



Intimate Partner Violence (IPV): Wyoming, 2011

Wyoming Department of Health

2014

IPV Among Wyoming Teens

Overview

Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) includes “physical, sexual, or psychological harm by a current or former partner or spouse.”¹ The consequences of IPV include physical injury, depression, substance abuse, suicidal behaviors, and mortality. IPV is perpetrated against both men and women, but women are more likely to be victimized by almost every type of IPV including: rape, physical assault, and stalking by a partner.² The data and strategies included in this factsheet specify to which facets of IPV they apply.

Partner Violence

In Wyoming, 14.2% of high school students in 9th to 12th grade report that a boyfriend or girlfriend has ever hit, slapped, or physically hurt them on purpose. This is significantly higher than the 9.4%

of teens nationally that report ever being physically abused by a partner. Rates of partner violence are similar for male and female teens in Wyoming, however there are significant disparities by race and ethnicity. In Wyoming, Hispanic teens are significantly more likely to report physical abuse from a partner (24.1%) than are American Indian teens (17.2%) or white teens (12.4%) .

Forced Sex

Wyoming teens are significantly more likely to have ever been physically forced to have sexual intercourse (12.2%) compared to teens nationally (8.0%). In Wyoming, female teens are significantly more likely to report forced sex (16.5%) than male teens (7.9%). Hispanic teens in Wyoming are significantly more likely to report forced sex (19.5%) than white teens (10.7%).

Intimate Partner Violence in 9th-12th Graders– YRBS 2011



Hit, slapped or physically hurt on purpose by their boyfriend or girlfriend*

- WY (all): 14.2% U.S. (all): 9.4%
- WY (white): 12.4% U.S. (white): 7.6%
- WY (Hispanic): 24.1% U.S. (Hispanic): 11.4%



Ever forced to have sexual intercourse (when they did not want to)*

- WY (all): 12.2% U.S. (all): 8.0%
- WY (female): 16.5% U.S. (female): 11.8%
- WY (male): 7.9% U.S. (male): 4.5%

*Indicates statistical significance

Evidence-Based Strategies

Strategies to reduce IPV generally focus on prevention efforts. The evidence for IPV prevention strategies is a work in progress but some interventions have been shown to significantly impact future perpetration and victimization rates among teens. Differing definitions of IPV and differing methods of measuring IPV complicate the ability to generalize results across studies. Two promising practices based on current research are presented below, both focus on IPV prevention among middle and high school students.

Strategy: "Safe Dates" Program

Fact: 14.2% of Wyoming teens have been physically hurt on purpose by a boyfriend or girlfriend

Intervention:

- 10 educational sessions taught by health and physical education teachers
- Theater production performed by students
- Poster contest based on curriculum

Impact: Teens who participated in the program were significantly less likely to commit physical acts of dating violence and significantly less likely to experience physical sexual victimization at a four year follow up. No impact was found for psychological abuse perpetration or victimization. This intervention found positive impacts for male and female students as well as white and non-white students.



Strategy: "Coaching Boys into Men" Program

Fact: 1 in 3 U.S. women murdered are killed by an intimate partner²

Interventions:

- Training for athletic coaches (as positive role models for teens)
- Support from a trained violence prevention advocate throughout the sports season
- 11 brief, guided weekly discussions for male athletes lead by their coach on topics including respect and domestic violence prevention

Impact: A cluster randomized controlled trials of 2,006 male student athletes found significant increases in intentions to intervene in domestic violence situations, improved recognition of abusive behaviors, and higher levels of positive bystander intervention. No significant change in domestic violence perpetration was found by the three month follow up. A separate intervention targeting female athletes found less promising results.

Violence Prevention Evidence Base: http://www.preventviolence.info/evidence_base.aspx

What is YRBS?

The Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) is a surveillance project of the Wyoming Department of Education and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Wyoming YRBS collects population-based data on health risk behaviors among students. Data from this report includes surveys of 9th-12th graders. To learn more about YRBS, please visit: <http://www.cdc.gov/HealthyYouth/yrbs/index.htm>

References:

- 1) Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Injury Prevention and Control. Intimate Partner Violence. Accessed from: <http://www.cdc.gov/VIOLENCEPREVENTION/intimatepartnerviolence/>
- 2) CDC, 2006. Measuring Intimate Partner Violence Victimization and Perpetration: A compendium of assessment tools. Accessed from: http://www.cdc.gov/ncipc/pub-res/IPV_Compendium.pdf



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