

Awareness Raising of Child to Parent Violence for Practitioners in Ireland- Evidence from Research

Child to Parent Violence: European Perspectives
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UNESCO Chair in
Children, Youth and Civic Engagement
Ireland

CHILD AND FAMILY RESEARCH CENTRE



NUI Galway
O'É Gallímh

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Tuning In....Aims

- Introductions
- Review of Child to Parent Violence
- Prevalance abroud and in Ireland
- Introduction to the Non Violent Resistance Programme
- Research Methodology
- Research Results
- Research Anaylsis
- Key learning and Messages



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Responding to Child to Parent Violence Project

Where does child to parent violence take place?

- Across all socio-economic and cultural groups
 - (Avraham-Krehwinkel & Aldridge 2010; Omer 2004, 2011; Lauster et al 2014)
- Some families develop repeated patterns of interaction through conflict which leads to recurrent cycles of violence.
- Mothers parenting alone following exit from domestic violence.
 - (Omer 2004, Omer & Weinblatt 2008, Coogan 2012, Coogan & Lauster 2014).
- Two parent families - often well educated and middle class, with “over entitled” children
 - (Gallagher 2004, 2008, 2014).

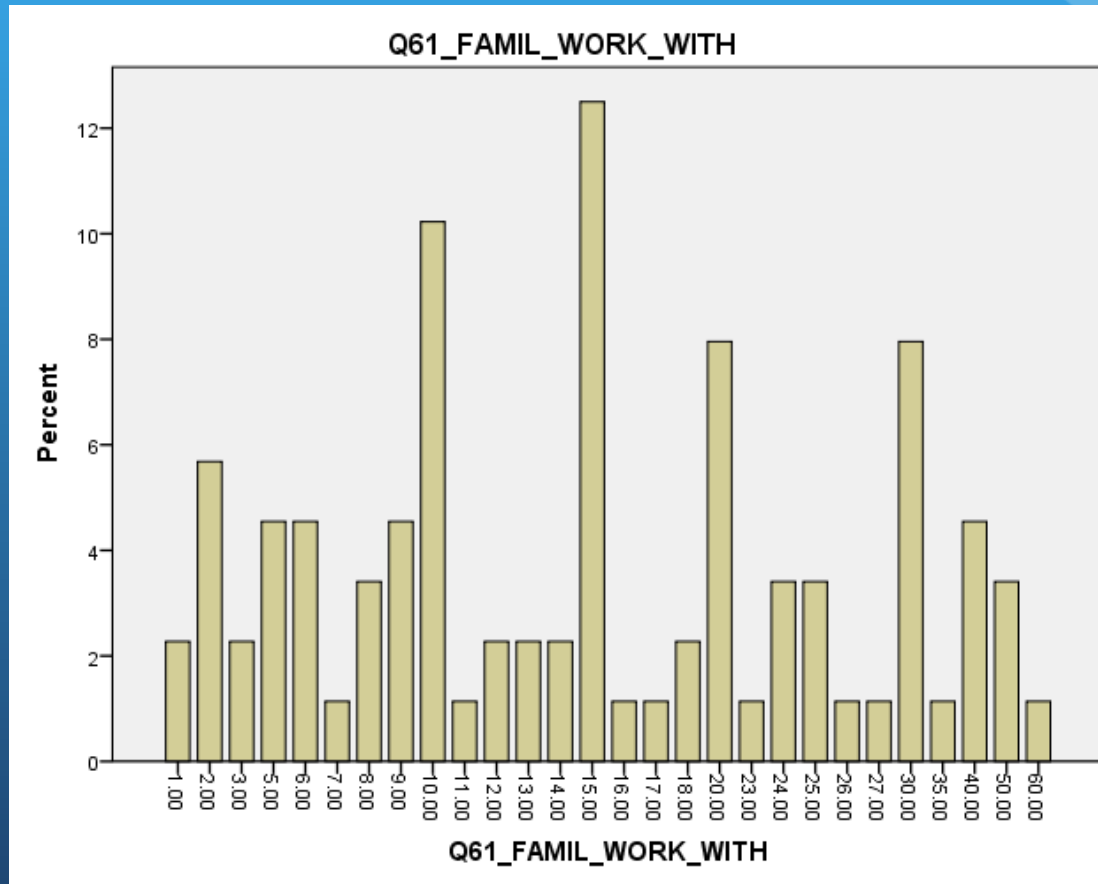
Is there a lot of child to parent violence in families?

- Figures vary but some argue 18% of two parent and 29% of one parent families
 - (Walsh & Krienert 2009)
- Pagani et al (2009) - among 15/16 year olds, 12.3% of males and 9.5% of females were physically aggressive towards their fathers in the previous six months.

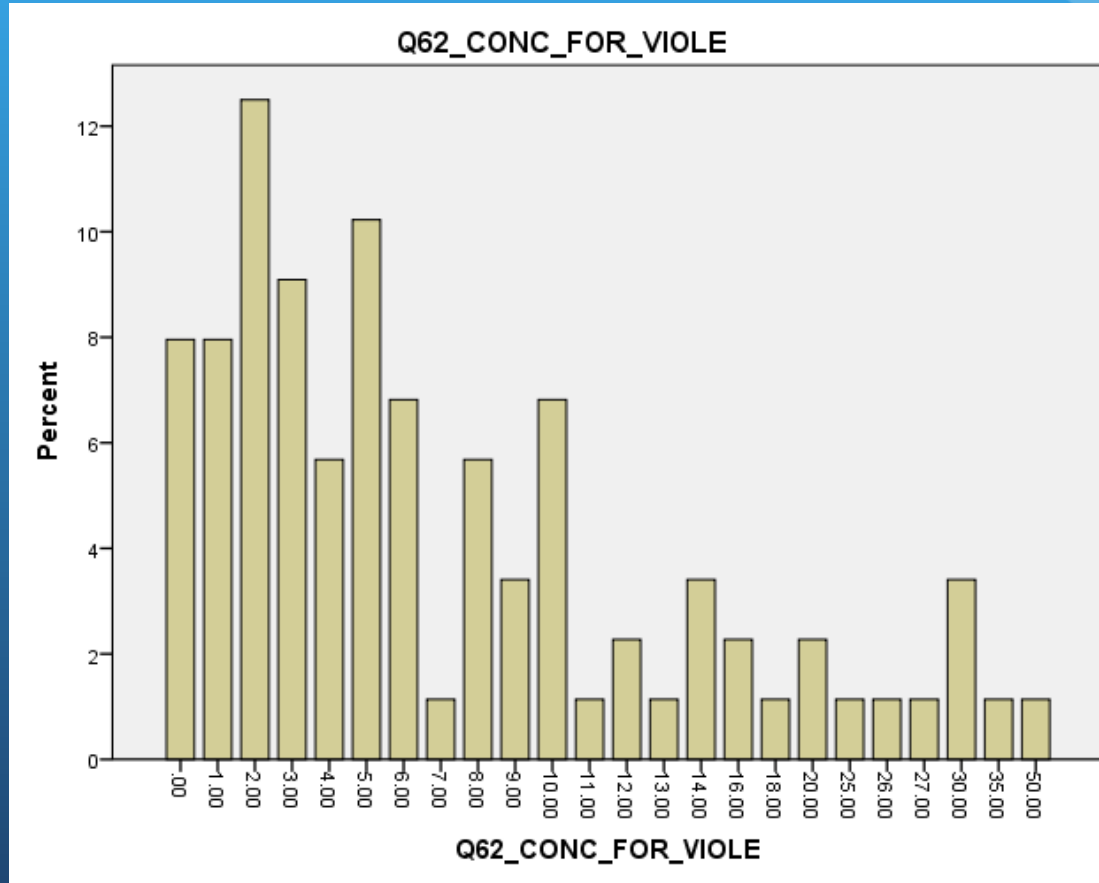
Prevalence from Research in Ireland

- Approximately, how many families do you currently work with? Mean 17.28 Std Deviation 12.53
- In how many of the families that you have identified above are there concerns about violence by anyone in the family? 8.19 Std Deviation 9.10
- In how many of the families that you have identified above are there concerns about violence by children/young person in the family? 3.86 Std Deviation 4.50

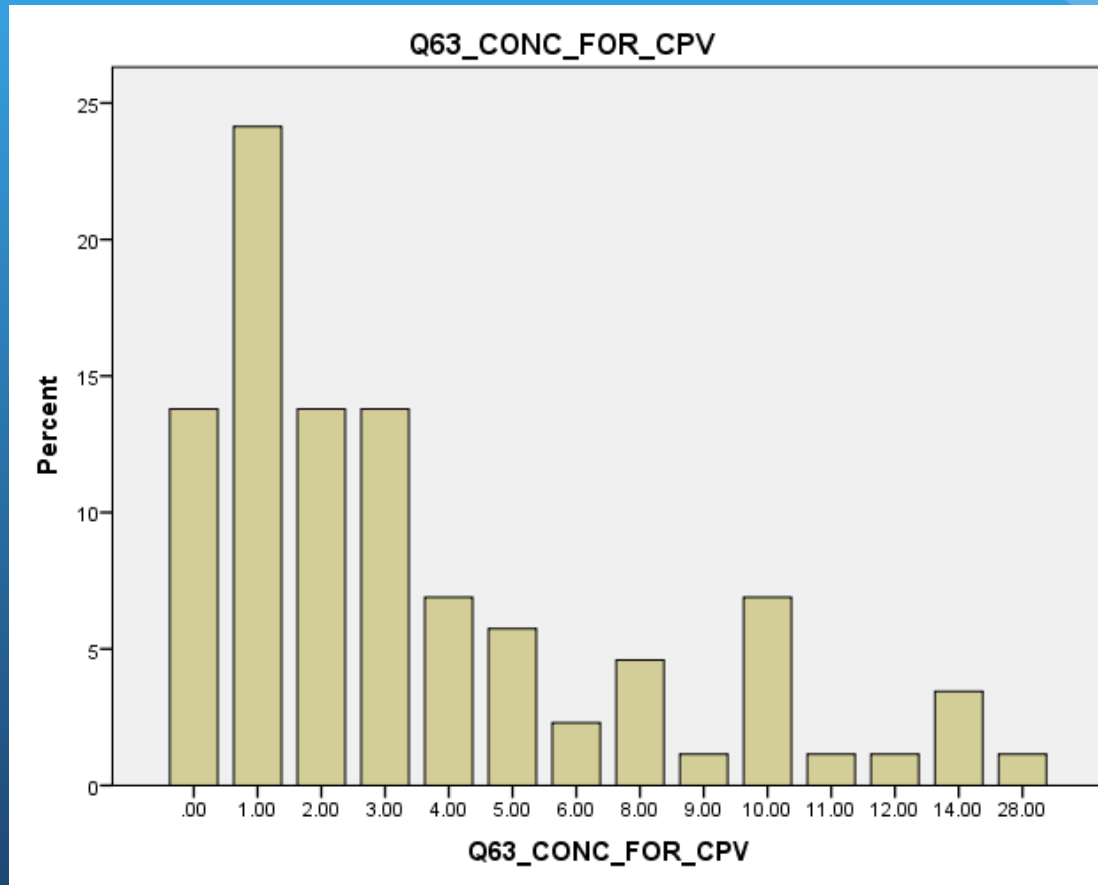
Approx. Number of Families



Families Experiencing Violence



Families Experiencing CPV



The Core Elements of the Non-Violent Resistance Programme.

(Omer 2004; Weinblatt & Omer 2008; Coogan & Lauster 2014a,
2014b; Lauster et al 2014).

The Core Elements of the Non Violent Resistance Programme.

- Commitment.
- Breaking the escalation cycle - ending behaviour patterns & pressing the pause button.
- Stepping out of secrecy - the supporter network.
- Increasing parental presence.
- Externalise the behaviour.
- Declaration of commitment to Non Violence Resistance.
- Non violent resistance & protest - refusal of orders, service strike, protest sit in
- Reconciliation Steps - drawing out positive aspects of child's personality.

Goals of Self-Efficacy Training

- Increase capacity and skills of front line workers to recognise and respond to CPV.
- Ensure workers are able to feel confident to work in this area.

Self-Efficacy Training Format

- Facilitated by Declan Coogan alone or with Eileen Lauster.
- Used short presentations of topics followed by small group discussions and role plays with an emphasis on CBT, solution focused therapy and systemic techniques.
- Solicited questions often and provided an overall positive experience for trainees. (see WS4 for Training Evaluations).

Research Methodology

- Number of trainings
- Pre-Training, Post-Training and Follow-up Interviews
- Number of completed questionnaires
- Description of Questionnaires
- Percentages of males and females
- Education levels
- Experience post latest qualification

Research Methodology

- Number of trainings- Six trainings from July 2013 to Sept. 2014 all held in Ireland on the Non Violent Resistance programme.
- Number of completed questionnaires- 145 people attended one or both days of the training and of these 140 completed Self-Efficacy Questionnaires 1 and/or 2. Of these, 110 attendees completed both Questionnaires 1 and 2.
- Percentages of males and females- 80% females and 20% males.
- Education levels- Certificate 9%, Degree 26%, Postgraduate Diploma 30%, Masters 26%, PhD 2%, Other 7%.
- Experience level post latest qualification- Newly qualified 5%, Two to Five years 17%, Six to Twelve years 38%, Over Twelve years 40%.

Questions Format and Reliability

- Description of Questionnaires- The first 42 questions in Questionnaire 1 and 2 are identical. They are Likert scaling questions for a statement rated 1-Strongly Agree, 2-Agree, 3-Neither Agree nor Disagree, 4-Disagree, and 5-Strongly Disagree.
- Grouping of Questions and Cronback's Alpha results- Worker Confidence Levels with Parents- .762, Worker Confidence Levels with Children/Young People- .761, Worker Skill Levels with Parents- .808 and Worker Skill Levels with Children/Young People- .792.

Research Analysis

- Any missing data for each question was discarded. The paired T-Test was performed in SPSS. Of the 28 questions that were analysed, 25 had statistically significant results. This means that the overall increase in ranking scores for each of the four headings was not due to chance.
- The first question was not found to be statically significant. We believe it was due to it being worded in the negative.
- The other two questions that were not statistically significant were in the Confidence with Working with Children Section. We believe this was due to the NVR programme focus on working with parents and not young people in particular. Therefore, many of those attending either work or have an interest primarily with parents and less interest or experience working with young people.

Follow Up Interviews Results

- There were 10 Follow-Up Interviews with practitioners held three or more months after they had attended the training
- Seven of the ten practitioners implemented the NVR programme with parents in their workplace in the intervening period
- The remaining three practitioners said they would have liked to implement the training; however they had not encountered any referrals relating to CPV prior to the Follow-Up Interviews.

Key Learning & Messages

- The training in the Non Violent Resistance programme developed and implemented by the RCPV project increased practitioner awareness and understanding of child to parent violence;
- The training programmes developed and implemented by the RCPV Project increased practitioner self-efficacy;
- The training programmes developed and implemented by the RCPV Project provided practitioners with the relevant skills to work with parents and children when child to parent violence takes place;
- The RCPV Self Efficacy Questionnaires are statistically reliable measurements/ tools that can be used in future research;
- The fact that requests for RCPV training exceeded the resources of the project to provide the training within the lifespan of the project highlights the fact that child to parent violence is a growing social problem and there is a high demand for the practitioner training packages that were developed as part of the Project.

Key Learning & Messages (con't)

- As the Project is making the training and research resources freely available via the end of project conference and the www.rcpv.eu website, further training and research should be provided to track the development of practice, policy and research responses to this problem.
- Future research could explore parent/ carer self-efficacy in relation to responding to child to parent violence.

More Information
on the RCPV Project and
Child to Parent Violence

www.rcpv.eu

www.cpvireland.ie

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