

TITLE: Interactive training improves workplace climate, knowledge, and support towards domestic violence

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STUDENT SUBMISSION: No

TOPIC/TARGET AUDIENCE: Occupational Practitioners / Program Developers / Policy Makers

ABSTRACT: Problem: Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) affects about 30% of women worldwide and over one-third (35.6%) of women in the US, in their lifetime. Abusers use work-interference tactics (harassing co-workers, affecting employee's ability to get to work or stay at work) as well as affecting job performance adversely. The workplace can be a safe haven for victims of IPV, but most workplaces are not designed to prevent violence from workers' partners or support the abused workers' needs.

Aim: The study examined the effectiveness of computer-based training for supervisors on IPV, safety climate and workplace safety from violent partners; this was conducted in government offices in 27 Oregon counties. Training was completed by 941 supervisors and between 757 and 579 provided data at 3, 6 and 12 months post training.

Approach: IPV training was provided to supervisors in 14 intervention counties and 13 control counties (receiving training 6 months delayed). Measures included workplace climate surveys, IPV knowledge test, and workplace observations of informational postings.

Conclusions: The training improved supervisors' knowledge and received positive evaluations, it improved the workplace climate towards IPV, and more IPV information was provided to and posted for employees than before the training.

OBJECTIVE(S): Frequency of intimate partner violence experienced in the US.

Training topics that can be addressed to improve the workplace climate for persons experiencing intimate partner violence.

How workplace climate can be surveyed and outcomes in Oregon county government workers.

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