

Barriers to Reporting or Disclosing Violence and Seeking Help for Immigrant and Refugee Women

Fear of loss of children (e.g. apprehension, deportation, divorce)

Discrimination and racism within service delivery system

Limited knowledge about laws and rights & domestic violence services

Geographic, social, and cultural isolation

Fear of deportation due to precarious immigration status

Social stigma related to disclosure of domestic violence

Language barriers and lack of culturally and linguistically appropriate services that are easy to access

Economic exclusion due to lack of recognition of credentials

Lack of coordinated services

Lack of accessible shelters (e.g. physical barriers; inadequate provision of spiritual, cultural, or religious needs)

Lack of access to attendant care and sign language interpretation for women who are living with disabilities or for Deaf women

Collectivist cultural beliefs that support keeping the family together and not disclosing "private" matters