



Counseling and Education to Stop Domestic Violence



E-Mail Newsletter

Volume 1: Issue 12

Season's Greetings!

It's hard to believe that it's been a full year of the Emerge e-mail newsletter! We've had a number of different articles and website links, and what better way to end a year than to reflect what's happened over the past 12-months.

2006: Emerge Newsletters in Review

Thank you all for your time and interest in Emerge!

We began this newsletter with a little over 600 subscribers gleaned from past trainees, the 2005 Detroit, MI batterer intervention conference, and a collection of agencies and individuals we had interviewed in the past while conducting research.

Today, our subscriber list has almost 1100 members and is continually growing! We hope that you will continue to join our discussions, read our articles and maybe even come to Cambridge to visit and attend one of our trainings!

Here's a synopsis of each month's newsletter including pertinent links and information. Click on the months and you will be directed to the archived newsletter on the Emerge website. [If you would like to learn more about Emerge's staff, click here.](#) Again, please feel free to e-mail or call us if you have any comments or thoughts on any of our articles.

JANUARY 2006

The first e-mail newsletter contained information on Emerge's history as well as a summary of an Adolescent Program training conducted in Bermuda. Emerge held a world premier screening and unveiling of the ["Domestic Violence and Safety Planning" DVD](#).

FEBRUARY 2006

Our newsletter began conducting its first survey in February, and attempted to gather information about how people conduct abuser education services. [Emerge's Responsible Fatherhood Program](#) detailed some of our approaches for our parenting group and use of the "[Caring Dads](#)" curriculum out of London, Ontario.

MARCH 2006

March's newsletter contained the first part of an article on "LGBT Abusers at Emerge." In "An Advanced Group Activity: Creating Feedback Goals," Christopher Hall described a new intervention technique Emerge has found to be useful during group sessions. We also included a link to a [BBC radio story featuring Emerge](#).

APRIL 2006

The second part of an article on LGBT abusers, by Susan Cayouette, was featured in April's newsletter along with a review of Emerge's training in Hong Kong. This newsletter also contained some detailed links to [domestic violence related websites](#) and provided information about out-of-state Emerge trainings.

MAY 2006

The "[Violence is a Choice](#)" [anger management program](#) was discussed in May's newsletter, and the [Emerge Discussion Forum](#) was first unveiled.

JUNE 2006

Josiane Martinez wrote an article about Emerge's Latino program in June's edition, and a link to a [probation study \(PDF\)](#) supporting abuser education services was included.

JULY 2006

We began using our discussion forum to detail results of our February survey during this newsletter. We also had Casey Corcoran's article on "Working With Adolescent Perpetrators" that described some of Emerge's techniques in working with this difficult age group.

AUGUST 2006

Tati, a partner contact specialist at Emerge, detailed her experiences speaking to partners of group members at Emerge. This subject can be quite controversial since many programs, states and individuals have vastly different opinions on whether such contacts should even be conducted. However, Tati spent time in her article exploring what some partners experience when their abusers are receiving batterer intervention services.

SEPTEMBER 2006

In "Mixed Messages About Control & Violence," Jim Morin, one of Emerge's group leaders, discussed the mixed messages put forward in the United States about domestic and other types of abuse, and he raises questions about how to approach domestic abuse in groups and in a larger context.

OCTOBER 2006

We took the opportunity in October to honor national domestic violence awareness month by featuring two articles looking at continuums of hurtful behavior. Susan Cayouette's article, "The Continuum of Harmful Behavior" spoke of using a tool that is presented at our ["Is It Abuse?"](#) conference, while Christopher Hall's "Harmful, Controlling or Abusive? Does it Matter?" article addressed how abusers may minimize their hurtful behaviors as a part of their abuse.

NOVEMBER 2006

In our most recent newsletter, Laurie VanLoon addressed the holidays and domestic violence in "Harmful Behavior During the Holidays," providing information on varying traits of abusers that are exacerbated by holiday stress, as well as some strategies for intervening in such behavior as a therapist or counselor.

[To View All Our 2006 Newsletters...](#)

Supporting Change for Abusers

by David Adams and Susan Cayouette, Co-Directors

As a subscriber of the online Emerge newsletter, we hope you have had the opportunity to appreciate Emerge's unique role as a national innovator among abuser intervention programs, and will support this work by making a donation. Your donation will help Emerge to continue to publicize this work to the growing number of agencies and organizations around the world that seek to create similar opportunities for men to confront violence toward women. Thousands of other programs have depended upon the example and information provided by Emerge. Emerge does not receive any dedicated funding to provide this online assistance, so we rely on you to continue and to bolster this work.



Emerge also responds to many inquiries from therapists seeking information about how to better identify abusive or controlling behavior in relationships. These requests for information prompted Emerge to develop specific tools for therapists to use in distinguishing abusive behavior from other kinds of behavior that are harmful to relationships. These tools were unveiled in the two "Is This Abuse?" conferences that Emerge held in the past year. As one therapist who attended put it, "The conference

was one of the most useful I've ever attended.... The assessment tools are a tremendous resource for therapists and will really help me to be more confident in spotting abuse and in knowing what to do when it's there."

There has been a growing interest in Emerge's fatherhood education program for men with histories of domestic violence, and every month we respond to numerous requests for technical assistance. Established in 2000, Emerge's Responsible Fatherhood Program fills a gigantic void by helping formerly abusive men to become more responsible co-parents as well as more positive role models for their children. As one recent program participant put it, *"The class helped me to better understand my daughter and to see, through her eyes, how much my hurting her mother was hurting her. The class definitely made me a better father"*. This work has been welcomed by custodial mothers who want their children to have a relationship with their fathers so long as co-parenting can be respectful and collaborative. One custodial mother commented, *"(We're not getting back together) but I'm glad he {her estranged husband} took the class. He's been more affectionate with the kids and he's been more civil towards me, which I appreciate."*

If you've been receiving the Newsletter since last January, you know about the other pioneering programs that Emerge has developed, including abuser interventions for teen offenders and men and women in same-sex relationships. Please make a donation to Emerge so that we may help others replicate this important work.

You could also support Emerge's work by [volunteering](#) in our Cambridge office, by attending one of our [trainings](#), or by [purchasing materials](#) through our website.

Thanks again for your interest in Emerge!

Make a Donation to Emerge...

Warm Holiday Wishes to All!

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