

BIG Counseling – Intervention – Prevention of Domestic Violence
Documentation

BIG e.V.

Bei häuslicher Gewalt · Hilfe für Frauen und ihre Kinder

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Domestic Violence
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Bei häuslicher Gewalt
Hilfe für Frauen und
ihre Kinder

BIG HOTLINE

BIG COORDINATION

BIG PREVENTION

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FOREWORD



DEAR READERS,

The "Berliner Initiative gegen Gewalt an Frauen", BIG e.V. – the Berlin initiative for women who are victims of violence – has been campaigning on behalf of women and children affected by domestic abuse since 1993.

Since our foundation, we have come considerably closer to achieving our ultimate aim: Domestic violence is seen less and less as a private matter and increasingly as an issue that concerns society as a whole. It is increasingly seen as what it is: A violation of rights that our society and its institutions no longer tolerate and are taking concerted action against. Nowadays, the right to expect governments to offer protection from domestic violence is verbalised loudly and clearly. Domestic abusers are now held accountable for their actions to a greater extent than they were at the time when the initiative was founded. Thanks to better and more intense cooperation as well as improved legislation, women and their children now enjoy much better protection. "Wer schlägt, der geht" ("Abusers must go"), which was one of the convictions we stated right from the outset, has become a universally accepted truth and the ground rule for intervention on the part of the government.

We are proud of the fact that we have not only been the central driving force behind this progress in Berlin, but that we have also become a national and international role model for establishing and improving the respective support structures.

It was and still is our vision to put an end to violence against women and their children at the hands of their partners. We are working towards this ultimate goal on many different levels and in cooperation with a diverse range of partners from projects, institutions and official bodies. The network is tight, complex and multifaceted, which is the only way to ensure that the women and children concerned receive the best possible help.

This brochure aims to shed some more light on our work. We would not be able to do what we do without the support of a great number of people – whether in material or ideological form, or by ensuring political support. We would like to thank those involved for their often long-standing confidence in our work.

Patricia Schneider
Chief Executive BIG e.V.

INTRODUCTION

The World Health Organisation has described violence against women committed by a partner as "a problem of epidemic proportions". This also applies to Germany, where a quarter of all women have experienced violence at the hands of a partner at least once in their lives. The majority of them were severely abused over a longer period. What social circumstances these women were born into, their standard of education or their cultural background make no difference at all.

The "Berliner Initiative gegen Gewalt an Frauen" (BIG e.V.) has set itself the goal of putting an end to these unacceptable conditions. Much has changed and already improved in Berlin and Germany since the initiative's foundation,

and because of it. This brochure provides an overview of the prevalent conditions at the time the initiative was founded, the obstacles that have already been overcome and the challenges that still have to be mastered for our aims to be achieved.

In the large majority of domestic violence incidents, a man is the perpetrator and a woman is the victim. The following therefore refers to affected women (and children). However, men can also suffer violence at the hands of their female or male partners. These men have the same right to receive help and support as women do. The violence committed against them is as deplorable as all forms of violence.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE: DEFINITION

All forms of physical, sexual, emotional, social and economic abuse of one adult by another with whom this person is or was in a relationship is described as domestic violence. These relationships are mainly domestic partnerships, but they may also be other relationships between relatives.

In Berlin, the numerous organisations involved in dealing with domestic violence have agreed on the following definition:

Independent of the scene of the crime and the actual place of residence, domestic violence refers to:

- ***Violence in domestic partnerships***
 - *that currently exist*
 - *that are in the process of being ended*
 - *that have ended*
- ***Violence against adult relatives in the immediate social environment***

When children live together with the adults who are in a violent partnership of this kind, domestic violence always puts the welfare of the child/ren at risk. Children's welfare is also at risk whenever they observe violence against other family members.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE: MYTHS AND FACTS

1. IT'S NOT AS BAD AS IT'S MADE OUT TO BE, RIGHT?

30% of all women around the world are physically and/or sexually abused by their partners. Which is almost every third woman. The situation is only marginally better in Europe. Here, around 25% of all women have experienced violence from their current or former partners. According to the Council of Europe, this violence is more dangerous for middle-aged women than cancer or car accidents put together.

2. THAT SORT OF THING DOES NOT HAPPEN WHERE WE LIVE.

The estimated number of unreported cases in Germany is just as high. In a survey carried out by the German Federal Ministry of Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth, every fourth woman stated that she had suffered from physical and/or sexual abuse at the hands of a current or former partner at least once in her life. The results of this 2004 study highlight the appalling extent of domestic violence. Two-thirds of women who are victims of domestic violence are severely abused, both physically and emotionally, over an extended period of time. This violence occurs in all social classes and environments and is utterly independent of level of education, or cultural or family background.

In Germany, around 35,000 women and children seek shelter in women's refuges every year. In Berlin, around 1,300 women and as many children turn to a refuge for protection every year. The police force has been recording incidents of domestic violence which police officers were called out to in its statistics since 2004. In the first year of record-keeping, there were 12,814 call-outs related to incidents of domestic violence. In 2012, this figure rose to 15,797. Almost half of the incidents were recorded as actual bodily harm inflicted with intent. On average, around a quarter of the reported incidents of actual bodily harm inflicted with intent in the city are incidents of domestic violence. And since its establishment, the BIG hotline has taken around 80,000 calls. That is over 20 a day (in 2012).

3. MEN AND WOMEN ARE NOT THAT DIFFERENT WHEN IT COMES TO VIOLENT BEHAVIOUR.

All representative, methodologically sound studies show that violence in partnerships tends to be committed by men against women. While men are more often the victims of violent acts than women, in most cases the perpetrators are usually not previously known to the victims, and the acts are carried out in public spaces. When women experience violence, it is mainly at the hands of male perpetrators who belong to their own social environment like husbands, boyfriends, family members or partners. Violence experienced in the supposedly safe haven of the own "home" is carried out almost exclusively by men against women. It reflects the structural power balance between women and men in society.

4. IT WAS ONLY A SLAP. CAN HAPPEN TO ANYONE, CAN'T IT?

Excuses are often made for the abuser's behaviour: He was provoked or under such stress that he suddenly lost control. But hidden violence in a partnership often goes on for years, because there are no witnesses and the abusers make sure that no obvious marks are left. Mental abuse like humiliation, threats and isolation frequently precede physical violence, or accompany it. Evidence like this shows that domestic violence is not a sudden loss of control but used systematically; it is deliberately concealed and is used as a means of gaining control over the victim.

5. IT'S NONE OF MY BUSINESS.

Domestic violence is not a private matter. Physically harming another person is a criminal offence that is punishable by law. Regardless of where it happens, and who the victim is. This means that in cases of domestic violence, the right to privacy ceases to apply. Therefore, nobody is getting involved in supposedly private matters when they do something to stop domestic violence (for example by calling the police).

THE VISION: OUR MISSION STATEMENT

The basis for all actions taken by the "Berliner Initiative gegen Gewalt an Frauen" (BIG e.V.), and the sole motivation for these actions is to improving the situation of women who experience domestic violence, and the situation of their children. The initiative's attitude is at all times characterised by partiality, solidarity and support.

With expertise, the respective professional skills and dedication, BIG e.V. is committed to enabling women and their children to exercise their right to live a violence-free and empowered life. The numerous offers of protection and support we provide are developed with the different and individual living circumstances of abused women in mind. However, reducing the incidence of domestic violence can only be achieved if the gender-specific power balance also changes, and the abusers are held to account for their actions. The day-to-day work of the initiative works towards these ends.

Achieving these aims means working at different levels. All of the staff in the organisations BIG Hotline, BIG Coordination and BIG Prevention, the different areas covered by BIG e.V.'s work, therefore make a major contribution towards:

- helping victims
- informing victims of domestic violence about what help and support is available
- highlighting the social contexts of domestic violence
- breaking down the wall of silence that surrounds domestic violence and raising public awareness of the issue

Developing measures and strategies in cooperation with partners is a fundamental if we are to be successful in preventing and overcoming domestic violence. BIG e.V. lobbies for the political implementation of these measures and strategies.

Making sure that our work is put into practice effectively requires an active and tight-knit support system. BIG e.V. contributes to this by establishing cooperation structures

and networks for all those who are professionally involved with domestic violence (for example members of the police force, legal and medical professionals, people working in women's aid centres, youth welfare organisations, schools, etc.), and by running the respective training courses.

The activities and influence of BIG e.V. reach beyond local and regional borders and we work in close contact with colleagues, researchers and politicians on an ongoing basis, both nationally and internationally, in order to continuously increase the professional expertise of our members and so that we can share experiences and conclusions.

Taking the women and children concerned and their needs seriously is a particularly important aspect of the support measures provided by BIG e.V. All of the professional advice and help we offer focuses on their protection and safety.

Relatives, neighbours and other people concerned about victims of domestic violence can also turn to BIG e.V. for advice.

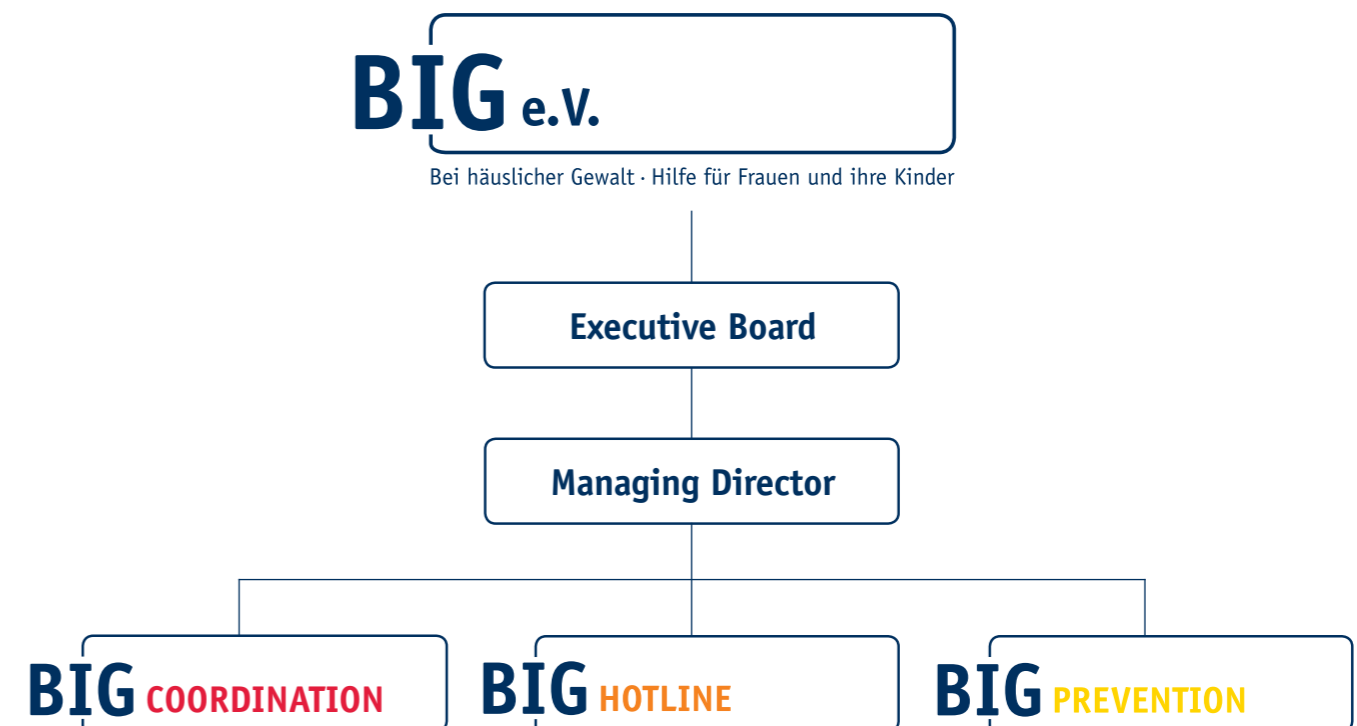
Another important prevention issue we address is empowering and enabling children to have equal and violence-free adult relationships later on in their lives. For BIG e.V., active child protection means making children aware of their right to a violence-free upbringing, letting them know that help is available and advising them how to get it, as well as organising protection and support for affected children.

BIG e.V. is staffed by a multidisciplinary team of professional men and women. Self-reflection and critical analysis of the initiative's work is promoted by providing continuous counselling supervision and further training. The BIG e.V. staff take particular care to show solidarity and respect in all of their dealings with one another. They regard lifestyle diversity, interculturality and gender cooperation as a valuable contribution towards enhancing the team and its work.

THE INITIATIVE'S DEVELOPMENT

BIG e.V. currently runs three organisations: BIG Coordination (initially "Berliner Interventionsprojekt", the Berlin project for intervention), BIG Hotline and BIG Prevention. By setting up organisations in these three different fields of activity, the aim of BIG e.V. was to create the framework conditions needed for preventing violence from de-

veloping, and to contribute towards ensuring that women and their children are given better protection and more appropriate support. By carrying out activities and offering specific services in the fields of coordination/monitoring, intervention and prevention, all three organisations help to realise the objectives of the initiative.



BIG COORDINATION

THE FIRST DECADE



"Imagine, these people – slowly, extremely hesitantly, very carefully and quite sceptically at first – started to talk about violence, about the women's movement, about men being responsible, about the problems they had had with state institutions and the justice system, about new approaches and old prejudices, searching for a common language. (...) It was revolutionary, because it was a cooperative project, and still is. It was revolutionary because it brought the radical women's movement and the state together. And it was also revolutionary because it united not only men and women, but also female lawyers and social workers, professional women whose interactions were usually coloured by mutual prejudices, and motivated them to work together productively."

Prof Dr Susanne Baer, LL.M., Federal Constitutional Court Judge and Tenured Professor at HU Berlin

The "Berliner Interventionszentrale" (now BIG Coordination) began its work in 1995 as a national pilot project. The aim was to raise public awareness about the fact that violence against women is not a private matter but a criminal offence. It was time to make clear that the legally guaranteed right to privacy had to end in cases where crimes were being perpetrated, the Basic Law was being violated and human rights abused. And the time had come for society to recognise and admit the fact that violence against women is wrong and that in cases like this, privacy is in fact a political matter. It was therefore necessary to develop effective measures for the campaign against violence at a political level which could then be applied in practice by non-governmental as well as government insti-

tutions. In this respect, the Berliner Interventionsprojekt was able to build on the work of German and international women's movement initiatives that had already addressed the problem and highlighted the issue in the early 1970s. The inspiration and role model for the approaches and methods BIG intended to emulate was the Domestic Abuse Intervention Project (DAIP) founded in Duluth/Minnesota in the USA in 1979. DAIP was extremely successful in its work and in applying the principle of cooperation between government and non-governmental organisations. Fifteen years after the project was founded, 80 percent of the women in Duluth who had turned to DAIP for legal support and practical help maintained that they managed to escape the cycle of abuse because of this.

PRELIMINARY PHASE: 10/1995 TO 10/1996 – BUILDING POLITICAL WILL

THE FUNDAMENTAL PREMISE

The Federal Ministry for Women and the Berlin Senate Department for Women finance the new project, which intends to involve and unite all social forces in the fight against domestic violence. This means that efforts have to be undertaken to gain the support of political decision-makers for the project's aims.

THE AIMS – WHAT WE ARE ABOUT:

- creating framework conditions which guarantee women and their children protection and support;
- increasing the rights of abused women;
- holding abusers to account for their actions;
- initiating and practicing a coordinated approach among all organisations involved;
- raising public awareness about male violence against women;
- establishing prevention work.

THE PRINCIPLES

- **COMMUNICATION:** Establishing a common knowledge and discussion basis shared by all those involved.
- **COOPERATION:** Developing a suitable form and culture of cooperation accepted by everyone involved.
- **COMPLEXITY:** Everyone involved must realise how complex the issue of domestic violence is, meaning that the respective solution approaches must therefore be equally complex.
- **CONCEPTUALISATION:** Everyone involved must jointly develop a project and implementation concept for the main phase.
- **CONSENSUS:** Everyone involved must agree with this concept.
- **"TOP DOWN, BOTTOM UP":** Major, permanent changes require decision-making competency at a very senior political level, as well as the respective professional expertise at grassroots level. Both levels meet at a round table where political decisions are made.

THE ROUND TABLE

The BIG team successfully convinced all Berlin Senate departments involved in any way in the issue of domestic violence to appoint one expert delegate each to participate in the joint efforts. Furthermore, it also managed to recruit representatives from projects and organisations from all relevant fields. A first interdisciplinary and inter-institutional working committee was established.

FIRST RESULTS

Representatives from the police force, the criminal and civil justice systems, youth welfare work, the official agencies for integration as well as representatives from various child protection organisations and women's projects spent the first year discussing the contemporary situation. Seven key areas were identified:

1. POLICE INTERVENTION
2. CRIMINAL LAW
3. CIVIL LAW
4. SUPPORTING WOMEN
5. MIGRANT WOMEN
6. EDUCATION AND TRAINING PROGRAMMES FOR ABUSERS
7. CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

The result of this work was a comprehensive joint appraisal of the as-is situation and an analysis of the shortfalls in the existing intervention measures and support services provided for victims of domestic violence. Everyone involved agreed on specific goals and tasks. At the end of the first year, the round table and the political decision-makers jointly drew up an extensive list of issues to be tackled. During the course of the next phase of the pilot project, newly established working committees in the respective key areas were to develop detailed measures and solution approaches based on the vaguely outlined requirements.

MODEL PROJECT PHASE: 10/1996 TO 10/1999 – ORGANISING COOPERATION

FINDING PARTNERS FOR COOPERATION

The goals had been set and the next step was to identify what work needed to be done. Following that, institution staff and their superiors had to be persuaded to support the issue and participate in the project, which meant overcoming prejudices and reservations on a continuous basis. To achieve this, the women from BIG developed lectures, presentations and a personal approach that made even sceptics willing to broach the issue. A great number of dedicated people were found and became actively involved in working committees only thanks to these efforts.

LEARNING FROM EACH OTHER

Just how much is still to be done is only revealed in its entire complexity when individual issues are addressed. It was vitally important that those involved in the working committees were given an opportunity to voice their different perspectives and share their field-specific experiences. This allowed the representatives from the various fields to familiarise themselves with the other fields of work and their possibilities and limitations in the course of cooperative efforts, and to discuss the obstacles they were facing and come up with approaches for removing them. The special working atmosphere that developed after some initial difficulties was marked by constructive cooperation and a feeling of mutual

trust and it enabled everyone involved to take part in an open dialogue. In this phase, during which the concepts for practical measures were evolved, departmental boundaries were overcome and the available knowledge was consolidated thanks to the attitude of those involved, which was characterised by a willingness to change things.

STABLE COOPERATION STRUCTURES

It was therefore possible to establish stable cooperation structures between everyone involved in the project during the pilot project phase. The tasks identified and assigned during the preliminary phase were addressed by working groups consisting of respective experts. Around 150 actively involved participants worked on the proposals for legislative amendments, innovative plans of action and new projects. A great deal of exemplary material was published and used by many other federal states in Germany as inspiration.

This resulted in:

- the first legislative proposal for improved protection under civil law, which pushed the development of the "Protection Against Violence Act" [Gewaltschutzgesetz];
- the nation's first guidelines for police intervention in cases of domestic violence;

- the first standards regarding the protection of migrant women who do not hold a residence permit in their own right and who are subject to domestic violence
- the establishment of the first nationwide helpline, the BIG Hotline
- the first video about the situation facing the children of abused women, as they are equally affected by domestic violence.

- a concept for an abuser programme and accompanying information for (ex-)partners.

THE BIG MODEL IS UNIVERSALLY ADOPTED

Numerous intervention and cooperation projects as well as round tables based on the BIG model were established across the nation.

IMPLEMENTATION PHASE: 1/2000 TO 12/2002 – DEVELOPING, SECURING, ADJUSTING

From 2000 onwards, it was time to secure and adapt what had been achieved so far. BIG accompanied and monitored how the measures and strategies were implemented in practice and adjusted them where necessary. Further suggestions on how to improve the help and support for women and children affected by domestic violence were developed – and this remains a continuous process. The following milestones in the fight against domestic abuse were achieved:

- 2002: The Gewaltschutzgesetz comes into force.
- An amendment to Berlin's Police Act [Polizeigesetz] was prepared and came into force in 2003. Police officers are now explicitly permitted to issue a protection order which requires suspected perpetrators of domestic violence to

- leave their homes if they live with the alleged victim and to stay away.
- Specially trained "domestic violence coordinators and multipliers" were appointed in each police department and station for victims to turn to.
- BIG started to offer newly developed further training events and courses for members of various professions in order to enable them to become multipliers.
- The first guidelines for physicians on how to deal with patients affected by domestic violence were published.
- Numerous multilingual information brochures about the rights and options available to women suffering domestic violence were published. The national pilot project was completed.

INSTITUTIONALISED PHASE: SINCE 1/2003 – CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

Under the name of BIG Coordination, the Berliner Interventionszentrale became a permanent institution in January 2003, funded by the Berlin Senate Department for Economics, Labour and Women's Issues. It was now time to implement the measures which had been decided and to monitor whether there were any obstacles to their practical application caused by the actions of individuals, procedures or the structures in the respective institution. The subsequent findings and results served to initiate a continuous improvement process in consultation with the

- cooperation partners. The work now mainly focused on:
- Monitoring (constant observation of practices);
 - Clearing (problem analysis/problem solving) and conflict mediation;
 - Developing solution proposals to continuously improve the existing framework conditions;
 - Developing further training courses for multipliers, as well as developing and carrying out further education concepts for people in professions that bring them into contact with domestic violence.



"BIG had a major impact on the work of intervention projects in the Federal Republic of Germany in three ways: Firstly, BIG's efforts proved that interdisciplinary coordination and cooperation were not only necessary, but also feasible; secondly, BIG exhaustively communicated the experience they had gained to others in the course of national networking activities, thereby helping to develop the idea further; and thirdly, BIG produced extensive material that was to become an important basis for the work of many of the organisations and projects involved in intervention in the years to come."

Andrea Buskotte, Crime Prevention Council of Lower Saxony

WHAT BIG COORDINATION DOES THESE DAYS



"How is the 'Protection Against Violence Act' applied in practice, how does the police force make use of its right to issue protection orders in incidents of domestic violence? What is the impact of the 'Hartz IV' labour market and social security system reforms on the women concerned in practical terms? And what are the current procedures with regard to custody and contact rulings? These are the issues where BIG Coordination is monitoring the implementation of the legal regulations and protection measures as well as their impact on women and children affected by domestic violence. The women themselves, staff

from women's projects and other institutions as well as government bodies now often make use of the chance to point out weaknesses and areas of conflict, and cooperate with BIG Coordination in order to clarify and resolve these. To be able to do so, BIG first of all analyses the issue. How does the problem manifest itself in everyday working practices? Is it a one-off incident, or has this issue been reported several times? Does it concern a particular institution or office, or the actions of one group of professionals in general? Is the problem caused by a lack of information, communication or regulation? Who can fix it? What tools are available to change the situation? Are special regulations, orders, professional instructions, further training, amendments to the law, alternative procedures required? In the second step, BIG Coordination is called upon to bring all those involved in the conflict together, and to help them to resolve it (also to mediate if required). In the event of a structural problem, BIG establishes working groups where experts become involved in the development of improved regulations and (protection) measures."

Ulrike Kreyssig, supervisor (DGSv/SG),
coach, trainer and former BIG e.V coordinator

Bearing in mind all three groups of people involved in domestic violence, BIG Coordination develops, monitors and improves concepts that offer women and their children better protection from domestic violence, and ensure that the perpetrators are taken to task more effectively. Accordingly, there are four key issues: Protective measures for women, protective measures for children, legislation and abuser-oriented intervention. The working strategy is:

Analyse first, then develop solutions. In practical terms, this means: monitor, coordinate, act.

MONITOR

- BIG Coordination monitors whether victims of domestic violence receive the best-possible help and support.
- BIG Coordination identifies weaknesses and gaps in the practical procedures and initiates the removal process.
- BIG Coordination takes complaints on board to ensure that the help women and their children receive is also improved in specific individual cases. On request, BIG Coordination offers to mediate between the institutions or persons involved in such cases of complaint or conflict.

Example:

(Protection measures for women: Do the numerous support facilities in Berlin cooperate efficiently? Are any special requirements on the part of the women concerned – for example the need for an interpreter or barrier-free accessibility – taken into account? Are there structural problems, for example when it comes to cooperating with the police and the youth welfare service?)

- Children and young people: Do schools, government bodies, the courts and the police cooperate smoothly? Are the needs of the children taken into account to a sufficient degree in domestic violence related interventions?
- Legislation: Are the procedures designed in a way that is sensible for those concerned? Are there loopholes in the law, or problems caused by contradictory rulings? Do the different areas of the law interfere with each other, for example the parental right to contact and the protection against violence act?
- Abuser-oriented intervention: Are there enough abuser programmes on offer? Does the law take abusers to task (to the necessary degree)? Do the courts make use of the option of compulsory attendance of an abuser programme? Is the safety of their partners considered to an adequate degree when working with the abusers?



COORDINATING

- BIG Coordination continues to bring domestic violence experts together in order to continuously improve their level of coordination. These include staff from women's projects and from various government bodies, i.e. police, legal system, youth welfare, migration, health and social services.
- BIG Coordination continues to plan and agree on practical measures against violence with everyone involved.
- BIG Coordination offers a comprehensive service and puts people in touch with the right government bodies or persons – in the case of enquiries regarding the support system, about specific issues or specialist literature, getting in contact with experts, about further training and events.
- To maintain the high quality standard of its work, BIG Coordination keeps in contact with colleagues involved in respective scientific research and is a member of national and international networks and committees.

Example

(BIG Coordination regularly brings together those involved in working groups to encourage exchange, improve cooperation and bring procedures in line with each other to a greater degree. For instance, the "Jobcenter" working group consists of staff working in job centres and people working for women's aid organisations; in the area of abuser programmes, women's aid projects meet up with the organisations that run such programmes for the perpetrators of domestic violence in Berlin. The working groups communicate the results to issue-specific experts' committees, which in turn draw up recommendations and communicate the identified tasks to be resolved to the policy-making level via the government's commission of experts. (see also information text box about the commission of experts on page 20)

ACTING

- BIG Coordination instigates political decisions and amendments to legislation that help to further improve the protection, support and information available to victims of domestic violence.
- BIG Coordination develops innovative concepts, establishes new projects and publishes target group oriented information material.
- BIG Coordination develops additional best practice guidelines to help those professionally involved with domestic violence.
- BIG Coordination offers further training courses about domestic violence to members of various professions.

Example:

- Protection measures for women: Materials are also produced in easy-to-understand language and sign language. A drop-in centre provides support and advice during out-

of-office hours and at weekends. Information for lesbian women who are victims of violence is published.

- Children and young people: Further training material and recommended practices for the professionals involved is compiled to help them to make decisions that best serve the welfare of the child ("Recommended practice for youth welfare officers in cases of domestic violence")
- Law: The German Protection Against Violence Act is based on a BIG draft. Judges and public prosecutors at local courts are given working materials and relevant further training (for example about ordering supervised contact in cases of domestic violence, suggestions regarding parental contact orders in cases of domestic violence)
- Abuser-oriented intervention: BIG Coordination is currently overseeing a pilot project in Berlin that intends to improve cooperation between the organisations working with the abusers and those supporting the victims.



"The movement initiated by BIG has led to a widening of horizons. While until the mid-90s the first thing that sprang to people's minds when they thought about the campaign against violence against women was women's refuges and women's help hotlines only, nowadays this view has been expanded to include other groups involved like the police, youth welfare offices or the courts.

Nevertheless, women's refuges have remained central actors in the interdisciplinary cooperation process for BIG and in the intervention projects that have emerged in Germany since then. The work of the women's refuges has profited from the interdisciplinary approach and has been given new impulses for future development.

BIG is an important cooperation partner in coordinating the women's refuges both in Berlin and at federal level. We very much appreciate the excellent professional expertise provided by BIG, which they actively contribute to the workshop debate, the central body for exchanging information and ideas in the coordination of the women's refuges."

Heike Herold,
Chief Executive Frauenhauskoordination e. V.



"In contrast to the past meetings between institution representatives, which was often nothing more than a brief exchange of views and short-term coordination, conflict resolution and also further training, the intervention projects have evolved into an environment for building political will and for political decision-making, an environment in which the top executives of powerful institutions are prepared to lead consensus talks with community-based organisations and projects."

Prof Dr Barbara Kavemann

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COMMISSION OF EXPERTS

In Berlin, all institutions, government and administrative bodies involved in the issue of domestic violence cooperate to expand the protection and support for those concerned, take the perpetrators to task more effectively and increase public awareness of the victims' situation. Since 1995, these processes have been steered by BIG e.V. through "BIG Coordination". Together, the cooperation partners check the complex support system to identify any gaps or areas where adjustments are required in order to be able to provide solutions where deficits are discovered. The domestic violence commission of experts [Fachkom-

mission Häusliche Gewalt] was established in 2009 and meets once a year under the aegis of BIG Coordination. It provides an environment where the practical experiences and expertise of those working in the support system come together with the authority and scope for action available to political and public administration decision-makers. The decisions made here are brought into the political arena by the Berlin Senate Office for Women's Issues' State Secretary. In this way, requisite measures are realised in line with the "bottom up" and "top down" principles through an exchange between and on three working levels.



The **working groups** consist of female members of staff from women's refuges and shelters, advice centres, the BIG Hotline and professionals from independent organisations as well as representatives from public administration and government offices closely involved on a practical level with the each of the relevant spheres of work. They work on specific problematic details in intervention practices (for example Jobcenter procedures in cases of domestic violence, protection against violence in lesbian relationships, protection measures for migrant women, cooperation between women's projects and youth welfare departments, the way women and children who are victims of domestic abuse are dealt with in family law proceedings, protection measures for disabled women, and so on). The recommendations for action, concepts or materials developed here are passed on to three expert committees.

These **expert committees** analyse this information or already existing measures for the three target groups affected by domestic violence: women, children and abusers. The experts' committees not only consist of representatives from women's aid projects but also of representatives from all professions whose members have to deal with domestic violence in the course of their work, as well as mid-level

public administration and government agency representatives in order to assess the feasibility of the measures developed and communicate them to all of the organisations involved. In the case of requirements which are not met at the present time, the expert committees initiate the resolution of specific problems in existing and new working committees. And finally, they decide which particularly urgent issues should be brought to the attention of the commission of experts.

The **commission of experts** subsequently communicates successes, deficits and requirements to the higher public administration and political levels to enable them to make informed decisions and initiate any needed reforms in their areas of responsibility. If necessary, they can also draw up recommended plans for action for lower-level committees. In this way, all institutions involved at the various working levels gain an awareness about the gaps that exist in the practical support being provided and in the already developed or to be developed countermeasures. As the interface between public administration, the political arena and women's aid facilities, the commission of experts thereby ensures that the decisions made find political support, and that they are implemented in practice.

BIG HOTLINE

The BIG Hotline on 030/611 03 00 is the central telephone number for victims of domestic abuse to call for initial advice. The helpline is open 24/7 including weekends and public holidays. It offers professional, qualified support to women and children suffering domestic violence in Berlin, but also advises people who become involved with the issue in the course of their work or privately.

"I run a chemist's shop at Hauptbahnhof station. There is a woman here with four big bags. She has fled to Berlin from her husband and can't go back. She has nowhere to sleep, no money and does not know her way around Berlin at all. Can you help her?"

Interpreters for over 50 languages are on hand, if necessary. Men who have suffered violence can also turn to the BIG Hotline, which then puts them in touch with the support system for men.

Berlin's five professional advice and intervention centres (BORA, TARA, Frauenraum, Interkulturelle Initiative and Frauentreffpunkt) staff the hotline from Monday to Friday between 9 am and 6 pm, while the staff from the hotline's head office answer the phones between 6 pm and 9 am, as well as on weekends and public holidays.

"I am from Russia, so is my husband. Our marriage has not been good for a long time now. I told him that I want to live on my own with our children. He became very angry and now I am afraid he will kidnap our children and take them out of the country."

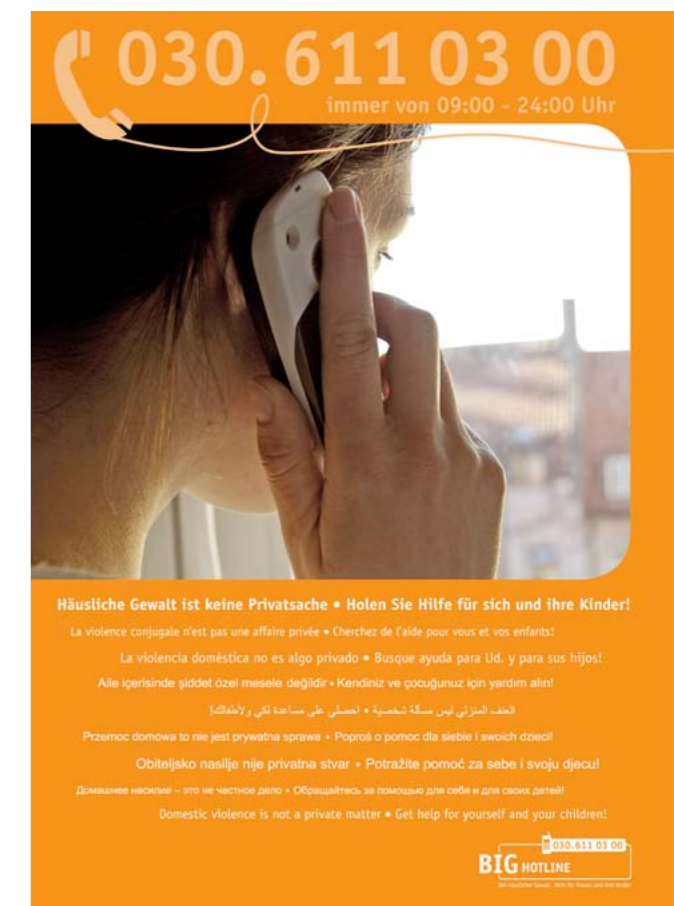
Berlin's women's refuges and sheltered accommodation projects keep the BIG Hotline continuously informed about their current intake capacities by fax. This makes it possible to refer callers who need to escape to a safe place immediately to a refuge or shelter that can take them in, and saves them from a potentially endless round of phone calls. The BIG Hotline could not function without an extensive database of addresses, which allows the staff to refer women to facilities that meet the needs of those suffering domestic violence. If a caller needs someone to translate for her, an interpreter is contacted and the advice session is continued in conference mode. Interpreters for more than fifty languages cooperate with the BIG Hotline.

Regular counselling supervision and further training maintain the quality of the helpline work and ensure that advice standards are complied with, and that the staff are always

kept up to date, for example regarding the latest relevant laws that apply for this giving advice in the area of domestic violence.

Beyond advice on the telephone, the BIG Hotline also offers three further support measures: online advice, help at the office or an outreach service at the facilities the victims have turned to as part of our "mobile intervention" (MI), as well as so-called proactive work.

The BIG Hotline started operating on 15 November 1999 as part of a pilot project and was the first nationwide helpline in Germany. Initially operating from 9 am to midnight only, it has been available around the clock since November 2012. With 8,270 calls (more than 20 a day), the BIG Hotline received considerably more calls in 2012 than in previous years. Since its establishment in 1999, the hotline has taken more than 80,000 calls (data up to and including 2012). It is financed by the Berlin Senate Department for Labour, Integration and Women's Issues. The mobile intervention (outreach) services are mainly funded by donations from Philip Morris.





► Poster campaigns are continually initiated with the goal of increasing awareness of the phone number as well as of the services of the BIG Hotline in Berlin. In 2001, the first successful campaign with large advertising posters (see next page) was carried out with the financial support of the foundation "Stiftung Deutsche Klassenlotterie Berlin". Posters in public advertising spaces in the Berlin area called attention to the issue of domestic violence with memorable slogans. The posters generated considerable attention, although, due to high costs, they were only displayed for a short time in the entire city.

On the occasion of the fifth anniversary of the BIG Hotline, a second poster campaign was carried out, entitled "Watch TV. But do not look away!", again with the financial support of "Stiftung Deutsche Klassenlotterie". In order to draw attention on the services of BIG Hotline, seven actors who appear in the popular television crime series "Tatort" agreed to participate with a portrait and a statement against domestic violence.

The BIG Hotline expresses its thanks to Boris Aljinovic, Dietmar Bär, Klaus Behrend, Andreas Hoppe, Mehdi Moinsadeh, Miroslav Nemeč and Peter Sodann for their commitment against violence towards women and their support of the poster campaign. Philip Morris GmbH made the printing of the photo motifs on smaller posters possible. These are still hanging in public institutions, particularly police stations and many other public places.



► 2004: Campaign featuring actors from the popular television crime series "Tatort" speaking out against domestic violence.

SEINE Sprache heißt Gewalt.
SIE muss nicht sprachlos bleiben.

Wir helfen bei häuslicher Gewalt gegen Frauen.

Evde şiddete uğrayan kadınlara yardım ediyoruz.

We give support in cases of domestic violence against women.

МЫ помогаем женщинам в случаях насилия дома.

Hilfe
bei häuslicher Gewalt gegen Frauen.

Rufen Sie an, egal ob Sie selbst betroffen sind oder helfen wollen.

► Täglich von 9-24 Uhr

Wir beraten kostenlos, anonym und bei Bedarf mit Dolmetscherin.

Wir vermitteln Schutzunterkünfte und weitere Unterstützung.

BIG Hotline: 611 03 00

Vor 2 Jahren brach er ihr Herz.
Gestern zwei Rippen.

Hilfe
bei häuslicher Gewalt gegen Frauen.

Rufen Sie an, egal ob Sie selbst betroffen sind oder helfen wollen.

► Täglich von 9-24 Uhr

Wir beraten kostenlos, anonym und bei Bedarf mit Dolmetscherin.

Wir vermitteln Schutzunterkünfte und weitere Unterstützung.

BIG Hotline: 611 03 00

Auf der Straße hat sie Angst um ihre Kinder.
Zuhause haben ihre Kinder Angst um sie.

Hilfe
bei häuslicher Gewalt gegen Frauen.

Rufen Sie an, egal ob Sie selbst betroffen sind oder helfen wollen.

► Täglich von 9-24 Uhr

Wir beraten kostenlos, anonym und bei Bedarf mit Dolmetscherin.

Wir vermitteln Schutzunterkünfte und weitere Unterstützung.

BIG Hotline: 611 03 00

TELEPHONE AND ONLINE ADVICE

The initial advice given over the telephone covers:

- Psychosocial crisis intervention if a woman suffering domestic violence is in an acute situation.

"I don't know where to start. I am scared and I can't go on living like this..."

- Resolving the current situation, relieving the caller's emotional strain and giving her some initial guidance.
- Providing callers with information about the legal steps they can take, and the steps the police can take, about refuges and about the further advice and support services on offer.
- Developing a plan together with the victim in order to keep her and her children safe.
- Advising supporters from the victim's social environment.

The BIG Hotline's low-threshold offers can be taken up without commitment, without having to appear somewhere in person and anonymously. This means they also reach many women who find it extremely difficult to ask for help – mainly because they feel ashamed. Around 60% of the calls are made by victims. For women who dare to come out of their isolated situation for the first time, this initial contact is crucial. It is therefore important that the advisors show empathy with the personal situation of the caller and discuss the next steps together with her. The advisors explain how

the victim can protect herself and her children, and show her ways to get out of the situation she is in, which she often feels to be a hopeless one. In addition to providing information, it is important to respect the woman and her individual life story, to increase her self-confidence and to build up her own resources in the course of the advisory process.

The decision concerning what provisions of support and suggestions she takes up and when she does so must be left up to her. If the abused woman cannot bring herself to accept an offer of support and is not (yet) capable of escaping from the violent relationship she has described, the caller's right to take responsibility for herself and determine her own life must be accepted out of a sense of respect. Her awareness of the fact that help and support are available can be decisive at a later point in time, then allowing her to escape from the violent relationship.

The BIG Hotline started to offer online advice in September 2006 as another form of low-threshold support offered to abused women. For safety reasons, the BIG Hotline decided to opt for a web-based approach via the "das-beratungsnetz" platform (www.beranet.de advice network). The email containing advice can be accessed by the registered user only by means of a personal access key. The response to the online advisory service has been good, and it serves to provide additional access to the various support services on offer.

► The first campaign with large advertising posters in 2001

MOBILE INTERVENTION AND DROP-IN CENTRE

Mobile intervention is a personal outreach service at the victim's home. It is particularly intended for women who are traumatised, who may have difficulties leaving their homes due to disabilities, who need a level of help that exceeds what can be given over the telephone, or who are prevented for other reasons from taking further steps independently following advice given over the telephone. Mobile intervention takes place at the police station, at the hospital, in the waiting room at court, in a taxi, on the way to a women's refuge, at another safe place or in the BIG Hotline drop-in centre.

If the advisor gets the impression in the course of a telephone advice session that on-site counselling may be necessary, she contacts the mobile intervention (MI) advisor. She stays in direct contact with the abused woman, gets more detailed information about her current situation, which she passes on to the MI advisor, and prepares her for the MI advisor's visit.

"I am 74 years old and have difficulties walking. I was advised to apply to the family court for a protection order. I need someone to accompany me, I'll never find my way round there on my own. And I am so ashamed..."

The mobile intervention service offers women face-to-face outreach advice which goes beyond the contents already described above. As part of crisis intervention, practical steps are discussed and the victims are supported in carrying these out. For example, the mobile intervention advisors will accompany women to a women's refuge if they are not capable of getting there on their own. They

collect women who have fled to Berlin from the train station and escort them safely to a shelter. They take women who are injured to hospital or advise women who are already hospitalised as a result of domestic violence. They accompany women to the police station or help them to apply for a court order under the Protection Against Violence Act at the family court.

"I have not slept properly for three days. He keeps trying to call me, sends me text messages and abuses me verbally. He is threatening to kill me. I also don't dare to leave the house. He is creeping about out there somewhere."

The advisors work closely together with other organisations, for example, the children's emergency service [Kindernotdienst] or Berlin's crisis service [Berliner Krisendienst], put people in touch with one another, coordinate and negotiate in order to find individual solutions for the often complex problematic situations the women are in.

Other advice centre staff, the police or hospital staff can also request this personal outreach service for abused women.

Since March 2013, this outreach service can also be offered at the BIG Hotline's drop-in centre. Women and children suffering domestic violence can get advice and support here – also outside of the opening hours of advice centres or without women's refuge staff being present. Prior to the opening of the drop-in centre, there was no professionally qualified, personal advice available to abused women, particularly at night.



► A safe place to regain your composure and to get help: The drop-in centre.

PROACTIVE ADVICE

Proactive advice comes into effect when domestic violence results in the police being called. If the abused woman consents, the police passes the woman's telephone numbers and address on to the BIG Hotline by fax. A member of staff will then contact the woman by calling her, making it easier for her to access the specialised and qualified support offered in the city. This service is again implemented in cooperation with the professional advice and intervention centres against domestic violence. It was developed particularly for women who will not (or cannot) turn to one of the existing support organisations although they desperately need help. This may be the case, for example, if a woman is not capable of contacting the BIG Hotline without help due to feelings of

shame, because she is traumatised, because of language barriers or traditional norms and values, or if she is still suffering from the stressful effects of police intervention. If a woman cannot be reached on the telephone, she will receive a letter detailing the various forms of support offered by the BIG Hotline, the legal situation and informing her about the other kinds of help and support that are available.

Men can also become victims of domestic violence. If the police informs the BIG Hotline staff about a male victim who has asked for advice, they will pass this request on to BIG's cooperation partner "Opferhilfe" (victim support), who will then contact the man and advise him.



► Accompanying a woman who has suffered domestic abuse to a women's refuge ...



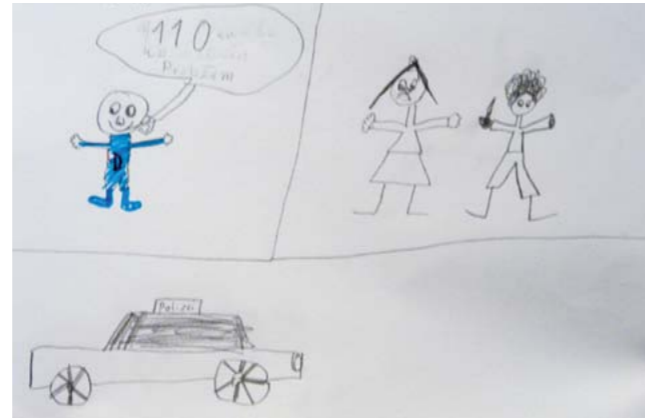
► Offering support at court when filing an application under the protection against violence act ...



► Close cooperation with the police force and the children's emergency social care service.



BIG PREVENTION



► The children's workshops deal with the subject of domestic violence in a way which is appropriate for the participants' age. Emphasis is put on pointing out where the children can find help.

BIG Prevention introduces the issue of domestic abuse to violence prevention education and training carried out in schools. The organisation offers issue-specific education and awareness raising, which helps long-term prevention.

The extent of violence experienced by children is enormous. In the 2004 study on domestic abuse carried out by the Federal Ministry of Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth, 60% of the households affected by domestic violence had children living in them. Around half of these children had witnessed violent situations either auditory or visually, while at least a quarter was forced to become involved in the acts of violence. Violence between parents is therefore always an attack on the children as well.

Experiencing domestic abuse in their own family can stay with children, and traumatise them all their lives. Anxiety, sleeping disorders, difficulties in concentrating, difficulty performing at school, increased aggressiveness, withdrawal, depression and a lack of options for dealing constructively with conflict situations are just some of the serious consequences of witnessing domestic abuse. We now know that children do not even have to be directly affected by the violence in their parents' partnership in order to develop mental health problems later on in life. Listening to or seeing incidences of domestic abuse and growing up in an atmosphere that is constantly overshadowed by terror and menace is already enough.

Above all, however, violence experienced in childhood or young adulthood also impacts on adult relationship behaviour. The study on domestic abuse carried out by the Federal Ministry of Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth in 2004 proved that violence in their own family when they were

growing up is one of the factors that puts women most at risk of ending up in a violent partnership as an adult. Domestic abuse is therefore passed down the generations, which is why educating children and boosting their confidence as early as possible is extremely important for long-term prevention.

The pilot project BIG Prevention pilot project was started in 2006 for precisely this reason. Its declared aim was and is to break this vicious cycle of domestic violence. The concept was the first to even consider carrying out child-appropriate domestic violence prevention work in primary schools. They are a very suitable place for the prevention of domestic violence. On the one hand, as school attendance is, this is the easiest way to reach children from a spectrum of social classes that is as wide as possible and, on the other hand, studies have shown that the peer group plays an important role for children and young adults when it comes to the issue of domestic abuse, and getting help. Furthermore, this is also a way to reach teachers, parents, potential multipliers, supporters and women who need help. To ensure that this aim is achieved, the project uses a holistic approach that offers services for all of the key target groups: workshops for children, information events in the evening for parents, and further training for the school staff.

The children are encouraged to behave fairly and violence-free in their friendships and relationships in project days, workshops and children's drop-in sessions. This in turn boosts their confidence and makes it possible for them to put what they have learned into practice. They are encouraged to speak openly about (domestic) violence and told that they have a right to receive protection and help. The children also find out where to turn if they or one of their friends is in such a stressful situation, and how to get help.



► Children are encouraged to conduct their own friendships and relationships in a nonviolent manner.

In the course of information events in the evening or drop-in sessions, the parents' awareness of what domestic violence means and how it can impact on children is raised. The respective information material is always available in several languages. Events such as these make it easier for affected parents to find access to the support system.

The awareness of teachers and daycare centre staff is raised with training sessions that focus on the issue of children and domestic violence, and they are given information about how to intervene. The school or particularly interested teachers may request multiplier training, and they can also turn to the prevention team if they need advice regarding a particular situation. By working with case studies, the staff are given the confidence and knowledge they need in order to be able to act and support children and mothers who are victims of domestic abuse in the best possible way. The advice and help they are given is based on the child protection guidelines for the educational sector, which define the extent of cooperation between schools and the local youth welfare offices. They are published by the Berlin Senate Administration for Education,

Science and Research under the German title "Bildung für Berlin. Zusammenarbeit zwischen Schule und bezirklichem Jugendamt im Kinderschutz".

The school and youth welfare officers are encouraged to make use of existing cooperation agreements, and to bring them to life in order to expand the cooperation between schools and youth welfare organisations in cases of domestic violence. To complement this work, BIG Prevention has also created the interactive travelling exhibition "ECHT FAIR!" (true fairness).

Scientific supervision and assessment over two years has affirmed the value of this concept and work. BIG Prevention is now active all over Berlin and there is a huge demand among teachers and daycare staff. More than 1,700 teachers, 1,000 parents and 4,400 children have been reached since BIG Prevention was set up (data up to and including 2012). The service is financed by the Berlin Senate Department for Education, Youth and Research. In November 2010, BIG Prevention won a violence prevention prize for its innovative and successful work, awarded by the Berlin state commission against violence.

BIG PREVENTION'S OFFERS

FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

The most important element of BIG Prevention's work are the children's "Red card for violence" workshops ["Gewalt kriegt die rote Karte"], and project days. The target group are fourth and fifth graders. The following subject areas are covered with the children over four days: emotions, arguments ≠ violence, domestic abuse and also getting help.

The children learn in role plays how to behave and protect themselves in difficult conflict and violence situations, and how they should act when they experience domestic abuse, or how they can get help. For example, the prevention workers call the national children's emergency helpline together with the children so that they overcome any inhibitions they may have about this. Various methods are applied alternately in the workshops: Games, exercises, discussion rounds, role playing games (RPGs), and showing a film. The majority of the work is carried out in same-sex groups. Intercultural and gender-specific aspects are taken into account.

The children's drop-in session is an important part of the children's workshop. If they children want to, they can talk to the staff on a one-to-one basis about any worries, anxieties or problems they may have, taking their time and also addressing issues they might feel uncomfortable mentioning in front of their classmates. Approx. 40% of all participating children make use of this offer. In the course of this one-to-one consultation, around every fifth child participating in the workshops talks about their own experiences with domestic violence, sexual abuse or other situations involving violence, such as being bullied by fellow pupils. The

teachers often have no previous awareness of this particular situation – or they have failed to act on their suspicions due to a lack of confidence. In very serious cases, the BIG Prevention staff contact the youth welfare office, the children's emergency social work service or other professional bodies following consultation with the school staff.

ANNA, AGED 10: "Dear BIG Prevention team, thank you for your visit and the wonderful days you spent with us. I was quite nervous on the first day, but then I met all of you and that calmed me down. I thought it was brilliant. My favourite part was when we called the helpline together and asked them questions. I also liked the shows you put on for us. On the last day, I was really sad because it was so lovely. I felt good on those 4 days..."

AYLIN, AGED 11: "That was the most brilliant project I've ever done!"

MUSA, AGED 10: "Thank you for the great time we had with you. I really liked this project, especially the games you played with us."

JO, AGED 9: "I especially liked the great games, the drop-in session and especially that you were here!!!"



▶ Calling the children's emergency helpline together



▶ The children's workshops always include work in same-sex groups.



▶ Games are an important workshop element.

FOR PARENTS

The parents are always involved. On the one hand, to secure their support for the project, to reduce scepticism or even outright disapproval. On the other hand, they are also given information about domestic violence and its effects on children, about violence-free parenting practices and support services. A parents' drop-in session about "Domestic violence and children" can be held for interested parents. The "Red card for violence" workshops are always accompanied by an evening event for parents, where they are given further information about the contents and methods used in of the children's workshops and invited to participate in an open discussion. There is a brochure for parents – the "Parents' newsletter" – that contains all of the most important information in German, Turkish, Arabic, Russian and Vietnamese.

Experience has shown that women suffering domestic violence often only overcome their reluctance to end a violent partnership once they find out just how much their children are suffering under the situation. In this sense, working with the parents has an educational and awareness-raising character. The parents are also given information about practical steps they can take, and about the institutions they can approach for help and support. This is also very significant from the general perspective of prevention, as there are often parents who are aware of domestic abuse amongst their friends, their relatives or in their neighbourhood; parents who are unsure and don't know whether to do something about this suspected domestic abuse, or how to do something about it. The parents' drop-in sessions are a general service offer to all interested parents who have children at this particular primary school.

The parents' information event about "Red card for violence" in the evening is aimed at the parents of the children taking part in the children's workshop. Besides generally raising awareness about prevention, its purpose is to explain the work that is being done with the children in more detail, and to give the parents scope to voice their concerns, expectations and requests.

The information event accompanying the interactive exhibition "ECHT FAIR!" gives parents an insight into how their children are tackling the issue of (domestic) violence. They can also experience the exhibition in an interactive way and are given basic additional information.

In this way, BIG Prevention also tries to reach those parents in particular who have difficulties in accessing the existing support structures. These can include parents who speak little German, for example. The information distributed at the parents' events is therefore written in various different languages and interpreters are used if necessary.

2 SOCIAL WORKERS FROM A PRIMARY SCHOOL: "Last Tuesday, we held our parents' 'Red card for violence' drop-in session at our school, with your very kind and able support. We consider this evening a major success in our work with the parents. We would like to use this opportunity to extend out thanks for your wonderful support! It was fun and went much better than we had dared to hope. I thought that the parents really showed their interest in the issue; they asked questions and were not above active participation! This allowed us to discover a side to them we did not know. It convinced us to hold such drop-in sessions on a regular basis..."



► Further training for teaching staff at a primary school

FOR TEACHERS, PASTORAL CARE WORKERS AND DAYCARE CENTRE STAFF

In the further training courses offered, the teachers learn how to recognise abnormal behaviour that may be a sign of domestic abuse in a pupil's family, and how to deal in a professional manner with children at risk – also in accordance with the child protection guidelines defining the level of cooperation between schools and local youth welfare offices, which all schools are required to comply with. Prevention measures are also made available to the teaching staff.

A PASTORAL CARE WORKER: "I particularly liked the diversity of the methods. Working interactively made this further training course really interesting."

Teachers, daycare centre staff and pastoral care workers are often the first people to notice signs of domestic violence. Extensive feedback has told us that time and again, they are unsure if, when and how to intervene. BIG Prevention therefore links youth welfare work with school and offers further training courses about these subjects. This gives the teachers and other educational staff more confidence to act. This in turn makes it easier for the issue to become less of a taboo and to take the often difficult first step of turning to institutions that can provide help, which increases the number of multipliers and mediators between those concerned and the support structures. If they encounter a

serious incident, it helps to speed up the intervention. The offers include the possibility of training to become the child protection expert at the school they work in, of working together with the other staff on specific study days about domestic violence and risks to child welfare, or of learning how to hold seminars for other professionals to accompany our "ECHT FAIR!" exhibition. BIG Prevention has a wide range of services on offer for teachers and other educational staff, such as study days, further training courses and coaching.

The various units are aimed at increasing the school staff's confidence in dealing with the issue of domestic violence and child protection. BIG Prevention helps to introduce clearly defined structures for dealing with cases where the welfare of the child is at risk, to train appointed child protection officers and to ensure that consistency is maintained in the cooperation with youth welfare offices.

A TEACHER: "Let me summarise: the study day was informative, lively, instructive."

A DAYCARE CENTRE WORKER: "I feel enriched, I have gained knowledge, I now know where to turn, I have been given the courage to act."

"ECHT FAIR!"

"ECHT FAIR!" [True Fairness] is an interactive exhibition for the prevention of domestic violence aimed at children in grades 5 to 8. "ECHT FAIR!" approaches the sensitive issue of domestic violence in the form of an interactive exhibition that encourages participation in a fun way by involving all the senses. There are flaps that can be opened, things that can be listened to, sliding panels, a touchscreen, mirrors in front of which the pupils can try out their acting skills by following the stage directions given, magnets that can be moved around and much, much more. The exhibition is divided into six "stations" labelled: "Powerful", "Controversial", "Emotional", "Me and You", "Help" and "Your Rights". Each station is represented by a square pillar (85 cm x 85 cm x 1.90 m) whose four sides can each be explored by several pupils at the same time. As they are doing so, linked offers of support and different perspectives are shown to them, promoting mutual fairness and informing pupils about their rights. Interested schools or youth institutions can borrow the exhibition from BIG Prevention.

"Hello, I am a teacher at X primary school. A few weeks ago, I visited the 'Echt Fair' exhibition with my pupils. I would like to give you some extremely positive feedback: One of my pupils (who had experienced domestic violence for years) finally sought help, thanks to the telephone number you handed round. She got in contact with the children's emergency helpline and is now in temporary accommodation for young people at risk from domestic abuse. Both ourselves and the local youth welfare office had been trying everything we could to get this girl away from her family – unfortunately unsuccessfully. Nothing better could have happened but for the girl to dare to take this step of her own accord. I am immensely proud of my pupil (she is 11 years old!). Thank you very much for your valuable contribution to this positive turn of events!"



► Pupils visiting the exhibition "ECHT FAIR"

VIOLENCE IS NEVER OK!

Each new generation of children uses the internet with more confidence than the previous one. Whenever they look for information or help, they almost always look online first. That is why BIG Prevention has developed a website that provides information about domestic violence in a way that is appropriate for and sensitive to children and also shows what help is available: www.gewalt-ist-nie-ok.de. On this website, children and young adults can find audio files and videos featuring stories told by their peers about the domestic violence they themselves have experienced. This website also has quizzes which encourage the children to assess their own situation in a game-like environment (for example, "Is my family OK?"), all the usual questions about the issue are answered ("What is domestic violence, anyway?"). How can I help my friend? Where can I get help? The page is available in German, Turkish, English, Spanish and Arabic. All of the important numbers to call in an emergency situation are displayed on one easy to follow page.



► Website: www.gewalt-ist-nie-ok.de



► Postcard: www.gewalt-ist-nie-ok.de

MILESTONES AT A GLANCE

NEW PHILOSOPHY, NEW PRACTICAL APPROACH

In 1995, when police were called out to a domestic violence incident, it was recorded as a "family dispute". Not even five years later, all police officers at all police stations in Berlin were calling it by its proper name: "domestic violence" and it has been recorded as such ever since. This represents so much more than merely using a different term to describe something: it mirrors today's fundamentally changed attitude towards domestic violence in society – not just in the police force. Progress has also been made in the way the issue is confronted in mental, and above all in practical terms. Over the past twenty years, BIG has decisively contributed to these steps in the right direction.

1. FROM PRIVATE MATTER TO GOVERNMENT TASK

Twenty years ago, the prevailing attitude was that domestic violence was a private matter, and that the government should not become involved. Today, there is no longer any doubt that the government and its institutions are charged with preventing domestic violence.

2. FROM MINORITY ISSUE TO SOCIAL PROBLEM

Twenty years ago, the generally held opinion was that domestic violence is a problem that affects only the lower social classes, and only relatively few women. By contrast, today's figures show that every fourth woman suffers violence in a relationship at least once. And: domestic violence is found in all social classes.

3. FROM RECONCILIATION TO INTERVENTION

Twenty years ago, the majority of the population thought that domestic violence was only a one-off incident and related to some specific dispute which could easily be settled in other ways. Today, however, most people are aware of the fact that this violence is perpetrated systematically. Even the first time is not a "one-off" but the manifestation of a general attitude towards women and therefore a social problem. It is therefore not possible to "reconcile" this "dispute". Decisive intervention is necessary in order to end violence.

4. FROM INDIVIDUAL PROTECTION MEASURES TO A COMPREHENSIVE INTERVENTION SYSTEM

Twenty years ago, people thought it was enough to offer women who were victims of domestic violence protection and help in the form of a place at a women's refuge. Today, on the other hand, there is no doubt that finding shelter in the safe environment of a women's refuge is only the first

step. Effective protection from domestic violence calls for a comprehensive support system.

5. FROM OCCASIONAL EXCHANGE OF VIEWS TO CONSISTENT COOPERATION

Twenty years ago, the cooperation between institutions usually consisted of an occasional and short-term exchange of views for the purpose of overcoming an immediate problem. Today, the situation is quite different. The new methods applied in intervention projects rely on cooperation and a consensus between institutions which, in the past, were either not at all or hardly in contact with one another. And this cooperation is strategic and sustainable in nature.

6. FROM MISTRUST TO COOPERATION

Twenty years ago, the dealings among the various professions involved in domestic violence were frequently marred by mistrust. Today, however, it is a generally accepted fact that mutual cooperation of this type acts to protect women. Although the various institutions dealing with the issue of domestic violence may sometimes be critical of one another, they cooperate amicably. The institutions involved have learned to trust each other over time, and everyone is aware of the fact that major progress has already been made in this respect.

7. FROM UNCERTAINTY TO SKILLED HANDLING

Twenty years ago, the experience of many women was that the staff in government agencies and offices knew little about violent partnerships and therefore did not respond adequately. In contrast, many government agencies and offices have now realised that sound and relevant basic knowledge is a vital requirement for giving competent advice to women who are victims of violence. Further training courses are now available for almost all of the various professions involved in domestic violence cases. They are well-attended up and have in practice led to better support for women.

8. FROM VICTIMS FLEEING TO PERPETRATORS BEING ISSUED WITH COURT ORDERS

Twenty years ago, it was generally believed that the only way to guarantee respite from domestic violence or even end it was the woman leaving home. Now, the accepted norm is "Abusers must go". This is not just a phrase, it is in fact documented in the Protection Against Violence Act and the amendment to the Police Act.

9. FROM LOOKING AT THE WOMEN TO CONSIDERING THE CHILDREN

Twenty years ago, the prevailing belief was that helping the women was enough, as the violence their mothers suffered was not actually directed at the children, after all. Nowadays, we know that when children experience domestic abuse in their homes, this is itself an act of violence. They are also victims. Victims who must be considered to a far greater extent than they have been so far.

10. FROM FEELING ASHAMED TO GETTING HELP

Twenty years ago, most women seemed to be ashamed of the violence of which they were a victim. This made it difficult for them to talk about the abuse and they were reluctant to file charges. Today, though, women are increasingly no longer prepared to silently accept domestic violence. The rising number of charges filed against domestic abusers shows that more women are finding the courage to stand up for themselves.

1993 TO THE PRESENT



► March 2013: Scene from Forum Theatre

MARCH 2013 The BIG Hotline opens a drop-in centre. The "mobile intervention" outreach service can now take place in a secure, calm and protected environment. In emergencies, the women and children can stay at the drop-in centre until they know what they want to do next.

MARCH 2013 In the course of a participative forum theatre project at the fringe theatre Heimathafen Neukölln, BIG addresses potential supporters of victims directly for the first time.

NOVEMBER 2012 As of now, the BIG Hotline is open 24/7.

JUNE 2012 The current German ice hockey champions Eisbären Berlin support a BIG e.V. campaign against domestic violence. By organising charity games, poster campaigns and video spots, the team demonstrates their commitment to fighting domestic violence ("Ice cold against violence" – an allusion to the team name, the "polar bears"), for example, during a game in the O2 World in March 2013, which they used to inform over 14,000 fans about domestic violence and the help available.

MAY 2012 A pilot project for the prevention of violence in teenage relationships is initiated in secondary schools.

NOVEMBER 2011 The pilot project "Let's end domestic violence" starts. It is the first project to combine abuser-oriented work with women's aid, and is aimed at offering affected (ex-)partners better protection from perpetrators in abuser programmes, and increasing the number of perpetrators placed in such programmes by court order.

NOVEMBER 2010 BIG Prevention wins a violence prevention prize for its innovative and successful work, awarded by the Berlin state commission against violence.

FEBRUARY 2009 BIG's new interactive exhibition about domestic violence, "ECHT FAIR!", is shown for the first time at the Didacta trade fair for education in Hanover.

MAY 2008 As of now, children and young adults can find comprehensive information about domestic violence online at www.gewalt-ist-nie-ok.de.

SEPTEMBER 2007 The BIG advisors can now also be contacted online.

2006 BIG Prevention starts as a national pilot project. The project introduces the issue of domestic abuse to violence prevention education carried out in schools for the first time.

OCTOBER 2005 A proactive approach is introduced in cooperation with professionally staffed advice centres, intervention organisations and the police: If the woman concerned consents, her contact data can be passed on to the BIG Hotline.

JANUARY 2002 The "Gewaltschutzgesetz", the protection against violence act, comes into force and provides women who are victims of domestic violence with new legal possibilities. The Act is based on a draft by BIG e.V. The Police Acts of the various German federal states are also amended on the basis of this Act: It is now easier for the police to issue a protection order over a longer period: "Abusers must go".

2001 For the first time ever, specially trained "domestic violence coordinators and multipliers" are appointed in each police department and station for victims to turn to.

MAY 2001 Mobile intervention is added to the BIG Hotline services, which previously consisted only of giving advice over the telephone. If necessary, women and children suffering domestic violence can now also receive one-to-one outreach support at a safe place of their choice.

NOVEMBER 2000 The BIG Hotline receives the first-ever prevention prize awarded by the Berlin state commission against violence for its exemplary and innovative activities in the area of violence and crime prevention.

NOVEMBER 1999 The BIG Hotline is opened. It is Germany's first domestic violence helpline.

OCTOBER 1999 BIG publishes the first guidelines for the police force regarding police intervention in cases of domestic violence.

OCTOBER 1995 BIG Coordination (initially under the name of "Berliner Interventionsprojekt") starts as a national pilot project. It is the first organisation in Germany to focus on cooperation when it comes to "domestic violence". One of the project's achievements is raising the issue of domestic violence from the local level of public administration to the national political level. The first political round table about the issue signifies that domestic violence is no longer seen as a private matter but taken seriously as a social problem. Over the next few years, these cooperative efforts evolve into stable structures. The BIG model is introduced nationwide.

1993 Foundation of the organisation "Berliner Initiative gegen Gewalt an Frauen", BIG e.V.



► Current German ice hockey champions Eisbären Berlin support the BIG e.V. campaign against domestic violence.

CONCLUSION / OUTLOOK

After twenty years, we can conclude that the foundations for effective protection against domestic violence have been laid. One aim, namely viewing and tackling domestic violence against women as a problem that affects society as a whole, has for the most part been achieved. By and large, the establishment and extension of the support system and the development of protective measures have also been successfully achieved. However, that is not enough in bringing us closer to the overall goal of a less violent society. This urgently calls for maintaining the support system, stepping up prevention efforts, and working far more towards changing the behaviour of the perpetrators than has been the case so far.

VITALLY IMPORTANT – WORKING WITH YOUNG ADULTS

Prevention work at primary schools has paved the way and laid important foundations for taking emphatic and long-term action against domestic violence. Besides working with children, the focus must be placed increasingly on teenagers in future. They are entering into their first adult relationships and must be given more support in order to learn how to deal with themselves and others respectfully, and empowered to lead relationships based on mutual appreciation. That is the basic starting point of a new BIG project in secondary schools aimed at preventing violence in teenage relationships, which is currently in the pilot phase.

ABUSERS MUST GO – AND THEN? WORKING WITH ABUSERS

The focus must shift to the abusers to a far greater degree than has been the case so far. Together, we have to develop abuser-oriented intervention measures. Whenever abusers come into contact with institutions, they should be met by a uniform language and clear messages and signals. While a process of rethinking is taking place to some degree, in practice there is still a major lack of consistency when it comes to holding violent men to account for their actions. Institutions continue to deal with them in a way that is fraught with ambiguity, uncertainty and sometimes even fear. Concepts and guidelines must be developed for all of the relevant professions. These must clearly define the respective institutions and agencies' agreed attitude towards the perpetrators of domestic violence, define the way they are dealt with and define how to communicate to the abusers what will be expected of them in future. Practical measures to help them change their behaviour are still offered only very rarely today,

and funded even less. At the present time, the principle of voluntariness still generally applies. One future task will be to achieve a general consensus in society that categorical action must be taken to ensure that perpetrators are ordered to participate in violence prevention programmes to coordinate with the other intervention process measures far more frequently than they currently are. In the course of criminal proceedings, perpetrators can be ordered by the court to attend such a programme in the form of a probation condition or rule. Participation in such a programme can also be ordered by family courts or the youth welfare offices as a condition for an abuser's contact with their children. These measures and programmes are not only aimed at instilling an awareness of the fact that they have acted wrongly and against the law, but also intend to open up perspectives for a violence-free life with a partner and children.

SPECIFIC MEASURES – IMPROVED PROTECTION FOR MIGRANT WOMEN

Both the latest study by the Federal Ministry of Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth and practical experiences have shown that migrant women suffer domestic abuse to a disproportionately high degree. Improving and adapting the support services and protection measures to take the specific situation of migrant women into account is an ongoing task. In future, all institutions and people involved in the development of measures must also always consider this fact. The requirements as such have not changed: models must be developed that make it possible for migrant women to seek help as soon as possible and without disadvantaging themselves – for example when it comes to their residential status.

EMBEDDING KNOWLEDGE – WORKING WITH THE PROFESSIONALS

If domestic violence is to be structurally reduced, we must ensure that the knowledge about how it develops and manifests itself is spread further. This means that the issue of domestic violence must feature to an even greater degree in the contents of the vocational qualification and further training courses of all those who will come into contact with it in the course of pursuing their (future) professions.

- POLICE: Officers on patrol, staff taking emergency calls, clerical officers, victim protection and prevention officers and criminal investigation team members.
- IMMIGRATION AND RESIDENCE REGISTRATION OFFICE

- LEGAL SYSTEM: Criminal, civil and family court judges, district and public prosecutors, lawyers, judicial officers, bailiffs.
- HEALTHCARE SECTOR: Physicians, nursing staff, mental health professionals, nursing college teachers.
- SOCIAL SERVICES SECTOR: Youth welfare and social security office staff, Jobcentre staff, family support organisation staff, in institutions that address boys and girls, in women's aid organisations and organisations for senior citizens and for women with disabilities.
- EDUCATION SECTOR: Daycare centre, school and care home staff.

STAY WITH IT – FEEDBACK AND RESPONSE

One conclusion arrived at by "Wissenschaftlichen Begleitung von Interventionsprojekten (WiBIG), a research project that accompanies intervention projects, is: "As long as domestic violence continues to be an everyday reality for many women and children, an independent body is needed which ensures that the issue remains permanently on the agenda, bundles the combined forces of the support system and organises the development of measures and strategies at all levels." What can and must be ensured in this respect is that the practical effectiveness of the already implemented measures is continuously monitored and, if necessary, optimised.

EXPOSING OWN PRECONCEPTIONS – WORKING ON YOUR OWN MIND-SET

"One size fits all" – a measure that is right for everyone? That is certainly unlikely to be true when it comes to protection and support in cases of domestic violence, because the support and help offered must be as different as the women affected by domestic violence are from each other. For support system staff, this means analysing your own mentality very carefully in order to expose potential preconceptions, and continuously examining their own convictions held. Because it is not necessarily a sign of strength if a woman leaves a violent partner, and not necessarily a sign of weakness if she wants to stay with him. Clichés and preconceived ideas of victimhood continue to cloud opinions about the women concerned. Another focus of BIG's future work will be to address this issue and encourage its confrontation, for example, in further training courses. This means that all those involved – institutions as well as people – must continue to also work on themselves. A necessary prerequisite and precondition for this future work are the national and regional plans of action for fighting violence against women.

HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT OUR EFFORTS

The work our organisation does is valuable and very important. However, government funding does not adequately cover the financial outlays. To be able to protect women and their children now and in future, we depend on support that goes beyond this. Your donation will help women and their children live in safety and without fear. We would therefore very much welcome your support.

DONATIONS

It is easy to make a donation, for example by instructing your bank to make a direct debit payment, or by completing a donation form, which you can find online at <http://www.big-berlin.info/spenden>.

The form also includes an option for donating on a regular basis.

Our bank details are:

Account holder: BIG e. V.

Bank: Deutsche Kreditbank

Account no.: 18 156 554

Sort code: 120 300 00

BECOMING A SUSTAINING MEMBER

Secure, permanent basic funding provides the organisation with the security it needs to plan ahead and the staying power that is so vital for implementing new projects for the protection of women and children who are victims of domestic abuse. As a sustaining member, you can contribute to ensuring that BIG e. V. can continue its work. The minimum amount is five euros a month, or 50 euros a year. It is up to you whether you would like to contribute more.

The advantages of sustaining member status:

- The amount you donate is tax-deductible. We will issue you with a respective donation receipt.
- You will help women and children who are victims of domestic violence to get protection and help, and empower them to be able to live in violence-free relationships in the future.
- We are showing the world that you support us: If you like, we will mention you as a supporter on our website and in other materials published by the organisation.
- We will keep you informed: In addition to the regular newsletter about developments in this area, you will also be among the first to automatically receive our annual reports.

COOPERATION PARTNERS AND NETWORKS

BIG IS ACTIVE IN NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL NETWORKS

I. NATIONAL COMMITTEES, FOR EXAMPLE

- Federal Ministry of Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (BMFSJ) Bund-Länder-AG working group
- National coordinators' conference
- Bundesarbeitsgemeinschaft kommunaler Frauenbüros (BAG, national working group of public women's advice centres) – abuser-oriented domestic violence work
- National conference of intervention organisations
- Women's refuge coordination conferences

II. EUROPEAN COMMITTEES, FOR EXAMPLE

- Network convention of the national coordination conferences in Austria, Switzerland, Luxembourg, Southern Tirol and Germany.
- Women against Violence in Europe (WAVE)
- Family Justice Centres Europe

III. BIG STEERS COMMITTEES SUCH AS

- The domestic violence commission of experts
- The women, abuser-oriented intervention and children/young adults experts' committees reporting to the commission of experts
- The working groups reporting to the experts' committees

IV. BIG COOPERATES WITH, FOR EXAMPLE

- The police force
- The legal system
 - the local district court and public prosecutor's office
 - the family courts
 - female lawyers
- Youth welfare organisations
 - the youth welfare offices
 - the children's emergency social work service
 - the emergency social work service for girls
 - the EUKITEA theatre
- Organisations in the social services and health sector
 - victim support outreach services
 - women's refuges, shelters
 - professionally staffed advice centres and intervention organisations
 - S.I.G.N.A.L. intervention programmes
 - victim support
 - Wildwasser (support for girls who have suffered sexual abuse), Lesbenberatung (advice centre for lesbians), LARA (emergency help and advice for women and girls

- who have been sexually harassed or raped)
 - institutions that focus on abuser-oriented work
 - migrant (women's) projects
 - disability associations
- Various Berlin Senate departments
 - Berlin Senate Department of Justice
 - Berlin Senate Department for Labour, Integration and Women's Issues
 - Berlin Senate Department for Education, Science and Research
 - Berlin Senate Department for Internal Affairs and Sports
 - the immigration authorities
 - Various Federal Ministries
 - the Federal Ministry of Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth.
 - the Federal Ministry of the Interior
 - the Federal Ministry of Justice
 - Nationally
 - Bundesverband Frauenberatungsstellen und Frauennotrufe (BFF, the national association of women's advice and women's aid centres)
 - Zentrale Informationsstelle Autonomer Frauenhäuser (ZIF, independent women's refuges central information service)
 - Koordinierungskreis gegen Frauenhandel und Gewalt an Frauen (KOK, German NGO network against trafficking in women and violence against migrant women)
 - National Gegen Gewalt an Frauen helpline for women suffering violence
 - Weißer Ring (support organisation for victims of crime)
 - Terre des Femmes
 - Women's refuge coordination
 - GIZ, the German society for international cooperation
 - Educational establishments
 - schools
 - Bildungswerk Kreuzberg (BWK) further education and vocational training centre
 - Sozialpädagogisches Fortbildungsinstitut Berlin Brandenburg (SFBB, further training institute for socio-pedagogic professions)
 - Berlin state public services
 - district equality and diversity officers
 - Berlin Senate integration officer
 - Jobcentres
 - Berlin state commission against violence

LIST OF MATERIALS AVAILABLE IN BIG INSTITUTIONS

FOR MULTIPLIERS:

ZWANGSVERHEIRATUNG – Information material published by the Berlin working group against forced marriages, 2nd edition 2013

HÄUSLICHE GEWALT • AUCH SIE KÖNNEN HELFEN
– Information and helpful hints for potential supporters of victims, 1st edition 2013

GEWALT GEGEN KINDER UND JUGENDLICHE • WAS IST ZU TUN? – A manual for regional teachers and daycare centre staff, 2nd edition 2013

FLYER BIG PREVENTION – BIG Prevention offers, 3rd edition 2013

FLYER BIG COORDINATION – BIG Coordination offers, 3rd edition 2013

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS in German, Turkish, Arabic, Russian, Vietnamese – Information for parents about the issue of "domestic violence"
3rd edition 2012 German/Turkish
2nd edition 2013 Arabic
1st edition 2013 Russian and Vietnamese

10 JAHRE GEWALTSCHUTZGESETZ, ("10 years protection against violence act") 1st edition 2012

WENN PATIENTINNEN VON GEWALT BETROFFEN SIND – Information about violence against women for physicians, 2nd edition 2010

BROSCHÜRE: TRAU DICH "MEHR MUT ZUM REDEN" – About abused women and their children, 5th edition 2010

BEGLEITETER UMGANG BEI HÄUSLICHER GEWALT inkl. Standards zur Durchführung von begleitetem Umgang bei häuslicher Gewalt – Background information focusing on "children and domestic violence", decision-making aid and best practice guidelines for facilitating "supervised contact" in domestic violence cases, 5th edition 2010

EMPFEHLUNGEN FÜR JUGENDÄMTER IN FÄLLEN HÄUSLICHER GEWALT – Discussion and practice recommendations for youth welfare office staff and staff working for non-governmental organisations providing social

services to children and young adults, 3rd edition 2010

FLYER BIG E.V. in German and English – Overview of the Berliner Initiative gegen Gewalt an Frauen facilities, 1st edition 2010

HÄUSLICHE GEWALT • ANREGUNGEN ZUR VERFAHRENSGESTALTUNG IN UMGANGFÄLLEN BEI HÄUSLICHER GEWALT – Best practice recommendations for contact arrangements in cases of domestic violence, 2nd edition 2010

BIG PRÄVENTIONSPROJEKT • MODELLPHASE 2006 – 2008 ABSCHLUSSBERICHT – Final report on conclusion of the model phase of the BIG Prevention project, 1st edition 2009

GUIDELINES • POLIZEILICHES HANDELN IN FÄLLEN HÄUSLICHER GEWALT – Guidelines for police intervention in domestic violence incidents, 1st edition 1999

BROSCHÜRE: TRAU DICH "MEHR MUT ZUM REDEN" IN TURKISH – About abused women and their children

SCHUTZANTRAGSFOMULARE "ZIVILRECHTLICHE SCHUTZANORDNUNGEN BEI HÄUSLICHER GEWALT" – Protection order application forms to apply for protection under civil law for women as well as for men, including samples and explanations

VIDEO "KENNST DU DAS AUCH?" – WAHRE GESCHICHTEN VON ZU HAUSE – Five girls and boys talk about their experiences with domestic violence

BROSCHURE 1: GEWALT GEGEN FRAUEN IM HÄUSLICHEN BEREICH – Information about violence against women in a domestic environment and intervention possibilities, 1st edition 1996, XIV.1.1.1

BROSCHURE 2: JETZT ERST RECHT – Information about the rights of abused women – and the consequences for the abusers, 3rd edition 2001, XIV.1.1.2

BROSCHURE 3: GRENZEN SETZEN • VERANTWORTLICH MACHEN • VERÄNDERUNG ERMÖGLICHEN – Information about the methods and limits of abuser-oriented work within the scope of an intervention project, 1st edition 1997, XIV.1.1.3

FOR WOMEN SUFFERING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE:

INFORMATION BROCHURE : "IHR RECHT BEI HÄUSLICHER GEWALT" ("Domestic violence – your rights") – Protection available to victims of domestic violence from the police, and protection offered by criminal and civil law, available in 14 different languages, 10th edition 2012

HOTLINE FLYER, 1st edition 2012

FLYER JOBCENTER, 2nd edition 2012

HÄUSLICHE GEWALT IST NIE IN ORDNUNG – Brochure on domestic violence written in inclusive language, 1st edition 2012

WEGWEISER MIGRANTINNEN ("Migrant women's manual"), List of government agencies and advice centre for migrant women suffering domestic violence, multilingual

ERZÄHLKARTEN (story cards), 40 illustrated cards with and without text – Communicates information about domestic violence to associations and societies for migrant women living in Berlin, 1st edition 2011

TRAVELLING EXHIBITION

"ECHT FAIR!" EXHIBITION 2008 – Interactive exhibition about violence prevention aimed at children and young adults May be borrowed from BIG Prevention: mail@big-praevention.de

BROCHURE FOR TEACHERS to accompany the interactive exhibition "ECHT FAIR!" – Practice-related accompanying material for schools showing the exhibition

INFORMATION FLYER FOR YOUNG ADULTS to accompany the interactive exhibition "ECHT FAIR!" – Information about the individual exhibition pillars

INFORMATIONSFLYER FÜR ELTERN to accompany the interactive exhibition "ECHT FAIR!" – Information for parents about the exhibition contents



