

TO END DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

#### **Deepening Our Work**

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## What We Know

1/3 of all women will experience DV in their adult lives

-VS

- 60% of women living in poverty
  - –Of those, 8% 33% report recent or current violence
  - High prevalence of childhood physical & sexual abuse



#### However...

- This Does Not mean that those living poverty are more violent
- Also Does Not mean those with plenty of financial resources are not experiencing or at risk of experiencing abuse

# Why?

- Having limited financial resources is a big risk factor for Domestic Violence
  - –Few resources = fewer good choices for getting and/or staying safe
  - An abuser is able to gain more control due to increased vulnerability
  - Abuse is likely to last longer and result in more severe injuries



## **Economics & Interpersonal Violence**

What are some examples of where you see that intersection of economics and IPV?





#### **Intersections & Implications**

- Employment
  - Forbid from working
  - Harass at/during work
  - Sabotage so they can't attend work
    - Cause obvious physical harm
    - Disrupt transportation or childcare
- Education
  - Often same issues as employment
  - Causing or forcing a felony
    - Unable to access public student loans
  - Stealing or misusing student loan money



## **Intersections & Implications**

- Housing
  - -Ruined credit due to DV so unable to access new housing
  - Stalk/harass at home
  - -Causing damage to property
  - -Triggering an eviction



## **Intersections & Implications**

- Health
  - Deny access to intervention & prevention
    - 4 out of 10 survivors report a partner tried to get them pregnant against their will; among them, 84% became pregnant
  - Threatening to out their status
- Immigration
  - Withholding documents or sponsorship
  - Lying about rules and/or laws

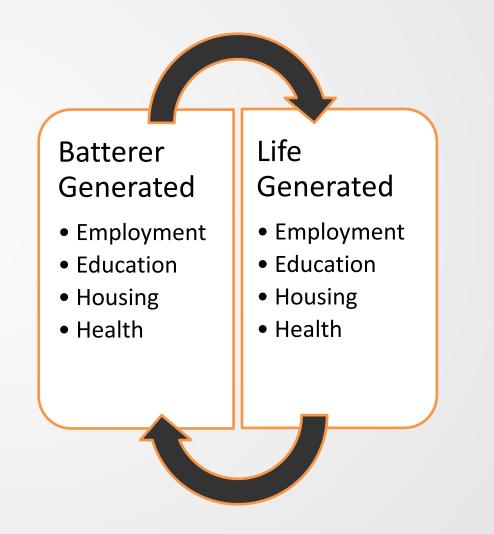


## **Additional National Findings**

- **Disrupted Education:** 2/3 of respondents say their partner's behavior negatively affected their educational and job training opportunities.
- **Disrupted Ability to Work:** 83% said abusive partners disrupted their ability to work. Of these, 70% were not able to have a job, and 53% lost a job because of the abuse.
- Workplace Sexual Harassment on Top of Partner Abuse: Many (39%) survivors had also experienced sexual harassment or violence at work from a co-worker or supervisor.
- Financial Abuse and Damage to Credit: 73% had abusers take money from them against their will, such as their paycheck, savings, or public benefits.



## **Oppression + Oppression**



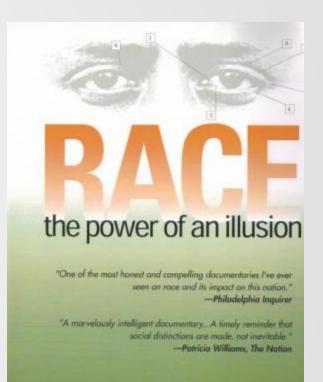
## Life Generated Risks

- Race
- Sex
- Class
- Ability
- Age
- Sexuality
- Sobriety

- They all work to establish a 'defined norm' or standard of rightness under which everyone is judged.
- In North America, our defined norm is male, white, heterosexual, Christian, ablebodied, youthful and access to wealth & resources

## Race: The Power of an Illusion

- Examine history of institutional racism and longterm impact
- Part III The House We Live In
- Examples of public policies
  - Who is white?
  - Internment Camps
  - Federal Housing Policy
    - Red Lining



A three-part documentary series produced by California Newsreel

#### **Public Policy**

- TANF Temporary Assistance to Needy Families
- A federally funded program that helps families with low incomes achieve economic stability
- A state with a relatively large African American population is more likely to have less generous, more restrictive TANF policies.
- Although state TANF policies are race-neutral in that everyone is subject to the same policies, the policies' effects are not.





## Delaware TANF Funds FY 2023

- FY 2023 Fed Awards = \$35,971,836
- Carryover = \$20,144,698
- Total Fed Funds = \$56,116,534
- DE MOE 2022 = \$88,587,510
- DE MOE 2023 = \$45,568,837 (-\$43,018,673)
- Total Expenditures = \$33,037,482
  - Basic Assistance = \$4,693,942
    - TANF = \$1,387,723
    - MOE = \$3,306,219



## **EJ** Public Policy

- Family Violence Option (FVO) 1996
  - Ensure that DV survivors were not subject to unfair penalties resulting from compliance with requirements
  - Requires:
    - Individualized assessment by a person trained in DV
    - Re-determined no less than every 6 months
    - Accompanied by a DV service plan
- If states don't meet these requirements, they don't get credit against their required work participation rates

## Delaware FVO



- 2020
  - -Total number of families receiving TANF
    - 3,001
    - Number of family with Good Cause DV Waiver
      - -11



## FVO – What We've Learned

- Screening
  - Although the first mandated step research shows low rates of screening
    - 1.2% 28.8% screening rates
    - Typically not occurring during sanction processes or assessing for additional services, such as childcare
- Disclosure

Concern it would trigger automatic reporting to CPS



## Affordable Care Act (ACA)

- Allows survivors to continue to access affordable/free healthcare
  - Well-Woman visits
  - Mammograms
  - Breastfeeding supplies
  - -HIV screening
  - Contraception
    - Teen pregnancy rates = 46/1,000 in 2013 to 19.5/1,000 in 2016 (drop of 61%)



## Affordable Care Act (ACA)

- Black women have the highest maternal mortality rate of all races, with 49.5 deaths per 100,000 live births
  - -White women: 19.0 deaths per 100,000
  - -Hispanic women: 16.9 deaths per 100,000
  - -Asian women: 13.2 deaths per 100,000



## **General DV Public Policy**

- Family Violence Prevention & Services Act (FVPSA), 1984
  - Primary federal funding stream dedicated to the support of emergency shelter and related assistance for victims of domestic violence and their children
- Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), 1994
  - Landmark legislation that sought to improve criminal justice and community-based responses to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking in the United States
    - STOP Grants
    - Legal Assistance to Victims (LAV)
- Victim Of Crimes Act (VOCA)

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## EJ Public Policy – What We Have

- VAWA Housing protections that keep survivors served
  - Ensures individuals are not denied assistance, evicted or have their assistance terminated due to IPV.
  - Strengthened protections to enhance emergency transfers, federal housing early lease termination and incentives to get rid of nuisance ordinances



## EJ Public Policy – What We Have

- Increased emergency housing resources for survivors via Housing & Urban Development (HUD)
  - Homelessness
  - Rapid Re-Housing
  - DV Bonus Funds available via CoC application
- Increased VOCA funds
  - Adding Housing & EJ outcomes for survivors

#### **Public Benefits**

SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program)

- 18 49 years old = abled-bodied without dependents (ABAWDs) are limited to 3 months of benefits during any 36-month period; unless they work at least 20 hrs/wk or enrolled in a program
  - Allows states to waive work requirement in areas w/ high unemployment or lack of sufficient jobs
  - Current average monthly benefit for adults without children = \$165
    - For most, this is their ONLY federal benefit they are eligible for



#### Public Policy

- Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC)
  - A benefit for working people with low to moderate income.
  - To qualify, you must meet certain requirements and file a tax return, even if you do not owe any tax or are not required to file.
  - EITC reduces the amount of tax you owe and may give you a refund.







## Advance Child Tax Credit Payments

- July December 2021
  - Half the total credit amount is being paid automatically in advance monthly payments
  - Age of qualifying child was increased from 16 to 17
  - Credit amount was increased from \$2k to \$3k
  - No income requirement
- Kept an estimated 3.7M children out of poverty



#### Black Women Best

- A framework that requires us to look at how black women are doing
- If Black women can thrive in the economy, then the economy must finally be working for everyone.
- When black women are left behind, the entire economy is less resilient and productive



## Public Policy: On-Going

Unemployment Insurance

-Some states allow if job was lost due to IPV

- Coerced Debt
  - The fight is with industry and private companies; powerful lobby group
- Real Living Wage Campaigns

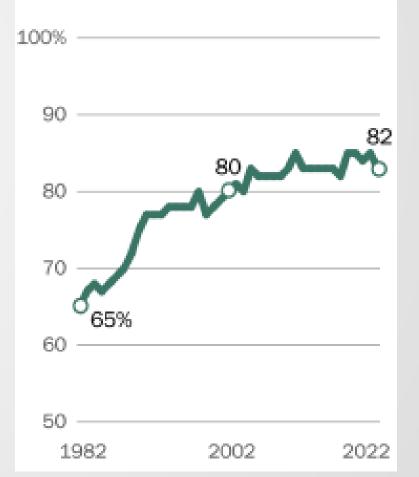
## Wages

- The pace for closing the gender pay gap has slowed
- Generally, women start their careers closer to wage parity
- Parenthood mothers (25-44) less likely to be in the labor force vs women w/o children of the same age
- Fathers are *more* likely to be in the labor force than men w/o children

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#### Gender pay gap narrowed in the 1980s and '90s, but progress has stalled since

Women's median hourly earnings in the U.S. as a % of men's median hourly earnings



## By The Numbers – DE

- Minimum Wage
- Per Week @ 40 hours

- \$13.25/hour
- \$530 (before withholdings)

- Per Month
- Per Year

- \$2,296
- \$27,560

## Fair Market Rent – DE

- 2 Bedroom
- 3 Bedroom
- 2 Bedroom
- 3 Bedroom
- 2 bdrm Housing Wage
- 3 bdrm Housing Wage

- \$1,594
- \$1,992 (\$2,296 min wage)
- 93 hrs @ minimum wage
- 116 hrs @ minimum wage
- \$30.65/hr or \$63,742/yr
- \$38.32/hr or \$79,699/yr



## Macro- vs. Micro Advocacy

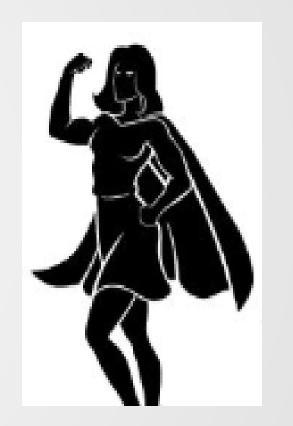
- Living-Wage Campaigns (Macro)
  - Join other low wage organizers
    - Food service and hospitality workers associations
    - Childcare staff
    - Home/Healthcare employees
- Housing
  - National Housing Trust Fund (Macro)
    - Is the first new housing resource since 1974 targeted to the building, rehabilitating, preserving, and operating rental housing for extremely low-income people
  - PHAs, CoC/BOS applications, landlord associations (both)



## Macro- vs. Micro-Advocacy

- Partner with Disability/Ability Rights group/s (Macro-) — Physical, mental, aging, HIV+
- Law Enforcement/Courts
  - Protection Orders (both)
    - Economic protections
  - Impact of 'stacking charges' (Macro-)
    - Unique impact on communities of color and low income families and individuals
- Credit Counseling (Macro-)
  - Find out who is doing this in your community
  - Are they screening for DV/IPV?

- Are you taking care of your own financial house?
- Be your own financial badass
- Pay yourself first
  - How we spend our money is an indication of what we value





## Why This Matters

- On average, women live 5 years longer
   Women are likely to outlive male partners
- Earning potential is less
  - -Women's pay tends to plateau at 39
    - Vs
  - -Men plateau at 48
- Women tend to put off investing for the long-term due to immediate family financial needs



- Track your spending
- Make saving automatic
  - -Don't wait
  - Don't skip
- Get a side hustle and dedicate those funds
- Create an annual and multi-year plan
   Allow yourself to see the big picture



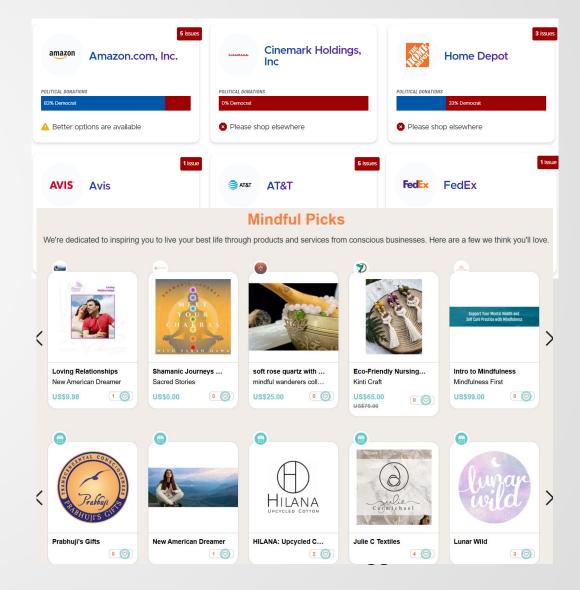
- Whose mortgage are you paying?
  - Consider investing in property
- Know your credit score
  - You shouldn't be the last to know
- Pay attention to market news
  - But don't panic
- Find a trusted advisor
  - Might need to pay for advice
  - Fiduciary



- Start an Investment Club
  - Pool money, share research responsibility, reduce trading cost
    - Buying individual stock = \$10 commission
    - 20 members buying on their own
      - Vs.
    - 20 members contributing \$10 each = the Club can now invest \$190
  - Consider a monthly contribution and quarterly investments
  - Written agreement is critical = legal partnership

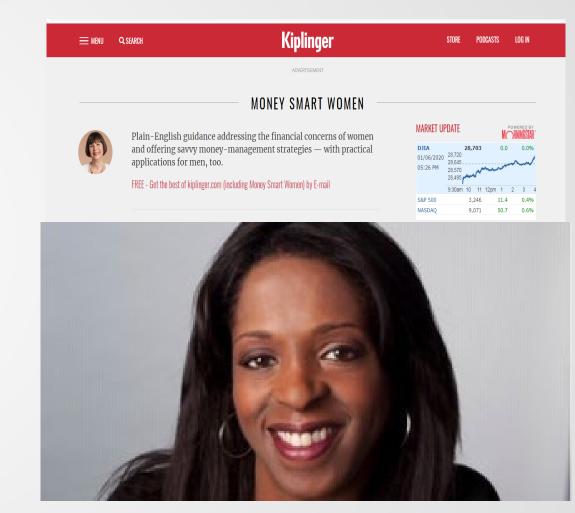
## Your Money Matters

- Progressive Shopper
  - Find out if you are supporting a brand that is aligned with your values.
- <u>Mindful Market</u>
  - Allows you to shop your values



## Don't Be Afraid

- Kiplinger
  - Money Smart Women
    - Plain-English advice
    - Pod casts
- Barbara Stanny
  - Prince Charming Isn't Coming
- Stacey Tisdale
  - Website
  - Radio Spots





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#### **Questions?**

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