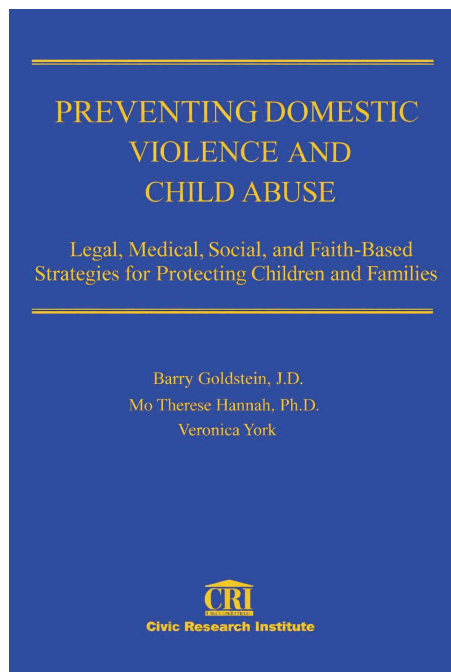


Preventing Domestic Violence and Child Abuse

Legal, Medical, Social, and Faith-Based Strategies for Protecting Children and Families

Edited by Barry Goldstein, Maureen Hannah & Veronica York



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*“For years to come, this will be the bible and THE resource for exposing the failures of the Family Court system in the United States and offering solutions. No one who cares about domestic violence and its profound impact on women and children should walk away from the education and understanding offered in this amazing resource.”

—Casey Gwinn, Founder,
Alliance for HOPE
International

What Would An All-Out Offensive Against Domestic Violence And Child Abuse Look Like?

In 1964, the Surgeon General’s report on cigarettes and cancer unleashed a national campaign that achieved remarkable success in reducing smoking rates—and saved millions of lives.

Today we face a similar public health challenge. The ACE (Adverse Childhood Experiences) Studies, peer-reviewed medical research from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), have found that children exposed to DV, abuse, and other damaging experiences in childhood will live shorter lives, suffer more frequent and serious health problems, and are more likely to re-enact the abuse when they reach adulthood. The harm from acts of violence lives on far beyond the incidents themselves.

Like the campaign against smoking, it will take an all-out effort, with the full participation of all corners of society. This book provides a roadmap for how this all-out campaign can work.

Preventing Domestic Violence and Child Abuse assembles an unrivalled team of experts focusing on the essential “legal, medical, social, and faith-based” strategies that will play a role in the effort ...

- Barry Goldstein on ridding the custody courts of harmful practices such as treating cases involving domestic violence like ordinary high-conflict divorces, and refocusing the courts’ priorities on protecting children, not clearing crowded dockets.
- Lynn Schafraan on the decades long fight to eliminate the gender bias that stacks the deck against mothers in custody proceedings.
- Wendy Murphy on why the Constitution permits women to be treated as second-class citizens, and what to do to correct it.
- Veronica York on the failures of child protective services and how to refocus these vital agencies.
- Jessica Klein on how media typically contributes to society’s generally poor understanding of abuse, and how to reorient journalistic coverage to more accurately report the reality of DV.
- Plus specialized chapters on the role of lawyers (Elizabeth Liu, JD), front line clinicians (Karli Okeson, MD), and religious communities (Debra Wingfield, Ed.D. and Dan Boeck, B.A.) in supporting survivors.

A blueprint for taking on the challenge of violence and abuse—holding abusers accountable, fixing broken courts and social services, addressing gender bias, and focusing the collective expertise of lawyers, health care professionals, media, and faith communities.

“The fundamental premise of this book is that we can create a coordinated community response to prevent DV as we did to prevent smoking. It is time, indeed well past time, to wage the same health-enriching, life-saving effort against DV and child abuse.”—Barry Goldstein, Maureen Hannah & Veronica York

“This book is a must-read for lawyers, mental health providers, and survivors who must learn to navigate the hostile environment of the family courts to protect children to avoid negative long-term public health outcomes.”

—Lisa Fischel-Wolovick, JD, MSW, Author, Attorney, and Educator

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