

THE OTHER SIDE OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

LIVING WITH AN ABUSIVE WOMAN

"An important and much-needed
examination of intimate partner
abuse and violence."

—Philip W. Cook, Author,
Abused Men: The Hidden Side of Domestic Violence

BENJAMIN BAILEY

**A POWERFUL, CONTROVERSIAL GUIDE
TO THE HIDDEN REALITY OF MEN
SUFFERING DOMESTIC ABUSE.**

ABOUT THE BOOK

Twenty-five years of working on the front lines of domestic abuse have brought social worker and psychotherapist Benjamin Bailey face-to-face with a painful reality hidden in plain sight. Domestic violence spares no one, crossing boundaries of wealth, education, social status, culture, and profession. Yet while it is easy to associate masculinity with danger and violence, it is far more difficult to recognize the men who live in fear and shame behind closed doors. Drawing on extensive professional and clinical observations, Bailey reveals the complex dynamics of abuse when the victim is a man. Combining research with firsthand experience, he explores the psychological, emotional, physical, financial, and legal forms that abuse can take, the barriers that prevent men from seeking help, and the cultural stigmas that leave many suffering in silence.

WHY THIS BOOK MATTERS

For decades, intimate partner violence has been framed as a gender-determined phenomenon: men are aggressors, women are victims. This narrative has produced genuine progress in protecting women—but it has also created a profound institutional blindness. Men who suffer violence at the hands of their female partners face not only the trauma of abuse but the devastating secondary trauma of systemic disbelief.



FOR WHOM?

- Clinical social workers, therapists, and counselors managing domestic violence cases.
- Police investigators and training academies.
- Family court judges and court-appointed evaluators.
- Attorneys specializing in family law.
- Welfare and child protection professionals.
- Equally important: men currently experiencing abuse, their parents and friends, advocacy groups, and anyone concerned with evidence-based approaches to domestic peace.

THE DATA TELLS A **DIFFERENT STORY**

37%

of women in the Dunedin Study reported physically assaulting their partner

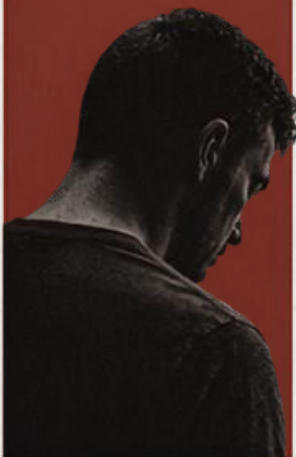
22%

Of men in the Dunedin Study reported physically assaulting their partner

The WHO's 2011 cross-national study of **1,821** couples found that **mutual violence is the most prevalent pattern**. Despite these findings, practitioners, judges, police officers, and social workers continue to operate from the assumption that **males are aggressors and females are victims**.

WHAT'S INSIDE

EVERY VICTIM
DESERVES TO BE
SEEN AND HEARD.



Chapter One presents ten men's stories—a father struck in the face with a plate, a man told that punches to his head were 'not violence,' and another restricted to supervised visits even after proving his wife had lied to police. Chapter Two grounds these narratives in rigorous international research. Subsequent chapters explore the psychological dynamics of female-perpetrated violence, the psychological consequences for male victims, the impact of maternal gatekeeping on fatherhood, and the institutional failures of police, courts, and welfare services. The Afterword proposes Hybrid Masculinity as a path forward: integrating emotional awareness with traditional strength.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR



Benjamin Bailey, PhD, is a clinical social worker, psychotherapist, and faculty member in the Department of Criminology at Western Galilee Academic College. His research and teaching focus on domestic violence, child maltreatment, masculinity, and fatherhood. His clinical career began over twenty-five years ago in a rehabilitation hostel for men who had behaved violently against their partners and children.

Since then, through decades of therapeutic and academic work, Dr. Bailey has explored the complex realities of harmful family and couple relationships. He brings unique credibility to this conversation: he is not an outsider critic but a seasoned clinician whose authority comes from decades of direct clinical exposure to cases that the literature too often ignores.

Identifying himself as a feminist, Bailey writes with compassion for all victims and challenges the false framing that acknowledging female-perpetrated violence is somehow anti-woman.

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