

# LESSON PURPOSE PLAN

## IMPACTS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE GUIDED DISCUSSION

VALUES-BASED LEADERSHIP

7/22/2015

## 1. TOPIC OVERVIEW

### INSTRUCTOR NOTE

Domestic violence is a pattern of behavior in any relationship used to gain or maintain power and control over another, usually an intimate partner. Physical, verbal, psychological, sexual, emotional, and economic threats or actions which are intended to frighten, humiliate, intimidate, hurt, manipulate, or injure someone are all forms of domestic violence. It can happen to anyone in any stage of a relationship, from friendship to dating to marriage, and should never be tolerated. Any Marine who mistreats a child or engages in domestic violence is subject to adverse fitness reports and will be prosecuted using the full weight of the Uniformed Code of Military Justice. Domestic violence detracts from military performance, negatively impacts the efficient functioning and morale of military units and diminishes the reputation and prestige of the Marine Corps.

Use this time to present the topic of the guided discussion to your group. Cover why this topic is important to the Marine Corps, as a whole, and vital to the individual Marine. You may use the above paragraph to help introduce the topic, or develop a completely unique introduction. Aspects of your attention gainer should focus on your discussion topic.

Ensure you have followed the Instructor Preparation Guide (IPG), familiarized yourself with the subject, and reviewed the references. Definition by Marine Corps Order (MCO) 1754.11, *Marine Corps Family Advocacy and General Counseling Program*:

Child Abuse: The physical or sexual abuse, emotional abuse, or neglect of a child by a parent, guardian, foster parent, or by a caregiver, whether the caregiver is interfamilial or extrafamilial, under circumstances indicated by the child's welfare is harmed or threatened. Such acts by a sibling, other family member, or other person shall be deemed to be child abuse only when the individual is providing care under express or implied agreement with the parent, guardian, or foster parent.

Definition by Department of Defense Instruction 6400.06, *Domestic Abuse Involving DoD Military and Certain Affiliated Personnel*:

Domestic Abuse: Domestic violence or a pattern of behavior resulting in emotional/psychological abuse, economic control, and/or interference with personal liberty that is directed toward a person of the opposite sex who is:

- A current or former spouse.
- A person with whom the abuser shares a child in common; or
- A current or former intimate partner with whom the abuser shares or has shared a common domicile.

Domestic Violence: An offense under the United States Code, the Uniform Code of Military Justice, or State law involving the use, attempted use, or threatened use of force or violence against a person of the opposite sex, or a violation of a lawful order issued for the protection of a person of the opposite sex, who is:

- A current or former spouse;
- A person with whom the abuser shares a child in common; or
- A current or former intimate partner with whom the abuser shares or has shared a common domicile.

## 2. METHOD

### **INSTRUCTOR NOTE**

Inform your class that the instructional method you will be using for today's lesson is a guided discussion and that this method has been selected to actively involve students in the learning process.

The guided discussion can be effective at altering awareness and behaviors of participants. The goal of the guided discussion method is to drive group participation through leadership and encouragement. To learn more about guided discussions refer to Marine Corps Reference Publication (MCRP) 6-11B W/CH 1 - *Marine Corps Values: A User's Guide for Discussion Leaders*.

It is up to you, as the discussion leader, to use your best judgment and adapt this period of instruction to make it most suitable to your unit and the experience level of the participants. Be ready for potential barriers, controversies, or biases, and form a plan on how to deal with conflicting viewpoints in order to keep the discussion progressing.

The guided discussion should last approximately 25 to 35 minutes. Spend a few minutes on the introduction and the majority of your time on the discussion questions within the body. Do not go too far over your time, as you may start to lose the attention of the participants. Too much information can start to overwhelm what is intended to be a simple and focused session. Remember to allow a few minutes for reflection and the summary of your lesson.

Determine what aspect of the topic you want to concentrate your discussion towards. Design learning outcomes, or "takeaways," which participants should grasp at the end of this discussion that best exemplify your intended focus. You can create your own learning outcomes OR use one, or more, of the examples listed below.

Example learning outcomes are:

- (a) Be able to define 'Domestic Violence' and 'Child Maltreatment.'
- (b) Identify indicators of domestic violence and child maltreatment.

- (c) Understand how the Marine Corps' leadership traits and principles relate to domestic violence and child maltreatment.
- (d) Describe strategies to prevent (reduce the risk of) domestic violence and child maltreatment.
- (e) Identify support resources available to victims of domestic violence.

### 3. **INTRODUCTION**

#### **INSTRUCTOR NOTE**

Use this time to introduce yourself to the group if necessary, and to ensure the group is familiar with each other. This is also the time to introduce any ground rules, which will establish what behaviors are expected during the guided discussion. Some example ground rules are: everyone participates fully; permit participants to express themselves without becoming recipients of personal attacks from anyone regarding their views; keep language clean, as not to offend others; make head-calls, as needed, without disrupting the rest of the participants; etc.

### 4. **BODY**

#### **INSTRUCTOR NOTE**

Start the discussion by giving your participants the learning outcome you developed for the guided discussion. As the discussion leader you have to be aware that some Marines will have likely been the victim of some kind of abuse and may have various, and strong, reactions to this subject material.

#### a. **Gain Attention**

#### **INSTRUCTOR NOTE**

A few attention-gaining stories are provided, but you are encouraged to personalize the attention-gainer to fit your personality, audience, and your desired learning outcome. You may use one of the provided stories, or conduct research in order to find others more applicable to your learning outcome.

##### (1) **Lejeune Marine Charged with Murder in Wife's Death**

A Camp Lejeune Marine has been charged with first-degree murder in connection with his wife's death, which police say appears to be the result of a domestic altercation. Jacksonville police on Monday went to the home of Corporal Cody Daniel Richardson, where they found him outside the apartment and his wife, Jessy, dead inside.

Police Chief Michael Yaniero said Richardson confessed to a 911 operator that he strangled his wife, but investigators are awaiting autopsy results to determine an exact cause of death. Yaniero said it appeared that Jessy Richardson had been dead for at least 24 hours when police arrived at the scene.

Police arrested Richardson, 22, at his apartment and took him to the Onslow County Jail, where he was held without bond.

Reference:

"Lejeune Marine Charged with Murder in Wife's Death." *WRAL.com*, 23 Set. 2009. [<http://www.wral.com/news/local/story/6050750/>]

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## (2) Shaken Baby Death

A Camp Lejeune Marine is charged with the death of an infant.

Investigators from the Onslow County Sheriff's Office and Naval Criminal Investigative Service responded to the Naval Hospital aboard Camp Lejeune on 28 July after being notified about an unresponsive 11-month-old child. The infant had been in the care of Lance Corporal Matthew Krause, 23, who was the boyfriend of the child's mother.

The infant died the next day at Vident Medical Center in Greenville. The North Carolina Medical Examiner's Office confirmed the infant sustained injuries consistent with "Shaken Baby."

Krause, who has been in the brig aboard Camp Lejeune since the child's death, was turned over to the Onslow County Sheriff's Office and charged with murder and negligent child abuse resulting in serious bodily injury. Krause is being held in the Onslow County Detention Center without bond.

Reference:

"Marine accused of shaking baby to death." *WWAY News Channel 3*, 08 Oct. 2013. [<http://www.wwaytv3.com/2013/10/08/marine-accused-of-shaking-baby-to-death>]

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## (3) Growing-Up in Domestic Violence

Sirens from police cruisers blared as more than 40 motorcycles crept behind, demanding attention from onlookers as the motorcade passed. The slow-moving convoy was in support of the Domestic Violence Awareness Proclamation and Motorcycle Ride held September 30, 2014 at the Chapel of the Good Shepherd aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base (MCLB) Albany.

The level of awareness the procession of motorcycles drew was symbolic. It was meant to draw attention to and make people aware of domestic violence, according to Captain Christopher Collier, military operations and training officer, MCLB Albany.

According to Tonya Abner-Hall, director of the Dougherty County Victim Witness Assistance Office, many people are in domestically-violent environments and are not even aware of that fact.

"I grew up witnessing domestic violence," Abner-Hall said. However, Abner-Hall confessed to not understanding it was an unhealthy environment. Nor did she realize she was living in a domestically-violent home. In her mind, it was completely normal.

Hall recalled her pregnant sister becoming violent with her brother after he ate her dessert and he laughed when questioned about it. Hall said her sister attacked her brother, which led to the premature birth of her nephew.

Another incident involved her stepfather. Hall described her mother putting her stepfather out of the home, and him responding by pouring gasoline on the mail slot of the front door and putting a lit match into it. None of the many occurrences she witnessed resulted in a police being called to the home, she told the audience.

"I thought it was the norm," Hall said. "Domestic violence is not normal and should never be accepted as such."

That is verified by the statistic of 116 Georgians losing their lives due to domestic violence in 2013, according to the Georgia Commission on Family Violence.

Brenda Ray, prevention and education specialist, Family Advocacy Program, MCLB Albany, said awareness is imperative to ensuring prevention. "Domestic violence is one of the least prosecuted crimes and one of the greatest threats to lasting peace," Ray said.

She indicated MCLB is committed to educating people about available resources and how to use those resources in the event relationships become unsafe. The efforts are working, and people are speaking up and coming forward, Ray said.

#### Reference:

Biggs, Joycelyn. "Driving out domestic violence; MCLB Albany promotes awareness." *Marines.mil*, 10 Oct. 2014

[<http://www.albany.marines.mil/News/NewsArticleDisplay/tabid/4246/Article/509809/driving-out-domestic-violence-mclb-albany-promotes-awareness.aspx>]

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#### (4) Help Is Available

Maria told a story about helping a Marine who was involved in an abusive relationship.

"She wasn't ready to leave [her abuser] when she first approached me. Every time I would talk to her she would start making excuses. 'He's going to school and if he leaves...' and so on, said Maria. I waited until she was 100 percent sure she was ready to go."

That junior Marine still thanks Maria when she sees her. Maria believes she helped to empower that junior Marine and helped her gain the courage to leave when she did not feel like she had anyone else to help her. Maria gave that Marine someone she could trust and turn to.

Not all victims are willing or eager to talk about their abusive experiences. It is easy for them to feel like nobody understands what they are going through. That is where the family advocacy program can come in.

Lou Jean Fausner, Family Advocacy Program Manager, Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton states that the Family Advocacy Program Domestic Violence Victim Advocates are credentialed by the National Advocate Credentialing Program. They provide 24-hour support to all service members and spouses assigned to Camp Pendleton. The victim advocates have direct responsibilities for providing immediate support to victims by evaluating their needs and educating them on the following information: safe and confidential ways to seek assistance, rights as military service members or spouses, support in obtaining a military and/or civilian restraining order, and referrals and resources.

Victim Advocates will intervene on all alleged incidents of abuse and assess the risk factors and assist victims through safety planning and helping to obtain military and/or civilian restraining orders. They advocate for the interest of the victim to all intervening agencies, to include command, law enforcement, medical, and legal.

"There [are] two different options: restricted and unrestricted reports," said Stacey Grabman, assistant manager at family advocacy. "For restricted, we don't tell anyone, not even the command but provide the victim with resources and let them know what their options are. We can't do anything more, like a military protective order, if they don't want us to contact their command. They can come to us and have it stay with us."

"We will look at safety. We would ask if you want the command to be involved, so restricted or unrestricted. We would have you talk to a counselor and determine major issues in the relationship. Offer an assessment with the spouse/partner. Imminent danger will not allow for restricted reporting because we couldn't keep the victim safe so it would be unrestricted so the command can be notified. They could take weapons out of a home and get a military protective order. Each victim and situation is different and together we decide what will keep the victim safe."

"I think the most important part is knowing you have friends and people you can trust," said one victim of domestic violence. "A person with the right support will be able to get out. Don't judge the victim. If they feel like they are being judged they will shut down. They don't want to be told what they did wrong, or what could have been done differently. They just need someone to be there, to listen and to offer them a safe haven when it is needed."

Reference:

Eppler, Sargent Valerie C. "A Marine's struggle against domestic abuse: Maria's Story." *Marines.mil*, 21 Oct. 2014

[<http://www.pendleton.marines.mil/PendletonNews/NewsArticleDisplay/tabid/5440/Article/537979/a-marines-struggle-against-domestic-abuse-marias-story.aspx>]

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(5) "What do you do when a woman hits you?"

I started piecing together what happened. The argument, her throwing the breakfast I was making for the kids on the ground, grabbing my laptop, the stairs, my kids, screaming. I pulled out the Band-Aid and broke down again.

"Is she hurt? Did you hit her...?" No. Never. I waited.

"We're sending a car over there to talk to her." I waited some more.

"Your wife is telling a bit of a different story, as happens a lot in these situations, she says you threatened her."

"We're going to take you into custody now."

"Stand up and put your hands behind your back."

An hour later I was handcuffed to a hospital bed waiting for CAT scan results to know if my head was bleeding. I looked at the officer.

"What do you do when a woman hits you?"

"I don't know what to tell you, man" he confided. "We don't like doing these things, but our hands are tied. We have to look at who is the primary aggressor."

Stop Violence Against Women aggregated legal writings and produced a list of determining factors for the primary aggressor. Below is a portion of the list:

- The height and weight of the parties
- Which party has the potential to seriously injure the other party
- Whether a party has a fearful demeanor
- Whether a party has a controlling demeanor

Like most men, I am taller and heavier than my wife. I am a Marine veteran with combat training. Studies have shown that gender (either biologically or by social framework) plays a role in being fearful. Women are more likely to report being afraid.



The two officers escorting me to and from the hospital and then to central booking did not have any advice when I asked what I should have done. "Sorry, man."

They never took photographs of the side of my face.

Thirty hours later I stood in front of a judge and had a county prosecutor argue against me: "His wife is afraid of him. She said he..."

Released on my own recognizance; order of protection outlaws me from contacting her or my kids for a year.

A few days later my eye had an almost cartoonish discoloration. I had gone back to the ER complaining of headaches and the light bothering me. She cleared out my bank account. I was a friend's couch away from adding to the homeless veteran population – 62,619 + 1.

I sat across from my lawyer and talked about the other time. She grabbed me and ripped my shirt. Her nails cut my face. I bled. I tried to walk out the door. She blocked the door. I was a gym-every-day, active duty Marine, fearing someone a fraction of my size. I had a dozen ways to put her on the ground (but could cause injury). Instead, I was left to sneak out a bedroom window and spend the night in a parking lot.

Reference:

Kerr, Joseph. "US Marine: When a girl hits you." *A Voice For Men*, 23 Apr. 2014 [<http://www.avoiceformen.com/mens-rights/domestic-violence-industry/when-a-girl-hits-you/>]

b. **Potential Discussion Questions**

**INSTRUCTOR NOTE**

The provided questions can be altered, but all questions should be carefully formulated to focus the discussion toward your desired learning outcome. It is the facilitator's responsibility to provoke thought, foster discussion and involvement on the part of the participants, manage the group, and keep discussion flowing. Choose several questions from the following list, which will help accomplish your learning outcome in the specified time.

The discussion format is intended to have the majority of the input come from the participants. The information provided to you in the lesson plan allows you to insert or clarify pieces of the discussion to ensure only accurate information is disseminated. This is not intended to be a lecture, so keep your comments direct and focused to keep the group discussion moving.

Do not insert too many of your own convictions, as it may cause the group to skew their input just to mirror your positions, and may not be a true representation of the participants' thoughts. Ensure you

have writing material throughout the discussion so you can capture key elements of the discussion, which arise in each segment, in order to create follow-on questions and to summarize each key point.

As the facilitator, you may use a question to initiate a topic for discussion; then, after the discussion develops, follow-up questions can be used to guide the discussion. Follow-up questions may help a participant to explain something more thoroughly, or enable you to bring the discussion back to a point from which it has strayed.

Questions are so much a part of teaching, they are often taken for granted. Effective use of questions may result in more student learning than through use of any other instructional technique. In general, you should ask open-ended questions, which are thought-provoking and require more mental activity than simply remembering facts. Questions should require students to grasp concepts, explain similarities and differences, and infer cause-and-effect relationships.

Plan at least one lead-off question for each of your desired learning outcomes. While preparing questions, remember the purpose is to stimulate discussion, not merely to get answers. Avoid questions, which require only short categorical answers, such as "yes" or "no." Lead-off questions should usually begin with "how" or "why."

(1) What does the term "domestic violence" mean to you? What types of behavior do you think might be included in a discussion about domestic violence?

(2) Is domestic violence a problem in the Marine Corps? If you think so, why? How do you think a fellow Marine who is a victim of domestic violence might affect the unit and unit readiness?

(3) What does an abusive relationship look like? What do you think are some warning signs, or red flags, that a spouse or child is being mistreated emotionally, physically, or sexually?

(4) What do you think child maltreatment means? What are some things that may be considered child maltreatment? Is maltreatment limited to only physical aspects of child care?

(5) What programs prepare Marines and their spouses for the challenges of marriage and parenthood? What does the Lifestyle, Insights, Networking, Knowledge, and Skills (L.I.N.K.S.) program do for Marines?

(6) How is domestic violence portrayed in television and movies? Explain if you think domestic violence being depicted on screen begins to normalize or desensitize the viewing public to the issue, or heightens awareness of the subject? What are the most

violent depictions of domestic violence you can think of from television and movies, and how did they affect you?

(7) Which of the people in the attention gainer made an impression on you and why?

(8) What Marine Corps' core values did the person in the attention gainer violate, and why did you select those values?

(9) What are some reasons you think victims of domestic violence may not want to report the problem? What are some of the options they have? Are you required to report domestic violence even if the victim (your friend) does not want to report the incident(s)?

(10) What military resources are available to victims of domestic violence?

(11) What civilian resources are available to victims of domestic violence?

**INSTRUCTOR NOTE**

Keep the primary focus on services available through Marine Corps Community Services (MCCS).

(12) What would you do if you suspect one of your Marines may be the aggressor in a violent domestic relationship? What would you do if you suspect one of your Marines or their spouse is mistreating their child? Would you have the moral courage to say something to the individual? What if the suspected aggressor is someone senior to you? What alternate means or methods can you use if you do not go directly to the Marine you suspect?

(13) If a Marine is the aggressor in a domestic violence situation, which of the Marine Corps Leadership Traits does he/she violate? How?

(14) If a Marine is the aggressor in a domestic violence situation, which of the Marine Corps Leadership Principles does he/she violate? How?

(15) How do you think leaders can prevent domestic violence from happening in households of Marines in their units? If you were in a leadership position, what would you do to prevent domestic violence within the lives of your Marines?

(16) Can a Marine who perpetuates a violent relationship in their domestic life be an effective leader of Marines? How might his/her leadership be affected?

## 5. REFLECTION

### **INSTRUCTOR NOTE**

Incorporate reflection questions here in order to prompt the participants to reevaluate the issues discussed and topics covered. The more mentally involved each participant is in the active review of the topic, the greater their retention of the subject will be. Reflection questions should be meaningful in relation to the experiences of the students and should bridge the gap between their discussion involvement and the abstract issues discussed in class. Questions posed during reflection are for personal consideration, as the participants may be uncomfortable openly sharing responses.

Reflection questions can be broken down into the following categories:

1. What? Ask the participants to re-examine in detail the content of the discussion.
2. So, what? What difference did the event make to their perceptions of the issue?
3. Now what? How will the participants think or act in the future as a result of this new perspective?

## 6. SUMMARY

### **INSTRUCTOR NOTE**

Provide overview of main ideas covered. No questions should be asked here. Provide closure that is relevant to MOS, the Marine Corps, or applicable to the participants in some other manner.

### **INSTRUCTOR REFERENCE MATERIAL**

Definition by Marine Corps Order (MCO) 1754.11, *Marine Corps Family Advocacy and General Counseling Program*:

Child Abuse: The physical or sexual abuse, emotional abuse, or neglect of a child by a parent, guardian, foster parent, or by a caregiver, whether the caregiver is interfamilial or extrafamilial, under circumstances indicated by the child's welfare is harmed or threatened. Such acts by a sibling, other family member, or other person shall be deemed to be child abuse only when the individual is providing care under express or implied agreement with the parent, guardian, or foster parent.

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- A current or former spouse;
- A person with whom the abuser shares a child in common; or
- A current or former intimate partner with whom the abuser shares or has shared a common domicile.

Suggested Resources:

- Chain of Command
- Unit/Base Chaplain
- Military OneSource [<http://www.militaryonesource.com/>]  
For Immediate Help 24/7, Phone 1-800-342-9647
- *Leaders Resource Guide*
- Marine Corps Reference Publication (MCRP) 6-11B W/CH 1 - *Marine Corps Values: A User's Guide for Discussion Leaders*.
- DoD Safe Helpline [<https://www.safehelpline.org/>]
- DoD Instruction 6400.06: Domestic Abuse Involving DoD Military and Certain Affiliated Personnel  
[<http://www.dtic.mil/whs/directives/corres/pdf/640006p.pdf>]
- Marine Corps Order 1754.11: Marine Corps Family Advocacy and General Counseling Program  
[<http://www.marines.mil/Portals/59/Publications/MCO%201754.11.pdf>]

- Stop It Now! [<http://www.stopitnow.org/>]
- National Coalition Against Domestic Violence [<http://www.ncadv.org/index.php>]
- Military OneSource [<http://www.militaryonesource.com/>]
- National Domestic Violence Hotline [<http://www.thehotline.org/is-this-abuse/abuse-defined/#tab-id-6>]
- Marine Corps Order 1754.11: *Marine Corps Family Advocacy and General Counseling Program* [<http://www.marines.mil/Portals/59/Publications/MCO%201754.11.pdf>]
- Child Welfare Information Gateway: *Preventing Child Abuse & Neglect* [<https://www.childwelfare.gov/topics/preventing/?hasBeenRedirected=1>]
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: *Child Maltreatment Prevention* [<http://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/childmaltreatment/index.html>]
- World Health Organization: *Child Maltreatment* [[http://www.who.int/topics/child\\_abuse/en/](http://www.who.int/topics/child_abuse/en/)]
- National Association of Counsel for Children [<http://www.naccchildlaw.org/?page=childmaltreatment>]