



UNSILENCED VOICES

BREAKING FREE

Over 20,000 women have been murdered by men due to domestic violence since 2003. Unsilenced Voices founder Michelle Jewsbury nearly became one of those women. For years, Michelle was trapped in the domestic abuse cycle. She walked on eggshells around her partner, suffered his violent blow ups, and tried to believe his apologies. Instead of being accountable, her abuser worked to keep Michelle isolated and silent. In December, 2015 she summoned the strength to break that cycle, leave her abuser, and share her story. Now, Michelle works to combat domestic and gender-based violence on a global scale as the founder and CEO of Unsilenced Voices.

MISSION & VISION

Our mission is to rehabilitate victims of domestic violence and spread awareness to create sustainable change surrounding this epidemic in communities around the globe.

Our vision is to inspire change in communities around the world by encouraging victims to break free and survivors to speak up about domestic violence and sexual defilement.

SPEAKING OUT

Unsilenced Voices exists to break the silence and end the cycle of domestic and gender-based violence. We invite you to join us in creating a world where we can share our stories of survival, celebrate our safety, and stop the cycles of abuse.

WE OFFER



SAFE SHELTER



LEGAL SUPPORT



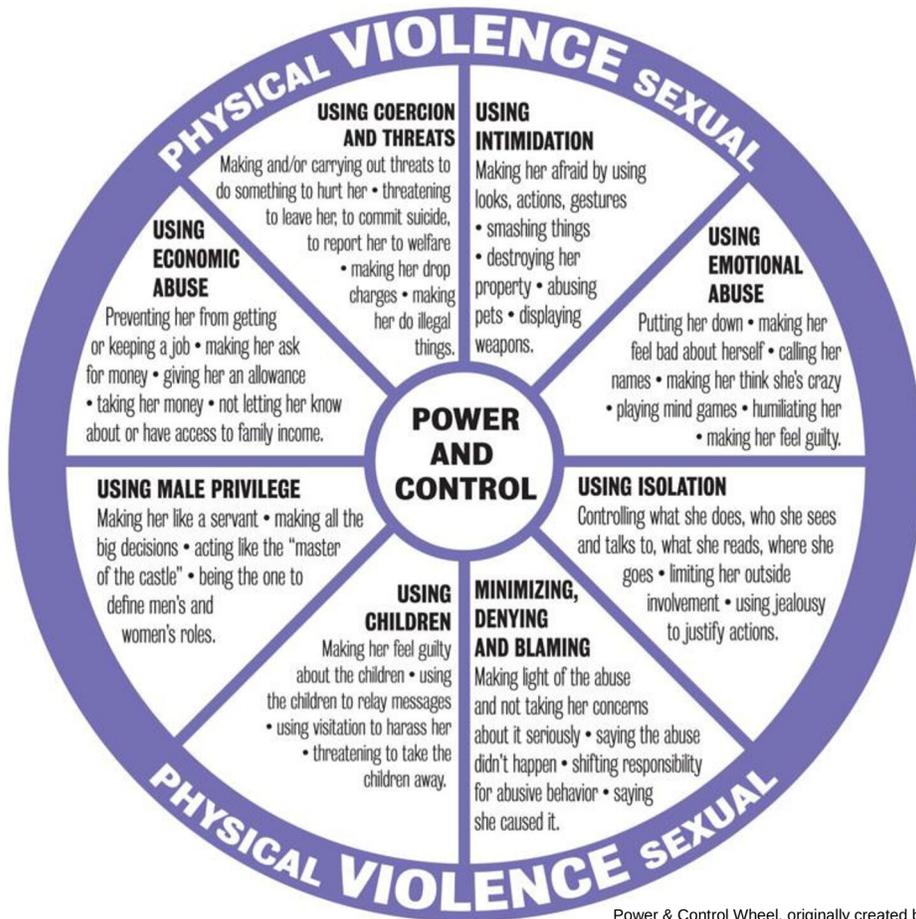
HEALTH SERVICES



CULTURAL & VOCATIONAL TRAINING

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE DEFINED

Domestic violence is "the willful intimidation, physical assault, battery, sexual assault, and/or other abusive behavior as part of a systematic pattern of power and control perpetrated by one intimate partner against another. This includes physical violence, sexual violence, psychological violence, and emotional abuse (National Coalition Against Domestic Violence; *NCADV.org*, 2019)." The term "intimate partner violence (IPV)" can also be used as abuse often extends beyond the home and or partners may not live together.



Power & Control Wheel, originally created by Domestic Abuse Intervention Project, Duluth, MN

POWER & CONTROL

Power and control are the hallmarks of abusive relationships. The graphic below shows common abusive tactics and behaviors. It is important to note, every situation is unique and every behavior may not be present in a given abusive relationships. Domestic violence occurs across all types of relationships therefore any pronouns could be used below.

"Intimate partner violence and sexual violence is a major public health problem and a violation of human rights."

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION (WHO), 2017

TROUBLING STATISTICS

34% U.S. domestic violence injuries receive medical care

10% women experiencing IPV worldwide report to police

11% U.S. men experience severe intimate partner violence

National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, *NCADV.org*, 2019. World Health Organization, *WHO Violence Against Women Fact Sheet*, 2017

99%

Domestic violence cases involve financial abuse. The majority of survivors cite a lack of financial resources as the main reason they stay in violent relationships.

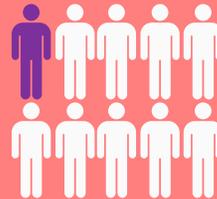
Center for Financial Security, *Measuring the Effects of Domestic Violence on Women's Financial Wellbeing*, 2011

UNITED STATES



30%

Women experience domestic violence.



10%

Men experience domestic violence.

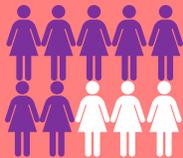
National Domestic Violence Hotline, thehotline.org, 2019

GLOBAL



134

Women are murdered by a family member or intimate partner everyday, worldwide.



70%

Women experience intimate partner violence globally.

UNWomen.org, *Facts and figures: Ending Violence Against Women*, 2018

\$9.3 Billion

U.S. healthcare costs and productivity losses due to intimate partner violence.

Institute for Women's Policy Research, *The Economic Cost of Intimate Partner Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking*, 2017

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IS PERSONAL, NOT PRIVATE

In the United States and abroad, victims of domestic violence are silenced not just by their abusers, but by cultural beliefs that domestic violence is a “private” or “family matter.” These beliefs isolate victims, often times allowing violence to escalate.

The United Nations reports that less than 40% of women experiencing domestic violence seek help. The majority of those women reach out to friends or family with less than 10% reaching out to police after experiencing violence. In Sierra Leone, where Unsilenced Voices operates, the Deputy Coordinating Director of the Domestic Violence and Victim Support Unit believes that the actual percentage of people experience domestic violence is *at least double* what is reported on surveys. Driving the differences between *reported* domestic violence and *actual* domestic violence incidents are beliefs that domestic violence should be handled by family, not law enforcement. Such beliefs more often protect abusers than victims or survivors.

UNSILENCED VOICES

EMPOWERING VOICES

To realize our vision of inspiring change in communities around the world to end domestic and sexual violence, Unsilenced Voices works on a global scale. Together with local communities, governments, and nonprofits we deliver the sensitization and vocational training, safe housing, and funding support vital to breaking the cycle of violence. Our current work includes:



UNITED STATES Together with Beyond Freedom International and The Well Child Foundation, we support survivors of California's sex trafficking industry- many of whom also experience domestic violence- through legal, childcare, and housing assistance. Unsilenced Voices is actively seeking funds and partnerships to support our own temporary housing facility.



SIERRA LEONE Unsilenced Voices works with the Bo Women's Vocational Center to pay for survivors' job skills training, leading to employment beyond the sex trade. Additionally, we lead community sensitization trainings to combat the silence and cultural acceptance of domestic violence. We are proud to build on this work with upcoming school-age trainings.



NEPAL Widespread, extreme poverty contribute to high rates of child brides being purchased and exploited. In response, we fiscally sponsor the Nepalese organization, Happy Children, to "buy back" the freedom of exploited children, provide safe housing, and fund their education. With additional funding, we will lead domestic violence trainings for their staff and youth.

"Let us begin to imagine the world we would like to inhabit the long lives we will share and the many futures in our hands."

- Susan Griffin, Author

JOIN US

Founded by domestic violence survivor, Michelle Jewsbury, Unsilenced Voices has grown to serve survivors on three continents through programs in Nepal, Sierra Leone, and the United States. Together with our foundation, nonprofit, and government partners we are striving to break the silence and build a brighter, safer future for us all. Join us in supporting survivors and the communities we share as we seek to expand our existing services and launch new partnerships.

CONTACT |



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