

## Four Theories of What Causes Domestic Violence

<p><b>Individual Pathology</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The man who batters has some kind of illness</li><li>• The individual offender is the problem – not society</li></ul> <p>Typical response: Individual psychiatric care, treatment for addiction, or counseling</p>	<p><b>Relationship Dysfunction</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• ‘It takes two to tango’</li><li>• Couple is playing off of each other</li><li>• Either could stop the violence</li><li>• Both parties are responsible</li></ul> <p>Typical response: Couples counseling, or relationship counseling separately, is needed</p>
<p><b>The Cycle of Violence</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Theory developed by Lenore Walker</li><li>• tension-building phase, explosion of violence, honeymoon phase or respite</li><li>• Men socialized to use violence</li><li>• Increases in frequency and severity</li></ul> <p>Typical response: Anger management classes</p>	<p><b>Theory of Dominance</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• System of power and control tactics, including physical violence, sexual violence and other tactics on Power and Control Wheel</li><li>• Battering comes from social conditions, not individual pathology</li><li>• Need to balance power differential by using power of the state</li></ul> <p>Typical response: Re-education and sanctions</p>