



*Giving voice to the unspeakable...
responding to domestic abuse in Jewish homes.*

Profile of an Abuser

- Jekyll and Hyde personality
- Explosive temper: flies into a rage without provocation
- Projects own faults onto partner
- Grandiose sense of self-importance and entitlement
- May be a traditionalist believing in male supremacy and the stereotyped masculine role in the family
- Denies responsibility for behavior; blames other people, alcohol or drugs for his actions
- Has little feeling of autonomy; needs validation and admiration from others in order to mask low self-esteem and boost ego
- Minimizes or denies severity of abuse; seems not to remember abusive incident(s)
- Is power hungry; needs to control someone in order to feel in control
- Is overwhelmingly jealous and possessive
- May have been abused as a child, or may have witnessed his father or mother being abused
- Has severe stress reaction which may involve battering, drugs or alcohol as coping tools
- May be more violent when partner is pregnant or soon after giving birth
- Has made threats regarding safety of children, family members, friends and/or self
- May have problems with the law
- Is highly critical of partner, wants her to be perfect so he can feel adequate
- Does not believe his behavior should have negative consequences
- Appears charming, rational and likeable in public
- Can be loving, kind and giving as well as abusive