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# **DVOMB Quarterly Minute**

April 2023

#### Sexual Assault Awareness Month

April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM). The goal of SAAM is to raise public awareness about sexual violence and to educate communities and individuals on sexual violence prevention. One way you can contribute to SAMM is by learning about the connections between various forms of oppression and the underlying causes of sexual assault. Certain groups of people are at higher risk for sexual violence and those same people are also the most impacted by racism and inequity. For example:

- More than 1 and 4 non-Hispanic Black women (29%) in the United States were raped in their lifetime (Basile et al., 2022).
- More than 4 in 5 American Indian and Alaska Native women (84.3%) have experienced violence in their lifetime (Rosay, 2016).
- 1 in 3 Hispanic women (34.8%) reported unwanted sexual contact in their lifetime (Basile et al., 2022).
- 32.9% of adults with intellectual disabilities have experienced sexual violence (Tomsa et al., 2021).
- 47% of all transgender people have been sexually assaulted at some point in their lives (James et al., 2016).

<u>SAAM has a long and interesting history</u>. Since 2013, CCASA has hosted <u>Colorado Denim Day</u> in order to raise awareness about sexual assault, show support for survivors, and unite communities across Colorado in taking a stand against sexual violence. <u>Colorado Denim Day</u> is our statewide event aligning with Denim Day events across the world on a Wednesday every April during Sexual Assault Awareness Month.



# **Next DVOMB Meeting**

#### **April Board Meeting**

The DVOMB meeting is a hybrid event that allows for both in-person and remote attendance. The next meeting falls on January 13, 2023. At this upcoming meeting, a presentation on "The Prevalence of Traumatic Brain Injury in Domestic Violence Offenders" by students from University of Denver's Graduate School of Professional Psychology. A training credit of one hour will be offered to those in attendance.

What - Agenda

When - April 14, 2023 Time - 9:00AM - 1:45PM

Where - 710 Kipling St, 2nd Floor Conference Room or via WebEx

WebEx Virtual Join link:

https://dcj.webex.com/dcj/j.php?MTID=m7ef5661ed69e625220cef6493998ef7f

Webinar number: 2556 931 2630

Webinar password: 6GKxeCkcK64 (64593252 from phones and video systems)

Join by phone: +1-415-655-0001 US Toll

Access code: 2556 931 2630



# **2023 Traveling Board Meeting**

This year the DVOMB plans to hold the September or October meeting in a different part of the state. The traveling Board meeting allows for stakeholders to be a part of our meetings in-person who may not typically attend the monthly meeting. The last DVOMB road trip was in May of 2019 when it visited Loveland, Colorado. If you are interested in the DVOMB coming to your part of Colorado, complete the <u>Traveling Board Meeting Request form</u> for the DVOMB to potentially come to your part of the state.



# <u>Apply Now to Be a Member of the Application Review</u> <u>Committee of the DVOMB</u>

Are you looking to get involved with the Domestic Violence Offender Management Board? We have a great opportunity for you!

The Application Review Committee (ARC) is responsible for making decisions regarding applications, complaints, *Standards Compliance Reviews*, and other administrative actions. Recent changes now allow for non-Board members to apply to serve on the ARC as voting members. These changes were added to create equitable pathways for non-Board members to participate in the decisions of the ARC. Members of the ARC serve four-year terms and can be reappointed for one additional term. The ARC are seeking <u>applications</u> for the following positions:

- Victim Advocate Representative or Law Enforcement Representative
- DVOMB Approved Provider Representative listed as a Full-Operating Level working with the LGBTQ+ Offending Population
- DVOMB Approved Provider Representative listed as a Full-Operating Level working with the Female Offending Population

Please fill out the ARC Application today by pressing here!



## 2023 DVOMB Annual Legislative Report

The Domestic Violence Offender Management Board is pleased to present the 2023 DVOMB Annual Legislative Report pursuant to 16-11.8-103(5.5)(a), C.R.S.. This report contains a lot of information that is relevant now more than ever. Please feel free to circulate this amongst your stakeholders and networks.

#### 2022 Domestic Violence Fatality Review Board Annual Report

The Domestic Violence Offender Management Board is pleased to present the <u>2022 Annual Report</u>. The board works together and in partnership with community partners to publish an annual report detailing data and trends related to domestic violence fatalities statewide and identifies policy recommendations to better prevent these tragedies.



### Policy Updates

#### Post Sentence Offender Evaluations

New guidance regarding post-sentence offender evaluations described in a <u>memorandum issued by the DVOMB on February 10th, 2023</u>. This memorandum describes the new expectations associated with Section 4.0 of the Standards and Guidelines.



# <u>Upcoming Changes to Section 5.0 of the Standards</u> <u>and Guidelines</u>

Changes are coming to Section 5.0 of the Standards and Guidelines. The Standards Revision Committee is currently working to upgrade and clarify Section 5.0 regarding offender treatment. The last major revision of Section 5.0 occurred more than a decade ago. You may recognize that <u>Section 5.03</u> was recently revised. If you are interested in being part of the discussion and planning on changes to Section 5.0, you can attend the Standards Revision Committee which meets virtually on the first <u>Friday of the month from 9-11AM</u>.



## <u>U.S. v Rahimi and the Constitutionality of Firearm Possession</u> <u>in Protection Orders</u>

A recent ruling from a federal case from the 5th Circuit Court of Appeals struck down 30 years of federal law by ruling that offenders of domestic violence subject to a protective order have constitutional rights to possess a firearm. The 5th Circuit Court of Appeals has jurisdiction in Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas. This ruling establishes case law for these states and does <u>not</u> yet have any impact on the 10th Circuit Court of Appeals where Colorado is situated. This means that this ruling does not change the legal requirements here in Colorado or in the other states outside of the 5th Circuit Court of Appeals (at least not yet). <u>It is likely that this will be appealed to the Supreme Court</u>, but there is no way of knowing if this case will be heard by the Supreme Court.



#### Renewal Reminder

This is a friendly reminder that renewal season is around the corner in July of 2023. All Approved Providers are required to renew their placement on the Provider List every two years. If you are an Approved Provider (including those in a "not currently practicing" status), and plan to continue being listed with the DVOMB, we recommend you start preparing now and make sure you have met your continuing education and training hour requirements. One way you can obtain your training hours is by accessing the Provider Hub where certificates are available for approximately 20 online trainings, ranging from 1 hour to 2 hours in length.

Approved Providers can renew beginning in May using the Renewal Application in the <u>Provider Data Management System</u>. Please look for the renewal application and required booster trainings in the coming months.



## **Data Collection Updates**

Data collection is underway and staff have developed some resources to support Approved Providers. When asking clients for the research release, it is not uncommon for clients to be concerned or have some anxiety about sharing their information with others. Data collected from clients suggests that just under half (45.4%) of domestic violence offenders at assessment agree to the research release. This is understandable as it can be hard to trust others without knowing how information will be used. Here are some updated resources for Approved Providers to access for questions regarding any part of the data collection process.

<u>Monthly Data Technical Assistance Hour</u> (here you can ask questions directly to staff about any issues or anything that is unclear in a small group environment)

Research Consent Video for Clients

Frequently Asked Questions About Data Collection and Research for PDMS Users



#### **Conference Awards**

Denise Fransua Domestic Violence Offender Management Leadership Award

This award will honor a person who exhibits the attributes of effective leadership in domestic violence offender management. This person should exhibit charisma, demonstrate exceptional compassion, dedication, be influential and driven to make a difference in either reducing the occurrence of domestic violence or making a difference in the lives of victims of domestic violence. His/her/their efforts should have resulted in positive change and significant contributions to their community or the state in domestic violence offender management. This award is appropriate for treatment providers, supervision officers, victim advocates, law enforcement, caseworkers, and other professionals responsible for domestic violence offender management.

Gary Burgin Sex Offender Management or Treatment Leadership Award

This award will honor a person who exhibits the attributes of effective leadership in sex offender management or treatment. This person should have respect among peers, and a high level of integrity. This person should promote collaboration, and his/her/their efforts should have resulted in positive change and significant contributions to their community or the state in sex offender management or treatment. This award is appropriate for treatment providers, supervision officers, caseworkers, researchers, and other professionals responsible for sex offender management/treatment.

Senator Norma Anderson Excellence in Victim Advocacy Award

This award will honor a person who exhibits excellence, innovation, or creativity in victim representation. This person should demonstrate exceptional compassion, dedication, and commitment to victims. This award is appropriate for victim advocates and representatives, victim therapists, law enforcement, and other professionals who work with or for victims.

Press Here to fill out the Form!



In this quarter, I focus on offense-related cognition from two perspectives. In the first article, I briefly summarize key findings on the connection between explicit and implicit cognitions and physical intimate partner violence. In the second article, I highlight research on the challenges of working with domestic violence offenders, noting that several of these challenges relate to the attitudes held by individuals, their peers, and the community at large.

Pornari, C. D., Dixon, L., & Humphreys, G. W. (2021). A preliminary investigation into a range of implicit and explicit offense supportive cognitions in perpetrators of physical intimate partner violence. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*, *36* (3-4), NP2079-2111.

Traditionally, cognitions or attitudes have been measured explicitly through self-report questionnaires. These rely on attitudes being accessible to awareness and conscious control. An alternative approach is implicit methods which measure the strength of association between concepts stored in longterm memory. Implicit methods can assess implicit attitudes (also called schema) that operate automatically and outside of conscious awareness. The current study examined several IPV-related offense-supportive cognitions using questionnaires and implicit measures in 19 men who had perpetrated physical IPV against a female partner and 20 men who had not. On explicit attitude measures, the IPV men reported significantly more relationship dominance, controlling behaviors, psychological entitlement, gender-role stereotypes, hostility toward women, attitudes condoning physical IPV, instrumental beliefs about (general) aggression, and less relationship satisfaction. On implicit attitude measures, the IPV men demonstrated significantly more gender-role attitudes, positivity toward violence, negative/hostile attitudes toward women, a sense of relationship and general entitlement, and normalization of IPV. Several of the explicit and implicit measures showed significant correlations with each other. The findings from this study illustrate that IPV perpetrators can have attitudes supportive of intimate partner violence that operate on a conscious and an unconscious or automatic level. The authors discuss how the findings are consistent with schema models of offensesupportive cognition as well as some possible avenues for including a focus on implicit attitudes in treatment.

Morrison, P. K., Hawker, L., Cluss, P. A., Miller, E., Fleming, R., Bicehouse, T., George, D., Burke, J., Wright, K., & Chang, J. C. (2021). The challenges of working with men who perpetrate partner violence: Perspectives and observations of experts who work with batterer intervention programs. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*, *36* (7-8), NP352-3546.

In this study, the authors sought to identify and describe the challenges encountered in promoting prosocial behavior change in domestic violence treatment through the lens of professionals involved or associated with domestic violence treatment programs. A total of 36 interviews were conducted with a range of professionals associated with two different programs delivered at multiple sites in the US. Qualitative analysis of the interviews identified 6 themes in the reported barriers to change: (i) social acceptance of violence, (ii) hypermasculine attitudes, (iii) emotional issues, (iv) childhood exposure to violence, (v) mental health and substance abuse, and (vi) denial, minimization, and blame. The findings highlighted that

challenges to effective treatment and prosocial change exist at multiple levels of clients' ecosystems (individual, peer-community, and societal). The significant role of attitudes was apparent across several of the themes.

#### **Concluding Comments**

The two reports reflect very different approaches to researching intimate partner violence, yet both highlight the influential role of explicit and implicit offense-supportive attitudes at an individual, peer-community, and societal level. Both studies discuss the potential for enhancing the effectiveness of domestic violence treatment programs by attending to offense-supportive attitudes.

By Rachael Collie, PhD, Staff Researcher/Statistical Analyst



# **DVOMB Training Opportunities**

Press Here to View DVOMB Trainings!



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