

# Action on Intimate Partner Violence Against Women

Dr. David McKeown Medical Officer of Health

December 10, 2015





Dedicated to the memory of Zahra Abdille, a Toronto public health nurse, and her sons, Faris and Zain, who were killed on November 29, 2014.



#### What is intimate partner violence (IPV)?

#### <u>WHO</u>

IPV is a form of gender-based violence often characterized by an imbalance of power between victim and abuser

Describes behaviour within an intimate relationship that causes physical, sexual or psychological harm, including acts of physical aggression, sexual coercion, psychological abuse and controlling behaviours

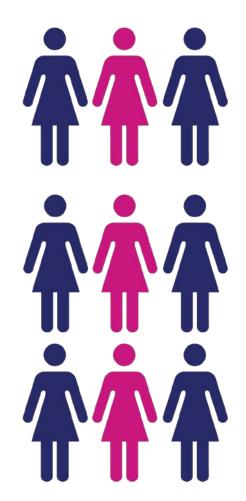
Occurs between current or past dating partners, sexual partners, spouses, or cohabitating partners in opposite-or same-sex relationships



### Intimate partner violence in Canada

1 in 3 women has experienced
 IPV in her lifetime

- On any given day, over 6,000 women and children are living in shelters to escape abuse
- Every 6 days, a woman is killed by her intimate partner





#### Intimate partner violence in Canada

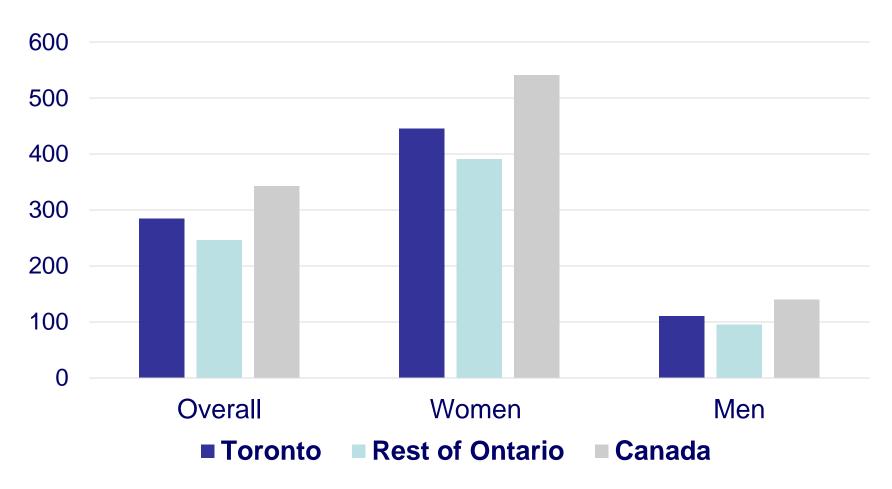
- 1 in 10 teens has experienced abuse
- Among grade 9-10 girls surveyed:
  - 1 in 2 had been verbally/emotionally abused
  - 1 in 3 had been physically abused
  - 1 in 3 had been sexually abused





#### **Intimate Partner Violence in Toronto**

#### Police-reported IPV rates per 100,000

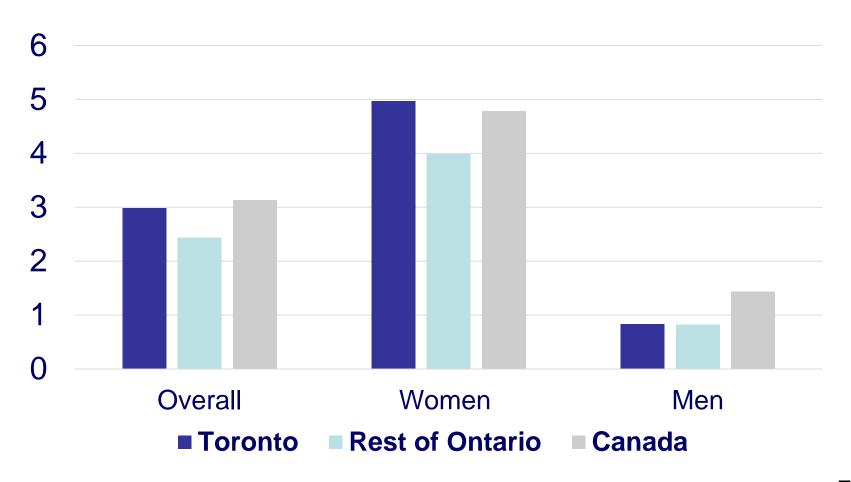


Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey (UCR), 2009-2013



#### **Intimate Partner Violence in Toronto**

#### IPV Homicide rates per 1,000,000



Source: Homicide Survey, 2004-2013



#### Lifelong health consequences of IPV

#### Women

- Mental health
- Physical
- Sexual
- Reproductive
- Social
- Economic

#### Children

- Psychological
- Emotional
- Physical
- Social
- Behavioural



#### **Economic burden of IPV in Canada**



= 7.4 billion each year

Medical, mental health services, justice system, lost productivity

### Toronto Public Health

### IPV is a collective responsibility



IT'S NEVER OKAY:
AN ACTION PLAN
TO STOP SEXUAL
VIOLENCE AND
HARASSMENT
MARCH 2015



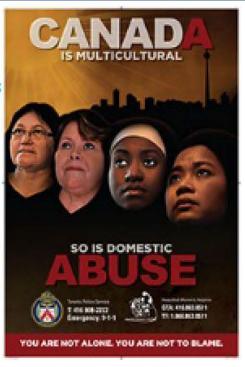
Recognize and respond to domestic violence in your workplace





#### Make It Our Business

Domestic Violence is not a private matter. We all have a role to play.





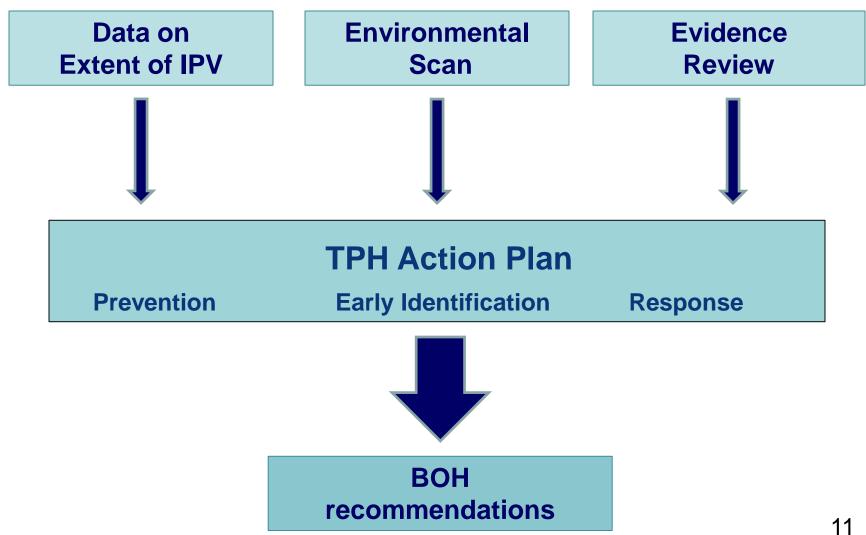








#### **Action on IPV**



#### **Prevention of IPV**

- Goal 1: Expand parenting education and support
- Goal 2: Expand education on healthy relationships from middle childhood to adolescence
- **Goal 3**: Address social and cultural norms that perpetuate IPV

#### **Early Identification of IPV**

- Goal 4: Increase staff capacity to identify and respond to clients affected by IPV
- Goal 5: Ensure equitable access to TPH programs and services
- Goal 6: Increase TPH capacity to address IPV in the workplace
- Goal 7: Increase the public's capacity to identify & respond to IPV

#### Response to IPV

Goal 8: Increase access to resources & services that protect, support, and empower women

Goal 9: Foster coordination and collaboration

Goal 10: Improve surveillance and research



#### **Recommendations**

 Enhance parent education & support



 Enhance teacher education on IPV



Increase access to housing



Improve police/justice responses



Improve legal support



#### Recommendations

 Increase access to social supports & mental health services



Fill local data gaps



Implement a national action plan





# Action on Intimate Partner Violence Against Women

Dr. David McKeown Medical Officer of Health

December 10, 2015

