



Using Local Networks and Threat Assessment

Centre for Protection from Violence Styria
Barbara Jauk

AETAP Conference Vienna, 23/04/2013

Centre for Protection from Violence Styria (CPV)

- CPV was established in 1995
- Part of Austrian reform project against domestic violence
- Comprehensive service for victims of violence abused by a perpetrator from their social-surrounding
- Offers legal advise and psycho-social assistance
- Aim is to increase the safety of threatened and beaten persons
- Pivotal point for the co-operation of all institutions concerned with the issue of violence
- Engagement in forming the public opinion concerning the issue of violence



Work of the CPV 2012

- Counselling of 2.235 persons
- 87% women
- 8% children

- Violence
 - Psychological, physical, sexual abuse
 - Threatening
 - Stalking
 - Forced marriage
 - Violence in institutions

Support Measures and Activities

- Interventions in times of crisis
- Danger assessment and safety plans
- Advice after a barring order or a criminal report
- Support in applying for a temporary injunction
- Legal and psycho-social assistance during penal and civil court proceedings
- Legal advice concerning the family situation after violence
- Coordination with public authorities, social and other institutions and professionals
- Supply of psychotherapists, lawyers and translators

[Austrian Laws against Domestic Violence]

- Enacted in 1997 and 2009
- Aim: to ensure that victims do not have to leave their accustomed surroundings, but the perpetrator has to go
- Barring Order by the police
- Temporary Injunction
- Implementation of a net of supporting centres
- Pro-active approach of support
- Strengthening of co-operation between all institutions concerned with the issue of violence in social surroundings



Threat Assessment and Safety Plan

- Focus of CPV
 - Stop current violence
 - Prevention of further violence
 - Increasing of the victim`s safety
- Risk assessment
- Use of DyRIAS in high-risk cases
- Creation of a safety plan

Use of DyRiAS in CPV

- Identification of a high-risk of a victim suffering serious violence
- Focus is the safety of the victim
- DyRiAS requires the user to get detailed information about the perpetrator
- Several sources of information
- Possibility of modifying or completing the questionnaire in case of changing conditions

Effects of Threat Assessment

- Result: main and subcategories concerning the current existing danger
- Basis for the further safety plan
 - Articulation of risks and dangerous new contexts
 - Development of new perspectives for protection in collaboration with the woman
 - Empowerment
- Report of CPV
 - including threat assessment and recommendations
 - to police, prosecution authorities and/or court
 - to rise awareness concerning the existing danger

Co-operation with Institutions

- No single institution can achieve security for a victim of violence by itself.
- Role of the CPV on an institutional level:
 - CPV as a pivotal point
 - Promotion of co-operation between authorities and institutions concerned with the issue of violence in social surroundings
 - Monitoring of their activities from the victim`s viewpoint
 - Development of proposals for an improved co-operation



[Summing up]

- High-risk cases require a special threat management
- CPV takes over this management position
- DyRiAS as a risk assessment instrument
 - is scientific based and useful for competent authorities
 - allows to analyse a dangerous situation by achieving a lot of detailed information,
 - thus allows to get a fast overview of a dangerous situation,
 - does not make necessary to interview the perpetrator himself,
 - serves as the basis for further development of the safety plan.

Thank you for your attention!

