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### Additional Resources

Cohen, E., McAlister Groves, B., & Kracke, K. (2009). *Understanding Children's Exposure to Violence*. Moving From Evidence to Action: The Safe Start Series on Children Exposed to Violence, Issue Brief #1. North Bethesda, MD: Safe Start Center, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. [http://www.safestartcenter.org/pdf/IssueBrief1\\_UNDERSTANDING.pdf](http://www.safestartcenter.org/pdf/IssueBrief1_UNDERSTANDING.pdf)

Family Violence Prevention Fund. (2011). *National Institute on Fatherhood and Domestic Violence*. San Francisco: Family Violence Prevention Fund. <http://endabusesyntaxdev.forumone.com/content/features/detail/799/>

Family Violence Prevention Fund. (2005). *Working with Men and Boys to Prevent Gender-Based Violence* (Toolkit). San Francisco: Family Violence Prevention Fund. <http://toolkit.endabuse.org/Home/>

Fleck-Henderson, A., & Areán, J.C. (2004). *Breaking the Cycle: Fathering After Violence*. Curriculum Guidelines and Tools for Batterer Intervention Programs. San Francisco: Family Violence Prevention Fund. [http://endabuse.org/section/programs/children\\_families/\\_breaking\\_cycle](http://endabuse.org/section/programs/children_families/_breaking_cycle)

Martens, P. (2011). *The Complete Guide to Father Engagement*. Buhl, ID: National Family Preservation Network. <http://www.nfpn.org>

National Child Traumatic Stress Network. *Birth Parents with Trauma Histories and the Child Welfare System: A Guide for Child Welfare Staff*. Rockville, MD: Center for Mental Health Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. [http://www.nctsn.org/sites/default/files/assets/pdfs/birth\\_parents\\_trauma\\_history\\_fact\\_sheet\\_final.pdf](http://www.nctsn.org/sites/default/files/assets/pdfs/birth_parents_trauma_history_fact_sheet_final.pdf)

## Recommendations for Future Research

More work is needed in the area of treatment development and evaluation to determine the effectiveness of intervention approaches with maltreating fathers. Evaluation studies of interventions like Child Parent Psychotherapy (Lieberman & Van Horn, 2005), Parent Child Interaction Therapy (Eyberg & Boggs, 1998), Alternatives for Families-CBT (Kolko, Iselin, & Gully, 2011), Fathers Too (McMahon, 2009), and Fathers for Change (Stover, in press) with large samples of fathers with histories of IPV and maltreatment are necessary. These studies should include evaluation of key ingredients of treatment, characteristics of fathers that make them more or less appropriate for such interventions, and clinician training needs. Another area that is under researched is the use of IPV interventions with homosexual couples. How these approaches may differ for gay fathers should be part of future research.

## Conclusion

Involving fathers in treatment with their children is one of the most neglected areas in mental health services. Though abusive fathers may be provided with some parenting and anger management skills, they do not receive the needed guidance in interacting with their children in a structured manner following an abusive episode. Furthermore, there is a dire need to develop assessment tools to match fathers' compatibility to treatment approaches that would yield the best outcomes for families. Finally, providers play a major role in involving fathers in treatment. Well trained providers who can engage and treat abusive fathers both individually and in relation to their partners and children is an area of significant need. Fathers are an important fabric in the canvas of family and child development. Fathers who have perpetrated domestic violence often remain in the lives of their children and excluding them from interventions creates a patched attempt at best in bringing an end to abuse. Not all fathers who perpetrate IPV are appropriate for family based treatment however, some fathers and their children may benefit from treatment focused on parenting and their roles as fathers.

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**Table 1**

Domains of Assessment to Assist in Determining if Fathers are Appropriate for Inclusion in Treatment in Cases of IPV

Assessment Domain	Possible Measures	Outcomes That May Preclude Father Inclusion in Treatment
Nature and Severity of Domestic Violence	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Conflict Tactics Scale Revised</li> <li>2. Police/criminal records</li> <li>3. Child Protective Services Records</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Current NO CONTACT Protective Order</li> <li>2. Severe violence (attempted strangulation, use of weapon)</li> <li>3. Father's denial of past history of violence despite reports of violence in the criminal record or by his female partner</li> </ol>
Dangerousness/lethality	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Danger Assessment Scale (Campbell, Webster, &amp; Glass, 2009)</li> <li>2. Ontario Risk Assessment Domestic Assault (Hilton et al, 2010)</li> <li>3. Domestic Violence Risk Assessment Guide (Hilton et al., 2010)</li> <li>4. Psychopathy Checklist Revised (Hare, 2003)</li> </ol>	High Score on any measure of lethality (combination of suicidal/homicidal intent, increasing severity of violence, substance use, etc.).
Coercion and Control	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Coercive Control Survey (Dutton, Goodman, &amp; Schmidt, 2005)</li> <li>2. Fear of Partner Scale (Cohen &amp; O'Leary, 2007)</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. High use of coercion and control whereby the father controls most aspects of the mother and family life</li> <li>2. Father blames the mother for his violence</li> <li>3. Significant current fear of father by his current or former partner that cannot be resolved with safety planning</li> </ol>
Alcohol and Drug Use	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Addiction Severity Index (McLellan, Luborsky, Woody, &amp; O'Brien, 1980)</li> <li>2. Drug Abuse Screening Test (Westermeyer, Yargic, &amp; Thuras, 2004)</li> <li>3. Michigan Alcohol Screening Test (Selzer, 1971)</li> <li>4. Urinalysis screening</li> </ol>	1. Substance dependence that is currently untreated
Psychological/Psychiatric Symptoms	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Brief Symptom Inventory (Derogatis, 1975)</li> <li>2. Structured Clinical Interview for the DSM-IV (SCID-IV; (First, Spitzer, Gibbon, &amp; Williams, 1995)</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Untreated Psychotic or bipolar illness</li> <li>2. Suicidal ideation and intent</li> </ol>
Personality Characteristics and Attachment	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Antisocial Action Scale (Levenson, Kiehl, &amp; Fitzpatrick, 1995)</li> <li>2. Psychopathy Checklist (Hare, 2003)</li> <li>3. Experiences in Close Relationships-Revised (Fairchild &amp; Finney, 2006)</li> </ol>	1. Scores indicating high criminality, lack of empathy, and manipulation of others to get what he wants
Trauma History	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Traumatic Events Screening Inventory</li> <li>2. Childhood Trauma Questionnaire (Bernstein, Ahluvalia, Pogge, &amp; Handelsman, 1997)</li> </ol>	N/A

Assessment Domain	Possible Measures	Outcomes That May Preclude Father Inclusion in Treatment
Parenting Behaviors	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Adult Adolescent Parenting Inventory (Bavolek &amp; Keene, 2001)</li> <li>2. Child Abuse Potential Inventory (Milner, 1990)</li> <li>3. Parental Acceptance Rejection Questionnaire (Rohner &amp; Khaleque, 2005)</li> <li>4. Play observation such as the Crowell Structured Play Tasks (Crowell &amp; Feldman, 1988)</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Scores that would indicate high levels of hostility and aggression toward the child and strong beliefs in corporal punishment would require individual intervention before considering father-child work</li> <li>2. Fear on the part of the child about being with his/her father</li> </ol>