

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE STATISTICS SANTA CLARA COUNTY

**JANUARY 1, 2008 THROUGH DECEMBER 31,
2008**

Misdemeanors Issued	2626
Felonies Issued	526
Cases not issued on	<u>1995</u>
TOTAL CASES REVIEWED	5,147

1. Strikes	38
2. Children Present	849
3. Same Gender	30
4. Injury	1787
5. Pregnant victim	83
6. Teen victim	74

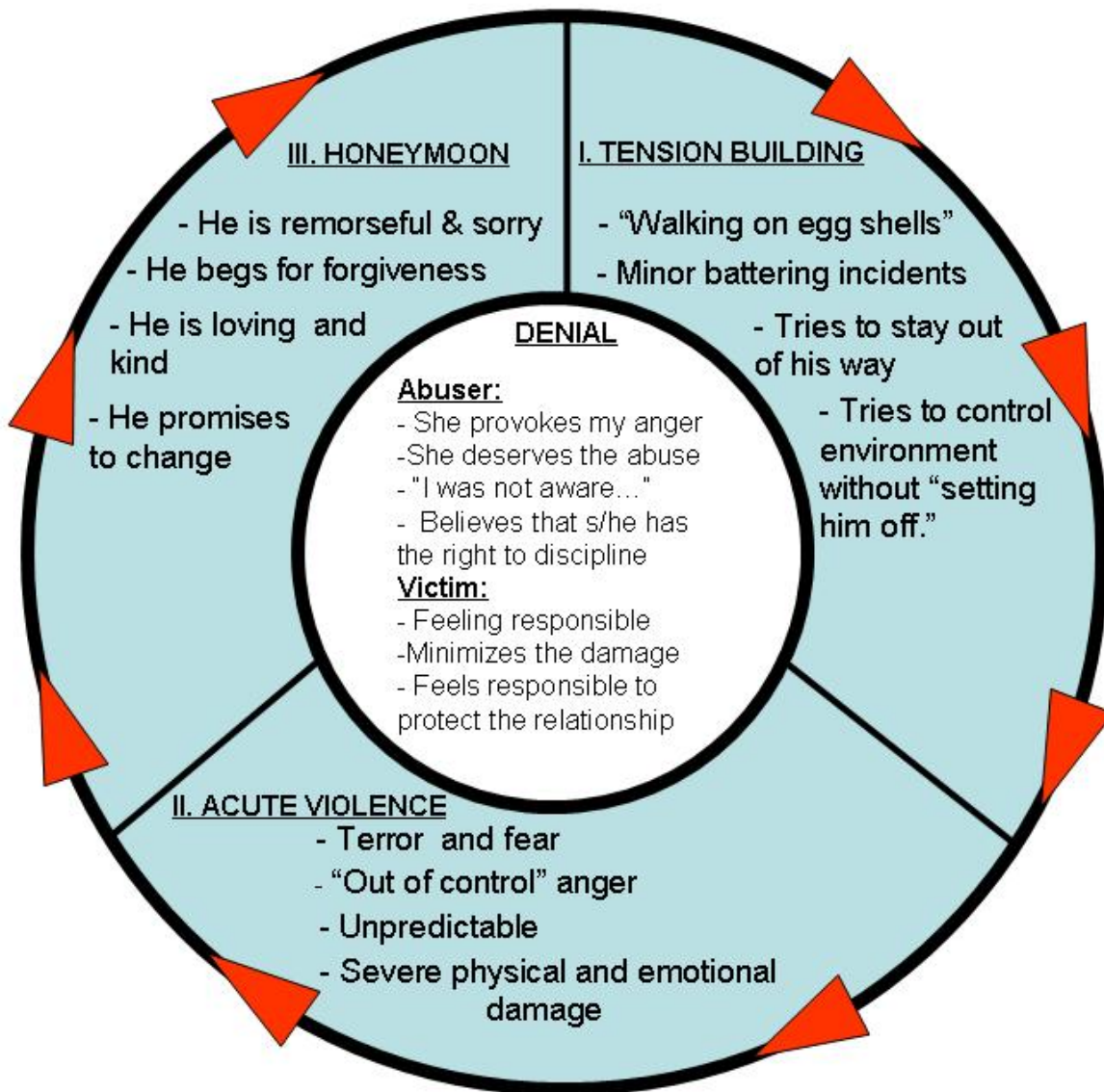
The District Attorney's office reviewed **100** brand new reports of domestic violence each week during 2008.

The District Attorney's office brought charges in **3152** cases – which equates to **60** brand new criminal cases of domestic violence each week in Santa Clara County.

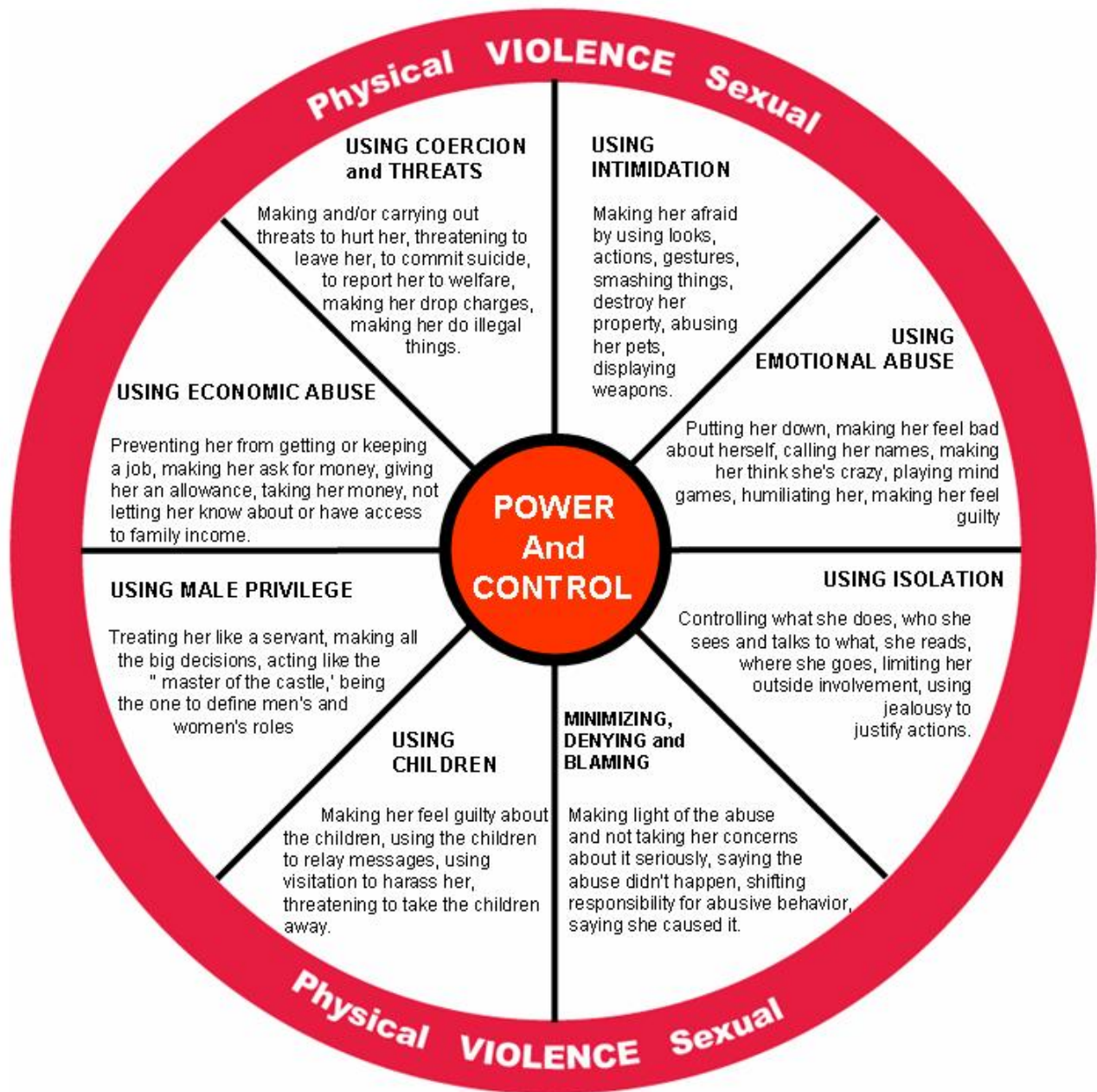
THE CYCLE OF VIOLENCE

From *The Battered Woman*

By Lenore E. Walker

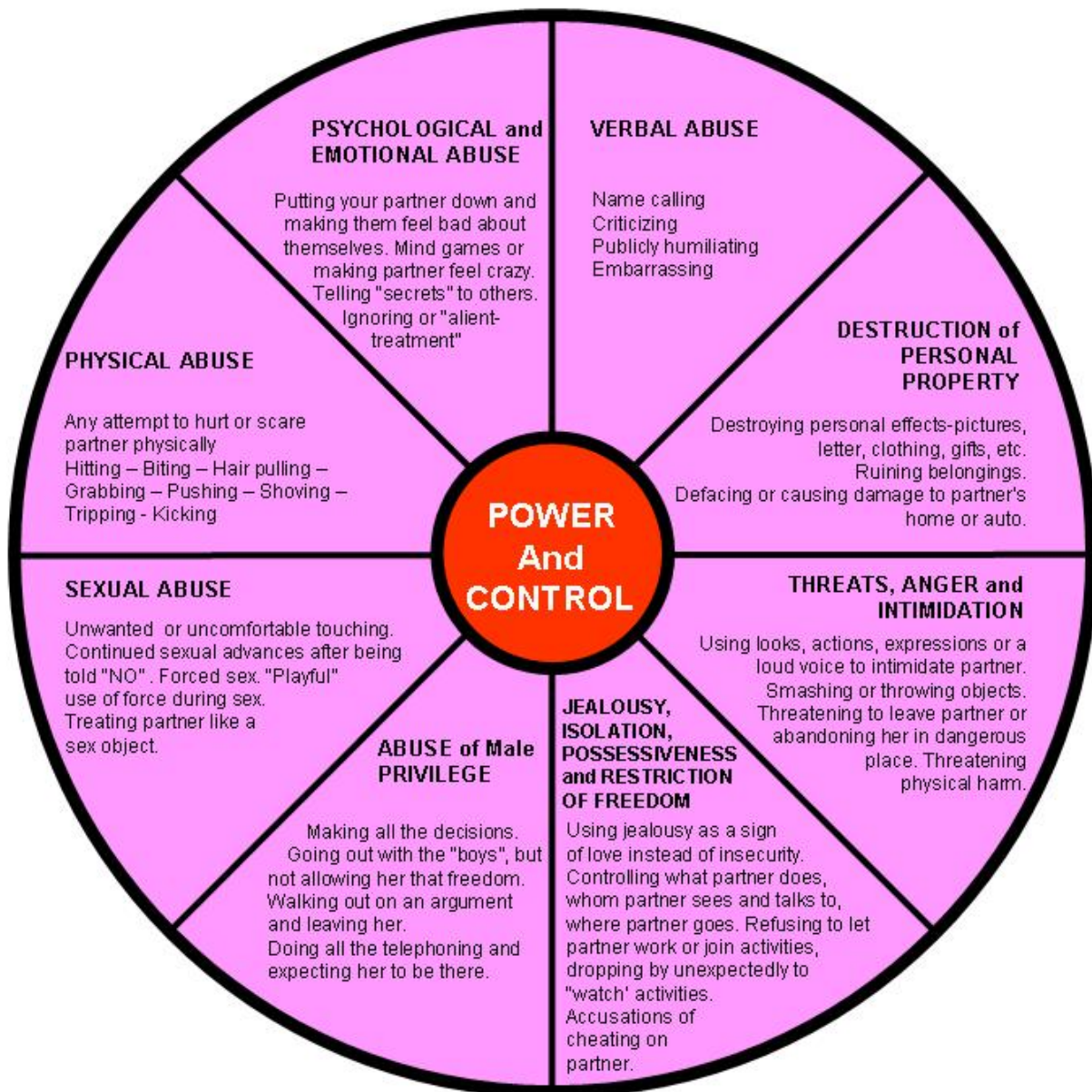


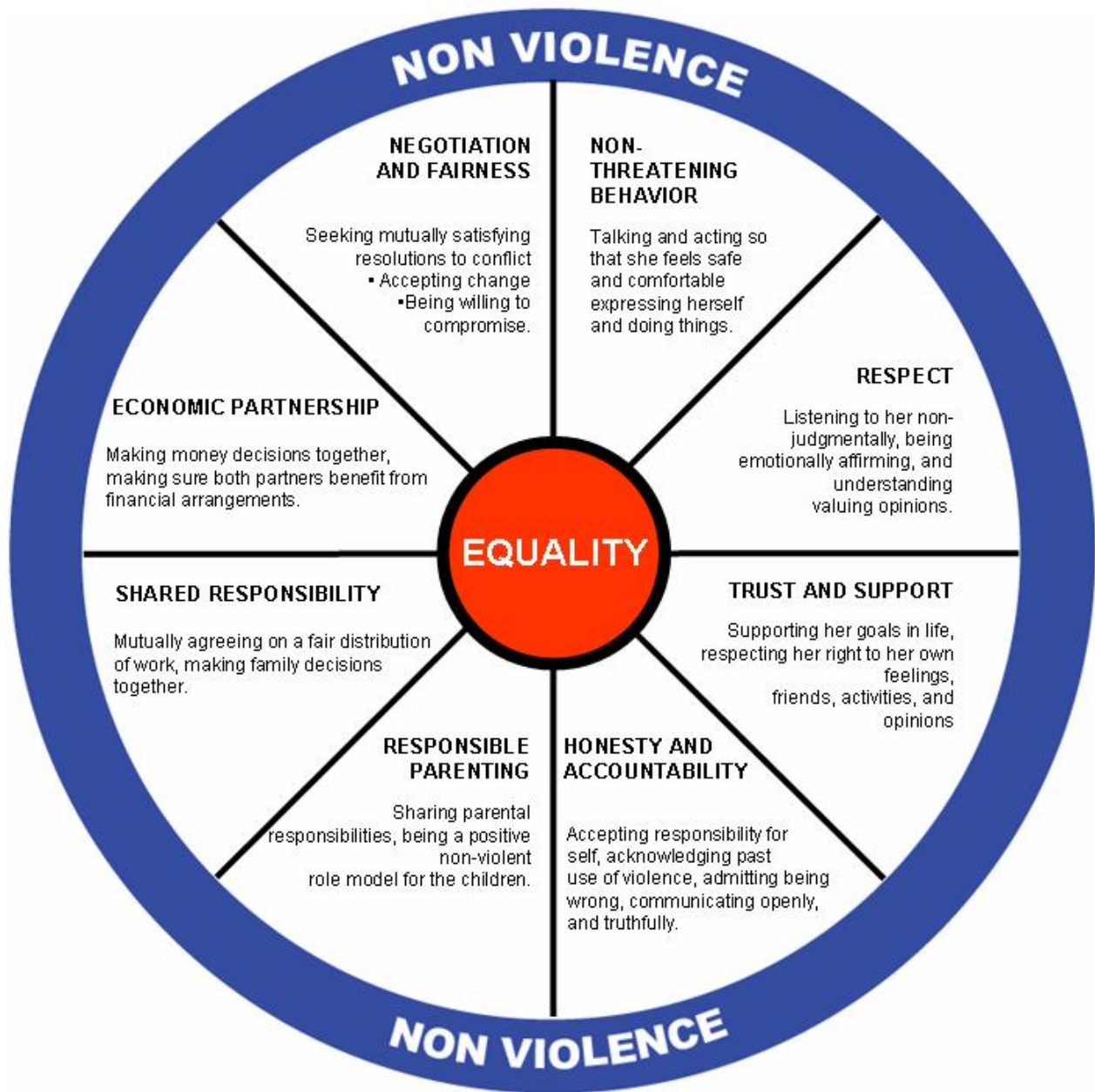
THE POWER and CONTROL WHEEL



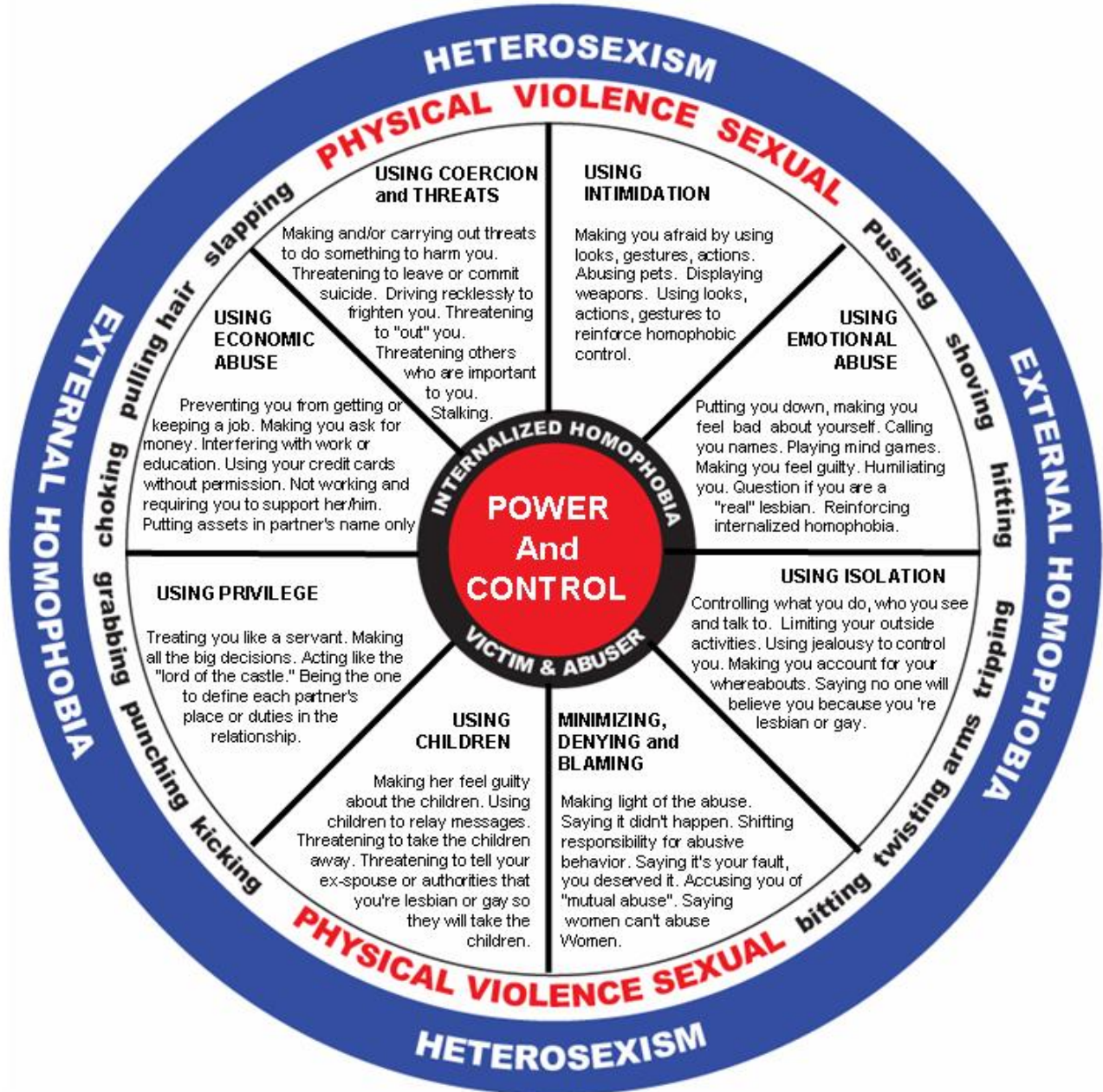
*Family Violence Response Teams Resource Manual
The Center for Human Services, UC Davis Extension*

TEENAGE POWER AND CONTROL IN DATING





LESBIAN/GAY THE POWER and CONTROL WHEEL



Developed by Roe & Jagodinsky

Inspired and adapted from: Domestic Abuse Intervention Project

VII. 2008 SIGNIFICANT FINDINGS (RED FLAGS)

- 1. Everyone close to the victim and perpetrator knew that something was very wrong in the relationship but did not intervene.**
 - They must ask victims if they are fearful of the perpetrator and why?
 - They should always ask if there are deadly weapons in the home.
 - They must seek to safely intervene (assist the victim in calling a woman's shelter or seeking domestic violence information, call law enforcement, and encourage victims to call law enforcement to remove firearms) in these relationships.
 - They must educate themselves on domestic violence and share that information with everyone they come in contact with, especially family members.

- 2. Deadly domestic violence has several characteristics, which were evident in many of the three cases we reviewed this year.**
 - Prior threats of homicide and/or suicide – 2 cases
 - Victim talked about divorce or separation and the perpetrator could not handle it – 2 cases
 - Kidnapping or prior false imprisonment – 3 cases
 - Prior violence-reported and unreported- 2

- 1. Deaths occurred in different jurisdictions in this county and have involved different racial and socioeconomic groups. In fact those individuals from the middle/upper middle class were again represented in our numbers this year. We must be cognizant of the fact that domestic violence is not just a poor person's problem, it is everyone's problem. Domestic violence death also does not care how rich or poor you are, everyone is at risk.**

- 2. Children are the most vulnerable in our society. We must act on their behalf. If they express real fear of a parent, we must act. If we see that their living conditions can be dangerous to them, we must act. When children appear vulnerable and in danger of abuse or neglect everyone should report to the Child Abuse Hotline at DFCS.**

- 3. Untreated and inadequately treated mental health issues underlie many of the cases we reviewed this year. Federal, state, and local governments must put mental health dollars back into budgets. Our families are suffering from a lack of adequate mental health treatment.**

- 4. We need to work on figuring out how our local law enforcement agencies can be alerted when current victims of domestic violence come into our jurisdiction and need additional protection from a batterer.**

VIII. Characteristics of Batterers who Kill

(This list contains facts we deduced from the deaths we studied. They may not apply in every situation.)

- 1. Loners - do not have any friends of their own. If they have a friend it is often someone from their childhood, who hasn't stayed close to them.**
- 2. They will "co-op" the victim's friends in an attempt to learn more about the victim.**
- 3. They are overly possessive, controlling and jealous. They will try to get all the victim's friends, family members and co-workers away from the victim.**
- 4. They control all the finances, even if they don't work.**
- 5. They are often underemployed or recently unemployed.**
- 6. They often have attachment issues, having lost a parent at an early age.**
- 7. Close to the time of death they will begin to unravel - inability to sleep, talking about dying, threatening suicide or homicide, extremely upset about life.**
- 8. They will engage in stalking conduct if the victim tries to leave them.**
- 9. Batterers do not mellow with age. Getting older can ever be more dangerous, especially if the victim is in good health and the batterer is not.**
- 10. Become distraught at the discussion of separation.**
- 11. Have prior unsuccessful intimate relationships.**
- 12. What they want is primary, nothing else matters, not even children. Everyone around the victim is at risk.**

IX. DANGER SIGNS- RELATIONSHIPS AND FORMER RELATIONSHIPS

- 1. The perpetrator wants to know everything about you from the moment you meet. i.e. phone numbers, access codes, and computer passwords.**
- 2. The perpetrator does not want you to have a life outside of your relationship-will try to do everything possible to end your prior associations and friendships.**
- 3. The perpetrators intensity scares you but...you don't listen to that inner voice and try to excuse the conduct. Listen to that voice.**
- 4. All threats must be taken seriously whether or not you feel the perpetrator has the means to follow through on them, or later makes the excuse that they were just kidding.**
- 5. The perpetrator keeps you on an emotional roller coaster.**
- 6. If you have a break up the perpetrator will not accept it and continue to try to get you back into the relationship. Get a restraining order.**
- 7. Uses force to control you but tries to pretend they were "just playing".**
- 8. Will apologize profusely for "bad" conduct but will then repeat it on another occasion.**
- 9. Shows explosive anger not in relation to the incident.**
- 10. Never takes personal responsibility for the rifts in the relationship, always blames the victim.**

X. RECOMMENDATIONS

We the members of the Santa Clara County Domestic Violence Death Review Committee hereby recommend to the Domestic Violence Council and the community at large the following:

- 1. The Domestic Violence Council encourages the community at large to stand up and report domestic violence when it is observed.**
- 2. The Domestic Violence Council continues its efforts to educate the public on domestic violence issues, including the release of this report to the public.**
- 3. The Domestic Violence Council increases its efforts to educate our ethnic minorities and immigrant communities on domestic violence.**
- 4. The Domestic Violence Council continues to ensure that all domestic violence- related educational information teach that domestic violence occurs in the elder, disabled, immigrant, gay, lesbian, bi-sexual and transgender communities.**
- 5. The Domestic Violence Council continues to encourage local school districts to develop a curriculum that addresses the issues of domestic violence, dating violence and stalking. It should also help children feel safe in reporting domestic violence by educating teachers and counselors and setting aside a confidential place for children to make the report. Schools should also track very carefully the attendance rate of children.**
- 6. The Domestic Violence Council continues to encourage victims of domestic violence to get restraining orders.**
- 7. The Domestic Violence Council continues to promote the education of all workplaces on domestic violence, so those potential victims can be protected.**
- 8. The Domestic Violence Council promotes legislation, which requires all mental health professionals to have domestic violence education.**
- 9. The Domestic Violence Council promotes the spending of mental health dollars on those committing domestic violence that are also suicidal, and requiring mental health professionals to get training on the identification of domestic violence and how to treat it.**
- 10. The Domestic Violence Council continues to encourage the utilization of available monies for mental health and legal services for children exposed to domestic violence.**
- 11. The Domestic Violence Council continues to encourage parents to get parenting classes, which discuss the impact of domestic violence on children.**
- 12. The Domestic Violence Council continues to inform the public that law enforcement at a domestic violence incident (Penal Code section 12028.5) can remove all guns and keep**

them for up to 5 days if charges are not filed. The person seeking to get those firearms back must demonstrate compliance with Penal Code section 12021.3 (he/she is deemed eligible to possess a firearm). If charges are filed and the perpetrator is convicted he/she cannot possess a firearm for up to 10 years (Penal Code section 12021). Also if the victim obtains a restraining order (whether or not the perpetrator is filed on or convicted), the restrained person cannot possess a firearm.

The DVDRC recognizes that we have the lowest number of domestic violence related deaths since reporting began in 1994. In 2007 we lost 4 individuals to domestic violence related death. We are convinced this is a clear indication that we must continue to do everything listed above.

SPEAK UP – SAVE LIVES

XI. CRISIS HOTLINES

EMERGENCY POLICE RESPONSE – 911

Asian Women’s Home	(408) 975-2739
Support Network for Battered Women	(408) 541-6100
English/ Spanish	1-800-572-2782
TDD	(650) 490-7857
Next Door Solutions to Domestic Violence	(408) 279-2962
Community Solutions (South County)	(877) 363-7283 (877 END-SADV)
YWCA Rape Crisis Center	(408) 287-3000
South County Rape Crisis Center	(877) 363-7283 (877 END-SADV)
Adult Protective Services	1-800-414-2002
Family Court	(408) 534-5600
Suicide Crisis Service	(408) 279-3312
	(650) 494-8420 (North County)
	(408) 683-2482 (South County)
Victim Witness Assistance	(408) 295-2656 (8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.)
CONTACT (Hotline for all hotlines)	(408) 850-6125
National Domestic Violence Hotline	1-800-799-7233 (SAFE)
Victim Notification System	1-800-464-3568 (jail program- Victims can register and be informed when defendant is to be released)
Charter Legal Services for Children and Youth	(408) 522-3800
San Jose State Counseling Services (SJSU students) ...	(408) 924-9510
Family Court Self Help Center	(408) 882-2900
Restraining Order Self Help Center	(408) 534-5709
Child Abuse Neglect and Reporting Hotline.....	(408) 299-2071
	South County (408) 683-0601
	North County (415) 493-1186

Attachment 1: Copy of the DVDRC's Confidentiality Agreement

CONFIDENTIALITY AGREEMENT

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

DEATH REVIEW COMMITTEE

I, as a member of the Domestic Violence Death Review Committee **agree to keep confidential all** information discussed at the death review meetings. I also **agree to return all** outside case information received in the meeting involving decedents to the Chairperson of the Death Review Committee upon my resignation from the Committee.

Dated

Printed Name

Signature

Attachment 2: Death Review Log (last 8 years)

2000 - 18 domestic violence related deaths

2001 - 17 domestic violence related deaths

2002 - 18 domestic violence related deaths

2003 - 21 domestic violence related deaths

2004 - 6 domestic violence related deaths

2005- 10 domestic violence related deaths

2006- 6 domestic violence related deaths

2007- 4 domestic violence related deaths

2008- 3 domestic violence related deaths