**What is intimate partner violence?**
- IPV can occur with either a current or past partner
- Victims and abusers can be any race, gender, sexuality, or demographic
- It includes not only physical and sexual, but emotional and psychological abuse as well
- Acts of IPV can include anything from manipulation, threats, and harassment to rape and even murder

The CYCLE of Intimate Partner Violence

1. Tensions building
2. Incident
3. Reconciliation
4. Calm

**Calm: the Honeymoon Phase**

“O my soul’s joy!”

In the beginning, the two lovers are happy together. Their relationship began as many do; they met at an event her father hosted and became fast friends and then lovers, bonding over mutual interests.

**Tensions Building**

“So, fie upon thee, slanderer!”

Soon, he becomes suspicious and paranoid as his jealous friend starts using technology to spread rumors and other friends’ ignorance of the situation to manipulate and turn the two lovers against each other.

**Confrontation and Violence**

“O falsely, falsely murder’d!”

Tensions grow until the two lovers are finally torn apart by murder. Many friends who were roped into the situation suffer similar fates due to manipulation, psychological aggression, and societal pressures.

**Rumors, Jealousy, and Abuse: The Dissolution of a Relationship**

Adapted from William Shakespeare’s classic play Othello

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**DATA**

According to the National Center for Victims of Crime (2006):

- 32% of college students report dating violence from a previous partner and 21% from a current partner.
- 61% of female homicide victims were wives or intimate acquaintances with their murderers.

**FACTS from the Center for Disease Control**

- 12% - US adults with diagnosed heart disease
- 8.1% - Rate of all types of cancer in women ages 18+
- 14.3% - US citizens who live below the poverty line
- 25% - Percent of women who have experienced IPV.

**OUR PROJECT**

The purpose of our project is to increase awareness of IPV while simultaneously creating a more informed and aware public that is better prepared to deal with the problem of IPV in their lives. We have strived to attain this goal in three ways:

I. **Define and increase awareness of IPV and resources on campus.**
   - Create posters that define intimate partner violence and detail resources such as Crisis & Counseling Services.
   - Request to have these placed in locations such as bathrooms and on RA boards across campus.

II. **Seek** to institute a requirement that new students are addressed about the concerns of IPV
   - Currently in process of working with New Student Programs to create a program at New Student Orientation

III. **Spearhead** mentoring program
   - Through SBI Health Services, the mentoring program will provide trained and compassionate ally for the recovery process

**Similar Initiatives**

- The Red Flag Campaign is a public awareness campaign designed to address dating violence on college campuses using the “bystander intervention” strategy, encouraging friends and others to speak up against dating violence.
- Sexual Aggression Peer Advocates offers a 24 hour crisis hotline and educational programs to the community of Central Michigan University.
- The Glass Book Project builds understanding and compassion for victims and survivors of IPV and other serious life issues.