

college we are continually amazed at the requests for resource material.

So what do we need to know?

This is an issue of abuse of power, control and authority. It is insidious and progressive. It is often exaggerated during pregnancy.

Methods include physical punching slapping, kicking grabbing – and threats of the same. It can involve abuse and injury of children and pets. It can involve humiliation and degradation – psychological abuse – women will say this is the worst – “I wish he would just hit me”. Destruction of property as intimidation – the breaking of an heirloom teapot – the control of money and isolation from family and friends.

Over time there is a loss of self-esteem and confidence, and along come depression and alcohol abuse, suicide and even homicide. The “just leave” advice isn’t appropriate – she can’t – there are social stigma’s and sanctions - no money – what to do with children, no contacts, and no confidence – not to

