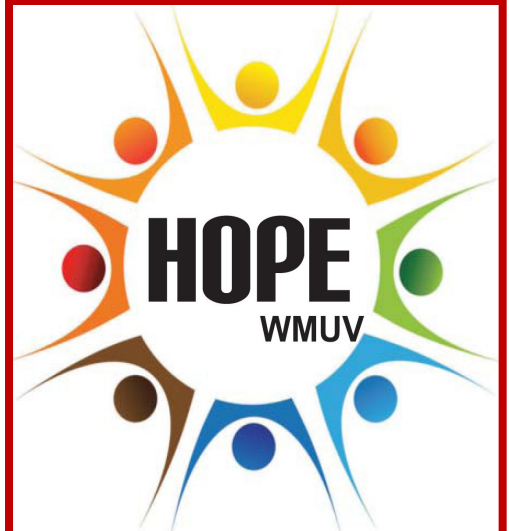


# Domestic Violence Facilitator's Guide

Domestic Violence (DV) or Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) is at an all time epidemic and women bear the overwhelming burden around the world. There is no discrimination when it comes to this issue as men are also abused and it crosses all racial, ethnic and class boundaries. Most of us were taught to mind our own business and to hold family secrets close. As the church is called to prophetically tear down and build-up and to offer compassionate care for those who are hurting, here is a resource that aims to help the church address this painful reality.

**Jocelyn Henry-Whitehead, Presenter**—is active in both the church and community. She is a member of New Zion Baptist Church in Williamsburg, Virginia where her husband has pastored since 1991. She is also a volunteer for the Woman's Missionary Union of Virginia (WMUV) and serves as a member of the Board, Sisters Who Care, and HOPE Team: Domestic Violence. Dr. Jocelyn has participated in local, national, and international missions experiences including: Flint, Michigan; Standing Rock Sioux Tribe; Rwanda and Kenya, Africa; Gredos, Spain, and South Korea. On a daily basis, she is striving to serve, assist, support, mentor, and encourage others, by remembering, "...To whom much is given, much is required..." (Luke 12:48)!!! Jocelyn serves as the HOPE: Domestic Violence team leader.



## Selected Scripture References

A Psalm	Psalm 11:5	God on those who love violence.
Old Testament	Proverbs 22:3	Wisdom helps one to seek refuge.
New Testament	2 Corinthians 1:3-4	God is a source of comfort in our troubles.

## Explore Together

1. Why would God care about those who are suffering from abuse at the hands of another?
2. It is said that "hurt people, hurt people." How can we reduce the stigma so that perpetrators of abuse would seek help?
3. Explore together some of the possible ramifications of a church addressing Domestic Violence and Intimate Partner Violence.
4. What are some of the resources in your community that aim to provide help to those fleeing from abusive situations?
5. Jocelyn shares her own testimony in ministry to others. What are some of the testimonies among the members of your congregation that may minister to others who are hurting?
6. WMUV HOPE volunteers are raising awareness about Domestic Violence and Intimate Partner Violence throughout our churches and associations. As the church is already busy doing church, should Christ followers even care about this global reality?

## Pray

Pray for that victims of abuse will seek help.

Pray for the emotional stability of children who witness abuse daily.

Pray for the church and the community offer ministries and programs that aim to address DV/IPV.

Pray for the troubled and hurt people that perpetuate violence on others.