



Policy Implications of Domestic Violence Survivors' Needs over Time

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Introduction

- Few studies examine long-term issues of survivors of domestic violence
- Purpose of the study:
 - Assess the constellation of factors that predict negative long-term outcomes for victims of domestic violence



Outcomes Examined

- Earning enough to support family
- Difficulty finding suitable housing
- Homelessness due to domestic violence
- Difficulty accessing health care



Sample

- Clients who completed community-based domestic violence intervention program between 2001 and June 2007
- Program primarily serves victims who are poor



Demographics

- Total sample: 205 clients
- 98% female
- 69% White, 25% Black, 6% other
- 36% Hispanic
- Age: 18-58 years (mean = 33.13 years)
- Upon entrance, been away from abusive situation average of 14 months



Methods

- Bivariate analysis of associations
 - Major categories
 - Financial
 - Transportation
 - Health
 - Social support
- Logistic regression

Earning Enough to Support Family

n=138	p-value	Exp(B)	95% CI for Exp(B)	
			Lower	Upper
<i>Structural Factors</i>				
Satisfied with job	<.001	15.624	4.060	60.135
Has difficulty finding housing	<.001	0.105	.036	.305
<i>Health Insurance</i>				
Has private insurance	.043	3.151	1.034	9.599

Difficulty Finding Suitable Housing

n=129	p-value	Exp(B)	95% CI for Exp(B)	
			Lower	Upper
<i>Perceived Housing Barriers</i>				
Limited income	.008	4.731	1.512	14.798
Credit problems	.028	3.205	1.135	9.052
<i>Income Factors</i>				
Earning enough to support family	.029	.206	.121	.972

Homelessness

n=149	p-value	Exp(B)	95% CI for Exp(B)	
			Lower	Upper
<i>Structural Barriers</i>				
Job satisfaction	.003	.114	.027	.477
<i>Social Factors</i>				
Worried that abuser will contact	.006	3.976	1.486	10.639

Difficulty Accessing Health Care

n=139	p-value	Exp(B)	95% CI for Exp(B)	
			Lower	Upper
<i>Structural Barriers</i>				
Transportation difficulty	.047	5.056	1.024	24.957
<i>Health Insurance</i>				
Has Medicaid	<.001	.041	.010	.158
Has private insurance	<.001	.026	.007	.101



Analysis: Financial Factors

- Factors that are associated with employment
 - Job satisfaction
 - Earning enough to support family
- Perception of financial barriers is important



Analysis: Transportation

- Transportation
 - Strong relationship with difficulty accessing health care



Analysis: Health Factors

- Health insurance

- Strongly related to access to health care and earning enough to support family



Additional Findings

- Importance of respondents' worry about contact by the abuser
- Relationships between variables
 - Indicates complexity in lives of survivors
 - Difficult to tease apart



Policy Implications

- Need for shift to social justice-based policies
 - broader policies to address community-level factors
- Complex relationships between variables indicate need for additional attention to collaborative community efforts