

#### My Background

- Police family violence background
  - · Risk assessment and safety planning
  - International experience with Pacific nations
  - Partnerships and information sharing initiatives
- Developed the Family Safety Team initiative Inaugural member of the FVDRC in 2008
- Provided advice to the NZ Law Commission with their recommendations for the Family & Whanau Violence Bill relating to non-fatal strangulation
- Conducted numerous community workshops relating to non-fatal strangulation and other related topics

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#### Todays session

- This session intends to raise issues to enhance how practitioners use risk assessment tools.
- This session is not intended as a comprehensive review of literature relating to risk assessment and safety planning.
- Comments are a personal view and not intended as criticism of any current policies or practice.
- If you get one idea to apply to your practice, to make someone or someone's family safer, then my objective has been achieved.

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March 2019

#### Session structure

- Considering some high risk factors in the context of IPV
  - · Non-fatal strangulation
  - Victims with brain injury
  - Asking about sexual violence
  - Interpreting threats to kill
  - What about separation
- Risk assessment
  - · Definitions and context
  - Implications for practice
- · Summing up

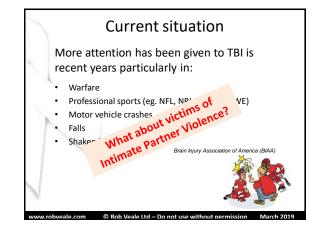
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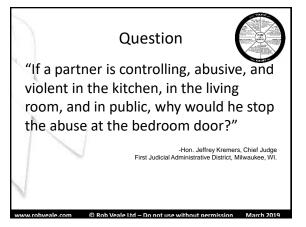
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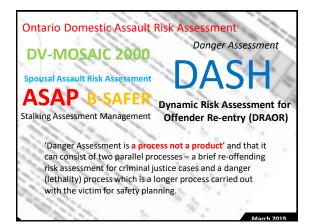
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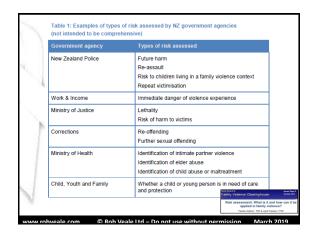
# Family & Whanau Violence Bill 189A Strangulation or suffocation Everyone is liable to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 7 years who intentionally or recklessly impedes another person's normal breathing, blood circulation, or both, by doing (manually, or using any aid) all or any of the following: (a) blocking that other person's nose, mouth, or both: (b) applying pressure on, or to, that other person's throat, neck, or both 194A Assault on person in family relationship New section 194A inserted (Assault on person in family relationship) (1) After section 194, insert: 194A Assault on person in family relationship (1) Everyone is liable to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 2 years who— (a) assaults another person, and (b) is, or has been, in a family relationship with that other person.



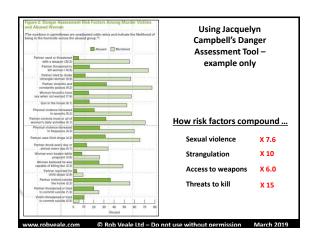












## Summing Up

- Consider the specific purpose of your risk assessment.
- Risk assessment is not an end in itself, it should be completed for the purpose of safety planning.
- Risk is not static, so an assessment should be completed or reviewed at every opportunity.
- Ensure the 'voice' of the victim (their experiences) is included in your risk assessment and safety planning process.

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March 201

# Summing Up

- Using a conversation style, ensure all the risk assessment questions are covered.
- · Remember the relationship is key.
- Consider how you could ask direct behaviourallybased questions about high risk factors such as: -
  - Strangulation
  - Sexual violence
  - Threats to kill
  - Separation
  - Access to weapons (particularly firearms)

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### Remembering the children

Breaking the inter-generational cycle of violence may be addressed by limiting the exposure of children to ACEs (Adverse Childhood Experiences)

- ACEs may include exposure to:
  - Intimate Partner Violence
  - · Alcohol and drug addiction
  - · Untreated mental illness
  - Loss of a parent through separation, death, incarceration
  - Child abuse and neglect
  - Do our assessments include ACEs? If not, why not?

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#### **Further contact**

- Thank you for your time today.
- If you would like any further information following the session or follow-up training, please feel free to contact me on <a href="mailto:robveale@xtra.co.nz">robveale@xtra.co.nz</a>



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