

Violent behaviour conducted by police and military that are not self-defence acts are considered as crimes. But not all crimes may be considered violent crimes.

To do the justice means to ensure the offenders are properly identified, the degree of their guilt is ascertained, and that they are punished appropriately. Justice in violence mainly relies in deterrence, incarceration, and punishment of perpetrators and their rehabilitation.

For the last few years the criminal justice system in many countries pays greater attention to preventing violence rather than counteraction to it. Crimes and violence become reduced by altering the conditions that cause them. Juvenile justice system in the USA as a component of criminal justice system is based on rehabilitation and prevention. The criminal justice system has funded initiatives to reduce children's access to guns and teach conflict resolutions.

The British Domestic Abuse Bill and related documents can be found on the Parliament website. The prevention of abuse and the protection of victims of the cruel and complex crime lies in the heart of the bill. The measures in the bill have to: promote legislative awareness about domestic violence, protect and support victims, help victims give their best evidence in court, improve performance in the response to domestic violence. The bill was published in January 2019.

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## **VANCOUVER DOMESTIC VIOLENCE & CRIMINAL HARASSMENT UNIT**

When people refer to violence in relationships, they are usually talking about abuse, which includes a range of behavior from intimidation and threats, to physical or sexual assault. Domestic violence is violence against women or men who are married, common-law or dating, regardless of their sexual orientation. It includes those individuals who are in an intimate relationship or have been in the past. An abuser uses threats and violence to gain power and control over his or her partner, and to take away their self-worth. Abuse can be physical, sexual, emotional, psychological, verbal, or financial. Abuse may start out as verbal or emotional, and may gradually increase to physical or sexual violence. After incidents of abuse, a partner or ex-partner can express and behave with great remorse or affection. To combat domestic violence the Vancouver Police organized the Vancouver Police Department's Domestic Violence & Criminal Harassment Unit (DVACH)

which is comprised of four specialty units: Domestic Violence, Criminal Harassment, Threat Assessment and Elder Abuse. DVACH has partnered with Family Services of Greater Vancouver (FSGV) since 1997, providing a collaborative response to incidents of domestic violence in the community. The program's goals are to increase safety of victims and their families, and to increase offender accountability. Violence within relationships has distinctive dynamics not found in other violent crimes, and often escalates or worsens if the person leaves the relationship. There is usually a power imbalance between the partners in the relationship. The VPD has adopted the Ministry of Attorney General guidelines for police and crown prosecutors in the Violence Against Women in Relationships (VAWIR) policy.

The main points of these guidelines are:

- all incidents involving domestic violence will be investigated thoroughly
- if there is enough evidence to support an arrest and charge, police officers will do so
- officers will make an arrest when an investigation supports a criminal charge (with an emphasis on victim safety)
- officers are encouraged to seek further guidance/clarification from DVACH when required.

DVACH also provides education and training to VPD members and to the public.

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## **DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

Domestic violence is one of the most prevalent forms of violence dealt with by police officers on a daily basis. The police, being the frontline social institution to deal with incidents of domestic violence, have a vital role in assisting victims of domestic abuse. The police not only represent state policy but also act as an important link to both the prosecution process and to the provision of services to victims in a community. Thus, as "gatekeepers" to the criminal justice system, police play an important role in shaping victims' initial experiences of it.

According to the most of sources domestic violence is violence or other abuse in a domestic setting, such as in marriage or cohabitation. Domestic violence may be used as a synonym for intimate partner violence, which is