The State-of-Art of the Outcome and Process Study of Batterer Intervention Programme

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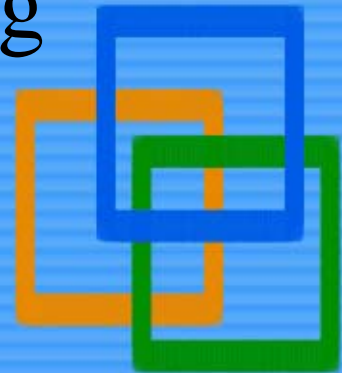
I. Outcome study

- Goals of BIP:
    - Reducing the re-offending rate
    - Increasing victims' safety
    - Holding batterers accountable for the violence used
    - Ending abusive behaviour

- Outcome indicators:
  - Reducing the re-offending rate
  - Ending abusive behaviour

1. Criteria of success

- Reports of successful outcomes ranged from 53% to 85% (Edleson, 1996) depending on the criteria of treatment effectiveness.

- Re-offending rate
  - charged by the courts in the period of follow-up assessment.
  - no indication of whether there has been any other form of abuse, say psychological or verbal abuse.

- Practical significance, not statistically significant
  - Ending violent behavior, not decreases in violent behavior
- Primary level of change:
  - Removal symptoms: ending abusive behavior
  - Reducing risk factors: abusive belief, substance abuse, mental illness etc.
  - Increasing protective factors: conflict resolution
- Secondary level of change:
  - Relationship enhancement, communication
  - batterers' positive behavior, social skills, pro-social and anti-violence attitudes, egalitarian partnership, psychological and social functioning.

2. Source of measurement

- Underreporting violence in official arrest rates or men's self-reports

- Victim's report

- Multiple sources

- Follow up period: at least 1 yr.

- Measurement tools: Revised Conflict Tactics Scale (CTS2) etc.

3. Drop-out rate

- Dropout rates tend to be high, ranging from one third to one half and even to two thirds (Edleson, 1996)

- Successful rate, calculation
  - based on program completer
  - including dropouts
  - Including those who originally contacted the agency

Example - IMAGO

- Based on caseworkers report (included information from the victims)

- Criteria: ending violence within 1.5 yr

- Dropout rate: 17.6%

- Success rate: 78.6%

- If the number of dropout members is included, the success rate drops to 64.7%

4. Research design

- Experimental group: control group with randomized sample

- Quasi-experimental: control group with matched sample

Experimental gp   A   x   B
Control gp   A1   B1

- Use follow up period as comparison:

A x   B1   B2

II. Process study

Transtheoretical Model of Change

– Prochaska and DiClemente (1982, 1984) developed a model of "processes of change"

– Temporal dimension of change

– Define a set of tasks required for movement to the next stage

Therapeutic elements (Yalom, 1995)

Characteristics	Movement markers	Therapeutic elements required
Stage 1: Precontemplation		
no intention to change unaware of the problems resistance to recognizing or modifying a problem	- Acknowledge or own the problem - Increase awareness of the negative aspects of the problem - Accurately evaluate self-regulation capacities	Engagement Instillation of hope Universality
Stage 2: Contemplation		
aware of the problem recognize the problem and evaluate options not yet made a commitment to take action Avoid "chronic contemplation"	Make small steps of preliminary action	Engagement Instillation of hope Universality Imparting information

Take action and report small behavioral changes Not yet reached a criterion for effective action	Engaged in change process that would increase self-regulation and initiate behavior change	Group cohesiveness Existential factors Catharsis Altruism

Stage 4: Action

Modify behavior, experiences, and/or environment to solve problems	Cognitive, behavioral or emotional change, last for a certain period of time, with a specific criterion	Development of socializing technique Imitative behavior Interpersonal learning The corrective recapitulation of the primary family group

Stage 5: Maintenance

onsolidation of change elapse prevention	Remain free of the chronic problem Consistently engage in new behavior	Group cohesiveness Interpersonal learning

Stage 6: Termination

ermination of problem Termination of eatment	No longer experience temptation to return to troubled behavior No longer make any effort to keep from relapsing	

III. Context

- 1. Coordinated community and criminal justice system: referral, sentencing & monitoring

- 2. Standards of BIP

    – e.g. Minnesota, USA: Domestic abuse counselling programme or educational programme required. (Chapter 518B.02)

3. Risk assessment

4. Typology of batterers

Source	Types	%
Dutton (1995)	Psychopathic wife assaulters	40 %
	Overcontrolled wife assaulters	30%
	Cyclical/emotionally volatile wife abusers	30%
Stuart & Holtzworth-Munroe (1995)	Family-only batterers	
	Dysphoric/borderline batterers	
	Generally violent/antisocial batterers	
(Chan, 2000)	General violent abuser	
	Family abuser	50%
	Wife-only abuser	

- 5. Risk factors & design of intervention
- 6. Central programme monitoring mechanism

Thank you!

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