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Gender-Inclusive Treatment Of Intimate Partner Abuse

John Hamel

Foreword by Donald Dutton

*“Finally, a ‘how to’ guide to abuse that recognizes just how key the dynamic within the couple can be in predicting and perpetuating violence...Hats off to Hamel who has developed **the** manual for responding to this complex problem.”*

Linda G. Mills, PhD, JD, MSW, Professor of Social Work, Public Policy and Law, New York University. Author of *INSULT TO INJURY: Rethinking Our Responses to Intimate Abuse*

“A comprehensive assessment and treatment handbook that addresses the complexities of violence by men and women in intimate relationships...includes many excellent assessment forms and patient exercises professionals can utilize to augment their treatment approach.”

Daniel J. Sonkin, PhD, Author of *LEARNING TO LIVE WITHOUT VIOLENCE: A Handbook for Men*

“A must-read for every practitioner, researcher, and student interested in partner abuse...leads the way to making domestic-violence reduction a realistic goal at last! This is the best book I have read on the topic of domestic violence treatment: combines a sound evidence base with creative clinical practice.”

Terrie Moffitt, PhD, Professor of Psychology at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, and at the Institute of Psychiatry, London, UK

This breakthrough handbook for mental health professionals and educators offers practical, hands-on materials that take the entire family system into account. Rich with research that shows women are abusive within relationships at rates comparable to men, the book eschews the field’s reliance on traditional domestic violence theory and treatment, which favors violence intervention for men and victim services for women and ignores the dynamics of the majority of violent relationships. Hamel instead identifies measures and protocols that help practitioners make accurate assessments. He then goes on to carefully select the treatment modality and curricula for group, couples, and/or individual work that will help clients break their particular cycle of violence while ensuring victim safety.

2005 328pp 0-8261-1873-9 soft \$39.95



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KEY FEATURES:

- Complete interview protocol, including thirty-five pages of assessment forms, and guides to substance abuse, “dominant aggressor” and lethality assessment
 - Examination of domestic violence subtypes and the spectrum of abuse, from severe male-perpetrated battering to high conflict couples and families
 - Considerations for ethnic minority populations and same-sex couples
 - “Three-phase” approach to treatment drawing on feminist, psychological, behavioral and family system theories.
 - Entire client manuals for 26-52 week batterer intervention and family violence parenting programs, and clinician’s guide for a 10-week couples group
-

“... a welcome and important contribution to the family violence and social work professional literature... Hamel’s work is well-written, comprehensive, very practical, and easily surpasses the current books on the subject... This book will be useful and essential reading for all social workers, psychologists, family therapists, and victimologists interested in domestic violence.”

Albert Roberts, PhD, Professor of Social Work and Criminal Justice, Director of Faculty and Curriculum Development Faculty of Arts and Sciences, Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey; Author, *BATTERED WOMEN AND THEIR FAMILIES: Intervention Strategies and Treatment Programs*, Springer (1998)

“At long last, a comprehensive domestic violence manual that departs from the traditional patriarchal paradigm, offering instead a gender-inclusive, systems approach to domestic violence. John Hamel’s book views intimate partner abuse as more than a problem of individual psychopathology, but also as a relationship problem, and he shows that treatment is limited when we fail to treat the entire family...I have already been using the book in master’s level domestic violence courses for Marriage and Family Therapists. Students have praised the book.”

Laura Petracek, PhD, LCSW, Psychologist; Certified Batterer Treatment Provider; Author, *THE ANGER WORKBOOK FOR WOMEN*, New Harbinger (2004)

“John Hamel take the discussion of family violence "up a notch" by going beyond yet another convincing argument for the bilaterality of partner abuse. Indeed, "Gender-Inclusive Treatment of Intimate Partner Abuse" provides well thought out and concrete treatment options that consider the reality of men and women who experience violence in their intimate relationships. Clearly, this book is evidence that society is finally ready to move forward in seeking more inclusive remedies to a very serious social problem”.

Reena Sommer, PhD, Divorce Consultant, Winnipeg, MB

"An outstanding guide to understanding the dynamics of domestic violence. One of the first and most comprehensive applications of the use of clinical data in understanding that domestic violence is not always gender specific. Hamel’s outstanding research supports my own experiences in field research, which resulted in hypotheses of mutual abuse and family involvement in conflict. Domestic violence is a family problem---not a male problem. This research is long overdue. I recommend this book as a "must read" for anyone interested in understanding domestic violence and everyone working as a family counselor.

Dr. William A. Stacey, Professor (recently retired), University of Texas at Arlington; Author, *THE FAMILY SECRET: Domestic Violence in America*, Beacon Press (1983), and *THE VIOLENT COUPLE*, Praeger (1994)