



How to Reduce Violence Against Women Who Experience Intimate Partner Violence in Durham, North Carolina

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Introduction:

Victims of gun violence in abusive relationships are disproportionately women, with their abusers predominantly being men. Women are 500% more likely to be shot by an abusive partner if he has a gun. In Durham, North Carolina intimate partner gun violence has left four women dead in 2019. Gun violence is a gender equity issue and it is pertinent to explore solutions to protect women from further gun violence.

Method:

Research for this study was conducted through literature reviews, a comparative analysis between North Carolina and California gun violence and domestic violence policies, and qualitative interviews with organizations that deal with domestic violence in Durham County. Interviewees were asked questions about their respective organization's procedures and policies relating to gun violence and domestic violence victims, what they think are barriers to protecting victims against gun violence in Durham, and their opinions about gun violence in Durham and how to prevent it.

Policy Solutions:

Implement a more robust firearm removal policy through the Durham Sheriff's Office and initiate a strong domestic violence prevention education program in Durham Public Schools health courses to educate youth about healthy relationships.

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