

VIOLENCE AGAINST  
NATIVE WOMEN:  
ENHANCING THE LAW  
ENFORCEMENT RESPONSE

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LAW  
ENFORCEMENT  
CULTURE:



BEHIND THE  
“BLUE LINE”

## IC LAW ENFORCEMENT DEMOGRAPHICS\*

- More than 200 police departments
- 2,380 Sworn BIA & Tribal Officers
- 1.3 officers serve every 1,000 citizens
  - Male

*\* Tribal Court Clearing House*

## THINKING INSIDE THE BOX



## THE ACADEMY

- Structure:
- ◆ Paramilitary
  - ◆ Highly Stressful
  - ◆ Long (15 – 24 weeks)
- Focus:
- ◆ Control / Quell Violence
  - ◆ Mechanical (Firearms, Driving)
  - ◆ Laws and Procedures

## COPS AND TRAINING

“Just give it to me straight”

“I’ll decide what is useful and what is BS”

“Don't get touchy-feely on me”

## THE PATROL OFFICER

- ✓ The generalist
- ✓ Time is luxury
- ✓ Sees it all and sees it first
- ✓ Most visible and critiqued
- ✓ Most decisions questioned

## PRESENCE

(a.k.a. Intimidation)

Absolutely essential in order to safely  
and effectively do the job

# The CLUB

EITHER YOU BELONG,  
OR YOU DON'T....

## LE AS VICTIMS

- We are frequently victims of violent crime
  - Outsiders can't imagine us as victims
  - We mask our feelings of vulnerability
- As a result, we rarely appear sympathetic

## THE TRUST FACTOR

Don't trust *anyone* if you  
want to stay alive

## INFORMATION IS POWER

- Law enforcement keeps secrets  
for good reasons
- But many things are kept secret  
unnecessarily

## THE LE EXECUTIVE

- 'At Will' or Contracted by Tribe
  - Pressured from all sides
- Performance rated on myriad of issues
  - Has to prioritize resources
- Raised from baby police officers

## THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM

- Established to protect property rights
- Punitive not restorative
- Event – not contextually -- based
- Process is highly structured



## LE EXPECTATIONS

- *Information and cooperation*
- *Exceptions will be made for their needs*
  - *Victim participation*
- *Partners from the criminal justice system*

## LE LIMITATIONS

- *Policies/practices aren't always consistent*
- *Structured and sometimes paramilitary*
- *Tradition and culture inhibit change*
- *Changes in leadership and personnel*
- *Lacks understanding about advocacy*



## LAW ENFORCEMENT'S ROLE

- *Exercise True Leadership*
- *Collaborate*
- *Solicit Communication*

Law Enforcement and Victim Advocates:

Can This Marriage Be Saved??

## COPS & ADVOCATES: RELATIONSHIP CHALLENGES

- ✧ Gender
- ✧ Culture
- ✧ Stereotypes

## POLICING AND ADVOCACY: THE FOUNDATIONS

Intellectual Disciplines

Valued Perspective(s)

Power, Control, and Hierarchies

Inhabitants?

## POLICING AND ADVOCACY: ORGANIZATIONAL CULTURE

Organizational Structure

Masculinity Equals.....

Beliefs About Gender

## POLICING AND ADVOCACY: FULFILLING OUR ROLES

The Role of Emotion

Control Equals.....

Beliefs About Aggression

Who Can I Trust?

## POLICING AND ADVOCACY: SUCCESS IN OUR ROLES

Scrutiny and Accountability

Fluidity / Stability

Success Equals.....

## POLICING AND ADVOCACY: EFFECT OF OUR ROLES

Emotional

Behavioral

World View

## VIOLENCE AGAINST



AI / AN WOMEN

## RATES OF VIOLENCE AGAINST AI/AN WOMEN

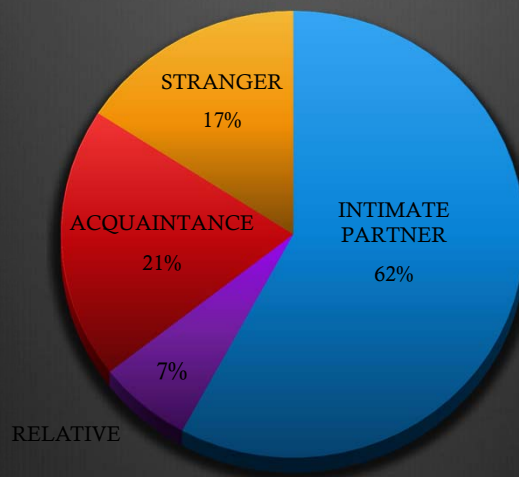
Question:           What are they?

Answer:             Way too high

## VICTIMS OF ANY VIOLENCE: WHO WAS THE OFFENDER?

Source: National Violence Against Women Survey

## FEMALE RAPE VICTIMS: RELATIONSHIP TO PERPETRATOR



Source: National Violence Against Women Survey

## LIFETIME IPV: MODERATE VICTIMIZATION

*Source: National Violence Against Women Survey*

## LIFETIME IPV: SEVERE VICTIMIZATION

*Source: National Violence Against Women Survey*



## MOST RECENT IPV: INJURIES AND MEDICAL CARE

*Source: National Violence Against Women Survey*

## PREFERRED



## PRACTICES

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*The Most Dangerous Men Are Near and Dear*

*Dynamics of Female Victimization*

*Watch The Whole Movie, Not One Scene*

*Use a Context – Not Incident Based – Approach*

*Know What You Don't Know*

*Ongoing Training*

*Systemic, Across Divisions*

*Multidisciplinary*

## PREFERRED PRACTICES

*All Violence Is Not Created Equal*

*"Similar" Acts and Gendered Violence*

*Predominant Aggressors and Dual Arrests*

*Watch for Conduct Unbecoming*

*Interrelated Acts / Multiple Offenses*

*Course of Conduct Crimes*

*Some Problems Are Worse Than Others*

*Conduct Risk Assessments*

*Established Risk Factors Drive Decisions*

*Safety Planning*

## PREFERRED PRACTICES

### *Use Your Power For Good*

*LE Sets the Tone for the Entire System*  
*Good Investigations = Prosecution*

### *Spread The Love Around*

*MDTs Required*  
*Integrated Victim Services*

### *Don't Reinvent the Wheel*

*Existing Resources*  
*Model Policies*  
*Supplemental Reports*

## PREFERRED PRACTICES

### *Use Your Brain*

*Neurobiology of Trauma*  
*Encoding, Storage, and Recall*  
*Multiple Victim Interviews*

### *Never Call A Spade a "Spade"*

*No talk of "Rape" or "Battering"*  
*Neutralize Language and Self-Labeling*

### *Deal in Specifics*

*Ask About Specific Acts*  
*Assess for Multiple Offenses*

## PREFERRED PRACTICES

### *Did You Hear That??!!*

*Spontaneous Utterances  
Medical Personnel  
911 Recordings*

### *Document Like You Really Mean It*

*No "4 Finger" Reports  
Utterances, Demeanor, Physical Environment  
Children, Witnesses, Former Partners*

## PREFERRED PRACTICES

### *Know What You Need*

*Tribal Codes and Federal Statutes*

### *"Take Me To Your Leader....."*

*VAW Must Be a Priority From the Top  
Dedicated Resources and Efforts  
Mandated Policies and Procedures*

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