

# COMING NEXT...

- Midterm grades...
- Discussion forum open and questions due next Friday (Krislyn & Jennifer)
- Have a good spring break!

# **DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**



# **WARM UP: SUPPOSE TO BE SAFE HEAVEN?**

- Family is seen as the place where people get love and support. Why a place

# OUTLINE

- Definition
- Partner violence
- Child abuse
- Elderly abuse



## DEFINE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

- Acts within an intimate or family relationships that cause physical, sexual, or psychological harm.  
Including:

- physical aggression,
- sexual coercion,
- psychological abuse,
- controlling behavior.



About **1 in 5** and **1 in 7**  
women men



report having experienced  
severe physical violence  
from an intimate partner  
in their lifetime.

About **1 in 5**  
women



and **1 in 12** men



have experienced contact  
sexual violence by an  
intimate partner.

**10% of women**  
and

**2% of men**  
report having been  
stalked by an  
intimate partner.

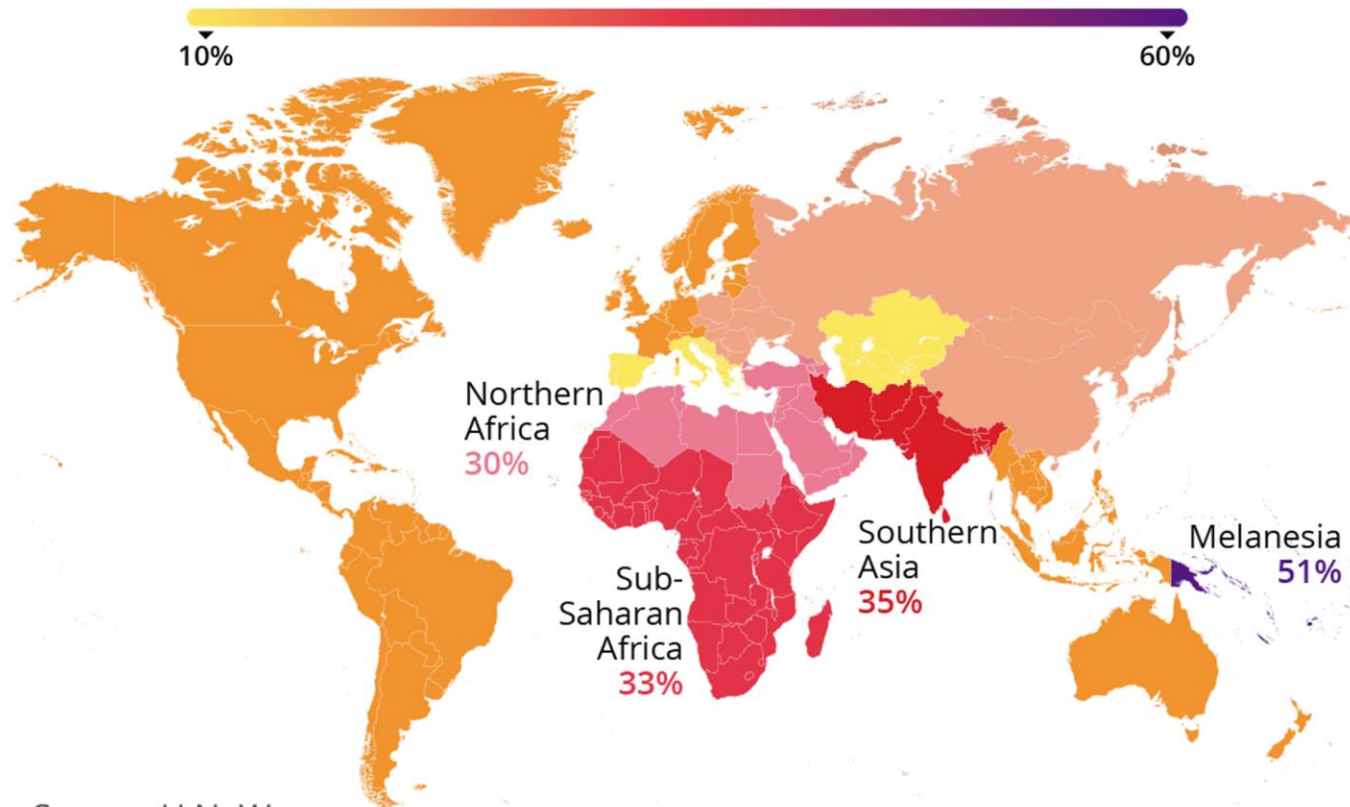


# INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE



# One in Three Women Experience Violence at Hands of a Partner

Lifetime prevalence of intimate partner violence among women aged 15-49, by region



Source: U.N. Women



# DEMOGRAPHIC TRAITS OF PARTNER VIOLENCE

- Married women have significantly less risk of experiencing violence than cohabitating women (why?)
- Higher rates of domestic violence seen among low-income couples
- financial instability, employment, neighborhood effect
- men with more income and education have other ways to control behaviors of wives than force
- Greater reluctance of middle-income couples to admit to violence (really?)





# CONTEXTUAL AND CAUSAL MECHANISMS

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Patriarchy theory

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Intergenerational transmission

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Alcohol / Drug abuse

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Dysfunctional personality



# PATRIARCHY THEORY

- Unequal gender structure in societies
- Men have more economic, political, social and occupational power over women
- Men strategically use violence to maintain their power over women
- “*Gendered-based violence*” (*always?*)

## Intensity

Over the top behavior that feels like too much too soon. Lying to cover up insecurity. Obsessive behavior

## Jealousy

Irrational, angry behavior when you speak with someone he or she perceives as a threat. Persistently accusing you of flirtatious or inappropriate behavior.

## Anger

Overreacting to small issues. Losing control. Violent outbursts. Making you feel afraid.

## Control

Telling you what to wear, who to hang out with, when to speak or what to think

## Alcohol

Becoming overly-emotional while drinking. Sobbing, threatening to harm oneself, becoming angry. Not remembering what happened while drunk. Using 'drunk' as an excuse for behavior.

## Isolation

Insisting you only spend time with him or her. Making you dependent on him or her for money, love, or acceptance

## Sabotage

Making you miss school, work, or something important to you by starting a fight, pretending to be sick, breaking up with you, or hiding your phone or keys.

## Criticism

Calling you names. Brainwashing you to feel worthless.

## Blame

Making you feel guilty. Making you feel like everything is your fault.



# DISCUSSION: UNHEALTHY RELATIONSHIP

- Have you personally been or observed an unhealthy relationship (dating, etc.)?
- What are the warning signs of that relationship?
- For some cases, the abused won't leave or end the relationship when they have a chance. Why?



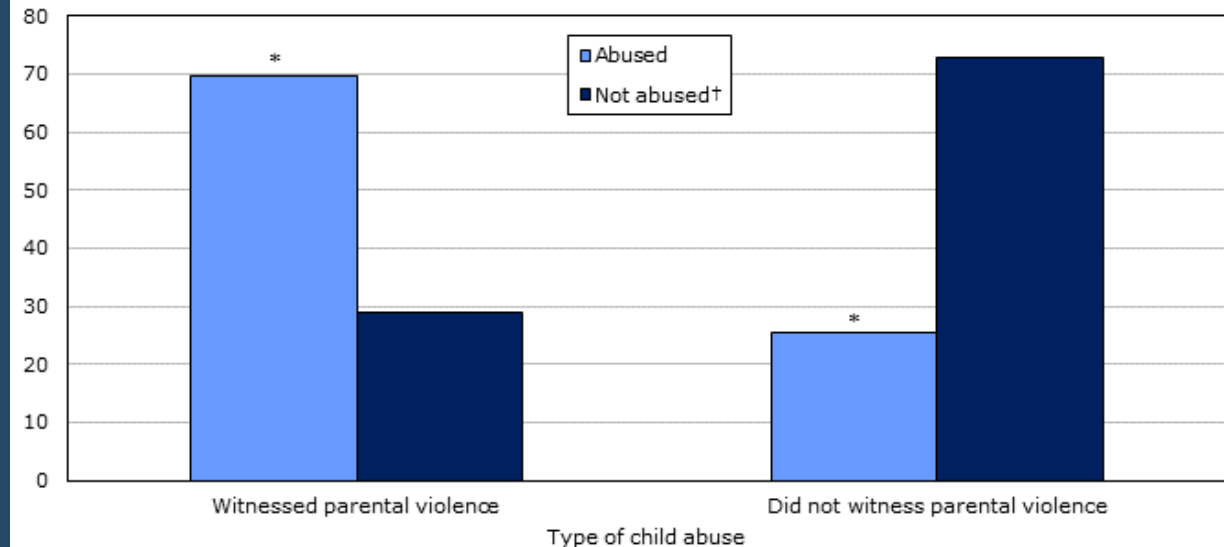
## INTERGENERATIONAL TRANSMISSION

- Socialization starts in the family – social learning theory
- Children who are exposed to aggression in their families of origin are more likely to perpetrate or be victimized by aggression in their relationships as adults

Chart 1.2

Self-reported childhood physical and/or sexual abuse and witnessing violence by a parent or guardian against another adult, Canada, 2014

percent of abuse victims/non-victims



\* significantly different from reference group ( $p < 0.05$ )

† reference group

**Note:** Data for respondents who answered 'don't know' or 'refuse' to all questions regarding childhood physical or sexual abuse and/or all questions regarding witnessing violence as a child are not shown, but are included in percent calculations.

**Source:** Statistics Canada, General Social Survey.



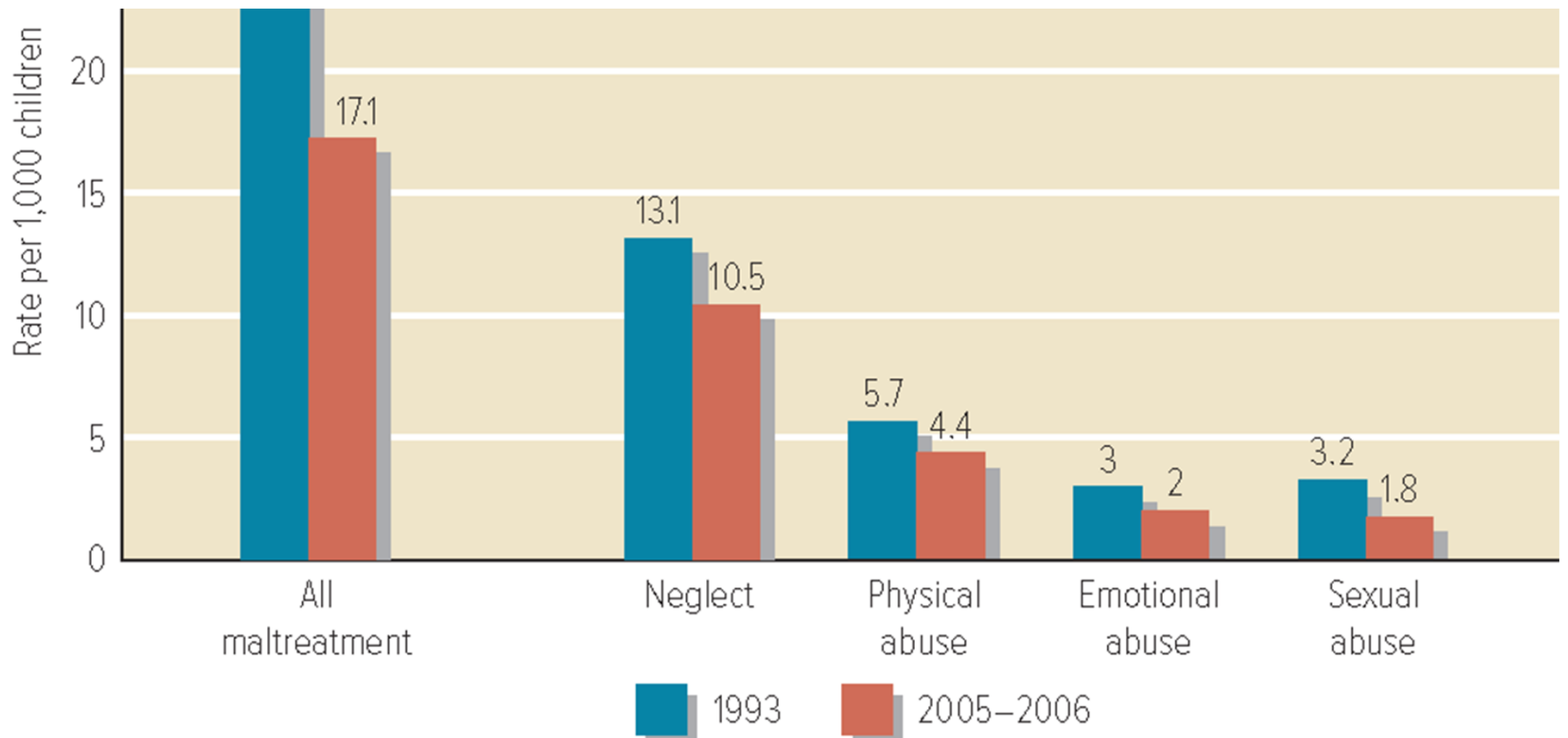
# HIGH RATES OF ALCOHOL ABUSE

Men who are dependent on alcohol are  
6 times more likely to be involved in  
domestic abuse against women than  
others.



## ALCOHOL / DRUG ABUSE





# CHILD ABUSE



**DISCUSSION:  
FOSTER  
CARE  
SYSTEM,  
WHAT IS THE  
PROBLEM?**



# ELDER ABUSE



# THEORIES ON ELDER ABUSE

- Stressed caregiver hypothesis: Abuser is most likely to be an overworked and underappreciated family member who has major responsibility for the care of an older person.
  - Pressure and stress associated with daily caregiving responsibilities can cause that person to lose control.
- Learned violence hypothesis: Abuser might have been a victim of abuse in the past and now becomes the abuser.
- Dependency hypothesis: Abuse occurs when the victim is mentally and physically incapacitated and increasingly vulnerable and dependent on a caregiver.
  - Caregiver takes advantage of this dependence and abuses the victim (Gordon and Brill, 2001).

Exchange perspective:



# DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND PUBLIC POLICY

- Rests on the idea of protecting the victim versus preserving the family.
- Diminished policy debates.
- Difficult to find anyone who could defend physical violence today.
- Liberal-feminist view is predominant.