

Characteristics of battered women and their batterers

Battered Woman

1. Low self-esteem
2. Believes all myths about battering relationships.
3. Is a traditionalist in the home, strongly believing in family unity and the prescribes of the feminine sex role stereotype.
4. Accepts responsibility for the batterer's actions.
5. Suffers from guilt yet denies the terror and anger she feels.
6. Presents a passive face to the world but has strength to manipulate her environment so shoe does not get killed.
7. Has severe stress reactions with psychological complaints.
8. Uses sex as a way to establish intimacy.
9. Treated as "Daddy's Little Girl" (As a Child)
10. Believes no one will be able to help her resolve her predicament except herself.

Batterers

1. Low self-esteem
2. Believes all myths about battering relationships.
3. Is a traditionalist in his home, believing in male supremacy and the stereotypic masculine sex role in the family.
4. Blames others for his actions.
5. Is pathologically jealous and intrusive into his woman's life.
6. Presents a dual personality...Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde
7. Has severe stress reactions during which he uses drinking and wife-beating to cope.
8. Uses sex as an act of aggression frequently to overcome impotence or bisexuality.
9. Suffered from child abuse or neglect as a child.
10. Does not believe his violent behaviours should have negative consequences.