



# Resources Available to Immigrant Survivors of Domestic Violence

ReMIND Lab

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## Introduction

- Collaboration with Interval House (agency working against domestic violence)
- Focus on improving support for immigrant survivors of domestic violence
- Hope Beyond Fear project: determine outcomes after providing resources to immigrant domestic violence survivors

## Methods

### Participants

- 19 immigrant women recruited; 15 completed the study

### Interview

- Pre- and post-interview (post-interview not completed due to COVID-19)
- English or Spanish depending on participant's preference (7 in-person, 8 via telephone)

### Staff Interactions

- Log staff interactions that involve explaining certain resources

### Question Categories

Feelings of Safety in the Home	Feelings of Safety in the Community	Sense of Control Over Current Living Situation
Ex. "I am able to sleep at night"	Ex. "I have knowledge about community resources"	Ex. "I have a safety plan in place"

## Results

- Total-up "yes" or "no" responses to a question, or whether it was explained by an Interval House staff
- Chi-square analysis

	Most Known	Least Known
Feelings of Safety in the Home	Know a safe place to go, can communicate well with landlord, understand temporary restraining order	Know what to do if ICE comes to my house
Feelings of Safety in the Community	Know what to do if abuser approaches me outside of my house, know how to contact a translator	Understand the conditions under which I can/cannot be deported
Sense of Control Over Current Living Situation	Have a safety plan, know what to do if threatened by abuser, know how to access medical/legal/social resources	Know what to do if abuser calls ICE/police, know my rights under Violence Against Women Act, understand my rights as victim of a crime

## Conclusions

- Survivors are receiving the intended info
- **Most known:** imminent info (safety plan, essential resources, safe place)
  - Essential info well-explained by staff
- **Least known:** info related to ICE, deportation
  - Not habitual (related to undocumented individuals) or no disclosure of being undocumented
  - Need to review this info with all, so survivors do not have to disclose being undocumented

## Future Directions

- Study investigating the role of culture and intimate partner violence (IPV)
  - Culture plays a role in memory<sup>1</sup>
  - IPV has been tied to traumatic brain injury<sup>2</sup>
  - What is the role of culture in IPV and brain injury?
    - Survivors from US, Puerto Rico, and Central America

## References

1. Cadavid, L., Camuy, A., Velez, V., Pedro, C., & Raskin, S. (n.d.). Measuring the Effects of Acculturation on Prospective Memory in Spanish Speakers, 1-31.
2. Raskin, S. A., DeJoie, O., Edwards, C., Ouchida, C., White, O., Mordasiewicz, M., ... Njoku, B. (n.d.). Cognitive and emotional functioning in women who experience traumatic brain injury as a result of intimate partner violence, 1-35.

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