

Risk Factors for Intimate Partner Violence

Risk factors are characteristics that increase the likelihood that violence will occur. The risk factors listed below are risk factors for *perpetration* of violence. It is important to note that one risk factor does not guarantee perpetration of violence; however, exposure to a greater number of risk factors increases the likelihood of perpetration.

Individual	Relationship
Aggressive behavior as a youth Anger and hostility Lack of nonviolent social problem-solving skills Poor behavioral control and impulsiveness Antisocial personality traits Economic stress Belief in strict gender roles Hostility toward women Attitudes accepting or justifying violence and aggression Desire for power and control in relationships	Jealousy and possessiveness in relationships Unhealthy family relationships and interactions Association with antisocial and aggressive peers Families experiencing economic stress Dominance and control of the relationship by one partner over the other History of experiencing physical discipline as a child
Community	Societal
High rates of poverty Limited educational and economic opportunities High unemployment rates Easy access to drugs and alcohol Weak community sanctions against IPV Low community involvement among residents	Traditional gender norms and gender inequality Cultural norms that support aggression toward others Societal income inequality Weak health, educational, economic, and social policies or laws

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2021, November 2). *Risk factors for intimate partner violence perpetration.*

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