

Responding in Faith to Abuse

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1

Ground Rules



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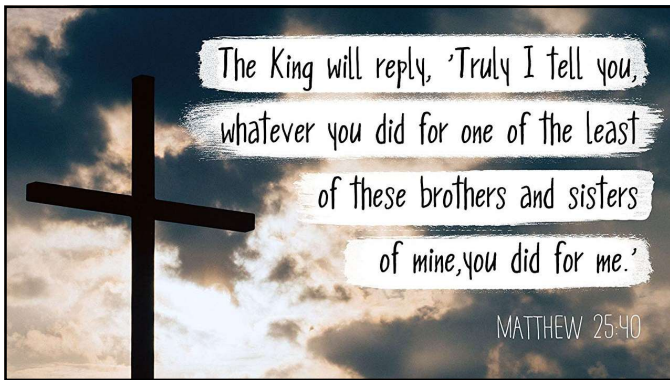
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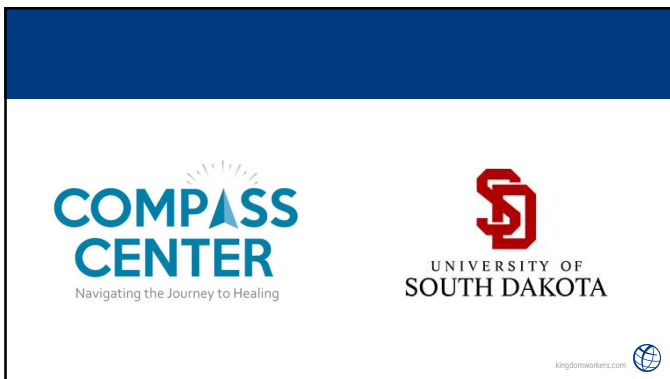
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About the Presenter



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7



8

Why is this important?

9



10




11




12

Why is this important?

The Why



When survivors have support from their faith community, they have more feelings of *well-being* and are *less likely* to return to the abusive relationship.

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13

Defining abuse

14

Definition

Dating abuse is a *pattern of behaviors* used by one partner to *maintain control* over another partner in a relationship.

15



16

Defining Abuse

Physical/
Sexual Abuse

A man is severely assaulted
by his wife/girlfriend every
14.6 SECONDS

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17

Defining Abuse

Verbal &
Emotional Abuse

You're crazy—that never happened.
You're so sensitive.
You're overreacting.
You must be confused again.
THAT'S NOT RIGHT;
YOU'RE REMEMBERING
THINGS WRONG.
Just calm down.
I NEVER SAID THAT.
What are you talking about?

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18

Defining Abuse



Financial Abuse



19

Defining Abuse

Cyber Abuse



20

Defining Abuse

Spiritual Abuse

Using religion to justify abuse

Mock faith

Prevent from attending church



21



22

Defining Abuse

Pulling It Together

- Physical
- Isolation
- Check ins
- \$
- Reserved
- Constant calls

23

Defining Abuse

What about you?

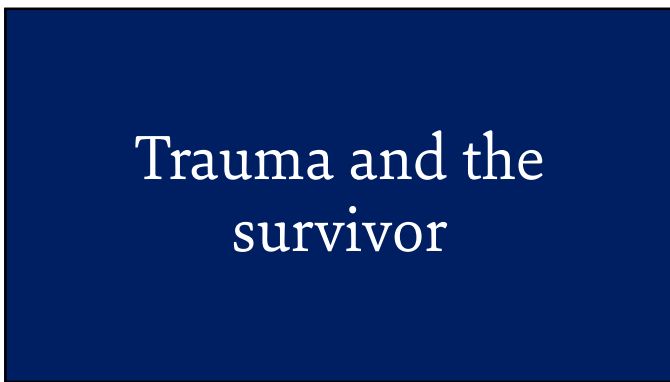
Does your significant other...

- Put you down or criticize you?
- Grab, push, shove, slap, choke or punch you?
- Text or calls you all the time?
- Have big mood swings: angry one minute then sweet the next
- Threaten to destroy your things?
- Call you names?
- Get extremely jealous or possessive?
- Limit the money you may have?
- Yell or scream at you?

24



25



26



27

Prefrontal Cortex

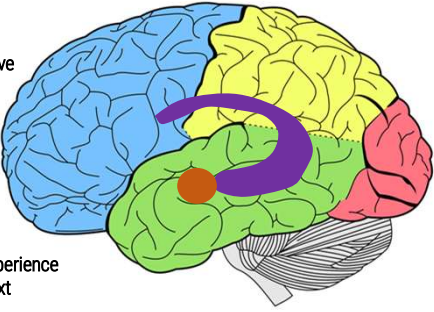
- Rational thought
- Think, plan, problem solve

Hippocampus

- Episodic Memory
- Trauma shuts it down, creating fragments

Amygdala

- Emotional Memory
- Triggered memory – experience emotions without context



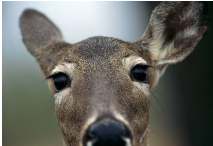



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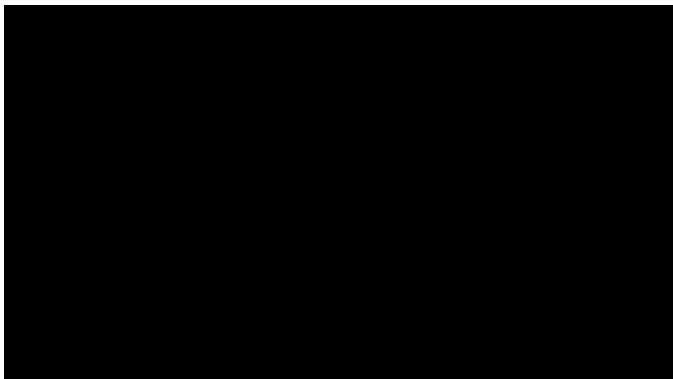
Taking Action

BELIEVE

Trauma Responses

29



30

Taking Action

BELIEVE

Trauma Responses

Hyper/jangled/scattered behavior

Flat affect/ no emotion

Laughing/joking inappropriately

Collapsed immobility

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31

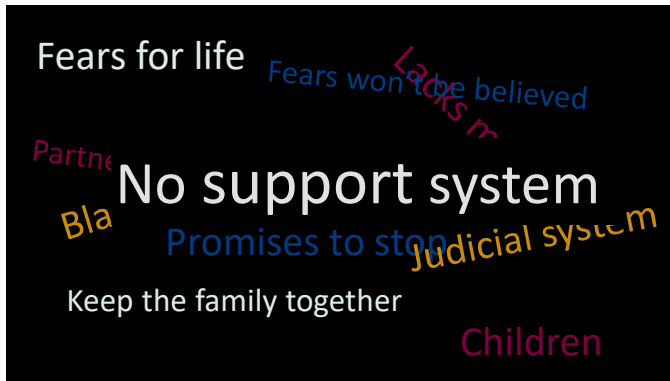
Why do they stay?

32

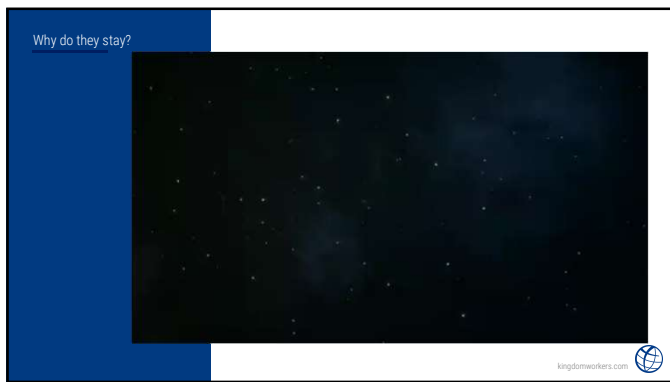
Comings & Goings



33



34



35



36



37



38



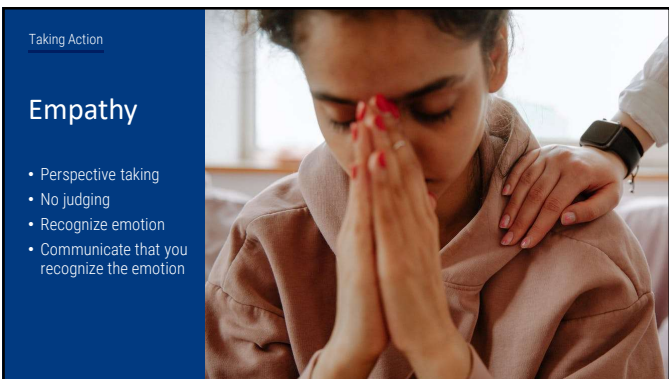
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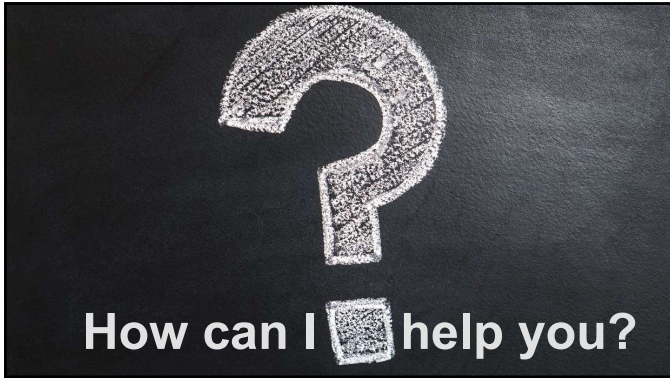
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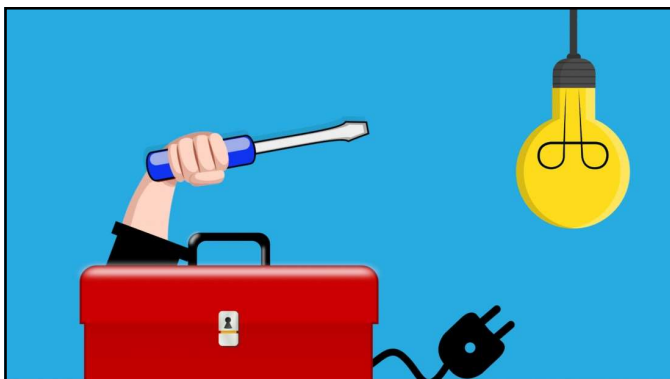
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43



44



45




46

Taking Action

Review

1. "Thank you"
2. Empathy – "I'm so sorry.."
3. "How can I help?"
4. Help them in the way they want!

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47



48

Develop Response Skills

Listen
Listen
Listen



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49

Develop Response Skills

Be victim
centered



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50

Develop Response Skills

Safety and
confidentiality



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51

Develop Response Skills

No blaming



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52

Develop Response Skills

Be willing to
help anyone
who asks



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53



54



55



56




57



58

Church Response

Why?



When survivors have support from their faith community, they have more feelings of *well-being* and are *less likely* to return to the abusive relationship.

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59

Empowering Survivors



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60

Church Response

The Program

Meaningful Local Relationships

Rely on the local community and local leadership as the primary participants and owners of the ministry.

Gospel Proclamation

Always testify and share the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Christian Welfare

Always meet the human needs of the people we serve.

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61

Community

Support groups

- Community outreach opportunity
- 10-14 weeks then break
- Confidentiality and safety are top priorities
- Turnkey ministry – KW provides all the training and materials needed to start
- All that Kingdom Workers provide is 100% free

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62

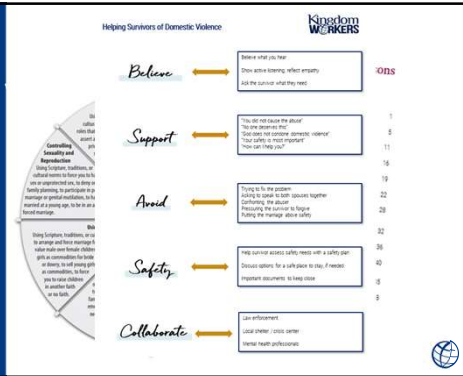
The Program

Training

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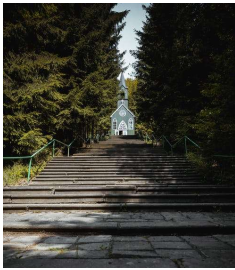
63

Materials

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The Program

Next Steps – What Do I Do Now?



- Practice what you learned today
- Share the ideas with others in your church
- Pray for survivors
- Partner with Kingdom Workers and start a support group at your church!
- Talk to your pastor about becoming a group facilitator (Nov. 7 – support group training)

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Church Breakout Groups



22

Taking Action

How YOU Can Help This Program



67

Taking Action

Questions?

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68



69

Thank you.