Racism creates serious barriers to safety for victims of sexual and intimate partner violence. Disparities based on race, ethnicity, and immigration status often determine access to help, resources, information, and options offered to survivors of sexual and intimate partner violence. Racial justice ensures that people of color, including survivors of violence, achieve equitable health, safety, and security outcomes for themselves and their families. Building racial justice is an essential part of effective victim advocacy and health promotion.

Sexual and domestic violence are connected to other forms of oppression.

We lift up policies and practices that reduce burdens on historically marginalized and oppressed communities and improve the health and well-being of those directly impacted by sexual and domestic violence, including violence perpetrated by institutions, systems, and the state.

Trans, queer, and nonbinary people often live at the complex intersections of racism, homophobia, transphobia, sexism and classism. More than 1 in 3 trans women and 1 in 2 trans men have been sexually assaulted. Trans people doing sex work are more prone to be victims of violence, and trans survivors face barriers of discrimination and stigma when seeking support and resources after sexual trauma. Trans liberation would result in eliminating gendered violence in the lives of all people.

A person’s sexual and reproductive health are directly impacted by experiences of sexual and intimate partner violence. Access to medically accurate and patient-centered sexual and reproductive health and wellness education and services has many positive outcomes, including reduced rates of unintended pregnancies in teens and adults, early detection of treatable infection, and a lifetime incidence of lower sexual risk-taking and lower rates of relationship violence.

Innocent people go to jail for inability to pay court-imposed costs. Cash bail—the system of requiring people to pay money to gain their freedom while awaiting their court date—means some people get to be free while they await trial and others stay in jail. Decriminalizing poverty lowers the risk of someone being trapped in a cycle of debt and vulnerable to staying trapped in an unhealthy relationship or resorting to unsafe forms of sex work.

How Justice Movements Connect a few examples...

Gender Justice

Racial Justice

Economic Justice and Decriminalization of Poverty

Reproductive Justice

Trans + Queer Liberation

Virginia Sexual & Domestic Violence Action Alliance | www.vsdvalliance.org | info@vsdvalliance.org