Attachment 1

Risk Factors for Intimate Partner Violence

Those factors that are most strongly and consistently associated with intimate partner violence are highlighted in bold in the table. This table includes research on risk factors beyond Canada.

Individual	Relationship	Community	Societal
Perpetration			
• **Young age** • Low self-esteem • Emotional dependence • **Antisocial behaviour in youth** • **Heavy alcohol and drug use** • Low income, unemployment • Depression/Personality disorder • **Anger and hostility** • **Prior history of being physically abusive** • Few friends, isolation • Low academic achievement • Belief in strict gender roles • Desire for power and control in relationships • **History of poor parenting,** • **Witnessing/experiencing violence as a child**	• **Marital conflict and instability – divorces and separations** • Male dominance in the family • Unhealthy family relationships and interactions • Couples with income, educational, or job status disparities • Economic stress	• Weak sanctions against IPV • Low social capital – lack of institutions, relationships, and norms that shape the quality and quantity of a community's social interactions • Poverty and associated factors • Acceptance of traditional gender roles • Acceptance of violence • Higher proportion of use of physical punishment • Weak community sanctions	• Traditional or rigid gender norms • Acceptance of violence as a way to resolve conflict • Norms granting men control over female behavior • Belief that masculinity is linked to dominance, honor, or aggression • Social norms supportive of violence • Institutional structures that promote unequal power between men and women • Negative portrayal of women in the media
Victimization			
• Prior history of IPV • Being female • Young age • Heavy alcohol and drug use • High-risk sexual behavior • Witnessing/experiencing violence as a child • Being less educated • Unemployment, economic stress • Identifying as Aboriginal • Being lesbian or bisexual • Having a disability			

Sources: World Health Organization, 2010; Capaldi et al., 2012; Centers for Disease Control & Prevention, 2015; Brownridge et al., 2008; Hutchins, 2013; Romans et al., 2007**.**