

SESSION 2 - VICTIMS AND OFFENDERS

INTRODUCTION

In this session, we examine how gender, social roles, family dynamics and the environment shape interactions with the justice system. In this session, we look at the cycle and overlap of victim and offender. We discuss if and how we can break these cycles and combat domestic violence and abuse.

OUTLINE

- | | |
|---|-----------|
| 1. Introduction to Course | (5 min) |
| 2. Presentation by Facilitator
(Discussion of Homework) | (20 min.) |
| 3. Discussion Group | (30 min.) |
| 4. Summary by Facilitator | (5 min.) |
| 5. Conclusion and Message of Hope
(Next week assignments and Reading Comprehension Techniques) | (15 min.) |

Tutoring session



OBJECTIVES

At the end of this session, you will be able to:

- Articulate in writing and/or verbally the underlying causes of harm, victimization and ways to prevent or reduce their impact.
- Recognize the cycle from victim to survivor to offender and identify strategies to escape this cycle.
- Appreciate the personal pathways and choices leading to legal offenses and victimization
- Outline the social factors in families leading to crime and victimization

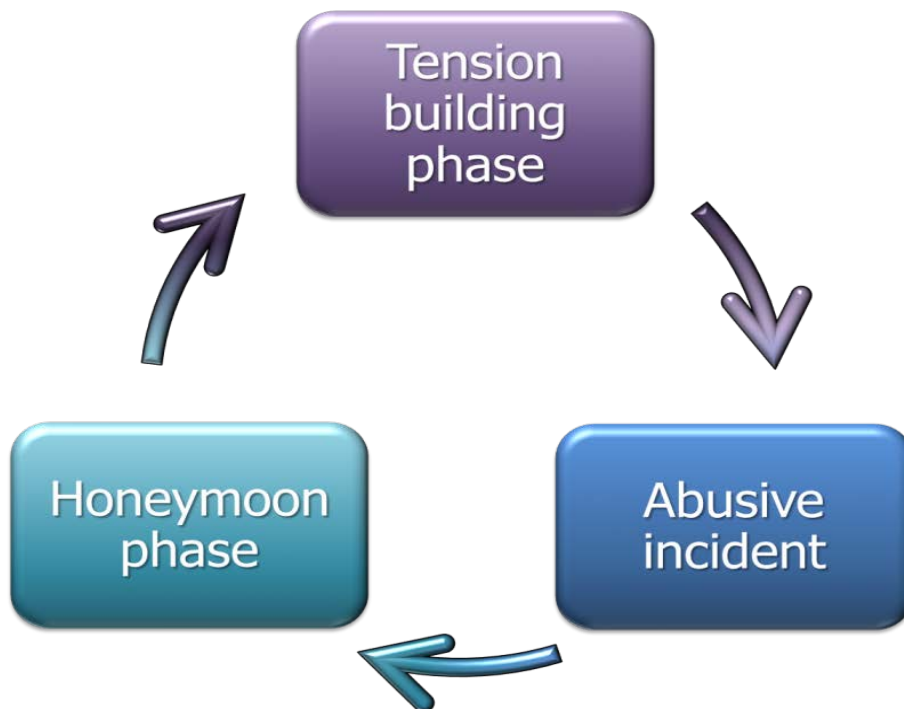
POSSIBLE DISCUSSION TOPICS

- **What factors contribute to victimization?**
- **Why do people stay in abusive situations?**
- **Is there a way out for people who find themselves in these abusive situations?**
- **How can we stop these cycles from impacting future generations?**
- **Do all victims become offenders?**
- **What is the relationship between family dynamics and crime?**
- **How can we break the cycle of victim to survivor to offender?**
- **Do all victims and members of families with a history of crime become offenders?**
- **How can we go from a mindset of victim to empowerment?**



Think About It

- 35% of women 28% of men in the U.S. experienced domestic violence
 - Abusers are usually men, but there are also women who use violence (women use violence for self-defense; men control)
 - In most cases, the abuser will not change, and the only way to end the abuse is for the victim to end the relationship.
 - The most dangerous time in an abusive relationship is when the victim tries to leave.
 - Homicide is one of the top 10 causes of death for women aged 20-44, and more women are killed by their partners than by anyone else.
-
- **How do these abusive relationships begin?**
 - **Why do people stay in relationships when the relationships become abusive?**





CONCLUSION

1. Summarize what you learned.

- Describe the cycle of crime in families.
- Describe the cycle of victim to offender.
- Identify why victims of abuse stay in these relationships and what are the repercussions.

2. Homework

- a) Choose one of the discussion topics listed and write a one page to half page essay. Use full sentences and proper punctuation and grammar. Try to use some of the new vocabulary you learned.
- b) You can also choose an alternative assignment.
- c) Read the articles for the next session and complete the questions for next week.
- d) Meet your tutor, correct homework and writing assignments. Create an outline for your essay. Email your completed homework to your tutor.
- e) You can ask for more readings on this subject from the facilitator if you are interested.