

**Sharing Knowledge and Experience on Domestic Violence
in Order to Influence Policy**

Norwegian Perspective

ALTERNATIVE TO VIOLENCE



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SHARING KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IN ORDER TO INFLUENCE POLICY

Psychotherapeutic treatment and research center for violence in close relationship/domestic violence in Norway. Mutual supportive relationship with women's movement since the start.

Alternative to Violence has been influencing policymakers for 30 years.

Policymakers need accurate and specific knowledge to make right decision. Knowledge is also an important ingredient of political will to provide resources.

Throughout 30 years we have been sharing knowledge from systematic research on DV and we have been the voice of women, men and children who have been exposed to DV.

These women, men and children depend on improved help and services.

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ALTERNATIVE TO VIOLENCE (ATV)

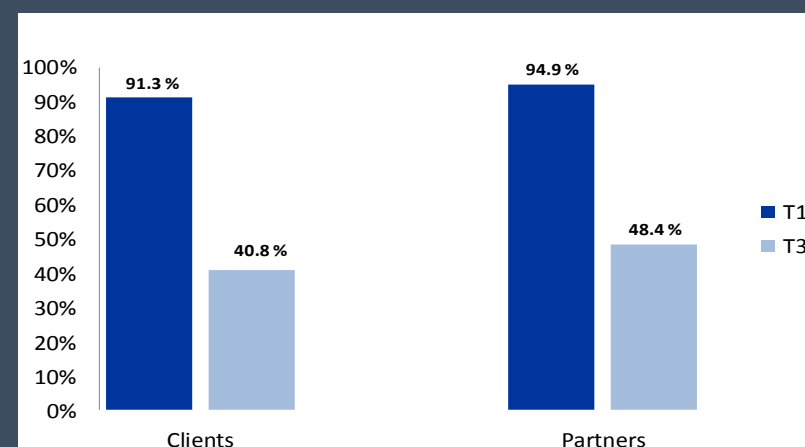
ATV was founded in 1987 as the first treatment centre for man who use violence against their partner/domestic violence in Europe.

2016: 1117 men, women and children in therapy.

ATV is an NGO, funded by municipalities and the Norwegian government.

Acknowledging that domestic violence is about individual experiences, in addition to social conditions and representing a GENDERED problem to society.

Treatment & Education & Research



T1: At treatment start

T3: 18 months after treatment stop

Significant reduction in violence, both total and on different types of violence.

Change from more severe to less severe violence.

At T3: Both clients and partners are interviewed (not postal questionnaire).

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CURRENT KNOWLEDGE HELPS US SHAPE POLICIES

Men who use violence are responsible for violence and are those who must stop it.

If men engage in a personal working process, they can change!

We need to condemn violence as a behavior, but we also need to «see» the person behind the violent behavior

Punishment is not enough to change behavior.

Violence represents a serious public health problem faced by all societies.

Violence has enormous consequences.

CURRENT KNOWLEDGE HELPS US SHAPE POLICIES

RESEARCH ON CONSEQUENCES OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE - ADVERSE CHILDHOOD EXPERIENCE STUDY (ACE)

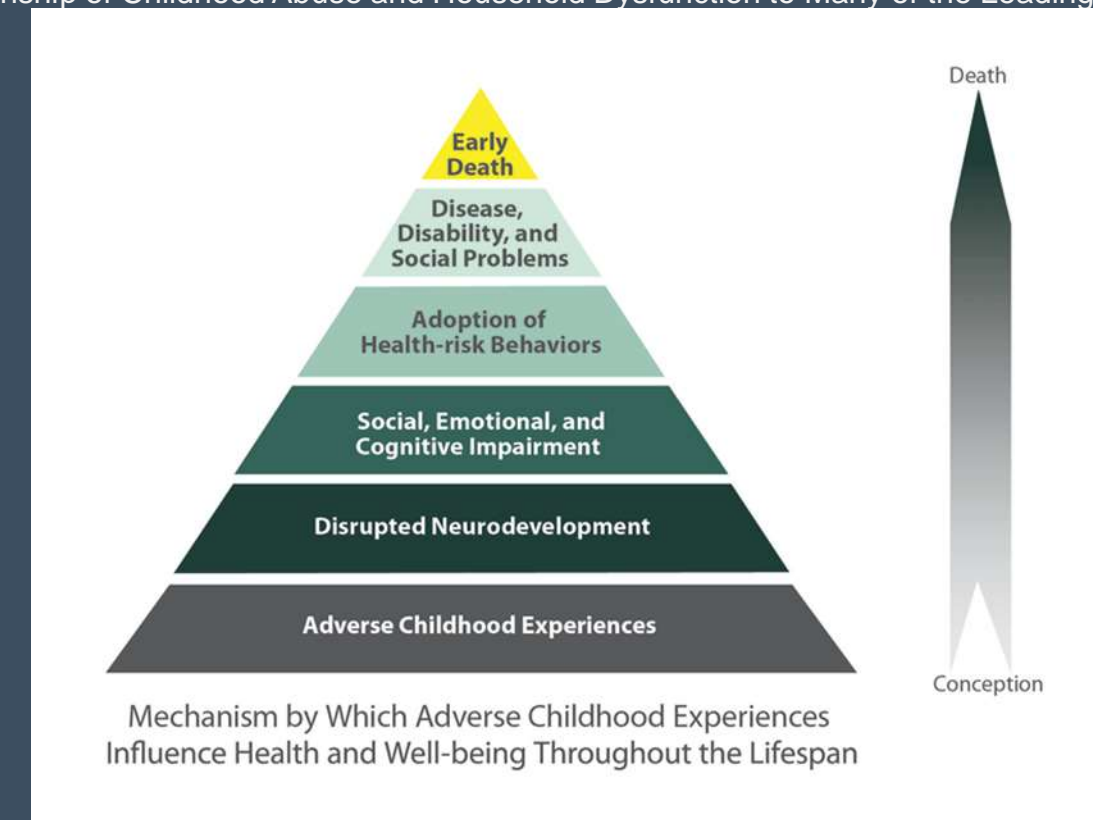
Documents impact of childhood experiences on somatic, social and psychological problems in adulthood. The ACE study shows that having experienced domestic violence is associated with higher risk of premature mortality (2009)

FELITTI, MD, MD ANDA, MD NORDENBERG, MS WILLIAMSON, MS SPITZ, BA EDWARDS, PhD KOSS a MD MARKS. Original Articles: Relationship of Childhood Abuse and Household Dysfunction to Many of the Leading Causes of Death in Adults. The Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) Study. American Journal of Preventive Medicine.

PREVALENCE AND COSTS – Regular prevalence studies Vista Study (Norway, 2014)

Violence is a COMMON experience and phenomena in the society/in Norway.

Cost of violence against women and children in Norway is estimated to be in the range of 0, 75 – 1 billion US dollars per year (population: 5,3 million).



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OBSTACLES IN POLITICAL WILL TO WORK AGAINST VIOLENCE

Political will depends on both knowledge and the politicians attitudes.

Attitudes are influenced by culture, traditions, own personal experience with violence and the absence of knowledge.

EXAMPLES OF UNHEALTHY ATTITUDES THAT CAN PREVENT POLITICAL WILL TO PRIORITIZE WORK AGAINST VIOLENCE

«I grew up in a family where there was violence, I turned into a decent person, so it can't be that harmful.»

«I also use violence against my son and I am an educated person, so it must be ok.»

«Men who perpetrate violence are evil, I know all about that.»

«Violence is a private matter»

Sharing knowledge that includes the stories of both women, children and men

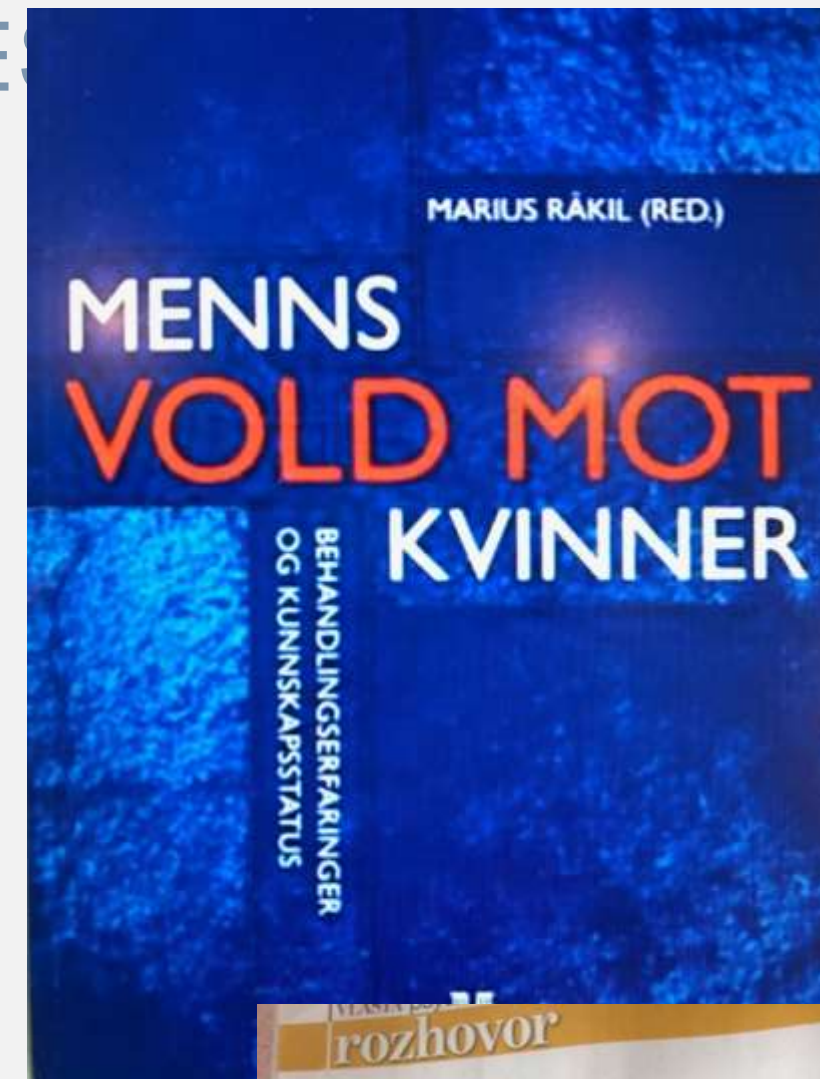
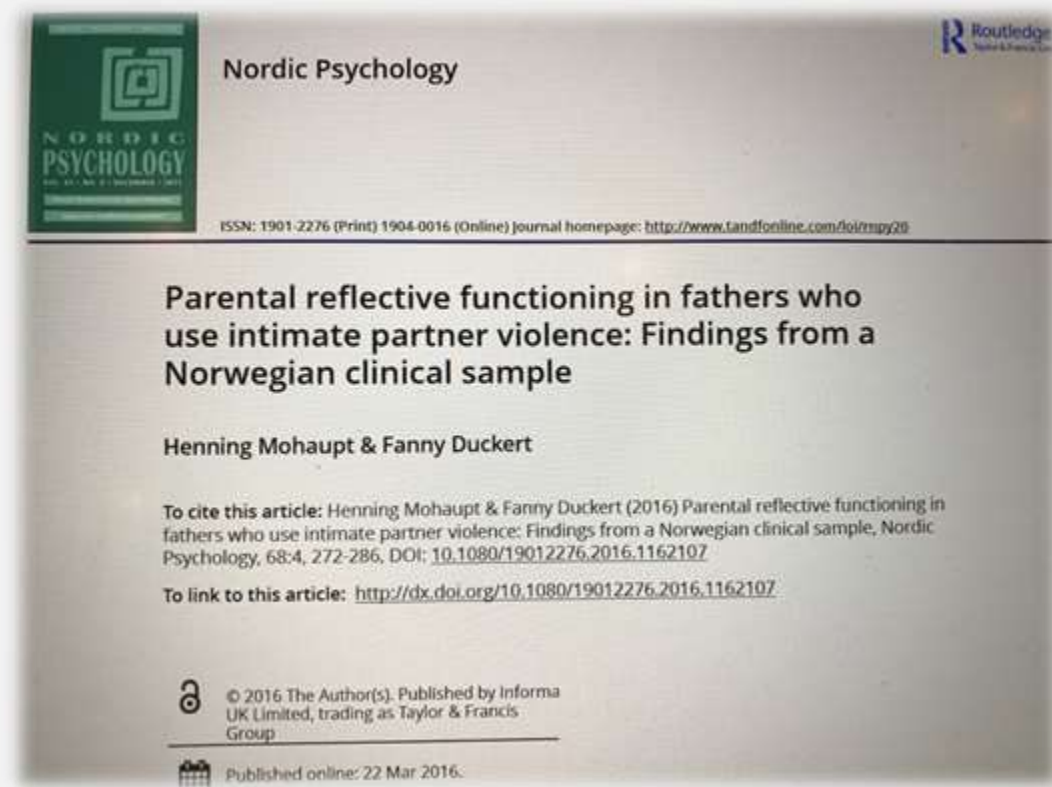
SHARING KNOWLEDGE IN MEDIA, IN HEARINGS AND IN NATIONAL ACTION PLANS



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BOOKS, SCIENTIFIC ARTICLES, MAGAZINE



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DEEPLY INVOLVED POLITITIANS



Knut Storberget



«The single most important thing we can do to improve the childhood conditions of our children is to make domestic violence one of our top priorities as leaders»

Knut Storberget, 2007

What these children have experienced is so painful that it is difficult to relate to it. I am glad I get to meet them and get advice that can help us in our work to fight domestic violence.

Solveig Horne

8.3.2017 „Domestic violence is the most severe obstacle in achieving gender equality“ Solveig Horne



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«THE CHILD EXPERT GROUP ON CHILDREN AFFECTED BY DOMESTIC VIOLENCE»

The process of sharing knowledge in Norway has contributed to:

A more informed society

A high degree of political will across all political parties to focus on Domestic Violence and provide resources to improve treatment- and support services

A high degree of political will across all political parties to provide resources for research

National Action Plans continuously since 1999

DV represents a violation of basic human rights and a threat to democracy.



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SAY IT LIKE IT IS

www.stoppvold.no

Jannicke Stav, Clinical Psychologist ATV Stavanger



Development of POLITICAL WILL

A photograph of two young children walking away from the camera on a paved sidewalk. The child on the left is a girl with blonde hair, wearing a white dress and a large blue backpack. The child on the right is a boy with brown hair, wearing a pink and blue patterned shirt, light blue pants, and a large blue backpack. They are walking towards a road with white lane markings. The scene is brightly lit, casting long shadows on the ground. A manhole cover is visible on the sidewalk to the left.

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