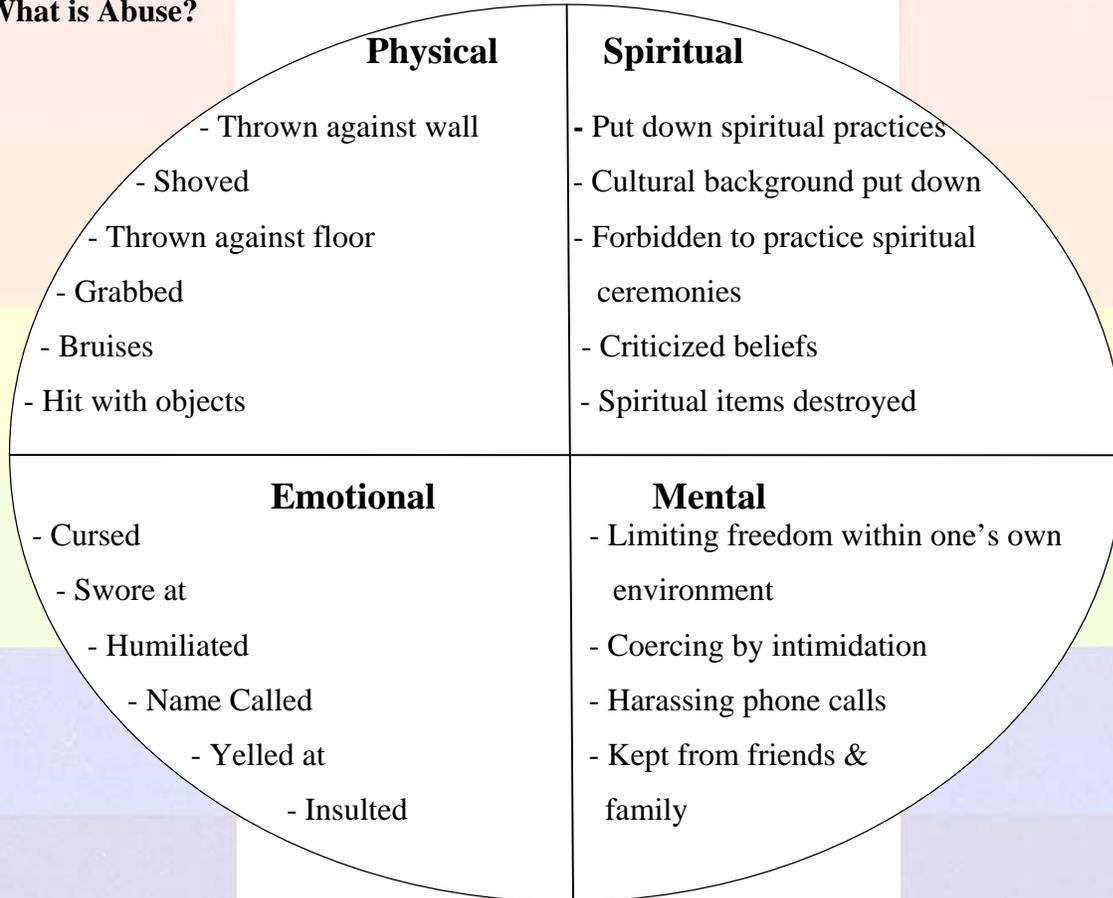


Aboriginal Two Spirit Men's Domestic Violence Fact Sheet

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 men we surveyed this is what Two Spirit men have experienced:

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

- 50% of men could not access social services because of no transportation
- 70% of men live in poverty and are unemployed
- 70% of men in the last year were forced to have sex against their will
- 70% of men have sought counselling BUT felt they could not disclose abuse as they felt that the social service agencies were not culturally sensitive or validating
- 73% of men want to know how to protect themselves from abuse!
- 73% want financial security but 7 out of 10 men are on ODSP

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 men by listening to & believing their experiences therefore validating their experiences
- Provide Two Spirit men with safety planning
- Validate Two Spirit men's experiences
- Be respectful of Two Spirit men
- 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 men's relationships
- Provide spiritual guidance for Two Spirit men
- 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

Project funding provided by Ontario Victim Services Secretariat Ministry of Attorney General