Understanding the Language We Use

As a variety of partners are working to prevent different forms of violence and abuse throughout Oregon, it's valuable to understand how these varying partners talk about what they are trying to do. This document looks at two of these partners, Child Abuse Prevention Practitioners and Domestic and Sexual Violence Preventionists. We will look at some examples of common issues we are trying to address.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Child Abuse Prevention and Intervention Practitioners (CAPI)</th>
<th>Domestic and Sexual Violence Preventionists (DVSA)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>These practitioners are predominantly working to address child abuse throughout Oregon. Prevention services are offered to youth and/or adults. Intervention services are commonly for people under the age of 18, however, some practitioners provide services to adult survivors and adults with developmental disabilities.</td>
<td>These practitioners focus on different forms of violence that occur across the lifespan. This means that they work with people of all ages, from children to elders. This also means that people in this sector have varying expertise, and not every person is an expert in serving every age group.</td>
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### Neglect

**CAPI**

This is a common issue seen by Oregon’s CAPI organizations, primarily referring to a failure to care for a child properly, including meeting basic needs.

**DVSA**

This commonly occurs when an abuser controls quality of life for a survivor and children, including causing neglect by interrupting the ability to offer/receive care or resources.

### Physical Abuse

**CAPI**

This is commonly what people think of when they think of child abuse. Some examples include hitting, shaking, kicking, and restraining a child.

**DVSA**

This is what people commonly think of when they think of domestic and sexual violence. Some common examples of this may include: pushing, slapping, strangulation, and striking objects/the wall, etc. as a threat of violence.

### Sexual Abuse/Assault

**CAPI**

Commonly used to describe sexual violence to people under 18 years of age. This is what Oregon’s Child Sex Abuse Prevention Education Law (Erin’s Law) is working to address. This type of abuse may include any sexual contact with a child or any behavior that is meant to sexually arouse the abuser, like making a child pose for pictures.

**DVSA**

The “umbrella” of sexual violence encompasses abuse, rape, sexual assault, and sexual harassment, as well as other societal/cultural practices that utilize sex and sexuality to oppress people, including: the propagation of child pornography, incest, female genital mutilation, commercial sexual exploitation and sex slavery, & systematic mass rape as a weapon of war.

### Sexual Harassment

**CAPI**

For CAP practitioners, this often occurs in school settings. It may include: sexual talk/comments/wilting, sexual touching or gestures; threats or implied rewards.

**DVSA**

Sexual favors may be demanded or suggested as a condition of employment, academic success, friendship, etc. or a hostile environment may be created through sexual comments, jokes, pictures, or touching.

### Stalking

**CAPI**

This comes up in conversations around teen dating abuse, school and community safety, and grooming.

**DVSA**

This may include: someone following you/showing up where you are, sending unwanted gifts or messages, damaging your things, monitoring your phone/computer use, threatening to hurt you, or those you love, and posting information or spreading rumors.

### Dating Abuse/Domestic Abuse

**CAPI**

Describes violence experienced in a dating relationship or at home. One of the common ways CAPI Organizations address this is addressing violence that children/youth may have witnessed in their home, and/or providing services to children who have experienced this form of abuse directly.

**DVSA**

Domestic violence can happen in all kinds of intimate relationships, including: married couples, couples who live together, people with children, same-sex or gender-nonconforming partners, ex-partners, teen dating relationships, etc. This often includes emotional, social, sexual, and financial abuse tactics to control a partner. Dating violence is what Oregon’s Healthy Teen Relationships Act (HTRA) is working to address.