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RESEARCH NEWS YOU CAN USE

IN THIS ISSUE

The Army is strengthening its victim advocacy initiatives. In this volume, we give an overview of some victim advocacy issues, provide an update on Fort Polk's

sibilities of victim advocates. In their second year report, the task force recommended that each service provide and emphasize a victim advocate program. In the third year report the task force provided a

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shelter or temporary safe housing. The typical client was a woman with children and a low income. In response to the question of how to define advocacy for battered women, the researchers identified both outcome goals and process goals. The outcome goals of advocacy programs were to meet

process goals were to provide direct services to victims, represent battered women as their liaison in other systems, and community education and policy work.

Five issues relative to the concerns of battered women were identified: difficulties in receiving services (financial, medical,

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training in empathy and active listening, facts surrounding woman abuse, strategies for generating, mobilizing and accessing community resources and in-depth discussion of dealing with potentially dangerous situations. The safety of both the advocates and victims was of prime concern.

about twice per week over the 10 week intervention period and spent an average of 6.4 hours a week with them. Education (84%) was the most common community resource that the women tried to obtain. This was followed by legal assistance (72%), employment (72%), services for their children (68%),

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with abusive partners. *Journal of Consulting and Community Psychology*, 1999; 67:43-53.

Sullivan CM & Bybee DI.
Children witnessing domestic violence: What affects their well-being over time? *Domestic Violence Report*; December/January 2002:19-22.

of the justice system. In the civilian community, there has been much work in this area, but often only on samples of batterers. There have not been investigations of the effects of the justice system on a wider variety of victims such as the population of victims in the Army FAP.

In this article, we review

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work. Confusion may be even greater for military spouses because they are also required to have some understanding of the military justice system in addition to the civilian system, depending on the jurisdiction that handles the case.

Frustration. Many victims were frustrated with the slowness of

distressed by the loss of their father.

This summary of the article by Bennett, Goodman and Dutton (1999) highlights many topics of research interest to the Army. Among these are the nature of the victims' actions and feelings toward the military justice system compared to the civilian system.

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treatment facility commander on Schofield Barracks to allow the Center to use a building that was scheduled for renovations and was vacant at the time. When the previous occupants moved, they had left behind a great deal of serviceable furniture, thus further reducing the costs of the Center.

ranging from one to eighteen sessions. Some of the special programs developed by the Center include a "Pre-deployment Check-Up," consisting of one to three sessions with a therapist to help participants strengthen skills they will need to successfully manage deployments. The Center has also created groups for supporting spouses who remain behind during

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