



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE WITHIN THE LATINX COMMUNITY

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Domestic Violence is a form or way of on individual trying to take power or control over another individual, whether that be a family or significant other. “Domestic Violence affects people of all socioeconomic background and education levels (United Nations).” Many individuals come to believe that falling in the category of a domestic relationship merely deals with the fact that you must physically be harmed in a way that is visible. In many cases domestic violence (DV) /intimate partner violence (IPV) relationships do not only deal with physical harm, it also includes mental, emotional, and financial harm. In the Latinx communities DV sometimes happens, approximately 44% of the time, but most cases are not known about due to some community barriers. In Utah, domestic violence disproportionately affects Latinos. Reviewing older studies, it was found between 2000 and 2002, a third of Utahn’s killed were Latinos during domestic violence altercations (Rosetta, 2005). The Latinx community struggles with 3 main barriers: legal status, cultural barrier, and language differences. Additionally, domestic violence occurs across the life-course starting in teenage years to later life. Central to addressing domestic violence amongst the Latinx community it shows that we need to be able to get more information out, that legal status, cultural and language barriers do not prevent someone to reach out for help.

In order to get information out I had to help in a research study conducted by Dr. Annie I. Fukushima and her team. A survey was sent out to organizations, both in English and

Spanish. I helped recruit members in Spanish by creating a flyer and sending it out to organizations such as UCASA, COLAVI, UDVC, etc. The survey comprises of 66 questions, and takes participants approximately 30 minutes to complete. Questions consist of a Likert Scale (5 scale point), binary questions and open-ended questions for the participants to answer. The research team has been disseminating the survey to organizations that deal with survivors regarding domestic violence, sexual violence, and human trafficking. This survey mostly focused on how well organizations are getting resources out for the Latinx community and what can be improved on.

There were 55 participants within the Spanish survey and the results found were that the leading barriers for the Latinx communities includes: Interpretations and Translation. Additionally, we found that 64% of the surveyed participants agreed that translation/interpretation is a need for survivors in violence in Utah. By these results we can tell that Utah needs to get more resources out in Spanish for the Latinx community to seek help, giving them more information about resources on Domestic Violence/Intimate Partner Violence, and showing this community that help is out there not regarding their legal status.