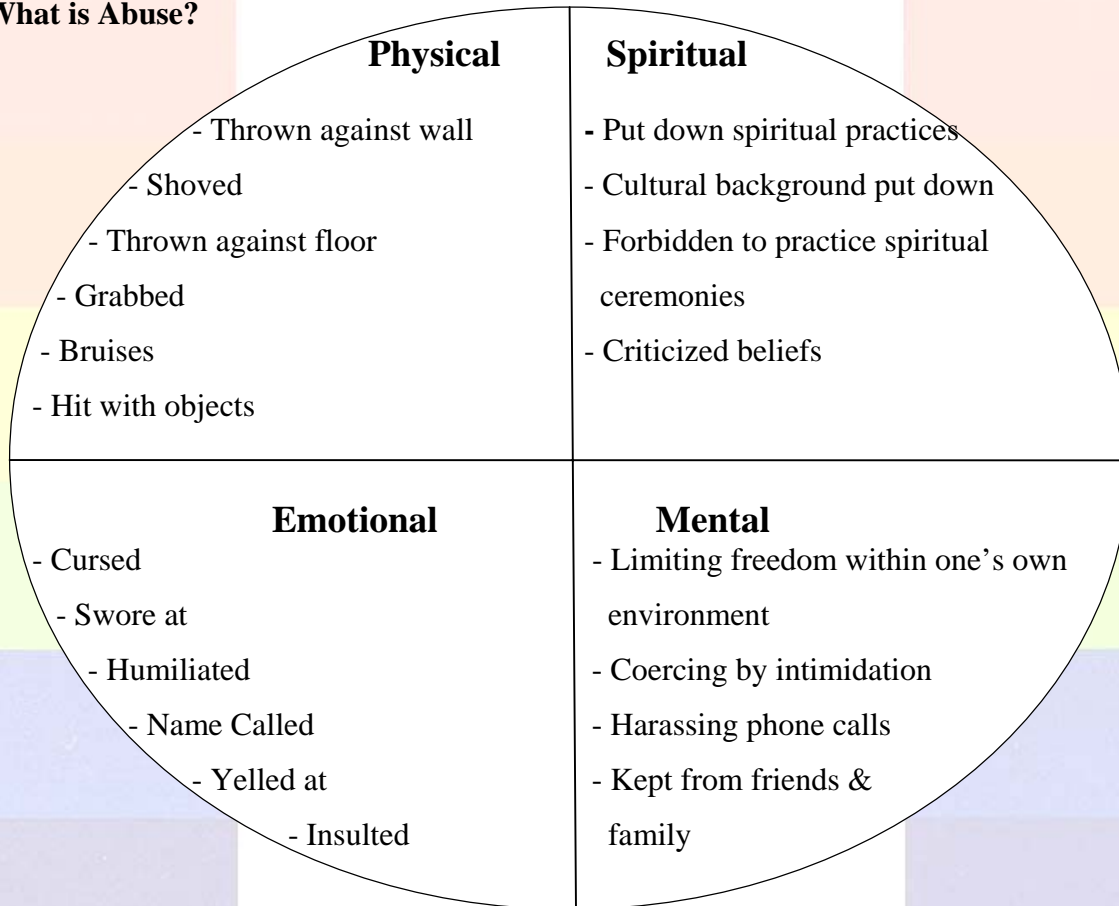


Aboriginal Two Spirit Women's Domestic Violence Fact Sheet

YOU ARE NOT ALONE

How do I know I am being abused?

What is Abuse?



What are some of the results of Abuse?

- Cuts
- Black Eyes
- Guilt
- Feelings of shame
- Feelings of lowered self worth
- Feelings of Isolation
- Scratches on Body
- Bruises
- Feelings of self-doubt
- Feelings of lowered self-esteem
- Feelings of Fear

IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT

Of the women we surveyed this is what Two Spirit women have experienced:

(Please refer to the final report on Domestic Violence).

- 60% of Two Spirit women have experienced homophobia in their communities
- 60% of Two Spirit women didn't know where to go for social services agencies
- 70% of Two Spirit women practice safe sex
- 73% of Two Spirit women feel their identity is important
- 73% of Two Spirit women want to know how to protect themselves from abuse
- 75% of Two Spirit women have been stalked by their partners
- 80% of Two Spirit women sought out counseling more than one occasion
- Two Spirit women do not feel welcome at social services agencies as a result of racism and sexism

Services Providers need to:

- Non-Native agencies need to partner with other agencies that Two Spirit men/women & trans community members access
- Help Two Spirit women by listening to & believing their experiences therefore validating their experiences
- Provide Two Spirit women with safety planning
- Be respectful of Two Spirit women
- Be non-judgmental
- Be culturally sensitive
- Be accessible

Elders need to:

- Recognize that native communities have Two Spirit Community members
- Acknowledge & validate VIOLENCE in Two Spirit women's relationships
- Provide spiritual guidance for Two Spirit women
- Be Accepting & non-judgmental

You are capable & deserving of loving relationships

Resources:

- 2 Spirited People of the 1st Nations (416) 944-9300 www.2spirits.com
- The 519 (416) 392-6874 www.the519.org
- Assaulted Women's Helpline (416) 863-0511 outside 416 call 1-866-863-0511 www.awhl.org
- David Kelly Counselling Services (416) 595-9618 www.fsatoronto.com/programs/dkslesgay.html
- Distress Lines (416) 408-4357 www.torontodistresscentre.com
- Gerstein Centre (416) 929-5200 www.gersteincentre.org
- Ontario Aboriginal HIV/AIDS Strategy (416) 944-9481 or 1-800-743-8851 www.oahas.org
- Tumivet Youth Shelter (416) 651-6750 www.nameres.org
- Yorktown Family Shelter 416-394-2960 www.yorktownfamilyservices.com

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