

DATE VIOLENCE

We HEAR:

PEOPLE INTRODUCING THEMSELVES...VARIETY AND OVERLAPPED
Introductions of various members of the Intimate Partner Violence Death Review Team
as we SEE close ups of hands and feet and papers as a group of people enter the
conference room.

We occasionally SEE the PARTNER CREDITS INCLUDING:

SafeTeen New Mexico
New Mexico Children Youth and Families Department
Independent Insurance Agents of New Mexico
New Mexico Attorney General's Office
Cooperative Educational Services
Allstate Insurance Company

And
Christopher Productions, LLC

Present

We HEAR the following bite as we SEE more organizing for the meeting.

SAINT TORRES:

I sit on the board of intimate death review panel team and basically what we do is we go
through a bunch of different cases and realize what could have been done ////to stop a
murder, from occurring.

We SEE the outside door and the door lable "DEATH REVIEW TEAM" as we HEAR

SAINT TORRES:

And a lot of the times what we see is that there just wasn't enough knowledge, there
wasn't enough people that were informed about signs that would have been avoided,
that could have avoided this entire situation.

TITLE CARD: DATE VIOLENCE

CUT TO INSIDE CONFERENCE ROOM

IPVDRT pg 1

Good morning and welcome to this meeting of the intimate partner violence death
review team. ////

You've all received the case we're going to be discussing this morning. It should be in
front of you. This morning we're going to be talking about Jessica (bleep out "Right")

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who is a 15-year-old female. And her ex-boyfriend, Michael (bleep out “Wrong”), who is an 18-year-old male.

IPVDRT pg. 1

MAN: This is the... the case of Jessica and Michael who had been dating since Jessica was in the 9th grade, which would have meant Michael was in the 11th grade, I believe. They had been dating for about 19 months prior to her murder.

ANNA NELSON: PG 1

We’re recently learning that teen dating violence is a serious public health issue.

DAVID MARTINEZ PG. 1

One in five women throughout some time in their life will experience some form of domestic violence, the same thing with teen dating violence.

JODI RODGERS PG. 1

The incidents of dating violence are highest between the onset of adolescence and 25 years of age, not only nationwide but here in New Mexico. In fact, rates of domestic and dating violence are a bit higher here in New Mexico.

DAVID MARTINEZ PG. 3

Kids that are experiencing teen dating violence have higher rates of depression, have higher rates of suicidal thoughts, they drop out of school more often, substance abuse is a terrible problem and early sexual activity, sexually transmitted diseases, it’s...it sets up kids for a lifelong...serious lifelong issues that need to be dealt with and taken seriously.

BACK TO THE CONFERENCE ROOM

IPVDRT PG. 1

. When they started dating apparently she had been doing an awful lot of wild and crazy things in high school, she had moved high schools, parents had moved her into a charter school, she had simmered down a good bit, she had become active in some of the school activities and the swim team, ////

IPVDRT PG. 4

Woman: It’s interesting to note that Michael said to Jessica’s mom that, “I have to keep Jessica away from everybody,” and when Jessica’s mom asked about why that was, he said, “because they all drink alcohol and I don’t want her involved in that stuff again.”

IPVDRT PG 4 **04:25:10**

Woman: I think the sad part here is the fact that this... this family had invited this young man into their house. They trusted him, they felt that he was very protective and helping

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in the situation, having no idea by watching this that he was actually controlling her rather than protecting her.

TRANSITION WITH SURREAL IMAGES OF KIDS interspersed the following bites, sync sound and graphics that change the word VIOLENCE to other embossed words as indicated:

KID GROUP DISCUSSION PG. 10:

It'll usually just start out as..you know, you should really change that skirt that you're wearing because it's too short////

KID GROUP DISCUSSION PG. 5

GIRL: he was really (GRAPHIC "CONTROLLING") controlling and I don't know, he's very (GRAPHIC "POSSESSIVE") possessive of them and he won't let them talk to any of their friends or anything.

KID GROUP DISCUSSION PG. 20

,BOY: it doesn't always have to be like physical. //// it's just like... like it's (GRAPHIC EMBOSSED "VERBAL" "MENTAL")verbal and mentally, like they always do their little mind games like going after like their weaknesses like if they're tall, fat, too skinny, they just call them different names///

KID GROUP DISCUSSION: PG 4

Girl: and like freshman year my best friend was actually in an (GRAPHIC EMBOSSED "ABUSE") abusive relationship and she didn't even realize what was going on.

TRANSITION

CHEYENNE TURNER PG.1

Well, at first everything was like all happy-go-lucky, like a normal relationship I suppose. And then he started texting me a lot more and like wondering where I was but I didn't really think anything of it. I just kind of thought it was normal, you know. And then he got to the point where he didn't want me to hang out with my friends at all. Like if I wanted to go hang out with my girlfriends and if I did that he'd like... break up with me or whatever///

KATHLEEN WILLIAMS PG. 1

We were friends before we were anything else. We were...we were just really good friends at first.///

TRANSITION TO DEATH TEAM

IPVDRT PG. 1:

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he was doing the kinds of things that a overprotective, you know, boyfriend was doing. He was controlling, in fact, who she was talking to and communicating with. //// The... it doesn't appear that the parents got that distinction. ///On the one hand he was attentive, on the other hand he was protective, on the other hand he was controlling.

IPVDRT PG. 9

Ironically they saw him as a safety factor.

IPVDRT PG. 7

Woman: So one of the things that I see in this is some really classic examples of power and control and the building up over time, starting with, "oh, I just want to spend time with you, you're so important to me, I want to protect you from these other influences," then becoming , "I can't live without you," and really escalating into higher and higher danger over time and I think that escalation is part of what makes it hard for friends and family to see what's going on.

IPVDRT PG. 8

Man: ///, one of the first things that happens is there's this giant power differential just with the differences in their ages also, and especially at that age.

Woman: ///, you know, neither one of them appeared to know what a healthy relationship was or what, you know, was involved in a healthy relationship and signs of that would involve the fact that they were looking at each other's cell phone, you know, they had jealousy issues.

TRANSITION

KID DISCUSSION GROUP PG. 16

Girl: ///... he would just get like so jealous even if she just waved to them in the hallway ///... sometimes he would get so violent that he would just yell at her and be like I can't believe you're doing this to me. Why are you saying you love me when you really don't and you're talking to all these other people?

KID DISCUSSION GROUP PG. 11

Girl: /// but for the other person it becomes they're normal, like oh, they're just being really loving, they care about me, things like that, and...

/////

Girl: They never see it. They think that oh, no, this can never happen to me.

Girl: ... you're just... you're seeing all this affection and attention as being love instead of... possession or obsession over you.

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TRANSITION

CHEYENNE TURNER PG. 2

And then I was talking to this guy one day and he like pulled me aside and he's like, don't talk to him, he wants to get with you or whatever. I'm like, no he doesn't and I got mad and I was like walking through the parking lot and he like grabbed me and like threw me against his truck and he's like, don't talk to him again and if you don't listen to me I know you don't love me. /////

KATHLEEN WILLIAMS PG. 2

He cut off my friends. Like I have my best friends, my first best friend, he's a gay guy and he didn't like me talking to him. He didn't want me talking to my mom

CHEYENNE TURNER PG. 2

///and at that point I knew I really had a problem. But I still didn't break up with him for like another three months I suppose. I guess I was scared that if I did break up with him I wouldn't really have a life and no one would love me because my friends, I hadn't hung out with them in forever, and he had so much control over my life I didn't know if I could do it by myself anymore.

TRANSITION to DEATH REVIEW TEAM

IPVDRT PG. 15

Woman: /// I think a lot of times the reasons why they don't say anything is that they're afraid of losing those relationships. So maybe today she's angry at her boyfriend or she's afraid of him, but by telling her mother or father then he's possibly removed from her life. And I think that is a key point for many teenagers, that it's... it's that fear of losing that.

IPVDRT pg. 12

Woman: And the other thing is I think a lot of times women and even girls get in a situation like this and they feel helpless and they... they know that sometimes they're not going to be believed when they do say something,///

IPVDRT PG. 16

Man: I'd like to go back to the cell phone issue for a minute. I don't think people understand how important that cell phone is to the adolescent child these days. And how much ability there is to control somebody through the cell phone and not just by taking their cell phone. We talked about what a big deal it was for him to have actual control over her cell phone and monitoring her texts, /////

ANNA NELSON PG. 2

young people are more vulnerable I believe than adults to something called technological abuse and that's where technology becomes a weapon for dating violence and that can happen through frequent, overuse of texting or texting constantly,

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DANIEL MIRAMONTES PG. 2

I recently have a friend right now who has a girlfriend who like constantly bugs him ///she keeps constantly texting him, calling him, and like just all that messaging you know, trying to like wanting him, you know for herself///

KID GROUP DISCUSSION PG. 5 BOTTOM

I was dating this person who would obsessively text me, all the time, like every three minutes, like on the clock every three minutes just like, where are you, what you doing now, can we hang out, you want to go hang out right now, right now, right now?

KID GROUP DISCUSSION PG. 7

BOY: They would text me like very singer hour or every single 30 minutes and it was crazy and ridiculous 'cause I was like I'm in school right and I can't be texting you while I'm in school and you're in school too///

IPVDRT PG. 16 CONTINUED:

MAN: ///and the other thing that's big with the adolescents these days are sending the sexting messages to each other. They'll take their shirt off and they'll take a picture of themselves nude and send it to a boyfriend. Well, that's a huge... lever for an abuser to say, "look, if you try to leave me or you try to move onto somebody else, I'm going to send this picture to everybody I know, it's going to be on the internet," ///

IPVDRT PG. 17

Woman: Another important piece is about social networking sites. A lot of teens are on MySpace, Facebook, Twitter, those kinds of sites and that gives abusers a lot of information about where folks are at, what's going on in their lives,

ANNA NELSON PG. 2

So technological abuse is when one person, you know, stalks someone through the internet, through Facebook or MySpace.

CHEYENNE TURNER PG. 2

And he stalked me for a really long time and like wouldn't leave me alone and he called me like all the time and he did try and text me on MySpace and stuff and I freaked out and erased my MySpace///

JODI RODGERS PG. 2

///When somebody is constantly texting, constantly calling, monitoring that persons networking page on Facebook or MySpace and constantly demanding for that person to be available///that's a major warning sign and that is something we're seeing escalating because technology is so pervasive now with youth///

DANIEL MIRAMONTES PG. 4

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Like I've heard they use GPS now to track where you partner is and like that's, you know, creepy ///

ANNA NELSON PG. 2

stalking a person through the use of GPS technology, looking at their texting or their emails to monitor where they are, and also kind of looking at their social networking sites. //// all become a person perpetrating domestic... or teen dating violence to start tracking what's happening with teens, so that's how they monitor them.

IPVDRT PG. 17

WOMAN: Parents really should be monitoring their child's information on those websites.

IPVDRT PG. 18

Woman: The problem is that some parents don't even know what Facebook is. /// and so we've got this knowledge gap between teens and their parents that makes it very difficult to monitor what their teens are doing on a daily basis.

Man: One of the parenting skills that we need in this, you know, decade is how to get into those kind of social networking sites and how to peruse them. ////

Woman: It's also not always about social networking sites, it's just about in general being a part of your kid's life. Talk to them when they come home from school, find out who their friends are, see who they're talking to on the phone, if they're staying up late at night in chat rooms, stuff like that, it's not so much just following every move that they do, it's just being a part of their lives and being able to talk to them.

TRANSITION

ANNA NELSON PG. 4

there's a national study that shows that most parents don't know when their youth are being abused, whether they're experiencing technological abuse or physical or emotional abuse, so it is coming as a shock to parents. Parents are just now learning that dating is starting as early as age 13. //// I also think some parents don't take it as seriously. //// they perceive these relationships as not being as serious as young people think they are, so they kind of minimize it and think, oh, well, this is just a phase, it will go away, but parents absolutely need to get involved because there are serious consequences that come from dating violence.

TAKE EXT SHOT OF DOOR WITH LABEL "Death Review Team"

IPVDRT PG. 3 TOP:

Now we know there had been an incident with a gun five days before that, and I believe it was at swim practice where he had... when she was threatening to break up with him, and by the way, there were two or three occasions at which he threatened suicide, over the break up, that he... he showed her a gun.

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CHEYENNE TURNER PG. 2

/// and he'd call me and he'd be like, I'm going to kill myself if you don't go back out with me, and he actually sent me a picture with a gun in his mouth and he's like, if you don't call me right now I'm going to shoot. And so I called him and I actually got back together with him///

IPVDRT PG. 10 TOP

he had threatened suicide at this point and earlier... he had cut off his contact with other people and concentrated fully on her. So she has this... he's at her house all the time, he's threatening suicide, you know, at this point he's pulled out a gun////

IPVDRT PG. 10

Woman: /// he's threatened to kill himself, and so with the recent break up, on top of all those other things, it's, you know, it's really kind of like you know... it's a no brainer that, you know, something would happen shortly after that.

TRANSITION PERHAPS A GRAPHIC ABOUT INCIDENTS

MUSIC STARTS HERE AND BUILDS TO THE NEXT PAGE DOH WORKSHOP

CHEYENNE TURNER PG. 4

It took me like three times to break up and stay away /////

IPVDRT PG.3

WOMAN: I think the really critical thing right here is that when, right prior to him coming to the house and shooting her, she sent him a text and told him to come and get his stuff/////

KATHLEEN WILLIAMS PG. 3

I was trying to leave him one day because we were arguing and he just..he flipped out// and he ended up locking me in the closet because I tried to leave.

IPVDRT PG. 4

That's when most people get killed is when they're getting ready to leave and that's what precipitated the shooting.

CHEYENNE TURNER PG. 4

and he actually came to my house when my mom wasn't home and I told him to leave and he's like, no, I'm not going to leave. And I'm like, get out of my house. //// and I like ran to my mom's bedroom and I was like trying to dial her number and I had it and he like grabbed me by the leg and I was actually like... fell down and he got on top of me and pulled my phone away and he was like talk to me. And I'm like, I don't want to talk to you and this isn't talking. This is attacking.

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IPVDRT PG. 3

The boy obtained, the young man, he was 18 I think at the time this happened, you can't call him a boy, he's a man. The... the man got the gun from his grandfather. Grandfather had hand guns in the house or other weapons so that's the origin of the gun, but he had been carrying that gun for some period of time. I'm not sure that we have the information about how often or how long he'd been carrying a gun. The girlfriend was aware that he had been carrying a gun for some time and what she did with this information we don't really know at this point.

KATHLEEN WILLIAMS PG. 3

And I started to walk out on him from the party. So I was walking and I got like three blocks before he said, Kathleen?. And I turned around and he just came and he hit me straight on my head. And he said, you don't leave me.

CHEYENNE TURNER PG. 4

And I don't know. Somehow I finally got the phone and I got locked in my mom's bedroom and I finally called her and she's like, I'm going to be there. And he's like, what are you doing? And I'm like I called my mom and he left.

IPVDRT PG. 2 BOTTOM (CHECK TO SEE IF IT'S BETTER TOP OF PG. 3)

... the young couple drove back to her parents' house. The arguing continued. And about that time the father was driving up but prior to the father's arrival, in the actual driveway of the house, the boy shot the girl in the chest.

MUSIC CLIMAXES AND THEN

TRANSITION As we HEAR and SEE the DOH Workshop

ANNA NELSON PG. 1

today is a department of health free workshop that is intended to build capacity across the state for workforce to understand teen dating violence prevention. So what we were able to do is to bring 80 people across the state, including youth, from all different professions, including school resource officers, teachers, mental health providers, as well as young people, to talk about preventing teen dating violence.

GROUP DISCUSSION PART 3 PG.1

red flags is way for us to figure out who is at risk and how serious the risk is. So for young people this is a pretty good checklist of information for you to know about warning signs.

GRAPHICS FROM POWER POINT INFO ON "RED FLAGS"

GROUP DISCUSSION PART 3 PG. 2

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Okay, so what does this acronym mean? Re... or R starts the... the assessment with relationship status. We want to know if they're dating. We want to know if they're about age 13 or younger and they're dating, that's a red flag. /// Do they have respect in relationships? How do they stay resilient? How do they bounce back from difficult situations? And also we can empower them by helping them to understand their rights in relationships. The E stands for emotional and technological abuse. /// I noticed that that tool did not include stalking and it's really important so I added stalking in there as well as educational sabotage. The F stands for friends and family. How connected are they? Are they being isolated? And so if you notice in the first part of this screen that you're seeing a lot of these red flags pop up, either that they're perpetrating this behavior or that there are being victimized by it, then it's time to move to L which is a /// a risk assessment, that helps us to understand how serious is this violence in their relationships? A is... A is the quick assessment. It's anger, aggression, arguments, are the arguments escalating? Abuse or stalking history, have they themselves been abused, have they abused former partners? Access to weapons is a big one and especially when I've worked with young people who are gang involved, that's a question that we always want to talk about, we always want to kind of assess for. Animal cruelty, attempts or threats to harm. /// G stands for give youth centered resources.

GRAPHICS: loveisrespect.org Esperanza Hotline 1-800-473-5220
youthhealthlink.org/tdv

So you found these red flags, you're talking with this young person, you really know now, okay, we need to step in and help get this person safe, so there are youth centered resources available as well as a link to a safety plan.

COLLEEN VIGIL PG. 2

Peer intervention is very crucial because our youth don't go to their parents or they don't go to the police or more or less even the counselors. They go to each other when they need help.

DAVID MARTINEZ PG. 4

...really don't be quiet. If you know somebody, if you have a friend that it looks like that they're experiencing this with a boyfriend or a girlfriend, talk to them. You know, don't be judgemental, you know, tell them that...that there may be a problem here. Talk to an adult you trust.

COLLEEN VIGIL PG. 3

We need to train our youth to listen to each other and communicate with each other and when they hear the red flags then to be able to tell somebody and get resources for our youth.

SAINT TORRES PG .2

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The toughest thing is probably having teenagers think that what they're seeing is okay, that what they're experiences is okay. That's normal. It's okay that he stalks me, it's okay that he follows me everywhere I go, because that's what love is. That's NOT what love is. You don't have to be under a microscope, you don't have to be perfect, it's okay to make mistakes, it's okay to be alone, it's okay to be happy by yourself without having to have someone watching you all the time.///

ANNA NELSON PG. 5

I would lead off with any work with young people, talking more about respect and dynamics of healthy relationships,////Teaching healthy relationships early, as early as even 6th grade, is really critical because that gives young people an expectation of what to look for in relationships, rather than believing that violence is okay.

KID GROUP DISCUSSION PG. 12

Girl: I think the parents don't realize that this kind of thing that can start out so young ///

KID GROUP DISCUSSION PG.11

Boy: Most of the... most of the time the parents don't like know that it was like... they think that it's like... yea, it's like drama and it's just kid stuff, like it's just high school... it's high school, you're going through that phase,

KID GROUP DISCUSSION PG. 12

Girl: I think that a lot of teenagers, too, don't want to tell their parents about their relationship. They don't want them to see this person that they are going out with. They don't want their parents to think that they're going out with a bad kid /// because they might be afraid their parents would tell them, I told you so, this would happen, it's your fault. You got yourself into this situation.

KID GROUP DISCUSSION PG.11

Boy: You know, it's like... it's also that kids, like teenagers don't want their parents to be a part of their relationships because they feel like... 'cause I know for me it's kind of like, oh, this is the first part of myself that I actually don't have to share with my... with my mom or my dad, that it can actually be just mine,

KID GROUP DISCUSSION PG.12

Girl: I didn't want to tell my parents about it because I was afraid that they would judge me or make me break up with him and I really didn't want to break up with him, I thought he'd change. And I knew if I told my parents they would tell me to and so it took me a really long time to tell my mom and when I did finally, I'm really glad I did because she had a lot more to say than I thought she would. And she was really supportive.

INAS MAHBI PG. 4

we can say, listen, these are the mistakes that I learned from, this is the poor relationship I was in and this is what you deserve as respect and these are... are the guiding principles that you should have any relationship invoke throughout your lifetime

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and I think that having those conversations and admitting as parents /// that we don't have all the answers but we do know when something is not respectful, when something is bordering on emotional abuse, when something is too controlling, we can recognize those signs /// and say, hey, I don't have all the answers but let's talk about this. What do you think is healthy? You know, what do you think is acceptable? ///

JODI RODGERS PG. 4

People want the abuse to end but not necessarily the relationship to end. So there can be a lot of mixed feelings. So stay calm, let them know right away it is not your fault no matter what the abuser has told you, no matter how many times you've been blamed /// and you're not alone. This happens in every demographic, every group of people throughout our society, you're not in some loser group of people that this happens to.

TRANSITION TO DEATH TEAM

IPVDRT PG. 12

Man: I think one of the things that makes this case so sad is the fact that there were so many opportunities for intervention and it took basically silence on the part of so many different people which led up to this poor girl being murdered.

IPVDRT PG. 14

Woman: One thing I'm kind of looking at is her friends and who she was associating with. //// I'm sure she told her friends, "I didn't return your cell phone call 'cause he took my phone from me last night." So they saw him, you know, the monitoring of her being at practice, so her friends kind of had a clue of what's kind of going on in this relationship and no one... they either were afraid themselves to report or they didn't know that those things were wrong.

IPVDRT PG. 21

Woman: Well, one of the things that children, especially mid schools when they start developing these relationships, intimate relationships with other students, is that they need to remember to trust their gut. You know, they... if that first blush of love they want to be with the other person all the time, but if that person starts controlling them, and they feel frightened, they feel afraid, they feel annoyed, then they need to trust that and realize this is not a healthy relationship and talk to somebody about it.

IPVDRT PG. 21

Woman: It's not just teachers and parents that need to be concerned about this but everyone who has young people who they care about in their lives. So coaches, youth group leaders, neighbors, we all need to get involved and let kids know that there is help available and sometimes I hear folks saying, "well, I'm not a counselor, I'm not a therapist, I don't know how to intervene," but you don't need a special degree to say, "I'm worried about you. You can talk to me. I'm here to help."

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IPVDRT PG. 16

/// it takes a lot of courage on the part of a parent to call the school and to say, "I've learned this from my child," and so I think we had probably multiple missed opportunities with parents who might have been alerted by their own students at that same school.

IPVDRT PG. 25

/// If you're feeling you're having out of control issues, you have to know where she is every few minutes or text her, then you really need to seek some kind of mental assistance because that is just unacceptable. And we... you know, it can be stopped before it comes to this point and he's... she's dead and he's spending 27 years in prison.

KATHLEEN WILLIAMS PG. 5

I stayed in it because I thought I was in love and I thought he loved me and he promised me the world and so much more and he never lived up to anything so it's just basically if you're going to sit there and someone tells you that they love you but ten minutes later they're sitting there calling you a bitch, you're...they don't love you. They...they just want somebody to have power over, someone to control.

CHEYENNE TURNER PG. 5

And it took me a long time to build up relationships with my friends again. And I thought it would take awhile to build a relationship back up with my mom, 'cause she had been telling me quite awhile and I thought, I don't know, she would think I was stupid or whatever but really we got like the best relationship ever now and it's awesome. And now I really appreciate my friends a lot more. And I am okay [laughing] and I'm getting through college and high school and work... and it's so much easier than I thought it would be. I'm so glad I got out because I'm actually like happy now.

START CREDITS as we HEAR:

IPVDRT PG. 25

Man: You know, I think we all have to understand, as best we can, that the incidence of this stuff is growing, we have to take this stuff more seriously, we are sacrificing some lives here that don't have to be sacrificed, and while we honor the young woman's death, and we will make some meaning out of this death, we want it to save other people and young people and parents and everyone reach out because we can save lives with this information.