

## **Protection Pathways for Male Victims of Intimate Partner Violence: A Systematic Review of State and Non-State Mechanisms Worldwide**

**Sabine Tchokomi Toungakouagou Sama**

University of Parakou, Faculty of Letters, Arts and Human Sciences (FLASH), Department of  
Sociology–Anthropology, Parakou, Republic of Benin  
Email: tchokomi2001@yahoo.fr

Received for publication: 17 January 2026.

Accepted for publication: 20 March 2026.

### **Abstract**

Intimate partner violence is a worldwide phenomenon. Systematic reviews address male intimate partner violence experiences from different perspectives. These reviews highlight the limitations of existing mechanisms, particularly institutional mechanisms. Systematic reviews comparing the advantages of institutional and non-institutional mechanisms appear to be rare. Such comparisons could facilitate the development of integrated solutions.

This literature review aims to analyze the comparative advantages of institutional and non-institutional mechanisms for protecting male victims of intimate partner violence worldwide. The literature search was conducted using the Scopus and Dimensions databases. Five hundred and ninety-one documents were obtained from both databases. After screening using the CADIMA platform and selection procedures, 74 relevant documents were extracted and analyzed. Institutional and non-institutional mechanisms are involved in protecting male victims. Each mechanism presents positive and negative characteristics that hinder or enhance their efficacy. Although no mechanism is sufficient, non-institutional present more advantages, highlighting the need for complementarity between both systems to ensure cessation of violence. This review contributes a comparative framework to assess protection pathways for male IPV victims by (i) identifying a typology of institutional and non-institutional mechanisms and (ii) synthesizing their strengths and limitations in a structured advantage/constraint matrix. This framework highlights where mechanisms complement or substitute each other and identifies priority gaps for research and policy worldwide and particularly for Africa.

**Keywords:** male victims, domestic violence, alternative mechanisms of protection, comparison, systematic review

### **Introduction**

Domestic violence constitutes a global social crisis with multidimensional negative consequences (Huntley & al., 2020); (Caponnetto & al., 2024). It induces isolation (Hope & al., 2021), destroys the victim's health (Shrivastava & Muskan, 2022); (Carthy & al., 2019) and generates substantial economic losses (Ouédraogo & Stenezl, 2021).

Thanks to the struggle of the feminist movement, led by women and supported by certain male figures, it is now accepted as a public problem (Lassen & al., 2023). The feminist conception was rooted in a fixed binary paradigm, establishing itself as the sole theoretical framework for the acceptance of domestic violence and policy interventions (Felson & Paré, 2005). Over time, recognition of domestic violence against men has emerged from pioneering work that has led to alternative theories (Taylor & al., 2022); (Pisano & al., 2025). These theories are rooted in the family vi-

olence perspective and conclude that the roles of women and men in domestic violence contexts are interchangeable (Hart, 2022).

Despite this openness, observed changes have been limited. Two decades after the WHO officially recognized violence against men (Krug & al., 2002), certain aspects of the fight against this phenomenon remain insufficiently understood (Gitonga, 2021) . Men's experience of domestic violence continues to be marked by systemic challenges, the first manifestation of which is their reluctance to report their suffering (Hines & Douglas, 2021). According to Hines & Douglas (2021), the abundance of research on domestic violence against women contrasts with the comparatively limited body of research involving men.

Research examining male experiences of domestic violence encompasses, inter alia: i) characterizing the domestic violence suffered by men by developing typologies (Lassen & al., 2023); (Hines & Douglas, 2020) ii) documentation of the consequences (Dim, 2021); iii) recognition of domestic violence against men (Richardson & Kloess, 2022); (Kusuma & al., 2024) ; iv) identification of institutional and non-institutional support (Tenkorang & al., 2023); v) accessibility of institutional and non-institutional support mechanisms (Motsamai Modise, 2024) ; vi) assessment of support sources and their characteristics (Morishita & al., 2023) ; vii) impacts of support mechanisms on effectiveness (Douglas & al., 2011) ; (Dim, 2021) ; et viii) the people who use them (Mpofu & Mamba, 2024) .

Despite this interest, research demonstrates a lack of knowledge in certain critical gaps, notably the absence of a theoretical framework for conceptualizing male violence, methodological and empirical gaps in understanding the consequences of domestic violence (Enakele, 2019) and weaknesses in the support system (Gitonga & Ciriaka, 2021). In response, Huntley et al., (2019) review of the United Kingdom examined barriers to seeking formal help and male victims' experiences with support services, making recommendations for more appropriate policies. The main barriers identified are fear of disbelief, shame, and the challenge of masculinity. It recommends confidential, non-judgmental services and professional training. Moore (2021), studying the case of the United Kingdom and the United States, listed reasons for men's reluctance to seek help and suggested solutions. He mentioned hesitation in the face of victimizing language and the lack of available services. Solutions such as changing societal attitudes and the availability of specialized services are proposed. Langdrige & al. (2023) explored perceptions of the usefulness of informal and formal sources of information about sexual assault among adult men, based on studies conducted mainly in the United Kingdom and the United States. The results highlight the high risks of secondary victimization and the need for research to design pathways tailored to men. Finally, the systematic review by Machado & al. (2024) from several Western countries aims to determine the risk factors for male victimization, identify available support systems, and assess their acceptability and effectiveness, as well as barriers to disclosure. After characterizing experiences of seeking help, the study found that the majority of victims first rely on informal support (friends and family). According to the results, healthcare professionals are the most helpful, unlike the police, the judicial system, and social services.

Most of the reviews conducted did not aim to systematically compare institutional and non-institutional mechanisms. They only sporadically mention their respective characteristics. Similarly, they rarely took into account the specific situation of developing countries, especially those in sub-Saharan Africa. Hence the relevance of this review, which is of scientific interest: it fills a major methodological gap by conducting a systematic comparative analysis of institutional and non-institutional mechanisms based on specific criteria, mapping the knowledge gaps in research, and proposing an integrated theoretical model of three-level care that transcends the institutional/non-

institutional binary debate. The diagnosis of the systemic failures and strengths of each mechanism and the envisaged framework for collaboration enable protection actors to maximize the effectiveness of protection for male victims.

This research concerns the effectiveness of care for male victims of domestic violence through institutional and non-institutional assistance available from a comparative perspective. It is based on a systematic review of published documents on the subject. The aim is to examine the state of the literature on institutional and non-institutional mechanisms for addressing domestic violence against men, with a view to highlighting the differences and similarities in their characteristics and the comparative advantages offered by each. To achieve this, a main research question was posed: What are the institutional and non-institutional mechanisms for dealing with domestic violence against adult men worldwide, and what are their comparative advantages? Four questions arise from this main question, namely:

- a) What types of recognition of domestic violence against men exist?
- b) What institutional mechanisms exist for the protection of male victims of domestic violence and what are their characteristics?
- c) What are the formal and informal non-institutional mechanisms and their characteristics?
- d) What are the comparative advantages of institutional and non-institutional mechanisms?

In line with these questions, the overall objective is to examine the state of knowledge of institutional and non-institutional mechanisms for addressing domestic violence against adult men globally, and their comparative advantages. Each of these specific questions corresponds to an objective formulated as follows to :

- a) determine the types of recognition of domestic violence against men at the global level reported in the documents studied;
- b) analyze existing institutional mechanisms for protection against domestic violence, as well as their strengths and weaknesses;
- c) study formal and informal non-institutional mechanisms, their strengths and weaknesses;
- d) highlight the comparative advantages of each type of mechanism.

### **Methodology**

The methodological approach encompasses different steps.

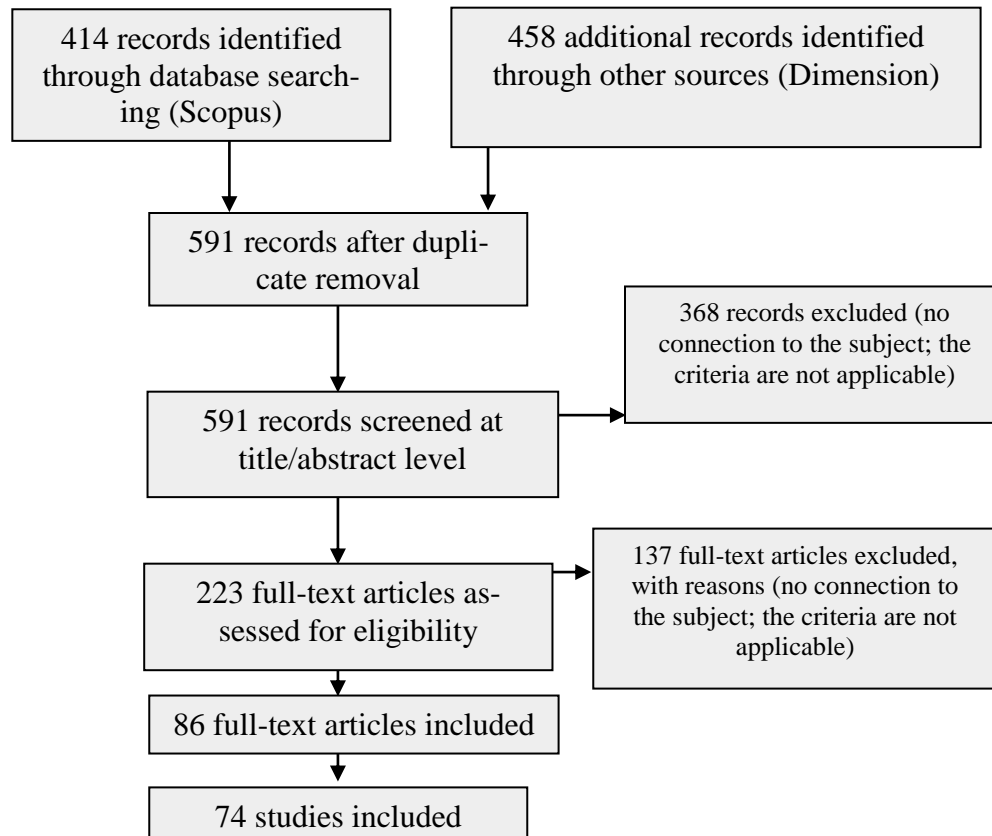
#### ***Design of the Research Model***

This systematic review started in April 2025 and followed internationally recognized standards for conducting systematic reviews. After finalizing the research questions and objectives, the research equation was formulated using the PICO (Population, Intervention, Comparator, and Outcome) model. The formula was designed using the following keywords: (“male victim” OR “man as victim” OR “abused man” OR “man experiencing abuse” OR “male survivor”) AND (“domestic violence” OR “domestic abuse” OR “intimate partner violence” OR “family violence” OR “spousal abuse”) AND (review OR “literature review” OR “systematic review” OR “meta-analysis”). To maximize retrieval sensitivity, database searches were conducted using expanded keyword combinations and Boolean operators. Two fundamental research databases were consulted, namely Scopus and Dimensions. The evaluation was progressive, restricted to the titles, abstracts, and content of the documents.

#### ***Inclusion and Exclusion Criteria***

Works published in Scopus and Dimensions addressed the research topic. They were collected without the exclusion of a geographical area or period of production. Exclusion criteria were: i) works not written in English or French ii) works unrelated to adult male victims iii) unavailable

full texts. Four hundred and fourteen documents from Scopus and 458 from Dimensions were extracted. The selection process initially focused on 591 documents (Figure 1) obtained by merging the results of the two databases using the CADIMA platform.



**Figure 1. The study flow diagram**

### ***Data Extraction***

Data extraction was conducted using a structured coding grid to ensure methodological consistency and transparency. Content analysis was employed to identify recurring themes, typologies of mechanisms, and comparative strengths and limitations. The following topics were extracted from a reading grid:

1. the country of origin of the document;
2. recognition of domestic violence suffered and types of recognition;
3. institutional mechanisms, subtypes, their roles and missions;
5. institutional mechanisms, subtypes, their roles and missions;
6. violence protected by the mechanisms;
7. positive and negative characteristics of institutional mechanisms
8. positive and negative characteristics of non-institutional mechanisms (strengths,;
9. the repercussions of the challenges faced by institutional and non-institutional mechanisms;
10. the comparative advantages of each type of mechanism.

## Results

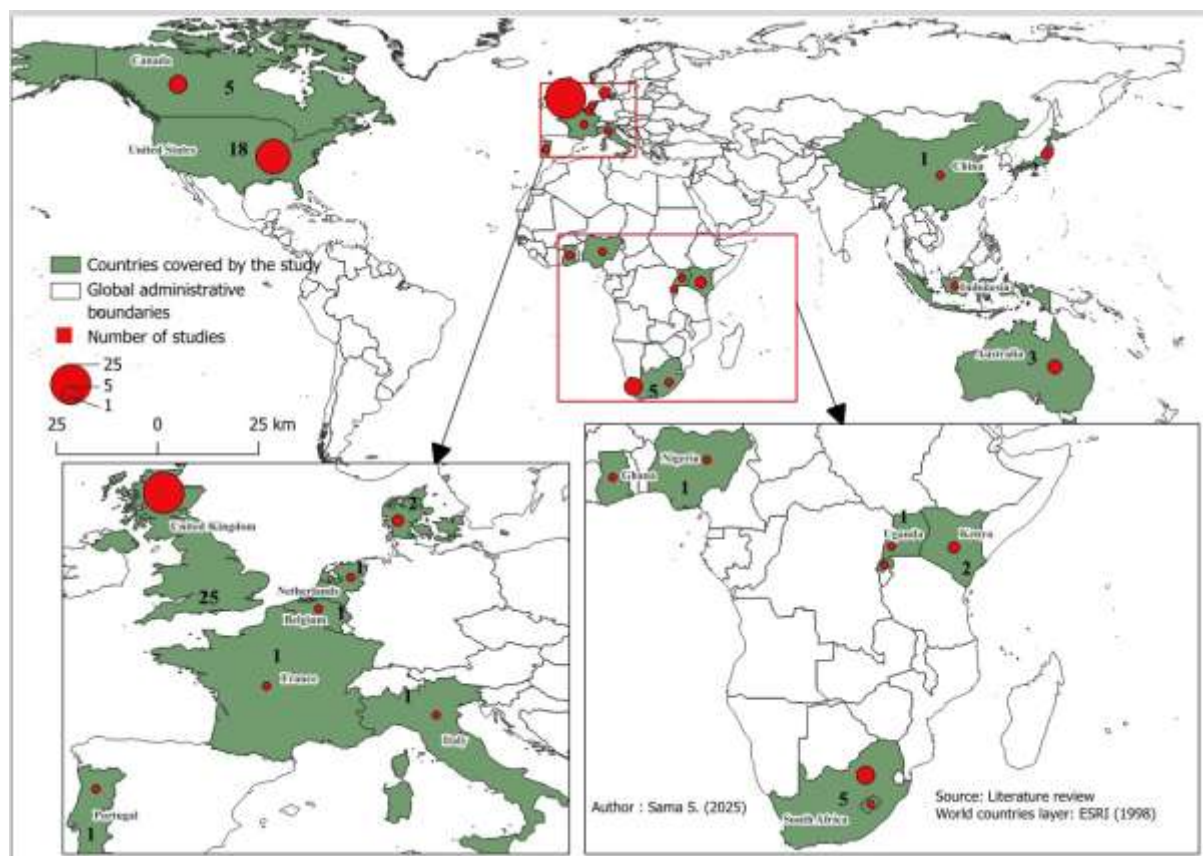
The findings are structured around five main themes : characterization of the studies, recognition of violence against men, effective protection of victims by institutional and non-institutional mechanisms, the characteristics of the mechanisms, and comparative effectiveness.

### *Studies Characteristics*

The characterization of the studies examined reflects trends in production by continent, country, period, gender of authors, and topics addressed. Seventy-four articles were analyzed.

### *Geographical Trends of the Studies*

The map illustrated publications' geographical trends over the period from 1998 to 2025 (Figure 2). All continents have been covered by research on this issue. Europe is the continent that has produced the largest number of publications (32 articles), followed by America (23 articles) and Africa (12 articles). Asia (4 articles) and Oceania (3 articles) produced the fewest articles over the period. The countries that produced the most articles are the United Kingdom (25 articles), the United States (18 articles), Canada, and South Africa. The other African countries are English-speaking countries.



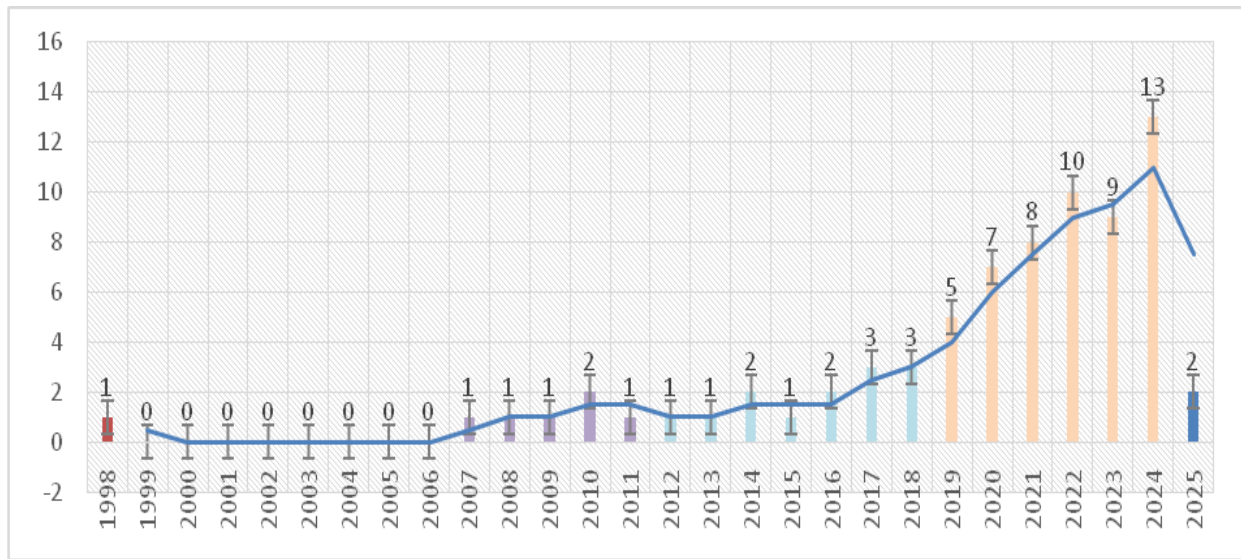
**Figure 2. Publications' geographical trends**

### *Scientific Production by Period*

Analysis of Figure 3 reveals scientific output covering 27 years (1998-2025) with an irregular trend peaking in 2024. The low number of publications in 2025 can be explained by the fact that the data was extracted in April, presumably before the completion of the work for the current year.

Three phases can be distinguished. Between 1998 and 2006, production stagnated. From 2007 to 2018, it fluctuated irregularly. From 2019 to 2024, an upward trend emerged, peaking in 2024.

The contrast between the periods is striking: 2017-2024 saw 58 articles in seven years (an average of 8.3 articles/year), while 1998-2016 saw only 14 articles in 18 years (an average of 0.8 articles/year). This recent intensification reflects a growing scientific interest in the subject, likely indicating a gradual scientific recognition of this issue and a shift in paradigms towards more inclusive approaches.

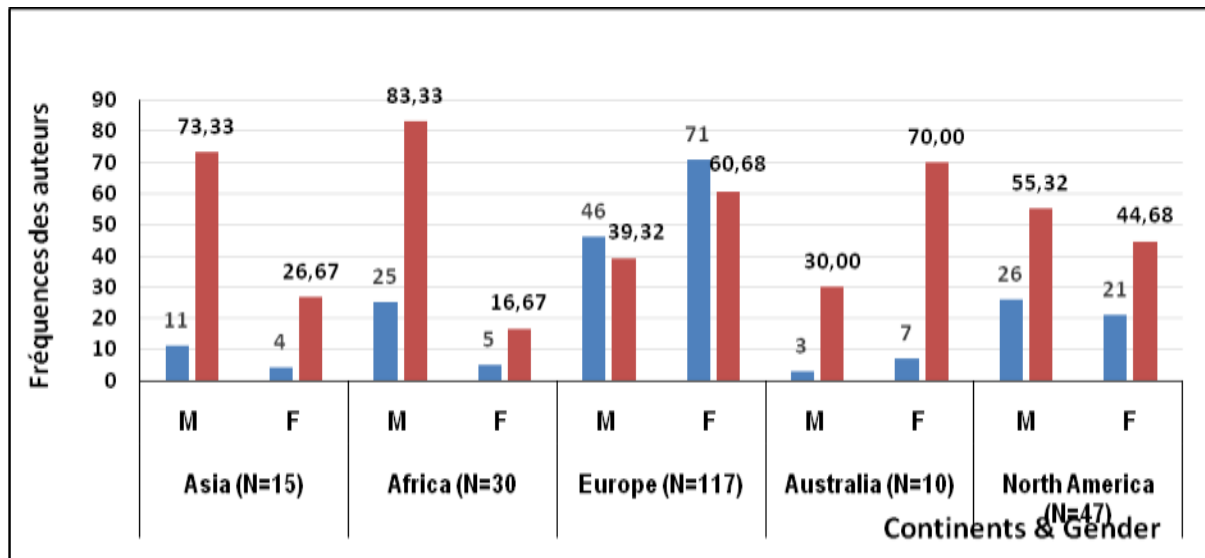


**Figure 3. Scientific production by period**

### *Authors' Gender*

219 authors contributed to this theme: Europe (n=117, 53.4%), North America (n=47, 21.5%), Africa (n=30, 13.7%), Asia (n=15, 6.8%) and Australia (n=10, 4.6%) (Figure 4). Two distinct patterns emerge in terms of gender distribution. In the first group (Europe, Australia, and North America), female authors are in the majority: 70% in Australia (a difference of 40 points), over 60% in Europe (a difference of 25 points), and over 44% in North America (a moderate difference of around 10 points). In the second group (Africa and Asia), male authors predominate with significant gaps: approximately 68 points in Africa (84% men versus 16% women) and 48 points in Asia (74% men versus 26% women).

This distribution raises interesting questions. The predominance of women in Western countries and Australia could reflect the commitment of feminist researchers who, after raising awareness of violence against women, are extending their scholarly focus to domestic violence as a whole. Conversely, the male predominance in Africa and Asia could be explained by cultural contexts in which men seek to document their own experiences in the face of social norms that render their vulnerability invisible.



**Figure 4. Distribution of authors by gender per continent**

Blue bars represent male authors (M) and orange bars represent female authors (F). Values correspond to relative frequencies (%) within each continental group. Sample sizes by continent: Asia (n=15), Africa (n=30), Europe (n=117), Australia (n=10), and North America (n=47). Total sample: N=219.

#### ***Addressed Topics***

The addressed themes are common themes and those specific to each mechanism. The common themes concern typologies, missions, types of violence recognized, forms of violence effectively protected, accessibility of services, availability and status of resources mobilized. The themes specific to state mechanisms relate to the recognition of domestic violence, the challenges, their consequences on care provision, and the skills and capacities of care providers. The theme of ‘advantages’ was the only theme specific to non-State mechanisms.

Analysis of the extraction grid reveals that certain topics concerning non-institutional mechanisms have not been documented: the availability of services for domestic violence against men, the skills of non-institutional care providers (none) and the negative impacts of structural challenges on state mechanisms. With regard to non-institutional mechanisms, the advantages that have not been addressed (*see Appendix, table 2, Summary table of topics addressed*).

#### ***Recognition of Domestic Violence against Men***

This topic was addressed from the perspective of effective recognition and non-recognition across scientific, institutional, and legal dimensions, as well as social and political dimensions. The effective dimension of legal recognition is the most documented, followed by scientific and institutional recognition. The types documented concerning non-recognition are, in order of importance, social, political, institutional, legal and scientific.

In total, 28 authors have expressed their views on the topic. Eight studies show that recognition is effective, and 20 assert the opposite (*see Appendix 2*). Forms of recognition related to domestic violence include scientific (Carthy & al., 2023); institutional (Hope & al., 2021) and legal (Richardson & Kloess, 2022). Non-recognition is documented at various levels: scientific (Mpofu & Mamba, 2024); institutional (Pisano & al., 2025); legal (Richardson & Kloess, 2022) and Political (Taylor & al., 2022).

### ***Institutional Mechanisms for Addressing Domestic Violence Against Men and Their Characteristics***

Institutional mechanisms refer to the various types of structures established by the State, whose missions contribute to its prerogatives in caring for male victims of domestic violence.

#### ***Typology, Missions, and Effective Protection***

This section presents the findings on the typology, missions of institutional mechanisms and the effective fulfillment of these missions.

With regard to institutional mechanism's typologies, three categories emerge : justice and public order services (Ferreira & al., 2022), health and psychosocial support services (Tsui, 2014), and specific organizations combating domestic violence (Devaraj, 2018). Greater attention is paid to general structures (police, general health, local agencies) than to specialized entities (mental health, specialized assistance agencies). The tasks assigned to these structures cover prevention, intervention, legal protection and psychosocial support.

These mechanisms are documented by 09 of the 74 authors. Justice and law enforcement services include the police (Bates, 2019), courts (Dim, 2021) and criminal justice services (Tshoane & al., 2024). Health services include psychosocial support services (Tenkorang & al., 2023), general health services (Tsui, 2014) and mental health services (Douglas & Hines, 2011). Organizations combating violence include local agencies combating violence (Douglas & Hines, 2011) and agencies providing specialized assistance in cases of domestic violence (Mantey, 2019) (*see Appendix, Table 2*).

Their missions concern prevention, intervention, legal protection and psychosocial support. The role of the police is to provide legal recourse and support services to male victims (Tshoane & al., 2023) and to ensure prevention, protection and necessary assistance to victims (Ferreira & al., 2022). The courts refer victims to support services (Dim, 2021), protect them from domestic violence and offer them legal aid and support services (Tshoane & al., 2023). As for criminal justice services, their role is to provide protection against recognized violence, introduce effective law enforcement measures, and ensure prevention, protection and necessary assistance (Ferreira & al., 2022). General health services treat patients and provide support and formal counselling (Tsui, 2014). Health and psychosocial support services are responsible for ensuring prevention, protection and assistance to survivors of domestic violence (Ferreira & al., 2022); (Tenkorang & al., 2023). Mental health services, beyond providing referrals, provide support to survivors (Bates, 2019). Among the organizations working to combat specific types of violence, local agencies that combat domestic violence provide the general framework for this fight (Devaraj, 2018). They ensure that the law is enforced (Mantey, 2019), report violations and provide financial support to specialized structures (Bates, 2019).

Different types of reported violence are documented. Effective protection appears to be partial. A gap remains between formal recognition and effective protection.

Ten out of 74 authors, including (Lysova & al., 2019) addressed the types of violence recognized and reported. The types of violence reported are: i) domestic violence in general (Morishita & al., 2023) ii) physical violence (Hope & al., 2021) iii) psychological violence (Hines & Douglas, 2011) and iv) sexual violence (Lysova & al., 2019). 9 out of 74 authors examined the types of violence that are protected. Four types have emerged: domestic violence in general, physical, psychological and sexual violence (Lysova & al., 2019); (Motsamai Modise, 2024). Protection is considered insufficient and characterised by: i) partial coverage of the workforce (Ballan & al., 2017) ii) unmet needs (Hope & al., 2021) iii) partial coverage of dimensions (Hines & Douglas, 2011) and iv) operational difficulties (Tshoane & al., 2023).

### ***Positive and negative Characteristics of Institutional Mechanisms***

Strengths and weaknesses reflect the characteristics of institutional mechanisms.

#### ***Positive Characteristics***

The positive characteristics are accessibility, professional competence and the positive impact of institutional mechanisms.

Accessibility was addressed by seven authors (see Appendix 2), highlighting institutional and legal accessibility. They report on the relative accessibility of certain services : i) health professionals (Morishita & al., 2023) ii) administrative institutions (Tsui & al., 2010) iii) police services and iv) counsellors and support services for victims of sexual assault (Richardson & Kloess, 2022). The helpline is considered the most accessible (Hine, Wallace, & al., 2022).

Studies on professional competence (3 of the 74 authors) highlighted three requirements: mandatory specialization of professionals (Ferreira & al., 2022), quality of advice provided (Hogan & al., 2021), and availability of technical skills. The literature on the positive impact of institutional mechanisms shows i) the beneficial effect of advice (Hogan & al., 2021) and ii) the feeling of effective support based on victims' previous experiences (Bates, 2019). Two studies provided information on this subject.

#### ***Negative Characteristics of Institutional Mechanisms***

The weaknesses are the unavailability of support services, inaccessibility, lack of appropriate resources, the challenges of institutional mechanisms and their consequences.

07 out of the 74 authors addressed the unavailability of institutional care services, Describing this unavailability as 'few' (Carthy al., 2023), 'rare' (Taylor & al., 2022) or 'insufficient' (Hines & Douglas, 2021). This is especially true for services dedicated to men (Ayodele, 2017). Most are considered inappropriate (Hope & al., 2021) and non-specialized (Bello & al., 2023).

The low institutional accessibility of services is the most widely documented. Technical institutional inaccessibility received more attention than financial and material inaccessibility.

Thirty-two studies addressed the topic, which was examined from several angles. Institutional inaccessibility manifests itself technically through the interference of socio- cultural stereotypes in the professional sphere (Hogan & al., 2021), the inadequacy or even non-existence of specific services (Moore, 2021). It is also reinforced by a lack of communication and awareness (Carthy & al., 2023). Added to this are the reprehensible behaviors of some professionals (Dim, 2021; Lysova & al., 2022), a generalized approach to complaints (Richardson & Kloess, 2022), as well as unfair and discriminatory practices (Tenkorang & al., 2023). Finally, negative perceptions of experiences with protection services (Richardson & Kloess, 2022) and the denial of men's suffering (Vasseur & al., 2020) further limit the search for help and effective access to protection. Institutional inaccessibility translates into insufficient funding (Hines & Douglas, 2021) and the cost of services (Tenkorang & al., 2023). It is also characterized by under-equipped services (Carthy & al., 2023). Political inaccessibility relates to the persistence of gendered views of domestic violence and their impact on policies and laws (Hart, 2022). Culturally, viewing men as perpetrators and women as victims hinders the use of support services (Tenkorang & al., 2023). Social inaccessibility is characterized by attachment to the relationship and the children born of the relationship, shame, humiliation, and embarrassment (Hines & Douglas, 2021). Personal inaccessibility is marked by men's difficulty in recognizing themselves as victims (Devaraj, 2018), identifying non-physical domestic violence (Ambrozewicz & al., 2024), and refusing to accept their experiences and need for help (Hine, Bates, & al., 2022).

The study of resource availability focuses more on the general scarcity of resources. It emphasizes infrastructure (Lysova & al., 2022), technical resources (Ebouat & al., 2017), equipment

(Carthy & al., 2023) and financial resources (Pisano & al., 2025). The latter have received the most attention. Infrastructure for men (Lysova & al., 2022), has been deemed insufficient. Technical resources are considered insufficient and services are inadequately equipped (Carthy & al., 2023); (Bates, 2019).

The challenges posed by institutional mechanisms and their consequences were highlighted by 14 out of the 74 authors. These challenges are institutional (Hogan & al., 2021), health-related (Carthy & al., 2023), and political (Tshoane & al., 2023). Their consequences go beyond the challenges that gave rise to them and also affect the personal sphere. Ultimately, these challenges impact the care process and the well-being of victims.

Institutional challenges were addressed by nine authors (*see supplementary material 2, Table 2*). Institutional consequences affect the functioning, reputation, and utilization of care facilities.

The consequences for the functioning of the facilities are the perpetuation of non-reporting; the lack of empirical evidence (Hall, 2012). (Hall, 2013), the invisibility and exclusion of male victims from care.

The negative perception of the police (Dim, 2021) and the loss of trust due to negative interactions with the police (Hope & al., 2021) are their effects on the reputation of institutions. The ineffectiveness of services, the difficulty of meeting victims' needs due to the failure to recognize them as victims (Hines & Douglas, 2011), the poor protection of high-risk male victims (Pisano & al., 2025), and the support available primarily for extreme cases (Hines & al., 2022), have an impact on the effectiveness of care. This results in victims turning to informal sources of support, to the detriment of public support services (Morishita & al., 2024). The social consequences identified include isolation due to a lack of services (Hope & al., 2021); feelings of worthlessness on the part of the victim (Mpofu & Mamba, 2024); feelings of uselessness, frustration, powerlessness, exclusion, loneliness, and fear (Taylor & al., 2022); and material and social losses (property, children) (Berger & al., 2016).

As for the health consequences, these include a deterioration in health (Taylor & al., 2022); lasting effects on mental health (Hogan & al., 2021); (Douglas & al., 2011) and the development of more severe symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder (Carthy & al., 2023). Self-doubt, shame, and delays in seeking help (Taylor & al., 2022) are the personal consequences.

### ***Non-Institutional Mechanisms for Addressing Domestic Violence against Men and their Characteristics***

Any mechanisms other than state mechanisms that contribute to the care of male victims are considered non-institutional. This section discusses their typology, missions, the effective protection of male victims, and their characteristics.

#### ***Typology of Non-institutional Mechanisms, Missions, and Effective Protection***

In terms of typologies, two types of structures have been identified: formal and informal. The former include NGOs and associations, religious leaders, and support groups for organizations. The latter include anonymous helplines and networks of family, friends, and the community. The topic was addressed by 10 of 74 authors. 4 of the 10 examined formal structures and 7 of 10 examined informal ones (*see Appendix, Table 2*).

The missions vary according to the type of structure, targeting either male victims or associations. Non-governmental organizations that provide support and advice to victims offer assistance and advice to victims. (Lassen & al., 2023). NGO support organizations offer support to groups responsible for combating domestic violence (Motsamai Modise, 2024). Informal organizations provide emotional support and informal mediation (Tenkorang & al., 2023). Anonymous helplines pro-

vide information and psychological support (Dempsey, 2016) and (Bates, 2019). Ten authors studied the missions, with 4 for formal structures and 7 for informal ones.

The examination of effective protection shows that certain types of violence (cultural, social, and administrative) are not recognized, while psychological (Ayodele, 2017), physical (Lassen & al., 2023), economic (Lassen & al., 2023) and sexual violence (Berger & al., 2016) are recognized and addressed. Verbal violence is recognized but not addressed. Seven studies, including (Lassen & al., 2023) and (Vasseur & al., 2020), examined this topic (*see supplementary material 2, Table 2*).

#### ***Non-Institutional Positive and Negative Characteristics***

This section concerns the state of the literature on the positive and negative characteristics of non-institutional mechanisms.

##### ***Positive Characteristics***

The positive characteristics relate to the availability of resources, accessibility, and the benefits and consequences of non-institutional mechanisms.

No paper addressed the availability of non-State mechanisms.

Accessibility has been addressed in relation to formal structures (Motsamai Modise, 2024) and informal ones. Attention has focused mainly on informal forms (family, friendship, and community networks and anonymous helplines). Of the various types of accessibility (institutional, social, and geographical), institutional accessibility has been the most widely documented.

Six out of 74 authors addressed the issue (*see supplementary material 2, Table 2*).

The accessibility of formal structures was documented by one author (Motsamai Modise, 2024), and that of informal structures by five authors, including (Morishita & al., 2023). The forms of accessibility identified are institutional (Motsamai Modise, 2024), social (Lysova & al., 2019), (Tsui, 2014) and geographical (Douglas & al., 2011).

The trend is toward the critical marginalization of the study of resource availability. Only one (Morishita & al., 2024) addresses technical resources and concludes that they exist within the framework of organizational activities.

There is little research on the benefits of non-institutional mechanisms, and what exists tends to focus on informal types (networks of friends, family, and community). Their effects are more positive and extend to social domains (improved relationships, reduced violence), health (improved well-being of victims), and institutional domains (facilitating victims' search for formal help).

Nine out of 74 authors addressed the topic (*see Appendix 2*), in relation to crisis management centers (Lassen & al., 2023), support networks of friends, family, and community (Bates, 2019), and anonymous helplines (Douglas & al., 2011); (Carthy & al., 2023).

The material support provided by crisis centers is the advantage of the formal type. For support networks of friends, family, and community, the advantages are accessibility, the provision of essential support, and the filling of gaps left by state agencies (Carthy & al., 2023); positive reactions from friends and relatives (Bates, 2019), validation of experiences and escape from violence; positive perception of male victims within these networks (Bahati & al., 2022), their preference for male victims (Morishita & al., 2024); (Dim, 2021); reduced alcohol abuse (Douglas & al., 2011) and maintaining contact with children (Lysova & al., 2019). Victim satisfaction (Douglas & al., 2011); the provision of essential support and the addressing of the shortcomings of state agencies (Carthy & al., 2023) are advantages of the helpline.

The consequences are described as mostly positive rather than negative. The support provided by crisis centers has led to improved well-being, better relationships, and a reduction in violence (Lassen & al., 2023). The accessibility of informal networks has helped pave the way for seeking more formal help (Bates, 2019). As for the positive perception of help from friends, rela-

tives, and others, it has enabled the validation of experiences of domestic violence and escape from violence (Bahati & al., 2022), a decrease in the propensity to drink alcohol and a preference for using this type of mechanism (Douglas & al., 2011), and the continuation of the relationship with the children (Lysova & al., 2019). The consequences of using anonymous helplines are their heavy use and the diversification of sources of help by male victims (Douglas & al., 2011).

#### ***Negative Characteristics***

These concerns relate to the inaccessibility of non-institutional mechanisms, the unavailability of resources, and the adverse consequences of non-State mechanism functioning.

The study of inaccessibility shows that it is primarily social and cultural, targeting more the support networks of friends, family, and the community. Institutional inaccessibility, which affects formal structures (NGOs), is poorly documented. Social factors perpetuate this inaccessibility.

Four out of 74 authors addressed the topic. It affects non-governmental organizations. (Vasseur & al. (2020) as well as support networks of friends, family, and communities (Taylor & al., 2022) (Ayodele, 2017) and (Richardson & Kloess, 2022). Inaccessibility manifests through a lack of trust in victims who are not believed and are subjected to ridicule (Taylor & al., 2022), stigmatization (Ayodele, 2017), and fear of negative reactions (Richardson & Kloess, 2022).

Resource unavailability receives minimal attention in the literature. Only one out of 74 studies addresses this issue in relation to informal mechanisms (Lassen & al., 2023).

Examination of the adverse consequences of non-institutional mechanisms reveals that this issue receives only marginal attention.

One out of 74 studies addressed the adverse consequences of informal mechanisms, highlighting the continuation of abusive relationships (Lysova & al., 2019).

#### ***Comparative Advantages of Institutional and Non-institutional Mechanisms***

Drawing on the 74 reviewed studies, we compared institutional and non-institutional mechanisms (See Appendix, Table 3). The results highlight the comparative advantages of each approach. The strengths and weaknesses of both mechanisms were identified, with a focus on their relative benefits rather than determining overall superiority. The objective was to explore complementary possibilities between the two mechanisms in supporting male victims. This comparison was conducted using nine criteria: mission, service availability, accessibility, resource availability, professional skills, consequences of challenges, effective victim protection, specific advantages, and overall impact/effectiveness.

Ultimately, each mechanism demonstrates advantages whose potential is constrained by inherent limitations, as shown in Table 3 (Appendix). Regarding institutional mechanisms, key observations include: a formal, legally-backed mission; a broad theoretical scope but low actual availability for male victims; accessibility primarily via helplines; and formal yet inadequate resources that compromise long-term viability. Additionally, while general professional skills are present, critical specialization gaps exist regarding male victims. This can lead to a dysfunctional system that creates vicious cycles and iatrogenic effects. Despite holding a monopoly on formal legal protection, deficient application compromises its effectiveness, occasionally rendering the system counterproductive and worsening the victim's situation.

Conversely, the main findings for non-institutional mechanisms indicate a successful, albeit informal, mission accomplishment. These mechanisms offer superior accessibility, serving as an immediate entry point and the preferred recourse for victims. While resources are limited, they facilitate the flexible mobilization of social capital. Providers demonstrate empirical skills and empathy, resulting in holistic recognition and less collateral damage; however, they often lack specialized technical expertise. Consequently, while their advantages lead to higher utilization and superior psy-

chosocial effectiveness, non-institutional mechanisms critically fail in ensuring violence cessation and entirely lack the capacity to provide formal legal protection.

### **Discussion**

The analysis of the state of scientific literature on institutional and non-institutional mechanisms for addressing domestic violence against men, with a view to determining comparative advantages based on their positive and negative characteristics, revealed a persistent gap between formal recognition and effective protection. Victims face a bimodal support system, evolving in parallel, each with its strengths and limitations that do not ensure the cessation of this domestic violence. Overall, the review led to four conclusions that are briefly recalled below before being discussed.

#### ***The recognition of domestic violence: a more problematic than resolved situation***

The first conclusion shows that several forms of recognition, including legal, political, institutional and social, prevail to varying degrees. The establishment of legal recognition has not led to other forms, especially social recognition. Critical deficits in recognition are located, in order of importance, at the social (documented in 75% of writings), political and institutional levels.

This conclusion indicates a potential handicap to the effective protection of male victims. Indeed, legal recognition alone is not sufficient for effective protection (Toungakouagou Sama, 2023) ; (Mutolib & al., 2023) ; (Sithomola, 2022). Thus, social non-recognition is a factor hindering help-seeking: it reinforces stigmatization and directly impacts reporting (Reis & al., 2024) ; (Moore, 2021). As for political recognition, it is important (S. Tshoane & al., 2024) as it conditions the creation of services, the content of prevention and protection policies, and the allocation of resources. With institutional recognition, effective measures are applied. Consequently, recognition is more legal and remains more problematic than resolved. This is primarily explained by the resistance of hegemonic masculinity (Dim, 2021), whose effects extend beyond the family and community framework and cut across the domestic violence intervention chain. This conclusion corroborates previous work on the need to make the issue of domestic violence against men a particular focus of interest. The original contribution is the establishment of negative relationships between social non-recognition and other forms of recognition and their implications for the intervention chain of institutional mechanisms.

#### ***Institutional Mechanisms for Addressing Domestic Violence: Between Realities of Existence, Missions and Counterproductive Structural Failures***

The second conclusion reports on a state-care system that presents some strengths (existence, variety of structures with a combination of missions and structures that integrate a complete intervention chain) but whose intervention effectiveness is undermined by various structural limitations in terms of availability and accessibility of services, resources, and specific and specialized skills. This results in challenges that negatively impact the system and its beneficiaries.

Upon analysis, state mechanisms for caring for male victims are plagued by debilitating dysfunctions (Tshoane & al., 2024). Despite the exclusivity of legal protection and formal legitimacy, the highlighted limitations do not guarantee effective protection. Protection is fragmentary and partial (Mosher, 2015) ; (Robbers & Morgan, 2017)): not all violence is recognized; recognized violence is not protected. The mechanisms are characterized by inaccessibility and systemic inadequacy of various resources (Mellaard & Meijl, 2021). Services are deemed "rare," "insufficient," or "non-specialized," ignoring the specific needs of the male experience (Hines & Douglas, 2019). As for the various resources, they have proved inadequate (Motsamai Modise, 2024). Inaccessibility creates the institutional invisibility of victims, while the inadequacy of resources compromises the operational viability of services. As for the lack of specialization, it compromises adapted care for a

sensitive subject requiring specialization. This situation generates a vicious circle whose effects go beyond their internal operating framework and worsen a reluctance to seek help. The state system is, therefore, not only ineffective but actively contributes to worsening the situation of victims, due to the non-operationalization of theoretical advantages.

The gap between theoretical privileges and the reality of protection could be explained by the situation of non-recognition already mentioned. In fact, a lack of social recognition affects all other forms of recognition, including scientific and institutional. The insufficiency of scientific recognition manifests here in researchers' low interest in this theme (Motsamai Modise, 2024), making a major problem invisible and thus hindering the attention of policymakers and institutional actors. As for the lack of political and institutional recognition, they are the basis for the deficit of measures and resources appropriate to the nature of male specificities. This situation confirms our analyses of the gap between recognition and effectiveness of protection.

The original contribution of our work to this second result concerns the implications of types of non-recognition on the taking of effective measures in terms of policies and adapted resources.

#### ***Non-State Mechanisms: An Alternative Solution Itself Constrained***

The third result reveals the existence of a non-State mechanism where formal and informal types coexist. On one side, NGOs, associations and formal support groups, on the other, anonymous helplines and networks of friends, family and community. It offers victims diversified, concrete assistance, emotional and psychological support and guidance. This mechanism also presents positive and negative characteristics, with a predominance of strengths. Non-State mechanisms are more frequently used but their limitations hinder the cessation of violent relationships.

Our analyses indicate that the non-State support mechanism has established itself as an alternative solution approach in the face of state mechanism dysfunctions (Moult, 2016) ; (Zurnetti & Muliati, 2022). This situation is explained by its strengths (psychological support, guidance, discretion; social and health benefits). In this context, accessibility constitutes a determining factor in its use (Moult, 2016). This mechanism offers a crucial practical and functional advantage, establishing itself as a system that fills the gaps of state mechanisms. However, weaknesses should be noted (the fragmentation of missions, absence of resources and especially the continuation of the violent relationship generate the ineffectiveness of the mission). This last aspect maintains the most critical risk, which is the continuation of the abusive relationship and therefore the non-cessation of domestic violence against men (Lysova & al., 2024).

#### ***Comparative Advantages: The Deconstructed Collaboration of Two Incomplete but Complementary Mechanisms***

The fourth conclusion reports the concomitant existence of two mechanisms, each presenting positive and negative characteristics and its comparative advantages. While these two mechanisms share certain limitations (fragmentation of missions and lack of resources, for example), distinguishing features characterize each one.

The cross-analysis of mechanisms reveals that two fundamental aspects, namely formal recognition and proximity effectiveness, allow for understanding comparative advantages. Thus, state mechanisms have the advantage of a legal and juridical basis, essential for addressing domestic violence against men. However, these advantages are largely non-operational due to dysfunctions (access, resources, effective protection). As for non-State mechanisms, they are accessible, practical and fill the gaps of state mechanisms. Nevertheless, the heterogeneous nature of support hinders comprehensive care for violence and maintains the critical risk of not guaranteeing the cessation of violence.

In view of the analyses, non-state mechanisms emerge as the most advantageous and are by far the most preferred (Lysova & Dim, 2020) compared to state mechanisms. This positioning stems from their higher social accessibility (Taylor & al., 2022) and the resulting positive health (Ogbe et al., 2020) and social consequences (Schucan Bird et al., 2025). However, neither mechanism has the advantage of effectiveness, thus calling for the necessity of a certain complementarity.

### ***Implications for Future Research***

This section identifies knowledge gaps and proposes future research directions

This review reveals critical gaps on four levels: i) Geographically unequal scientific production: marked under-representation in Asia, Oceania and Africa, particularly in French-speaking countries; ii) Cross-cutting aspects of both mechanisms: effective protection of victims and professional skills necessary for care (initiated for state mechanisms, absent for non-State mechanisms); iii) State mechanisms: advantages and positive consequences poorly understood, service availability not documented; iv) Non-State mechanisms: negative consequences and resource unavailability insufficiently studied.

These gaps contrast with the importance of the issue, maintain the invisibility of male victims' suffering, and hinder the development of effective care policies. This situation, combined with the failures of existing mechanisms, exacerbates non-reporting and abandonment of victims to their fate.

In light of these gaps, eight causal research questions emerge as priorities:

What factors explain the low level of scientific production in Asia, Oceania and francophone Africa on domestic violence against men?

What explains the gap between the rate of scientific production on recognized violence (13.5%) versus protected violence (9.5%)?

What factors determine the geographical availability of services at global, national and local levels?

To what extent do specific professional skills make care for male victims effective? What specific training holds potential for improving the quality of interventions?

What are the advantages of state mechanism intervention and their consequences on victim care?

What obstacles (political, budgetary, ideological) hinder the creation of specialized services for male victims?

Under what conditions do informal interventions perpetuate violence? What factors transform informal support into an obstacle to ending violence?

What threshold of resources is necessary for an informal mechanism to become truly protective?

### **Limitations**

This review presents methodological limitations. First, the restriction to documents published in French and English may have excluded relevant research in other languages, potentially underrepresenting experiences in Latin America, the Middle East, and Asia, as well as in Francophone Africa. Second, although Scopus and Dimensions are robust databases, the absence of consultation of other relevant databases, such as PsycINFO, Web of Science, or JSTOR, may have resulted in the omission of pertinent works, particularly those published in non-indexed journals. Data extraction in April 2025 also limits the analysis of the most recent trends. Third, no formal assessment of methodological biases in primary studies was conducted using standardized tools (CASP, JBI, ROBIS), limiting the ability to hierarchize evidence according to methodological robustness. More-

over, since the selection and analysis process was conducted by a single researcher, the risk of selection and interpretation bias was not controlled through independent dual evaluation, as recommended by PRISMA standards. Despite these limitations, this synthesis provides a novel analytical framework for understanding protection mechanisms for male victims of intimate partner violence.

### Conclusion

The general objective of this research was to establish a comparison between institutional and non-institutional mechanisms for caring for male victims of domestic violence. It therefore analyzed the content of 74 scientific documents. The work identified the mechanisms and their subtypes and characterized them through their strengths and weaknesses in relation to the effective protection of male victims. The findings demonstrate that the mechanisms have been documented in several aspects, notably the subtypes, missions and, to some extent, efforts toward the effectiveness of their mission. The state of documentation on issues of service availability, resources and their adequacy to missions, as well as comparative advantages. It is generally noted that while certain issues of care for male victims are well documented for each type of mechanism, others are marginally documented or hardly at all. The analyses reveal a gap between the ambitions of the mechanisms, resources and, ultimately, effective care, both by institutional and non-institutional mechanisms.

The study of comparative advantages shows that no mechanism is sufficient in itself and implies a need to search for solutions to the flaws of each mechanism and a need for complementarity between the two mechanisms. The substantial contribution of this review is the effort to highlight comparative advantages between the two mechanisms based on a systematic analysis using precise criteria; highlighting the subtypes of each mechanism and their missions and knowledge gaps. The work concludes with a need for complementarity between the two mechanisms in a three-level care system. The first level would be managed by non-State mechanisms, considered as the entry point and ensuring reception. The same logic applies to the second level with the completion of referral protocols to appropriate formal services. The third level would be the framework for coordinated holistic intervention between State-NGOs to ensure continuity and coherence of care.

### References

- Ambrozewicz, P., Hammond, C., & Fido, D. (2024). Ending the stigma of male domestic violence and abuse victims: A mixed-methods study. *Journal of Criminal Justice*, 93, 102222. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jcrimjus.2024.102222>
- Ayodele, J. O. (2017). *The Socio-Cultural Causes Of Male Victimisation In Domestic Contexts In Lagos, Nigeria: A Qualitative Analysis*. <https://doi.org/10.5281/ZENODO.1034670>
- Bahati, C., Izabayo, J., Munezero, P., Niyonsenga, J., & Mutesa, L. (2022). Trends and correlates of intimate partner violence (IPV) victimization in Rwanda: Results from the 2015 and 2020 Rwanda Demographic Health Survey (RDHS 2015 and 2020). *BMC Women's Health*, 22(1), 368. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12905-022-01951-3>
- Ballan, M. S., Freyer, M. B., & Powledge, L. (2017). Intimate Partner Violence Among Men With Disabilities: The Role of Health Care Providers. *American Journal of Men's Health*, 11(5), 1436-1443. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1557988315606966>
- Bates, E. A. (2019). "I Am Still Afraid of Her": Men's Experiences of Post-Separation Abuse. *Partner Abuse*, 10(3), 336-358. <https://doi.org/10.1891/1946-6560.10.3.336>
- Bello, P. O., Mofokeng, J. T., & Olutola, A. A. (2023). The inadequacies of the South African Criminal Justice System against male victims of domestic abuse. *OIDA International Journal of Sustainable Development*, 16(6), 21-34. Scopus.

- Berger, J. L., Douglas, E. M., & Hines, D. A. (2016). The mental health of male victims and their children affected by legal and administrative partner aggression. *Aggressive Behavior*, 42(4), 346-361. <https://doi.org/10.1002/ab.21630>
- Caponnetto, P., Lenzo, V., Sardella, A., Prezzavento, G. C., Casu, M., & Quattropiani, M. C. (2024). Breaking the Silence : Exploring Peritraumatic Distress and Negative Emotions in Male and Female Physical Domestic Violence Victims. *Health Psychology Research*, 12. <https://doi.org/10.52965/001c.92900>
- Carthy, N., Bates, E. A., & Policek, N. (2019). Promoting Inclusivity in Intimate Partner Abuse Research : Exploring Gender and Age. *Partner Abuse*, 10(3), 359-372. <https://doi.org/10.1891/1946-6560.10.3.359>
- Carthy, N., Best, D., & Divers, A. (2023). The Process of Leaving Abuse : Midlife and Older Male Experiences of Female-Perpetrated Intimate Partner Violence. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*, 38(17-18), 10409-10432. <https://doi.org/10.1177/08862605231173431>
- Dempsey, B. (2016). Review : Male victims of domestic abuse : Implications for health visiting practice. *Journal of Research in Nursing*, 21(5-6), 415-416. Scopus. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1744987116654078>
- Devaraj, N. K. (2018). Men as victims of domestic violence. *Rwanda Medical Journal*, 75(2), 9-11. Scopus.
- Dim, E. E. (2021). Experiences of Physical and Psychological Violence Against Male Victims in Canada : A Qualitative Study. *International Journal of Offender Therapy and Comparative Criminology*, 65(9), 1029-1054. Scopus. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0306624X20911898>
- Douglas, E. M., & Hines, D. A. (2011). The Helpseeking Experiences of Men Who Sustain Intimate Partner Violence : An Overlooked Population and Implications for Practice. *Journal of Family Violence*, 26(6), 473-485. Scopus. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10896-011-9382-4>
- Douglas, E. M., Hines, D. A., & McCarthy, S. C. (2011). Men who sustain female-to-male partner violence : Factors associated with where they seek help and how they rate those resources. *Violence and Victims*, 26(6), 871-894. Scopus. <https://doi.org/10.1891/0886-6708.27.6.871>
- Ebouat, K. M. E. V., Hiquet, J., Christin, E., Fougas, J., Dubourg, O., & Gromb-Monnoyeur, S. (2017). Descriptive retrospective study on male victims of domestic violence. *Revue de Médecine Legale*, 8(2), 61-67. Scopus. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.medleg.2016.09.003>
- Enakele, A. S. (2019). Domestic violence against men : Prevalence, implications, and consequences. *Social Work: Experience and Methods*, 24(2), 29-43. <https://doi.org/10.7220/2029-5820.24.2.2>
- Felson, R. B., & Paré, P.-P. (2005). The reporting of domestic violence and sexual assault by non-strangers to the police. *Journal of Marriage and Family*, 67(3), 597-610. Scopus. <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1741-3737.2005.00156.x>
- Ferreira, M., Neves, S., & Quintas, J. (2022). Attitudes of Portuguese Judges and Victim Support Professionals Toward Intimate Partner Homicide Committed by Women. *Frontiers in Psychology*, 13, 912855. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2022.912855>
- Gitonga, C. M. (2021). Attributions for the culture of silence among victims of domestic violence : A case of married men in Kenya. *International Journal of Psychology and Counselling*, 13(3), 34-40. <https://doi.org/10.5897/ijpc2021.0639>

- Gitonga Ciriaka. (2021). Attributions for the culture of silence among victims of domestic violence : A case of married men in Kenya. *International Journal of Psychology and Counselling*, 13(3), 34-40. <https://doi.org/10.5897/IJPC2021.0639>
- Hall, R. E. (2012). The surreptitious feminization of domestic violence : An empirical exposé. *Social Work and Social Sciences Review*, 16(1), 34-47. Scopus. <https://doi.org/10.1921/503160104>
- Hart, K. J. (2022). Third-Party Perceptions of Intimate Partner Violence Victimization in Men. *Psychology of Men and Masculinity*, 24(1), 34-46. Scopus. <https://doi.org/10.1037/men0000406>
- Hine, B., Bates, E. A., & Wallace, S. (2022). “I Have Guys Call Me and Say ‘I Can’t Be the Victim of Domestic Abuse’” : Exploring the Experiences of Telephone Support Providers for Male Victims of Domestic Violence and Abuse. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*, 37(7-8), NP5594-NP5625. Scopus. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0886260520944551>
- Hine, B., Wallace, S., & Bates, E. A. (2022). Understanding the Profile and Needs of Abused Men : Exploring Call Data From a Male Domestic Violence Charity in the United Kingdom. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*, 37(17-18), NP16992-NP17022. Scopus. <https://doi.org/10.1177/08862605211028014>
- Hines, D. A., & Douglas, E. M. (2011). Symptoms of Posttraumatic Stress Disorder in Men Who Sustain Intimate Partner Violence : A Study of Helpseeking and Community Samples. *Psychology of Men and Masculinity*, 12(2), 112-127. Scopus. <https://doi.org/10.1037/a0022983>
- Hines, D. A., & Douglas, E. M. (2019). An Empirical Test of Johnson’s Typology of Intimate Partner Violence in Two Samples of Men. *Partner Abuse*, 10(2), 180-198. Scopus. <https://doi.org/10.1891/1946-6560.10.2.180>
- Hines, D. A., & Douglas, E. M. (2020). *Male Victims of Female-Perpetrated Intimate Partner Violence : History, Controversy, and the Current State of Research* (p. 1-19). [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-62122-7\\_289-1](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-62122-7_289-1)
- Hines, D. A., & Douglas, E. M. (2021). Male Victims of Female-Perpetrated Intimate Partner Violence : History, Controversy, and the Current State of Research. In *Handbook of Interpersonal Violence and Abuse Across the Lifespan : A Project of the National Partnership to End Interpersonal Violence Across the Lifespan (NPEIV)* (p. 3247-3265). Scopus. [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-89999-2\\_289](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-89999-2_289)
- Hogan, K. F., Clarke, V., & Ward, T. (2021). Men’s experiences of help-seeking for female-perpetrated intimate partner violence : A qualitative exploration. *Counselling and Psychotherapy Research*, 21(4), 934-945. Scopus. <https://doi.org/10.1002/capr.12409>
- Hope, K. A., Bates, E. A., Brooks, M., & Taylor, J. C. (2021). What Can We Learn From Domestic Homicide Reviews With Male Victims? *Partner Abuse*, 12(4), 384-408. Scopus. <https://doi.org/10.1891/PA-2021-0011>
- Huntley, A. L., Potter, L., Williamson, E., Malpass, A., Szilassy, E., & Feder, G. (2019). Help-seeking by male victims of domestic violence and abuse (DVA) : A systematic review and qualitative evidence synthesis. *BMJ Open*, 9(6), e021960. <https://doi.org/10.1136/bmjopen-2018-021960>
- Huntley, A. L., Szilassy, E., Potter, L., Malpass, A., Williamson, E., & Feder, G. (2020). Help seeking by male victims of domestic violence and abuse : An example of an integrated mixed methods synthesis of systematic review evidence defining methodological terms. *BMC Health Services Research*, 20(1). Scopus. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12913-020-05931-x>

- Krug, E. C., Mercy, J. A., Dalberg, Li. L., & Zwi, anthony B. (2002). The woerld report on violence and health. *THE LANCET*, *360*, 1083-1088.
- Kusuma, F., Paparang, S. T., & Kristiawanto, K. (2024). Domestic Violence Against Wives Against Husbands : Challenges and Implementation of Law. *ARMADA : Jurnal Penelitian Multidisiplin*, *2*(7), 468-477. <https://doi.org/10.55681/armada.v2i7.1398>
- Langdrige, D., Flowers, P., & Carney, D. (2023). Male survivors' experience of sexual assault and support : A scoping review. *Aggression and Violent Behavior*, *70*, 101838. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.avb.2023.101838>
- Lassen, B., Nielsen, N. H., Winther, M., & Bates, E. A. (2023). Men's Exposure to Intimate Partner Violence and Their Experiences With a Crisis Center in Denmark. *Partner Abuse*, *14*(1), 133-156. Scopus. <https://doi.org/10.1891/PA-2022-0032>
- Lysova, A., & Dim, E. E. (2020). Severity of Victimization and Formal Help Seeking Among Men Who Experienced Intimate Partner Violence in Their Ongoing Relationships. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*, *37*(3-4), 1404-1429. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0886260520922352>
- Lysova, A., Dim, E. E., & Dutton, D. (2019). Prevalence and Consequences of Intimate Partner Violence in Canada as Measured by the National Victimization Survey. *Partner Abuse*, *10*(2), 199-221. Scopus. <https://doi.org/10.1891/1946-6560.10.2.199>
- Lysova, A., Hanson, K., Dixon, L., Douglas, E. M., Hines, D. A., & Celi, E. M. (2022). Internal and External Barriers to Help Seeking : Voices of Men Who Experienced Abuse in the Intimate Relationships. *International Journal of Offender Therapy and Comparative Criminology*, *66*(5), 538-559. Scopus. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0306624X20919710>
- Lysova, A., Hanson, K., & Hines, D. A. (2024). "How Can I Be a Victim When I Have children?" Abused Men's Perceptions of Their Children's Exposure to Domestic Violence. *Journal of Aggression, Maltreatment and Trauma*, *33*(1), 67-84. Scopus. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10926771.2023.2186300>
- Machado, A., Mesquita, C., & Matos, M. (2024). Brief Report on a Systematic Review of the Experiences of Male Victims of Intimate Partner Violence as Help-Seekers. *Journal of Aggression, Maltreatment and Trauma*, *33*(1), 109-122. Scopus. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10926771.2022.2112336>
- Mantey, E. E. (2019). Domestic violence in Ghana : The attitudes of male victims of Accra. *African Journal of Social Work*, *9*(1), 1-8. Scopus.
- Mellaard, A., & Meijl, T. V. (2021). Domestic violence policies in the Netherlands : A regime of deficiency. *Anthropological Theory*, *21*(4), 437-459. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1463499620958857>
- Moore, T. (2021). Suggestions to improve outcomes for male victims of domestic abuse : A review of the literature. *SN Social Sciences*, *1*(10). Scopus. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s43545-021-00263-x>
- Morishita, J., Kato, R., Yasuda, M., & Suda, S. (2023). Male intimate partner violence (IPV) victims in Japan : Associations of types of harm, sociodemographic characteristics, and depression trait. *Psychiatry and Clinical Neurosciences Reports*, *2*(3). Scopus. <https://doi.org/10.1002/pcn5.127>
- Morishita, J., Yasuda, M., & Suda, S. (2024). Help-seeking behavior of male victims of intimate partner violence in Japan. *Psychiatry and Clinical Neurosciences Reports*, *3*(4), e70013. <https://doi.org/10.1002/pcn5.70013>

- Mosher, J. E. (2015). Grounding access to justice theory and practice in the experiences of women abused by their intimate partners. *Windsor Yearbook of Access to Justice*, 32(2), 149-179. <https://doi.org/10.22329/wyaj.v32i2.4688>
- Motsamai Modise, J. (2024). Shattering the Masculinity Myth : Prevention and Support for Male Victims of Domestic Violence. *International Journal of Innovative Science and Research Technology (IJISRT)*, 2051-2064. <https://doi.org/10.38124/ijisrt/IJISRT24OCT994>
- Moult, K. (2016). Providing a sense of justice : Informal mechanisms for dealing with domestic violence. *South African Crime Quarterly*, (12). <https://doi.org/10.17159/2413-3108/2005/v0i12a1016>
- Mpofu, P., & Mamba, L. G. (2024). Gender-based violence committed by women against men in the Kingdom of Eswatini. *International Review of Social Sciences Research*, 4(4), 18-39. <https://doi.org/10.53378/irssr.353112>
- Mutolib, U. A., Abdillah, N., & Irfan, A. (2023). Law Enforcement Domestic Offender Violence : Domestic Violence. *AHKAM*, 2(2), 458-469. <https://doi.org/10.58578/ahkam.v2i2.1260>
- Ogbe, E., Harmon, S., Van Den Bergh, R., & Degomme, O. (2020). A systematic review of intimate partner violence interventions focused on improving social support and/ mental health outcomes of survivors. *PLOS ONE*, 15(6), e0235177. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0235177>
- Ouédraogo, R., & Stenezl, D. (2021). The Heavy economic Toll of Gender-Based Violence : Evidence from Sub-Saharan Africa. *International Monetary Fund*, 1-35.
- Pisano, G., Widanaralalage, B. K., & Willmott, D. (2025). “We have to fight for our existence in the system” : Exploring service providers’ experiences with male victims and female perpetrators of intimate partner violence. *Journal of Criminal Psychology*, 15(1), 17-36. Scopus. <https://doi.org/10.1108/JCP-04-2024-0033>
- Reis, E., Moleiro, C., & Arriaga, P. (2024). Intimate Partner Violence Directed at Men : Experiences of Violence, Help-seeking, and Potential Gender Role Conflict Among Portuguese Men. *Sexuality & Culture*, 28(1), 21-40. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12119-023-10108-9>
- Richardson, H., & Kloess, J. A. (2022). “It was different because I was a man” : A qualitative evidence synthesis exploring the lived experiences of adult male survivors of female-perpetrated intimate partner abuse. *Aggression and Violent Behavior*, 67. Scopus. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.avb.2022.101796>
- Robbers, G. M. L., & Morgan, A. (2017). Programme potential for the prevention of and response to sexual violence among female refugees : A literature review. *Reproductive Health Matters*, 25(51), 69-89. <https://doi.org/10.1080/09688080.2017.1401893>
- Schucan Bird, K. L., Stokes, N., & Rivas, C. (2025). Interventions for Improving Informal Social Support for Victim-Survivors of Domestic Violence and Abuse : An Evidence and Gap Map. *Campbell Systematic Reviews*, 21(2), e70026. <https://doi.org/10.1002/cl2.70026>
- Shrivastava, D. S., & Muskan, K. (2022). *Domestic Violence against Men by Women*. 4(4).
- Sithomola, T. (2022). The Imperilled Right to Life, Femicide Crisis in South Africa : Critical Considerations for Legislators. *International Journal of Criminology and Sociology*, 9, 74-86. <https://doi.org/10.6000/1929-4409.2020.09.08>
- Taylor, J. C., Bates, E. A., Colosi, A., & Creer, A. J. (2022). Barriers to Men’s Help Seeking for Intimate Partner Violence. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*, 37(19-20), NP18417-NP18444. Scopus. <https://doi.org/10.1177/08862605211035870>

- Tenkorang, E. Y., Zaami, M., Kimuna, S., Owusu, A. Y., & Rohn, E. (2023). Help-Seeking Behaviors of Male Survivors of Intimate Partner Violence in Kenya. *Journal of Family Issues*, 44(1), 187-202. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0192513X211042847>
- Toungakouagou Sama, S. (2023). Female genital mutilation in the Waaou community of Atacora in light of the new law on sexual and reproductive health. In *Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights in Sub-Saharan Africa* (pp. 113-123). L'Harmattan.
- Tshoane, M., Bello, O., Mofokeng, J. T., & Olutola, A. A. (2023). The inadequacies of the South African Criminal Justice System against male victims of domestic abuse. *OIDA International Journal of Sustainable Development*, 21-34.
- Tshoane, S., Bello, P. O., Mofokeng, J. T., & Olutola, A. A. (2023). Exploration of the Gaps in the Enactment and Implementation of the Domestic Violence Act of South Africa. *Department of Safety and Security Management*, 5(1), 59-80.
- Tshoane, S., Olutola, A. A., Bello, P. O., & Mofokeng, J. T. (2024). Domestic violence against men: Unmuting the reality of the forgotten gender. *Cogent Social Sciences*, 10(1), 10-14. <https://doi.org/10.1080/23311886.2024.2304990>
- Tsui, V. (2014). Male victims of intimate partner abuse: Use and helpfulness of services. *Social Work (United States)*, 59(2), 121-130. Scopus. <https://doi.org/10.1093/sw/swu007>
- Tsui, V., Cheung, M., & Leung, P. (2010). Help-seeking among male victims of partner abuse: Men's hard times. *Journal of Community Psychology*, 38(6), 769-780. Scopus. <https://doi.org/10.1002/jcop.20394>
- Vasseur, P., Dupont, M., & Rey-Salmon, C. (2020). Intimate partner violence, male victims observations and perspective. *Revue de Medecine Legale*, 11(2), 56-62. Scopus. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.medleg.2020.03.001>
- Zurnetti, A., & Muliati, N. (2022). Customary criminal law policy on domestic violence settlement through restorative justice. *Cogent Social Sciences*, 8(1), 2090083. <https://doi.org/10.1080/23311886.2022.2090083>

## Appendix

**Table 1 . Summary table of studies and thematic distribution based on the objectives of the analyzed studies**

No.	Title	Au- thor(s)	Year of publi- cation	Gend- er of au- thor(s)	Coun- try	Objective	Type of study	Methodological approach	Colors of the articles ac- cording to the themes
1	Help-seeking behavior of men victims of intimate partner violence in Japan	Morishita, J.; Yasuda, M.; Suda, S.	2024	M, F, F	Japan	To identify factors influencing the help-seeking behavior of men who are victims of intimate partner violence and their channels of recourse (formal/informal).	Mixed	Online survey (Feb. 25-26, 2021) via Cross Marketing Inc.; 1,466 men living with partners; victim subsample divided into two groups: G1 who sought help (n=43) vs. G2 who did not (n=1,423). Tools: Intimate partner violence Screening Inventory (20 items) and PHQ -9; comparative analyses of help-seeking behaviors.	

No.	Title	Author(s)	Year of publication	Gender of author(s)	Country	Objective	Type of study	Methodological approach	Colors of the articles according to the themes
2	Prevalence and correlates of intimate partner violence among married men in Uganda: a cross-sectional survey 1	Gubi, D.; Wandera, SO	2022	F, M	Uganda	To estimate the prevalence of IPV (emotional, physical, sexual) and its correlates among ever-married men.	Quantitative	Secondary analysis of the 2016 UDHS; weighted sample of ever-married men (n=2,559). Descriptive statistics (frequencies), chi-square tests, and binary logistic regressions were used to identify associated factors across eco-social levels.	
3	Trends and correlates of intimate partner violence (IPV) victimization in Rwanda: results from the 2015 and 2020 Rwanda Demographic Health Survey (RDHS 2015 2	Bahati, C.; Izabayo, J.; Munezero, P.; Niyonsenga, J.; Mutesa, L.	2022	M, M, M, M, M	Rwanda	To describe trends and factors associated with IPV among women and men based on the 2014/15 and 2019/20 DHS.	Quantitative	DHS data 2014/15 (women n=8,292; men n=3,470) and 2019/20 (women n=8,574; men n=3,590); structured measure of IPV (physical, sexual, emotional). Multiple logistic regression for demographic-IPV associations by sex.	
4	<b>The process of leaving abuse: midlife and older men experiences of women-perpetrated intimate partner violence (1)</b>	Carthy, N.; Best, D.; Miscellaneous, A.	2023	F, M, F	United Kingdom	Exploring the experience and process of leaving violence among middle-aged/older men.	Qualitative	Narrative approach rooted in social constructivism; open-ended guide (“Tell -me about your abusive relationship”). Analysis focused on the manifest content of the narratives; themes of post-separation violence and long-term impacts.	
5	Chinese men Victims of intimate partner violence: Experiencing and Transforming Stigma 1	Tsang, WHW; Chan, TMS; Shen, A. C -T.; Chen, J.S.	2024	M, M, M, M	China	To examine the stigma experienced by Chinese men victims and its transformations.			
6	Men's exposure to intimate partner violence and their experiences with a crisis center in Denmark 2	Lassen, B.; Nielsen, N.H.; Winther, M.; Bates, E.A.	2023	M, F, F, F	Denmark	Describe the violence suffered, the profiles of men seeking help, the obstacles and the effects of shelters (Mandacentret).	Mixed	Multi-site shelter cohort -(2016–2018) with follow-up (June–August 2020). Initial sample 58; 18 eligible; 5 respondents at follow-up (27.8%) 14–40 months post-discharge (mean=26.2). Online questionnaires (SurveyMonkey); OMS5, WEMWBS, MSPSS measures; post-shelter violence items, trust in public services; qualitative components on community/relationships/work/health.	
7	The inadequacies of the South African criminal justice system against men victims of	Tshoane, SM; Bello, P.O.; Mofokeng, JT;	2023a	F, M, M, M	South Africa	To assess the recognition of men victims by the criminal justice system and compare	Qualitative	Face --to-face interviews (Gauteng province): 15 participants (5 SAPS staff, 5 “Matrix” men's org, 5 Moshate men's org). Thematic analysis of perceptions on	

No.	Title	Author(s)	Year of publication	Gender of author(s)	Country	Objective	Type of study	Methodological approach	Colors of the articles according to the themes
	domestic abuse 1	Olutola, A.A.				available services/resources.		police response, bias, access to services, secondary victimization.	
8	Help-seeking behaviors of men victims of intimate partner violence in Kenya 3	Tenkorang, EY; Zaami, M.; Kimuna, S.; Owusu, A.Y.; Rohn, E.	2023	M, F, M, M, M	Kenya	To examine men victims' help-seeking and the determinants of choices (informal vs. formal).	Quantitative	Analysis of the KDHS 2014 ("intimate partner violence" module including items on men). Conceptual framework: Liang et al.'s (2005) help-seeking model. Descriptive and inferential analyses (model details not provided in the extract).	
9	The impact of masculine ideologies on heterosexual men's experiences of intimate partner violence: a qualitative exploration 4	Hogan, K.F.; Clarke, V.; Ward, T.	2024	M, F, M	United Kingdom	To explore how masculinity shapes -heterosexual men victimization's self-perception, relationship, and support seeking.	Qualitative	Semi-structured interviews -; reflexive thematic analysis. Focus on physical/psychological violence and controlling behaviors.	
10	Identifying demographics of high-risk men and LGBTQ+ survivors of intimate partner violence from referrals to London acute care hospitals – case analysis 1	Smith, J.; Boulanger, E.; Hepworth, E.; Melendez-Torres, G.J.; Nicolas, R.; Cohen, C.E.	2023	F, F, F, M, F, F	England	To describe the demographic characteristics and risk profiles of men LGBTQ+ MARAC cases to inform a hospital IDVA service.	Quantitative (case review)	Retrospective review of MARAC scores at the CWFT (April 2019–December 2020). Extraction: subject/author demographics, referral origin, AD identification by patient vs. caregiver, co-marginalization factors and risks (children, disability, mental health, HIV, drugs, homelessness).	
11	Victim Blame, Gender, and Social Media Commentary: A Randomized, Vignette-Based Study of Audience Comments on Intimate Partner Homicide Reports 2	Wright, E.; Eriksson, L.; Bail, AI	2025	F, F, M	Australia	To study the influence of the gender of the offender/victim couple and of media framing on victim-blaming comments in reports on domestic homicides.	Mixed	Experimental vignette design with 537 Australian respondents; controlled variables: couple's sex, media framing, attitudes, demographics.	
12	Men's experiences of (online) intimate partner violence and mental health: polyvictimization, polyperpetration, and victim-perpetrator overlap 1	Schokkenbroek, JM; Ponnet, K.; Hardyns, W.	2024	M, M, M	Belgium	To investigate the co-occurrence of different types of IPV and victim-perpetrator overlap in men, and associations with anxiety and depression.	Mixed	Stratified survey in Ghent (Belgium), representative sample; face-to-face survey via Qualtrics; informed consent; sensitive section completed alone; backup samples for non-respondents.	
13	Exploration of the gaps in the enactment and implementa-	Tshoane, SM; Bello, P.O.;	2023b	F, M, M, M	South Africa	To explore gaps in the enactment and implementation of the South	Mixed	Gauteng, Limpopo, KwaZulu-Natal provinces; quantitative component: ~200 respondents; qualitative com-	

No.	Title	Author(s)	Year of publication	Gender of author(s)	Country	Objective	Type of study	Methodological approach	Colors of the articles according to the themes
	tion of the intimate partner violence act of South Africa 2	Mofokeng, JT; Olutola, A.A.				African Intimate partner violence Act, particularly from an enforcement perspective.		ponent: 30 semi-structured interviews; questionnaires sent to ~170 people.	
14	American Indian/Alaska Native Homicides — National Violent Death Reporting System, United States, 2003–2018 2	Petrosky, E.; Kollar, LMM; Kearns, MC; Smith, S.G.; Betz, C.J.; Fowler, K.A.; Satter, DE	2021	F, F, F, F, F, F, M	UNITED STATES	To describe the characteristics and circumstances of American Indian/Alaska Native spousal homicides via the NVDRS.	Quantitative	NVDRS System: Combined data from death certificates, police reports, and medical examiners; coding of 600 variables; analysis of precipitating circumstances.	
15	<b>She convinced me I had Alzheimer's": Experiences of intimate partner violence in older men 2</b>	Bates, EA; Carthy, NL	2020a	F, F	United Kingdom	<b>Exploring experiences of intimate partner violence among men over 60.</b>	Mixed	<b>Subsample of 8 men taken from a larger sample (n=161); mean age 68 years; in a relationship for 2 to 32 years; all had children.</b>	
16	"It was different because I was a man": A qualitative evidence synthesis exploring the life experiences of adult men survivors of Women-perpetrated intimate partner violence. 3	Richardson, H.; Kloess, JA	2022	F, F	United Kingdom	Synthesize qualitative research on the experiences of adult men survivors of intimate partner violence perpetrated by women.	Qualitative	Qualitative synthesis via meta-ethnography; 7-phase approach of Noblit and Hare (1988); identification of 5 main themes.	
17	Prevalence of sexual abuse among men with mental disorders: Bayesian meta-analysis 2	Zarchev, M.; Ruijne, RE; Mulder, CL; Kamperman, A.M.	2022	M, F, M, F	The Netherlands	To estimate the prevalence of sexual victimization among men with mental disorders.	Quantitative	Bayesian multilevel meta-analysis; estimation of prevalences for various diagnoses; review registered via PROSPERO (CRD42020169299).	
18	Internal and external barriers to seeking help: accounts from men who have experienced violence in their intimate relationships 5	Lysova, A.; Hanson, K.; Dixon, L.; Douglas, EM; Hines, D.A.; Celi, EM	2022	F, F, F, F, M, F	Australia	To qualitatively explore internal and external barriers to help-seeking among men experiencing intimate partner violence .	Qualitative	12 online focus groups with 41 men from 4 English-speaking countries; inductive identification of themes at the semantic level.	

No.	Title	Author(s)	Year of publication	Gender of author(s)	Country	Objective	Type of study	Methodological approach	Colors of the articles according to the themes
19	What can we learn from analyses of domestic homicides involving men victims? 6	Hope, KA; Bates, E.A.; Brooks, M.; Taylor, J.C.	2021	F, F, M, M	England	Exploring men victim engagement and service responses through analysis of domestic homicide reports.	Qualitative	Thematic analysis of DHRs published between 2015 and 2020; internet research and freedom of information requests; coding and identification of themes.	
20	Men's Experiences of Seeking Help for Women-Perpetrated Intimate partner violence : A Qualitative Exploration 6	Hogan, K.F.; Clarke, V.; Ward, T.	2021	M, F, M	England	Exploring the help-seeking experiences of men who are victims of intimate partner violence perpetrated by women.	Qualitative	Semi-structured interviews; reflexive thematic analysis; men who sought help from formal/informal sources or not.	
21	Suggestions for improving outcomes for men experiencing intimate partner violence: a literature review 7	Moore, T.	2021	M	Canada	<u>To explore the reasons why men with AD may refuse to seek help and offer suggestions for improving services and support.</u>	Qualitative	<u>Literature review; synthesis of barriers to seeking help; proposals for changes to make services more adapted to men's needs.</u>	----- -----
22	Third-party perceptions of intimate partner violence victimization among men 3	Thomas, PA; Hart, KJ	2022	M, F	UNITED STATES	To assess third-party perceptions and stereotypes of men victims of intimate partner violence .	Qualitative	Video vignette experiment; 168 participants divided into two conditions; 2x2 ANOVA analysis on participant sex and victim sex.	
23	Comparing demographic characteristics, type of reported violence, settings, and outcomes of heterosexual men and women victims of intimate partner violence seeking help: Part I – Who presents to specialist services? 3	Hine, B.; Bates, E.A.; Mackay, J.; Graham-Kevan, N.	2022	M, F, F, F	United Kingdom	To compare the characteristics, types of violence and outcomes of men and women victims presenting to specialist services.	Mixed	Secondary analysis of 34,815 cases (858 men, 33,957 women); t-tests, effect sizes, descriptive and inferential analyses.	
24	“I’m still afraid of her”: experiences of men who have experienced intimate partner violence after separation 4	Bates, EA	2019	F	United Kingdom	Exploring men's experiences of post-separation violence and barriers to help-seeking.	Qualitative	13 thematic interviews; online recruitment; thematic analysis according to Braun & Clarke (2006).	

No.	Title	Author(s)	Year of publication	Gender of author(s)	Country	Objective	Type of study	Methodological approach	Colors of the articles according to the themes
25	Health Professionals Responding to Men for Safety (HERMES): Feasibility of a Training Intervention in General Practice to Improve Response to Men Patients Who Have Experienced or Perpetrated intimate partner violence and Abuse 2	Williamson, E.; Jones, S.; Ferrari, G.; Débonnaire, T.; Feder, G.; Hester, M.	2015	F, F, M, F, M, F	England	To assess the feasibility of training for general practitioners on responding to men victims or perpetrators of intimate partner violence .	Qualitative	2-hour intervention; pre-post survey; semi-structured interviews; analysis of medical records; IRIS model.	
26	Mental health of men victims and their children affected by legal and administrative domestic assault 3	Berger, JL; Douglas, EM; Hines, D.A.	2016	M, F, M	UNITED STATES	To study the consequences of judicial and administrative aggression on the mental health of men victims and their children.	Quantitative	Online survey of 611 men; OLS regressions; recruitment via specialized networks; strict inclusion criteria.	
27	Men victims of intimate partner violence 5	Devaraj, CN	2018	M	Australia	To review available data on men victims and the implications for service providers.	Qualitative	Literature review; discussion of biases, specific needs and gaps in services.	
28	Intimate Partner Violence Victimization and Cognitive Function in a Mixed Epidemiological Sample of Urban Adults 4	Williams, M.R.; Murphy, CM; Dore, G.A.; Evans, M.K.; Zonderman, A.B.	2017	M, M, M, M, M	UNITED STATES	To study the impact of intimate partner violence on cognitive decline in urban adults.	Mixed	HANDLS sample; 21 victims matched to 42 controls; t-tests, chi-square, 2:1 matching; R software.	
29	Intimate partner violence in Ghana: behaviors of men Victims in Accra 6	Mantey, EE	2019	M	Ghana	To analyze the attitudes of men victims towards reporting and the effects of the violence suffered.	Qualitative	Phenomenological approach; in-depth interviews; theory of social change.	
30	Sociocultural causes of men victimization in domestic settings in Lagos, Nigeria: A qualitative analysis 4	Ayodele, JO	2017	M	Nigeria	To identify the sociocultural causes of men victimization and the implications for social integration.	Qualitative	Snowball sampling; case study; key informants; interviews in 3 senatorial districts.	

No.	Title	Author(s)	Year of publication	Gender of author(s)	Country	Objective	Type of study	Methodological approach	Colors of the articles according to the themes
31	Review: Men Victims of Intimate partner violence : Implications for Medical Visit Practice 5	Dempsey, B.	2016	M	United Kingdom	To identify the types and extent of intimate partner violence experienced by men, its effects on health, risk factors, available support systems and facilitators of disclosure.	Qualitative	Critical review of the literature using a systematic approach and a critical theory model; reflexivity on personal beliefs and attitudes influencing the understanding of the subject.	
32	Intimate partner violence among men with disabilities: the role of health professionals 8	Ballan, MS; Freyer, M.; Powledge, L.	2017	M, F, F	UNITED STATES	To explore the demographic characteristics and help-seeking behaviors of men with disabilities experiencing intimate partner violence , and the role of health care providers.	Mixed	Retrospective descriptive study of clinical records from the Secret Garden program; statistical analyses via SPSS; frequencies and percentages; specific inclusion criteria.	
33	Influence of Intimate Terrorism, Situational Intimate partner violence, and Mutual Violent Control on Men Victims 6	Hines, DA; Douglas, EM	2018	M, F	UNITED STATES	To test Johnson's (2008) typology on men samples and examine the frequency, severity of violence, and indicators of physical and mental health.	Qualitative	Two men samples (general population and victims seeking help); online questionnaire; strict inclusion criteria; comparative analysis of health indicators.	
34	Promoting inclusion in intimate partner violence research: exploring gender and age 1	Carthy, NL; Bates, E.A.; Policek, N.	2019	F, F, F	United Kingdom	Challenge the dominant gendered discourse and promote more inclusive research on older men who are victims of intimate partner violence .	Qualitative	Historical and theoretical review; analysis of patriarchal social norms; discussion of gaps in services and research.	----- -----
35	Research on Abused Men: Childhood Sexual Abuse and Intimate Partner Violence in a Clinical Sample of Men: The Mediating Roles of Adult Attachment and Anger Management 7	Brassard, A.; Darveau, V.; Péroquin, K.; Lusnier, Y.; Rasoar, PR	2014	M, M, M, M	Canada	To examine the link between childhood sexual abuse and the perpetration of intimate partner violence , taking into account adult attachment and anger management.	Mixed	Clinical sample of 302 men; self-administered questionnaires before therapy; analysis of correlations between variables.	
36	Men victims of intimate partner violence: use and usefulness of services 3	Tsui, V.	2014	F	UNITED STATES	To explore the use of services and the support received by men who are victims of intimate partner violence .	Mixed	Anonymous online and paper survey; non-probability sampling; varied recruitment techniques; inclusion criteria based on the Healthy People Initiative 2010.	

No.	Title	Author(s)	Year of publication	Gender of author(s)	Country	Objective	Type of study	Methodological approach	Colors of the articles according to the themes
37	Intimate partner violence and psychological distress 8	Grandin, E.; Lupri, E.; Brinkerhoff, MB	1998	F, M, M	Canada	To compare the mental health of victims and non-victims of intimate partner violence, and the effects of physical and psychological violence by gender.	Qualitative	Random sample of 562 couples in Calgary; structured interviews and self-administered questionnaires; analysis of sensitive data.	
38	Help-seeking experiences of men experiencing intimate partner violence : a neglected population and its implications for practice 09	Douglas, EM; Hines, DA	2011	F, M	UNITED STATES	Document the places where help is sought, the experiences they have had, and the links between these experiences and the mental health of men victims.	Quantitative	National quantitative study; sample of 302 men; online questionnaire; correlations between experiences of help and mental health.	
39	“Men call me and say, ‘I can’t be a victim of intimate partner violence’ ”: Exploring the experiences of telephone support providers for men experiencing intimate partner violence and abuse. 10	Hine, B.; Bates, E.A.; Wallace, S.	2020	M, F, F	United Kingdom	To explore the experiences of call handlers supporting men experiencing intimate partner violence and associated stereotypes.	Qualitative	Semi-structured interviews with 4 call handlers; thematic analysis according to Braun & Clarke (2006); identification of themes related to stereotypes, obstacles and severity of violence.	
40	Interviews with men victims of violence and sexual abuse: ethical and methodological considerations 2	Weare, S.; Huley, J.	2022	F, F	United Kingdom	Explore the ethical and methodological considerations related to interviews with men victims of violence and sexual abuse.	Qualitative	Critical reflection on interviews conducted with 32 men victims; discussion of recruitment challenges, gender dynamics, the interview process, and the impact of the research.	
41	Reviewing Intimate partner violence - Related Deaths: Lessons from the Past and Future Directions Using U.S. National Data 3	AbiNader, MA; Graham, L.M.; Kafka, J.M.	2023	F, F, F	UNITED STATES	To analyze the opportunities and challenges of studying intimate partner violence - related deaths using national databases.	Qualitative	Critical review of the NVDRS and DUC-SHR databases; rapid literature review (2019–2022); analysis of missing data and methodological implications.	
42	Breaking the silence: exploring peritraumatic distress and negative emotions in	Caponnetto, P.; Lenzo, V.; Sardelle, A.;	2024	M, M, M, F, M, F	Italy	To examine gender differences in peritraumatic distress among victims of intimate partner	Mixed	Statistical tests (Mann-Whitney U, Shapiro-Wilk, Levene, chi <sup>2</sup> ); peritraumatic distress inventory; analysis of associations between variables.	

No.	Title	Author(s)	Year of publication	Gender of author(s)	Country	Objective	Type of study	Methodological approach	Colors of the articles according to the themes
	men and women victims of domestic physical violence 9	Prezzavento, GC; Casu, M.; Quattropiani, MC				violence .			
43	Obstacles to helping men who are victims of intimate partner violence 11	Taylor, JC; Bates, E.A.; Colosi, A.; Creer, A.J.	2021	F, F, M, M	United Kingdom	Exploring barriers to help-seeking among men experiencing intimate partner violence in heterosexual relationships.	Qualitative	Anonymous online qualitative questionnaire; analysis of narratives of stigma, masculinity, and responses to help attempts.	
44	Severity of victimization and formal help-seeking among men who have experienced intimate partner violence in their current relationships 12	Lysova, A.; Dim, EE	2020	F, M	Canada	To identify severity classes of victimization and examine their association with formal help-seeking among men victims.	Mixed	Analysis of Canadian ESG data (2009, 2014); national sample; telephone interviews; analysis of formal and informal helping behaviors.	
45	The psychological subtype of intimate partner violence and its effect on mental health: a systematic review with meta-analyses 10	Dokkedahl, SB; Kirubakaran, R.; Bech-Hansen, D.; Kristensen, TR; Elklit, A.	2022	F, M, M, M, M	Denmark	Estimate the association between psychological violence and mental disorders (PTSD, depression, anxiety).	Mixed	Systematic review and random-effects meta-analyses; 194 studies included; PsycINFO, PubMed, EMBASE, Web of Science databases; GRADEpro assessment.	
46	Understanding the profile and needs of men victims of violence: a study of appeal data from a British charity 13	Hine, B.; Wallace, S.; Bates, E.A.	2021	M, F, F	United Kingdom	Exploring the profile and needs of men victims using data from a telephone helpline.	Quantitative	Analysis of 719 calls (August 2019–March 2020); demographic characteristics, abuse profile, expressed needs; data from two charities.	
47	Behaviors of Portuguese judges and victim support professionals towards intimate partner homicides committed by women 14	Ferreira, M.; Névès, S.; Quintas, J.	2022	F, F, M	Portugal	To analyze the attitudes of judges and victim support professionals regarding domestic homicides committed by women.	Qualitative	Online survey approved by judicial institutions; voluntary and anonymous participation; qualitative validation by experts.	
48	Mental health symptoms in men who are victims of intimate partner violence 11	Prospero, M.	2007	M	UNITED STATES	To study the differences in mental health symptoms between men and women victims of intimate partner violence .	Quantitative	Online survey; analysis of symptoms of anxiety, depression, hostility and somatization; gender comparison.	

No.	Title	Author(s)	Year of publication	Gender of author(s)	Country	Objective	Type of study	Methodological approach	Colors of the articles according to the themes
49	<u>Help-seeking by men victims of intimate partner violence and abuse (DVA): a systematic review and qualitative evidence synthesis</u> 15	Huntley, AL; Potter, L.; Williamson, E.; Malpass, A.; Szilassy, E.; Feder, G.	2019	F, F, F, F, F, M	United Kingdom	Understanding help-seeking experiences and support services for men DVA victims.	Qualitative	Systematic review of 12 databases and grey literature; interpretative thematic synthesis; evaluation via Critical Appraisal Skills Programme.	
50	Men victims' experiences and perceptions of the criminal justice response to intimate partner violence 16	Dim, EE; Lysova, A.	2021	M, F	Canada	To examine men victims' experiences with the police and courts in matters of intimate partner violence .	Qualitative	16 interviews (13 telephone, 3 written); inductive thematic analysis; recruitment via NGOs; oral or written consent.	
51	<b>Help seeking by men victims of intimate partner violence and abuse: an example of an integrated mixed methods synthesis of systematic review evidence defining methodological terms</b> 17	Huntley, AL; Szilassy, E.; Potter, L.; Malpass, A.; Williamson, E.; Feder, G.	2020	F, F, F, F, F, M	United Kingdom	To conduct an integrated synthesis of data on help-seeking and service provision for men experiencing intimate partner violence .	Mixed	IMMS approach; data from systematic reviews, primary studies, expert consultations and interviews; identification of gaps and research proposals.	
52	Sexual coercion and mental health symptoms in heterosexual men: The pressure to say "yes" 5	Próspero, M.; Fawson, P.	2009	M, M	UNITED STATES	To examine the prevalence of women-men intimate partner violence and mental health symptoms among 370 university students.	Quantitative	CTS2 questionnaire; mental symptom scale; university sample; analysis of correlations between types of violence and symptoms.	
53	Territorial disadvantage and intimate partner homicides: An ecological analysis of North Carolina counties, 2004–2006	Madkour, AS; Martin, SL; Halpern, CT; Schoenbach, V.J.	2010	F, F, F, M	UNITED STATES	Exploring the link between territorial disadvantage and intimate partner homicides, including men victims.	Quantitative	NC-VDRS data; census; violence services; Poisson regression; mediation tests.	
54	Partner violence 4	Próspero, M.; Kim, M.	2008	M, F	UNITED STATES	Identify research on bidirectional violence between men and women partners.	Quantitative	Literature review; PubMed and PsycINFO databases; 70 studies included; inclusion criteria on bidirectional violence.	

No.	Title	Author(s)	Year of publication	Gender of author(s)	Country	Objective	Type of study	Methodological approach	Colors of the articles according to the themes
55	Breaking the Myth of Masculinity: Prevention and Support for Men Victims of Intimate partner violence 18	Modise, JM	2024	M	South Africa	To determine effective prevention and support measures, prevalence and barriers faced by men victims.	Qualitative	Literature review; exploration of types of violence, barriers to reporting, access to services and prevention strategies.	
56	"I thought about suicide, but part of me insisted on getting help": Coping experiences of men who have experienced intimate partner violence 5	Lysova, A.; Dim, EE	2025	F, M	UNITED STATES	Document the challenges and opportunities associated with analyzing deaths related to intimate partner violence .	Qualitative	Critical review; rapid review of articles (2019–2022); analysis of missing data; conceptualization of intimate partner violence .	
57	"We have to fight for our existence in the system": Exploring service providers' experiences with men victims and women perpetrators of intimate partner violence 4	Pisano, G.; Widanaralage, BK; Willmott, D.	2024	F, M, F	United Kingdom	To analyze the experiences of service providers supporting men victims and women perpetrators of intimate partner violence .	Qualitative	Semi-structured interviews with 13 providers; reflexive thematic analysis; multi-agency approach.	
58	Abused Men: Portrayal of men Victims of Intimate partner violence and/or Sexual Abuse in Law and Order: SVU 5	Antalóczy, F.	2024	F	UNITED STATES	Analyze the representation of men victims in the series Law and Order: SVU.		Critical content analysis; exploration of stereotypes and myths; comparison with legislation and research.	
59	Intimate Partner Violence and Its Psychosocial Correlates in Men Survivors: Socio-Ecological Implications 12	Rowlands, E.	2024	M	South Africa	To examine clinical and non-clinical factors influencing the psychosocial well-being of men survivors.	Qualitative	Sample of 25 men; interviews; socio-ecological framework; analysis of stressors and social implications.	
60	The feminization of social protection: implications of cultural tradition for men victims of intimate partner violence 1	Hall, RE	2012	M	UNITED STATES	To illustrate the impact of feminization on the provision of social services to men victims.			

No.	Title	Author(s)	Year of publication	Gender of author(s)	Country	Objective	Type of study	Methodological approach	Colors of the articles according to the themes
61	Gender-based violence against men: a hidden reality 7	Thobéjan e, TD; Mogorosi, LD; Luthanda, NV	2018	M, M, M	South Africa	Examine the experiences of men who are victims of sexist violence committed by women.	Qualitative	Field study in Vuwani; testimonies of men victims; analysis of stereotypes and obstacles to reporting.	
62	The surreptitious feminization of intimate partner violence 2	Hall, RE	2013	M	UNITED STATES	To illustrate the contrasts between perceptions of men and women victims in Western societies.	Qualitative	Empirical analysis; documentation of databases; proposals for men victims.	
63	<u>Services for intimate partner violence victims in the United Kingdom and United States: Where are we today?</u> 5	Bates, Elizabeth A.; Douglas, Emily M.	2020b	F, F	United Kingdom, United States	To examine the policies, services and interventions available for victims, particularly men and LGBTQ+ people, drawing on data from the UK and the US.		Literature review; exploration of laws, strategies and barriers to reporting; recommendations for services; discussion of therapeutic approaches and limitations of existing research.	
64	Attributions of the culture of silence among victims of intimate partner violence : the case of married men in Kenya 3	Gitonga, Ciriaka Muriithi	2021	F	Kenya	To identify the forms of violence suffered by married men, their psychosocial effects and the causes of the culture of silence.	Mixed	Case study; semi-structured questionnaires; focus group discussions; descriptive and content analysis; random sample of 120 married men employed in a public institution.	
65	<u>“No one would ever believe me”: An exploration of the impact of intimate partner violence victimization on men.</u> 19	Bates, Elizabeth A.	2020c	F	United Kingdom	To qualitatively explore men's experiences of intimate partner violence , barriers to help-seeking, and societal perceptions.	Qualitative	Anonymous online survey; deductive thematic analysis; semantic coding; organization of results around three main themes.	
66	A systematic review of the literature on intimate partner violence victimization: a gender and sexuality inclusive review 8	Laskey, Philippa; Bates, Elizabeth A.; Taylor, Julie C.	2019	F, F, F	United Kingdom	Synthesize data on experiences of victimization related to intimate partner violence according to gender and sexuality.	Mixed	Systematic review of mixed studies; search in CINAHL and PsycARTICLES; integration of qualitative, quantitative and mixed studies.	
67	<u>“I am a red-blooded man”: understanding the experiences of men who are victims of intimate partner violence through a feminist perspective</u> 7	Westmarland, Nicole; Burrell, Stephen R	2023	F, M	United Kingdom	Describe how intimate partner violence against men draws on expectations of masculinity, using the “Man Box” framework.	Qualitative	Survey of 344 men; telephone helpline observation notes; hybrid inductive and deductive thematic analysis.	

No.	Title	Author(s)	Year of publication	Gender of author(s)	Country	Objective	Type of study	Methodological approach	Colors of the articles according to the themes
68	Intimate partner violence against women: challenges and implementation of law 6	Kusuma, Filiasari; Papparang, Santrawan T; Kristiawan to, Kristiawan to	2024	F, M, M	Indonesia	To analyze intimate partner violence perpetrated by wives against their husbands, contributing factors, and legal challenges.	Qualitative	Normative legal approach; analysis of relevant legislation; case study; discussion of cultural and social implications.	
69	Seeking help among men who are victims of intimate partner violence : men's difficult moments 20	Tsui, Venus; Cheung, Monit; Leung, Patrick	2010	F, M, M	UNITED STATES	Identify the reasons why men victims do not use social services and suggest improvements.	Qualitative	Electronic survey of service organizations; thematic coding; analysis of triggers of difficulties; validation by the research team.	
70	Ending the stigma of men victims of intimate partner violence and abuse: a mixed-methods study 7	Ambrozewicz, Paige; Hammond, Courtney; Fido, Dean	2024	F, F, M	United Kingdom	To examine public perceptions of men victims of intimate partner violence and barriers to reporting.	Mixed	Two studies: ANCOVA on public judgments; comparative thematic analysis; sample of 202 participants; control of sociodemographic variables.	
71	<b>Gender-based violence committed by women against men in the Kingdom of Eswatini 21</b>	<b>Mpofu, Phumuzani; Mamba, lung kindness</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>M, M</b>	<b>Eswatini</b>	<b>To explore the types of violence experienced by men, the barriers to seeking help and the motivations for doing so.</b>	<b>Qualitative</b>	<b>Semi-structured interviews; bioecological theoretical framework; analysis of interactions between individual, cultural and societal factors.</b>	
72	Experience and support of men survivors of sexual assault: a scoping study 22	Langdrige, Darren; Flowers, Paul; Carney, Dan	2023	M, M, M	United Kingdom	To describe studies on the experience of sexual assault and support among adult men victims.	Qualitative	Scoping review; systematic search strategy; inclusion of 60 studies; thematic content analysis.	
73	<b>Men victims of intimate partner violence : findings and perspectives 7</b>	<b>Vasseur, P.; Dupont, M.; Rey-Salmon, C.</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>M, M, F</b>	<b>France</b>	<b>Analyze the types of violence suffered by men and the factors influencing their disclosure.</b>	<b>Qualitative</b>	<b>Online questionnaire and medical-legal information sheet; descriptive approach; sample of 66 men.</b>	
74	Analyzing Intimate partner violence Using Exploratory Data Analysis and Explainable Ensemble Learning 8	Jahin, Md Abrar; Naife, Saleh Akram; Lima, Fatema Tuj Johora; Mridha, M.F.; Shin, Jungpil	2024	M, M, F, M, M	Japan	Identify factors influencing men intimate partner violence and develop predictive models.	Quantitative	Survey of 2000 participants; exploratory data analysis; machine learning techniques; XAI methodologies.	

The data in the table show that, based on the objectives of the studies and their sub-components, eight themes directly and indirectly related to the subject of the review were addressed in varying proportions. The themes concerned are:

- Help-seeking experiences (in red), addressed by 20 authors
- Justice & intimate partner violence experienced by men (in dark blue), the focus of 5 authors
- Prevalence of violence and associated factors (in green), the concern of 12 studies (16%)
- Stigmatization (in yellow), studied by 12 authors (16%)
- Consequences (in light blue), analyzed by 17 authors (23%)
- Types of intimate partner violence perpetrated against men (in bold black): 5%
- Suggestions for improving services to combat intimate partner violence against men (underlined): 2%
- Causes (in plain black): 2%.

The most prominent themes relate to help-seeking experiences (27%), the consequences of intimate partner violence (23%), stigmatization (16%), and the prevalence of intimate partner violence against men and associated factors (16%). Other themes, such as the types of violence perpetrated against men, received comparatively less attention.

**Table 2. Summary table of thematic addressed**

Order No.	Theme, number and percentage of studies	Sub-theme and number	Authors	Number and percentages of sub-themes relative to the theme
<b>STATE MECHANISMS</b>				
1	Recognition (n= 28) (37.83%)	Recognition 8	1. Carthy, N.; Best, D.; Divers, A. (2023) 2. Hogan, KF; Clarke, V.; Ward, T. (2021) 3. Hope, KA; Bates, EA; Brooks, M.; Taylor, JC (2021) 4. Tshoane, SM; Bello, PO; Mofokeng, JT; Olutola, AA (2023) 5. Richardson, H.; Kloess, JA (2022) 6. Kusuma, Filiasari; Paparang, Santrawan T; Kristiawanto (2024) 7. Antalóczy, Fanni (2024) 8. Vasseur, P.; Dupont, M.; Rey-Salmon, C. (2020)	(n= 8 : 28.57%)
		Non-recognition 20	1. Hall, Ronald E (2012) 2. Mpofo, Phumuzani; Mamba (2024) 3. Devaraj (2018) 4. Hall, Ronald E. (2013) 5. Pisano, Giulia; Widanaralalage, B. Kennath; Willmott, Dominique (2024)	(n = 20 : 71.42%)

Order No.	Theme, number and percentage of studies	Sub-theme and number	Authors	Number and percentages of sub-themes relative to the theme
			<p>6. Ambrozewicz, Paige; Hammond, Courtney; Fido, Dean (2024)</p> <p>7. Tshoane, SM; Bello, PO; Mofokeng, JT; Olutola, AA (2023)</p> <p>8. Bates, Elizabeth A.; Douglas, Emily M. (2019)</p> <p>9. Tsui, Vénus; Cheung, Monit; Leung, Patrick (2010)</p> <p>10. Kusuma, Filiasari; Paparang, Santrawan T; Kristiawanto (2024)</p> <p>11. Westmarland, Nicole; Burrell, Stephen R (2023)</p> <p>12. Gitonga, Ciriaka Muriithi (2021)</p> <p>13. Thobéjane, Tsoaledi D.; Mogo-rosi, Lobelo D.; Luthanda, Ntshengedzeni V. (2018)</p> <p>14. Motsamai Modise, John (2024)</p> <p>15. Taylor, Julie C.; Bates, Elizabeth A.; Colosi, Attilio; Creer, Andrew J. (2021)</p> <p>16. Richardson, H.; Kloess, JA (2022)</p> <p>17. Antalóczy, Fanni (2024); Langdridge, Darren; Flowers, Paul; Carney, Dan (2023)</p> <p>18. Taylor, Julie C.; Bates, Elizabeth A.; Colosi, Attilio; Creer, Andrew J. (2021)</p> <p>19. Motsamai Modise, John (2024)</p> <p>20. Carthy, N.; Best, D.; Divers, A. (2023)</p>	
2	Existence / Typology and Mission (n=9 : 12.16%)	Justice and Public Order 5	<p>1. Tshoane, SM; Bello, PO; Mofokeng, JT; Olutola, AA (2023)</p> <p>2. Ferreira, Mafalda; Neves, Sofia; Quintas, Jorge (2022)</p> <p>3. Tenkorang, EY; Zaami, M.; Kimuna, S.; Owusu, AY; Rohn, E. (2023)</p> <p>4. Dim, Eugène Emeka; Lysova, Alexandra (2021)</p> <p>5. Tsui, V. (2014)</p>	(n= 5 : 55.55%)
		Health and	1. Tsui, V. (2014)	(n = 4 : 44.44%)

Order No.	Theme, number and percentage of studies	Sub-theme and number	Authors	Number and percentages of sub-themes relative to the theme
		Psychosocial Support Services 4	2. Ferreira, Mafalda; Neves, Sofia; Quintas, Jorge (2022) 3. Tenkorang et al. (2023) 4. Bates (2020)	
		Mental Health Services 2	1. Douglas & Hines (2011) 2. Bates (2019)	(n = 2 : 11.11%)
		Specific Violence Combat Organizations 4	1. Douglas, Emily M.; Hines, Denise A. (2011) 2. Mantey, EE (2019) 3. Bates, Elizabeth A.; Douglas, Emily M. (2019) 4. Devaraj (2018)	(n = 4 : 44.44%)
3.	(n=10 : 13.51)	Effective Protection 9	1. Antalóczy et Fanni (2024) 2. Ballan et al. (2017) 3. Douglas et al. (2011) 4. Hope et al. (2021) 5. Kusuma et al. (2024) 6. Lysova et al. (2020) 7. Morishita et al. (2024) 8. Motsamai (2024) 9. Tshoane et al. (2023)	(n = 9 : 90%)
		Ineffective Protection 1	1. Bates et al. (2019)	(n = 1 : 10%)
4.	Service Availability	Availability	1. Not addressed	00%
		Non-availability	1. Not addressed	00%
5.	Service Accessibility (n = 25 : 33.78)	Accessibility 5	1. Morishita, J.; Yasuda, M.; Suda, S. (2024) 2. Tsui, Vénus; Cheung, Monit; Leung, Patrick (2010) 3. Richardson, H.; Kloess, JA (2022) 4. Hine, Benjamin; Wallace, Sarah; Bates, Elizabeth A. (2021) 5. Tshoane, SM; Bello, PO; Mofokeng, JT; Olutola, AA (2023)	(n = 5 : 20%)
		Non-accessibility 20	1. Hogan, KF; Clarke, V.; Ward, T. (2021) 2. Tshoane, SM; Bello, PO; Mofokeng, JT; Olutola, AA (2023)	(n= 20 : 80%)

Order No.	Theme, number and percentage of studies	Sub-theme and number	Authors	Number and percentages of sub-themes relative to the theme
			keng, JT; Olutola, AA (2023) 3. Carthy, N.; Best, D.; Divers, A. (2023) 4. Moore, T. (2021) 5. Douglas, Emily M.; Hines, Denise A. (2011) 6. Hine, Benjamin; Bates, Elizabeth A.; Wallace, Sarah (2020) 7. Mpofu; Mamba (2024) 8. Dim, Eugène Emeka; Lysova, Alexandra (2021) 9. Stewart Maddren, 1997 10. Mantey, EE (2019) 11. Douglas, Emily M.; Hines; Hamel et al. (2009) 12. Lysova, Alexandra; Dim, Eugène E. (2020) 13. Berger, JL; Douglas, EM; Hines, DA (2016) 14. Tsui (2014) 15. Richardson, H.; Kloess, JA (2022) 16. Tenkorang, EY; Zaami, M.; Kimuna, S.; Owusu, AY; Rohn, E. (2023) 17. Vasseur, P.; Dupont, M.; Rey-Salmon, C. (2020) 18. Thomas, PA; Hart, KJ (2022) 19. Hine, Benjamin; Wallace, Sarah; Bates, Elizabeth A. (2021) 20. Ambrozewicz, Paige; Hammond, Courtney; Fido, Dean (2024)	
6.	Resource Availability (n=10 : 13.51)	Availability	1. Not addressed	(n = 00 : 00%)
		Non-availability	1. Bates, 2019 2. Tshoane, 2023 3. Pisano, 2025 4. Gitonga, 2021 5. Hines, 2020 6. Ebouat, 2020 7. Ayodele, 2017 8. Lysova 9. Carthy, 2023 10. Hall, 2013	(n= 10 : 100%)

Order No.	Theme, number and percentage of studies	Sub-theme and number	Authors	Number and percentages of sub-themes relative to the theme
7.	Weaknesses (Challenges and Negative Consequences) (n=11) (n = 28 : 28.37)	Institutional Challenges (n = 9)	1. Bates (2020) 2. Dim et al. (2021) 3. Hope & al., 2021 4. Hall (2013) 5. Hine et al. (2022) 6. Morishita et al. (2024) 7. Mpofu et al. (2024) 8. Pisano et al. (2024) 9. Tshoane et al. (2023)	(n = 09 : 81.81%)
		Social Challenges (n = 2)	1. Berger et al. (2016) 2. Mpofu et al. (2024)	(n = 9 : 18.18%)
		Institutional Consequences (n = 9)	1. Dim et al. (2021) 2. Hope & al. 2021 3. Bates (2020) 4. Hall (2013) 5. Tshoane et al. (2023) 6. Hine et al. (2022) 7. Pisano et al. (2024) 8. Morishita et al. (2024) 9. Tshoane & al., 2023	(n = 9 : 52.94%)
		Social Consequences (n = 1)	1. Hogan et al. (2021) 2. Bates (2020)	(n = 2 : 11.76%)
		Health Consequences (n = 4)	1. Hogan et al. (2021) 2. Carthy et al. (2023) 3. Taylor et al. (2021) 4. Douglas et al. (2011)	(n = 4 : 23.52%)
		Personal Consequences (n = 1)	1. Taylor (2021)	(n = 1 : 05.88%)
8.	Strengths of State Mechanisms (n = 5 : 6.75)	Advantages and Positive Impacts	1. Hogan, Clarke & Ward (2021) 2. Ferreira, Mafalda; Neves, Sofia; Quintas & Jorge (2022) 3. Bates & Weare (2020) 4. Bates (2019) 5. Douglas & Hines (2011)	NA
<b>NON-STATE MECHANISMS</b>				
1.	<b>Recognition of Intimate Partner Violence</b>		1. Not addressed	(n = 00 : 00%)

Order No.	Theme, number and percentage of studies	Sub-theme and number	Authors	Number and percentages of sub-themes relative to the theme
2.	Existence / Typology and Mission (n=10 : 13.51) (n=10 : 13.51)	Formal Structures	1. Lassen et al. (2023) 2. Motsamai (2024) 3. Tenkorang et al. (2023) 4. Vasseur et al. (2020)	(n = 4 : 40%)
		Informal Structures	1. Carthy et al. (2023) 2. Bates (2019) 3. Dempsey (2016) 4. Douglas et al. (2011) 5. Hogan et al. (2021) 6. Huntley et al. (2019) 7. Tenkorang et al. (2023)	(n = 7 : 70%)
		Mission of Formal Structures	1. Tenkorang et al. (2023) 2. Vasseur et al. (2020) 3. Lassen et al. (2023) 4. Motsamai (2024)	(n = 4 : 40%)
		Mission of Informal Structures	1. Carthy et al. (2023) 2. Bates (2019) 3. Dempsey (2016) 4. Douglas et al. (2011) 5. Hogan et al. (2021) 6. Huntley et al. (2019) 7. Tenkorang et al. (2023)	(n = 7 : 70%)
3.	Protection 07 authors (n=7 : 9.45)	Effective Protection	1. Ayodele (2017); Bates (2019) 2. Berger et al. (2016); Hine et al. (2020) 3. Kusuma et al. (2024) 4. Lassen et al. (2023); Vasseur et al. (2020)	(n = 4 : 57.14%)
		Ineffective Protection	1. Not addressed	(n= 00 : 00%)
4.	Service Availability	Availability	1. Not addressed	(n = 00 : 00%)
		Non-availability	1. Not addressed	(n = 00 : 00%)
5.	Accessibility (n=10 : 13.51)	Service Accessibility	1. Motsamai & John (2024) 2. Douglas et al. (2011) 3. Lysova et al. (2020) 4. Morishita et al. (2024) 5. Tsui (2014) 6. Bates (2020)	(n = 6 : 60%)

Order No.	Theme, number and percentage of studies	Sub-theme and number	Authors	Number and percentages of sub-themes relative to the theme
		Service Non-accessibility	1. Taylor et al. (2021) 2. Ayodele (2017) 3. Richardson & Kloess (2022) 4. Vasseur et al. (2020)	(n = 4 : 40%)
6.	Resource Availability (n=2 : 2.70)	Resource Availability	1. Morishita et al. (2024)	(n = 01 : 50%)
		Resource Non-availability	1. Lassen et al., 2023	(n = 01 : 50%)
7.	Weaknesses (Challenges and Negative Consequences) (n=1 : 1.35)	Mechanism Challenges	1. Not addressed	(n = 00 : 00%)
		Negative Consequences	1. Lysova et al., 2019	(n= 1 : 100%)
8.	Strengths of Non-State Mechanisms (n=9 : 12.16%)	Advantages and Positive Impacts	1. Lassen et al. (2023) 2. Carthy et al. (2023) 3. Bahati et al. (2022) 4. Bates (2020) 5. Dim et al. (2021) 6. Douglas et al. (2011) 7. Lysova et al. (2020) 8. Morishita et al. (2024) 9. Richardson & Kloess (2022)	(n = 9 : 100%)

**Table 3. Comparative Advantages of State and Non-State Mechanisms for Protecting Male Victims of Intimate Partner Violence**

No.	Criteria	State Mechanisms: Positive Aspects	State Mechanisms: Negative Aspects	Non-State Mechanisms: Positive Aspects	Non-State Mechanisms: Negative Aspects	Comparative Advantages: State Mechanisms	Comparative Advantages: Non-State Mechanisms
1	Mission	- Mission covering the entire intervention chain (prevention, intervention, legal protection, psychosocial)	- Mission implementation hindered by multidimensional challenges	- Diversified mission: counseling support, emotional and psychological support, informal mediation between victims and formal sup-	- Not documented	Formal mission with the advantage of legality	Mission accomplishment, albeit informal

N o.	Criteria	State Mechanisms: Positive Aspects	State Mechanisms: Negative Aspects	Non-State Mechanisms: Positive Aspects	Non-State Mechanisms: Negative Aspects	Comparative Advantages: State Mechanisms	Comparative Advantages: Non-State Mechanisms
		support, law enforcement)		port sources			
2	Service Availability	- Variety of structures (justice, health, social services, police)	- Limited availability - Services deemed 'rare', 'insufficient' - Non-specialized services for men - Inappropriate services for men	Not documented	Not documented	Broad theoretical institutional range, but low actual availability for male victims	N/A
3	Accessibility	- Relative institutional accessibility of certain services (health, administrative services, police, counselors and support services) - Greater accessibility of helplines	- Critical structural inaccessibility (93%) - Technical barriers (professional stereotypes, inadequate services) - Financial barriers (cost of services) - Material barriers (under-equipment) - Professional misconduct - Generalizing and discriminatory treatment	- High accessibility of informal networks - Geographic and social proximity - Activation of social capital	- Social and cultural inaccessibility (stigmatization, lack of trust, fear of ridicule, fear of negative reactions)	Accessibility through helplines	Superior accessibility, preferred recourse for victims, immediate entry point
4	Resource Availability	Not documented	- Critical financial insufficiency - Under-equipped services - Insufficient shelters - Inadequate technical resources - Systemic resource	Not documented	- Non-existent	Formal but inadequate resources compromising viability	Limited resources but flexible mobilization of social capital

N o.	Criteria	State Mechanisms: Positive Aspects	State Mechanisms: Negative Aspects	Non-State Mechanisms: Positive Aspects	Non-State Mechanisms: Negative Aspects	Comparative Advantages: State Mechanisms	Comparative Advantages: Non-State Mechanisms
			inadequacy				
5	Professional Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Required mandatory specialization</li> <li>- Quality of advice (according to Hogan 2021)</li> <li>- Available technical skills</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Lack of specialized professionals</li> <li>- Inadequate training for male specificities</li> <li>- Interference of stereotypes in professional practices</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Shared lived experience (for peer groups)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Not documented</li> </ul>	Skills present but critical specialization gaps for male victims	Empirical skills and empathy, but without technical expertise
6	Consequences of Challenges	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Framework for reporting dysfunctions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Institutional (negative police perception, loss of trust, under-reporting, non-intervention, victim invisibility)</li> <li>- Social (isolation, devaluation, frustration, powerlessness, material/child losses)</li> <li>- Health (mental health deterioration, aggravated PTSD, worsening health problems)</li> <li>- Personal (self-doubt, shame, delayed help-seeking)</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Continuation of abusive relationship (critical risk)</li> </ul>	Dysfunctional system creating vicious cycle and iatrogenic effects	Fewer collateral damages but critical failure in violence cessation
7	Effective Victim Protection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Legal recognition of multiple forms</li> <li>- Legal framework for</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Fragmented effective protection (9.5%)</li> <li>- Partial coverage of workforce</li> <li>- Partial coverage of needs</li> <li>- Partial</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Recognition and handling of diverse experienced violence (psychological, physi-</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- No legal intervention power</li> <li>- Protection not guaranteed</li> <li>- Certain forms of violence</li> </ul>	Monopoly of formal legal protection, but deficient application	Holistic recognition but without legal protection capacity

N o.	Criteria	State Mechanisms: Positive Aspects	State Mechanisms: Negative Aspects	Non-State Mechanisms: Positive Aspects	Non-State Mechanisms: Negative Aspects	Comparative Advantages: State Mechanisms	Comparative Advantages: Non-State Mechanisms
		all types of violence	coverage of aspects - Mission implementation difficulties - Certain forms of violence not recognized (cultural, administrative)	cal, economic, sexual, verbal) - Holistic approach to suffering	(cultural, social, administrative) recognized but not addressed		
8	Mechanism Advantages	- Not documented	- Not documented	- Provision of essential support and addressing gaps of state agencies by associations - Positive reactions from friends and relatives - Positive perception of male victims within informal networks - Victim satisfaction with various supports - Paving the way for seeking more formal help	Not documented	Unknown	Advantages granting preference in utilization
9	Impact/Effectiveness	- Positive impact of advice - Feeling of effective support (based on positive past	- Negative consequences on structure functioning (non-reporting, underreporting; absence of empirical evidence on men's situation; non-	- Improved victim well-being - Improved relationships - Reduced violence - Reduced alcohol abuse - Va-	- Critical risk: continuation of abusive relationship - Partial care - No guarantee of violence cessation	Compromised effectiveness, counterproductive system worsening the situation	Superior psychosocial effectiveness, only guaranteeing positive consequences, but failure in legal protection

No.	Criteria	State Mechanisms: Positive Aspects	State Mechanisms: Negative Aspects	Non-State Mechanisms: Positive Aspects	Non-State Mechanisms: Negative Aspects	Comparative Advantages: State Mechanisms	Comparative Advantages: Non-State Mechanisms
		periences)	intervention, invisibility and exclusion of male victims from care) - Poor police reputation: negative perception and loss of trust - Ineffectiveness of care services - Iatrogenic effects (worsening mental health, PTSD) - Mixed service quality - Overall ineffectiveness - Double standard (higher vulnerability level required) - Protection only for extreme cases - Institutional vicious cycle - Use of non-institutional sources	validation of experiences - Facilitation of exit from violence - Maintenance of contact with children - High utilization and diversification of help sources by male victims			

Source: Author realization