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a public health approach

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Towards Improved Interventions Against Domestic Violence

Working paper within the Daphne project
*“Prevention of intimate partner violence –
a public health approach”*

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This working paper combines the brief reports on the project task 1.1. (“Transfer successful networking concepts/practices in specific areas of violence prevention to the area of intimate partner violence – men using violence against their female partner”) and project task 2.1. (“Collecting main concepts and evaluations in psychosocial and psychotherapeutic work with male perpetrators in Austria”).

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0. Introduction

This working paper was written for the Daphne project “Prevention of intimate partner violence – a public health approach”, a European project (2006-2008) of four organizations in three countries (Sweden, United Kingdom, Austria), which want to develop new perspectives and improved approaches in the field of domestic violence (see www.preventabuse.eu for further information).

Within this project, the Austrian partner organization, *Men’s Counselling Centre Graz*, is working towards improved perpetrator treatment on a regional level. To prepare for the subsequent networking activities, two tasks were planned and fulfilled in the start-up phase of the project:

- Collecting main concepts and evaluations in psychosocial and psychotherapeutic work with male perpetrators in Austria (with the sub-tasks: compile; perform a basic web search; talk to relevant actors involved; write a short result paper)
- Transfer successful networking concepts/practices in specific areas of violence prevention to the area of intimate partner violence – men using violence against their female partner (compile; define the “ideal network”; write a short result paper)

This working paper contains these two short result papers on the topics “main concepts of perpetrator work” and “networking concepts”. As its purpose is to serve as a basis for the next steps in the project, it is a collection of short cuts and snapshots on those aspects that were assessed as important for working further within the Daphne-project. The focus on concepts and approaches *outside of the jail* regarding work with perpetrators of domestic violence is one consequence of this orientation. Perpetrator programs and interventions that are provided in jail are not in the centre of this paper. Of course, connections on personal level (e.g. psychotherapists working in jails as well as in counselling centres and similar institutions) and on the level of methods do exist. But because the main objective of the regional part of the Daphne project is to improve the multi-agency interventions focussing male perpetrators outside of a jail setting, this is reflected in the contents of this paper.

The authors want to emphasize that a parallel Daphne project, called “Work With Perpetrators of Domestic Violence in Europe” (2006-2008), has started to compile various approaches in Europe, with the following expected results:

... a publicly accessible directory of European projects/persons working with perpetrators of domestic violence (“Yellow Pages of Perpetrator Programs in Europe”). This will be reached by a data collection by the project partners about perpetrator programmes in all European countries.
publicly accessible guidelines for documentation and evaluation instruments and suggestions for standards for perpetrator programmes. They will be developed in a process of exchange between the eight project partners.
Main target groups will be practitioners who are confronted in their work with domestic violence e.g. police, courts, prosecutors, women shelters, and counselling centres etc. Beyond that results should support decision makers

and policy to foster domestic violence intervention strategies and to improve the frame conditions for the work with perpetrators/ perpetrator programmes. (<http://www.work-with-perpetrators.eu/index.html>, 27.12.2006)

First contacts between the two Daphne projects (*“Prevention of intimate partner violence – a public health approach”* and *“Work With Perpetrators of Domestic Violence in Europe”*) have been established (Men’s Counselling Centre Graz; Men’s Counselling Centre Vienna; Dissens e.V., Berlin). Where the topics of the two projects overlap, we will continue the cooperation. This working paper will hopefully contribute to the progress of both Daphne projects.

In 2001, an umbrella organisation on men’s counselling centres and men’s centres in Austria was founded (*“AMÖ - Arbeitsgemeinschaft der Männerberatungsstellen und Männerbüros Österreichs”*). As Men’s Counselling Centre Graz is part of this network, much information that is relevant for this working paper could be derived from there. The authors wish to thank all the AMÖ-members for exchange and discussions. A special thanks goes to the colleagues of Men’s Counselling Centre Vienna, who have always been very cooperative and following a very open dissemination policy concerning their work.

The European network CAHRV (*“Co-ordination Action on Human Rights Violations”*, www.cahrv.uni-osnabrueck.de) has been a highly valuable source and support for this Daphne project, and will continue to be. As the first author of this paper has been a member of the CAHRV network, all forms of information have been accessible for the Daphne project (papers, conference contributions, reports, discussions etc.). We highly appreciate this support, provided by the members of the CAHRV network. A special thanks goes to the colleagues of Sub-Network 3 at the CAHRV conference 2003 in Budapest.

The working paper consists of four parts. Each part outlines the specific contents to the point that it is relevant for the proceeding of the Daphne project, and not much further.

1. In the first part, the Austrian *Protection From Violence Act* is outlined. This legislation can be seen as the most relevant legal framework for the regional part of the Daphne project.
2. In the second part, the most important concepts concerning work with perpetrators in Austria are described briefly. It is not an complete overview, but a short description of the most characteristic approaches that can be found in the field of counselling and treatment of men who commit violence against their partners or children.
3. In the third part, a promising strategy concerning networking activities is outlined.
4. In the fourth part, consequences for the next steps of the regional part of the Daphne project are summarized, with respect to networking (see 3.) towards improved interventions concerning domestic violence (see 2.), on the basis of national legislation (see 1.).

Finally, the appendix contains the most important details about the web-search and thus provides the basis for the statements in the main text.

1. Legal framework in Austria: Protection from Violence Act

In 1997, the Austrian Protection from Violence Act came into force. This legislation is based on the position that responsibility for violence "...invariably lies with the person committing it. Victims of violence have a right to protection, security and support" (Domestic Abuse Intervention Centre Vienna, 2004, p. 1).

The main features of this law are the following:

Protection from Violence Act

Legislation designed to afford greater protection from domestic violence (Protection from Violence Act) came into force in Austria on May 1, 1997. Some aspects of this legislation have been amended and improved as of January 1, 2000 and January 1, 2004.

The most important provision of the legislation is that which empowers the police to expel perpetrators from the dwelling. The police expulsion or the ban on returning are effective for a maximum of 20 days. If a woman under threat of violence wishes this protection to be extended, she must apply for a temporary injunction through the district court within these 10 days. This temporary injunction lasts for 3 months. The term of the temporary injunction may be extended if by the end of 3 months a divorce petition or, in the case of common-law partners, a petition for eviction or sole usage has been lodged. In this case the temporary injunction remains in force until the suit is closed...

Domestic Abuse Intervention Centres

The so called Intervention Centres were established in order to assist victims of domestic violence in the frame of police expulsions. In each province of Austria one will find at least one Intervention Centre. Intervention Centres offer support and counselling. The support is free, every victim of domestic violence is welcome!

(<http://www.interventionsstelle-wien.at/>, 26.12.2006)

The implementation of this law was evaluated recently, with positive assessments in general, with the exception that the Austrian criminal judiciary is not sufficiently integrated in the system of intervening agencies and institutions (see Dearing & Haller, 2005). Haller (2006, p. 4) concludes:

The Protection against Domestic Violence Act is widely accepted both by the police and by the victims. It is important that discretion for imposing eviction and barring orders lies exclusively with the police...

It is a main finding of the evaluation that the application of the Protection from Violence Act strongly depends on the persons involved in the intervention process, on their commitment and on their attitudes. This can be seen in the different reactions of urban and rural police, but also among the representatives of the courts. The higher the values of marriage and family is rated, the higher is the probability that domestic violence is ignored. As a consequence as an outcome of our evaluations we suggested trainings for all the persons who are involved in the prevention of domestic violence.

... the new legislation makes no reference to the role of the criminal judiciary; so there are criminal lawyers who believe that the new legal provisions are

none of their concern, and they fail to understand that the administration of criminal justice has an important role to play in interpreting and specifying these new legal provisions. A multi-institutional approach involving all the state actors and excluding any controversial messages is vital in enforcing comprehensive protection from violence.

The Austrian legislation was presented as best practice example and discussed at a European CAHRV-conference in Budapest recently (Haller, 2006). A topic in the discussion was the question if such a model could be transferred to other countries as well, respectively what obstacles and reservations are existing. This is a complex question that could be followed up also within this Daphne project.

The Austrian Act on Protection from Violence provides chances for improved multi-agency approaches towards coordinated victim protection and perpetrator treatment (see below) where the Domestic Abuse Intervention Centres can play the central role.

2. Perpetrator treatment approaches

2.1. Ideal types

In this part, the most important concepts concerning work with perpetrators in Austria are shortly described. The compilation of approaches towards perpetrator treatment is not an complete overview, but a short description of the “most typical” models that can be found in the field of counselling and treatment of violent men in Austria. (This chapter is based on the searches described in the Appendix of this paper.)

As will be outlined below, Men’s Counselling Centre Graz intends to work towards coordinated interventions against domestic violence in the region. In this respect, the most important model that was found in Austria was a cooperation project of the Viennese organizations *Domestic Abuse Intervention Centre Vienna* and *Men’s Counselling Centre Vienna*. In the course of the Daphne project, Men’s Counselling Centre Graz will try to implement a regional model that makes use of the *model of good practice* in Vienna. Thus, this model will be described more in detail than the others.

As far as psychosocial work with men is concerned, the most important centres in Austria are organized within an umbrella organization (approx. 15 organizations who attend the meetings and/or receive information of a restricted mail group; “Arbeitsgemeinschaft der Männerberatungsstellen und Männerbüros in Österreich”. Note that also organizations are member of this network that are active in the field of adult education and men’s groups, not only counselling centres). The authors have access to all internal minutes and take place in the meetings of this umbrella organization. As many of these centres work with perpetrators in some way, a good overview of the respective approaches could be given on this basis. The minutes of the meetings 2005-2006 were screened with regard to the basic approaches towards perpetrator treatment, as far as this had been a topic in the meetings and mentioned in the respective minutes. Moreover, if available, the websites of the centres were analysed for descriptions of perpetrator treatment and intervention approaches (see Appendix of this paper).

On the basis of all analysed material (see Appendix), we have defined two ideal types of work with perpetrators that may serve as a pattern for orientation. Two important approaches are given below to illustrate these ideal types, namely the “MgM-approach” according to the “Hamburg model” (type 1), and the “Controlling approach” with the example of the cooperation project of *Men’s Counselling Centre Vienna* and the *Domestic Abuse Interventions Centre Vienna* (type 2). Note that “pure ideal types” won’t be found in reality, but more or less accordance of a given way of working with an ideal type. Type 1 and type 2 can be contrasted as described in the table below.

Table

Contrasting the ideal types of models of work with perpetrators in Austrian Men's Counselling Centres and other organizations by some important dimensions.

Dimension	Type 1	Type 2
Motivation	Primary motivation ("I want to end my violent behaviour") must be given, basically	Primary or secondary motivation ("I want to avoid sanctions") must be given
Access of client	Voluntarily	Voluntarily or forced
Prominent way of referral	Self referred client or agency referred client (if primary motivation is given)	Mostly agency referred client; self-referred client must accept disclosure
Setting	Confidential	Controlling, partial disclosure
Understanding of violence	Male socialization as an important production mechanism; violence is not mental ill-health, it is learned and can be changed	Male socialization as an important production mechanism; psychological diagnostics to distinguish among types of perpetrators; mental ill-health is one possible variant
Different measures for types of perpetrators	Rather not; the "common" feature of all violent men can be addressed	Definitely; training, psychotherapy etc. according to type of perpetrator
Program theory / impact	"The man's motivation matters"	"The intervening system matters"
Work with perpetrator is seen as...	... counselling	... training; in case of illness: psychotherapy
Exchange of information	Referring organization may give information about the client; no information from within the setting can be given to other institutions "confidential"	Progress reports; case conferences are held; if a man commits violence during the training period, this is communicated immediately to the victim protection centre "exchange"
Cooperation with institutions	Violent men are referred to counselling centre; no or little information exchange after referral "one way referrals"	Interventions for victims and perpetrators are coordinated; much exchange of information "joint interventions"
Protection of victims	Position: The man himself is responsible for the safety of partner and children; working towards taking over the responsibility by the man	Position: The system of intervening institutions and organizations try to control that protection of victims is ensured
Role of the Austrian Protection of Violence Act	Eviction may result in perpetrator's "primary motivation", under the condition of good publicity (campaigns against male violence, promotion of volunteer counselling for violent men)	Intervention Centres play an important role, in terms of cooperation towards "secondary motivation" for perpetrators ("pressure contexts"); information exchange; contact to victims

2.2. Type 1: MgM approach

Work with self-referred clients (*“Freiwilligenansatz”*)

One model of psychosocial work with male perpetrators is called *“Freiwilligenarbeit”* (“work with voluntary clients”, similar to “self-referred clients”). Here, a variety of offers within the various organisations in Austria seems to exist. Often, these kinds of interventions are some kind of counselling, but also psychotherapeutic interventions are possible. As far as the Men’s Counselling Centres are concerned, it is characteristic that *male* professionals work with *male* perpetrators. Outside of the Men’s Counselling Centres (e.g. counselling and psychotherapy by self-employed professionals) and in other centres (e.g. some Child Protection Centres, working with the whole family system), other approaches exist as well, concerning work with perpetrators (e.g. female professionals or male/female teams working with male perpetrators).

Among the approaches towards psychosocial work with self-referred male perpetrators, the so called “Hamburg model” is the most prominent one. This model was developed in the 1980s in the German organization “Männer gegen Männergewalt” (MgM, “Man Against Male Violence”), with J. Lempert and B. Oelemann as the key persons. A curriculum for counselling of violent men and educational work (with boys and youngsters) has been offered; trainees who have attended this curriculum may call themselves “violence counsellor”. The terms “violence counselling” and “violence pedagogic” have been registered as trademarks.

We have developed violence counselling© / violence pedagogic© in the counselling office 'Man against male violence'® in Hamburg (»Hamburger Modell«).
(http://www.euget.org/html_en/home.html, 28.7.2006)

This curriculum can be seen as the best known for counselling work with male perpetrators on a voluntary basis in the German speaking countries. Counselling centres in Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Luxemburg that work according to the standards of the Hamburg model are listed within a network of homepages, with a kind of corporate design. Meanwhile, an international organization (EUGET, European Society Violence Consultation Perpetrator Therapy) was founded. Within a Daphne project, the help-line “EULINE” was developed, a telephone hotline for violent men. It is a liable to payment and is available in Austria, Germany, Switzerland and Luxemburg. The following organisations were involved:

- Männer gegen Männer-Gewalt, Ostwestfalen e.V., Germany
- Männerberatung d. Familientherapiezentrum d. Landes Oberösterreich, Austria
- Mouvement luxembourgeois pour le planning familial, Luxemburg
- Beraadslagkantoor voor Mannen en Jongen, Niederlande
- Männer gegen Männer-Gewalt, Hamburg e.V., Germany
- Klartext - IFS Gewaltberatung, Vorarlberg, Feldkirch, Austria
- Männer gegen Männer-Gewalt, Salzburg e.V., Austria

Unfortunately, the evaluation report does not give numbers at this point of time (e.g. how many men used this offer in what period etc.).

As far as contents is concerned, one important element in the MgM-approach is the voluntary access of the clients, although it is emphasized that the MgM-centres are working in cooperation with other agencies as well:

We counsel and advise violent perpetrators and we are indifferent as to whether they get in contact voluntarily or are sent to us.
(http://www.euget.org/html_en/home.html, 29.7.2006)

However, the MgM-approach emphasizes that criminal prosecution and counselling must remain separate things and must not be “blurred”, like the following statement of J. Lempert in the German newspaper “Frankfurter Rundschau“ (02.12.2000), may show:

Perpetrators should have the chance to contact a qualified facility that is specialized for counselling of violent perpetrators in a self-referred way, to end their violent behavior. Such counselling must be completely independent from a possible criminal prosecution, it should, before all, not substitute this prosecution, nor be used as a criterion for an eventual mitigation of punishment...¹
(http://www.gewaltberatung-hamburg.org/images/stories/pdf/_frankfurter.pdf, 29.7.2006)

In contrast to this position, models like the ones given in the next section, seek to make use of such a “secondary motivation”, to put force on the perpetrator in the beginning of the intervention. This is probably the most important and fundamental difference that we could find in the various approaches towards work with perpetrators in the search.

More details and further aspects referring to violence counselling can be found e.g. in *Männer gegen Männergewalt* (2002).

Austrian men’s counselling centres that can be fully or partly assigned to the MgM-approach are the following:

- Klartext - IfS Gewaltberatung (Vorarlberg)
- Männerwelten (Salzburg)
- Praxis für Gewaltberatung Ried (Oberösterreich)
- Männerberatung bei Männergewalt, Linz, Abt. Ehe und Familie, Diözese Linz (Oberösterreich)
- Männerberatung Linz (Oberösterreich)

¹ Original text: “Täter sollten die Möglichkeit haben, von sich aus eine qualifizierte, für die Beratung von Gewalttätern spezialisierte Einrichtung aufzusuchen, um ihr Gewaltverhalten einzustellen. Eine solche Beratung muss völlig unabhängig von einer möglichen gerichtlichen Verfolgung sein, soll diese vor allem nicht ersetzen und auch nicht als ein Kriterium für eine eventuelle Strafminderung herhalten...”

2.3. Type 2: Controlling approaches

As far as coordinated interventions in the field of domestic violence are concerned, the DAIP-approach (Domestic Abuse Intervention Project) has inspired the Austrian intervention projects (Logar, Rösemann & Zürcher, 2002, p.10).

To characterize this kind of intervention approaches from the perspective of perpetrator treatment, we start with a description of the models of the Men's Counselling Centre Vienna, the oldest men's counselling centre in Austria (founded in 1984) and among the oldest in the German speaking countries. The models in the field of work with perpetrators that have been developed in this organization have had an important impact on the work of other Austrian Men's Counselling Centres in the field of coordinated interventions, and today some of the centres are working with variants of the Viennese models.

The source of the following descriptions is the homepage of the organization: www.maenner.at

The approach of Men's Counselling Centre Vienna can be summarized as follows:

- Therapeutic or „socially-controlled“ interventions are provided.
- The contribution of work with perpetrators to protecting victims is emphasized.
- "The system matters": The most important features of a well-working intervention are:
 - cooperation with other helping or investigating agencies.
 - controlling of obligations or measures
 - the client's confidence that increases within the intervention

The chosen methods, programs and settings are less important than the mentioned features.

The following steps are applied, irrespectively of the kind of violence (sexual, physical):

- The actual commission or contract has to be clarified (refers to agency referred clients)
- Multi agency conferences are organized, to clear what agency will work with the victims and which with the perpetrator
- Preparing the setting and framework
- Start-up of the intervention (group setting or individual setting)
- Treatment

Sexual violence: The Viennese social-therapeutic program for sexual offenders

Within the WSPS-model (*“Wiener Sozialtherapeutische Programm für Sexualstraftäter“*, also referred to as *“Viennese 2-Track-Model“*), two professionals are working with one client: a *psychotherapist* and an *attendant*. The attendant plays an intermediate role between psychotherapist, authorities, other organizations and family members. The “triangle setting” of psychotherapist-client-attendant has a diagnostic, controlling and social work-related function.

After preparatory individual sessions, structured group sessions are provided, based on cognitive-behavioural methods (by Hilary Eldridge and by Ruud Bullens), as well as on depth psychology and uncovering methods.

For juvenile sexual offenders, there is a separate approach that will not be discussed in this working paper.

Counselling with violent men

Men who address to the counselling centre are informed about the preconditions of a possible intervention. Clients have to agree that information about them may be gathered from other agencies, and given to certain agencies, to enhance protection for possible victims and to minimize the impact of denial strategies within the intervention. Otherwise, an intervention is rejected by the organization.

Training program for men to stop violent behaviour in intimate relationships: main features

Since the Protection from Violence Act came into force in 1997, coordinated interventions of Men's Counselling Centre Vienna and the Intervention Centre Vienna have been developed. The Intervention Centre works with the female victim and children, and the Men's Counselling Centre works with the violent man:

Anti-violence training for men: the Intervention Center in Vienna is running an Anti-violence Training for violent men together with the Men's Center Vienna. The most important goal of the program is to make life for women threatened by violence and their children safer and to increase their quality of life. In order to reach this goal, work with the perpetrators is integrated into the system of interventions. The support for the partner is part of the program. The training is carried out in weekly group sessions supervised by a team of two trainers, a woman and a man, for a duration of at least 32 weekly group sessions. Most participants do not take part in the training voluntarily, but are obliged to participate upon order by the court or the Youth Office. (Logar, 2005, p.10)

The basis of the "forced" referrals can be:

- Written memorandum of agreement by the Youth Welfare Office
- Orders: within the criminal proceedings; after parole; within diversion measures

Also, self-referred clients who have signed an agreement for the intervention (including the permission to gather and exchange information about the client) can attend the program.

Every client must agree to the conditions, sign a contract and attend a psycho-diagnostic session. If the client is accepted by the organization, the client's partner and the referring institution are informed.

Individual sessions follow, to bridge the gap until the group intervention can start. The group size is 6 to 8 clients, with 32 weekly sessions (duration of each session: 2 hours). The group training is based on the CHANGE model, but contains some additional aspects (psychodynamic elements and additional modules, see Kraus & Logar, n.d.). Additional sessions in an individual setting and attendance is provided for the clients. During the whole time of the intervention, there are contacts with the institutions that work with the client's partner.

Brief overview of the “Anti-Violence-Program”:

Three elements:

1. Anti-violence-training for violent men, performed by Men’s Counselling Centre Vienna
2. Support program for the Men’s partners, performed by Domestic Abuse Intervention Centre Vienna
3. Common organization, coordination and monitoring of this program (clearing, diagnostics, documentation, information exchange, cooperation with other institutions, interventions etc.)

Goals:

- to change the behaviour of the violent man, to stop violence
- to develop behaviours free from violence and with a orientation towards partnership on the perpetrator’s side
- to empower the victims (partner, children)
- to improve the life quality of the partner and the children
(see Kraus & Logar, n.d., p. 4)

Sequence:

- Clearing phase
- Anti-violence-training, support program
- aftercare operations
(see Kraus & Logar, n.d., p. 6)

Contents:

similar to the CHANGE-curriculum, modified (additional psychodynamic elements).

Parts:

1. Accepting the responsibility for the violent behaviour
2. Anger management
3. Male socialization and its consequences
4. Improvement of social competency
(see Kraus & Logar, n.d., p. 9)

This coordinated intervention model can serve as a good practice example for interventions against domestic violence in Austria. But although the model itself is elaborated and working well, it has to be noted that its scope remains limited:

Moreover, despite all the agreement to this law (shared by Men’s Counselling Centre Vienna as well), it should not be forgotten that only a fraction of violence in families can be addressed in this way... Thus, the number of the go-orders corresponds to some tenth of a percent of actual violence. As a consequence, it seems wise to develop and foster (primary and secondary) preventive measures as well. This means publicity (in Germany, in some bigger cities, campaigns were launched to address the basic attitudes of men towards violence), educational work in schools and leisure time facilities for children and youngsters (e.g. work with boys), expansion of counselling

centres (for self referred clients as well), and counselling, therapy and training for violent perpetrators in jail.
(www.maenner.at, 26.12.2006,our translation²)

More details and further aspects referring to programs of the *controlling type* can be found e.g. in Logar, Rösemann & Zürcher (2002).

Austrian men's counselling centres that can be fully or partly assigned to a controlling approach are the following:

- Men's Counselling Centre Vienna
- Men's Counselling Centre Graz
- Men's Counselling Centre of the Province Oberösterreich
- Männerberatung – Kärntner Caritasverband

Based on the models of Men's Counselling Centre Vienna, Men's Counselling Centre Graz has developed a basic intervention model that consists of

- case management (similar to "attendance")
- psychological diagnostics and clearing
- interventions: basic group (all perpetrators), motivation group (all perpetrators), specific offence group (physical violence; sexual violence)

Within the Daphne project and on this basis, coordinated interventions similar to the Viennese cooperation project (Men's Counselling Centre, Domestic Abuse Intervention Centre) should be installed in the province of Styria.

² Original text: "Darüber hinaus sollte trotz aller (auch von der *Männerberatung Wien* geteilten) Zustimmung zum Gesetz nicht übersehen werden, dass hiermit nur ein Bruchteil der familiären Gewalt erfasst wird... Die Zahl der Wegweisungen entspricht also nur einem Promillebetrag der tatsächlich ausgeübten Gewalt. Folglich scheint es angezeigt, auch (primär- und sekundär-)präventive Maßnahmen zu entwickeln und zu fördern. Dazu zählen Öffentlichkeitsarbeit (in Deutschland wurden in einigen größeren Städten Kampagnen durchgeführt, die die Grundhaltung von Männern zur Gewalt ansprachen), pädagogische Arbeit an Schulen und Freizeiteinrichtungen für Kinder und Jugendliche (z.B. Burschenarbeit), Ausbau von (Freiwilligen-) Beratungsstellen sowie Beratung/Therapie/Kurse für inhaftierte Gewalttäter in den Haftanstalten."

2.4. Special aspects concerning the exchange of information

When we are talking about coordinated psychosocial work with perpetrators in Austria, some specific legal aspects concerning confidentiality have to be taken into account. As far as psychological counselling and psychotherapy are concerned, the regulations concerning confidentiality are strict, defined in the Psychologists' Act and the Psychotherapy Act. Whatever is defined as a "secret" within the client-professional setting is submitted under the confidentiality regulations and must not be given to third agencies. Exceptions only exist in the cases of immediate danger and if children are concerned (e.g. professionals or organizations working for the Youth Welfare office are obliged to report cases of violence against children). Whenever work with perpetrators is defined as *counselling* or *psychotherapy*, this strict confidentiality must be given. Thus, approaches that include information transfer between institutions and organizations sometimes are not defined as counselling or psychotherapy, but as *training*. A similar situation is given for psychological diagnostics; only certain information can be given to third agencies on the basis of clear arrangements and transparency between organisation and client.

Finally, it should be noted that in Austria there is an interrelation of *how violent behaviour is understood*, the *kind of intervention* (counselling, psychotherapy, training programs) and *regulations of the funding institutions*. If violence is seen as mental illness or in connection to mental disorders, *psychiatric treatment* or *psychotherapy* may be applied, also *clinical-psychological treatment*. In this case, the Health Insurance Agencies would be responsible for taking over the costs of interventions. *Psychotherapy* (nor *psychological diagnostics* nor *psychological treatment*) is never paid by the institution that funds the Austrian Family Counselling Centres (at the moment: The Federal Ministry for Social Security and Generations) - only *counselling* can be funded. As far as training programs are concerned, the financing situation is rather unclear (actual: project funding by various institutions).

The respective legislation and funding regulations produce the following situation for organisations in the field:

- Counselling centres may provide counselling for male perpetrators (confidential), funded by the Federal Ministry for Social Security and Generations.
- Psychotherapists in various organizations may provide psychotherapy (confidential), clinical psychologists may provide psychological treatment (confidential). At the moment, there are severe problems with the funding situation by the Health Insurance Agencies.
- Interventions that are conceptualised as training programs for violent men may be more flexible on the issues of information transfer with cooperating organizations, under the condition of clear arrangements between organisation and client. However, the funding situation remains unclear.

3. Networking towards coordinated interventions

Within the organization Men's Counselling Centre Graz, a systematic approach towards networking has been developed throughout the last few years (see Reinbacher, 2005; Reinbacher, 2006; Reinbacher, Scambor, Voitle, Baumann & Scambor, 2006). Various concepts in the area of networking techniques were compiled by Reinbacher (2005, 2006), and applied to specific thematic fields by the team of the organization (see Reinbacher et al., 2006). These thematic fields were:

- Work with perpetrators and diversion measures
- Juvenile perpetrators

Basically, thematic networking is performed by the following steps:

- Identification and definition of the relevant thematic area
- establishing the partial networks step by step, following a bottom up-principle, with a
- process orientation in establishing these "partial networks", with the possibility to apply corrections if necessary
- connecting bilateral contacts and partial networks

In his evaluation of the networking process in the thematic fields mentioned above, Reinbacher (2005) has identified conditions that may foster such networking processes. The respective recommendations will be followed.

In our networking activities, we can start at a good basis with some of the most important actors. Moreover, our experiences in networking processes will hopefully support our efforts to establish the envisaged thematic network. Possible partners in the networking process will be the following organizations and institutions:

- Domestic Abuse Intervention Centre Graz / Violence Protection Centre
- Youth Welfare Agency Graz
- Youth Welfare Agencies of the Styrian districts
- Head of Social Work of the Province of Styria
- Police (Graz; Styria)
- Public Prosecutor
- Child Protection Centres
- Further Victim Protection Centres
- Women's Health Centre Graz
- Hospitals, "child protection groups"
- Psychiatric hospital

The most important partner in connection with the envisaged network and cooperation project is the *Domestic Abuse Intervention Centre Graz / Violence Protection Centre*, so the focus of the regional project will be on this cooperation. On the other hand, from our perspective, the most evident regional deficit is the connection of interventions against domestic violence and the health care system. Thus, as far as it is possible under the condition of restricted resources, activities should also be directed into this direction.

4. Consequences for further steps in the Daphne project

As was mentioned above, coordinated interventions similar to the Viennese cooperation project should be installed in the province of Styria within the Daphne project, on the basis of the existing tools of Men's Counselling Centre Graz:

- Case management, to cooperate with organizations and to exchange information
- Psychological diagnostics and clearing (a set of tests and assessment tools is applied)
- Interventions: basic group, motivation group, specific offence group (physical violence; sexual violence)

The most important partner in this connection is the *Domestic Abuse Intervention Centre Graz / Violence Protection Centre*, but also other organizations and institutions will be needed to establish such a "network that works". To establish this cooperation, our experiences concerning thematic networking will be used and the recommendations that are available from evaluation of past networking processes will be adhered to.

Specific challenges will be to work out our possibilities within the legal situation, concerning confidentiality and kind of intervention; and the unclear funding situation that has to be addressed in order to establish and realize a sustainable model from the beginning.

Interventions concerning domestic violence should be seen in a public health context. In a wider perspective of health promotion, preventive work and health-promoting activities with youngsters definitely belong to a comprehensive approach concerning interventions against domestic violence, as does the health care sector.

The role of the health system in tackling domestic violence was highlighted in the recent years (for a general perspective, see Krug, Dahlberg, Mercy, Zwi & Lozano, 2002; for European perspectives, see especially the CAHRV-network, e.g. Gloor & Mayer, 2006; Bohne, 2006). All in all, the health system could play an important role in the connection to domestic violence, and pilot projects have shown how constructive cooperation between various agencies, including the health system, could look like. But up to now, much remains to be done, not only in our region but in general.

As far as the regional Daphne project in Styria is concerned, first contacts in the direction of an inclusion of the health system into multi agency interventions against domestic violence are intended, as is know-how transfer from the Swedish partner (The County Council of Värmland) that is focussing on health care staff.

Within the Daphne project, all the mentioned perspectives are represented by at least one partner organization (coordinated interventions: Devon; Styria; prevention: Hampshire; health care sector: Värmland) - thus, a transfer of specific perspectives and experiences from each partner to the others is possible. Respective transfer techniques will be integrated into the oncoming partner meetings.

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Appendix

A.1. Search method

The method of the web-based search was inspired by Buchinger and Gschwandtner (2006) who have performed such a search in another thematic field (i.e. to give an overview of the organizations that are active in the field of Gender Mainstreaming, in Austria). It mainly contains the following steps:

1. Asking the starting question: Where could we find relevant information? Two approaches seemed useful:
 - a. **top down:** search through the homepages of ministries (or connected institutions) that are responsible for the topic. Collect descriptions there, focus work with perpetrators (concepts of psychosocial, psychotherapeutic etc. work) and networks that are mentioned there; compile abstracts
 - b. **bottom up:** concentrate on NGOs and similar organizations that are active in the specific field. Making use of one's background knowledge from practical work, of one's knowledge about who and what material is relevant; in this case especially the Austrian AMÖ-network
2. Move from link to link within interesting networks
3. Perform a Google-search (or other search engines)
4. Ask "information gatekeepers" (i.e. experts within and outside the organization)

Within this search, a combination of these approaches was applied. The following compilation shows some raw material of the search, together with comments and assessments. It was structured only to the degree that it seemed useful as basis for the statements in the main text of this working paper, not further. Translations from German to English are *not always* provided in this Appendix.

All assessments given here reflect the subjective views and personal opinions of the authors.

A.2. Web search: top down

A.2.1. Federal Ministry of the Interior

<http://www.bmi.gv.at/>

Domestic violence in general is not very prominent on the homepage of the ministry. Under "links", the Intervention Centers (ISTs) are listed.

<http://www.bmi.gv.at/links/>

There is at least one IST in each province.

IST Graz
Verein Interventionsstelle Steiermark gegen familiäre Gewalt
Granatengasse 4, 8020 Graz
Telefon :0316/774199
Fax0316/774199 4
<http://www.interventionsstelle-steiermark.at/>
interventionsstelle.graz@austro.net
office@interventionsstelle-steiermark.at

Publications:

Öffentliche Sicherheit - the official journal of the ministry

Further journals:

Kripo online, journal of the criminal police; Polizei aktiv

Under "publications by topics", there are articles related to domestic violence; among them, concerning perpetrator work, there are some, e.g.:

Öffentliche Sicherheit
Das Magazin des Innenministeriums Nr. 03-04/2001 März-April
Wer schlägt, muss gehen

In this article, the cooperation of IST and Men's Counselling Centre Vienna is described:

Die Wegweisung des schlagenden Ehemanns ist eine Erste-Hilfe-Lösung, das Problem ist dadurch nicht gelöst. Gewalttätige Männer hören nicht von selbst auf zu misshandeln; meist wiederholen und steigern sie ihre Gewalttätigkeiten oder üben Psychoterror auf die Frauen aus. Männer gehen nicht freiwillig in eine Beratungsstelle; erst, wenn sie sich dazu gezwungen sehen, weil die Beziehung auf dem Spiel steht, oder weil das Gericht es anordnet.

Täterarbeit. Die Männerberatungsstelle in Wien hat voriges Jahr mit einem achtmonatigen Trainingskurs für Gewalttäter begonnen. Die Klienten wurden von Gerichten und Beratungsstellen zugewiesen. "Die Täterarbeit beginnt langsam Fuß zu fassen, viele Stellen wissen nicht, dass es uns gibt", sagt Dieter Schmoll von der Männerberatungsstelle. Deren Aufgabe besteht in der Gewaltprävention: zu verhindern, dass Männer Gewalt ausüben, und in der Täterarbeit: zu verhindern, dass sie weiter gewalttätig sind. "Viele Männer sind nicht interessiert, sich zu ändern", sagt Schmoll. Das hänge mit dem herrschenden Männlichkeits-Leitbild zusammen, das auf Härte, Macht, Kontrolle und dem Verleugnen eigener Schwächen basiere; und das ein Leitbild von Partnerschaft propagiere, in dem Männer Dominanz über Frauen und Kinder ausüben. Weiße Schleife. Die Berater arbeiten im Rahmen der Kampagne White Ribbon am Männerbild: Männer ohne Gewalt. Als sichtbares Zeichen tragen sie einen Anstecker mit einer weißen Schleife. Viele Gewalttäter sind sich der Tragweite ihres Handelns oft nicht bewusst.

Oskar Anderl von der Kriminalpolizeilichen Beratung Wien spricht mit Gewalttätern. Er versucht, ihnen das Unrecht ihrer Tat bewusst zu machen und führt ihnen vor Augen, welche Konsequenzen sich für ihn und das Opfer ergeben. "Wenn der Täter nach dem Gespräch ein schlechtes Gewissen hat, betrachte ich es als Erfolg", sagt Anderl.

Für Dr. Albin Dearing, den Vorsitzenden des Präventionsbeirats im Innenministerium, gehört die Exekutionsordnung überarbeitet, die maximale Schutz-dauer auf sechs Monate hinaufgesetzt, die

Schutzwürdigkeit über die Familie ausgedehnt und die Regelung geschaffen, dass die Exekutive auch beim Folgevollzug einschreiten kann – wie etwa bei der Überwachung der Bannmeile.
Interventionsstellen gegen Gewalt in der Familie gibt es in allen Landeshauptstädten. Sie werden vom Innenministerium und vom Ministerium für soziale Sicherheit und Generationen finanziell unterstützt.
Innenminister Strasser lobte die Zusammenarbeit zwischen der Exekutive und den Interventionsstellen: "Es ist wichtig, dass dieses sensible Thema von zwei unterschiedlichen Gesichtspunkten bearbeitet und gemeinsam Lösungen gefunden werden."

The referred concept is the "two-track-model", developed by the Viennese Men's Counselling Centre and the IST Vienna.

Assessment:

The topic Domestic violence is less prominent on the page than expected.

A.2.2. Federal Ministry of Social Security, Generations and Consumer Protection

<http://www.bmsg.gv.at/>

A simple search with the search term "Täter" (perpetrator) in the search machine of the homepage results in 11 hits (23.7.2006).

best fitting:

Fachbereiche >> Familie >> Gewalt in der Familie >> Täterarbeit
<http://www.bmsg.gv.at/cms/site/detail.htm?channel=CH0098&doc=CMS1056518758114> (23.7.2006)

hierarchy:

bmsg >> fachbereiche >> familie >> familienpolitik >> Internationales Jahr der Familie - zehnjähriges Jubiläum

hierarchy:

bmsg >> fachbereiche >> familie >> gewalt in der familie

hierarchy:

bmsg >> fachbereiche >> männer

[fachbereiche >> familie >> familienpolitik >> Internationales Jahr der Familie - zehnjähriges Jubiläum](#)

Long reports can be downloaded from this page. Experts from different fields were invited to participate in one of 10 working groups. One of these working groups was called "Gewaltfreie Familie" (Family without violence).

[Fachbereiche >> Familie >> Gewalt in der Familie](#)

(interesting: the term "perpetrator" is used in a grammatical form that includes male and female perpetrators: "Täter/innen".)

[pages on "Gewalt in der Familie":](#)

Here, physicians are included, in the case of violence against children and the "Kinderschutzgruppen" at various hospitals (multi-disciplinary groups to deal with cases of violence against children)
(A history of these efforts would be interesting...)

also note:

the legal framework (physicians have to tell the police - Anzeigepflicht); important laws, especially for the medical sector
checklists for physicians and educational staff available (downloads)

"Sexual violence against children": Here, male and female perpetrators are discussed (Brem; Lercher)

Excursus: "Plattform gegen die Gewalt in der Familie"

An external link leads to the homepage of the "Plattform gegen die Gewalt in der Familie" („Platform against violence in families“), a network that has been existing since 1993, with lots of information concerning violence in various contexts. The platform was founded by the former Austrian Federal Ministry for the Family (in 1993) as a measure towards violence prevention.

http://www.plattformgegendiegewalt.at/02_de/default.asp

This site has great and rich information, relevant in terms of this project.

- platform newspaper
- database on relevant literature
- event calendar

There are 5 areas within this platform: violence against children; against women; against and between youngsters; against elder people; gender specific work with male youngsters and men. 37 NGOs are organized in this platform.

Die Plattform gegen die Gewalt in der Familie ist in 5 Bereiche aufgeteilt
Physische, psychische und sexuelle Gewalt gegen Kinder
Gewalt gegen Frauen
Gewalt an/unter Jugendlichen
Gewalt gegen ältere Menschen
Geschlechtsspezifische Burschen- und Männerarbeit
Ziel war und ist es, für jedes Bundesland eine Vernetzungsträgerin bzw. einen Vernetzungsträger als AnsprechpartnerIn für die Plattformarbeit zu installieren. Derzeit sind 37 NGOs in der Präventions- und Vernetzungsarbeit tätig (siehe Mitgliederliste)
Source: http://www.plattformgegendiegewalt.at/02_de/page.asp?id=720, 30.12.2006

Assessment:

- Fachbereiche >> Familie >> Gewalt in der Familie:
- "Plattform gegen die Gewalt in der Familie"

Excellent and rich information. These are the most relevant and best sites found in the top-down web search. The sites reflect a long standing, profound work. Very rich also in terms of interdisciplinary access, with implicit public health interfaces.

Fachbereiche >> Männer

Assessment:

Violence plays a less important role on the page. Within the publications, there are some contributions to the topic, but none of them relevant to the current issue. More material is on the page "Männerratgeber" that is as well assigned to the *Fachbereich*.

Fachbereiche >> Männerratgeber

<http://www.maennerratgeber.at/cms/mip/index.html>
(27.7.2006)

"Männerratgeber" (Men's Counsellor) is a web page with information on

- counselling centres and services
- literature references
- activities and events

concerning the topics

- family
- job
- health
- social contact
- and lifestyle

edited by the Austrian Federal Ministry for Social Security, Generations and Consumer Protection.

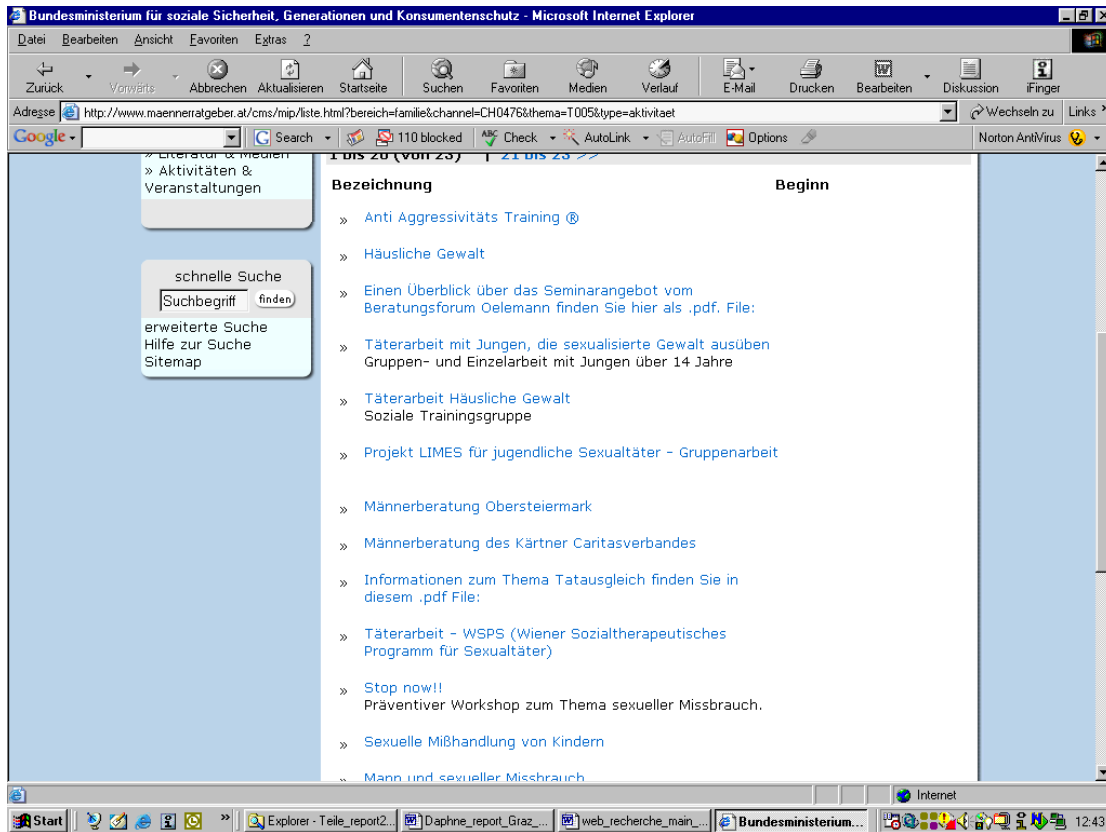
Under "family", the following topics are listed:

- relationship
- fatherhood
- youngsters
- separation
- violence
- conflicts/ problems

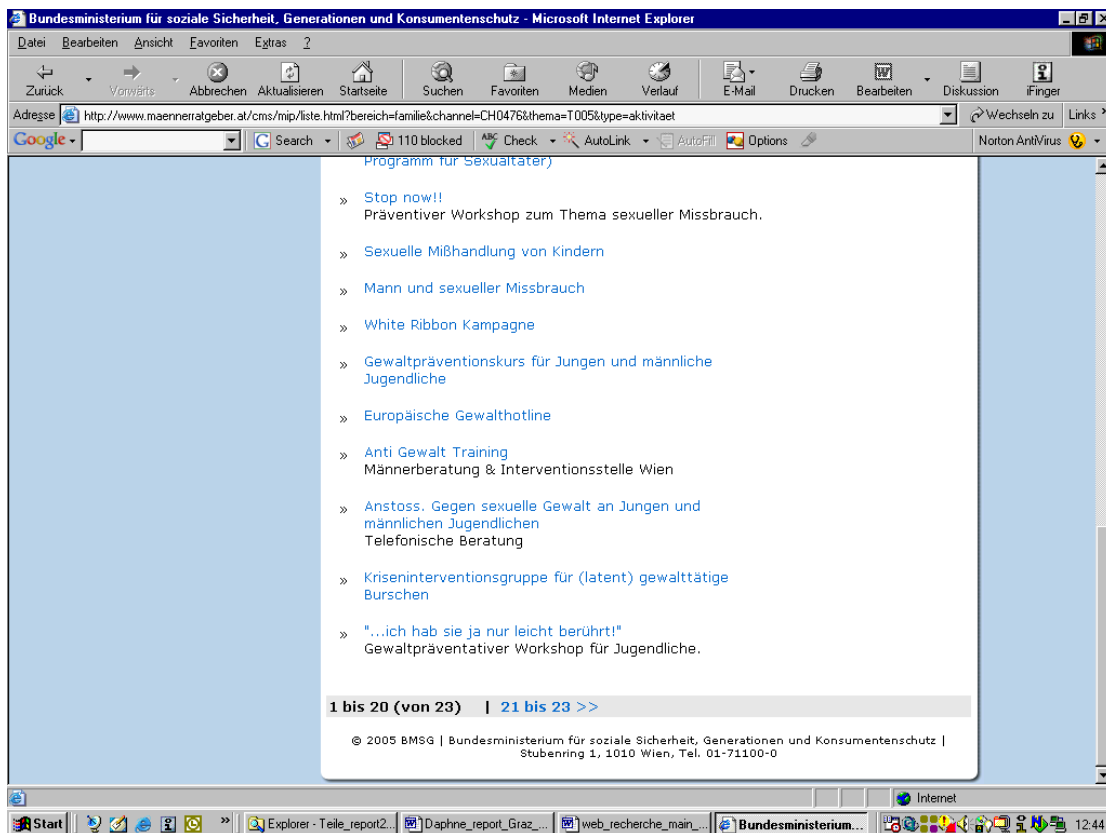
Under "activities and events" within the topic "violence", 23 entries can be found.

<http://www.maennerratgeber.at/cms/mip/liste.html?bereich=familie&channel=CH0476&thema=T005&type=aktivitaet&kategorie=&monat=>
(27.7.2006)

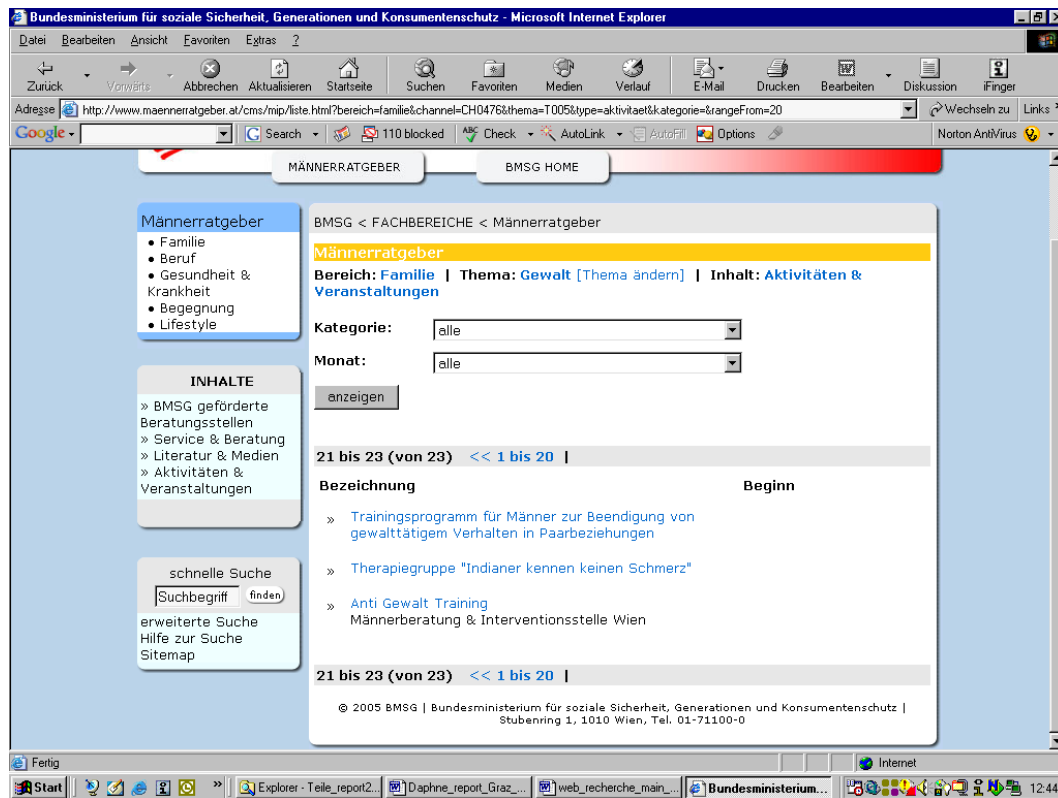
These 23 entries are the following:



(28.12.2006)



(28.12.2006)



(28.12.2006)

Under “service and counselling“, within the topic “violence“, 36 entries can be found for Austria.

<http://www.maennerratgeber.at/cms/mip/liste.html?bereich=familie&channel=CH0466&thema=T005&type=stelle&kategorie=&land=ÖSTERREICH&rangeFrom=0>
(27.7.2006)

Assessment:

Links to many relevant projects are given. Useful to get an impression of the variety of offered services in Austria.

A.2.3. Federal Ministry for Health and Women

<http://www.bmgf.gv.at>

The homepage of the ministry is divided into two sections: health and women.

In the **health section**, the topic “violence” could not be found (5.8.2006).

In the **women section** of the site, the following topics are listed, among them “violence”: (5.8.2006)

Frauensektion/Service
Business-Mentoring
Erwerbstätigkeit/ Gleichbehandlung
Gleichbehandlung/ Gleichstellung/GAW
Gleichbehandlungs- kommissionen
Gewalt
EU/Internationales
Links/Adressen
Index A-Z

Under “violence”, the following themes are listed:

TOP-INFOS

Strafrechtsänderungsgesetz 2006 (BGBl I Nr. 56/2006)

Frauenhelpline gegen Gewalt: 0800/222 555

Frauen haben Recht(e)

Maßnahmen gegen traditionsbedingte Gewalt gegen Frauen in Österreich

Homepage der autonomen österreichischen Frauennotrufe

Frauenservicestelle des Ministeriums: 0800/202011

Strafrechtsänderungsgesetz 2004

ALPHABETISCHE LISTE ALLER THEMEN

Allgemeines zum Thema Gewalt

Gewaltschutzgesetz

HTP-Datenbanken

Kurzinformation - Hilfseinrichtungen

Linkliste - Hilfseinrichtungen

Maßnahmen gegen Frauenhandel

Maßnahmen gegen traditionsbedingte Gewalt

Links to other ministries (bmsg) respectively organisations (e.g. shelters, ISTs, helplines) are provided on the page.

Inter-ministerial cooperation exists, e.g. with regard to:

Measures to Combat Harmful Traditional Practices Affecting Women in Austria

An Initiative of the Austrian Federal Government

Prepared, carried out and supported by the

- Federal Ministry for Foreign Affairs
- Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Culture
- Federal Ministry of Health and Women
- Federal Ministry of the Interior
- Federal Ministry of Justice, and the

- Federal Ministry of Social Security, Generations and Consumer Protection
 - Coordination by the Federal Ministry of Health and Women
- http://www.bmgf.gv.at/cms/site/attachments/6/9/0/CH0275/CMS1130496512221/measures_to_combat_harmful_traditional_practices_affecting_women_in_austria.pdf
(5.8.2006)

General information: Structural violence and measures that address perpetrators and structures are mentioned (but not explained).

Personale und strukturelle Gewalt bedingen und ergänzen einander. Die wirksame Bekämpfung von Gewalt setzt daher Maßnahmen voraus, die sowohl am Täter ansetzen und das Opfer unterstützen, als auch die Veränderungen der gesellschaftlichen Ungleichheiten zwischen den Geschlechtern zum Ziel haben.

<http://www.bmgf.gv.at/cms/site/detail.htm?thema=CH0276&doc=CMS1080638509202> (5.8.2006)

Data are rather cursory:

Am häufigsten erleben Frauen Gewalt in ihrer Familie, 90 % aller Gewalttaten werden nach Schätzungen der Polizei in der Familie und im sozialen Nahraum ausgeübt. Die Dunkelziffer bei familiärer Gewalt ist sehr hoch, Forschungsergebnisse weisen jedoch darauf hin, dass jede fünfte Frau bereits Gewalt in einer Beziehung erlebt hat.

Derzeit existieren in Österreich insgesamt 29 Frauenhäuser und Frauennotwohnungen für misshandelte Frauen und ihre Kinder.

<http://www.bmgf.gv.at/cms/site/detail.htm?thema=CH0276&doc=CMS1080638509202> (5.8.2006)

The Protection Against Violence Act is explained. Here, an interface towards the health system is mentioned:

Der Antrag auf einstweilige Verfügung kann ohne Rechtsanwalt/Rechtsanwältin selbst eingebracht werden. Wichtig ist dennoch eine rechtliche Beratung, z.B. durch Mitarbeiterinnen von Interventionsstellen, Frauenhäusern, Frauenberatungsstellen, um alle erforderliche Unterlagen für die Entscheidung des Gerichts mitzubringen (z.B. "Bescheinigungsmittel" als Nachweis der Gewalt, wie ärztliche Befunde, Fotos usw.; als Bescheinigungsmittel zählen aber auch die Aussage der betroffenen Frau und von Zeugen/Zeuginnen).

<http://www.bmgf.gv.at/cms/site/detail.htm?thema=CH0277&doc=CMS1080809935685> (5.8.2006)

The topic of *female genital mutilation* is another interface of *violence* and *health system*:

Über das Ausmaß der Genitalverstümmelungen an Frauen in Österreich gibt es kein Zahlenmaterial. Eine Umfrage bei niedergelassenen Gynäkolog/innen und Kinderärzt/innen zeigt jedoch, dass es offensichtlich mehr genitalverstümmelte Frauen in Österreich gibt als vermutet werden kann.

Im Sinne einer nachhaltigen Politik wird daher angestrebt, besseres Zahlenmaterial über das Ausmaß von Genitalverstümmelungen an Frauen zu bekommen.

Ärztinnen, Ärzte, Pädagoginnen, Pädagogen, Polizistinnen, Polizisten, Staatsanwältinnen, Staatsanwälte und weitere Multiplikator/innen sind angehalten, bekannte Fälle von Genitalverstümmelungen an Frauen zu melden. Das anonymisierte Datenmaterial dient zur Erhebung der Problematik und in weiterer Folge zur Sensibilisierung und Aufklärung.

<http://www.bmgf.gv.at/cms/site/detail.htm?thema=CH0381&doc=CMS1140789908731> (5.8.2006)
(reports can be sent to the ministry)

Über das Ausmaß der traditionsbedingten Gewalt an Migrantinnen in Österreich gibt es kein Zahlenmaterial. Einzelfälle, die an das Licht der Öffentlichkeit dringen, sind offensichtlich die Spitze des Eisbergs.

Im Sinne einer nachhaltigen Politik wird daher als eine dieser Maßnahmen angestrebt, besseres Zahlenmaterial über das Ausmaß der Zwangsehe zu bekommen.

Ärzt/innen, Pädagog/innen, Polizist/innen, Staatsanwält/innen und weitere Multiplikator/innen sind angehalten, Ihnen bekannte Fälle von Zwangsverheiratung zu melden. Das anonymisierte Datenmaterial dient zur Erhebung der Problematik und in weiterer Folge zur Sensibilisierung und Aufklärung und soll Anleitung zum weiteren Umgang mit dem Thema geben.

<http://www.bmgf.gv.at/cms/site/detail.htm?thema=CH0381&doc=CMS1140766630621> (5.8.2006)
(reports can be sent to the ministry)

Assessment:

The women's section of the homepage has much of a help-site, with much information for women where to address etc.

Important topics are discussed (female genital mutilation, forced marriages, trafficking), always with links to NGOs or help offers.

So the page rather addresses women who need support; some links and information for professionals are there, but this does not seem to be the main focus of the page.

Consequently, perpetrator treatment concepts are not explained. They are mentioned on one page. Some links that are provided lead to organisations that cooperate in terms of perpetrator work, especially the IST Vienna:

<http://www.interventionsstelle-wien.at/files/Anti-Gewalt-Programm2005.pdf>
(5.8.2006)

Promising inter-ministerial cooperation is highlighted.

Such cooperation seems necessary to disseminate information and concerns beyond the women's section of the ministry, e.g. to other ministries and their actors.

A.2.4. Austrian Ministry of Justice

<http://www.bmj.gov.at>

Organisation of the main site:

- Justice - general information
- Service
- Topics
- News
- EU-Info

Relevant “general information”: ad rehabilitation:


- Zu Freiheitsstrafen verurteilte Straftäter werden sicher verwahrt und sollen durch
- Betreuung und Therapie wieder in die Gesellschaft eingegliedert werden


<http://www.justiz.gv.at/justiz/content.php?nav=16> (5.8.2006)

From the ministry's site, there is a link to the probation service which has been outsourced to the private organisation “Neustart” (“*New Start*”). Neustart is a limited liability company of public utility (“gemeinnützige GmbH”). Neustart has a contract with the ministry and is supervised by the ministry.


Probation Service

NEUSTART - Assistance of persons placed on probation, conflict settlement, social work

The realization of the assistance of persons placed on probation is assigned all over Austria to a private subject by a general treaty with the Republic of Austria - represented by the Federal Ministry of Justice - , namely the association  **NEUSTART** (NEW START) (this link opens a new window) - assistance of persons placed on probation, conflict settlement, social work.

 **NEUSTART** is working all over Austria and has besides the realization of the assistance of persons placed on probation also the realization of the extrajudicial compensation for the offence, the institutions of the assistance of persons released from detention and the housing in its catalogue of offers and services which is a part of the general treaty.

There are institutions of  **NEUSTART** in all the Lands.

The initiatives of  **NEUSTART**

- Assistance of persons placed on probation
- Assistance of persons released from detention
 - Advice of released persons
 - Communication centre
 - Work training
- Care of housing
- Extrajudicial compensation for the offence
- Arrangement for services in the public interest
- Clearing
- Criminality prevention
 - Advice in drug affairs
 - Family care
 - Social work in schools

- Youth welfare work
- Assistance of victims of a crime

<http://www.justiz.gv.at/EN/justiz/content.php?nav=55> (5.8.2006)

Excursus: On the **Neustart** homepage, interesting contents are the following:

Neustart provides prevention of violence in schools

http://www.neustart.at/angebote_praevention.php (5.8.06)

There is no information about specific perpetrator programmes on the page. (5.8.2006)

The **“service”** page contains some information for victims of crime and links to relevant institutions/ organisations.

Verein NEUSTART (Bewährungshilfe, Konfliktregelung, Opferhilfe, Arbeiten in der Haft)	www.neustart.at
Familienberatungsstellen (Kontaktnummern)	www.bmsg.gv.at/

News:

Together with bmsg, a new study regarding the “costs of violence” was published in 2006:

Kosten häuslicher Gewalt in Österreich

Dr. Birgitt Haller, Dr. Evelyn Dawid, Konsulenz: Univ.Prof. Dr. Gudrun Biffel. Wien, im Juni 2006, Institut für Konfliktforschung.

The inter-ministerial initiatives against female genital mutilation and forced marriages can be found as well.

<http://www.justiz.gv.at/service/content.php?nav=65&id=290>

(5.8.2006)

Assessment:

Less information than expected about perpetrator treatment was found, but the recent contributions are interesting: costs of violence, new laws regarding stalking, protection for victims.

Plus: the homepage is very user friendly!

A.3. Web search: bottom up

A.3.1. Intervention Centres (ISTs)

A.3.1.1. Intervention Centre Vienna (IST) <http://www.interventionsstelle-wien.at/>

The homepage contains rich material regarding interventions against violence, leaflets in various languages, concepts...

Very relevant: Men's Counselling Centre Vienna and IST Vienna have developed a way of cooperation in the field of work with perpetrators and victims of domestic violence that will serve as a model for Men's Counselling Centre Graz.

A description of this joint intervention program can be found on the centre's homepage (in German language, Kraus & Logar, n.d.).

Links to many specific organizations and addresses are provided, among them information about the 11 intervention centres in Austria.

More relevant information transferred to the main text (see above).

A.3.1.2. Intervention Centre Graz <http://www.interventionsstelle-steiermark.at/>

The website was under construction (26.12.2006)

A.3.2. Men's Counselling Centres, Men's Centres

For the bottom-up web-search, we concentrated on the main entries on www.maenner.at. Similar to a Grounded Theory logic (Strauss & Corbin, 1998), we were not interested in a complete compilation, but rather in the most different available concepts regarding work with perpetrators and interventions against domestic violence, in order to create useful concepts (Conceptual Ordering). Therefore, at this stage of the search, we used our background knowledge to select those sources that promised the most useful and specific information: some Men's Counselling Centres in Austria and Intervention Centres.

A.3.2.1. Men's Counseling Centre Vienna www.maenner.at

All relevant information transferred to the main text (see above).
Province: Vienna.

A.3.2.2. Men's Counseling Centre Graz www.maennerberatung.at

All relevant information transferred to the main text (see above).
Province: Styria. Offices in Graz and Leoben.

A.3.2.3. Men's Counseling Centre of the Province Oberösterreich <http://www.maennerberatung-ooe.at/>

According to the homepage, the centre offers work with perpetrators on a voluntary basis, with restricted voluntary nature, or with a court order. This implies that the centre maintains the option to work with male perpetrators in various ways, in a (confidential) counselling setting as well as in cooperation with other intervening agencies (and some kind of information exchange between the agencies). The centre is working with adults and youngsters; sexual and physical violence. Information exchange between institutions is given, cooperation is given: with court, youth welfare office, victim protection centres, victims, professionals. The duration of the interventions is one year, with one session every second week. (Sexual violence against children: the duration is one year, with one session per week).

The centre is listed on the MgM-homepage (www.gewaltberatung.org), with the additional information:

“The centre in Linz is taking part as cooperating partner in the Daphne-project ‘Building up a European perpetrator-hotline’ of ‘EUGET- European Society Counselling Violence Perpetrators Therapy’.”³
(25.12.2006)

Province: Oberösterreich.

A.3.2.4. Männerwelten Salzburg <http://www.maennerwelten.at/>

Representing the MgM-approach, with links to and from the MgM-web-network. Unlike other MgM-centres, Männerwelten Salzburg has its own homepage that differs from the corporate design of the MgM-centres. It is one of the 5 centres in Austria that are listed on the MgM-homepage (<http://www.gewaltberatung.org/html/start.htm>). There, Männerwelten Salzburg is presented with the MgM-corporate design.

Basically working with men on a voluntary basis.

Province: Salzburg.

³ Original text: “Die Beratungsstelle in Linz nimmt als Kooperationspartner am Daphne-Projekt ‘Aufbau einer europaweiten Täter-Hotline’ der ‘EUGET-Europäische Gesellschaft Gewaltberatung~Tätertherapie’ teil.”

A.3.2.5. Mannsbilder Innsbruck www.mannsbilder.at

Mannsbilder is a men's counselling centre with offices in Innsbruck and Wörgl (province: the Tyrol). The centre has a clear counselling orientation, with confidentiality (source: Tätigkeitsbericht 2005, <http://www.mannsbilder.at/jb2005.pdf>, p. 23). Counselling with violent men plays an important role within the centre's activities.

Due to the fact that we don't understand violence as an illness, the respective support for behavioural change is not therapy, but counselling.⁴
(<http://www.mannsbilder.at/gewalt.html>, 28.12.2006, our translation)

Among their staff, one person has the entry "Gewaltberater" (violence counsellor) (without registered trademark-sign). The centre seems to have a similar orientation to the MgM-approach, but does not emphasize this relationship.

A.3.2.6. Männerberatung bei Männergewalt, Linz, Abt. Ehe und Familie, Diözese Linz www.eheundfamilie.at

The violence counsellors (according to the MgM criteria) are part of a large team of a counselling organization run by the Diocese Linz (Catholic Church). This offer is listed on the MgM-homepage as *Männerberatung bei Männergewalt, Linz, Abt. Ehe und Familie, Diözese Linz*.

"Men's counselling in the case of violence committed by men"
("Männerberatung bei Männergewalt") is offered in various cities in the province of Oberösterreich: Linz, Linz-Urfahr, Freistadt, Gmunden, Kirchdorf, Ried, Rohrbach, Schärding, Steyr, Vöcklabruck
(www.eheundfamilie.at, 28.12.2006, our translation).

A.3.2.7. Klartext - IfS Gewaltberatung www.ifs.at

This centre is integrated into a large organization for social services in Vorarlberg (a province in Western Austria). Klartext provides violence counselling according to the MgM-criteria. The centre is listed on the MgM-homepage.
(www.ifs.at: site was not accessible on 28.12.2006).

A.3.2.8. Männerberatung St. Pölten (Rat und Hilfe) <http://www.ratundhilfe.net/>

Rat und Hilfe is a counselling organization run by the Diocese St. Pölten (Catholic Church). The button "Men's forum" on the website has the entries "counselling /

⁴ Original text: "Weil wir Gewalttätigkeit nicht als Krankheit verstehen, ist die entsprechende Unterstützung zur Verhaltensänderung nicht Therapie, sondern Beratung."

coaching” and “work with perpetrators” (among others). “Work with perpetrators” (“Täterarbeit”) was under construction (28.12.2006), a link to “Counselling” was proposed. There, basic information about counselling offers for men are given, among them the offer of counselling with violent men. No information regarding MgM is given, the centre’s orientation seems similar to *Mannsbilder Innsbruck* (strictly confidential counselling, see above).

Counselling for men is provided in various cities in the province of Niederösterreich: St. Pölten, Amstetten, Lilienfeld, Melk, Scheibbs, Seitenstetten, Tulln, Waidhofen/Ybbs, Waidhofen/Thaya, Zwettl.
(source: www.ratundhilfe.net, 28.12.2006)

A.3.2.9. Männerberatung – Kärntner Caritasverband **<http://www.caritas-kaernten.at/index.php/maennerbuero/C136/>**

This counselling centre in the province of Carinthia is integrated into Caritas (a large organization of the Catholic Church with a mission to social work and services). On the website of the counselling centre, “perpetrator work” (“Täterarbeit”) is listed and outlined briefly:

Work in an individual setting, with men who have been violent in close social relationships, against women, children or men, respectively with men who are endangered to become violent. We are working with men who are themselves motivated as well as with men who have been motivated to change their behaviour by others (partner, friends, counselling centre, Youth Welfare Office), or who have been obliged to a therapy by an order.
(Source: <http://www.caritas-kaernten.at/index.php/maennerbuero/C134/>, 28.12.06, our translation⁵)

Similar to *Men’s Counselling Centre of the Province Oberösterreich* (see above), the centre mentions various ways to work with male perpetrators (counselling setting as well as psychotherapy in cooperation with referring agencies). Among their staff, one person has the entry “Gewaltberater” (violence counsellor) (without registered trademark-sign).

A.3.2.10. Männernet **<http://www.maennernet.at/>**

An organization that provides anonymous and confidential Internet counselling by voluntary counsellors and webmaster, run by the *Männerbüro der Katholischen Kirche Vorarlberg* (Men’s Office of the Catholic Church of Vorarlberg). Violence is mentioned explicitly as a topic.

Province: Vorarlberg

⁵ Original text: “Täterarbeit. Einzelarbeit mit Männern, die im sozialen Nahraum Gewalt gegenüber Frauen, Kindern oder Männern ausüben oder gefährdet sind, Gewalt auszuüben. Wir arbeiten mit eigenmotivierten Männern und solchen, die durch andere (Partnerin, Freunde, Beratungsstelle, Jugendamt) zu einer Veränderung ihres Verhaltens motiviert wurden oder mittels Weisung zu einer Therapie verpflichtet wurden.”

A.3.2.11. Counselling centres with no entries on the web site regarding work with perpetrators

Männerbüro Salzburg, www.kirchen.net/ka/kmb

(source: <http://www.kirchen.net/kmb/page.asp?id=5392>, 28.12.2006)

Province: Salzburg

MEN- Männergesundheitszentrum

(source: www.men-center.at, 28.12.2006)

Province: Vienna

A.3.2.12. Men's centres without a mission to counselling

Männerbüro, <http://www.maennerbuero.info/maennerbuero.html>

This centre is a facility of the Catholic Church in the province of Vorarlberg. It is not a counselling centre, but its tasks are defined as follows: specific institution for questions regarding men; education; publicity and lobbying; networking⁶ (Source: <http://www.maennerbuero.info/maennerbuero.html>, 28.12.2006).

A.3.2.13. Centres, no website found

Männerberatung im Ehe- und Familientherapiezentrum Feldkirch

Province: Vorarlberg

Männerberatung Caritas Eisenstadt

Counselling in Eisenstadt, Oberwart

Province: Burgenland

A.3.2.14. Austrian centres on the MGM-homepage

In chapter **A.3.4.**, a special model of working with perpetrators will be described more in detail, the so-called "Hamburg model" (also referred to as "Männer gegen Männergewalt-Modell", MgM). This is a network of organizations and counsellors that fulfill certain standards and work according to a specific approach. All these organizations and counsellors are presented at the homepage <http://www.gewaltberatung.org/html/start.htm> with a corporate design.

The following Austrian organizations are presented at this homepage:

Praxis für Gewaltberatung

Innsbruck

from <http://www.gewaltberatung.org/html/start.htm>: no link to a homepage of the centre

(The centre does not appear in the link-list of www.maenner.at)

⁶ Original text: "Das Männerbüro ist keine Beratungsstelle. Seine Aufgaben sind: Fachstelle für Männerfragen / Bildung (Vorträge, Seminare, Gruppen, Projekte) / Öffentlichkeitsarbeit und Lobbying / Vernetzung (Zusammenarbeit, Drehscheibe, Partner, Service)"

Klartext - IfS Gewaltberatung

Feldkirch

from <http://www.gewaltberatung.org/html/start.htm>: no link to a homepage of the centre

(Entry in the link-list of www.maenner.at: www.ifs.at)

Männerwelten

Salzburg

from <http://www.gewaltberatung.org/html/start.htm>: link to www.maennerwelten.at

(Entry in the link-list of www.maenner.at: www.maennerwelten.at)

Praxis für Gewaltberatung

Ried

from <http://www.gewaltberatung.org/html/start.htm>: no link to a homepage of the centre

(no entry in the link-list of www.maenner.at)

Männerberatung bei Männergewalt, Linz, Abt. Ehe und Familie, Diözese Linz

Linz

from <http://www.gewaltberatung.org/html/start.htm>: no link to a homepage of the centre

(Entry in the link-list of www.maenner.at: www.eheundfamilie.at)

Männerberatung Linz

Linz

from <http://www.gewaltberatung.org/html/start.htm>: link to

<http://www.maennerberatung-ooe.at/>

Entry: "Die Beratungsstelle in Linz nimmt als Kooperationspartner am Daphne-Projekt "Aufbau einer europaweiten Täter-Hotline" der "EUGET-Europäische Gesellschaft Gewaltberatung~Tätertherapie" teil."

(Entry in the link-list of www.maenner.at: www.ooe.gv.at/beratung/allgbera)

A.3.3. Special focus: FONASTs

In Austria, a network of FONASTs (Forensic Care Centres - for clients with court orders, „Forensische Nachbetreuungsambulanzen“) has been established in the recent years. These centres work with clients who have a court order for psychotherapy or psychiatric treatment.

E.g. FONAST Graz:

In der Forensischen Nachbetreuungsambulanz werden Patienten betreut, die vom Gericht die Weisung erhielten, sich einer psychotherapeutischen oder psychiatrischen Behandlung zu unterziehen. Bei freien Kapazitäten stehen diese Therapieplätze auch Personen ohne richterliche Weisung zur Verfügung. Diese Ambulanz wird als Ambulatorium betrieben. In den Ambulanzstunden (Freitag von 14 - 18 Uhr) können sich Patienten ohne weitere Formalitäten vorstellen. Nach einem klärenden Erstgespräch werden Therapieplätze für Einzel-, Paar- oder Gruppentherapien sowie psychiatrische Betreuung angeboten. Als Therapeuten sind erfahrene Psychotherapeuten und Psychiater tätig. Die Behandlung ist für den Patienten kostenlos und erfolgt entsprechend den Forderungen des Psychotherapie- und Ärztegesetzes streng vertraulich.

(Source: <http://www.gesundheit.or.at/seelsorge/fonast.php>, 29.12.2006)

Leitbild der „Gesellschaft zur Förderung seelischer Gesundheit“

Die Gesellschaft zur Förderung seelischer Gesundheit wurde im Jahr 1991 als Verein vom damaligen Vorstand der Universitätsklinik für Psychiatrie am Landeskrankenhaus Graz, Univ. Prof. Dr. H.G. Zapotoczky, gegründet. Ihr Ziel ist es, die Versorgungsstandards für psychisch kranke Menschen außerhalb der Krankenhäuser in der Steiermark im Sinne einer gemeindenahen Psychiatrie in den Versorgungsregionen zu verbessern und den Betroffenen ein möglichst selbstständiges Leben in ihrem sozialen Umfeld zu ermöglichen. Dazu zählt auch Informationsarbeit zum Umgang mit psychisch Kranken und zur allgemeinen Gesundheitsvorsorge.

Menschen mit psychischen und sozialen Problemen können sich an die Psychosozialen Zentren in Graz, Hartberg und Leibnitz wenden, in Pöllau, Vorau, Neudau und Friedberg bestehen Aussenstellen des PSZ Hartberg.

Das Angebot der Zentren wird in den Bezirken Graz, Hartberg und Leibnitz je nach regionalen Gegebenheiten durch sozialpsychiatrische Tagesbetreuung, Wohnangebote und arbeitsrehabilitative Angebote, sowie ein Kinderschutzzentrum in Leibnitz erweitert.

In der Forensischen Nachbetreuungsambulanz (FONAST) in Graz betreut ein Team aus Psychiatern und Psychotherapeuten Patienten, die von einem Gericht die Weisung erhalten haben, sich einer psychotherapeutischen oder psychiatrischen Behandlung zu unterziehen. Bei freien Kapazitäten stehen die Therapieplätze auch Personen ohne richterliche Weisung zur Verfügung.

Um eine bestmögliche Betreuung der Klientinnen und Klienten zu erreichen, wird in allen Einrichtungen mit multiprofessionellen Teams gearbeitet. Die Angebote sind grundsätzlich kostenlos und wenden sich an jede Person mit sozialen, psychischen und psychiatrischen Fragestellungen und Problemen.

(Source: <http://www.gesundheit.or.at/seelsorge/leitbild.php>, 29.12.2006)

A.3.4. Special focus: MgM-model

The “Hamburg model” was developed in the 1980s in the German organization “Männer gegen Männergewalt” (MgM, “Man Against Male Violence”), with J. Lempert and B. Oelemann as the key persons. A curriculum for counselling of violent men and educational work (with boys and youngsters) has been offered; trainees who have attended this curriculum may call themselves “violence counsellor”. The terms “violence counselling” and “violence pedagogic” have been registered as trademarks.

We have developed violence counselling© / violence pedagogic© in the counselling office 'Man against male violence'® in Hamburg (»Hamburger Modell«).

(http://www.euget.org/html_en/home.html, 28.7.2006)

This curriculum can be seen as the best known for counselling work with male perpetrators on a voluntary basis in the German speaking countries. Counselling centres in Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Luxemburg that work according to the standards of the Hamburg model are listed within a network of homepages (see below), with a kind of corporate design.

Meanwhile, an organization (**EUGET**, European Society Violence Consultation Perpetrator Therapy) was founded that gives the following self-definition:

We are

the *European Society Counselling Violence Perpetrators Therapy*, an internationally active union of experts busy in daily practice

What makes us unique?

We have developed violence counselling© / violence pedagogic© in the counselling office 'Man against male violence'® in Hamburg (»Hamburger Modell«).

Violence counselling© and violence pedagogic© is a theory combined with professional, practical dealings with perpetrators.

We combine counselling and pedagogic.

We work with all ages.

We counsel and advise violent perpetrators and we are indifferent as to whether they get in contact voluntarily or are sent to us.

By confrontation and with a determined attitude accompanied with empathy, plus our way of working, we encourage our clients to take responsibility for their behaviour and end the circle of violence.

We have successfully worked with violent men and boys since 1988 and are therefore, well equipped, throughout Europe, with the most practical experience in the field of Violence counselling©.

Our daily experience flows constantly into the further development of violence counselling and in the training and qualification of more violence counsellors/ pedagogic©.

Our responsibility

Counselling. All employees have had three years of practical and theoretical experience and education to become violence counsellors©/violence pedagogic© therefore, our work is covered and supported both by the practical and the theoretical.

Acquiring male clients. We know how to approach both men and boys, we know how to motivate violent perpetrators to look for professional advice.

Knowledge of socialisation of violent perpetrators. We know how violence develops, how it can be ended and what the effect of male socialisation is.

Supervision and advice in practice. Due to our years long experience we are aware of the necessity of reflected violence handling and this is why, by our specially developed quality standards, we are able to offer specific supervision and advice for the practice.

Ongoing education. In our system of working and method we have developed programmes of education and successfully apply them.

Science and research. We take our know-how, achieved in scientific practice, into society. Different sectors i.e. pedagogic, economic management, psychology, social practices and knowledge of the science of communication, compliment each other. This serves the issue of violence counselling@/violence pedagogic© and perpetrators therapy. It enables us to work on an interdisciplinary basis. Our competence in the different regions offer the ideal conditions for continuing research concerning the dynamics of violence and working with perpetrators.

Our Vision

is a European wide offer of violence counselling@ /violence pedagogic© and perpetrators therapy.

Our Aim

is prevention and declination of violence by working on transforming the perpetrator.

Our strategy

is giving support in the setting up and operation of a European network of counselling offices and institutions that work by our method (»HAMBURGER MODELL«)

is the promotion of a permanent exchange of experience and information to the further development of our method.

is the development and permanent control of quality standards to maintain our professional level.

Our assignment

we are always available and present for professional discussions.

we take a strong stand - even in public.

we initiate, present and organise national and international conventions, congresses and workshops.

we support new suggestions to further the education of the perpetrator.

we arrange and put into practice international projects concerning the issue of EUGET©.

we hand out certificates to institutions and education programmes on the basis of our quality standards.

(information from the EUGET homepage, 28.12.2006,
http://www.euget.org/html_en/home.html)

Within a Daphne project, the helpline **"EULINE"** was developed, a telephone hotline for violent men. It is a liable to payment and is available in Austria, Germany, Switzerland and Luxemburg. The following organisations were involved:

- Männer gegen Männer-Gewalt, Ostwestfalen e.V., Germany
- Männerberatung d. Familientherapiezentrum d. Landes Oberösterreich, Austria
- Mouvement luxembourgeois pour le planning familial, Luxembourg
- Beraadslagkantoor voor Mannen en Jongen, Niederlande
- Männer gegen Männer-Gewalt, Hamburg e.V., Germany
- Klartext - IFS Gewaltberatung, Vorarlberg, Feldkirch, Austria
- Männer gegen Männer-Gewalt, Salzburg e.V., Austria

The evaluation report is unclear about any numbers (how many men really used this offer in what period?).

On www.euline.net: Daphne is mentioned in the FAQ:

Telefonhotline zur Prävention von Gewalt
Ausgebildete Gewaltberater helfen Opfern und Tätern aus dem
Gewaltkreislauf. Zwei Jahre lang haben wir diese Hotline im Rahmen des EU-
Daphne Programms entwickelt und an ausgewählten Standorten erprobt. Seit
Januar 2005 hat sie den Dauerbetrieb in Deutschland, Österreich und
Luxemburg aufgenommen. Seitdem arbeiten wir daran, sie zu einem

landesweiten Angebot zu machen. Die Hotline wird unterstützt von der ARD Fernsehlotterie. Weitere Informationen und Kontakt zur Hotline erhalten Sie unter: www.Euline.net
(www.institutlempert.de>>forschung, 28.7.2006)

Some important bits and pieces regarding contents of the MgM-approach:

We have developed violence counselling© / violence pedagogic© in the counselling office 'Man against male violence'® in Hamburg («Hamburger Modell«).
(http://www.euget.org/html_en/home.html, 28.7.2006)

One important element in the MgM-approach is voluntary access of the clients.

Gewaltberatung nach dem Hamburger Modell (GHM)®. Dialog und Transparenz.

Wir kennen die Zweifel und Vorbehalte gegenüber der Täterarbeit. Eine zentrale Frage ist immer wieder jene der Motivation von Tätern. Daher ist unsere Arbeit immer auch Motivationsarbeit, die Veränderung auch aktiv anregt. Unsere Mitarbeiter arbeiten vernetzt mit Fachkräften aus den unterschiedlichsten Institutionen. Diese reichen von staatlichen und privaten psycho-sozialen Einrichtungen, Gesundheitswesen, zur Exekutive und der Justiz.

(<http://www.gewaltberatung-hamburg.org/unsere-leistungen-beinhalten-folgende-angebote-2.html>, 29.7.2006)

We counsel and advise violent perpetrators and we are indifferent as to whether they get in contact voluntarily or are sent to us.
(http://www.euget.org/html_en/home.html, 29.7.2006)

J. Lempert, "Therapie als Strafe?", Frankfurter Rundschau, 02.12.2000:

Es ist schlechterdings unmöglich, jemanden gegen seinen erklärten Willen zu verändern. Das gilt auch für therapeutische Verfahren. Durch die unveränderte Fortsetzung seiner Handlung hat der Täter seinen Willen bereits hinlänglich bekundet... Täter sollten die Möglichkeit haben, von sich aus eine qualifizierte, für die Beratung von Gewalttätern spezialisierte Einrichtung aufzusuchen, um ihr Gewaltverhalten einzustellen. Eine solche Beratung muss völlig unabhängig von einer möglichen gerichtlichen Verfolgung sein, soll diese vor allem nicht ersetzen und auch nicht als ein Kriterium für eine eventuelle Strafminderung herhalten... Keineswegs soll behauptet werden, alle gewalttätigen Männer auf diese Weise erreichen zu können. Langjährige Erfahrungen haben aber die Überzeugung wachsen lassen, dass ein Großteil der Täter auf diesem Weg für die Beratung gewonnen werden kann.
(http://www.gewaltberatung-hamburg.org/images/stories/pdf/_frankfurter.pdf, 29.7.2006)

The homepage <http://www.gewaltberatung.org> lists the following counselling centres in Germany, Austria, Luxemburg and Switzerland:

Austria:

1. Bregenz
2. Innsbruck
3. Salzburg
4. Ried
5. Linz

Germany:

1. Nürnberg
2. Rhein-Main
3. Köln
4. Ruhrgebiet
5. Gütersloh: takes part in the project "Erprobungsvorhaben des Landes NRW zur Prävention sexueller Gewalt" - „Change Projekt für Jungen und junge Männer“
6. Bielefeld
7. Detmold: takes part in the project "Erprobungsvorhaben des Landes NRW zur Prävention sexueller Gewalt" - „Change Projekt für Jungen und junge Männer“
8. Nordhorn
9. Lingen
10. Wolfsburg
11. Berlin
12. Oldenburg
13. Bremen
14. Hamburg
15. Lübeck
16. Mühbrook
17. Kiel

Switzerland:

1. Biel
2. Basel
3. Luzern
4. St. Gallen

Luxemburg:

1. Luxemburg

(<http://www.gewaltberatung.org/html/start.htm>, 28.7.2006)