



## DID YOU KNOW?

- ◇ **One in every four women** will experience domestic violence in her lifetime.<sup>1</sup> **One in 33 men** have experienced an attempted or completed rape.<sup>2</sup>
- ◇ An estimated **1.3 million women** are victims of physical assault by an intimate partner each year.<sup>3</sup>
- ◇ The majority (73%) of family violence victims are female. Females were 84% of spousal abuse victims and 86% of abuse victims at the hands of a boyfriend.<sup>4</sup>
- ◇ The cost of intimate partner violence **exceeds \$5.8 billion each year**, \$4.1 billion of which is for direct medical and mental health services.<sup>5</sup>
- ◇ Boys who witness domestic violence are **twice as likely** to abuse their own partners and children when they become adults.<sup>6</sup>

## CHALLENGES

- The majority (52%) of homicides in Georgia are committed with firearms, but the state has yet to comply with the VAWA 2005 firearms provisions or adopt statutes that would assist law enforcement in implementing the federal Gun Control Act.<sup>7</sup>
- Georgia is 8th in the country for families headed by women living below the poverty line, so many victims of domestic violence are unable to afford legal service and are forced to choose between representing themselves or not taking legal action against their abusers.<sup>8</sup>

## STATEMENTS FROM SERVICE PROVIDERS

*“Domestic violence and sexual assault are leading causes of injuries for girls and women between the ages of 15 and 44 in the state of Georgia. Reports indicate that 30% of Georgia women in that age group will be abused at least once by their partners during their lifetimes.”*

-Staff, Georgia Department of Human Resources, Division of Public Health<sup>9</sup>

*“Of total calls to police, only 40% were prosecuted and half of those were dismissed or pled down. The other calls appear to slip through the cracks of the criminal justice system, whether because perpetrators are not arrested, officers do not take out a warrant, or because cases are not charged by the prosecutor or are dismissed.”*

-Staff, Georgia Fatality Review Project<sup>7</sup>

## DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT IN GEORGIA

- There were 54,010 reported cases of domestic violence in 2006.<sup>10</sup>
- Children were involved in 19,524 (36%) of these incidents and were present during 10,671 (20%) of the 54,010 cases.<sup>10</sup>
- 33% of reported domestic violence cases ended in an arrest brought against the offender. 14% of reported cases resulted in no action being taken.<sup>10</sup>
- 1,992 forcible rapes were reported in Georgia in 2006.<sup>10</sup>
- 32% of domestic violence-related incidents were committed by a present or former spouse.<sup>10</sup>
- There were 55 domestic-violence related homicides in 2006. 45 of these crimes were committed by men and 10 were committed by women.<sup>10</sup>

## STATE RESOURCES

### The Georgia Coalition Against Domestic Violence<sup>11</sup> [www.qcadv.org](http://www.qcadv.org)

- ◇ The Georgia Coalition Against Domestic Violence (GCADV) is a statewide, member-based organization committed to eliminating domestic violence by promoting systems change and supporting intervention programs which serve victims of domestic violence. GCADV projects include the Statewide Domestic Violence Hotline, the HUD Transitional Housing Project & Economic Justice Project, the Fatality Review Project, the Rural Domestic Violence & Child Victimization Project, the Civil Legal Assistance Project and the Victim Liaison Project.

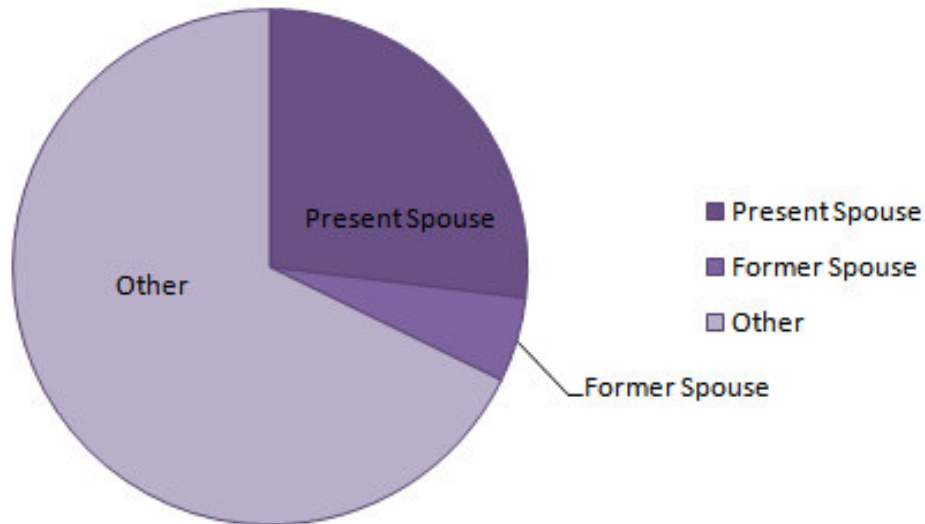
### The Georgia Network to End Sexual Assault<sup>12</sup> [www.gnesa.org](http://www.gnesa.org)

- ◇ The Georgia Network to End Sexual Assault (GNESA) is a coalition of 23 rape crisis centers and other supporting organizations and members. Founded in 1982, GNESA works to end sexual assault by providing resources, training and legal advocacy for sexual assault service providers in Georgia.

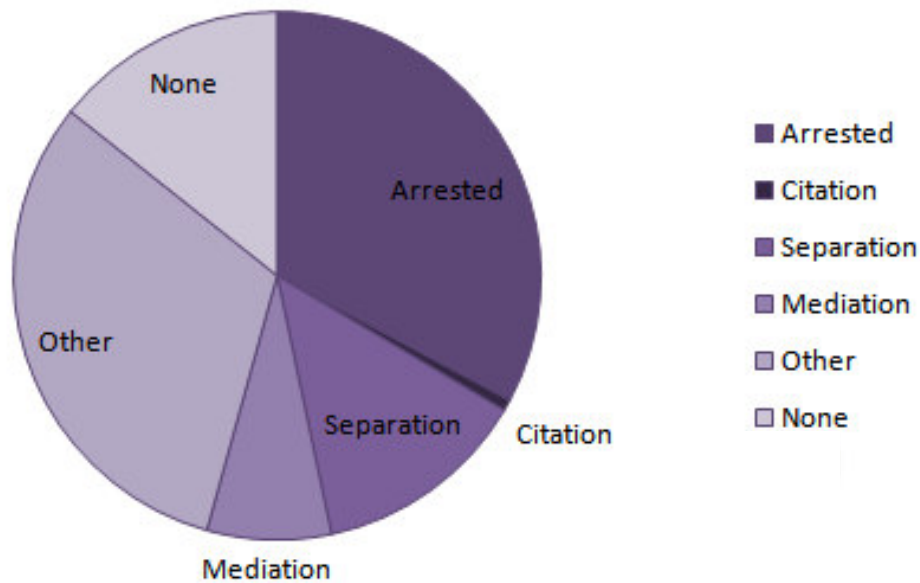
For more information or to get help, please contact the  
**Georgia Statewide Domestic Violence Hotline at 1-800-33-HAVEN**

The National Domestic Violence Hotline at 1-800-799-SAFE  
 The National Sexual Assault Hotline at 1-800-656-HOPE

## RELATIONSHIP OF AGRESSOR TO VICTIM IN 2006<sup>10</sup>



## POLICE ACTION TAKEN IN 2006<sup>10</sup>



## SOURCES

- <sup>1</sup> Tjaden, P. & Thoennes, N. (2000). *Extent, Nature and Consequences of Intimate Partner Violence: Findings from the National Violence Against Women Survey*. National Institute of Justice and the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention.
- <sup>2</sup> U.S. Department of Justice. (November 1998). "Prevalence, Incidence, and Consequences of Violence Against Women."
- <sup>3</sup> Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2003). *Costs of Intimate Partner Violence Against Women in the United States*. Atlanta, GA: National Centers for Injury Prevention and Control.
- <sup>4</sup> Bureau of Justice Statistics. (June, 2005). *Family Violence Statistics*. U.S. Department of Justice.
- <sup>5</sup> Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2003). *Costs of Intimate Partner Violence Against Women in the United States*. Atlanta, GA: National Centers for Injury Prevention and Control.
- <sup>6</sup> Strauss, Gelles, & Smith. (1990). *Physical Violence in American Families: Risk Factors and Adaptations to Violence in 8,145 Families*. Transaction Publishers.
- <sup>7</sup> Georgia Coalition Against Domestic Violence, Georgia Fatality Review Project. "2006 Fatality Review Project Annual Report." 2006. Retrieved November 28, 2007, from <http://gcadv.org/pdf/2006%20Fatality%20Review%20Project%20Annual%20Report.pdf>.
- <sup>8</sup> Georgia Coalition Against Domestic Violence, Legal Assistance For Victims Project. Retrieved November 28, 2007, from [http://gcadv.org/html/what/legal\\_project.html](http://gcadv.org/html/what/legal_project.html).
- <sup>9</sup> Georgia Department of Human Resources: Division of Public Health. *Injury Prevention*. Retrieved on November 2, 2007, from <http://health.state.ga.us/programs/injuryprevention/vaw.asp>.
- <sup>10</sup> Georgia Bureau of Investigation. *2006 Summary Report, Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program, Georgia Crime Information Center*. Retrieved on October 31, 2007, from [www.ganet.org/gbi/2006ucsum.html](http://www.ganet.org/gbi/2006ucsum.html).
- <sup>11</sup> Georgia Coalition Against Domestic Violence. About us. Retrieved on October 31, 2007, from <http://www.gcadv.org/html/about/history.html>.
- <sup>12</sup> Georgia Network to End Sexual Assault. About GNEA: Overview. Retrieved on October 31, 2007, from [www.gnesa.org/about\\_GNEA/about.asp](http://www.gnesa.org/about_GNEA/about.asp).

NATIONAL COALITION AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE



Every Home A Safe Home

The Public Policy Office of the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence (NCADV) is a national leader in the effort to create and influence Federal legislation that positively affects the lives of domestic violence victims and children. We work closely with advocates at the local, state and national level to identify the issues facing domestic violence victims, their children and the people who serve them and to develop a legislative agenda to address these issues. NCADV welcomes you to join us in our effort to end domestic violence.