

The Irish Prison Service's Efforts to Reduce Domestic Violence in Ireland

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In the Republic of Ireland

One in five women experience some form of domestic violence.

Since 1996, 216 women have died violently. 56 % were murdered by a current or former male intimate partner.



Inaccuracies with Reporting Understating the Issue

In a sample of 100 sex crimes, 19 should have been recorded as domestic violence, only 1 was.

In a sample of 100 assault cases studied, 41 should have been described as domestic violence but only 19 were.

From the data we do know that there has been a 16% rise in recorded domestic violence incidents, from 7,860 in 2016 to 9,145 in 2017, representing a 57% increase on 2013 (5,864).

National Strategies

Cosc – The National Office for the Prevention of Domestic, Sexual and Gender-based Violence endeavours to ensure the delivery of a well co-ordinated ‘whole of Government’ response to domestic, sexual and gender-based violence.

National Strategy on Domestic, Sexual and Gender-based Violence, 2016-2021.



An Roinn Dlí agus Cirt
agus Comhionannais
Department of Justice
and Equality

Developing an Initiative- Challenges

No data regarding number of perpetrators of domestic violence in custody.

Client's safety of paramount importance.

Short custodial sentences or suspended sentences.

Multi-Agency Model of Engagement, Treatment & Management

Men Overcoming Violence



Garda National Protection Services Bureau



The Probation Service



Specialised Intervention for Perpetrators of Domestic Violence

Garda Síochána

Spousal Assault Risk Assessment

Pre Group Motivational Work

Mentalization Based Treatment

Spousal Assault Risk Assessment

Referral to Men Overcoming
Violence

Specialised Intervention for Perpetrators of Domestic Violence

Garda Síochána

- Referral of clients at high risk of reoffending
- Ensure victim safety

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Spousal Assault Risk Assessment

- Good interrater reliability & concurrent validity
- Common language

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- Intrinsic/Extrinsic motivation
- 6 sessions

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- MBTi is an introduction to MBT and runs over 12 weeks
- It is delivered in a group format with 6-8 clients
- The aim is to increase the individuals' mentalizing capacities

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Garda Síochána

Spousal Assault Risk Assessment

Pre Group Motivational Work

Mentalization Based Treatment

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Referral to Men Overcoming
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- Pre and post measure to audit the effectiveness of intervention
- Up to date assessment to guide community intervention

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- CHOICES programme
- 33 weekly group sessions
- Men are able to accept responsibility for the abuse and violence in their relationships, and show a willingness to want to change the way they behave.

Questions

Thank you for your time

I would be delighted to answer any questions you may have

