Leaving Intimate Partner Violence: Is a Sustainable Livelihood Possible?

Community Health Nurses of Canada
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Dr. Lynne Duffy, PhD, RN
Nursing Faculty, UNB Moncton
New Brunswick, Canada

- Community-Based Participatory Research
- Photovoice method
- SSHRC funding 2007-2010
- 20 lone mother participants/co-researchers
- Three community partners:
 - Support to Single Parents,
 Headstart, and Crossroads for Women, Inc.
- Community Advisory Board



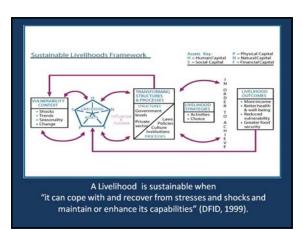
Photovoice aims to...

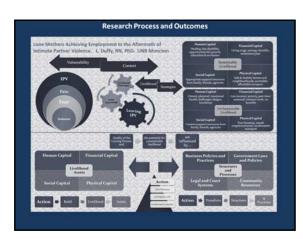
- Reach, inform, and organize people to enable discussion of priority concerns, problems, and solutions.
- Invite people to promote their own and their community's wellbeing.

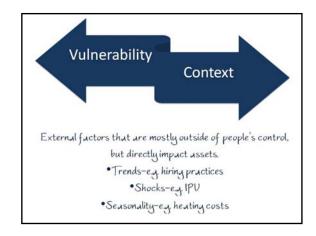


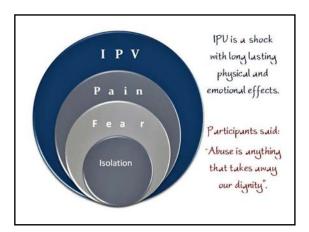
Study Purposes

- To develop an in-depth understanding of lone mothers' transition to a sustainable livelihood in the aftermath of IPV and the strategies they use.
- To examine the socio-cultural structures and processes that facilitate or hinder this transition.













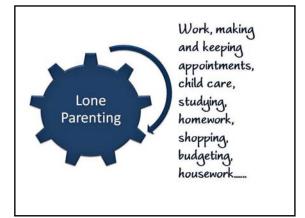
Just leave they say, but...



Leaving IPV is complex and often pushes a women and her children into a life of poverty and ongoing harassment.

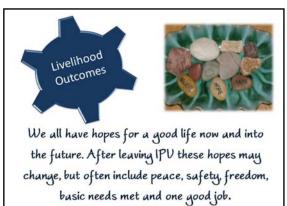
















Livelihood Strategies

Many resources and activities are used to achieve a livelihood during the transition from IPV.





Human/Personal Capital

Includes skills, knowledge, ability to work, self-esteem, emotional intelligence, and good health







Social Capital

A critical protective factor in abuse; in developing resiliency and other coping skills. Includes formal and informal relationships and social networks.



Physical Capital

Basic infrastructure:

Affordable housing and utilities in safe neighbourhoods, accessible transportation, child care, basic household goods, and tools and equipment for employment





Financial Capital

Includes income, savings, investments, and credit.





What actions are needed for achieving a sustainable livelihood after leaving IPV?

Three Main Areas for Change

Primary Prevention

Protect, Build/Create Assets

Transform Structures and Processes

