CONTINUUM of AGGRESSION and ABUSE *by Alyce LaViolette*

Exacerbating Factors: Family of Origin Issues - Substance Abuse - Age (Younger)

Previous Abusive Relationships - Psychological Issues

Common Couple Aggression	High Conflict	Separation or Loss Specific Aggression	Abuse	Battering	Terrorism
• Aberrant Act • Remorse • Does not cause fear, oppression or control • No injury • Comes from escalating arguments • Could happen in any family • Balance of power in a relationship	• Does not solve problems well • Anger is an issue in family • May have remorse • May have sporadic physical aggression and/or destruction of property • Can have emotional abuse • No fear • Balance of power in relationship	• Isolated act(s) of aggression • No prior context of domestic violence • Aggression fueled by stress of loss/grieving • May engender fear, particularly in women, based on vicarious trauma	• Sporadic physical aggression • Name calling, but not character assassination • Verbal abuse, but not psychological • May be remorseful • Threats of abandonment • Aggression takes place without witnesses	• Monopolization of perception • Generally more regular physical abuse, but may occur without physical • Threats to victim's support system • Jealousy • Putting down friends and family • Destruction of property • Self-absorbed • Sexual abuse • Change in victim's personality • More generally violent	• Stalking • Monopolization of perception • Insidious psychological abuse • Well thought-out threat to kill • Torturing pets • Extreme isolation • Generally more regular physical abuse, but may occur without physical • Sexual humiliation and degradation

Mediating Factors: Connection to community - Job that has meaning - Age (Older)

Participation in abuse intervention program

Participation in recovery program

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