

Research Section for IPV Trial

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In many cases where victims seek the protection of law enforcement but do not wish to file charges, a protective order (PO) is the default intervention strategy. As a preventative measure, POs are limited because they create a safety barrier between the abuser and the victim, but do not connect victims to resources which address emotional and economic issues that lead to repeated abuse. Additionally, this strategy relies on the victim to initiate contact with police if the abuser is noncompliant (Texas Woman's University, 2003).

A study conducted by Yale University found that in-home police visits following IPV can strengthen trust and communication between victims and law enforcement as well as enact positive change with regard to “repeat violence, service utilization, and symptoms” (Smith, Stover, Berkman, & Desai, 2010). Results showed that victims who received visits “were more satisfied with the police and likely to call them to report a non-physical domestic dispute in the 12 months following the initial incident than women in the comparison group” (Smith, Stover, et al. 2010). Additionally, strategies which supplement follow-up contact with social service referrals can address the issue of IPV more comprehensively. Evidence gathered by the University of Denver shows that connecting IPV victims to resources for economic and psychological assistance leads to a reduction in distress for up to 1 year following a dispute (Deprince, Belknap, Labis, & Gober, 2012).

References:

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