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## Spotlight: Response to Violence Against Women at the University of Missouri at Columbia

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## SPOTLIGHT: RESPONSE TO VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI AT COLUMBIA

MARY BECK\*

The University of Missouri (“MU”) sits in the picturesque college town of Columbia on the largest and oldest campus of the Missouri University system.<sup>1</sup> MU is a land grant institution created with funds and land appropriated by the Morrill Acts of 1862 and 1890.<sup>2</sup> The University “honors [that public trust] and accepts the associated accountability” by acquiring, creating, transmitting, and preserving knowledge.<sup>3</sup> “MU’s primary mission in research and doctoral education . . . provides the basis for service to the people of [Missouri] via outreach programs.”<sup>4</sup>

Domestic violence impacts MU’s land grant influenced service mission. Its organizational departments, educational units, and central administration have responded enthusiastically to an ad hoc group of staff, faculty, and students who have convened to address to interpersonal violence in ways befitting the MU community. This paper describes MU’s domestic violence research, education, service, and its personal responses to domestic violence on campus.

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1. University of Missouri-Columbia, *Mission Statement*, available at <http://www.missouri.edu/mission.htm> (last visited Jan. 8, 2004) [hereinafter MU Mission Statement].

2. *See* Morrill Act, 7 U.S.C. §§ 301-308 (2000) (originally enacted in 1862). The Act is entitled “[a]n act donating public lands to the several states and territories which may provide colleges for the benefit of agriculture and mechanic arts.” *Id.*; The Second Morrill Act, 7 U.S.C. §§ 322-328 (2000) (originally enacted in 1890). The second Act is entitled “[a]n act to apply a portion of the proceeds of the public lands to the more complete endowment and support of the colleges for the benefit of agriculture and the mechanic arts established under the provisions of an act of Congress approved July second, eighteen hundred and sixty-two.” *Id.*

3. University of Missouri-Columbia Office of the Chancellor, *Statement of Values*, at <http://web.missouri.edu/~jesse105/pages/values.htm> (last visited Jan. 8, 2004).

4. MU Mission Statement, *supra* note 1.

## I. MU: A LAND GRANT UNIVERSITY

The Morrill Act of 1862 donated land and funds to each state to endow, support, and maintain at least one college in which the leading educational object was related to agriculture and the mechanic arts. The Act did not exclude other scientific and classical studies and included military tactics.<sup>5</sup> The Second Morrill Act, enacted twenty-eight years later, applied funds to endow and support the land grant colleges for “instruction in agriculture, mechanic arts, [E]nglish language and the various branches of mathematical, physical, natural and economic science, with special reference to their applications in the industries of life.”<sup>6</sup> Importantly, the Second Morrill Act denied money to any state “where a distinction of race or color was made in the admission of students,” unless separate colleges for “white and colored” students were established.<sup>7</sup>

Thus, the Second Morrill Act denied funds to institutions that discriminated on the basis of race or added institutions that primarily served minority students. Additionally, it expanded the earlier focus on vocational education, particularly in business, agriculture, and the trades, including undergraduate and graduate resident teaching, basic and applied research, and extension of knowledge to all people of the state.<sup>8</sup>

The Morrill Acts created a system that “brought the opportunity for university education and vocational skills to all citizens.”<sup>9</sup> Land grant universities are a uniquely American system, which spur growth and change in the states they serve. For more than seventy-five years, MU has taken seriously its land grant responsibilities, both in education on its campus and in its Outreach and Extension Department. MU has the ability to spur growth and change in both the state’s and the nation’s response to domestic violence. It also embraces the responsibility to aggressively respond to domestic violence on its own campus.

The University of Missouri at Columbia has over 47,000 students, faculty, and staff including 13,704 female students.<sup>10</sup> MU has a population larger than many small towns. Domestic violence constitutes a crime in Missouri, and it

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5. Morrill Act, Chapter 130, 12 Stat. 503 (1862)

6. Agricultural College Act of 1890, Ch. 841, 26 Stat. 417 (1890).

7. *Id.*

8. University of Missouri-Columbia, *Impact: A Council Development Project Leaflet No. 9: The History and Philosophy of Extension*, available at <http://outreach.missouri.edu/extcouncil/Impacts/9.htm> (last visited Jan. 8, 2004).

9. *Id.*

10. MU has just fewer than 26,044 students with 12,340 men and 13,704 women. Faculty number 5,539; and staff number 15,546. Information provided by Diane Coleman in MU Admissions on Sept. 22, 2003 (on file with author).

affects at least one out of four women.<sup>11</sup> Domestic violence does not exclude the educated or the wealthy,<sup>12</sup> and it accounts for one out of every nine visits to hospital emergency rooms among women with male partners at the time of their hospital visit.<sup>13</sup> On college campuses, one out of six female college students is raped, and most of those rapes are committed by acquaintances.<sup>14</sup> Assuming that half of the 47,000 persons associated with MU are women, the statistics indicate that at least 5,870 MU women are victimized. By its numbers, it is likely that 2,286 of its female students are raped. MU has a responsibility to address crimes and personal health issues of such a magnitude occurring right on its campus.

In addition to its personal campus response, MU is situated to inform state and national response systems to domestic violence. It is the largest university in Missouri<sup>15</sup> and is a major research institution with over \$141 million in sponsored grants and contracts.<sup>16</sup> MU Schools of Education and Counseling Psychology, Law, Nursing, and Social Work employ four faculty members, Mary Heppner, Mary Beck, Linda Bullock, and Fran Danis with established and extensive funding histories, publications, teaching, and/or service experience in the area of interpersonal violence.<sup>17</sup> MU houses professional

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11. See MO. REV. STAT §§ 565.072 - 565.074 (2000); Abuse Counseling and Treatment, Inc., *Domestic Violence Statistics*, at [http://www.actabuse.com/dvstats\\_2.html](http://www.actabuse.com/dvstats_2.html) (last visited Jan. 8, 2004).

12. Abuse Counseling and Treatment, Inc., *supra* note 13.

13. Abbot et al., *Domestic Violence Against Women: Incidence and Prevalence in an Emergency Department Population*, 273 JAMA 1763, 1765-66 (1995).

14. Stony Brook University, *Facts about Rape and Sexual Assault*, at <http://moya.ic.sunysb.edu/Clubs/safe/facts.html> (last visited Jan. 8, 2004). This website also indicates that one out of every fifteen male college students reported committing a rape or attempting to commit a rape during the preceding year and that 84% of college men whose behavior meets the legal definition of sexual assault do not think of what they did as sexual assault. *Id.*

15. MU enrolls 26,044 students. See Diane Coleman, *supra* note 10. Washington University enrolls about 12,000 students. Information provided by phone call to Washington University Admissions on Sept. 22, 2003 (on file with author). Saint Louis University enrolls 11,224 students. Information provided by phone by John Jaffers, Saint Louis University Registrar's Office on Sept. 22, 2003 (on file with author). The University of Missouri at Kansas City enrolls 14,100 students. Information provided by phone by John Cooley, UMKC Admissions Office on Sept. 22, 2003 (on file with author). The University of Missouri at St. Louis enrolls 15,605 students. Information provided by phone by Tyrone Petty, University of Missouri at St. Louis Registrars Office on Oct. 23, 2003 (on file with author).

16. The University of Missouri-Columbia, *Summary of Grants and Contacts: Research 2002*, at 3, available at [http://www.research.missouri.edu/web\\_research/publications/fiscal/ORAR2002.pdf](http://www.research.missouri.edu/web_research/publications/fiscal/ORAR2002.pdf) (last visited Jan. 8, 2004).

17. Mary Beck has obtained eleven grants in domestic violence related projects, has four domestic violence related publications, and has directed the Family Violence Clinic at the MU Law School for ten years. Linda Bullock has obtained eighteen grants in domestic violence related projects, has twenty-eight domestic violence related publications, and countless scholarly

schools including journalism, law, medicine, nursing, psychology, public affairs, social work, business, economics, the arts, and the sciences. MU is located on one contiguous campus just thirty-five minutes from Missouri's capitol in Jefferson City, where the Governor resides, and where Missouri's legislature and administrative agencies operate and make/implement policy. Missouri is geographically in the middle of the United States, and Columbia is in the middle of Missouri located roughly halfway between Missouri's only two major cities, St. Louis and Kansas City. Thus, MU is a major research and educational institution offering education in all major professions and holding a track record in domestic violence teaching, service, and research, which sits in a predominantly rural area in the middle of America and directly near the Missouri state capitol.

MU's land grant mission, size, expertise, and geographic features position it uniquely to respond to violence against women because: (1) it has the duties and values to embrace an objective of improving the national, state, and local response to domestic violence; (2) it has the capabilities and the multidisciplinary resources to conduct meaningful research and education on domestic violence; (3) it employs faculty with national reputations and established funding track records in domestic violence research and service; (4) its faculty, staff, and students have established relationships with state legislators and policy makers and have the geographic ease to make personal contact with them to advance political domestic violence agendas; (5) it can provide an educated, rural, and middle American perspective on domestic violence to federal lawmakers and policy makers; and (6) it has enough enlightened individuals on its campus to make maintaining optimum responses systems on campus a compelling objective.

In 2002, MU Social Work Professor Fran Danis and MU Law School Professor Mary Beck happened upon each other socially, began talking about domestic violence, and devised a plan to convene a group of MU faculty, staff, and students interested in domestic violence responses. Invitations were e-mailed, and attendance by any and all interested parties was encouraged. The response was immediate and enthusiastic. Ultimately, the participants named themselves the Intra University Council on Violence Against Women ("Council"). The Council meets approximately monthly and now involves members from most organizational departments and educational units on campus.

The Council adopted an aggressive agenda that includes developing a funding application to the United States Department of Justice Violence

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presentations. Fran Danis has obtained seven grants in domestic violence related projects, has twenty-three domestic violence related publications, and countless scholarly presentations. Mary Heppner has obtained nine domestic violence related grants, has seven domestic violence publications, and made nine domestic violence presentations. All resumes on file with the author.

Against Women on Campus Program. Professor Fran Danis supervises a graduate student in social work who is conducting her Planning and Administration block placement with the Council. This graduate student will develop a number of products and coordinate many Council activities. Her final project will be the development of the grant proposal for Department of Justice. Faculty from the Schools of Social Work and Law will supervise the grant application, and all Council members will participate.

The Council has sparked numerous collaboration projects and collaborative funding initiatives. It obtained contributions from the Chancellor's Office, the Provost's Office, the Employee Assistance Department, the School of Journalism, the School of Law, and the Law School's Family Violence Program<sup>18</sup> to sponsor a Domestic Violence Awareness Month presentation by Jeff Benedict, a nationally recognized lawyer turned investigative reporter and speaker on athletes and domestic violence. Such a multiple department, school sponsored speech reflects MU's exceptional commitment to address violence against women and to open a vigorous dialogue with students, staff, and faculty. Domestic Violence Awareness Month communications went to all faculty, staff, and students. The MU Student Health Service and University Hospitals and Clinics collaborate on responses to violence against women. The MU Schools of Law, Medicine, Nursing, and Psychology are seeking funding for a collaborative project involving responses to domestic violence victims identified in the University Hospital Emergency Room and Clinics. The MU Schools of Law, Journalism, and Medicine are seeking funding for a comparative statewide investigation into the justice system's response to domestic violence.

## II. COORDINATING A RESPONSE TO VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

The Intra University Council on Violence Against Women collected information about the response to domestic violence by each department and school. This information is described below.

### A. *Intercollegiate Athletics*

The Intercollegiate Athletics Department at MU offers programming on various topics of personal development including the dangers and realities of violence against women.<sup>19</sup> Its participation in the MU Council on Violence Against Women provides the nearly 500 student-athletes a network of quality resources with which to address domestic violence and signals its commitment to a safe and healthy athletic community. The Student-Athlete Advisory

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18. The Family Violence Clinic's contribution was made possible by donations from the School of Law's Women's Law Association and former students.

19. All information pertaining to Intercollegiate Athletics provided by Scott Stevens, Coordinator of Lifeskills at MU Intercollegiate Athletics (on file with author).

Council (“SAAC”) serves as a sounding board and idea center for future programming in this area. This leadership group of student-athletes, representing all twenty sports, provides excellent ideas for future programming. SAAC members meet with the MU School of Nursing, the Missouri Prosecuting Attorney’s Office, and Athletic Department Administrators to provide input for future programming. A student-athlete section of the First Year Experience class allows first year student-athletes the opportunity to discuss the dangers of violence against women, as well as other personal development topics. Additional information on this topic and the MU Wellness Resource Center is made available to student-athletes, coaches, and staff via handbooks, meetings, and electronic mail.

*B. Greek Advocates*

The Office of Greek Life at MU strives to serve approximately 4,800 undergraduate students affiliated with fraternities and sororities.<sup>20</sup> Each of the fifty organizations is accountable to the University, a local governing board, and a national governing board.

The Office of Greek Life proactively supports and promotes programs initiated by peer elected student leaders. Student members strive to uphold four common values: scholarship, leadership, service, and friendship. MU fraternities and sororities provide programming to create awareness and educate a targeted group of students surrounding these values. A specific group that helps to facilitate awareness and understanding of sexual assault and rape are the Greek Advocates. The program is a result of a collaborative effort between the Office of Greek Life and the Rape Education Office. Each chapter selects one or two representatives to attend weekly meetings, where they are trained to:

- Understand and identify myths and facts surrounding rape and sexual assault
- Help a friend who has been raped or assaulted
- Educate potential rape perpetrators on appropriate dating behaviors
- Know campus and community resources for victims of rape and sexual assault
- Understand legal issues surrounding rape and sexual assault, and
- Understand medical procedures for victims of rape and sexual assault.

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20. The Greek community at MU consists of fifty fraternities and sororities, eight of which are historically black Greek letter organizations, one Latino-based group, and two religiously founded organizations. All information pertaining to Greek life provided by Chris Lindner, former Coordinator of MU Greek Life (on file with author).

Each Advocate is expected to present relevant information to his or her peers in his/her chapter once per month and to serve as a resource for members of his or her chapter who are victims of rape or sexual assault. Advocates often find themselves serving as a liaison between resources and the student who has been assaulted until the student is ready to pursue the resources on her or his own.

### *C. Employee Assistance*

The Employee Assistance Program provides free and confidential brief counseling and referral regarding employees and their family members for any personal or work-related concerns.<sup>21</sup> In that context, the program director works with victims of domestic violence and counsels employees who are concerned about a friend or family member who is a victim of domestic violence. The Director consults several times a year with supervisors who are concerned about employees whom they suspect, or are certain, are subject to violence. The Director trains supervisors semi-annually on how to deal with “troubled employees” and how to prevent or respond to workplace violence. Both training workshops address how to help an employee who is a victim of domestic violence.

### *D. Residential Life*

Residential Life sees itself on the front lines of the response to domestic violence.<sup>22</sup> Its primary role is to serve as a resource for the students who live in residence halls. Professional and student staff is trained to call the MU Police Department if an actual act of abuse occurs in a residence hall. The Staff listens as students reveal their struggles with domestic violence in their relationships and at home and helps students figure out how they can help a friend who they believe may be in trouble. The Residence Staff’s role is not primarily counseling, but helping students connect with qualified professionals for assistance. Residential life also serves an educational role in promoting awareness of violence issues. They encourage students to participate in related campus activities such as sexual assault awareness week. They provide resources for student staff members to do programming on violence issues through bulletin boards, potty papers, and active programs.

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21. All information pertaining to the Employee Assistance Program provided by Linda Wolszon, Director of the MU Employee Assistance Program (on file with author).

22. All information pertaining to Residential Live provided by Carole Douglas, MU Residence Hall Coordinator (on file with author).



### E. *Student Health*

The University of Missouri Student Health Center tracks over 45,000 visits annually.<sup>23</sup> The majority are female students. Given the statistical prevalence of violence against women on college campuses, the staff developed ties with the domestic violence community. The Student Health Center Health Education Committee coordinated training for Student Health Center staff through the Missouri Coalition Against Domestic Violence. After the initial training, the Health Education Committee developed Relationship Abuse Guidelines. The purpose of the guidelines is to assist staff in the identification of students who are victims of relationship abuse and to provide appropriate intervention through campus and community resources.

Such guidelines and training are particularly helpful because domestic violence is not a subject traditionally taught in any depth in nursing or medical schools. The universal screening questions prompt staff to consider patients presenting signs and symptoms in a different context. The guidelines provide for integration of legally mandated interventions, asking follow-up questions, assessing the level of danger, and recognizing the significance of Student Health's role in assisting women to safe resources and ending the cycle of violence.<sup>24</sup>

Prospective Student Health Department activities will include regular review and revision of existing guidelines, providing continuing training for staff, and reviewing medical record documentation forms for appropriate assessment questions. Orientation for new staff will include an inservice regarding the relationship abuse guidelines. Collaboration with University Hospital Emergency Room administration is planned to develop protocols between both health care systems.

### F. *English/Folklore & Theatre*

Two faculty members, Elaine Lawless and Heather Carver, in the Departments of English/Folklore Studies and Theatre respectively, have worked with a group of students to perform personal narratives about relationship violence on the MU campus, in the community, and in other states.<sup>25</sup> The Performers Against Violence Troupe performs solo pieces that share the lived-experiences of women who have survived and escaped violent situations with their partners. The stories performed are largely derived from the Elaine Lawless book, *Women Escaping Violence: Empowerment Through*

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23. All information pertaining to the Student Health Department provided by Theresa Wilson, Health Educator for the MU Student Health Department (on file with author).

24. See generally UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI STUDENT HEALTH CENTER, GUIDELINES FOR IDENTIFICATION AND INTERVENTIONS FOR RELATIONSHIP ABUSE (2003) (on file with author).

25. All information pertaining to the English/Folklore Studies and Theatre Departments provided by Elaine Lawless, MU English Department Professor (on file with author).

*Narrative*.<sup>26</sup> Together with therapists and health experts, the two faculty members lead audiences in discussions of the issues surrounding relationship violence that emerge from the personal narrative performances. The troupe currently has seven performers and plans to expand.

*G. Missouri University Police Department*

The Missouri University Police Department (“MUPD”) takes an aggressive position with regard to any reported domestic violence on campus.<sup>27</sup> Interpersonal violence complaints are considered a “high priority” with regard to the department’s response to these calls. All state statutes are closely reviewed and followed as they pertain to domestic violence.<sup>28</sup>

Where a MUPD officer receives a report of a domestic violence situation and his investigation determines that a violation of any of these statutes has occurred, the officer is required to make an arrest or apply for a warrant if the suspect is not present. All domestic violence cases are sent to the Boone County Prosecutor’s office for prosecution or review. Officers are required to thoroughly investigate interpersonal violence cases by conducting interviews with all available parties, collect evidence for possible use in court, and photograph injuries and/or damage to property. All victims of domestic violence are given informational referral cards by the investigating officer that include phone numbers for the Shelter, local hospitals, counseling services, prosecutor’s office, victim assistance information, and employee assistance, as well as how to apply for an order of protection – Ex Parte Orders and an explanation of the Civil Protective Order process.

The MUPD Policy and Procedure Manual contains a twelve page policy which specifically addresses the topic of police officer domestic violence issues.<sup>29</sup> This policy focuses on education and training for the officers on the topic of domestic violence and clarifies that the license of any police officer who is convicted of a domestic assault will be revoked.

The University Police Department is committed to sending the strong message that domestic violence on or around the university will not be tolerated. MUPD is committed to handling these situations thoroughly, while being sensitive, responsive, and helpful to the victims of domestic violence and

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26. See generally ELAINE J. LAWLESS, WOMEN ESCAPING VIOLENCE: EMPOWERMENT THROUGH NARRATIVE (2001) (providing narratives of battered women).

27. All information pertaining to the MU Police Department provided by Douglas Schwandt, Assistant Chief, MU Police Department (on file with author).

28. See MO. REV. STAT. § 565.072 (2000) (Missouri’s first degree domestic violence assault statute); MO. REV. STAT. § 565.073 (2000) (Missouri’s second-degree domestic violence assault statute); MO. REV. STAT. § 565.074 (2000) (Missouri’s third-degree domestic violence assault statute).

29. See generally MISSOURI UNIVERSITY POLICE DEPARTMENT, OFFICER GUIDELINES (2003) (on file with author).

pursuing any and all criminal violations committed by a suspect of domestic violence. The department has a strong and cooperative working relationship with the Domestic Violence Enforcement Unit (“DOVE”) of the Columbia Police Department and with the Boone County Prosecutors office including the Victim Assistance Unit.

#### *H. Campus Religious Advisers*

The MU Association of Campus Religious Advisers has overseen numerous activities related to interpersonal violence: provision of counseling; presentations on domestic abuse in the Jewish community; sponsorship of Women’s Ministry which provides safe environments; presentation for 800 students on pornography vis-a-vis the reinforcement of women’s subservient, objective position in society; and provisions of forums for personal sharing.<sup>30</sup> The association is composed mostly of male clergy persons, and the chairperson believes that more programming is needed in the area of interpersonal violence on campus.

#### *I. Counseling Center*

The MU Counseling Center has a number of psychologists and therapists who are skilled in working with individuals who have been affected by violence, including rape, sexual assault, and domestic violence. A variety of treatment modalities are offered, including individual therapy, group therapy, biofeedback, and stress management services. In addition to working with individuals, the Counseling Center also provides outreach to the larger campus community with programs and presentations exploring issues related to violence. In conjunction with the Women’s Center, the Counseling Center sponsors several campus activities aimed at increasing awareness of issues related to violence, including Rape Awareness Week and the Vagina Monologues.

#### *J. MU Women’s Center*

The MU Women’s Center provides a number of services and resources relating to relationship violence. The Center has educational materials, including pamphlets, books, and videos that address this issue, as well as information about the local Shelter and other related services. The Center also offers programs on relationship violence, healthy relationships, and other related topics. It does so on an outreach basis to the campus (classes, Greek chapters, residential living units, and other groups). The Center supports the efforts of individual students as well as classes and organizations that are

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30. All information pertaining to the Association of Campus Religious Advisers provided by Kerry Hollander, Chair, Association of Campus Religious Advisers (on file with author).

working on these issues, whether through classroom projects or campus wide programming.

The Women's Center offers counseling and referral to MU students for a wide range of concerns, including relationship violence, rape, and other forms of sexual violence. The Women's Center is also home to the Rape Education Program, which provides extensive programs and services addressing this issue. The Center works with the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Resource Center to provide education and resources regarding violence in same sex relationships.

### *K. Journalism*

Kent Collins, the MU Head of Broadcast Journalism, directed his students to collaborate with the MU School of Law Family Violence Clinic students in investigating the response of the justice system to domestic violence in four rural Missouri counties. The Journalism School students developed three investigative videotapes that summarized the findings of the investigation which were aired on KOMU television and which drew an immediate public response. Further discussion of previous and prospective Journalism and Law collaboration on domestic violence is detailed in Section III, below.

## III. FACULTY EXPERTS IN SOCIAL WORK, PSYCHOLOGY, NURSING, AND LAW

### *A. School of Social Work and Fran Danis*

The MU School of Social Work has received national and local recognition for its commitment to infuse content on domestic violence throughout its undergraduate and graduate programs.<sup>31</sup> The School recruited Professor Fran Danis, who brings over twenty years of experience in the areas of violence against women, domestic violence, and crime victim assistance to MU, in that she has published extensively, made many scholarly presentations, and obtained significant grant dollars on these topics. Danis founded and served as the first executive director of Denton County Friends of the Family, Inc. (1980-1984), served as the Chair of the Board of the Texas Council on Family Violence (1982-87), and served as President and board member of the Family Crisis Center in Bastrop, Texas (1989-97). While at the University of Texas at Austin, she co-founded an interdisciplinary, interdepartmental violence against women campus task force with Sarah Buel of the University of Texas Law School. She is the Co-Chair of the Council of Social Work Education's Violence Against Women and their Children Symposium. Besides regular guest lecture appearances in required foundation courses, Danis teaches an

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31. All information pertaining to the School of Social Work provided by Fran Danis, Assistant Professor MU School of Social Work (on file with author).

elective course in contemporary issues in domestic violence. Open to both undergraduates and graduate students and cross-listed with Women Studies, the social work course attracts students from a wide variety of disciplines.

Danis's research agenda includes the self-efficacy of professional social workers to address domestic violence, the effectiveness of policies and services to domestic violence victims, and the resiliency of children exposed to domestic violence.<sup>32</sup> The preparation of professional social workers to address domestic violence is critical to a community's ability to respond appropriately and safely. Danis's research findings indicate that many social workers did not have academic preparation for assisting victims of domestic violence and their knowledge is particularly lacking in the criminal justice system, safety planning, and risk assessment. Building on this finding, Danis is currently conducting a research project involving both baccalaureate and master's level interaction skills classes in order to assess the effectiveness of enhancing domestic violence practice self-efficacy through specialized instruction, exercises, readings, and assignments.

Danis has also focused on the extent to which domestic violence victims are able to participate in the crime victim compensation ("CVC") program.<sup>33</sup> The federally and state funded CVC programs provide reimbursement to victims for expenses incurred as a result of the crime. In her study, Danis compared each state's paid CVC claims to domestic violence victims with the number and percent of domestic violence victims receiving services through federally funded community-based victim assistance programs. In Missouri, 70% of all victims assisted through federal crime victim assistance funded programs were victims of domestic violence.<sup>34</sup> However, less than 5% of all CVC claims paid went to domestic violence victims.<sup>35</sup> While a one-for-one match is unrealistic, domestic violence victims were underrepresented with respect to CVC claims paid in the majority of the states. The need exists to uncover the barriers to domestic violence victims receiving CVC and to determine whether those barriers exist at the state policy and procedure level, the local community level, and/or with the victims of crime themselves.

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32. See generally Fran S. Danis, *Domestic Violence Practice Self-efficacy: Implications for Social Work*, (unpublished manuscript, submitted to *ADVANCES IN SOCIAL WORK*, June 19, 2003); Fran S. Danis, *Social Work Response to Domestic Violence: Encouraging News from a New Look*, 18 *AFFILIA* 177 (2003); Fran S. Danis, *Safety Planning: A Tool for Social Work Practice with Domestic Violence Survivors*, in *INTEGRATING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CONTENT IN THE SOCIAL WORK FOUNDATION CURRICULUM* (F.S. Danis & L. Lockhart, eds.) (publication forthcoming 2004).

33. See generally Fran S. Danis, *The Criminalization of Domestic Violence: What Social Workers Need to Know*, 48 *SOCIAL WORK* 237 (2003); Fran S. Danis, *Domestic Violence and Crime Victim Compensation: A Research Agenda*, 9 *VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN* 374 (2003).

34. Fran S. Danis, *Crime Victim Compensation*, *supra* note 33, at 380.

35. *Id.*

Two currently funded research studies, pursued by Danis and Professor Kim Anderson, are pilot studies to uncover, identify, and describe resilient capacities among women who were exposed to acts of violence between their parents or parental figures and an exploratory study of Sorority Responses to Dating Violence. The Adult Children of Battered Women Study includes in-depth interviews with women who, during childhood, witnessed or were exposed in some way to their mothers being battered by their male intimate partners. An important aspect of this study is how gender impacts the nature of male violence on women (i.e., mothers) and how females who are exposed to this dynamic during childhood are impacted throughout their lives. This study explores individuals' perspectives on the personal qualities and social conditions that enhanced their ability to survive exposure to domestic violence and persevere throughout their lives. The interaction between personal and environmental strengths is explored with regard to the resourcefulness of these women in negotiating the challenges of their childhood adversity. Little is known about resilience of girls exposed to parental domestic violence.

The Exploratory Study of Sorority Response to Dating Violence involves interviews with national chapter personnel and focus groups with undergraduate sorority leaders to identify formal and informal support systems available to women in dating violence relationships. Danis has also been involved in numerous research and evaluation projects related to domestic violence and crime victims.<sup>36</sup>

*B. Educational, School, and Counseling Psychology Department and Mary Heppner*

Dr. Mary Heppner is the primary interpersonal violence researcher in the MU Educational, School, and Counseling Psychology Department.<sup>37</sup> Dr. Heppner has a long history in the study of sexual violence as her first publication in the area was in 1977. She has developed a programmatic line of

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36. Fran S. Danis, *Crime Victims: A Social Work Response, Building Skills to Strengthen Survivors* (study funded by the United States Dept. of Just., Office for Victims of Crime, and conducted in partnership with the National Association of Social Workers/Texas) (on file with author); Fran S. Danis, *The Evaluation of Expect Respect: A Domestic Violence Primary Prevention Intervention For Elementary School Students* (study funded by Centers for Disease Control, Atlanta and SafePlace, Austin, Texas) (on file with author); Fran S. Danis, *Evaluation of Safe Families – Safe Communities, Grant to Encourage Domestic Violence Arrests in Four Rural Counties in Texas* (on file with author); Fran S. Danis, *It's In Your Hands* (a violence prevention interactive theatre play for middle school students, funded by The Texas Domestic Violence Needs Assessment Project) (on file with author); Fran S. Danis, *Domestic Violence Coordinating Councils in Texas: Membership and Goals* (on file with author); Fran S. Danis, *The Evaluation of the National Domestic Violence Hotline* (on file with author).

37. All information pertaining to the Educational, School, and Counseling Psychology Department provided by Dr. Mary J. Heppner, MU Associate Professor of Education and Counseling Psychology (on file with author).

research, which has examined what factors lead to lasting change in attitudes related to sexual violence. Dr. Heppner and her colleagues have conducted five large-scale prevention studies and published the results of the first three.<sup>38</sup> These studies advanced knowledge of mechanisms of attitude change, as well as examining the efficacy of culture-specific rape prevention interventions on non-majority samples.

Heppner's earliest studies indicate that even with very high quality interventions, attitudes about sexual violence tended to improve during the intervention but rebound to previous levels in the weeks and months following interventions.<sup>39</sup> In more recent studies statistically utilizing hierarchical cluster analyses rather than group means, her studies demonstrated that this rebound is only true for approximately a third of the sample, and one of the leading predictors of long-term attitudinal change is the amount of intervention provided to the individual.<sup>40</sup> Thus, the one-shot interventions, which are the prototype in this area, seem to have little lasting effect, but those interventions that are more thorough with greater treatment dosage (e.g., three ninety-minute sessions) were more likely to bring about long-term attitude change. In an intervention study using an African-American and Caucasian fraternity sample, Heppner found that a culturally specific intervention was perceived as much more personally relevant to African-Americans in the sample and that they were more motivated to hear and cognitively process the message.<sup>41</sup>

Heppner has obtained funding for the last four years with monies from the Centers for Disease Control ("CDC"), which come to the Missouri Department of Health to develop and test model curricula for middle and high school students in sexual violence prevention (approximately \$386,000). This project is currently on-going with rape prevention interventions having been developed, interventions conducted, and the first data analyses beginning in the winter of 2003-04. These theoretically driven (social norming theory) interventions and empirical evaluations will be some of the first ever published that were conducted with middle and high school students, and if efficacy of the curriculum is determined, the model will be used in interventions throughout the state of Missouri with some 66,000 students annually, and hopefully nationally as well.

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38. Mary J. Heppner et al., *Examining Sex Differences in Altering Attitudes About Rape: A Test of the Elaboration Likelihood Model*, 73 J. COUNS. & DEV. 640 (1999); Mary J. Heppner et al., *The Differential Effects of Rape Prevention Programming on Attitudes, Behavior, and Knowledge*, 42 J. COUNS. PSYCHOL. 508 (1995); Mary J. Heppner et al., *Examining Immediate and Long-Term Efficacy of Rape Prevention Programming with Racially Diverse College Men*, 46 J. COUNS. PSYCHOL. 16 (1999).

39. See Heppner, *Differential Effects*, *supra* note 38, at 508-18.

40. See Heppner, *Examining Immediate*, *supra* note 38, at 16-26.

41. *Id.* at 24.

Heppner and Professor Helen Neville recently conducted and published an integrative literature review on the psychological sequelae of rape and proposed a more culturally inclusive ecological model for sexual assault recovery.<sup>42</sup> Subsequently, in a recent empirical study, Drs. Neville and Heppner tested this model and examined the universal and culturally specific factors involved in rape recovery for Caucasian and African-American rape survivors.<sup>43</sup>

Heppner obtained a Fulbright Research Scholar Award in 2002 in the area of sexual violence prevention where she lived and conducted research in Taiwan (as well as shorter periods of time in Korea and Japan). Her primary work was examining the prevalence of sexual assault and East Asian specific ways of coping with that trauma. Data, collected from over 3,000 participants in Taiwan and over 1,000 in South Korea, will provide some of the first sexual assault prevalence data available in these countries and will also provide valuable information on ways of coping with sexual assault in a different cultural context. In addition, she worked with a Taiwanese scholar, who conducted interviews with sexual assault and incest survivors, examining the culture specific aspects of the recovery process. Analyses on these qualitative data are currently underway.

### C. *School of Nursing and Linda Bullock*

Professor Linda Bullock is MU School of Nursing's primary domestic violence researcher, where such research and publication are extensive.<sup>44</sup> The research has focused on the 152,000 – 324,000 women who experienced violence during their pregnancies<sup>45</sup> and on their children, born and unborn. After establishing the effects of battering on the infants' birth weight,<sup>46</sup> Bullock has focused on examining strategies to intervene with battered pregnant women in order to improve health outcomes of women and their infants including: (1) helping to develop a screening instrument, the Abuse Assessment Screen, to identify battered women in the clinical setting; (2) further testing of a ten-minute Safety Planning intervention program; and (3) testing low-cost interventions of telephone social support during pregnancy. This latter strategy is the focus of Bullock's two current National Institutes of

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42. H. Neville. & M. J. Heppner, *Reviewing Sequelae and Proposing a Culturally Inclusive Ecological Model of Sexual Assault Recovery*, 8 APPLIED & PREVENTIVE PSYCHOL. 41 (1999).

43. Mary J. Heppner et al., *General and Culture Specific Factors Influencing Black and White Rape Survivors' Self-Esteem*, 28 PSYCHOL. OF WOMEN Q. (publication forthcoming 2004).

44. All information pertaining to the School of Nursing provided by Linda Bullock, MU Nursing School Professor (on file with the author).

45. Julie Gazmarian, et al., *Violence and Reproductive Health: Current Knowledge and Future Research Directions*, 4 MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH JOURNAL 79 (2000).

46. See Linda F. Bullock & Judith McFarlane, *The Birth-Weight/Battering Connection*, 89 AM. J. NURSING 1153, 1153 (1989).



Health funded research projects which test the hypothesis that high stress is a major underlying variable that contributes to poor infant outcomes.

Bullock's research has found the ten-minute Safety Planning intervention that focuses on empowering women to be effective, but women still may not be able to access the legal, social, and medical resources they need. Being located in an academic community where many interdisciplinary services are available to women, Professor Bullock has proposed to colleagues on the Intra University Council on Violence Against Women to test an interdisciplinary response to survivors of abuse including safety planning. Bullock, MU Psychiatry Professor Niels Beck, Law Professor Mary Beck, and MU Hospital and Clinics Emergency Department Head Nurse Lori Lupe are seeking funding to develop interdisciplinary programming for woman who screen positive for intimate partner violence at the University Hospital, either currently or in the past year. The planned intervention will include motivational interviewing to inform the patient of all the interdisciplinary resources she can readily access through a campus response to the violence, prompt referrals to legal services through the MU Law School's Family Violence Clinic and campus police department, medical care from the nursing and medical school, and social services through the social work department.

*D. School of Law and Mary Beck*

Professor Mary Beck directs the Law School Family Violence Program.<sup>47</sup> Beck teaches a four credit hour Family Violence Clinic ("Clinic") and a three credit hour course entitled Advocacy, Family Violence, and Public Policy ("Course"), obtains and implements funded domestic violence projects, and undertakes collaborative interdisciplinary and interuniversity initiatives. In the Course, interdisciplinary presentations examine both the state of family violence in America and the cross-disciplinary issues in effective intervention including literature, drama, and journalism. The Course is open to law students and other professional graduate students and has a substantial research/publication component. The Clinic requires students to conduct individual representation of indigent abuse victims and to develop social justice projects for the advancement of abused women as a group. Beck and the Altria Teaching Fellow supervise Rule 13<sup>48</sup> certified law students representing indigent abused women and children in twenty-one rural Missouri counties. Students obtain orders of protection in adult abuse courts and appear in protective custody cases in juvenile courts. The Clinic's social justice projects are identified vis-a-vis representational experiences. External funding

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47. The MU Law School also offers a Child Protection Clinic which is funded by the Missouri Dept. of Social Services. This Clinic works to free abused and neglected children in long term foster care for adoption primarily through termination of parental rights.

48. MO. SUP. CT. R. 13 (2000) (the Missouri Student Practice Rule).

has supported the rural mission of the Clinic, interdisciplinary teaching, and a clinical teaching fellow. Interdisciplinary projects have included the Schools of Medicine, Journalism, Sociology, Psychology, and Nursing. The inter-university clemency project is the only such initiative in the nation co-aligning all the law schools in a state. A description of the MU Law School Family Violence Program follows.

Clinic students prevail in over 95% of their court cases and sometimes engage in complex litigation. The 2002 Altria Fellow, Megan Philips, supervised students who wrote a trial brief in representing a particularly vulnerable wife and child in difficult civil protective order cases involving interstate jurisdiction issues.<sup>49</sup> Because the woman's husband had filed for divorce in Colorado before the woman filed for civil protective orders in Missouri, the law superficially supported Colorado's jurisdiction over the child. The woman was unable to return to Colorado to litigate custody.<sup>50</sup> The husband hired a Missouri attorney who argued that Missouri lacked jurisdiction over the husband and over any custody determination of the child. Students developed a lengthy trial brief supporting jurisdiction in Missouri and prepared for a contested hearing with five expert witnesses and two lay witnesses. Ultimately, Missouri granted the wife adult and child orders of protection, Colorado ultimately dismissed the dissolution petition, and custody was determined in a Missouri dissolution proceeding where the Division of Family Services and the police testified as to the sexual and physical abuse of

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49. The wife who was mentally handicapped and had fled with her nine year old son from her abusive husband in Colorado to Missouri. The husband had been beating, sodomizing, and imprisoning the wife in the basement of their Colorado home for years. The woman did not think she could successfully escape with her son. When the woman learned that the husband was also sodomizing their son, she managed to call her mother in Missouri who drove to Colorado and physically removed the woman and the son to Missouri. But the husband contacted Colorado Legal Services and filed a petition for dissolution in Colorado asking for full custody of their child. Abusive men often preemptively file for dissolution and request custody in effort to manipulate their wives into returning to the abusive home - rather than risk losing custody of a child in a dissolution action. CLARE DALTON & ELIZABETH M. SCHNEIDER, *BATTERED WOMEN AND THE LAW* 350 (2001). When the wife arrived in Missouri, she reported her husband's abuse of their child to the authorities. The Missouri Division of Family Services and the police investigated and substantiated the abuse. Authorities directed the woman to petition for adult and child orders of protection in which the MU Family Violence Clinic represented her. The Juvenile Court declined to open a protective service case on the child, because the small rural Juvenile Office reasoned that the child was safe in Missouri from his abuser who was in another state. The failure of the Juvenile Office to open a case left the job of child protection to the indigent, mentally handicapped woman.

50. The woman could not obtain free legal assistance from Colorado Legal Services because they were representing the husband. The woman had no money to hire private counsel, and returning to Colorado in person was untenable because the wife could not live independently, had no where to stay in Colorado, and would be vulnerable to attacks, particularly kidnapping, by her husband.

the mother and child. The brief was circulated to other Missouri practitioners and clinics and was included in a national brief bank where it can be used to protect other abuse victims.

Faculty and students learn of critical domestic violence issues through such representation and use the information to inform the program's research and publication agenda. For example, the 2003 Altria Fellow, Lisa May, is researching federal legislation vis-a-vis gun related domestic violence, which stems from her in-court observations of the judicial response to and compliance with federal law banning firearms possession by misdemeanor abusers and persons against whom a protective order is issued.<sup>51</sup> May supervised law students in a rural Missouri County where the Judge listened to evidence of substantial violence by a husband against his wife with the husband admitting the violence under oath in open court. Instead of issuing an order of protection, the Judge advised the wife to change the locks on her doors and made statements suggesting that he did not want the husband to lose his rights to possess a gun for the upcoming hunting season. Clinic faculty and students often listen to cases while waiting their turn in rural courts which deny pro se litigants protection under the Missouri Adult Abuse Statute.

The Clinic's representational experiences also inform students about required social justice projects. These projects take different venues from legislation to empirical research to interdisciplinary investigations. Representation in standby guardianship situations exemplifies the relationship between Clinic practice and legislative social justice projects. The MU Medical School Department of Obstetrics asks the Clinic to assist some of their indigent terminally ill patients who needed to make custodial plans for their children where the children's fathers are abusive and/or unfit. Students have

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51. An abstract of Lisa May's research article follows: In 1994 and again in 1996, Congress passed legislation to reduce gun related domestic violence. The Domestic Violence Firearm Prevention Statute, 18 U.S.C. § 922(g)(8) (2000), prohibits anyone who has a domestic violence restraining order issued against him or her from owning or possessing firearms. Similarly, the Lautenberg Amendment, 18 U.S.C. § 922(g)(9) (2000), prohibits anyone convicted of a domestic violence misdemeanor from owning or possessing guns. Both laws serve the same preventative purpose: to remove firearms from the hands of those likely to use them in domestic disputes. If the laws were properly and consistently applied, their practical impact would be to deprive some abusers – such as police officers, security guards, pilots, and members of the military, to name just a few – not only of their firearms, but also of their employment. And if this were the case, the consequential impact would be that their victims would be deprived of maintenance and child support. However, judges and the judicial system preempt such an impact by ensuring the laws are never applied. The article explores the Constitutional attacks and other arguments launched by those who have lost their jobs, the judiciary's refusal to apply the laws, the consequent physical dangers imposed on the victims and the psychological impact on both the batterers and victims, and finally argues that the laws should not be altered or eliminated but that judges must be educated about the necessity of applying domestic violence laws correctly and consistently, and they must be made accountable when they fail to do so.

represented several dying women in making plans for their children when the biological fathers are abusive or predatory. Out of this work grew the understanding that Missouri needed standby guardianship legislation. A clinic student wrote such a bill which was admitted, but not passed, by the Missouri legislature in the 2002 legislative session.<sup>52</sup> Another Clinic student rewrote the bill and obtained legislator Bryan Pratt's sponsorship, who introduced the bill as HB 571 in Missouri's 2003 legislative session.<sup>53</sup> While the bill did not pass, students used those two sessions to educate legislators on the needs of children of terminally ill custodial mothers. Students will introduce the bill again in the 2004 legislative session, with advice from the Missouri Bar.

The Clinic has represented parties in several adoptions of abused and neglected children. This has also enhanced the Clinic's legislative efforts to enhance Missouri's putative father registry. MU law students undertook amending Missouri's putative father registry with the dual purposes of expanding protection of the rights of birth parents and expediting the placement of children into permanent adoptive homes.<sup>54</sup> They obtained sponsors Brian Pratt and Charlie Shields, who introduced the bill in both houses in the 2003 legislative session.<sup>55</sup> Though the legislature passed the bill, Governor Holden vetoed other portions of the bill to which it was amended.

The Putative Father Registry bill works to protect abused women in a subtle way. An abused woman's consent to sexual intercourse is always suspect, and coerced pregnancy is commonplace because perpetrators of domestic violence seek control over their victims, and a pregnant woman or a woman with a young child is a dependent woman. Abuse often results in pregnancy, especially in teenage girls.<sup>56</sup> Adoptive relinquishment is likely to threaten control and thus aggravate abusive men.<sup>57</sup> Forcing women to identify such unwed men as fathers in the adoption process poses a safety threat to relinquishing mothers. Further, giving such fathers veto power over an adoption without concurrently requiring their participation in the duties of parenthood (i.e. child support) extends abusers' control over mothers' lives for

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52. MU law student Sharon Powell wrote the stand by guardianship bill in 2002. H.B. 2121, 91st Leg., 2nd Sess. (Mo. 2002).

53. MU law student Anthony Pezzani rewrote the stand by guardianship bill in 2003. H.B. 571, 92d Leg., 1st Sess. (Mo. 2003).

54. MU law students John Wilbers, Matthew Becker, Mandy Heitman, and Jill Worstell advanced the putative father registry legislation in 2003.

55. S.B. 649, 92d Leg., 1st Sess. (MO. 2003); H.B. 518, 92d Leg., 1st Sess. (Mo. 2003).

56. "[Seventy-one percent] of babies born to teen mothers are fathered by men over the age of twenty. Many of these pregnancies result from abuse . . . . Consensual sex between an underage youth and an adult presents a high risk of abuse." Maria L. Imperial, *Self-sufficiency and Safety: Welfare Reform for Victims of Domestic Violence*, 5 GEO. J. ON FIGHTING POVERTY 3, 12 (1997), reprinted in NANCY K.D. LEMON, *DOMESTIC VIOLENCE LAW* 805 (2001).

57. Mary Beck, *Toward A National Putative Father Registry Database*, 25 HARV. J.L. & PUB. POL'Y 1031, 1053 n.86 (2002).

the period of their children's minority. Putative father registries protect abuse victims by relieving women of the obligation to name fathers and by requiring men (who are not presumed fathers under the law) to proactively register and thus assume paternal responsibilities in order to protect their paternal rights.<sup>58</sup> Concomitantly, putative father registries provide earnest unmarried men with the means to protect their parental rights by registering and insuring notice of any adoption proceeding.

Another social justice initiative undertaken by the MU Family Violence Program is the inter-university clemency project. The Missouri Coalition Against Domestic Violence, the Project Hope, and the Law Schools at the University of Missouri-Columbia, the University of Missouri-Kansas City, Saint Louis University, and Washington University co-aligned to identify battered women convicted of killing their abusive partners, to develop clemency petitions for them, and to submit and lobby them to Missouri governor. The group called itself the Missouri Battered Women's Clemency Coalition. Faculty guided students from the four law schools to develop eleven petitions, and the Coalition has advocated the clemency petitions for three years. Currently, the petitions are before Governor Holden. A MU law student coordinated law students from all four universities in writing an article describing the clemency effort.<sup>59</sup> The convictions of petitioners occurred largely at a time when evidence of abuse was not admissible at murder trials so the juries never knew of the abuse the accused women suffered at the hands of their batterers.

Social justice projects have also taken the form of interdisciplinary collaboration and are also informed by issues identified in the Clinic's representation. Such representation over several years in one county precipitated a joint journalism and law school investigation that culminated in a grant application to develop a statewide report card on the justice system's response to domestic violence, comparing all Missouri counties. The initial investigation resulted from disappointing experiences<sup>60</sup> with rural law

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58. *See id.* at 1052-53.

59. Bridget Romero et al., *The Missouri Battered Women's Clemency Coalition: A Collaborative Effort in Justice for Eleven Missouri Women*, 23 ST. LOUIS U. PUB. L. REV. 193 (2004).

60. One case involved a woman with a civil protective order. The respondent, her ex husband, forced the woman with threatened gun violence into a truck where he raped her with the tools in a tool box. The police arrested him, but the prosecutor declined to prosecute either the assault or violation of the civil protective order. Another case involved a man who violated a victim's order of protection by repeatedly harassing her at her new workplace and then threatening to cause trouble in the workplace if the manager did not fire the victim. Abusive men typically try to prevent their victims from achieving independence, i.e. by preventing or sabotaging their work, because such employment threatens their control over their victims. Jody Raphael, *Saving Bernice: Battered Women, Welfare, and Poverty*, in DALTON & SCHNEIDER, *supra* note 49, at 189-90. One of the Clinic's non-litigation objectives is to help abused women

enforcement and police in one rural county where the Clinic obtained orders of protection for abused women, but police refused to arrest men who violated the orders and prosecutors failed to prosecute violators.<sup>61</sup> In the wake of these cases, Beck initiated an investigative project with the University's highly ranked Journalism School. The result was a comparative investigation into the justice system's response to violence against women in four rural Missouri Counties.

The investigation revealed circular systemic problems. Judges who disallow evidentiary techniques tailored to domestic violence situations (where victims fail to testify) deter prosecutors from charging domestic assaults. This failure to charge abusers deters police from making optimal responses and arrests in domestic violence calls, which in turn leads to failures to arrest and retrieve ample evidence to support a possible prosecution. The students' investigation also validated that where county law enforcement does not keep records of domestic violence police calls; prosecution of abusers in that county is lower than expected on a per capita basis.

The students' research and investigative products included several KOMU television reports and a paper titled: *Investigating the Response to Violence Against Women in Four Missouri Counties*.<sup>62</sup> The KOMU television series drew a prompt public response which was noted by the Missouri Department of Public Safety. Professor Mary Beck, Dr. Niels Beck, and Professor Kent Collins, in Law, MU Psychiatry, and Journalism respectively, were recently awarded a grant by the Missouri Department of Public Safety to extend the investigation in 2004.

An important, but subtle, change resulting from the students' investigation occurred when one county's law enforcement announced that it began keeping records of domestic violence police calls. Record keeping commenced for the first time ever in that county within four months of the students' obtrusive attempts to collect data on domestic violence calls received in that county.

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develop an action plan aimed towards financial, emotional, and social independence. In this case, the victim's action plan included getting a job, and the woman had just landed a job when the manager fired her following the Respondent's harassment. The police refused to arrest the abuser for violation of the civil protective order, and the court failed to enforce the Clinic's Petition for Writ of Mandamus against the police to require them to enforce the protective orders. Another case involved a woman who was raped by her abusive husband's friend. Despite obtaining a rape kit at the hospital (which would provide credible evidence at trial), the police refused to arrest the rapist stating that the prosecutor would not prosecute.

61. Students of Journalism Professor Kent Collins: Kellie Applen, Amy Bradley, and Julie Kroenig, and students of Law Professor Mary Beck: Rebekah Bromberg, Stanley Clark, and Brendan Kelley collaborated in the initial investigative project examining the response to violence against women in four rural Missouri counties.

62. Rebecca Bromberg & Brendan Kelly, *Investigating the Response to Domestic Violence in Four Missouri Counties*, J. MO. BAR (publication forthcoming) (co-authored with Professor Mary Beck).

Beck believes that improved police record keeping may break the systemic cycle failing to protect women in that county.

Beck initiated another interdisciplinary project with Education, School, and Counseling Psychology Professor Laurie Mintz in which psychology graduate students do annual field placements in the Law School's Family Violence Program. One senior level psychology graduate student participates in the Advocacy, Family Violence, and Public Policy Course and the Family Violence Clinic weekly case conferences. The psychology graduate student lectures on psychodynamics of abusive relationships and psychopathology in the classes, consults on behavioral and mental health Clinic client issues in the weekly case conferences, and provides informal counseling on professional team building and professional fatigue to Clinic students.

Beck supervises an aggressive research and publication program for faculty and students in the Family Violence Program. Beck uses Clinic experiences to proactively guide law students in selecting and developing paper topics for the Advocacy, Family Violence, and Public Policy course, and over 12% of students have historically published those papers.<sup>63</sup>

Beck's personal research has focused on adoption and the response to domestic violence.<sup>64</sup> Her recent article, *Toward a National Putative Father Registry Database*, has informed the Clinic students' applicable legislative efforts in Missouri. Beck is working with the American Academy of Adoption Attorneys and Senator Mary Landrieu of Louisiana to draft and enact a national putative father registry and is consulting with advocates in Louisiana to develop similar protections for birth mothers and fathers in their state legislation.

Beck has developed significant research and investigative activities related to family violence. She has taught issues in domestic violence in the MU Schools of Medicine and Nursing. She developed an interactive internet online tutorial to educate judges and attorneys about Missouri Civil Protective

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63. Papers accepted for publication in the last year include: Jennifer Graddy, *The Ethical Protocol for Collecting DNA Samples in the Criminal Justice System*, J. MO. BAR (publication forthcoming); Emily Prestidge, *Severance Pay - His or Hers? How Courts Approach the Classification of Severance Pay at Dissolution: Past Efforts vs. Future Compensation*, TEX. J. WOMEN & L. (publication forthcoming); Lewis Gainor, *The Human Missouri Rights Act is the Law of Choice for Victims of Sexual Harassment*, J. MO. BAR (publication forthcoming); Kimberly Shields & Elizabeth Magee, *Life After Foster Care: The Chafee Foster Care Independence Program in Missouri*, J. MO. BAR. (publication forthcoming); Bromberg et al., *supra* note 62.

64. Bromberg et al., *supra* note 62; Beck, *supra* note 57, at 1031; Nicole Jones et al., *The Reliability and Validity of the Revised Conflict Tactics Scale in a Female Incarcerated Population*, 23 J. FAM ISSUES 441 (2002); Mary Beck, *Adoption of Children in Missouri*, 63 MO. L. REV. 423 (1998); Mary Beck, *Medical Legal Issue of the Month: Family Violence*, 92 MO. MED. 333 (1995); Mary Beck, *Family Violence in Columbia*, COLUMBIA DAILY TRIB., Feb. 21, 1995.

Orders.<sup>65</sup> She served as an expert in a civil domestic violence trial in May 2003 in St. Louis where a professional athlete was sued for damages related to domestic violence.

Her current research project evaluates law students' ranking of their learning the lawyering skills and values in various venues including stand up classes, summer clerkships, externships, and legal clinics. The research analyzes the outcomes of interdisciplinary teaching, the relationships between student demographics and enrollment in pro bono clinics, and the relationships between law students and clinical faculty.

Beck has obtained fourteen domestic violence related grants while at the Law School, focusing on developing the Clinic, supporting its activities, funding a domestic violence clinical teaching fellow, and establishing interdisciplinary educational programs and research. MU faculty from the Law School and the Department of Psychiatry/Neurology concluded an interdisciplinary teaching project funded by the U.S. Department of Justice in 2003. The grant funded a psychologist to co-teach the family violence program including the Clinic and the Course and a funded research study which examined where students learn lawyering skills and values and the effect of interdisciplinary education. Beck and Dr. Niels Beck, a psychiatry Professor, presented the study results at the American Association of Law Schools conference in 2003 and are developing the results for publication.<sup>66</sup> The field placement of the psychology graduate students previously described substitutes for funded grant project.

The Altria Corporation annually funds a teaching fellow in the Family Violence Clinic to work in the Family Violence Program, with the intention of preparing new law teachers or public service lawyers in the area of domestic violence. The fellowship is open to lawyers having practiced for at least two years and is divided into a three part sequence. In the first block, the fellow mentors with Beck, completes training, begins collaborative teaching, and identifies a research agenda. In the second block, the fellow actively researches and writes for publication. In the third block, the fellow aggressively assumes course responsibilities including lecturing, supervising students doing litigation, and guiding Clinic's social justice and interdisciplinary projects.

The Altria funding of the fellowship has proved successful in its objectives. The 2002 Altria Fellow, Megan Phillips, took public interest law employment with the Greenbook Initiative of the U.S. Departments of Justice

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65. Family Violence Clinic, *Self-study Tutorial*, at <http://mail.law.missouri.edu/fvc> (last visited Jan. 8, 2004).

66. Mary Beck & Niels Beck, 2003 Association of American Law Schools Workshop on Clinical Legal Education Program, *Learning MacCrate Skills and Values in Different Contexts* (May 15, 2003).



and Health and Human Services.<sup>67</sup> The mission of the Greenbook Initiative is to improve court practices and outcomes in cases involving the co-occurrence of child maltreatment and domestic violence.

During her fellowship, Phillips taught at the Missouri Judicial College where she discussed the application of federal firearms restrictions on persons subject to civil protective orders and the awarding of visitation and child support in protective order cases where paternity is not legally established. The 2003 Altria Fellow, Lisa May, has actively interviewed for teaching positions in law school domestic violence clinics.

Beck has obtained annual Missouri Department of Public Safety grants which fund students and faculty to represent indigent victims of domestic violence in rural Missouri counties by supporting travel, some litigation costs, long distance telephone service, and cellular phone service. These grants are essential to legal representation in the rural circuits outside Boone County, where MU is located.

Beck's funding initiatives, rural service to domestic violence victims, social justice projects, interdisciplinary projects, inter-university project, research and publication agenda, and in person and online teaching characterize the social activism of the MU Law School's Family Violence Program.

#### IV. SUMMARY

This paper has described the domestic violence response at a large public land grant institution of higher learning in mid America. MU's personal coordinated response to domestic violence on its campus and its efforts to advance and disseminate knowledge in the area of interpersonal violence in its service, teaching, and research are both influenced by its status as a land grant university.

In summary, MU's response to domestic violence is advanced by the broad membership in the Intra University Council on Violence Against Women. Council meetings have highlighted the issues to be addressed by every department and school. The participation of all departments and the professional schools has provided for collaboration and interdisciplinary

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67. Megan Phillips works in St. Louis County which is one of six national test sites for implementation of the initiative in accordance with guidelines established by the National Council of Family and Juvenile Court Judges. The Greenbook Initiative, *available at* <http://www.thegreenbook.info/index.htm> (last visited Jan. 8, 2004). A St. Louis advocacy organization called Redevelopment Opportunities for Women received the federal grant funds to create Ms. Phillips's new position at the St. Louis County Family Courts, where she will provide policy and protocol reform recommendations, case consultation, and education/training to various actors in the juvenile court system (lawyers, judges, court administrators, social workers, juvenile officers). Redevelopment Opportunities for Women, Inc., *at* <http://www.row-stl.org> (last visited Jan. 8, 2004).

projects advancing research, services, and education. Additionally, the existence of the Council has called for excellence and coordination in MU's personal response to domestic violence on its campus and instigated the plan to apply for federal funding. Educational Psychology, Social Work, Nursing, and Law faculty are aggressively involved in domestic violence research, national presentations, setting national standards for professional education, teaching in the classroom and on the internet, developing and implementing funding initiatives, policy work, and legislation. Importantly, MU's Administration is supportive of all these efforts, and MU's land grant influenced mission is consistent with their amplification.

