

# CRI-VIFF : Overview and examples of current research

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## Overview

### MISSION ET OBJECTIVES

Founded in 1992 by Université Laval, Université de Montréal, Relais-Femmes and AQUESS (Association québécoise des établissements de santé et services sociaux), **Interdisciplinary Research Centre on Family Violence and Violence Against Women (CRI-VIFF)** aims to achieve a research program in close partnership with the Quebec practice environments concerned by the problem.

Its objectives are:

- 1) developing knowledge on family violence and violence against women;
- 2) training students in research on violence, to ensure that a new generation of scientists continues to work on important issues in the field;
- 3) to ensure knowledge dissemination, transfer and ownership activities.

### THREE POPULATIONS STUDIED

CRI-VIFF is composed of multidisciplinary teams who study the realities of **women, men and children** affected by domestic violence or violence against women, as well as interventions towards these populations.

### Masculinities and domestic violence experienced by Aboriginal men in Quebec

(SSHRC, 2012-2016)

Principal Investigator: Renée Brassard, Université Laval

The study proposes to better document the views and experiences of Aboriginal men who have experienced domestic violence in Quebec. It aims to:

- 1) learn about the perspectives of Aboriginal men on the issue of domestic violence;
- 2) understand how Aboriginal men experience domestic violence;
- 3) Obtain point of view of Aboriginal men about possible solutions to counter domestic and family violence.

## Exemples de current research

### A UNIFYING PROJECT...

#### **Domestic violence: actors in context and innovative practices**

(FRQSC, Research team support program, 2012-2016)

Principal Investigator: Geneviève Lessard, Université Laval

This interuniversity and interdisciplinary team is based on a longstanding and firmly established between members with recognized domestic violence expertise. It is composed of academic and practice partners who have strategic positions in domestic violence services in Quebec. The emphasis put on students' work and to their involvement in research and knowledge transfer activities ensures the training of a new generation of scientists specialized on issues on domestic violence.

#### ■ **Programming** - Two interrelated and complementary axes:

- 1) The actors involved in domestic violence
  - a. The complex relationship between actors' living conditions - men, women and children - and the relational dynamics between them;
  - b. Subtle manifestations of post-separation violence such as harassment and risk factors for domestic homicide;
  - c. Life trajectories of the actors.
- 2) Innovative approaches and intervention practices in domestic violence (e.g.: harm reduction approach). This axes will allow us to evaluate the relevance, the implementation and the effects of innovative practices on concerned actors.

### A PROJECT AIMING TO DEVELOP, IMPLEMENT AND EVALUATE AN INNOVATIVE INTERVENTION TOOL

**Action research aim to develop, implement and evaluate an intervention tool in order to facilitate mother-child communication in a context of domestic violence** (SSHRC, Partnership Development Program, 2012-2015)

Principal Investigator: Simon Lapierre, University of Ottawa

This project will allow us to develop new partnership between university researchers specialized in domestic violence and organizations working with francophone women and children living in a context of domestic violence in Ontario, Quebec and New Brunswick.

- On the scientific side, the results will contribute to the advancement of knowledge on the relationship between women and their children in the context of domestic violence, with a particular focus on the mother-child communication.
- The study will produce a critical review of existing tools in this area.
- This research will also allow have a direct and immediate impact on intervention practices in participating shelters, through the development and implementation of an intervention tool aiming to facilitate mother-child communication in a domestic violence context.

### PROJECTS FOCUSED ON SPECIFIC REALITIES AND IMPLEMENTED INTERVENTIONS IN THESE CONTEXTS

#### **Domestic violence and Aboriginal women: current situation and interventions**

(FRQSC, Concerted Action Program, 2009-2012)

Principal Investigator: Lyse Montminy, Université de Montréal

This study has two main objectives:

- 1) to describe, analyze and compare the forms, manifestations, consequences and dynamics of domestic violence experienced by Aboriginal women;
- 2) to identify resources, existing services and high-potential interventions and practices with regard domestic violence prevention and reduction.

The anticipated outcomes of this project are:

- Identify "scientific" and "experiential" knowledge development on domestic violence experienced by Aboriginal women.
- Identify the best practices already experienced by different practitioners of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal communities in order to adapt them to the realities of Aboriginal women.
- Train students and Aboriginal resource persons so that their experience can be useful to their community.
- Generate a resource guide.

#### **Adapting interventions to the needs of immigrants experiencing domestic violence**

(Secrétariat à la Condition féminine du Québec, 2011-2012)

Principal Investigator: Maryse Rinfret-Raynor, Université de Montréal

The results of the studies conducted to date on the intervention with immigrants experiencing domestic violence lead to a number of recommendations aiming to promote help services. However, these studies do not reveal much about what constitutes an adapted intervention in practice. Hence, the objectives of this study are:

- 1) Identify initiatives to adapt services in Quebec and Canada;
- 2) Identify the components of an adapted intervention from the perspective of practitioners;
- 3) Describe emerging practices in adapted intervention for immigrants;
- 4) Identify remaining barriers and action priorities.

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