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Domestic Violence - Blog

I chose domestic violence as my topic for this project because it was something that I didn't know much about, although I heard the term many times before. In addition, I wanted to be more aware of domestic violence as it's quite common and to be able to recognize it when it occurs and learn how to deal with it. Domestic violence is defined by the World Health Organization as, "violence emanating from the household and within relationships defined by familial or emotional (former or present) attachment" (Han 7). This topic impacts everyone in a relationship within the household (particularly men and women), however, the majority of domestic violence cases are reported by women. In fact, "one in three women have suffered physical and/or sexual violence at some point in their lives", which shows you that there's a good chance that you have met a woman that has faced domestic violence, and remember these statistics are based only on what's actually reported, there could potentially be many more that are unreported (de Oliveira 103). However, "there has been an increase in the number of reported cases of male domestic abuse. In England and Wales 128,767 men reported that they had been victims of domestic abuse in 2015", and one thing to note is that "men may not report domestic abuse [because] they may feel that they are the only person experiencing it." (Peate 309). This shows that men also face domestic violence, although it's still a small number compared to women, but it is often overlooked. We can see that domestic violence can impact both genders,

but we see a greater number of cases among women than men. The general community (particularly in the US) needs to know that many people that go through domestic violence face “long-term effects of [domestic violence] indicate that chronic pain, neurologic disorders, gastrointestinal disorders, migraine, headaches, and other physical disabilities, as well as posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD), depression, anxiety disorders, substance abuse, and suicide” (Karakurt 79). This shows that we need to take this seriously as it’s not just the short term pains that domestic violence victims go through, but these long-term effects that are potentially more detrimental to their health and wellbeing than the short term effects, so we need to unite and spread awareness to decrease the number of cases in our community as well as support domestic violence victims. Another factor that the general community needs to know is that “often, health problems resulting from violent assault are overlooked by physicians, or attributed to incorrect causes. This can result in more pain and suffering on the patients’ part, and wasted time and money for both the patient and the provider. In order to most effectively help these victims, it is imperative that doctors can recognize the signs of [domestic violence] and make appropriate treatment intervention decisions” (Karakurt 80). This is reiterating my previous point that we need to raise more awareness as this occurs more than it should, and due to the lack of awareness/importance of this topic physicians also look past it, so we need a joint effort to teach people at a young age of these topics in order to ensure a better future with a decreased number of instances. Overall, the main takeaway/lesson from this blog is that there needs to be more awareness and education about domestic violence. We need to educate people on how to prevent it from occurring between both men and women, so we can reduce the number of cases and create a better healthcare infrastructure to effectively support and rehabilitate the victims in the future.

Work Cited

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