

Ideas for Bringing Intersectionality into Practice

Do your training programs talk about how to apply intersectionality?

- Are there certain challenges (e.g. access to affordable housing, coping with homophobia in family) that would be helpful for us to talk about before getting to your experience of violence?
- Have you received support from your family and your friends throughout it all? What does being supported feel like to you?
- Are there any specific traditions, practices, or resources that are important to your healing? How can we make sure we include those here?
- Are there other pieces about your life (or personal story) that have made it hard to talk about what you've been through? What were they?
- You mentioned that being (e.g. an Asian woman and a lesbian) has had a big impact on what you've been through. Tell me about that...
- Have any specific challenges (e.g. racism, ableism) affected your experience of violence? In what ways?
- In what ways, if any, have your community(ies), your family, your friends affected your decisions through it all? (e.g. decisions to tell someone or to report; decision to end or continue the relationship; decision to get help) How have those decisions worked out for you?
- What groups do you identify with or belong to?
- How do the people in your life talk about violence in relationships? What do they say about violence against women? Are there conflicting views?
- Are the messages about violence in the groups you belong to different from your own understandings of the violence you've experienced? How does that make you feel?
- What impact do these views have on you—a woman who's actually been there?