

RESOLVE Network Update

The RESOLVE Network's CALL TO PRAIRIE PROVINCES TO DECLARE INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE AN BODDEDDDDD

The recent homicides of Amanda Clearwater, her three children (six-year-old Bethany, four-year-old Jayven, and two and half month-old, Isabella) and her niece (17-year Myah-Lee Gratton) in Carman, Manitoba serve as another painful reminder of the horrific reality of domestic violence in our country. In January of this year, a Calgary mother of three was stabbed to death outside an elementary school by her estranged husband. Of the 12 homicides in Saskatoon, SK last year, four were domestic violence-related (James, 2023). The man who killed 11 people (and injured 17 others) on James Cree First Nation, SK in September 2022 had an extensive history of domestic violence. *On average, one woman or girl is killed every other day, somewhere in our country, mostly by men. Every week, one woman is killed by her male partner* (Canadian Femicide Observatory for Justice and Accountability, 2024). Of the 1,223 domestic violence victims between 2009 to 2022, 79% were women and girls (Statistics Canada, 2023). Learn more.



Saskatchewan Anti-Violence Research (SAvR) Network: Community-Established Priorities

By Dr. Jorden Cummings, B.A.(Hons.), MA, PhD & adapted by Shaylyn White

The province of Saskatchewan has one of the highest rates of violence in Canada. This can be seen in statistics, which illustrate the fact that Saskatchewan's rates of police-reported domestic violence are over double the national average (Statistics Canada, 2021a; Statistics Canada 2021b). There is a distinctly gendered slant to these statistics as well, with 80% of domestic violence victims in Saskatchewan being women (Statistics Canada, 2021a). Because of this, RESOLVE SK has been looking to develop the Saskatchewan Anti-Violence Research Collaboration Tool (the SAvR Network) to help with creating partnerships amongst service agencies and universities throughout the province for researching, creating, and evaluating strategies for addressing violence. Learn more.

RESOLVE Tri-Provincial Project Updates

Responding to Women who Experience Intimate Partner Violence in Rural Municipalities across the Prairies: Our Research Associate, Dr. Masha Kardashevskaya, will present our research findings at the 20th biennial Symposium on Violence and Aggression "Current Trends in Violence" at the University of Saskatchewan, to be held from 26 to 28 May 2024. The Symposium translates research and theory into practice and targets frontline workers, clinicians, and other professionals in criminal justice and forensic mental health.

Examining the Nature & Context of IPV in 2SLGBTQ+ Communities: A recent publication authored by RESOLVE, delves into the topic of inadequate policing methods and their impact on the safety of 2SLGBTQ+ survivors of intimate partner violence. The publication, additionally, offers evidence-based suggestions to address present obstacles, such as implementing enhanced accountability measures, adopting comprehensive training protocols, and promoting greater diversity within justice system personnel. Learn more here.

<u>Attachment and Child Health (ATTACH</u>TM): The ATTACHTM program is an intervention that has been effectively developed and evaluated for at-risk parents and children experiencing toxic stressors (i.e. family violence, parental depression, substance abuse, poverty). Quality of parent-child relationships is negatively affected by family violence, depression, and low income. These factors can affect children's mental health and development throughout their lifespan. Learn more.

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RESOLVE Manitoba Update



RESOLVE Manitoba Project Updates

<u>COVID-19 and the Experiences of IPV Survivors and Service Providers:</u> RESOLVE recently completed the *COVID-19 and the Experiences of IPV Survivors and Service Providers* research project. The project assessed how pandemics, such as COVID-19, impact intimate partner violence survivors and the organizations that serve them in Manitoba. Project documents are available on the <u>RESOLVE website</u> and include a final report, summary report, best practices and recommendations for responding to intimate partner violence during emergencies, crises and disasters, policy and practice briefs.

Lastly, the study inspired a recently published article in the Conversation, authored by RESOLVE that highlights the ways in which technology may be used to help victims of intimate partner violence. View the article <u>here</u>.

Awareness to Action: Moving from Screening and Assessment to Developing Appropriate Parenting Plans After Family Violence in the Family Justice System (A2A): This project will continue the work of the previous Family Violence Family Law project by sustaining the Manitoba Community of Practice and continuing to produce educational webinars, research briefs, and legal bulletins. However, A2A will shift its focus to developing an online guide that will aid in developing parenting plans that account for the impacts of IPV and keep families safer.

Assessing Capacity to Conduct Indigenous-Based Research and Engage with Indigenous Communities in the Prairie Provinces: The research team facilitated conversations and sharing circles with Indigenous community-based organizations and academics to examine RESOLVE's capacity to conduct community-engaged Indigenous research and develop our current capacity. Nicole Klymochko (a consultant) and Masha Kardashevskaya (a research associate) are currently finalizing the report that examines RESOLVE's capacity and aims to increase this capacity. A literature review, and a guide on Indigenous methodologies and Indigenous-based research will be available soon for download.

Improving Shelter Experience for Indigenous Women: We have formed our Advisory Committee for this project. This research project aims to contribute to our understanding of Indigenous women's experiences seeking help in Indigenous and non-Indigenous-led women's shelters. We hope the results of the research will contribute to the betterment of shelter experiences for Indigenous survivors. As an opening ceremony, we organized a sweat lodge on November 30, 2023, with Elder Redsky (also known as Norman Campbell) to start our research project in a good way. This research project was developed in partnership with our community partner Circling Buffalo Inc. and is supported by Women and Gender Equality Canada (WAGE).

Reducing Family Violence: Perspectives of Cultural Communities Interacting with Service Providers Applying Cultural Safety and Humility: We have received ethics approval for this project and will start recruiting research participants. This project was developed in partnership with the Coalition of Manitoba Cultural Communities for Families (CMCCF) to explore the experience of family violence within cultural communities in the Province of Manitoba. Md Saidur Rashid Sumon joined our research team as a research assistant. Saidur is currently a doctoral student at the Faculty of Social Work, University of Manitoba. The project is supported by the Prairie*action* Foundation.

New Publications!

The Healing Journey: A Longitudinal Study of Women Who have been Affected by Intimate Partner Violence

The following three new publications are based on *the Healing Journey* study, and include:

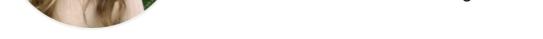
- 1. <u>"I Worry About My Kids' Safety When They Visit": Mothers' Perceptions of</u> <u>Father/Child Post-Separation Contact in the Context of IPV</u>
- 2. <u>"We Get Our Healing Through Traditional Ways": Canadian Indigenous Women's</u> <u>Use of Violence Against Women Shelters, Mainstream Counseling, and Traditional</u> <u>Healing</u>
- 3. <u>"Never Give Up. The Creator Has Good Things in Store for You": Risk Factors,</u> <u>Protective Factors, and Evidence of Resilience for Canadian Indigenous Women</u> Abused by Intimate Partners

To access more publications, visit the <u>RESOLVE website</u>.

RESOLVE Manitoba Says Farewell to Ashley Haller, Research Technician



The RESOLVE team extends their heartfelt gratitude to Ashley Haller for her tireless dedication and remarkable contributions throughout the past few years. Her hard work has undeniably left a significant impact on the RESOLVE team. Although her departure brings a tinge of sadness, we support Ashley's decision to pursue new opportunities. We wish her the very best as she ventures into an exciting new chapter of her career.



Welcome to Md Saidur Rashid Sumon, RESOLVE Manitoba's New Research Assistant



Saidur has been teaching Sociology since 2013 in Jagannath University (JnU), Dhaka in Bangladesh. Before joining JnU, he taught Sociology as a Lecturer and Assistant Professor at Rajshahi University for 4 years. Previously Saidur served in research and development organizations where he worked in various capacities for about 10 years after completing his undergraduate and graduate degree from the University of Dhaka. Later, this academic endeavor inspired him to advance his research journey through pursuing an overseas degree in

Criminology at the University of Ottawa, Canada. Currently, Saidur is a PhD candidate and a sessional instructor in Social Work at the University of Manitoba. Moreover, he is contributing to RESOLVE and other projects being conducted by the Faculty of Social Work. Saidur has undertaken extensive research projects and participated in consulting endeavours; consequently, contributing to several publications of journal articles, edited books, and conference proceedings on range of diversified issues. During his professional career, he participated along with presented scholarly papers at distinct national and international conferences/seminars.

Enhancing System Responses to Survivors & Perpetrators of Strangulation in IPV Webinar Recording

To commemorate Domestic Violence Awareness Month in Manitoba, RESOLVE organized a webinar entitled, *Improving System Responses to Survivors & Perpetrators of Strangulation in Intimate Partner Violence,* featuring Dr. Amanda McCormick. In this webinar, Dr. McCormick addressed existing deficiencies in awareness and protocols related to strangulation in intimate partner violence and offered actionable strategies to improve system responses. Following the webinar a <u>research brief</u> was developed highlighting the outcomes of strangulation, legislation pertaining to strangulation, the challenges faced by specific systems in addressing strangulation, and recommendations for enhancing system responses.



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RESOLVE Saskatchewan Update

Passing of Dr. Mary Hampton



Dr. Mary Hampton, previous Director of RESOLVE SK, has recently passed away. Dr. Hampton was a wonderful person, community member, and scholar who touched the lives of many through her work as a community-based researcher and psychologist.

Her family has written a beautiful obituary, <u>which can be viewed</u> in the Regina Leader-Post. Donations can be made in her memory to YWCA Regina or Planned Parenthood Regina.

Our thoughts are with Dr. Hampton's family, friends, and loved ones.



New Episodes of the RESOLVing Violence Podcast!

The RESOLVing Violence Podcast, a project developed in line with RESOLVE's goal to disseminate knowledge and bridge the gap between research and practice, launched back in September 2023. After a short break for the winter and new year holidays, we're back with our second season!

Through these podcast episodes, we hope to continue to facilitate the transfer of knowledge from researchers, organizations, and service providers working to prevent, respond to, and assist with recovery from violence and abuse to those applied stakeholders and people with lived experience.

Episodes of this podcast are typically 20-30 minutes long, perfect for listening to during your commute or lunch break and are released every Tuesday on all podcast platforms. Be sure to follow us at <u>@resolvesk</u> on Twitter/X or <u>resolvesask</u> on Instagram to stay in the loop!

Sexual Assault Services of Saskatchewan (SASS) Launches Saskatchewan Sexual Assault Data Centre

SASS has launched their Data Centre, a resource for allowing users to see the frequency

of sexual assault reporting across the province. Those employed in the industry or performing research in the sexual violence sector can use this tool to inform their work with data that is local and relevant to their community. Highlights of this tool include:

- A Heat Map of SV reporting in Saskatchewan;
- The ability to sort by community, year, police force, and charge closure;
- Different types of charts for creating a deeper understanding; and
- Glossary of terms.

The Data Centre can be viewed on the SASS website.

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RESOLVE Alberta Update



Alliance Against Violence & Adversity (AVA) Health Research Training Platform Update

By Keira Griggs RN, BN

AVA National Webinar Series Launch: In December 2023, RESOLVE Alberta collaborated with AVA for its inaugural webinar series launch featuring Dr. Sarah Merrill and Dr. Tayler Eaton, where they presented on the *Biological Adaptations to Adversity: Evidence From Our Genes and Brains.* This presentation discussed what childhood adversity is, and how our brains and bodies adapt to our environments. Other highlights included biological embedding in how early adverse experiences get under the skin, and neurobiological responses and solutions to trauma. Learn more.

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Upcoming Conferences & Events

International Conference on Climate Change and Gender

Date: April 20th, 2024 | Time: 12:00 PM EST | Location: Toronto, ON | Register

