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New Book Presents Latest Research On Intimate Partner Violence

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DURHAM, N.H. — Recent news stories have reported the deadly consequences of intimate partner violence. Now a new book presents the latest research about the nature, causes and impact of intimate partner violence and how this new information can be used to aid victims and families.

“Intimate Partner Violence” is edited by Kathleen Kendall-Tackett, a health psychologist at the University of New Hampshire and researcher at the UNH Family Research Lab. The book is co-edited by Sarah Giacomoni.

According to Kendall-Tackett, knowledge in the field of intimate partner violence is increasing at a dramatic rate, creating tremendous opportunities for repairing lives and families damaged by abuse.

“We felt it was important to bring together all the current research in one place. The field is advancing at such a rapid rate that it can be difficult for practitioners or policymakers to apply what researchers have learned. We were fortunate to have many of the leaders in the field contribute chapters to this book,” Kendall-Tackett said.

“High-profile domestic violence cases, such as the stories currently in the news, bring attention to this important problem. We’d like to make sure that our responses to cases like these are evidence-based so that they will be the most effective,” she said.

The new book — a master reference — synthesizes current research on intimate partner violence and provides specific, evidence-supported ideas that can be put into active practice to protect those at risk. Specifically, the book presents:

- Practice-proven approaches to risk assessment, risk management, and safety planning.
- Specific steps primary care health professionals can take to identify IPV — and to empower and protect survivors.
- The latest information on femicide and pregnancy-related violence.
- A spotlight on how the criminal justice system works to help and support victims

—and where it must do more.

- Innovative new approaches the military is taking to prevent IPV in service families.
- Guidance on the ethnic/cultural issues that impact IPV, and how they should shape our approaches to survivors from African-American, Hispanic, and Asian communities.
- The responses of faith communities to partner violence.
- Field-tested prevention programs for high school and college-age students.
- Policies and practices child protection agencies can institute when dealing with IPV in clients' homes.
- The safest ways to help victims leave abusive relationships.

