Korean, South Asian, and Vietnamese communities in Massachusetts*. Boston, MA: Asian Task Force Against Domestic Violence; 2000. <https://www.atask.org/site/publications/family-violence-report.html>

<sup>214</sup> Utah Department of Health Office of Health Disparities. *Utah Pacific Islanders*. Salt Lake City, UT; 2011. <https://www.health.utah.gov/disparities/data/ohd/PacificIslanderReport2011.pdf>

<sup>215</sup> Secretariat of the Pacific Community & United Nations Population Fund. *The Samoa Family Health and Safety Study*. Noumea, New Caledonia: Secretariat of the Pacific Community 2006. <https://pacific.unfpa.org/sites/default/files/pub-pdf/SamoaFamilyHealthandSafetyStudy.pdf>

<sup>216</sup> Petrosky E et al. Racial and ethnic differences in homicides of adult women and the role of intimate partner violence – United States, 2003-2014. *MMWR Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*. 2017;66(28):741-746.

by another crime (e.g., assault/homicide, and rape/sexual assault, burglary), 35.6% were preceded by an argument, and 11% involved jealousy/lover's triangle.

The Asian Pacific Institute on Gender-Based Violence analyzed 160 cases of domestic violence related homicides in Asian families based on newspaper clippings and information from advocates for a six-year period from 2000–2005:<sup>217</sup>

### Types of Homicides and Fatalities:

- ◆ Of the total of 160 domestic violence related homicide cases identified:
  - 72% (115) were intimate partner homicide cases.
  - 16% (25) were non-intimate family killing cases, i.e. child killings, extended family killings, matricide and parricide cases.
  - 12% (20) were collateral, competitor, contract, honor killing and familicide (a killing in which a parent or step-parent kills a current or ex-partner and one or more of the couple's children and/or children from a previous relationship) cases.
- ◆ 160 homicide cases resulted in 226 fatalities:
  - 184 adults and children were killed.
  - 42 perpetrators committed suicide after killing their victims.

### Victims:

- ◆ 78% of victims were women and girls, 20% were men and boys, 2% unknown.
- ◆ 68% (125) of victims were intimate partners: 70% were current partners (78 women, 10 men); 30% were estranged or ex-partners (33 women, 4 men).
- ◆ 32% (59) of victims were non-intimate family members: 22 were children; 12 were in-laws; 10 were parents; 15 were others.
- ◆ 64% of victims were killed in their homes.
- ◆ 62% of victims were stabbed or shot to death.

### Children:

- ◆ 22 child fatalities represent the second largest group (after women intimate partners) of homicide victims.
- ◆ Children were the primary victims (13 out of 20 individuals) of familicides.
- ◆ 160 non-fatal child victims included those who survived attempted homicides, were seriously injured in attacks, were eye or ear witnesses to homicides and/or suicides, and/or discovered bodies; thus implying extensive physical and psychological harms.

### Perpetrators:

- ◆ 83% of perpetrators were men, 14% were women, 3% were unknown.
- ◆ 7 out of a total of 10 men who killed children also killed the children's mothers; whereas 1 out of the total of 4 women who killed her children killed her partner.
- ◆ 70% of killers used guns to commit suicide.

### Data from California indicate:

- ◆ 23% of 67 domestic violence-related deaths from 2001 – 2005 in California's Alameda County were Asian and Pacific Islander.<sup>218</sup>
- ◆ 31% (16 out of 51 cases) of domestic violence-related homicides from 1993 – 1997 in California's Santa Clara County were Asian,<sup>219</sup> although Asians comprised only 17.5% of the

<sup>217</sup> Dabby C, Patel H, Poore G. *Shattered lives: Homicides, domestic violence and Asian families*. Oakland, CA: Asian Pacific Institute on Gender-Based Violence; 2009.

<sup>218</sup> Alameda County Public Health Department. *Domestic violence in Alameda County: A fact sheet*. Oakland, CA: Author; (n.d.)

<sup>219</sup> Santa Clara County Death Review Sub-Committee of the *Domestic Violence Council, Death Review Committee final report*. San Jose, CA: Author; 1997.

county's population.

In the state of Hawai'i:

- ◆ Greater than 70% of 58 women victims of IPV-related homicide between 2000 and 2009 were Filipina or Native Hawaiian.<sup>220</sup>

In a study of 62 cases of domestic violence related fatality between 2000 and 2009:<sup>221</sup>

- ◆ 14.5% of victims of domestic violence related fatalities were Japanese, 24.2% were Filipino, and 11.3% were other Asian ethnicities. [Note: At the time of the study, Japanese, Filipino, and other Asians made up 20%, 15%, and 8.1% of Hawai'i's population, respectively.]

According to data from the New York City Police Department collected and reviewed by the Fatality Review Committee:<sup>222</sup>

- ◆ In 2018 in New York City, there were 44 Asian victims of domestic violence homicide.
- ◆ Of these 44 victims, 21 were intimate partner homicide victims (19 females and 2 males), and 23 were victims of homicide by other family members.

## 8. SERVICE UTILIZATION

### (a) Data from Community Based Organizations<sup>223</sup>

**Apna Ghar, Inc.:** Chicago, IL, 2017:<sup>224</sup>

- ◆ Provided comprehensive services to 600 survivors of gender violence and their families
- ◆ Addressed immediate safety needs of 1,696 callers on the 24-hour crisis line
- ◆ Guided 187 survivors through the legal system
- ◆ Provided individual, family, and group counseling to 152 survivors and their children
- ◆ Provided a safe and home-like environment for 71 survivors and their children
- ◆ Supported 19 survivors and their children with longer-term transitional housing
- ◆ Created safety and deepened engagement with 251 women, children and men through supervised visitation and safe exchange services

**Asian Pacific Development Center of Colorado (APDC):** Aurora, CO, 1016:<sup>225</sup>

- ◆ 101 victim assistance clients, including:
  - 56% domestic violence
  - 8% sexual assault

**Asian/Pacific Islander Domestic Violence Resource Project (DVRP):** Washington, D.C., 2018:<sup>226</sup>

- ◆ 190 survivors were connected to services or shelter

<sup>220</sup> Domestic Violence Coalition. *Death attributed to domestic violence in Hawaii 1996-present*, Unpublished report cited in Shoultz J, Magnussen L, Manzano H, Arias C, Spencer C. Listening to Filipina women: Perceptions, responses and needs regarding intimate partner violence. *Issues in Mental Health Nursing*. 2010;31(1):54-61.

<sup>221</sup> Pobutsky A, Brown M, Nakao L & Reyes-Salvail F. Results from the Hawai'i domestic violence fatality review, 2000-2009. *Journal of Injury in Violence Research*. 2014;6(2): 79-90.

<sup>222</sup> New York City Mayor's Office to Combat Domestic Violence. New York City Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee. *2018 annual report*. Retrieved from [https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/ocdv/downloads/pdf/2018\\_Annual\\_FRC\\_Report\\_Final.pdf](https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/ocdv/downloads/pdf/2018_Annual_FRC_Report_Final.pdf) (July 30, 2019)

<sup>223</sup> The service utilization data is presented as the information sources stated it. The year refers to the specified calendar year, unless stated otherwise.

<sup>224</sup> Apna Ghar. *2017 programs and services impact*. Retrieved from <http://www.apnaghar.org/programs-and-services.html> (July 25, 2019).

<sup>225</sup> Asian Pacific Development Center of Colorado. *Annual report 2016*. Retrieved from <https://issuu.com/asianpacificdevelopmentcenter/docs/apdcannualreport6222017> (July 29, 2019)

<sup>226</sup> Asian/Pacific Islander Domestic Violence Resource Project. *Fiscal year 2018 impact*. Retrieved from <https://dvrp.org/about-dvrp-home/our-impact/> (July 25, 2019).

**Asian Task Force Against Domestic Violence: Boston, MA, 2014:**<sup>227</sup>

- ◆ 56 clients served (30 adults and 26 children)
- ◆ 547 bed nights provided at emergency shelter
- ◆ Responded to 336 24/7 emergency Helpline calls
- ◆ Provided advocacy and case management for 437 clients
- ◆ Provided on-site legal advocacy for over 175 clients and facilitated 301 case consultations
- ◆ Helped 34 survivors improve their English, gain financial literacy, job readiness, and other skills
- ◆ Served 15 individuals (7 adults and 8 children) and provided 3,270 bed nights as part of the Transitional Housing Program

**Asian Women's Shelter: San Francisco, CA, FY 2018 – 2019:**<sup>228</sup>

- ◆ 930 multilingual hotline calls in 40 languages.
- ◆ 37 residents were sheltered. Of those:
  - 59% spoke limited English
  - 62% of them were API-identified or mixed with API
- ◆ 1,882.9 hours of language support were provided to residents and crisis callers by AWS language advocates

**Asian Women United of Minnesota (AWUM): Minneapolis, MN, 2016-2017:**<sup>229</sup>

- ◆ 169 shelter residents (72 women, 92 children)
- ◆ 931 crisis calls
- ◆ 37 therapy sessions for women and 9 for children
- ◆ 43 support group meetings for women and 97 for children

**Center for the Pacific Asian Family (CPAF): Los Angeles, CA, 2017:**<sup>230</sup>

- ◆ Responded to 4,640 crisis calls in 22 languages

**CHETNA: Richardson, TX, 2017:**<sup>231</sup>

- ◆ 150 helpline callers received assistance and referrals
- ◆ 54 children benefitted
- ◆ 84 hours of domestic violence counseling provided
- ◆ Types of violence clients reported
  - 39 verbal; 39 physical; 35 psychological/emotional; 23 economic; 17 sexual; 9 stalking; 5 isolation; 1 abuse by in-laws; 1 abandonment

**DAYA, Inc.: Houston, TX, 2018:**<sup>232</sup>

- ◆ 462 clients served
- ◆ 575 legal referrals and consultations
- ◆ Secured 174 months of housing for survivors and their children

<sup>227</sup> Asian Task Force Against Domestic Violence. *2014 annual report*. Retrieved from [https://www.atask.org/site/images/pdf/annual\\_report/atask\\_2014\\_annual\\_report.pdf](https://www.atask.org/site/images/pdf/annual_report/atask_2014_annual_report.pdf) (July 25, 2019).

<sup>228</sup> Email communication to Shirley Luo, API-GBV from Thao Duong, Asian Women's Shelter: October 16, 2019.

<sup>229</sup> Asian Women United of Minnesota. *AWUM annual report 2016-2017*. Retrieved from <https://issuu.com/awum/docs/awum16-17> (July 25, 2019).

<sup>230</sup> Center for the Pacific Asian Family. *A year in review: CPAF's 2017 annual report*. Retrieved from <https://nurturingchange.org/a-year-in-review-cpafs-2017-annual-report/> (July 25, 2019).

<sup>231</sup> CHETNA. *A year in review 2017*. Retrieved from <http://www.chetna-dfw.org/about-us-2/annual-reports/> (July 29, 2019)

<sup>232</sup> DAYA, Inc. *Snapshot 2018*. Retrieved from <https://www.dayahouston.org/2018-snapshot> (July 25, 2019)

**Domestic Violence Action Center: Honolulu, HI, 2018:**<sup>233</sup>

- ◆ 1,944 callers to the agency Helpline
- ◆ 6,736 survivors were assisted in completing safety plans
- ◆ 2,493 victims received assistance with a restraining order or appearing as a chief witness in a criminal case
- ◆ Advocates worked with 2,019 petitioners at Family Court

**Immigrant and Refugee Community Organization (IRCO): Portland, OR, 2018:**<sup>234</sup>

- ◆ 2,245 victims and survivors of domestic violence received behavioral counseling and intervention

**Korean American Family Services (KFAM): Los Angeles, CA, 2017:**<sup>235</sup>

- ◆ 149 domestic violence survivors served
- ◆ 107 children exposed to violence served through counseling and art therapy

**Korean American Family Service Center: Flushing, NY, 2017:**<sup>236</sup>

- ◆ 3,109 hotline call responses
- ◆ 726 victims of domestic violence, sexual violence, and child abuse served, of which 654 were Asian
- ◆ 599 clients were immigrants, and 560 had limited English proficiency
- ◆ 1,100 bed nights provided; 23 people (18 women and 5 children) housed

**Korean Women's Association: Tacoma, WA, 2017-2018:**<sup>237</sup>

- ◆ 126 domestic violence clients served

**MAI Family Services: Livonia, MI, 2018:**<sup>238</sup>

- ◆ 50 domestic abuse clients served

**Maitri: Santa Clara, CA, 2012:**<sup>239</sup>

- ◆ Helpline Program:
  - 3347 helpline calls
  - 321 crisis callers
  - 574 referrals given
- ◆ Legal Advocacy Program:
  - 252 total clients
  - 850 advocacy sessions
  - 74 court accompaniments
- ◆ Transitional Housing Program:
  - 34 survivors housed (20 adults and 14 children)

<sup>233</sup> Domestic Violence Action Center. *2018 annual report*. Retrieved from [https://domesticviolenceactioncenter.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/DVAC\\_2018AR\\_Webrev.06.19.19.pdf](https://domesticviolenceactioncenter.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/DVAC_2018AR_Webrev.06.19.19.pdf) (July 25, 2019).

<sup>234</sup> Immigrant and Refugee Community Organization. *2018 annual report*. Retrieved from <https://irco.org/assets/files/financials/IRCO2018AnnualReport.pdf> (July 25, 2019).

<sup>235</sup> Korean Family Services. *2017 annual report*. Retrieved from <http://kfamla.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/2017-Annual-Report-Final.pdf> (July 25, 2019).

<sup>236</sup> Korean American Family Service Center. *2017 annual report*. Retrieved from <http://kafsc.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/KAFSC-FY17-Annual-Report.pdf> (July 25, 2019).

<sup>237</sup> Korean Women's Association. *2017 annual report*. Retrieved from <https://www.kwacares.org/kwa-2017-annual-report/> (July 25, 2019).

<sup>238</sup> Mai Family Services. *Annual report 2018*. Retrieved from <https://www.maifs.org/Portals/0/2019%20files/2018annualreport.pdf> (July 25, 2019).

<sup>239</sup> Maitri. *Annual report 2017-28*. Retrieved from [https://maitri.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/Maitri-Annual-Report\\_FY2017-18.pdf](https://maitri.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/Maitri-Annual-Report_FY2017-18.pdf) (July 25, 2019).

**Monsoon Asian Women in Solidarity:** Des Moines and Iowa City, Iowa 2018:<sup>240</sup>

- ◆ 472 Victims/survivors of gender-based violence received direct services

**My Sister's House:** Sacramento, CA, 2017-2018:<sup>241</sup>

- ◆ 5,275 nights of shelter provided to 117 API and other women and children fleeing abuse
- ◆ Helped with safety planning and provided information to over 1500 people
- ◆ Assisted 390 domestic violence victims with restraining orders, child custody, immigration and other legal services
- ◆ 50 human trafficking victims served

**New Mexico Asian Family Center:** Albuquerque, NM, 2017-2018:<sup>242</sup>

- ◆ 238 clients served (unduplicated count), including:
  - 84 Vietnamese, 66 mainland Chinese, 33 Afghan, and 12 Filipino/a
- ◆ 75.6% of clients served were female

**Sakhi for South Asian Women:** New York, NY, 2018:<sup>243</sup>

- ◆ Over 1300 helpline calls received
- ◆ 350 clients served

**Texas Muslim Women's Foundation:** Plano, TX, 2017:<sup>244</sup>

- ◆ 1082 24-hour hotline calls
- ◆ 379 victims of family violence served
- ◆ 82 counseling clients served
- ◆ 83 legal assistance clients served
- ◆ 40 transitional housing clients
- ◆ 68 clients received shelter

**Womankind:** New York, NY, 2016:<sup>245</sup>

- ◆ Nearly 2,000 first time callers to multilingual 24/7 helpline

**Women Helping Women:** Wailuku, HI, 2017:<sup>246</sup>

- ◆ 5,790 survivors served
- ◆ 16,590 services provided, including:
  - 9,606 hotline calls
  - 2,756 support group contacts
  - 1,398 trauma-informed therapy services
  - 204 hospital accompaniments
  - 343 criminal court accompaniments
  - 550 protection order hearing accompaniments
  - 173 protection order paperwork assistance
  - 1,048 client assistance and additional resources provided

<sup>240</sup> Monsoon Asians & Pacific Islanders in Solidarity. *Looking back and moving forward*. Retrieved from [https://mailchi.mp/e0a86c750c35/monsoon-community-newsletter-january-2019?e=\[UNIQID\]](https://mailchi.mp/e0a86c750c35/monsoon-community-newsletter-january-2019?e=[UNIQID]) (October 8, 2019)

<sup>241</sup> My Sister's House. *Annual report: 2017-2018*. Retrieved from <http://www.my-sisters-house.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/2017-2018-Annual-Report.pdf> (July 25, 2019).

<sup>242</sup> New Mexico Asian Family Center. *Fiscal year 2018 annual report*. Retrieved from <http://nmafc.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/2017-2018-Annual-report-Ver-5.0-2019-April-Edit.pdf> (October 8, 2019)

<sup>243</sup> Sakhi for South Asian Women. *Sakhi's impact in 2018*. Retrieved from [http://www.sakhi.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/sakhi\\_impact-2018.pdf](http://www.sakhi.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/sakhi_impact-2018.pdf) (July 29, 2019)

<sup>244</sup> Texas Muslim Women's Foundation. *Annual report 2017: Muslim women for all women* Retrieved from <https://tmwf.org/2015-annual-report/> (July 25, 2019).

<sup>245</sup> Womankind. *Resolute commitment to service and advocacy: 2016 Annual report*. Retrieved from <https://www.iamwomankind.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/2016-NYAWC-Annual-Report-FINAL.pdf> (July 25, 2019).

<sup>246</sup> Women Helping Women. *Because gender-based violence needs to stop now. Annual report 2017*. Retrieved from [https://womenhelpingwomen.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/8-20-18\\_UHW2017AnnualReportDigitalDownload.pdf](https://womenhelpingwomen.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/8-20-18_UHW2017AnnualReportDigitalDownload.pdf) (July 25, 2019).

## (b) Statewide Service Utilization Data

### Colorado: 2017:<sup>247</sup>

- ◆ 378 Asian and 53 Pacific Islander/Native Hawaiian clients were served by Colorado Department of Human Services-funded programs

### Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI):<sup>248</sup>

- ◆ 66 domestic violence victims found refuge in emergency shelters or transitional housing provided by local domestic violence programs, and 9 domestic violence hotline calls were answered, based on statistics collected on a single day, 9-14-2016, by the NNEDV Census

### Florida: July 2016 – June 2017:<sup>249</sup>

- ◆ 87 Asian and 21 Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander individuals were served in residential programs
- ◆ 318 Asian and 56 Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander Individuals were served in non-residential programs

### Guam:

- ◆ 34 domestic violence victims found refuge in emergency shelters or transitional housing, 9 adults and children received non-residential assistance and services, and 28 domestic violence hotline calls were answered, based on statistics collected on a single day, 9-13-2016, by the NNEDV Census<sup>250</sup>
- ◆ Over 700 families received family visitation services from 2000 – 2013<sup>251</sup>

### Indiana: July 2011 – June 2012:<sup>252</sup>

- ◆ Approximately 38 Asian and 12 Pacific Islander adult domestic violence victims were served in Indiana emergency shelters

### Iowa: FY 2010:<sup>253</sup>

- ◆ 259 Asian women were served by domestic violence and sexual assault providers

### Nebraska: October 2015 – September 2016:<sup>254</sup>

- ◆ 145 Asian and 30 Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander clients were served by local domestic and sexual violence programs

### New Jersey: 2010:<sup>255</sup>

- ◆ Approximately 33 Asian and 3 Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander victims were sheltered
- ◆ Approximately 241 Asian and 27 Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander victims received nonresidential services

<sup>247</sup> Colorado Department of Human Services, Office of Children, Youth & Families, Domestic Violence Program. (2017). *2017 annual report*. Retrieved from <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1KLFvW6FAFi8zOMSR8idcHofxkUtxQxTS/view> (July 29, 2019).

<sup>248</sup> National Network to End Domestic Violence. 2012 Domestic Violence Counts: *Northern Mariana Islands summary*. Retrieved from [https://nnedv.org/mdocs-posts/census\\_2016\\_handout\\_state-summary\\_northern-marianas/](https://nnedv.org/mdocs-posts/census_2016_handout_state-summary_northern-marianas/) (July 29, 2019).

<sup>249</sup> State of Florida Department of Children and Families. *Domestic violence annual report: 7/1/2016 – 6/30/2017*. Retrieved from <https://www.myflfamilies.com/service-programs/domestic-violence/docs/2016-2017%20Annual%20Statistics.pdf> (July 29, 2019).

<sup>250</sup> National Network to End Domestic Violence. 2018 *Domestic violence counts: Guam summary*. Retrieved from <https://nnedv.org/mdocs-posts/2018-guam/> (July 29, 2019).

<sup>251</sup> Erica's House. Retrieved from <http://ericashouse.150m.com/about.html> (March 20, 2013)

<sup>252</sup> Indiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence. *Indiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence program statistics July 1, 2011 – June 30, 2012*. Retrieved from <http://www.icadvinc.org.php53-6.dfw1-1.websitetestlink.com/wpcontent/uploads/2012/11/2011-2012-Indiana-program-stats.pdf> (March 27, 2013)

<sup>253</sup> Monsoon. Asian Women and Violence in Iowa: Iowa Attorney General's Crime Victims Assistance Division *FY 2010 statistics*. Retrieved from <http://www.muawi.org/pages/page.php?pageid=1> (March 20, 2013).

<sup>254</sup> Nebraska Coalition to End Sexual and Domestic Violence. *2016 statewide report*. Retrieved from [https://www.nebraskacoalition.org/publications/annual\\_report.html](https://www.nebraskacoalition.org/publications/annual_report.html) (July 29, 2019).

<sup>255</sup> New Jersey Coalition for Battered Women. *NJCBW statistical summary – 2010*. Retrieved from [http://www.njcbw.org/documents/NJCBW\\_Statistical\\_Summary\\_10.pdf](http://www.njcbw.org/documents/NJCBW_Statistical_Summary_10.pdf) and <http://www.njcbw.org/documents/RaceChart10color.pdf> (March 27, 2013).

**New Mexico, 2017:**<sup>256</sup>

- ◆ 69 Asian domestic violence victims and 31 domestic violence suspects were identified by law enforcement, and 28 Asian domestic violence victims were served by domestic violence service agencies

**Nevada, 2017:**<sup>257</sup>

- ◆ 986 Asians and 18 Pacific Islands were victims of domestic violence

**Oregon: January – December 2011.**<sup>258</sup>

- ◆ 36 Asian/Southeast Asian, 23 Hawaiian/Pacific Islander and 2 Middle-Eastern/Arab adult survivors were sheltered
- ◆ 343 Asian/Southeast Asian, 198 Hawaiian/Pacific Islander and 89 Middle-Eastern/Arab people were served; of whom:
  - 300 Asian/Southeast Asian, 176 Hawaiian/Pacific Islander and 85 Middle-Eastern/Arab adults and teens were domestic violence survivors
  - 24 Asian/Southeast Asian, 24 Hawaiian/Pacific Islander and 16 Middle-Eastern/Arab adults and teens were survivors of sexual assault
  - 8 Asian/Southeast Asian, 7 Hawaiian/Pacific Islander and 8 Middle-Eastern/Arab adults and teens were survivors of stalking

**Washington: 2017.**<sup>259</sup>

- ◆ Approximately 494 Asian and 247 Pacific Islander/Native Hawaiian adult survivors and children received emergency domestic violence shelter or nonresidential domestic violence advocacy services for the first time from Dept. of Social and Health Services contracted agencies

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<sup>256</sup> New Mexico Coalition of Sexual Assault Programs. *Incidence and nature of domestic violence in New Mexico XVII: An analysis of 2017 data from the New Mexico Interpersonal Data Central Repository*. Retrieved from [https://nmcsap.org/wp-content/uploads/DV\\_Report\\_2017\\_Betty\\_Caponera\\_jul18web.pdf](https://nmcsap.org/wp-content/uploads/DV_Report_2017_Betty_Caponera_jul18web.pdf) (July 29, 2019)

<sup>257</sup> Nevada Coalition to End Domestic and Sexual Violence. *Calendar year 2017 program report*. Retrieved from [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1oqVDTNvBGeujQaKghS\\_VRavtR0zojsWL/view](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1oqVDTNvBGeujQaKghS_VRavtR0zojsWL/view) (July 30, 2019)

<sup>258</sup> DHS Child Welfare Programs (April 2012). *Striving to meet the need: Summary of services provided by sexual and domestic violence programs in Oregon*. Retrieved from [https://www.oregon.gov/DHS/ABUSE/DOMESTIC/Documents/dv\\_sa\\_11summary.pdf](https://www.oregon.gov/DHS/ABUSE/DOMESTIC/Documents/dv_sa_11summary.pdf) (January 30, 2019). Note, report indicates “a person may identify with more than one ethnicity” (p. 11) and “a person can identify with more than one race or ethnicity, so this is not an unduplicated count” (p. 14, 15, 16).

<sup>259</sup> Washington State Department of Social and Health Services. 2017 Washington state emergency domestic violence shelter and advocacy services. Retrieved from <https://www.dshs.wa.gov/sites/default/files/CA/dv/documents/DVDATA.FY17.pdf> (July 30, 2019).

