

VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IN SERBIA

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Abstract: In this paper, the results from researches and court practice on domestic violence in Serbia were presented, conducted in the period 1997– 2006, by independent researches or non-government agencies for help and support for victims of crime. The researches have shown that the majority of victims are women (80%), but also that children are present as direct or indirect, secondary victims of domestic violence, which confirms the correlation between violence against children and violence against women. Violence against children is one of the strategies of prolonged violence, that is, control over woman. Studies of domestic violence in Serbia have identified the following factors of primary victimisation of victims: creation of identity of future victim in primary family, socialisation through learning of gender roles and malefemale relations, being caught in gender trap and growing-up in environment burdened with violence that follows the pattern of patriarchal stereotypes on gender relations. The researches have also determined the profile of victims of violence regarding their age, education or employment, that is, economic (in)dependence.

Keywords: domestic violence, victims, women, children.