

A woman is shown in a dark, low-key photograph, covering her face with her hands. Her eyes are visible through the fingers of her right hand. The background is dark and indistinct. The overall mood is somber and evocative of domestic violence.

# DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

The Church's Responsibility

# Presenters



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# Agenda

1.  
Video

2.  
Introduction

3.  
What Is Domestic  
Violence?

4.  
The Impact of Domestic  
Violence on Children

5.  
Video

# Agenda (continued)

6.

**What the Bible Says about  
Domestic Violence?**

7.

**8 Biggest Mistakes  
Churches Make About  
Domestic Abuse**

8.

**What Can the Church Do  
to Prevent Domestic  
Violence?**

9.

**Video**

10.

**Support, Resources and  
Curriculum**

# Video

I Believe You: Faith's Response To Intimate  
Partner Violence



# Introduction

- Purpose
- California Women's Health Survey
- Domestic Violence (DV)  
prevalence varies by racial/ethnic group
- Consequences of physical and psychological abuse
- God's admonishment to the Church

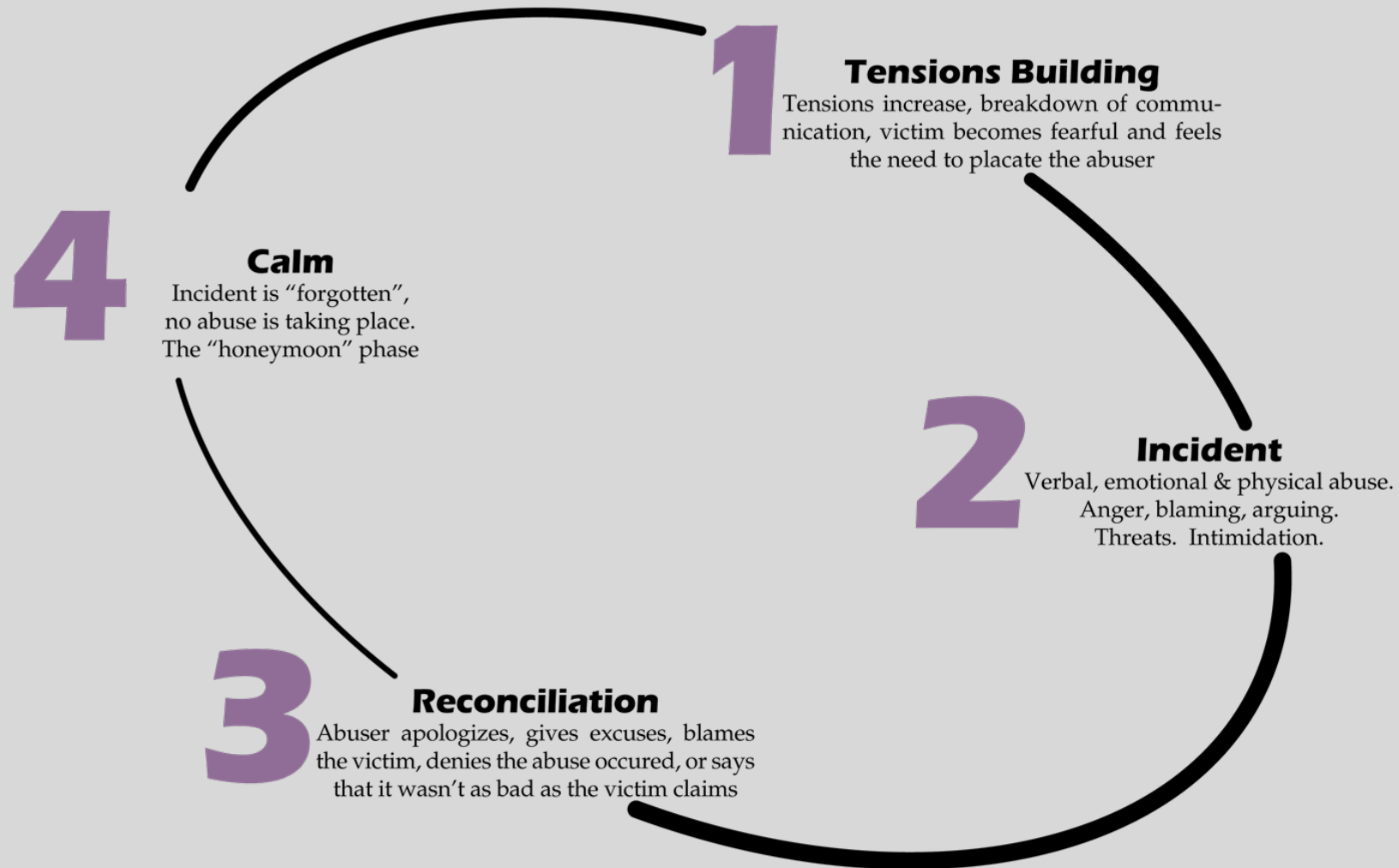


# DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

What is domestic violence?

- Definition
- DV is about power and control
- Recognizing DV
- Both a pattern and a cycle

# Cycle of Abuse





# Impact of DV on Children

- Infants & children involved in DV
- Cortisol
- Affects of DV on children
- The law and children witnessing DV





# Video

Men, Own Your Role  
in Domestic Violence

# LOVE SHOULDN'T HURT




## What the Bible Says about DV

- All violence is an offence against God
- Violence against women is condemned
- Abuse is oppression
- Jesus doesn't play by the rules of violence and power

# 8 Biggest Mistakes Churches Make About Domestic Abuse

1. Thinking that no one is being victimized in the congregation
2. Not believing the victim
3. Breaking confidentiality and putting the victim at risk for harm
4. Confronting an abuser without regard for the safety of the victim
5. Believing that your church does not need to be educated about DV
6. Neglecting to help a victim of abuse
7. Teaching a wrong emphasis of headship and submission
8. Scolding the victim for returning to an abusive relationship

A piece of light-colored cardboard is placed on a dark, textured gravel surface. The cardboard has three vertical fold lines, creating four columns. Handwritten in black marker across the three columns are the words "SILENCE", "ALLOWS", and "VIOLENCE" stacked vertically.

SILENCE  
ALLOWS  
VIOLENCE

## What can the church do to prevent DV?

- Abolish the silence
- Recognize DV is against the law
- Teach healthy relationships in sermons and Bible lessons
- Recognize relationship violence early on in dating relationships
- Don't minimize abuse or make excuses for the abuser
- Practical steps

# LOVING FEAR

CONFRONTING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

## Video

Speaking of Faith:  
Domestic  
Violence  
Programs and The  
African American  
Church

# Support, Resources & Curriculum

## National Domestic Violence Hotline

Phone: 1-800-799-SAFE  
(7233)

TTY: 1-800-787-3224

Text: 88788 text "START"

Website:

<https://www.thehotline.org>

## IDVAAC

Institute on Domestic  
Violence in the African  
American Community

Dr. Oliver J. Williams

O. Williams Consulting,  
LLC

Phone: 651-331-6555

Email: [owms63@gmail.com](mailto:owms63@gmail.com)

Website: <http://idvaac.org>

## Faith Trust Institute

2400 N. 45th Street #10  
Seattle, WA 98103

Phone: (206) 634-1903

Fax: (206) 634-0115

Website:

[www.faithtrustinstitute.org](http://www.faithtrustinstitute.org)

# Support, Resources & Curriculum

## Resources

### **Abuse Recovery Ministry Services**

<https://abuserecovery.org>

### **WEAVE**

Phone: 916-920-2952

<https://www.weaveinc.org>

## Curriculum

### **Becoming a Church That Cares Well for the Abused**

Contact Missionary Bean if  
you're interested in this  
course

### **Domestic Violence Intervention & Prevention**

<http://www.ucfm.org/chaplain/Lessons/Domestic-Violence-Curriculum.pdf>

## Videos

*Domestic Violence, The Voice of  
Silence and The Black Church*

*Intersections of Faith and  
Domestic Violence*

*Office for Victims of Crime -  
Victim Impact: Listen and  
Learn - Rebel's Story*



I WILL  
**Hope**



# THANK YOU!

For questions or more  
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