IN CHURCHES TOO: Church Responses to Domestic Abuse – a case study of Cumbria

Researchers from Coventry University and the University of Leicester asked **438 CHURCHGOERS** in Cumbria, north-west England, how the church was responding to domestic abuse.

only around experienced at least one abusive sample have act in a CURRENT experienced and/or PREVIOUS at least one churchgoers RELATIONSHIP, abusive act consider their church to on at least in a CURRENT be adequately equipped **RELATIONSHIP** one occasion to deal with a disclosure of domestic abuse were aware of domestic 71.0% abuse in their COMMUNITY **BUT ONLY** thought it was a problem

37.6%

Rates of prevalence for each category of abuse are higher for women than men

WOMEN WERE MORE THAN FOUR TIMES as likely as men to report having been SEXUALLY ABUSED once or more



No men reported being PHYSICALLY ABUSED on a weekly basis, whereas 3.2% OF WOMEN did



WOMEN WERE ALMOST FOUR TIMES as likely as men to report experiencing FINANCIAL ABUSE several times a year

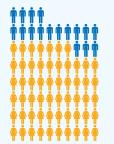
in their CHURCH



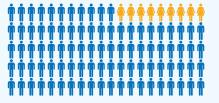
WOMEN WERE
MORE THAN TWICE
as likely as men to
report experiencing
SPIRITUAL ABUSE
several times a year



Experiences of domestic abuse



Of those who'd experienced an abusive act, 57.4% of WOMEN considered themselves to have EXPERIENCED DOMESTIC ABUSE compared to only 16.7% of MEN



90.8% of cases involve
MALE PERPETRATORS and
9.2% involve FEMALE PERPETRATORS

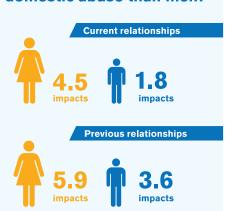


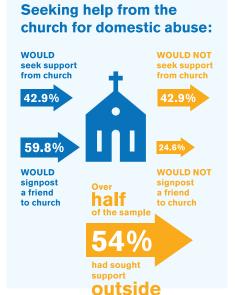
56.7% involve
CHRISTIAN
PERPETRATORS
and 43.3% involve
NON-CHRISTIAN
PERPETRATORS



JUST OVER HALF
of cases involve
families with
CHILDREN UNDER
THE AGE OF 18
living at home while
the respondent
was being abused

Women typically reported experiencing a higher number of impacts of domestic abuse than men:







who have previously sought help for domestic abuse did so FROM A CHURCH

Older people are less likely

to report having experienced domestic abuse



OVER 60s less likely to report having experienced abuse (37.7%), compared to UNDER 60 years old (52.9%)

Which of the following are you aware of in your church?

(% of people selecting each option)

Domestic abuse has been TALKED ABOUT in a sermon



PRAYERS have been said for people experiencing domestic abuse



The church has DONATED MONEY OR GOODS to a domestic abuse charity



The church
WORKS WITH a
local refuge, Safe
House or domestic
abuse charity



There are
POSTERS and/
or LEAFLETS in
church about
domestic abuse



This happens **REGULARLY**

This happens SOMETIMES

This happens RARELY

I am not aware of this happening AT ALL