

- Half of Canadian women (51%) have experienced at least one incident of physical or sexual violence since the age of 16.
- Every minute of every day, a Canadian woman or child is being sexually assaulted.
- One to two women are murdered by a current or former partner each week in Canada
- Spousal violence makes up the single largest category of convictions involving violent offences in non-specialized adult courts in Canada over the five-year period 1997/98 to 2001/02. Over 90% of offenders were male
- Thirty-six percent of female victims of spousal violence and less than 10% of victims of sexual assault reported these crimes to the police in 2004
- Physical and sexual abuse costs Canada over \$4 billion each year (factoring into account social services, criminal justice, lost employment days and health care interventions
- Every year in Canada, up to 360,000 children are exposed to domestic violence
- **Why would a woman stay in an abusive relationship?**
Leaving a violent relationship is the most dangerous time for a woman: she may fear for her safety and her children's safety if she leaves.
- Between 2000- 2006, in the United States, more than 8,000 women, - nearly twice as many as the 4,588 US soldiers and policemen killed in the line of duty - were stabbed, shot, strangled or beaten to death by their intimate partners. In Canada, during that same period more than **500 women, nearly five times** as many as the 101 Canadian soldiers and police officers killed – met the same fate.