

## **“Beyond Patriarchy: New Approaches to Domestic Violence Treatment”**

### **A Seminar Presented by John Hamel, LCSW**

Traditional models of domestic violence, based on early research with battered women, have informed public policy and guided intervention for the past 25 years. However, current research suggests that domestic violence is not a unitary phenomenon, but a complex one, involving multiple motives, various degrees of severity and, quite often, mutual abuse. With the advent of “zero tolerance” policies, mental health professionals and law enforcement agencies are encountering a much more diverse population of offenders, including men with less severe abuse histories, a greater proportion of women, and gay and lesbian perpetrators. In order to be effective, treatment models must take into account these realities.

Either because of limited training and experience, or out of an exaggerated need to be “politically correct,” most presenters focus exclusively on the most severe form of violence, by male perpetrators. This seminar corrects for these shortcomings by taking a gender-inclusive, family system approach, and by examining a broad range of domestic violence issues. Drawing from a wealth of research data, and the presenter’s 14 years of clinical experience with family violence, this is an informative, timely and lively presentation, in which audience feedback and participation are encouraged. This seminar is available in 3 or 7 hour formats.

#### **Seminar Outline**

Research and Theory	Assessment and Treatment
Exercise 1: Public perception about domestic violence Assault rates: Comparing data sources Exercise 2: Domestic violence in context Problems with current paradigms – the patriarchal and typologies/asymmetry models Overview of the gender-inclusive model Motives for violence Gender and violence Exercise 3: Abuse and control scenarios: Which are worse? The Intimate Partner Abuse & Control “Wheel”	The spectrum of abuse Exercise 4: Identifying the dominant aggressor Exercise 5: Expressive versus coercive aggression General assessment guidelines Core elements of treatment Treatment options The 3-phase approach: Maximizing safety and effectiveness Group work The role of attachment disturbance The systemic perspective: Drawbacks and advantages Exploring the family system Pathways of family violence Overview of family interventions Exercise 6: Who’s the victim and who’s the perpetrator? Conclusion: Reforming the system – A call to action

*For more information on this seminar, or other professional training and consultation services, contact:*

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John Hamel is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and a Certified Batterer Intervention Provider, with a clinical practice in the San Francisco Bay Area. He is the author of *Domestic Violence Today*, a 120-page manual on domestic violence research, available for free at his website, [www.johnhamel.net](http://www.johnhamel.net); as well as the book *Gender-Inclusive Treatment of Intimate Partner Abuse: A Comprehensive Approach* (Springer, 2005). His new book, co-edited with Tonia Nicholls, PhD, is *Family Approaches in Domestic Violence: A Guide to Gender-Inclusive Research and Treatment*, scheduled to be published by Springer in 2006.

John Hamel & Associates is a participating member of the Family Violence Treatment & Education Association. Visit their website at: [www.FAVTEA.com](http://www.FAVTEA.com)