

Relationship Violence Awareness Month (RVAM) Intersectionality and Relationship Violence Toolkit

October is Relationship Violence Awareness Month (RVAM).

During this month, advocates across the nation work together to end all forms of relationship violence. Relationship violence has many names – domestic violence, dating violence, intimate partner violence – all of these can be defined as physical and/or sexual violence, stalking, or psychological harm by a current or former partner or spouse¹.

This toolkit includes a collection of resources that will equip advocates with the information they need to build a path to ending relationship violence.

If you or someone you know needs help, call

Office of Respect (Emory Students only) (24-hr hotline: 470-270-5360)

Emory Faculty Staff Assistance Program (404-727-WELL)

National Domestic Violence Hotline (24-hr hotline: 1-800-799-SAFE)

Defining Relationship Violence

This section has been adapted from the Office of Respect's website².

Relationship violence – is a pattern of behavior used by a perpetrator to gain and maintain power over their intimate partner(s). This may include physical, emotional, spiritual, mental, sexual, verbal, psychological, and/or economic abuse. Here at Emory, we choose to use the term “relationship violence” because it best describes the people between whom violence exists, both on and off campus.

Defining Intersectionality

This section has been adapted from the National Academy of Medicine³

Intersectionality – a term coined by legal scholar Kimberle Crenshaw in 1989. This term provides “a lens for studying social determinants of health, reducing health disparities, and promoting health equity and social justice”.

This lens is a way of understanding that people often experience intersecting or overlapping systems of oppression. These intersections can create a complex web of lived experiences that can either help or harm an individual.

People are shaped in many ways – by their neighborhood, gender or race identity, or class – it is rare that they are influenced by a single factor. Intersectionality includes the need to connect these many diverse and intertwined factors to advance health equity and social justice.

¹ <https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/intimatepartnerviolence/index.html>

² Office of Respect, “About.” 2020. <http://respect.emory.edu/about.html>

Relevant Publications

Choi, Y. J., Orpinas, P., Kim, I., & Ko, K. S. (2019). Korean clergy for healthy families: online intervention for preventing intimate partner violence. *Global health promotion, 26*(4), 25–32.
<https://doi.org/10.1177/1757975917747878>

Intimate partner violence (IPV) among immigrant women is a serious public health problem. Churches and clergy play a fundamental role in their lives, as a form of social organization and alternative to community services.

Community Resources

Cherokee Family Violence Center (**Bilingual Hotline**) – <https://cfvc.org/>
Multicultural Program and our 24-hour bilingual advocates who answer the Georgia Domestic Violence Hotline 1-800-33-HAVEN in Spanish

Ser Familia (**Bilingual Counseling Services**) - <https://serfamilia.org/programs/>

Video and Audio Resources

Racism, Domestic Violence & Black Maternal Mortality -- What Can Advocates Do?
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Uz0D76uGhBM&feature=youtu.be>

Hear Alex's story about his abusive relationship with girlfriend Jordan.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3_dr9y41J38&feature=youtu.be

Listen to our **[Celebrating Diversity & Strength Playlist here!](#)**



National Resources

Futures Without Violence – LGBTQ IPV poster and safety cards for health care and other providers
<https://www.futureswithoutviolence.org/health/lgbtq-ipv/> (**Safety Cards**)

The National Center on Violence Against Women in the Black Community
<https://ujimacommunity.org/ujima-webinars/> (**Trainings and Webinars**)

Resources on providing culturally competent services to youth, and families who have been exposed to domestic violence.
<https://www.childwelfare.gov/topics/systemwide/cultural/services/domviolence/>

IPRCE: iprce.emory.edu | Facebook and Twitter @IPRCEmory

Emory's Office of Respect: respect.emory.edu | Instagram @office_of_respect | Facebook and Twitter @RespectWell

Resources for Transgender and SOFFA Individuals
<https://forge-forward.org/>

National Indigenous Women's Resource Center
<https://www.niwrc.org/>

Asian Pacific Institute on Gender-Based Violence
<https://www.api-gbv.org/>

Resources for LatinX Communities: Casa de Esperanza
<https://casadeesperanza.org/>

Domestic Violence and People with Disabilities
<https://ncadv.org/blog/posts/domestic-violence-and-people-with-disabilities>

³Lopez, N. and V. L. Gadsden. 2016. Health Inequities, Social Determinants, and Intersectionality. *NAM Perspectives*. Discussion Paper, National Academy of Medicine, Washington, DC. <https://doi.org/10.31478/201612a>