Gender-based institutionalized system

of over-lapping continuous violent tactics used to maintain power & control

Intimate
Partner
Violence

PRIVILEGE

Treats her like
a servant.
Makes all the big
decisions. Acts like
the "king of the castle."
Defines men's and
women's roles.

ISOLATION

Controls what she does, who she sees and talks to, what she reads. Limits her outside involvement. Uses jealousy to justify actions.

INTIMIDATION

Makes her afraid by using looks, actions, gestures. Smashes things. Destroys her property.
Abuses pets. Displays weapons.

EMOTIONAL ABUSE

Puts her down. Makes her feel bad about herself. Calls her names. Makes her think she's crazy. Plays mind games. Humiliates her. Makes her feel guilty.

MINIMIZE, LIE AND BLAME

Makes light of the abuse and doesn't take her concerns seriously. Says the abuse didn't happen. Shifts responsibility for abusive behavior. Says she caused it.

USING CHILDREN

Makes her feel guilty about the children. Uses the children to relay messages. Uses visitation to harass her. Threatens to take away the children.

ECONOMIC ABUSE

Prevents her from working. Makes her ask for money. Gives her an allowance. Takes her money. Doesn't let her know about or access family income.

COERCION AND THREATS

Makes and/or carries out threats to do something to hurt her. Threatens to leave her, to commit suicide, to report her to welfare.

Makes her drop charges. Makes her do illegal things.

CULTURAL ABUSE

Competes over "Indianness." Misinterprets culture to prove male superiority/female submission.

Uses relatives to beat her up. Buys into "blood" quantum" competitions.

RITUAL ABUSE

Prays against her. Defines spirituality as masculine. Stops her from practicing her ways. Uses religion as a threat. "God doesn't allow divorce." Says her period makes her "dirty."

Except for male privilege, tactics are not listed in order of use or power.

UNNATURAL POWER & CONTROL

IPV/Battering: the purposeful use of a system of multiple, continuous tactics to maintain power and control over another. This intentional violence results from and is supported by unnatural, misogynistic, sexist societal and cultural belief systems. IPV/Battering is a crime against individuals, families and communities.

