

Providing Intervention and Support to Patients Experiencing Domestic Violence

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DISCLOSURE - KRYSTAL DIEL

I have no actual or potential conflict of interest in relation to this program/presentation.

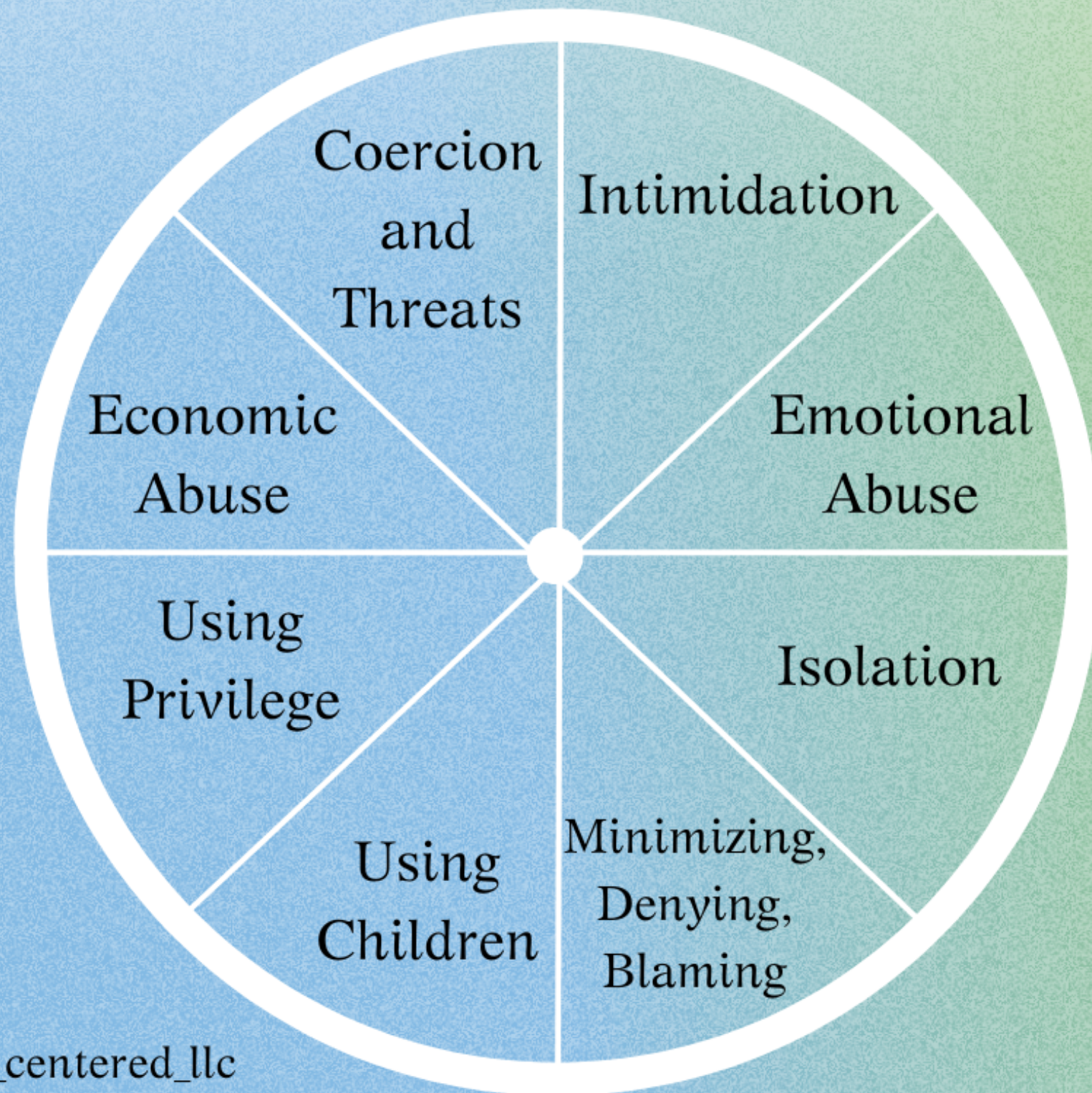
AGENDA

- Power and Control/DV Definition
- Lethality Indicators
- Supporting Survivors/Safety Planning
- Law Enforcement
- Engaging Community Resources



Domestic Violence Overview³

Power and Control Wheel



LETHALITY INDICATORS/THINGS TO CONSIDER^{1,5}

- Currently pregnant
- History of strangulation
- Presence of a firearm
- The abuser threatens to kill the patient or themselves
- Physical violence increasing in frequency or severity
- Living together
- The abuser abuses substances
- Stalking behaviors

WHAT SHOULD I DO?

Listen - Believe - Empower - Refer

INSTEAD OF SAYING.....SAY THIS INSTEAD

You know they could kill you?

I'm concerned for your safety, can we talk about safety planning?

Why do you stay?

What makes it hard to leave?

You need to report this to law enforcement.

Would you like to report this?

You need to see a therapist about this.

I can connect you with our local domestic violence agency if you would like.

SAFETY PLANNING

- IDENTIFY SUPPORTS
- GATHER IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS AND MEDICATION
- CONSIDER AN ORDER OF PROTECTION
- CHANGE PASSWORDS
- INCREASE FINANCIAL INDEPENDENCE
- DEVELOP A SAFETY WORD
- LOCATE THE NEAREST DV SHELTER
- CREATE A PLAN FOR CHILDREN AND PETS

CONNECTING TO RESOURCES

- Who is your local DV/SA agency?
 - The Montana Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence provides a map of victim service programs by region
 - Knowing your community resource, have their brochures in your office, call with the patient (if applicable and appropri)
- National Domestic Violence Hotline: 800-799-7233

LAW ENFORCEMENT

- What are you mandated to report?
 - Mont. Code Ann. § 37-2-302 requires reporting of gunshot or stab wounds
 - Other mandated reporting of child abuse, elder abuse, duty to warn
- Unless it falls under mandated reporting, you are not required by law to report
 - Check additional laws that may impact you if you work on a reservation or if your hospital/clinic has additional laws
- If you must report, patient does not need to cooperate with or talk to law enforcement
- If the policy allows any flexibility in the timing of the call to law enforcement, consider calling after or immediately before discharge if it is known that the patient does not wish to speak to law enforcement at that time.

IN CONCLUSION

- Offer to call the Helpline for any patient that has immediate SA or DV needs
- Give a Helpline card to any SA or DV patient, especially if they have said no to speaking with law enforcement or it was not an acute assault that was disclosed
- Mandated reporting does not mean patient cooperation
- Strangulation should be assessed by provider
- Avoiding touching the patient unless medically necessary and ask for consent

QUESTIONS?

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