

INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE:

Violence by Women against Male Partners
EMPIRICAL STUDIES

Violence by Women against Male Partners

<http://pubpages.unh.edu/%7Emas2/ipv-violence-by-women.htm>

Comments from Margo Schaefer-

So Murray Straus is pretty much recognized in the field as a quack.

The better info on this is by Gelles, who found equal rates on male female physical assault, but overwhelmingly that women use physical assault as a way to get attention from a male partner who is ignoring them as a control tactic. Not healthy, not OK, I'm not endorsing this, but when the issue is power and control, using physical tactics to interrupt someone trying to control you is WAY different than using it to ESTABLISH or maintain power and control.

Another way of putting it - which is what the current US Dept of Justice says - is to distinguish between situational partner assault and dominance partner assault. Situational is about equally male and female, dominance is virtually 99.9% male against female.

This is sort of the difference between dysfunctional relationships and DV relationships. Since we define DV as being about Power and Control, we have DV relationships which include NO physical violence (control through finances, neglect, drugs, alcohol, meds, words, sex or withholding of sex or affection, alienating friends/family/support system, undermining self belief, etc - almost none of which is illegal!), and relationships which can be QUITE violent, but they are mutually abusive or mutually combative as law enforcement would say, so one partner doesn't have power and control over the other, they are just unhealthy and abusive.

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