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Our job at *Family & Intimate Partner Violence Quarterly* is to keep a very practical focus on the interests and needs of working professionals while maintaining exceptionally high standards of accuracy, rigor, and relevance. We bring you practical ideas, facts, and strategies you can put to work helping victims. For example ...

- **Do State Domestic Violence Laws Protect Teens?** The authors of this article (all from Break the Cycle) show how laws in some states make it nearly impossible for minors to receive legal protection—and suggest concrete changes to fix the problem.
- **What Is Wrong With Mutual Orders of Protection?** Chief among their drawbacks is that they discriminate against women and fail to hold abusers accountable. Unfortunately, women may end up being in greater danger—or even jail—after a Mutual Order of Protection is obtained.
- **Our Clients May Affect Us: Vicarious Traumatization.** Caring for victims of family violence is painful for the caregiver, too.
- **"Battered Women": What Does This Phrase Really Mean?** To be effective, professionals need a deeper and more accurate understanding of what happens in abusive relationships before they can be truly ready to help.
- **Can Battered Women Cope?** Battered women are often unable or unwilling to "take advice" to leave a lethal relationship. They may be coping in ways that aren't obvious or easy to understand.
- **Screening for Intimate Partner Violence in the Health Care Setting.** A team of trauma and family practice MDs has put together this comprehensive guide to identifying evidence of

- abuse and taking appropriate action to help victims.
- **New Directions in Risk Assessment.** Can assessment tools like the Ontario Domestic Assault Risk Assessment be relied on to predict violence? This article suggests that the goal of predicting violence is unrealistic—but that assessment instruments do have a useful role to play in protecting victims of domestic violence.
- **Addressing Stalking at Work.** The authors provide a checklist of steps to take to ensure women's safety when workplace stalking is identified.

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