

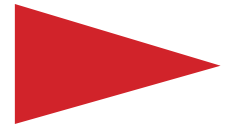
Questions for group discussion on dynamics of violence against women:

1. Why do you think violence against women happens?
Responses may include: gender inequality, power and control, learned behaviour, inadequate coping skills, beliefs about violence being a good way to problem solve, they made the choice.
2. What are some things that can make women more vulnerable to being abused?
3. How does violence against women and lateral violence relate? Can you give an example of lateral violence from the videos?
4. Physical violence is the most obvious form of abuse. Can you think of examples of other forms of abuse? In what ways can these more subtle forms of abuse escalate?
5. What are some effects of residential school and how did it contribute to violence against Aboriginal women? Can you see the effect of the residential-school system in any of the characters in the DVD?

Intimate-partner violence risk factors

So far, we have looked at the dynamics of violence against women from individual and societal perspectives. This section examines some of the risk factors or “red flags” often associated with men choosing to use violence against their intimate partners. Men who choose to use violence against their partners often have risk factors associated with their abusive behaviour. While more factors exist than those named below, these “red flags” are common with men who choose to use violence:

- Jealousy,
- Controlling behaviour,
- History of violence towards previous partners, family members or pets,
- History of generalized violence, e.g., bar fights, experiencing family violence as a child,
- History of threats to kill or use weapons,
- Road rage,
- Escalation of violence or threats,
- Frequent use of alcohol or drugs,
- Violations of court imposed sanctions, and
- Employment or financial problems.



For First Nation men, the loss of the traditional way of life and identity is also a contributing factor. Men are also affected by changes to traditional male roles within the community and household, and the legacy of residential schools, which is thought to perpetuate men's violence against women. For example, a man may have attended or had parents who attended residential schools where abuse took place. As a result, he may have been raised in a family where violence was normalized. Because of this, he may not understand the impact of his choice to use violence on his partner or children.

