NISVS Tweet Up Summary

On December 14, 2012, just 90 minutes after the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention released the 2010 data from the National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey (NISVS), the National Resource Center on Domestic Violence engaged its online network in a Tweet Up through VAWnet using the hash tag #nisvs. The goals of this event were to share some of the key findings with our audience, promote thinking about the potential applications for the data in the field, and gather initial feedback about advocates’ needs and questions related to the survey.

Participation

Although only 8 individuals and organizations actively posted to #nisvs during the scheduled 30-minute Tweet Up, the event prompted more than 20 individuals and organizations to retweet, or favor the discussion posts. Although it is impossible to measure the number of people who quietly followed the event, our Facebook fans responded favorably (likes/sharing), indicating that they may have been present.

Themes

Participants agreed that the NISVS data affirmed what advocates have learned and have come to know about sexual and intimate partner violence through daily practice experience. They also pointed out that the data spoke to the need for early intervention and prevention programming, with a specific focus on engaging youth.

Questions

Participants offered three key questions or needs related to the NISVS data:

1. How can we best use the data to support victims in reporting and motivate bystanders to intervene?
2. How might the measured impacts studied in NISVS be useful in supporting positive outcomes in child custody cases?
3. There is a need for more information/discussion regarding the impact that racism and oppression have on the increased rates of violence for minority populations.

Next Steps

Participants were encouraged to keep the conversation going at #nisvs, to submit requests for free Technical Assistance through http://www.vawnet.org/TA, and to access all NISVS-related materials at http://www.vawnet.org/research/NISVS/.

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