

Children Exposed to Domestic Violence: Resources for Communities

The list below represents a compilation of reports, articles, websites, and practical information for communities interested in addressing or learning more about the topic of children exposed to domestic violence and trauma-informed practices. Particular focus was placed on best or promising practices. Resources are listed in the order of the most recently published first. To access this list online, go to: www.communitysolutionsva.org.

General Resources:

National Resource Center for Children Exposed to Violence. Provides a wide range of resources, including statistics on children exposed to violence. Available at: <http://www.nccev.org/resources/statistics.html>

National Child Traumatic Stress Network. Provides information and resources on the various types of child trauma. See specifically their webpages on domestic violence at: <http://www.nctsn.org/trauma-types/domestic-violence>. See also: <http://www.nctsn.org/products?page=2> for links to checklists, toolkits, videos, etc.

Safe Start Center. The website of the Safe Start Initiative, a national initiative funded by Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention that responds to the needs of children exposed to violence. Safe Start also provides a newsletter, bulletins, policy briefs, manuals, guides, etc. Available at: <http://www.safestartcenter.org/>

Centre for Children and Families in the Justice System. See especially their “Children and Domestic Violence” webpage for links to a host of other publications on the topic. Available at: http://www.lfcc.on.ca/children_exposed_to_domestic_violence.html

National Resource Center for Permanency and Family Connections. Their “domestic violence and child welfare” webpage provides links to a wide range of publications. Available at: http://www.hunter.cuny.edu/socwork/nrcfcpp/info_services/domestic-violence-and-child-welfare.html

Virginia-Specific Resources:

Kids and Domestic Violence brochure. Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance. Available in both English and Spanish at: <http://www.vsdvalliance.org/secPublications/Kids%20and%20DV%20brochure%5B1%5D.pdf>

Children and Domestic Violence brochure. The Laurel Center, Winchester, VA. <http://www.vsdvalliance.org/secPublications/Kids%20and%20DV%20brochure%5B1%5D.pdf>

Understanding and Preventing Children’s Exposure to Domestic Violence:

S. Berson, J. Herson, and B. Pearson. “**Preventing Children’s Exposure to Violence: The Defending Childhood Initiative**,” *National Institute of Justice Journal*, No. 270 (June 2012). This article describes the Defending Childhood Initiative. See especially Table 1: Desired Impacts, Outcomes, and Indicators of Success. Available at: <http://www.nij.gov/journals/270/defending-childhood.htm>

National Child Traumatic Stress Network. *Domestic Violence and Children: Questions and Answers for Domestic Violence Project Advocates* (November 2010). This factsheet will be particularly helpful to mental health, medical, and child welfare professionals. Written in Q and A format, this report describes how children react to domestic violence, typical responses, factors to help children recover, etc. Available at: http://www.nctsn.org/sites/default/files/assets/pdfs/DomViolenceFactSheet_final.pdf

Kathleen Nader. *Understanding and Assessing Trauma in Children and Adolescents*. Routledge Taylor and Frances Group (2008). This publication provides a comprehensive look at trauma, how children and adolescents are affected, how their brains react to trauma, etc. Available at: <http://www.scribd.com/doc/69721192/6/References>

Cunningham and L. Baker. *What About Me: Seeking to Understand a Child’s View of Violence in the Family*. Center for Children and Families in the Justice System, London Family Court Clinic (2004). This report integrates literature and clinical experience and provides an understanding of the topic through the eyes of children. Available at: http://www.lfcc.on.ca/what_about_me.pdf

Best or Promising Practices:

Enhancing Services for Children and Youth Exposed to Domestic Violence. Promising Practices and Lessons Learned. National Resource Center on Domestic Violence (January 2012). This report showcases nine demonstration projects including Virginia and outlines the lessons learned from these projects. Available at: http://www.vawnet.org/Assoc_Files_VAWnet/ESCY-PPLLGuide.pdf

S. Ferencik and R. Ramirez-Hammond. *Trauma Informed Care—Best Practices and Protocols for Ohio’s Domestic Violence Programs*. Ohio Domestic Violence Network (2012). This best practice document was developed to assist domestic violence programs in becoming more trauma-informed when providing services to survivors of domestic violence. Available at: <http://www.odvn.org/images/stories/FinalTICManual.pdf>
A webinar about this manual was also developed and is available at: <http://www.odvn.org/component/content/article/134/245-trauma-informed-care-protocol-and-best-practices.html>

Checklist to Promote Perpetrator Accountability in Dependency Cases Involving Domestic Violence. National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (2011). Checklist includes gathering information, assessment, service plans, placement and visitation. Available at: http://ncjfcj.org/sites/default/files/checklist-to-promote-accountability_0.pdf

2009-2010 King County Domestic Violence and Child Maltreatment Coordinated Response Guideline. Washington State Supreme Court Gender and Justice Commission (2010). This guide for communities provides a comprehensive approach to addressing domestic violence and child maltreatment. It discusses agency roles, responsibilities, and coordination; information sharing; court security; visitation guidelines, screening, assessment; safety planning; services for batterers; etc. Available at: <http://your.kingcounty.gov/kcsc/docs/DVResponseGuideline.pdf>

Addressing Domestic Violence, Child Safety, and Well Being: Collaborative Strategies for California Families. Center for Children, Families and Courts (December 2010). See Appendices C and D for examples of community surveys. Available at: <http://www.courts.ca.gov/documents/DVReport2010V3.pdf>

Safe Start Center. **Healing the Invisible Wounds: Children's Exposure to Violence—A Guide for Families.** (2009). Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. A practical reference sheet for both families and programs working with families. Provides advice on how to help by age group. Available at: <http://www.safestartcenter.org/pdf/caregiver.pdf>

Safe Start: Promising Approaches Communities—Working Together to Help Children Exposed to Violence. Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. (January 2008). This publication describes 15 Safe Start community projects around the country and discusses evidence based and promising interventions to children exposed to domestic violence. Available at: <http://www.safestartcenter.org/pdf/safestartbooklet.pdf>

Vermont's Model Protocol: Law Enforcement Response to Children at the Scene of Domestic Violence Incident (June 2004). Accessible at: Vermont Criminal Justice Training Council, Vermont Department of Social and Rehabilitative Services and Vermont Network Against Domestic and Sexual Violence Available at: <http://www.vaw.umn.edu/documents/vermontresponsechildren/vermontresponsechildren.pdf>

L. Baker, P. Jaffe, S. Berkowitz, and M. Berkman. **Children Exposed to Violence: A Handbook for Police Trainers to Increase Understanding and Improve Community Response.** Centre for Children and Families in the Justice System (2002). Available at: <http://www.lfcc.on.ca/police-us.PDF>

Laws and Legal System Response:

T. Gowin Meisner and D. Korn. **“Protecting Children of Domestic Violence Victims with Criminal No-Contact Orders.”** *Strategies*, Issue 4 (April 2011). Discusses arguing the effects of witnessing domestic violence, treating the commission of domestic violence in the presence of a child as an enhancer, etc. Available at: <http://www.vaw.umn.edu/documents/protectingchildrendvictims/protectingchildrendvictims.pdf>

“A Review of the Year in Family Law Chart 2: Custody Criteria.” *Family Law Quarterly* (2011). A chart providing custody criteria with domestic violence as a consideration. Available at:

http://www.americanbar.org/content/dam/aba/publishing/family_law_quarterly/vol44/4404_win11_chart2custody.authcheckdam.pdf

Child Witnesses to Domestic Violence: Summary of State Laws. Child Welfare Information Gateway Statute Series (November 2009). Provides a state-by-state summary of laws for child witness to domestic violence. Available at:

http://www.childwelfare.gov/systemwide/laws_policies/statutes/witnessdvall.pdf

L. J. Litton. **Helping St. Louis County Families: A Guide for Court Professionals on the Co-Occurrence of Domestic Violence and Child Abuse/Neglect.** I.S.P. Consulting (2007). Available at: http://www.thegreenbook.info/documents/SLC_Court_Guide.pdf

Custody Decisions in Cases with Domestic Violence Allegations. American Bar Association (2006). A state-by-state chart providing the legal definition of domestic violence and how courts factor DV in custody decisions. Available at:

http://www.unified-solutions.org/Pubs/domestic_violence_child_custody_chart.pdf

A Judicial Checklist for Children and Youth Exposed to Domestic Violence.

National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (2006). Available at:

http://www.safestartcenter.org/pdf/childdandyouth_checklist.pdf

Alicia Summers. **Children’s Exposure to Domestic Violence: A Guide to Research and Resources.** National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (2006). Available at:

<http://www.safestartcenter.org/pdf/childrensexpostoviolence.pdf>

Magistrate Protocol for Domestic Violence Cases: Guidelines with Emphasis on Issues Related to Children. Child Well-Being and Domestic Violence Project Prevent Child Abuse North Carolina (October 2005). This magistrate protocol was developed to pay particular attention to instances in which children are present in the household during domestic violence situations. It discusses determining probable cause, charging a defendant with a crime, pre-trial release, issuing temporary P.O.’s, etc. Available at:

http://www.jrsa.org/dvsa-drc/north_carolina/Magistrate_Protocol_for_DV_Cases.pdf

N. Lemon. “**The Legal Systems Response to Children Exposed to Domestic Violence,**” *The Future of Children: Domestic Violence and Children*, Vol. 9, No. 3 (1999). Article discusses case law, custody and visitation, failing to protect, retraining orders, innovative court programs, use of mediation, etc. Available at:

http://futureofchildren.org/futureofchildren/publications/docs/09_03_4.pdf

L. Goodmark. “**From Property to Personhood: What the Legal System Should Do For Children in Family Violence Cases.**” *West Virginia Law Review*, Vol. 102:237 (1999). Available at:

http://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=1019632

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