

# Medicosocial Effects on Rehabilitation Program for Victims Of Domestic Violence in Korea

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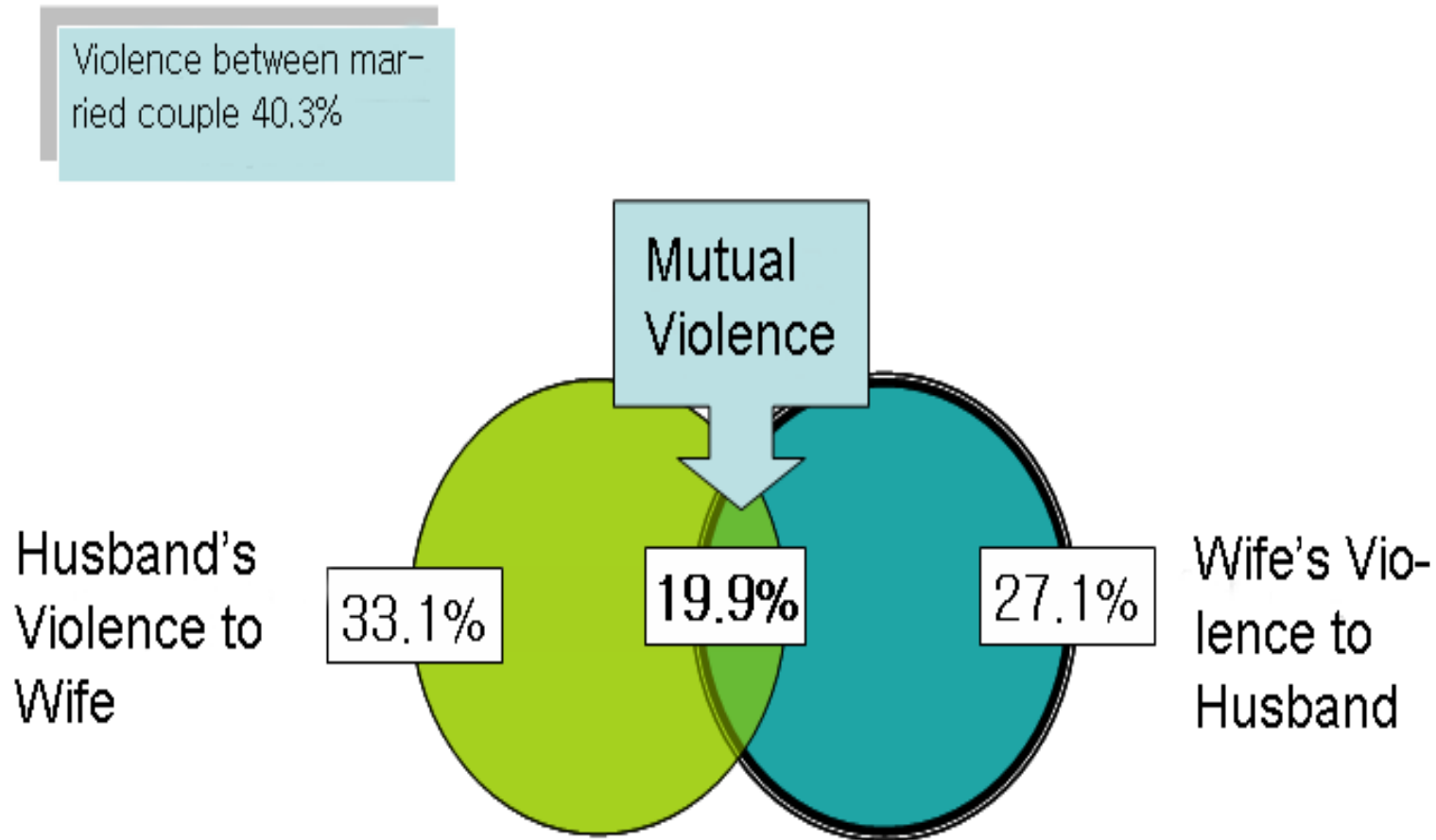
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# PURPOSE

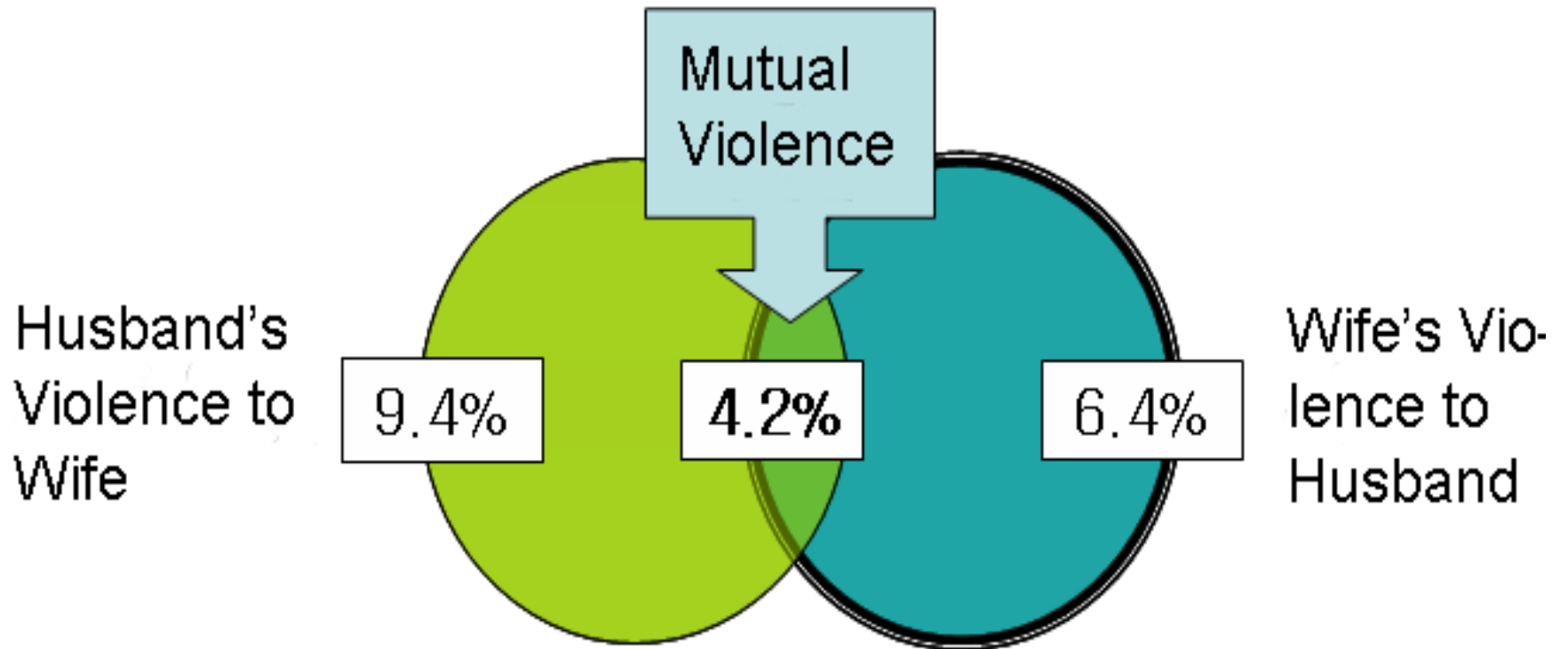
- To introduce a rehabilitation program to aid in the independence of 112 victimized women of domestic violence during the past 5 years as a major board member of the Korean Medical Women's Association(KMWA) and YWCA in Korea.
- The rate of domestic violence in Korea has increased from 31.4% in 2001 to 40.3% in 2007.

# fig. 1 Incidence of Domestic Violence Between Spouses

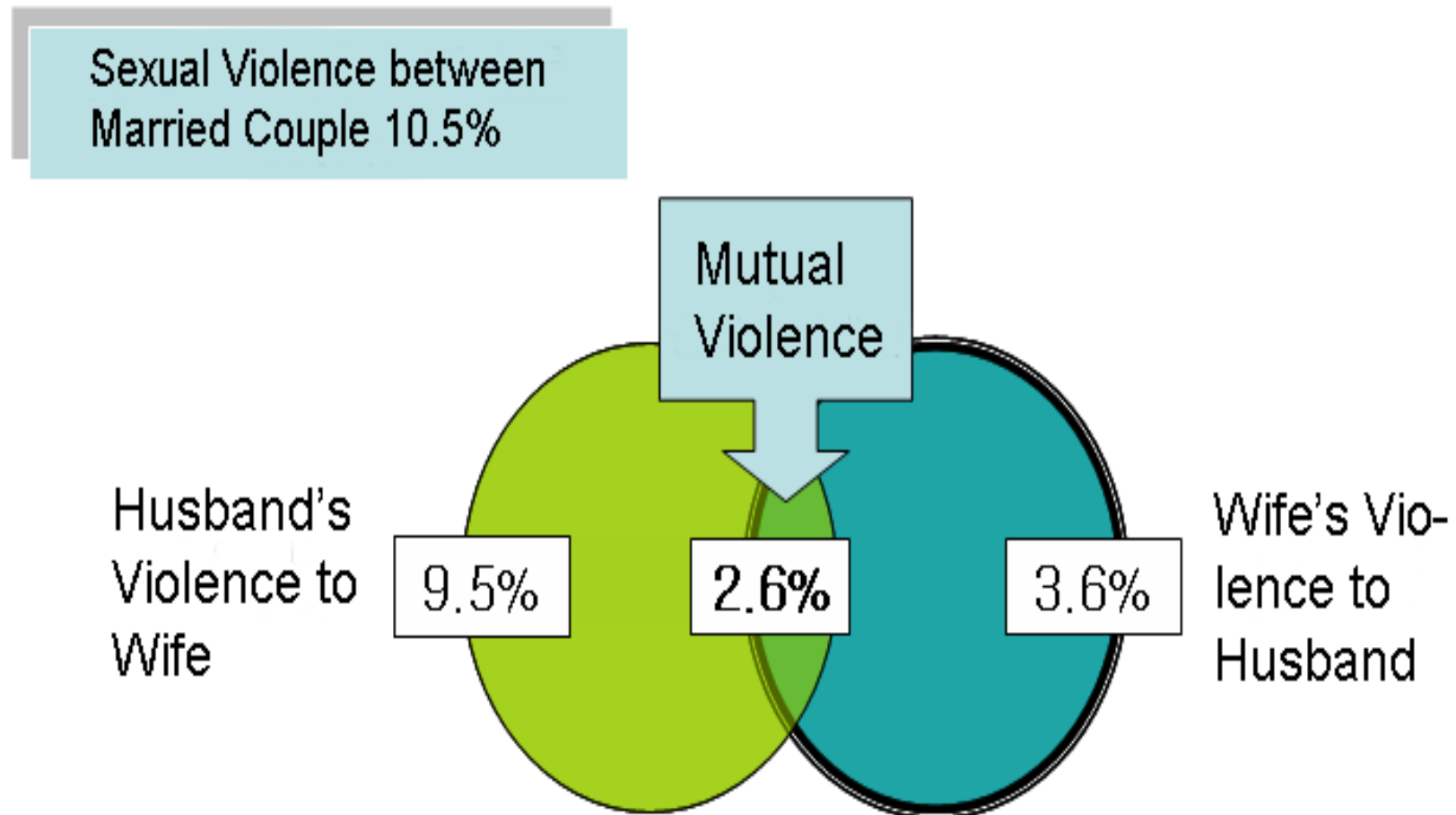


# Fig.2 Incidence of Physical Violence Between Spouses

Physical Violence between Married Couple 11.6%



# fig. 3 Incidence of Sexual Violence Between Spouses



# Medical activities

- Gynecological health checkups
- Cervical cancer vaccination for daughters of victims
- Korean government established public health service for the victimized
- KWMA made MOU for sexual violence victims

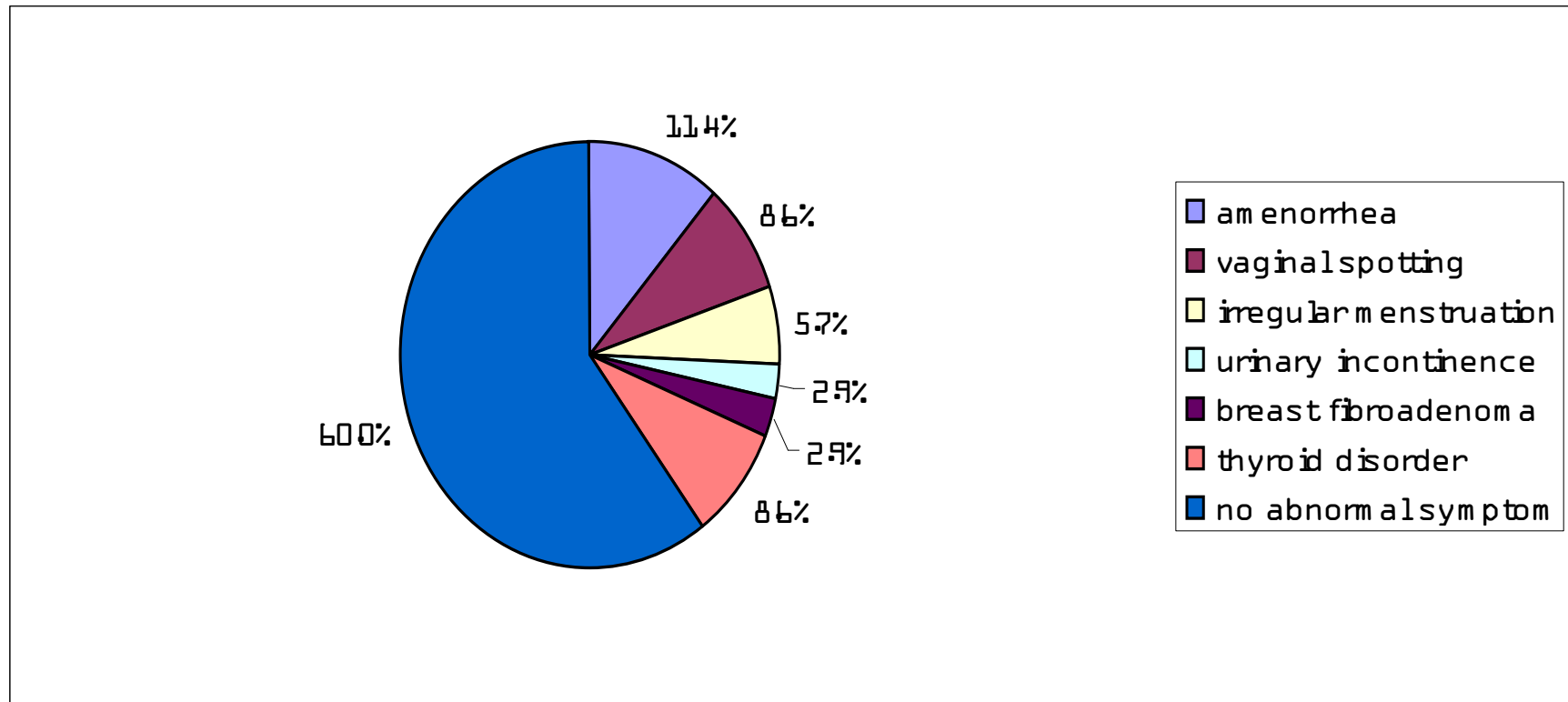
# **Report on the Gynecological Problems (Based on the research collected during the past 5 years).**

- As an OB/GYN, I have served the victims by providing health checkups including cervical PAPsmears, breast examinations and vaginal ultrasonography as the first procedure. The leading symptoms are amenorrhea (11.1%), vaginal spotting (8.6%), irregular menstruation (5.7%), urinary incontinence (2.9%). Other problems include breast fibroadenoma (2.9%) and thyroid disorder (8.6%)





# Fig.4 Gynecological problems



# Social Activities

- **Functions of Temporary Shelter**

Residential support, nurturing support, self support, job training, providing information, counseling, self-recognition training, parent role-play training, parent education and legal consults

- **Fund raising programs for the secondary home**









# Medical Viewpoint

- Among 112 victims, 54 persons (48%) had clinical signs. One victim was treated for urinary incontinence with a no cost operation. 47 cases of irregular menstruation were cured.
- As the result of a checkup, one woman was able to prevent a breast mass from becoming breast cancer.
- Cervical cancer vaccination for 48 daughters of victims were performed. This is especially important because the daughters of sexual abuse victims are more vulnerable to sexual abuse.
- As a result of KMWA's efforts, the Korean government established a public health service available through designated medical facilities which protect the identities of victims (about 800 women) from their spouses.



# Social Viewpoint

- The victims revealed significant changes in their attitudes toward social adjustments, such as building self-esteem, family like bonding among participants, artistic and cultural activities, job training, and utilization of available public services, etc.
- Due to eager fundraising, the government matched the fund to lease 8 halfway houses.

# Significant Effects through the Program in the Shelter

- 1. Confidence in their Divorces:** They no longer feel a guilty conscience or loyalty to stay with an abusive spouse.
- 2. Positive Self-Esteem:** They become confident of the future as they share a sense of autonomy, mutual encouragement, and understanding with other colleagues.
- 3. Independence for the Future:** They are eager to be independent by getting jobs through vocational training.  
At the same time, they are encouraged to use morale and welfare services available such as various artistic activities, counseling therapy, medical treatment, etc.

# FUTURE PLAN:

- Need of additional Halfway Houses from Temporary Shelter.
- Leadership training: We plan to train the victimized women to become future leaders who will take care of other victims.
- Violence awareness education for teens.

# CONCLUSION:

- The KMWA and YWCA have actively offered variable medicosocial programs to the victimized.
- Medically-many victims become to recognize the self-importance of their health and they learned how to protect themselves.
- Socially-victims gained self-esteem and improved their quality of life.

# Medically,

- Through gynecological health check ups such as p ap smear, ultrasound, breast sono- and mammo-gram, pelvic exams, etc., the rate of gynecological disease has reduced while the victimized become to recognize the self-importance of their health.
- By offering free cervical cancer vaccination for the daughters of the victims, they become aware of self-esteem for their future life.
- An achievement by KMWA was to have Korean Government become aware of the needs of the establishment of the Public Medicaid Program.

# Socially,

- The participants have shown significant changes in their attitudes toward social adjustment such as building self-esteem, family like bonding, involving artistic and cultural activities.
- We will continue supporting the group via fundraising for additional Halfway Houses and various training to build their confidence of the future, as well as their children for defense against violence.