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Fewer Resources Available to Older Domestic Violence Victims in Rural Areas

Poultney, Kt. – December XX, 2006 – A new study in *Family Relations* looked at domestic violence amongst older women in rural areas, and the difficulty they face. Domestic violence is a widespread problem, but the authors find that most programs focus on younger victims of this violence, and reaches most in urban areas.

The 1992 National Survey of Women indicated that 1.4 million women between the ages of 45 and 64 were physically abused by their spouses. The author's research shows that these older women face a set of issues that prevent them from seeking help. These include fewer shelters, less transportation to those shelters and a higher degree of dependence upon their husband.

“The women who have experienced intimate partner violence (IPV) must have knowledge of resources available to them and be assured of confidentiality when revealing the abuse,” says Pamela B. Teaster, Ph.D., lead researcher.

Aging women who experience IPV need to be placed on a level of importance equal to that of younger women, particularly when working to develop resources in rural areas.

This study is published in the December issue of *Family Relations*. Media wishing to receive a PDF of this article please contact journalnews@bos.blackwellpublishing.net

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About Family Relations

A premier, applied journal of family studies, *Family Relations* is mandatory reading for family scholars and all professionals who work with families, including: family

practitioners, educators, marriage and family therapists, researchers, and social policy specialists. The journal's content emphasizes family research with implications for intervention, education, and public policy, always publishing original, innovative and interdisciplinary works with specific recommendations for practice. *Family Relations* is published on behalf of the National Council on Family Relations, www.ncfr.org.

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