

## **Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America - Domestic Violence in the Greek Orthodox Community**



Center for Family Care

“Domestic violence is not a family problem. It is a crime that often results in serious injury and death. Although there are nearly 5.3 million partner victimizations each year in the U.S. among women ages 18 and older, resulting in two million injuries and 1,300 deaths, many people in the Greek Orthodox community – both clergy and active parishioners alike – believe we do not have a problem with domestic violence. Among those who state there may be a problem, most believe it occurs only among immigrant or less educated women. When asked how they reached this conclusion, most state that as no victims or hardly any ever reveal the problem to

them, domestic  
violence must not occur.

Why are our women silent? Perhaps because we are.

Whether by fact, practice or misinterpretation, our religion teaches us that marriage is a lifetime commitment, our traditions assign women the role of keeping our families together, our pride in our heritage causes us to deny our imperfections, our culture defines disclosure as shameful, and our language prevents us from accessing mainstream services. And so, we are silent.”

To read more [click here](#).

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