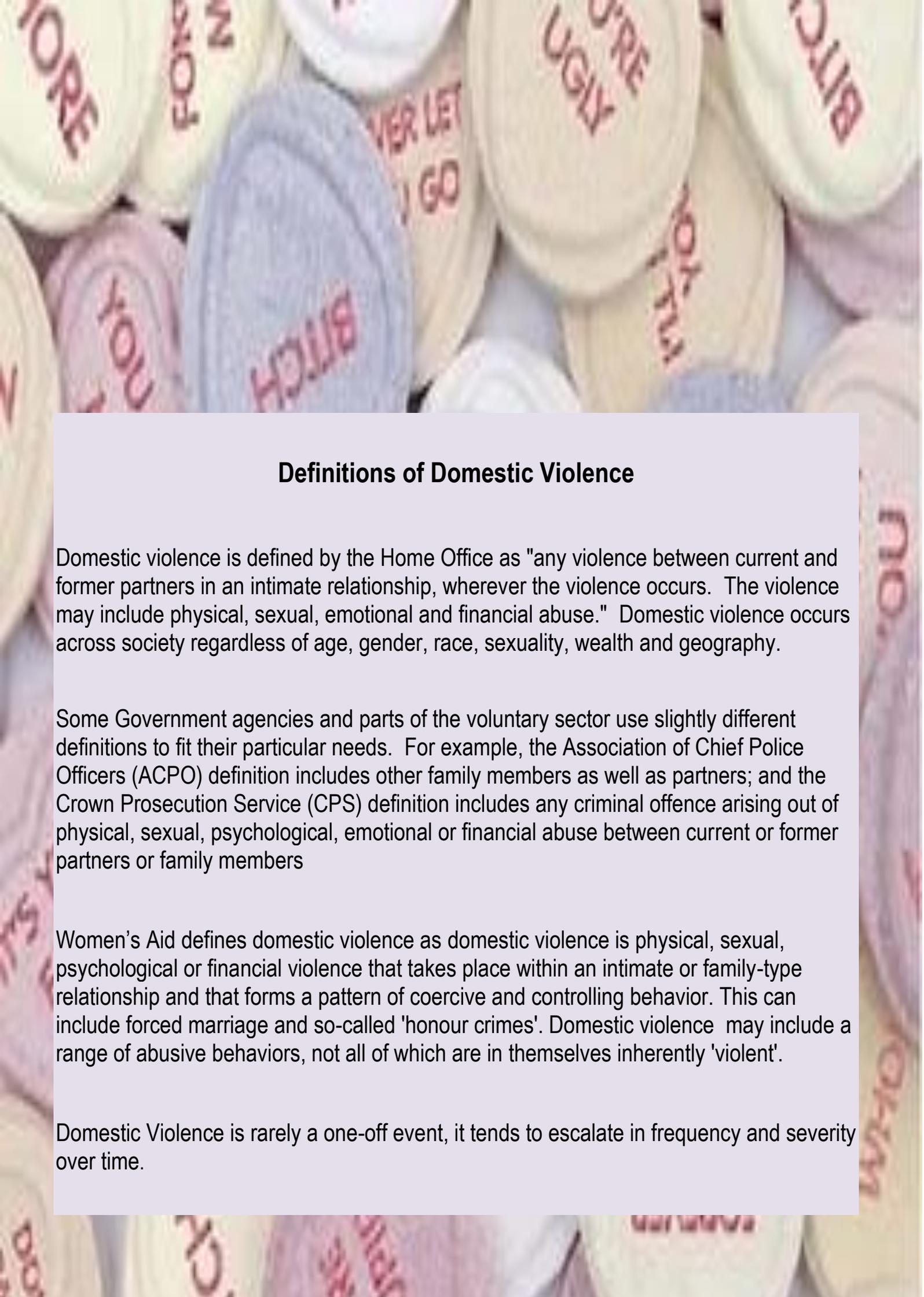
A photograph of a woman lying in a hospital bed, appearing to be in a state of distress or being attended to by medical staff. The scene is dimly lit, with a focus on the woman's face and the hands of the medical staff. The overall tone is somber and urgent.

HARV Domestic Violence Team

**Identifying, supporting and protection Women and Children affected by
domestic violence**

Annual Report 2008-2009

Charity No 1069366
Limited Company No 06673278



Definitions of Domestic Violence

Domestic violence is defined by the Home Office as "any violence between current and former partners in an intimate relationship, wherever the violence occurs. The violence may include physical, sexual, emotional and financial abuse." Domestic violence occurs across society regardless of age, gender, race, sexuality, wealth and geography.

Some Government agencies and parts of the voluntary sector use slightly different definitions to fit their particular needs. For example, the Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) definition includes other family members as well as partners; and the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) definition includes any criminal offence arising out of physical, sexual, psychological, emotional or financial abuse between current or former partners or family members

Women's Aid defines domestic violence as domestic violence is physical, sexual, psychological or financial violence that takes place within an intimate or family-type relationship and that forms a pattern of coercive and controlling behavior. This can include forced marriage and so-called 'honour crimes'. Domestic violence may include a range of abusive behaviors, not all of which are in themselves inherently 'violent'.

Domestic Violence is rarely a one-off event, it tends to escalate in frequency and severity over time.

What are the signs of domestic violence?

Destructive criticism and verbal abuse:

shouting/mocking/accusing/name calling/verbally threatening

Pressure tactics:

sulking, threatening to withhold money, disconnect the telephone, take the car away, commit suicide, take the children away, report you to welfare agencies unless you comply with his demands regarding bringing up the children, lying to your friends and family about you, telling you that you have no choice in any decisions.

Disrespect:

persistently putting you down in front of other people, not listening or responding when you talk, interrupting your telephone calls, taking money from your purse without asking, refusing to help with childcare or housework.

Breaking trust:

lying to you, withholding information from you, being jealous, having other relationships, breaking promises and shared agreements.

Isolation:

monitoring or blocking your telephone calls, telling you where you can and cannot go, preventing you from seeing friends and relatives.

Harassment:

following you, checking up on you, opening your mail, repeatedly checking to see who has telephoned you, embarrassing you in public.

Threats:

making angry gestures, using physical size to intimidate, shouting you down, destroying your possessions, breaking things, punching walls, wielding a knife or a gun, threatening to kill or harm you and the children.

Sexual violence:

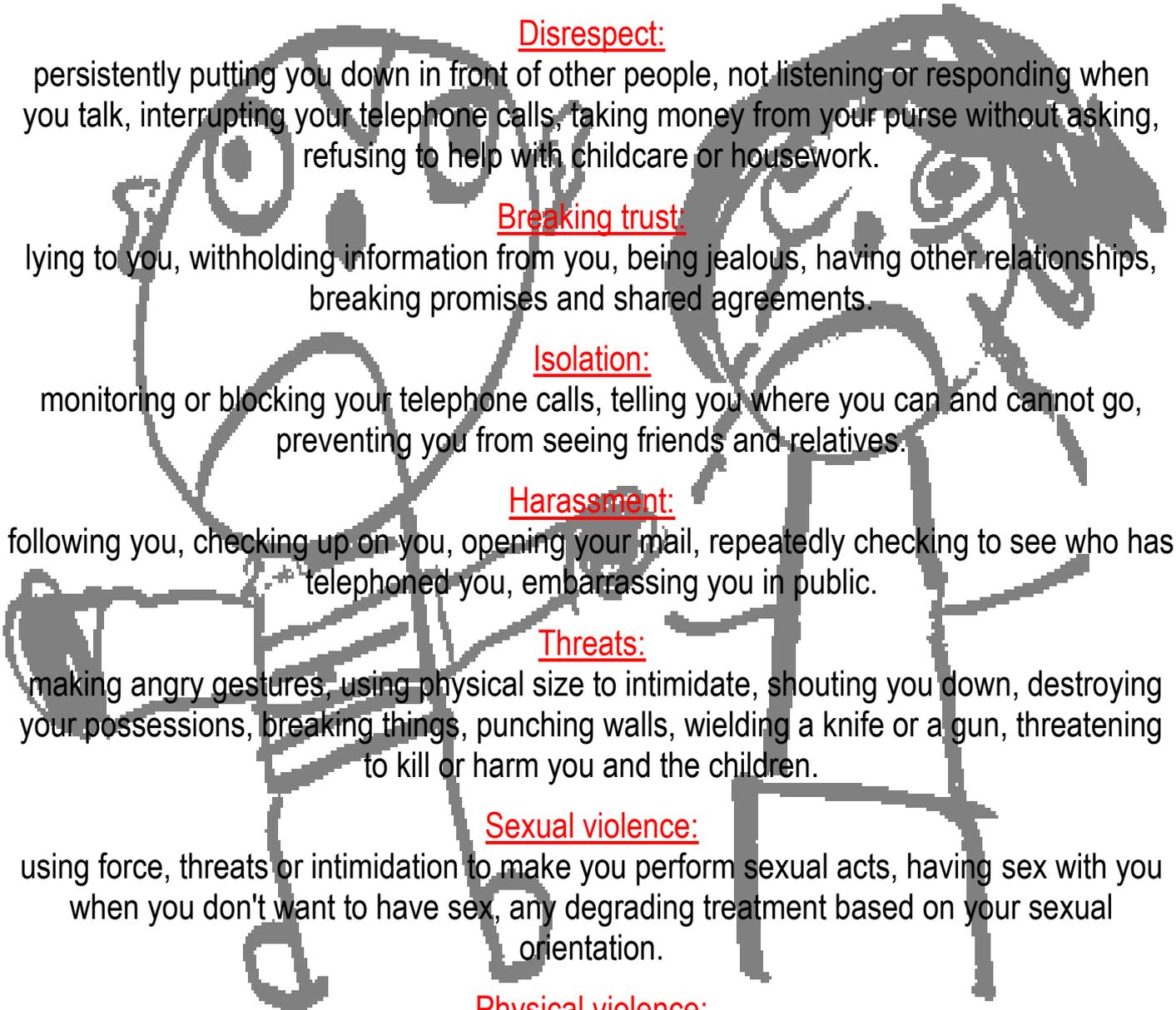
using force, threats or intimidation to make you perform sexual acts, having sex with you when you don't want to have sex, any degrading treatment based on your sexual orientation.

Physical violence:

punching, slapping, hitting, biting, pinching, kicking, pulling hair out, pushing, shoving, burning, strangling.

Denial:

saying the abuse doesn't happen, saying you caused the abusive behavior, being publicly gentle and patient, crying and begging for forgiveness, saying it will never happen again.



Statistics

- Nearly 1 million women experience at least one incident of domestic abuse each year (British Crime Survey (BCS) self-completion questionnaire, 2007/08).
- Close to 10,000 women are sexually assaulted every week (BCS self-completion questionnaire, July 2008).
- At least 750,000 children a year witness domestic violence (Department of Health, 2002).
- More than one in four women in England and Wales (4.8 million) since aged 16 has experienced at least one incident of domestic abuse.
- Every year 1 million women experience at least one incident of domestic abuse – nearly 20,000 women a week. Of the 88% of young people in an intimate partner relationship, 33% of girls reported some form of sexual partner violence.

HARV Annual Statistics

In 2008-2009 HARV

Provided direct support and safety planning to 996 children & young people

Risk assessed 665 women and provided support. 90 women were identified as high risk using DASH (domestic abuse stalking and honour base violence) (CAADA) risk assessment

53 women were referred to the MARAC (Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference), 14 directly referred via HARV

There were 5548 calls to the helpline

15% of all service users were from Black, Minority and Ethnic Communities within Hyndburn

741 young people received domestic abuse awareness sessions in 10 secondary schools, 2 sixth form centres and 1 Pupil Referral unit.

In late 2008, Integrated working operational tools to safeguard children became active. In the first 4 months HARV referred 11 young people to CAF that proceeded to Team around the Child Meetings and 17 referrals were made to Children's Integrated Services as Section 17s or Section 47s. Subsequently 5 children were placed on the child protection register and 7 on family support.

HARV provided 34 professionals from public, voluntary and statutory services working in Lancashire with 3 days of domestic abuse train the trainer course.

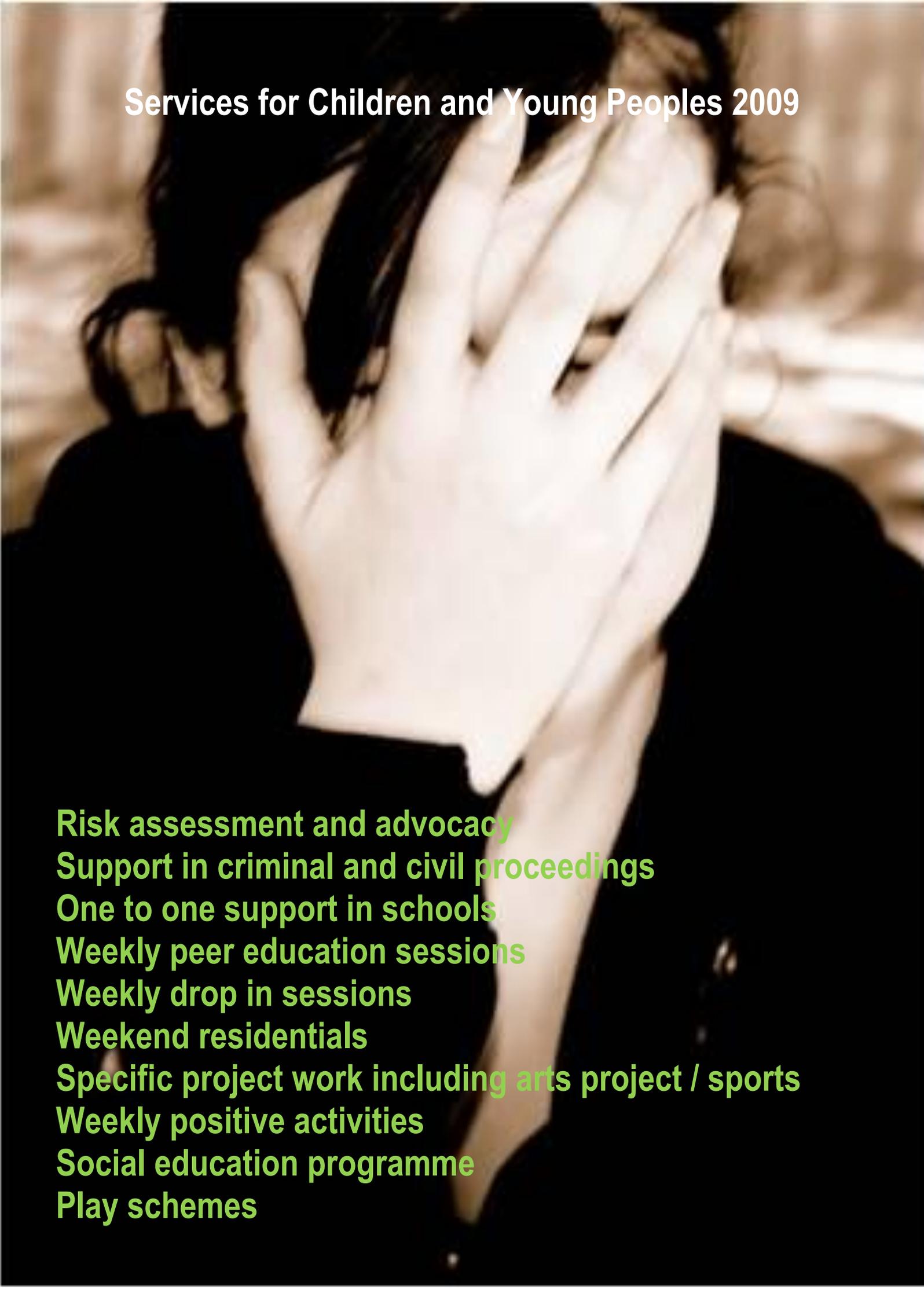
HARV provided 279 professionals with domestic abuse awareness training and safeguarding children at risk of significant harm.

42 children under the age of 12 summer play schemes

Services for Women 2009

Telephone helpline
Counselling
Outreach Support
Independent Domestic Violence
Advocacy Service (IDVA),

Neuro Linguistics Programming (NLP)
Group and Peer Support,
Information and Advice,
Practical Support, access to refuge
Domestic Abuse training,
Legal Support,
Sexual violence project
Black Minority and Ethnic Project
Sanctuary Scheme



Services for Children and Young Peoples 2009

Risk assessment and advocacy
Support in criminal and civil proceedings
One to one support in schools
Weekly peer education sessions
Weekly drop in sessions
Weekend residentials
Specific project work including arts project / sports
Weekly positive activities
Social education programme
Play schemes

A message from the Manager:

Violence against women and girls can and more than often does have a devastating effect on individuals, families and the communities within Hyndburn and Ribble Valley. The above statistics evidence how violence can ruin lives, break apart families and has an impact across the generations.

In recent years much has been done to increase protection for women and to punish perpetrators of abuse. New legislation and initial investment from central and local government have started to make a real difference.

The complexity of the issues and the far-reaching effects demand a broader response and we look forward to the launch of the Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy at the end of 2009. This strategy will represent a cross-government commitment to address the issues. It will include proposals from departments dealing with health and education, housing and defence, local government and transport, as well as from across the criminal justice system.

It will look at the role of local as well as central government with proposals for more integrated ways of organising services on the ground, and it will recognise the invaluable and pioneering role played in developing support services by specialists in the voluntary sector like HARV.

The year 2008-2009 was a great success for us, not only have we managed to secure additional funding to develop services but we have also restructured our services to better meet the complex needs of women, children and families.

In the next year we will aim to develop specialist services that prevent, provide and protect.

Prevention – changing attitudes and preventing violence: Awareness-raising campaigns; safeguarding and educating children and young people; early identification/intervention and training

Provision – helping women and girls to continue with their lives: Effective provision of services, advice and support; emergency and acute services; refuges and safe accommodation

Protection – delivering an effective criminal justice system: Investigation; prosecution; victim support and protection; perpetrator programmes

There will be a number of challenges on our journey to develop services that meet our new objectives, we are confident that with a clear strategy we can achieve and develop innovative services and lead innovation across Lancashire.

At the heart of all developments is our commitment to core values, these include listening and believing; being treated with dignity and respect and being accessible and available when women and children need support.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the staff team, I am fortunate enough to have the most committed, hardworking, professional and creative team in Lancashire. I approach the year ahead in my sixth year as manager and I am proud of our developments to date.

Debbie Fawcett

Chairs Report:

It has been a year of new developments, challenges and expansion for the HARV team and we have met the new challenges professionally and proactively through the provision of diverse services and project work.

I have increasingly been impressed with the standard of professionalism, care and sensitivity the staff team provide to women and children who have experienced or are experiencing domestic violence and thank them for their commitment and hard work as well as congratulate them on their successes.

We said goodbye to Christine Hopwood this year after her eight years of commitment to the organisation, we wish her all the best in her retirement. Rehanna Bibi our IDVA worker also left the team and is now married and we welcome her new son to the world.

We welcomed to the team Saima Chowdhary who joins us as the new Black Minority and Ethnic IDVA worker, we also welcome Silvana McKay who has extensive experience of working in refugees, outreach support and counselling. We also congratulate Amanda Elwen our children and young people's manager on the birth of her second child, Alfie and we are looking forward to seeing her back at work in September.

We also said goodbye to Caley Galeski and we welcome Lorraine Taylor and Lisa Murdoch.

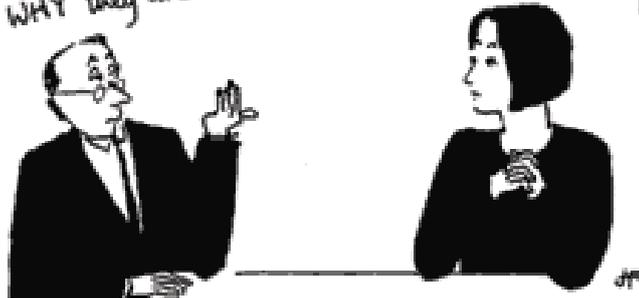
We want to ensure that survivors of domestic violence are aware of all the options that are open to them in order that they can make informed decisions about the route they wish to take to end the abuse and rebuild their lives. HARV will continue to deliver quality services that meet this core value.

I hope that you find this year's annual report interesting and educational. I will leave you with a quote from victim support,

"The wonder is not that women find it hard to leave the scene of the violence but that so many find the courage to do so".

Is there perhaps something which the victims of domestic violence have in common - some clue as to WHY they are abused?

Yes. The one element CONSISTENTLY present in ALL the cases we studied, was a violent partner.





Committee members

Gillian Landers: Chair
Louise Slater: Secretary
Maureen Fay: Treasurer

Andrea Collinge Lisa Murdoch Lorraine Taylor Claire Tindall Caley Galeski

HARV staff 2008/2009

Manager
Independent Domestic Violence Advisor (IDVA) worker
BME IDVA worker

Children and Young Peoples Manager
Administration and Finance Worker
Outreach worker

Education children and young people's worker
Children and Young People sessional workers

Student placement's

Counselling volunteer
IT Support

Debbie Fawcett
Winnie Delaney
Rehana Bibi
Saima Chowdhary
Amanda Elwen
Janet Nuttall
Christine Hopwood
Silvana McKay
Louise Neville
Kerrie Fawcett
Barry Emmett
Mandy Cooper
Helen McCabe
Julia Schofield
Bob Everiss

IF THERE'S VIOLENCE IN THE HOME, THE KIDS GET THE PICTURE

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2009

		2009		2008	
	Note	£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible fixed assets	11		139,740		105,562
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	12	4,776		38,843	
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>125,669</u>		<u>108,176</u>	
		130,445		147,019	
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year	13	[31,965]		[55,944]	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			<u>98,480</u>		<u>91,075</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES			<u>238,220</u>		<u>196,637</u>
CHARITY FUNDS					
Restricted funds	14		205,097		166,872
Unrestricted funds	14		<u>33,123</u>		<u>29,765</u>
TOTAL Funds			<u>238,220</u>		<u>196,637</u>

Acknowledgement of Funding

Big Lottery
NRF capital
SRB6
Comic Relief
Lankelly chase
Lancashire County Council Voluntary & Faith Sector Funding
East Lancashire Primary Care Trust Funding
Lancashire Area Agreement
Nationwide Foundation
Whaley Children's Centre
BBC Children in Need
Hyndburn BC Crime Disorder Reduction Partnership
Hyndburn BC Housing
Hyndburn BC sanctuary scheme
Ribble Valley Borough Council Housing
LCC Positive Activities for Young People
Lancashire County Council Youth Opportunities
Safer stronger community fund violent crime 5
Safer stronger community fund violent crime 7
CVS positive moves
Children's Workforce Development Council (CWDC)
Lancashire County Council MARAC training

Thanks and Acknowledgment:

Public protection unit (Hyndburn and Ribble Valley)
Crime and Disorder Partnerships (Hyndburn and Ribble Valley)
Children's Trusts (Hyndburn and Ribble Valley)
East Lancashire Primary Care Trust
University of Central Lancashire social work department
University of Cumbria Youth and Community Department
NSPCC
New Era
Community Voluntary Services (Hyndburn)
Home start
Home Wise
SHOUT
Lancashire wide refugees

**Auditors: Bootstrap Services, Accountancy Services, 35 Railway Road, Blackburn,
Lancashire, BB1 1EZ**



HARV

**PO Box 77
Accrington
Lancashire
BB5 1GJ**

Tel: 01254 238455

Helpline: 01254 879855

Fax: 01254 388736

Email: info@harvoutreach.org.uk

WHAT DOES IT TAKE TO GET PEOPLE TALKING ABOUT DOMESTIC ABUSE?

A picture of a celebrity with fake bruises may seem like a cheap trick but at least you noticed her. It's the 500,000 plus British women that are abused by their partners every year who go unnoticed. The thing is, real victims rarely show their bruises, or indeed their emotional scars. All too often they don't even admit that there is a problem. But domestic abuse is not something that should be kept quiet. Which is why we want you to speak up: if it's a problem, call 24/7 on our name and line for help to someone. Contact www.womensaid.org.uk

Web: www.harvoutreach.org.uk

women's aid

act
with women &
children's voices

