

16 Days of Activism – 25 November to 10 December 2016 DAY 12. 6 DECEMBER 2016

HEALTH EFFECTS OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

- * 2 in every 5 women domestic and family violence victims suffer injuries.
- * 10% suffer broken bones or noses; 6% suffer brain/head injuries and 6% suffer internal injuries.
- * 29% of victims require medical attention.
- * 30% felt their life was in danger.

Health Effects include:

<u>Sexual Health</u>- disease/injury resulting from intimate partner violence includes HIV/AIDS, syphilis, chlamydia or gonorrhoea. herpes, Hepatitis C.

<u>Reproductive Health</u> – induced abortion, miscarriage, stillbirth.

Perinatal Health- low birth weight, premature birth.

<u>Mental Health</u> – unipolar depressive disorders, alcohol abuse.

<u>Injuries</u> - bruises, swelling, cuts scratches, burns, broken noses/bones, head/brain injuries.

Death – homicide – perpetrated by partner/abuser

- suicide- perpetrated by self, often as a form of escape.

Domestic violence has severe and persistent effects on physical and mental health on those abused.

ANROWS released results of a Burden of Disease study (2016) which showed that:

- * for women aged 18-44 years, intimate partner violence was the leading cause of disease burden;
- * for all adult women (18+), intimate partner violence was the 7th leading cause of burden of disease.





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RESOURCES:

ANROWS Paper (2016) Examination of the Health Outcomes of Intimate Partner Violence Against Women: State of Knowledge Paper. (Landscape: State of Knowledge, March 2016).

http:www.aihw.gov.au/burden-of-disease/other-work/

Australian Longitudinal Study of Women's Health (http://www.newcastle.edu.au/centre/wha/)
HURT Report http://www.hurt.net.au/dfv.htm

ANROWS Paper on Implementing Trauma-Informed Systems of Care in Health Settings: The WITH Study. State of Knowledge Paper http://anrows.org.au/publications/landscapes

CONTACTS:

Statewide Sexual Assault Helpline	1800 010 120
Lifeline	13 11 14
Salvos Care Line	1300 363 622
RESPECT (including health service contacts)	1800 737 732



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