

## **Domestic Violence**

### **Is there a risk of death?**

230. The number of domestic homicides in Ontario between 2002 and 2007 [1]

17 percent. The number of domestic homicides that make up the number of solved homicides in Canada 47% of all family homicides [2]

Victims are most vulnerable and at risk for death when they have left or plan to leave the abuser [3]

50%. The approximate number of women who did not recognize risk factors before they were killed or almost killed [4]

### **How Can I Leave an Abusive Relationship?**

Know the risk

Don't let on about your plan or intentions to leave your abuser

Build a support network

Have a safety plan

Create safety around the children

Get a protection order, if necessary

### **Sources**

[1] Ontario Domestic Violence Death Review Committee. (2008). Annual report to the Chief Coroner. Toronto, ON: Office of the Chief Coroner.

[2] Ogrodnick, L. (2008). Family Violence in Canada: A Statistical Profile 2008. Ottawa: Statistics Canada

[3] Brownridge, D. (2006). Violence against women post-separation. *Aggression and Violent Behavior*, 11, 514-530.

[4] Campbell, J.C. (2004). Helping women understand their risk in situations of intimate partner violence. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*, 19, 1464-1477.

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### **Common risk factors for domestic homicide**

81 percent couple was either separated or in the process of separating

79 percent there was a prior history of domestic violence

62 percent obsessive behavior displayed by perpetrator

58 percent perpetrator depressed in the opinions of professionals (e.g., physician, counsellor) and/or non-professionals (e.g., family, friends, etc)

51 percent there is an escalation of violence

48 percent perpetrators have made prior threats to kill victim