PASK 2025-2026 Review

Topic #11: A Systematic Review of Intimate Partner Violence Protection Order Research: A Decade of Insight

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This systematic literature review addresses a gap since the last review over ten years ago (Russell, 2012). This review included 43 articles from January 1, 2013, to January 1, 2023. The review synthesizes existing literature on protective orders (POs), examining five themes: gun violence restraining orders (Table 1), courts, evidence, and policy (Table 2), demographics (age, gender, race/ethnicity; Table 3), technology/stalking, victim safety, and well-being (Table 4), and community demographics and international studies (Table 5).

Intimate partner violence (IPV) affects nearly half of women (47.3%) and men (44.2%) (Leemis et al., 2022), demonstrating the critical role of POs in halting offender behavior. POs, ranging from temporary protection/restraining orders (TPOs), domestic violence restraining orders (DVROs), and gun violence restraining orders (GVROs), aim to prevent further abuse, harassment, stalking, or sexual assault. However, their implementation and efficacy vary across jurisdictions and are often influenced by legal and procedural disparities. Research suggests that while POs can mitigate violence, challenges persist in defining their effectiveness, especially regarding violation rates and gender-based outcomes.

This review includes diverse populations, primarily from the United States, and studies from Australia, Canada, and Israel that utilize a variety of quantitative methodologies to understand PO effectiveness and challenges in IPV cases. This study contributes to the evolving landscape by systematically examining a POs role in combating IPV, emphasizing the critical need for effective measures to protect those at risk. The current study aims to contribute to this evolving landscape by systematic reviewing literature over the last ten years, focusing on various aspects of POs and their role in combating IPV.

What is new to this area of research is the recent focus on IPV and firearm use, where studies consistently demonstrate the disproportionate impact of gun violence on women in IPV incidents. Table one includes studies about DVROs and GVROs. Firearms are the most common weapon used in intimate partner homicide (IPH), with concerning statistics revealing high rates

of firearm related threats and incidents among IPV survivors. Studies also demonstrate a significant correlation between mass shootings and IPV, emphasizing the urgent need to address firearm access for individuals involved in IPV incidents. The research on GRVOs sheds light on their complex nature in addressing IPV and preventing firearm-related harm. Studies, such as those by Kafka et al. (2021; 2022), Wallin and Durfee (2020), and Wintermute et al. (2014) highlight the complexities surrounding firearm dispossession within GVRO/DVRO cases, including demographic factors influencing judges' decisions and challenges in the recovery process. Public perceptions of GRVOs also demonstrate the need for increased awareness and knowledge among residents and healthcare providers to effectively utilize these laws in safeguarding victims and preventing future violence.

Studies on courts, evidence, and policy (see Table 2) identified factors influencing PO outcomes and survivor experience with the legal system. Police and court dynamics in PO cases expose the interaction of legal and extra-legal factors influencing PO outcomes and victims' experiences with the legal system. Studies by Bejinariu et al. (2016; Troshynski et al., (2019) emphasize the pivotal role of legal representations, victim advocates, and addressing language barriers within the legal system. Legal representation and victim advocacy emerge as crucial factors in obtaining POs and length of PO, while the presence of children and evidence of severe abuse also influence PO decisions. However, challenges such as language barriers, demographic variables, and victims' knowledge gaps highlight the need for tailored interventions and improved support systems to ensure equitable outcomes and survivor empowerment.

The research on POs examining age, gender, race/ethnicity (see Table 3) highlighted recent legislative reform aimed to offer legal protections for adolescents experiencing dating violence. The legislative reviews showed variations across states in adolescent eligibility and criteria and provisions for minors. Durfee and Goodmark (2021) examined older adults who sought POs and found older men were less likely to report abusive incidents meeting the criteria for POs compared to older women and younger adults, indicating potential barriers within the legal system that may disproportionately affect men. In the same regard, gender disparities were prevalent throughout this review. There appeared to be a severe lack of research on men's experiences with POs, and there were no studies found on LGBTQ+ experiences with POs. Studies consistently found that women were more likely to have their PO requests granted than men. Similarly, there were racial/ethnic disparities found in obtaining POs that revealed systemic

barriers and perceived biases within the legal system, with historically marginalized communities experiencing greater distrust of the legal system and difficulties accessing legal protection. Research about technology/stalking and psychological well-being (see Table 4) revealed alarming rates of stalking (62-72%) (Messing et al., 2020), and while obtaining a PO was associated with reduced moderate forms of IPV, its' effectiveness varied across different forms of abuse (Messing et al. (2017). POs can provide a sense of empowerment for victims, and others found barriers to help-seeking, particularly among Black women, were evident. International and demographic studies (see Table 5) on POs across Israel, Australia, and South Africa revealed varying service utilization patterns and legal outcomes, demonstrating the need for global interventions to address IPV. Research in rural and urban settings further demonstrated disparities in PO effectiveness and health outcomes.

Overall, scholarly research on protection orders underscores the complexity of IPV dynamics and survivors' challenges in accessing legal protection. By addressing legislative reforms, gender, race/ethnicity disparities, and international perspectives, policymakers, legal practitioners, and support services can develop more comprehensive and effective interventions to promote survivor well-being and address systemic inequalities in accessing justice.

Comparison with 2012 Systematic Review of Protection Orders

This review expands and builds upon Russell's (2012) initial research examining the literature on protection orders and intimate partner violence. Russell's (2012) original review focused on articles published before 2012. That review revealed studies primarily focused on legality, effectiveness, victim safety and perceptions of the legal process. What is strikingly different in the current review is the attention to topics including firearm-related IPV, demographic factors, and the involvement of technology in stalking and victim-centered remedies. For example, one of the significant differences is the emphasis on firearm-related IPV homicides (IPH). This emphasis is not surprising as researchers examining (Everytown Research & Policy, 2024) data from the FBI Supplemental Homicide report revealed that the growing use of guns has s led to a 6% increase in IPH of women from 2011 to 2020. This reflects a growing awareness of legislative response to IPH and IPV. Studies in the current review, such as Kafka et al. (2021; 2022) and Wintermute et al. (2014), demonstrate an urgent need to address firearm access among IPV perpetrators.

Further, the current review revealed subtle and complex factors influencing PO outcomes. While Russell's (2012) review acknowledged general demographic disparities, the current review provides a more detailed analysis of the different experiences of adolescents, older adults, men, and racial/ethnic minorities in obtaining POs. The examination of legislative reforms designed to protect adolescents from dating violence and the unique barriers faced by older men in reporting IPV were introduced in the current review. The current review also touched upon the use of technology to facilitate abusive behaviors and stalking and protection orders (Messing et al. 2020), a threat also rising globally. While studies are becoming more common on this topic, there is little research on the effects of protection orders on technology-facilitated abuse.

Despite these differences, there were notable consistencies between the two reviews. Both reviews demonstrate the protective role of POs in mitigating IPV and enhancing victim safety, but continue to face challenges in their implementation and enforcement. Both studies show how the effectiveness of POs in reducing IPV relies on factors such as legal representation, advocacy, and the presence of children. Both reviews also emphasize the need for individualized intervention and support to overcome barriers such as language issues, knowledge gaps, and understanding the complexity of legal and extra-legal factors in PO outcomes. For example, both reviews demonstrated significant gender and racial/ethnic disparities in PO issuance, indicating systematic biases within the legal system that remain stagnant. Both reviews had little to no evidence of research conducted on experiences of heterosexual men or historically marginalized individuals such as those in the LGBTQ+ community.

Both studies call attention to the role of the courts and legal system in shaping survivor experiences. The interaction between police, courts, and victims remains a pivotal area of study, along with ongoing challenges in ensuring equitable and effective POS processes. The latest study focuses on international and community demographics and echoes Russell's (2012) call for a broader, more inclusive body of research to understand the diverse experiences of IPV survivors worldwide.

In conclusion, although the present review provides further insight and builds upon those identified by Russell (2012), it also highlights continued complexities associated with obtaining IPV protection orders. By highlighting legislative changes, demographic differences, and the importance of firearms in IPV, this review draws attention to ongoing issues that need addressing

within IPV research and suggests that policy responses moving forward must be carefully considered and all-inclusive to assist all victims.

About The Authors

Brenda Russell, Ph.D. is a Professor of Psychology at The Pennsylvania State University, Berks. Her interests include psychology and law, perceptions of victims and perpetrators of domestic violence. She is particularly interested in how gender and sexual orientation play a role in evaluating defendants and victims in legal cases. Her areas of expertise include domestic and sexual violence, and sexual harassment. She's written dozens of articles on the topics of domestic and sexual violence and written and/or edited seven books. Her more recent books include "Perceptions of Female Offenders: How Stereotypes and Social Norms affect Criminal Justice Response" (2nd Edition, two-volume set, 2023, Springer Nature) and "Gender and Domestic Violence: Contemporary Legal Practice and Intervention Reforms." She also serves as an expert in domestic violence cases and consultant and program evaluator for various federal and state educational, law enforcement, justice, and treatment programs.

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2025-2026 Review: A Systematic Review of Intimate Partner Violence Protection Order Research

NOTE: References organized according to most recent year published, and in each year are arranged alphabetically by author last name.

Table 1 Gun Violence Restraining Orders

Study (full reference)	N	Sample Characteristics	Study Type	Results
Aubel, A. J., Pallin, R., Knoepke, C. E., Wintemute, G. J., & Kravitz-Wirtz, N. (2022). *A comparative content analysis of newspaper coverage about extreme risk protection order policies in passing and non-passing US states - BMC public health*. BioMed Central. https://bmcpublichealth.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s12889-022-13374-8		The authors examined 244 newspaper articles about Extreme Risk Protection Order (ERPOs) which is a tool for firearm violence protection currently in 19 states, published in 2018, in three passing (FL, VT, RI) and three non-passing states (PA, OH, CO). The authors looked at media framing of ERPOs in states that passed laws to states that did not pass ERPO laws. Measures included language used, stakeholders mentioned, and scientific evidence.	Content analysis archival review of media in 3 states that passed ERPO laws and 3 states that did not. The authors searched articles from Newsbank and Nexis Uni. This study compares the proportion of articles with each measure of interest in passing versus non-passing states.	Of the ERPO related articles, 15.2% were national. States that passed ERPOs used language such as policy names, gun violence, restraining order, extreme risk orders. However, non-passing states used terms such as "red flag" to describe the policy and used verbs such as "take away", "seize" and remove'. The term "prevent" was more likely to be used in passing states, but also used terms such as "prohibit", "bar" and "ban", and "forbid". Non passing states included terms such as 'gun control', 'second amendment'. This can be used to help states determine ore effective media framing of new gun restriction laws.
Kafka, J. M., Moracco, K. E., Williams, D. S., & Hoffman, C. G. (2022). Disarming abusers: Domestic Violence Protective Order (DVPO) firearm restriction processes and	N = 406 domestic violence protective orders (DVPO) hearings (2016–17)	Researchers used secondary data from the CASE IPV study (Courts Applying Solutions to Eliminate Intimate Partner Violence), which entailed Domestic Violence Protection Order (DVPO) hearing observation with corresponding data	Archival study, using the data from the previous Kafka et al (2021) study. Used DVPO hearing observations with trained data collectors. Variables of interest included defendant	Defendant access to firearms was seldom discussed (23.81%). Among granted orders (n = 303), 69.5% prohibited defendant firearm possession (n = 238) but only 38.61% ordered firearm surrender (n = 143). There were higher odds of restrictions when the defendant had threatened to kill the plaintiff (OR for prohibited possession:

dispositions. Criminology & Public Policy, 21, 379–404. https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/1745-9133.12581?af=R	in North Carolina	extraction from the DVPO case files. A three-staged clustered sampling design allowed researchers to identify time periods during which to observe DVPO hearings in each eligible county throughout the calendar year.	firearm access, firearm access discussed at the hearing, DVPO case disposition and restrictions, and judge communicating firearm restrictions	2.25, CI: 1.02, 4.97; OR for firearm surrender: 1.93, CI: 1.09, 3.40); no other lethality indicators were significant. Judges verbally announced firearm restrictions only in one out of three cases (30.87% of DVPOs granted with prohibited possession; 33.02% of firearm surrender cases).
Study (full reference)	**N**	**Sample Characteristics**	**Study Type**	**Results**
Kafka, J. M., Moracco, K. E., Williams, D. S., & Hoffman, C. G. (2021). What is the role of firearms in nonfatal intimate partner violence? Findings from Civil Protective Order Case Data. *Social Science & Medicine*, *283*, 114212. doi:10.1016/j.socscimed.2021.114212	406 DVPO cases Perpetrators had access to firearms in 184 cases female survivors And 183 male perpetrators	This study examines 406 civil Domestic Violence Protection Order (DVPO) cases in North Carolina during 2016-2017. Victims were 63.2% White, 26.4% Black, 6.5% Hispanic, 3.9% other and perpetrators were 59.4% White, 32.3% Black, 3.6% Hispanic, 4.9% other	Researchers used archival data collected using a representative sampling strategy to explore the nature of Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) perpetrator access and the prevalence of nonfatal firearm abuse. Data was gathered from domestic violence protective order (DVPO) case files and structured DVPO hearing observations. Content analysis to record IPV perpetrator access to guns and reported firearm abuse behaviors. Independent variables included level of gun access and dependent variable	Researchers found evidence of perpetrator firearm access in nearly half of all cases (46%, n = 108). Controlling for covariates, gun access was significantly associated with higher levels of reported IPV (b = 0.5, p < .001). Firearm abuse was reported in nearly one out of four cases (23.1%, n = 101), and often entailed spoken threats, displaying a gun, or holding a partner at gun point. The only factors associated with firearm abuse in the multivariate models were related to English language speaking/fluency

			included perpetration of nonfatal firearm abuse. Linear regression analysis to determine whether IPV perpetrator gun access was associated with higher levels of reported abuse.	
Study (full reference)	**N**	**Sample Characteristics**	**Study Type**	**Results**
Kravitz-Wirtz, N., Aubel, A. J., Pallen, R., & Wintermute, G. J. (2021). Public awareness of and personal willingness to use California's extreme risk protection order law to prevent firearm-related harm. *JAMA Health Forum. 2(6),* 1-12.https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/35977171/ doi:10.1001/jamahealthforum.2021.0975	2,870 California residents completed a survey about knowledge of extreme risk protection order laws (ERPOs)	52.3% were women and 49.1% of male participants completed the survey. 49% were White, 34.7% were Latino/a, 14.4% Asian, and 5.8% Black. Mean age 47.9.	A cross-sectional online survey was conducted via the 2020 California Safety and Wellbeing Survey. Participants were asked if they ever heard about the GRVO law and then assessed their willingness to use the law, given a series of scenarios.	Most participants (65.6%) reported they had never heard of GRV**O** or a red flag law 13.9% had heard of both. Firearm owners were more likely than non-owners to have heard of the red flag law. Upon reading about the GRVO law, 72.9% believed that GRVOs were sometimes appropriate, and 73.2% to 80.8% of participants reported they would be somewhat or very willing to use it for a family member who might be a risk of harm.
Lyons V. H., Adhia A., Moe, C., Kernic M. A, Rowhani-Rahbar A., & Rivara, F. (2021).	N = 8375 Intimate Partner Homicide (IPH)	The authors looked at 8375 intimate partner homicide cases (IPH) 306 victims were killed with a firearm	Archival analysis of data collected on IPH cases between 2003-2018.	The number of women killed was higher when a PO had been issued for both firearm and non-firearm IPH. IPH occurred less often in the home when there was a PO and a weapon used in a non-firearm IPH didn't differ as a function of PO

Firearms and protective orders in intimate partner homicides. *Journal of Family Violence, 36(5),* 587-596. https://doi.org/10.1007/s10896-020-00165-1	between 2003-2018 recorded in the National Violent Death Reporting System.	with a PO, and 4519 were firearm deaths with no PO. Victims were primarily female (77%), White, 52.8%) and mean age of 40 years. Of the 306 victims killed with a PO, and 4519 (53.9%) were killed when no PO was in place. Across both groups were the primary victims. Victims included 90.2% of females with protection orders and 9.8% of males with protection orders. Of those without a PO 80% were female and 20% were male.		status. There was a higher proportion of White victims and perpetrators among firearm IPH. Only 5.4% of the sample of cases mentioned a PO, which makes it difficult to say whether POs prevented IPH.
Study (full reference)	**N**	**Sample Characteristics**	**Study Type**	**Results**
Frattaroli, S., Hoops, K., Irvin, N. A., McCourt, A., Nestadt, P. S., Omaki, E., … Wilcox, H. C. (2019). Assessment of physician self-reported knowledge and use of Maryland's Extreme Risk Protection Order Law.	92 physicians	Researchers surveyed physicians, including emergency medicine physicians, pediatricians, and psychiatrists, using a 15-question online instrument conducted at The Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, Maryland	The survey was designed to assess doctor's familiarity with Maryland's ERPO Law and examined their likelihood of use by specialty.	Physician's knowledge of ERPOs was low, but after reading a brief description, most reported treating patients who would qualify for an ERPO and a willingness to use ERPOs. A clinical coordinator to process ERPO petitions, training, access to legal counsel, and the ability to participate in court hearings remotely would help address barriers to ERPO use.

JAMA Network Open, *2*(12). doi:10.1001/jamanetworkopen.2019.18037				
Zeoli, A. M., Frattaroli, S., Roskam, K., & Herrera, A. K. (2017). Removing firearms from those prohibited from possession by domestic violence restraining orders: A survey and analysis of State laws. *Trauma, Violence, & Abuse*, *20*(1), 114–125. doi:10.1177/1524838017692384	Overview of 49 laws in 29 states for domestic violence restraining orders (DRVOs)	State laws must have noted that a civil DVRO respondent may or must be ordered to relinquish their firearms or the court has authority to remove firearms. Authors reviewed state statutes to provisions for firearm dispossession. Elements of the law were also examined pertaining to elements necessary before the law could be applied.	The study examined state laws to the extent that the laws had instructions for law dispossession, and similar features of the laws. They further looked at instructions at the court, respondent, and law enforcement and how firearms would be removed from DVRO respondents.	Results found 28 states and Washington DC had legislated on this issue as of 2016. In 16 of the 28 states, the law specifies the judges may require the dispossession of firearms from both full and ex parte DVRO respondents. In 12 states and Washington DC, the laws states judges may require dispossession for those prohibited by full DVROs only. In 11 of 28 states the judge has the discretion to decide against ordering dispossession of firearms. 15 states required certain conditions to be met before authorizing dispossession (e.g., previous acts or future risk). Five states required judges to inquire at both ex parte and full hearings about whether the DRO respondents possess firearms and describing information about the firearms.

Wintemute, G. J., Frattaroli, S., Claire, B. E., Vittes, K. A., & Webster, D. W. (2014). Identifying armed respondents to domestic violence restraining orders and recovering their firearms: Process evaluation of an initiative in California. *American Journal of Public*	San Mateo had 6024 restraining orders involving 2973 respondents, and Butte Country had an estimated 1978	Researchers sought to evaluate a new law initiative intended to screen respondents for DV restraining orders for firearm ownership or possession to recover firearms. Researchers used descriptive methods to evaluate the screening process and recovery effort in each county,	Archival research of firearm transaction records, court records and petitioner interviews.	Screening linked 525 respondents (17.7%) in San Mateo County to firearms; 405 firearms were recovered from 119 (22.7%) of them. In Butte County, 88 (31.1%) respondents were linked to firearms; 260 firearms were recovered from 45 (51.1%) of them. Nonrecovery occurred most often when orders were never served, or respondents denied having firearms. No serious violence or injury

Health, *104*(2). doi:10.2105/ajph.2013.301484	retraining orders.	relying on records for individual cases. The study population comprised all respondents to domestic violence restraining orders issued between May 2007 and June 2010 in San Mateo California and between April 2008 and June 2010 in Butte County, California		

Table 2 Protection Orders: Courts, Evidence & Policy

Study (full reference)	N	Sample Characteristics	Study Type	Results
Holmes, S. C., Maxwell, C. D., Cattaneo, L. B., Bellucci, B. A., & Sullivan, T. P. (2021). Criminal Protection orders among women victims of intimate partner violence: Women's experiences of court decisions, processes, and their willingness to engage with the system in the future. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*, *37*(17–18).	298 women participated, but only available data for 187	Women were recruited from courthouses from one suburban and one urban area in New England. Only female victims of male offenders were included in which the male perpetrator was arraigned 12-15 months prior to the study. Mean age was 36.27, 47.6% of the sample was Black or African American, 29.9% as White, 16% as Hispanic, and 6.4%	The authors sought to examine the extent to which women received the PO requested, their subjective experience of the court process (positive, negative, validating) on victim's willingness to use the system in the future. The authors hypothesized that procedural justice would be essential for victims who experienced a PO mismatch. Measures included IPV victimization (Revised	Results showed that none of the demographic variables were correlated to willingness to use the system, but IPV victimization was correlated with willingness to use the system and used as a covariate in the analyses. A hierarchal multiple regression model accounted for almost 35% of the variance of willingness to use the system. Predictor variables showed higher levels of IPV victimization, more positive experiences with the court process, and higher levels of court related fear were associated with a greater likelihood of using the system in the future. PO match was not directly related to willingness to use the system but interacted with court experiences in relation to using the system in the future. Between 70-86% of women positively endorsed the use of the system in the future, despite having the PO requested.

doi:10.1177/08862605211021965		multiracial or another racial group.	conflict tactics scale), PO Match per request of complainant (no PO, limited PO, residential stay away PO, full no contact PO. Subjective experiences with courts was measured using the Court Impact Scale and Willingness to use the system in the future.	
Sullivan, T. P., Weiss, N. H., Woerner, J., & Belliveau, D. (2021). Criminal protection orders: Implications of requested versus issued orders on Domestic Violence Revictimization and mental health among women. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*, *37*(19–20). doi:10.1177/08862605211035875	187 women including 76 women issued protection orders 12 to 15 months prior to study	298 victims total, mean age 36.39, half African American, 28.9% White, 14.1% Latina, and 7% multi-racial. Half employed or part-time, and half unemployed.	Interviews were conducted to identify whether victims who are granted POs have a better quality of well-being than those who are not issued a PO. Paired sample-t-tests and mean score examined level of criminal protection order (limited PO, residential stay-away and full no-contact PO), level of criminal protection order requested vs. issued, demographic characteristics, and revictimization effects on mental health	19% of women were issued a limited PO, 23.2% were issued a residential stay-away and 57.7% were issued a full no contact. Women who were issued a full no-contact PO reported significantly higher reductions in physical DV than women issued residential stay-away POs, and lower sexual domestic violence than those with limited or residential stay-away orders. Across all levels of restriction, all participants reported significantly reduced PTSD and depression, stress, and fear of revictimization after the PO was issued.
Troshynski, Emily & Bejinariu, Alexa & Willis, Carolyn. (2020). Lost in translation:	Approximately 303 CPO (Civil Protection	In analyzing structured observations of protection order hearings, three themes	Researchers used ethnographic methods.	Language barriers exacerbate vulnerability to re-victimization and contribute to a broader understanding of justice system linguistic integration. To better address the needs of

experiences of ESL/LEP civil protection order petitioners. Contemporary Justice Review. 24. 1-27. doi:10.1080/10282580.2020.1819804.	Order) cases were observed 2013- 2015	emerged: 1) Delays in Court for ESL/LEP Cases, 2) Judicial Reactions to ESL/LEP Applications, and 3) ESL/LEP Petitioners' Experiences are Lost in Translation.		ESL/LEP populations, civil court systems must not only have extra qualified interpreters but also ensure that they have received the highest certification possible. Fiscal resources is key
Richards, T. N., Gover, A. R., & Tudor, A. (2018). A nation-wide assessment of empowerment among states' Personal Protective Order Statutes. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*, *36*(9–10), 4876–4898. doi:10.1177/0886260518794511	51 PPO statutes for all states and Washington DC from 2017	Researchers examined the statutes of personal protection orders across all fifty states, identifying 11 key components based on the Empowerment Process Model.	Archival research examines how empowering protection order statutes are to victims. The authors examine 23 statutory elements designed to facilitate victim empowerment. Measures included definitions of abuse, scope of access to PPOs, administrative process, PPO protections, enforcement of PPOs and punishing violations.	Empowerment scores ranged from 8 to 18.5. Results revealed little consistency across state statutes regarding empowerment. However, the three consistent elements for empowerment found across statutes included use of gender-neutral langue, inclusion of same-sex couple violence, and adherence to the Violence Against Women Act. Some of the barriers to empowerment included having a narrow definition of domestic violence and lack of information for the denial of a PPO.
Richards, T. N., Tudor, A., & Gover, A. R. (2017). An updated assessment of Personal Protective Order Statutes in the United States: Have statutes become more progressive in the past decade? *Violence*	Assessment of PPO Statutes from all 50 states and Washington DC. Obtained from April	The study aimed to replicate that of DeJong and Burgess-Proctor's (2006) study which focused on four domains used to conceptualize victim-friendliness (adherence to VAWA; petitioner-respondent	The researchers examined the terminology of VAWA including provisions relevant to PPO statutes. According to Dejong & Burgess' (2006) study the authors created similar coding schemes assigning scores	PPO statutes for victim friendliness scores from 2003 to 2014 showed scores increased during this time. 39 states and Washington DC experienced positive changes and 5 states experienced a negative change in victim friendliness. The 2014 PPO statutes for use of gender-neutral language showed no state indicated that individuals in same-sex relationships can apply for a PPO. However, 48 states and Washington

Against Women, *24*(7), 816–842. doi:10.1177/10778012 17722237	to August 2014.	relationship; administrative process; and punishing PPO violations.	associated with specificity of information included in PPO, mutual PPO's, petitioner-respondent relationship--use of gender-neutral language and definitions of same-sex partners, and administrative process clerk to provide assistance, status of filing fees, PPO outside of criminal charges, victim's address confidential and punishing violations, criminal justice implications for a violation, role of counseling.	DC uses ambiguous language regarding the types of relationships covered in the PPO Statute. The authors suggested this might be strategic as to not leave out other sexual minorities. Two states stipulated only those in heterosexual relationships were eligible for PPOs. The administrative process showed 17 states did not mention form or filing assistance, and 34 states mandated assistance or allowed for paperwork and instructional information.

Study (full reference)	**N**	**Sample Characteristics**	**Study Type**	**Results**
Bejinariu, E. (2016). *Judicial Differences in Protective Orders Issuance Rates: An Examination of Courtroom Actors, Case Aspects, and Individual Characteristics*, *2636*. doi:	303 civil protection order cases	The sample included 430 civil protective order cases from 2013-2014. Duplicate cases and cases where the applicant requested dismissal, and other hearings were excluded.	Mixed method analysis, using ethnographic court observations and quantitative analyses of 303 civil protection orders. The author examined whether courtroom actors (judges, legal counselor, translator, advocate, or informal support, case	65% of cases were granted a PO, more than half of these were for less than six months. 84% of applicants were women against their male partners. Logistic regression found POs were more likely to be granted for over 6 months when an advocate was present, POs were more likely to be granted in the afternoon than morning sessions, when legal counsel of the applicant was present, and children were mentioned. Longer PO's were more likely when informal support individuals were present for the

http://dx.doi.org/10.34917/9112028			aspects, and individual characteristics) affected the likelihood of a PO being granted.	applicant, and when a weapon was mentioned. POs' were less likely to be granted for over 6 months when an informal support person attended on behalf of the respondent. Interaction effects showed that when the petitioner has legal counseling, but the respondent does not, this led the judge to be more likely to grant the PO.
Broidy, L., Albright, D., & Denman, K. (2015). Deterring future incidents of intimate partner violence. *Violence Against Women*, *22*(9), 1113–1133. doi:10.1177/1077801215617552	523 cases of IPV where offender was arrested an identified as a respondent in PO proceedings. 80 men and 20 women	The sample of cases included offenders who were arrested for an incident of IPV (totaling 1,049 cases). Offenders who appeared as respondents in petitions for civil protection orders (total 523 cases). Offenders who were arrested and simultaneously named as respondents in PO proceedings for the same incident (totaled 137 cases). Cases were drawn from Bernalillo County, New Mexico, in 2002.	In this research, a comparison was conducted between the interventions provided by law enforcement and the court system concerning IPV. The primary focus of the study was to assess the demographic profiles and behavioral patterns of both offenders and victims who received assistance from either the law enforcement or court system, or both. Intervention included an arrest sample (no PO), a PO sample and dual (arrest and PO). The study also evaluated the probability of IPV recurrence among offenders after they had undergone interventions.	Male comprised 79% of offenders and victims comprised primarily of females (77%). 70% of offenders had a prior offense, 3% had a prior IPV offense, 27% had IPV and non-IPV related offenses. Those in the PO sample were more likely to have a non-DV arrest history than the arrest group. The dual intervention group had a higher percentage of male offenders compared to the other two samples. 23% of offenders had a subsequent IPV charge within 4 years of the time selection (2002). These offenders had 1.52 offenses during the time of the study. Offenders with DV charges were not statistically different among groups, suggesting no differences for intervention type. Offenders with prior offenses are 3.4 times more likely than offenders without prior offenses to be involved in subsequent IPV. Offenders with only DV prior offenses are 2.4 times more likely than those with no priors to have a subsequent DV offense. Males were not significantly more likely than women to have subsequent DV offenses, but offenders who perpetrated DV against a woman was 1.5 times more likely than those with male victims to recidivate.
Study (full reference)	**N**	**Sample Characteristics**	**Study Type**	**Results**

Nelson, E. L. (2013). Police controlled antecedents which significantly elevate prosecution and conviction rates in domestic violence cases. *Criminology & Criminal Justice*, *13*(5), 526–551. doi:10.1177/1748895812462594	N= 1810 police reports	2007 in California. 87 violations of a prior DV protective order, 137 cases with misdemeanor without an emergency protective order (EP0) and 142 felony with and without EPOs.	The authors examined police-controlled antecedents (physical evidence, witness statements, arrest of perpetrator) and differentiated between those with domestic violence retraining orders (DVROs or emergency protection orders (EPOs) and those without. The dependent variable of interest was prosecution and conviction rates in domestic violence cases	The researchers found the use of photographs, an arrest, obtaining EPOs, locating witnesses, and adding more charges led to a higher likelihood of prosecution. Arrest had no effect on the likelihood of conviction in misdemeanor cases. Witnesses and photographs were not related to conviction.

Table 3: Age, Gender and Race/Ethnicity - Age

Study (full reference)	N	Sample Characteristics	Study Type	Results
Lee, J., Kanaboshi, N., & Petlakh, K. (2022). Domestic Violence Protection orders for teen dating violence: An analysis of state laws and practices. *Trauma, Violence, & Abuse*, *24*(4), 2789–2807.	50 U.S. States and Washington DC.	Using an archival analysis this study examined state statutes from 2020 for a domestic violence protection order (DVPO) that allows victims of teen dating violence to obtain a DVPO on their own, but there are stipulations	Researchers considered whether the state allowed minors seek a DVPO on their own; mandate an adult to do it for them; and age restrictions and whether the state included dating relationships with no previous sexual encounters, living	All 50 states and Washington DC, have legal ways to safeguard teens from dating abuse. DC and 12 states have language that lets teens get a DVPO by themselves (no parent/ guardian needed). 9 states outlined a minimum age for a DVPO (12, 16, or 17). 9 of the 13 states allow teens to get DVPOs from a non-sexual partner. 20 states and DC let teens get a DVPO as a safeguard from being stalked by a love interest. 9 states say dating relationships must be “sexual relationship, cohabitating relationship or a child in common”

doi:10.1177/15248380221113782			together, having a child, and if DVPO covers staking	
Study (full reference)	**N**	**Sample Characteristics**	**Study Type**	**Results**
Brandt, K., & Johnson-Motoyama, M. (2021). Dating violence, protection orders, and gender inequality: A cross-state analysis of policy formulation and implementation. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*, *37*(19–20). doi:10.1177/08862605211028327	3 states (Connecticut, Ohio, and Oklahoma) civil protection order (CPO) laws to determine how dating relationships add to CPO laws with various amounts of gender inequality	States were chosen due to their high, middle, low levels of gender inequality as determined by the Gender Inequality Index. Written and oral testimonies along with legislative paperwork from supporting and opposing bills, transcripts, and discussion of bills were reviewed. Interviews were done with the implementor and advocate.	The researchers looked to incorporate policy features outlined by Break the Cycle (2010). They examined whether there were advocacy and lobbying activities present for "dating relationships" in relation to CPO's. The catalysts and roadblocks in the determination of policy. Victim service providers and policy makers acted in policy advocate position or implementer positions. Researchers used a case study method.	Each state already had or made CPO guidelines for dating relationships. Oklahoma allowed protection for dating relationships in 1995 and Ohio followed suit in 2018.Connecticut doesn't say those under 18 can file, but they can be given CPOs. The 3 states had many policies similar to Break the Cycle but in OH, those under 18 could not get a CPO on their own.
Adhia, A., Goddard, J., Kernic, M. A., Fan, M. D., Vavilala, M. S., & Rivara, F. P. (2020). Variation in state laws on access to Civil Protection Orders for adolescents experiencing intimate partner	50 state statutes and Washington DC	This study looked at state mandates on adolescents getting domestic violence civil protection orders in 50 states and the District of Columbia as of May 2019	Researchers determined if minors could get Civil Protection Orders (CPOs), whether they can file their own CPO, if dating relationships are included, definitions of abuse for CPOs, and if a CPO limits perpetrators from owning firearms	48 states (94%) allowed minors to obtain Civil Protection Orders (CPOs). However, only 14 states (27%) allowed minors to file on their own behalf. 44 states (86%) specifically included dating relationships. A victim can get a CPO for physical abuse in all 50 states and DC (100%), sexual abuse in 46 states (90%), threats of physical or sexual abuse in 47 states (92%), stalking in 44 states (86%), and psychological/emotional abuse in 28

violence. *Journal of Adolescent Health*, *66*(5), 610–615. doi:10.1016/j.jadohealth.2019.11.311				states (55%). In 22 states (43%), perpetrators cannot own firearms

Gender

Study (full reference)	N	Sample Characteristics	Study Type	Results
Durfee, A., & Goodmark, L. (2021a). Gender, protection orders, and intimate partner violence in later life: A study of protective order filings in Arizona. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence, 36(21-22)*, 10479-10498. https://doi.org/10.1177/0886260519884688	N= 607 Arizona Protection Orders in 2015, comparing 83 50+ year old petitioners to 524 younger petitioners	Of the 83 petitioners over the age of 50 there were 58 women and 25 men. Older victims reported less acts of abuse that met the legal definition for issuance of a PO (67%) compared to younger adults (82%). Older men were least likely to report abuse qualifying for an order (44%) compared to older women female petitioners (74%). 87% of younger and 70% of older petitioners were women. The number of older petitioners who were men was nearly double that of younger petitioners (30% versus 13%). Of those ages 50+, 63% were White, 19% Hispanic, 8% Black.	The authors used a mixed-methods approach to analyze differences in younger and older petitioners using the Domestic Violence Protection Order Database (DV-POD). They examined petitioner and respondent demographics, gender, race/ethnicity, descriptions of violence, prior contact with the legals system, protections from abuse, and case outcomes.	Physical abuse was the most reported form of violence 47% of older women and 32% of older men. Intimidation was next with younger petitioners more likely to report intimidation (49%) than older petitioners (36%). Older men (28%) reported intimidation compared to 40% of older women. Older petitioners were less likely to report others witnessing violence than younger petitioners. But both older men and women had about equal rates of reports that others witnessed. Older petitioners were just as likely to report to police as younger petitioners, but more older women had contact with police in the past year (29%) compared to older men (16%). Older men were more likely to report they had been arrested for IPV (12%) than older women (5%). Older men were least likely to receive a PO. 56% of older men received a PO compared to 76% of older women and 85% of young petitioners.

		The mean age 58.9. Younger participants mean age was 33.29, with 55% White, 23% Hispanic, 15% Black.		
Study (full reference)	**N**	**Sample Characteristics**	**Study Type**	**Results**
Durfee, A., & Goodmark, L. (2021b). Is there a protection order to prison pipeline? Gendered dimensions of cross-petitions. *Journal of Aggression, Maltreatment & Trauma*, *30*(4), 471–490. doi:10.1080/10926771.2019.1685044	313 cross filings and 1,004 single filings for protections orders (POs)	The authors analyzed 313 cross-filings (each party files against each other) for protection orders, comparing them to 1,004 single-filing to examine who most likely to be engaging in cross-filing and whether result would differ by gender or type of relationships, and examined the types of violence described in the cross-filings	Researchers used archival data. The primary data source is the Cross-Filings Protection Order Database (CF-POD), which contains 313 pairs of domestic violence protection orders filed in 2011 in an Arizona court of limited jurisdiction (either a municipal or justice court). The second source of data is the Domestic Violence Protection Order Database (DV-POD), which contains 1,388 protection order filings from **7** municipal courts. Petitioner demographics, relationship type, descriptions of violence and prior contact with the legal system were explored.	Results showed 60% of women were more likely to file first, suggesting first filers in cross-petitions are men. Cross-filings are a gendered phenomenon, with men more likely to be involved in cross-filings than women, and women were more likely to contest and men are less likely than women to report the types of abuse that qualifies for an order. Women, more than men, were more likely to report physical violence or intimidation (whether first filers or cross-filers). 30% of first-filing men reported physical violence compared to 51% of women filing first. Women also reported more sexual abuse than men. Judges were less likely to grant protections for children and others and firearm repossession in cases of cross-petitions compared to cases where one person filed the order. Cross-filings may be an example of abusers leveraging the legal system to extend control over victim/survivors, rendering victim/survivors ineligible for resources and making them vulnerable to arrest and other forms of state control.

Study (full reference)	N	Sample Characteristics	Study Type	Results
Saxton, M. D., Olszowy, L., MacGregor, J. C., MacQuarrie, B. J., & Wathen, C. N. (2021). Experiences of intimate partner violence victims with police and the justice system in Canada. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*, *36*(3–4). doi:10.1177/0886260518758330	2,831 IPV victims	2,831 people experiencing intimate partner violence—a subset of data from the first pan-Canadian survey on IPV and the workplace in 2013-2014 in French and English languages 2,483 females (89.7%) and 300 (10.6%) males and 34 (.08) transgender	The survey was designed to examine IPV victims' experience with police and justice system services. However, results on protection orders will only be examined in this table.	Results pertaining to protection orders showed 17% of the respondents had obtained a protection order. Women (19.5%) were more likely to have obtained an order compared to men (5.3%). Results of those who obtained a protection order were mixed, although most (71.5%) found it to be somewhat or very helpful 34.3% found it not at all helpful. When asked to provide comments about their experience with protection orders and the family or criminal law systems, most (53.2%) of responses were coded as negative. Women were more likely than men to use the family law and criminal law system as a function of IPV.A theme showed structural barriers that showed respondents believed the system was not structured to meet their needs (Male victims, same-sex relationships, etc).
Wallin, M., & Durfee, A. (2020). Firearm removal, judicial decision-making, and Domestic Violence Protection Orders. *Violence and Gender*, *7*(1), 27–32. doi:10.1089/vio.2019.0029	Of the 1170 issued POs, 580 filings requested firearm removal in the state of Arizona	The study utilized petitions submitted by those 18 or older, in a domestic, cohabitating or dating, relationship. Of the 1170 total issued orders, 580 (49.6%) requested firearm removal. Of petitioners, 81% who received a PO and requested a firearm removal were women. Average age is 39.17 years. Majority were White non-Hispanics (56%), 15% Black non-	Researchers conducted multivariate logistic regression models to examine protection orders from the DV protection order database (Durfee, 2019) to examine judicial decision making in cases where petitioners request a judge prohibit the respondent from possessing, receiving, or purchasing a firearm. The authors examined whether the judge	Judges granted relief in 50.1% of cases. Women were more likely to receive firearm removal and petitioners who lived with the respondent now or in the past are less likely to have removal granted, compared to those who were currently or previously married to the respondent. Allegations of physical abuse, threats to kill, and threats with a firearm significantly impacted judges' decisions to remove firearms. Judges were also more likely to grant removal when the petitioner alleged the respondent owned a firearm. Judges were less likely to grant firearm removal when the petitioner alleged the respondent suffered from mental illness.

		Hispanic, 24% Hispanic and 4% other.	granted the removal of firearms, as a function of petitioner and respondent demographics, types of alleged abuse and other allegations.	
Bejinariu, A., Troshynski, E. I., & Miethe, T. D. (2018). Civil Protection Orders and their courtroom context: The impact of gatekeepers on legal decisions. *Journal of Family Violence*, *34*(3), 231–243. doi:10.1007/s10896-018-9999-7	303 protection order hearings From a Large Southwestern city	Archival research, data obtained from a sample of observations of civil protection hearings.	Analysis of ethnographic observations of court actors obtained between 2013-2015. The dependent variables of interest included whether a PO was granted and length of time of the PO (l6 months or longer). Independent variables included presence/absence of Hearing Master, legal counsel, interpreter, informal support person.	Based on the results of the logistic regression analyses, findings suggest that the presence of legal counsel, victim advocate, and informal support person for the victim- along with references to children and physical and multiple types of abuse during the CPO hearing - led to a greater likelihood of a CPO being granted. In contrast, when the offender retains legal counsel, protection orders were less likely to be granted. As for CPO length of time, the findings indicate that longer protection orders were more likely to be granted by Hearing Master and when the victim mentioned she had been physically abused. Shorter protection orders were more likely to be granted when the offender was a female. This research documents that being represented by a lawyer increases the victim's chances of receiving a CPO. Lastly, this study indicates that victim advocates are another important gatekeeper in assisting domestic violence victims secure Pos

Fleury-Steiner, R. E., Miller, S. L., Maloney, S., & Bonistall Postel, E. (2016). "No contact, except . . .": Visitation decisions in protection orders for intimate partner abuse. *Feminist Criminology*, *11*(1), 3–22. doi:10.1177/1557085114554259	143 observations of protection order hearings in family court	The study was conducted by the state domestic violence coalition over a 2-year period. Most hearings involved allegations of male-to-female IPA (79%; n = 113). A smaller number of cases alleged female-to-male IPA (7%; n = 10) or violence in other family relationships, such as abuse against a sibling (5.6%; n = 8). In a handful of cases, the relationship between the parties could not be determined.	The authors examined factors related to conditions of PO's around visitation. They aimed to reveal which variables were related to visitation decisions and conditions within POs. Structured observations of protection order hearings were conducted in family courts involving women seeking orders against male partners. The most common types of hearing observed were consent hearings (43%), where the parties had agreed to an order and to the conditions of that order earlier on the hearing day. Trials made up about 35% of observed hearings. Cross petitions, where both parties ask for protection orders against each other, made up 6% of the cases. 5% of hearings were motions to modify or dismiss the order.	Results found most women requesting a protection order in the observed cases were White (60.2%) or African American (3 1%); and Hispanic (6.2%). In most cases, both partners were of the same race (75%). Most cases the petitioner and respondent were present (82%). In 69% of cases the PO was granted and 14% were denied. Most petitioners had at least 1other person at court with them (71%). In many cases, there was only one role represented (43%), although in some cases women had two types of support people (22%), and in a handful of cases women had all three types of support (6%). Attorneys were present most often (50%), followed by an informal support person (31%), and an advocate (28%) from the local domestic violence advocacy program that runs a court-based protection order program. Informal support, the presence of advocates, or the presence of an attorney representing the petitioner was not related to the PO being granted. However, the presence of the respondent attorney led to a lesser likelihood of a PO being granted. In 70% of cases, there was a child involved. POs were more likely to be granted when the couple had children, whereas those with no children in common were more likely to be continued. In continued cases, visitation was more likely to be ordered. Respondents who did not attend court were less likely to get visitation than those who attended the hearing.

Study (full reference)	N	Sample Characteristics	Study Type	Results
Lucken, K., Rosky, J. W., & Watkins, C. (2015). She said, he	487 IPV cases	Researchers conducted the study in urban Florida county	This study examined permanent restraining order (PRO) outcomes	Correlational data showed 67.9% of PROs were granted and only gender and employment status of the respondent were related to PRO decisions.

said, judge Said. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*, *30*(12), 2038–2066. doi:10.1177/0886260514552276	Related to granting or denying a PRO petitioner - respondent gender	incorporating 13 ethnically diverse cities. Data collection came from the CourtWatch 2008-2010 monitors and proceedings of IPV cases. Cases included 487 heterosexual adults who were married, divorced, separated, dating/formerly dating, or cohabitating. Cases included PRO hearings which examines race, gender of judge, petitioner and respondent, the presence of attorneys, whether petitioner and respondent speaks English, whether respondent failed to appear, whether respondent objects to restraining order, allegations of petitioner and respondent and PRO outcomes, duration, terms, and conditions 85% female to male and 14.5% male to female	for intimate partner violence, examining granting or denying a PRO, demographics, relationship, hearing, and allegations associated with petitioner and respondent. There were 33 independent variables in total.	While most petitioners were women (85.5%), they were also more likely to be granted a PRO than male petitioners. When respondents were employed, a PRO was more likely to be denied. Denial of a PRO was related to when respondents objected, petitioner attorney was present, respondent attorney was present, and respondent had a prior PRO issued against the petitioner. Factors increasing granting of a PRO included the presence of a victim advocate, the petitioner alleging the respondent threated to use a weapon or kill them, and the petitioner alleging the respondent had a mental health history. A logistic regression showed if the respondent previously requested a PRO, if the respondent objected to the PRO, and if the respondent was employed, the PRO significantly less likely to be granted.
Study (full reference)	**N**	**Sample Characteristics**	**Study Type**	**Results**

Samuels, A. (2014). It's All About Women When It Comes to the Courts: Assessing Domestic Violence Batterer Attitudes Towards Protection Orders and Manipulations of Related Legal Processes as a Tactic of Abuse. *[Doctoral Dissertation, University of Delaware]*. http://udspace.udel.edu/handle/19716/13210	49 men in court-ordered treatment for batterers and 5 family court attorneys	Male participants included a majority White (66%), African American (30%), and other. 5 attorneys were interviewed	Surveys elicited information about these men's behavior throughout the protection order process as well as their attitudes related to the process to better understand the occurrences of and choices related to administrative abuse. Interviews were also conducted with five family court attorneys to learn more about the involvement of third parties in paper abuse activity as well as develop how to eliminate this manipulative behavior.	Approximately 25% of men stated they filed for mutual or cross-PO's against their partner. They stated they filed because their partner abused them. Of those who cross-filed 8 men did so for reasons such as their attorney recommended it. Six men successfully received a PO against their female partner. Approximately 67% of men reported that the PO system is not fair. One example of an open-ended question stated "Because women use PO's to gain advantage in upcoming custody and divorce proceedings" or "Cause they take the woman side more than the men".

Race & Ethnicity

Study (full reference)	**N**	**Sample Characteristics**	**Study Type**	**Results**
Winstead, A. P., & Stevenson, M. C. (2021). Effects of intimate partner violence perpetrator and victim race on Protective Order determinations. *Journal of Interpersonal*	N= 490 petitioners 79% female	This study looks at victims seeking protective orders for domestic violence, stalking, or sexual assault over a 9-month period in 2018. DV (47%), stalking, (23%), and examined White (78%), Black	This study was an archival analysis on data from Protection Order Assistance in the US Midwest determining impact of victim and offender race on PO services provided	Results showed 410 petitioners were ordered temporary POs. Victims of color were less likely to obtain temporary protective orders compared to White victims.

Violence, *37*(19–20). doi:10.1177/088626052110281 64		(17%), Biracial (4%), 1% Hispanic, .2% Native American, .2% Asian petitioners		
Study (full reference)	**N**	**Sample Characteristics**	**Study Type**	**Results**
Cheng, S.-Y., Wachter, K., Kappas, A., Brown, M. L., Messing, J. T., Bagwell-Gray, M., & Jiwatram-Negron, T. (2020). Patterns of help-seeking strategies in response to intimate partner violence: A latent class analysis. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*, *37*(9–10). doi:10.1177/088626052096667 1	N= 369 women obtaining DV services	Internet questionnaire was used to gather data from service-involved adult female IPV victims in the Southwest United States from 2016-2018. Examining the effectiveness of a program called MyPlan. Participants included women 18-64 years of age. Average age was 38. Most were non-White (61%) U.S. born and 69% were unemployed. 75% lived with their abuser before seeking services and almost 60% had a child.	The study used The Composite Abuse Scale, the Severe Combined Abuse Subscale, and The Women's Experience with Battering Scale. Researchers used latent class analysis (person-centered analysis) to determine victim help seeking. Variables included in the latent class analysis included: previously stayed in a shelter, sought housing assistance, visited healthcare provider, engaged the police, sought legal services or help for their abusive partners, and engaged informal networks	Authors found 50% of women used formal and informal.15% mostly used informal networks, and 35% primarily used engaged networks but stayed away from the courts. Black women were more likely to use broadly engaged networks but avoided legal systems. Those who engaged broadly with networks and services were more likely to have minor children. Broadly engaged help-seeking was also related to severity of abuse and increased mental health needs.
Weisz, A. N., & Schell, M. (2019). Responding to intimate partner violence: Urban women's decisions	N= 187 female victims of IPV from 2006-2007	Participants included Detroit women who were interviewed 3-6 months after they obtained police reports related to Intimate	The study examined demographics and experience between females who had POs vs females who did not.	Findings showed no differences between women who did and did not get a PO in age, employment, or level of physical or sexual violence in the before the original incident. African American women were less likely to obtain PO after the focal incident while women

about getting personal protection orders when other resources are scarce. *Violence Against Women*, *26*(10), 1242–1261. doi:10.1177/1077801219854537		Partner Violence (IPV) Participants had a mean age of 32. 156 (84.3%) were African American, 9 biracial (4.8%), and 20 non-African American women (10.7%).	The authors used a mixed-methods approach that included interviews, surveys, and police reports from 2006-2007. The survey was the Conflict Tactics Scale and included questions regarding survivor's determination of risk	exposed to more severe abuse (including sexual) were more likely seek a PO. Women who gained more education (beyond high school) were more likely to get a PO. Women who wanted "criminal justice intervention" were more likely to get a PO.
Study (full reference)	**N**	**Sample Characteristics**	**Study Type**	**Results**
Douglas, H., & Fitzgerald, R. (2018). The Domestic Violence Protection Order System as Entry to the Criminal Justice System for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People. *International Journal for Crime, Justice and Social Democracy*, *7*(3), 41–57. doi:10.5204/ijcjsd.v7i3.499		A sample of Aboriginal and Torres Straight Islander (ATSI) People were pulled from a set of 23,492 Civil Domestic Violence order or (DVO) applications from 2013-2014 in Queensland Australia. ATSI petitioners consisted of one in five petitions which was an over-representation of the Queensland population. Males accounted for 80% of respondents and women accounted for 23% of respondents. ATSI participants	Archival data study used the QWIC database that included people identified as DVO respondents and/or defendants for DVO charges.	Given the population size, there are many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (ATSI) people involved in Domestic Violence Protection orders (DVOs) and contraventions of DVOs, who are mostly women. It is more probable that ATSI people go to prison for a contravention of a DVO, in contrast to non-ATSI people.

		included 21% of the sample or (N = 4,891)		

Study (full reference)	N	Sample Characteristics	Study Type	Results
Messing, J. T., Vega, S., & Durfee, A. (2017). Protection order use among Latina survivors of intimate partner violence. *Feminist Criminology*, *12*(3), 199–223. doi:10.1177/1557085116678924	N =195	159 Latina and 36 multiracial Latina heterosexual women from 10 domestic violence shelters in the Southwest United States. 74% were U.S. born and 22.7% were undocumented	Researchers looked at how demographics, citizenship knowledge, and opinions about protection affect immigration status and how victims get a PO. Researchers used a survey (n = 195) and interviews (n = 100) examining differences in legal residents and non-legal resident Latinas in getting a PO.	There were no differences between legal residents and nonlegal resident Latinas in getting a PO. Legal resident Latinas knew more about POs before going to the shelter. Nonlegal resident Latinas tended to think the police would arrest their partner for a PO infraction, in contrast to legal resident Latinas. In both groups, women's prior interactions with police (good or bad) impacted whether they sought a PO. There were no distinctions between legal or nonlegal resident women getting a PO. Most nonlegal resident Latinas perceived POs as more helpful (90.5%). No distinctions were found between legal and nonlegal resident Latinas who did not get POs because they thought it would lead to increased violence.
Becker , V. (2015). I Don't Know What I Don't Know: Understanding the Experiences of Women Seeking Civil Protection Orders in Delaware. *[Masters Thesis, University of Delaware]*. http://udspace.udel.edu/handle/19716/17402	15 women seeking POs	All participants were over the age of 18 and filed a protection order against a male partner or ex-partner.60% White (n=9), 33% Black (n=5), and 7% two or more races (n=1). New Castle County's 2013 Census reports 67.6% White, 24.7% Black, and 2.3% two or more races (U.S. Census Bureau, 2015).	This study is part of a larger mixed-methods National Science Foundation longitudinal study of women seeking civil protection orders in Delaware. The study goal was to understand victims' perceptions about the civil court process, consent, and full hearing, and institutional support.	Results found that victims lacked a general knowledge about the protection order process and resources, participants with institutional support reported increased procedural and emotional support, participants noted challenges with the consent process, and minority Black and mixed-race participants were more likely to be discouraged and treated poorly by court personnel.

		Other demographics revealed the mean age of 39.6 years old, a higher education, and employed either part-time or full-time.	Semi-structured qualitative interviews were analyzed. Qualitative data focused on the process, meaning and understanding as experienced by the women	

Table 4. Victim safety and psychological well-being - The use of stalking and technology

Study (full reference)	N	Sample Characteristics	Study Type	Results
Messing, J., Bagwell-Gray, M., Brown, M. L., Kappas, A., & Durfee, A. (2020). Intersections of stalking and technology-based abuse: Emerging definitions, conceptualization, and measurement. *Journal of Family Violence*, *35*(7), 693–704. doi:10.1007/s10896-019-00114-7	N=1,137 women	The women were aged 18 and older residing in shelters (study A) and women living in shelters, transitional housing, or seeking other DV services (Study B). Researchers gathered utilized secondary data analysis abuse due to stalking and technology abuse from two different studies. from victims of intimate partner violence receiving services from domestic violence organizations and shelters from 2012-2018-the two survey studies samples showed differences across	The cross-sectional mixed methods study used web-based surveys designed to assess direct stalking and technology abuse and qualitative semi-structured interviews were used to describe their experience about stalking and technology	62–72% of women had been stalked and 60–63% had experienced technology-based abuse (monitoring, cyberstalking & online harassment)

		demographic and relationship characteristics.		
Study (full reference)	**N**	**Sample Characteristics**	**Study Type**	**Results**
Messing, J. T., O'Sullivan, C. S., Cavanaugh, C. E., Webster, D. W., & Campbell, J. (2016). Are abused women's protective actions associated with reduced threats, stalking, and violence perpetrated by their male intimate partners? *Violence Against Women*, *23*(3), 263–286. doi:10.1177/1077801216640381	Baseline study included 1,307 women abused by a male partner seeking services in the last 6 months. The follow-up study included 755 women.	This study is an additional analysis of findings from the Risk Assessment Validation Study (the RAVE Study; Campell et al, 2005). Women from one East Coast City and one West Coast country were recruited when seeking or receiving services for IPV, including protection orders, after making 911 calls, residing in a shelter or receiving community services. Mean age 31.55, 57.52% Latina, 26.23% African American, 9% White, and 6.89% other.	Researchers examined protective measures that female victims of IPV could use. Authors used baseline and follow-up measures including the Revised Conflict Tactic Scale, Stalking, protective actions women took to reduce IPV or keep safe, avoidance/escape, safety planning, seeking assistance from other agencies or medical facilities, obtaining an order of protection, and other constraints against abuse (batterer program, incarceration), abuser access, and demographic information.	Results found protective actions were based on their previous experience with abuse. (63.71%) had called police and 57.09% had signed a complaint. Use of law enforcement was more common when abuse was severe. The partners of women who received a protection order in the six months before their baseline interview were 47% less likely to perpetrate moderate IPV (but not severe IPV) against them by the time of the follow-up interview. Receiving an order of protection was not related to threats, stalking, or severe IPV during the follow-up period

Help Seeking & Intervention

Study (full reference)	**N**	**Sample Characteristics**	**Study Type**	**Results**
Messing, J. T., Bagwell-Gray, M. E., Ward-	N= 660 women with	Data was collected between 2012-2014 at	This mixed-methods study used paper	The process of deciding to get a PO was complex and ongoing. Nearly 95% of the women reported

Lasher, A., & Durfee, A. (2021). 'not bullet proof': The complex choice not to seek a civil protection order for intimate partner violence. *International Review of Victimology*, *27*(2), 173–195. https://doi.org/10.1177/0269758021993338	abusive partners. 432 chose not to obtain a PO**.** Final N was 308	10 shelters in a large urban area. Women ages 18-71 (mean age 37 years), 70% completed high school or higher. Approximately 70% had incomes of $1,000 a month. The sample was mostly non-Hispanic white, Hispanic, Black, and other.	surveys including demographic and relationship information, victimization and homicide risk, choices about obtaining a PO. Qualitative data was provided but we will focus on quantitative and thematic results.	violent victimization that would qualify them for a PO and 64.1% were assessed in the highest category of homicide risk. Of those not choosing a PO, many believed a PO would make things worse (42% said it would not be helpful, 55% thought it would increase violence. Women did not believe their partners would follow the order (27%), 7% believed a PO would not stop their partner, or they were too fearful to obtain a PO (4%). Fear was reported more often by women of color. Women also noted systemic barriers (racism), involvement in other social systems, the burden of the process and lack of resources. Other reasons included, perceiving the PO as unnecessary, using alternative strategies, concern for their partner, wish to preserve the relationship, protecting children and partner's use of power and control.
Study (full reference)	**N**	**Sample Characteristics**	**Study Type**	**Results**
Sullivan, T. P., Weiss, N. H., Woerner, J., Wyatt, J., & Carey, C. (2019). Criminal orders of protection for domestic violence: Associated Revictimization, mental health, and well-being among victims. *Journal of Interpersonal*	N= 298 female victims in a criminal domestic violence case.	Participants had an average age of 36.39, 50% were African American, 28.9% White, 14.1% Latina, and 7% were multiracial. Women detailed experiences 30 days before getting the PO and the year before the study interview.	This study investigated the impact of criminal POs with varied levels of restrictions on victim revictimization, mental health, and well-being and explores the relationship between the level of PO restrictions and decreases in victimization. Order of PO restriction (limited, residential stay away,	For all "levels of PO restriction," participants had less physical, sexual, and psychological abuse Women with no correspondence with abusers experienced less abuse than women with "residential or limited restrictions." All methods of restriction lessened PTSD depression, stress, and fear of future abuse.

Violence, *36*(21–22), 10198–10219. doi:10.1177/0886260519883865		Criminal POs were issued in all cases	and full no contact), Revised Conflict Tactics Scale, sexual, psychological victimization, mental health (depression and well-being were also assessed.	
Study (full reference)	**N**	**Sample Characteristics**	**Study Type**	**Results**
Cattaneo, L.B., Grossman, J. & Chapman, A. R. (2016). The goals of IPV survivors receiving an application of the empowerment process. Journal of Interpersonal Violence, 31(17), 2889-2911. doi: 10.1177/0886260515581905	N=157 survivors, 10 female survivors, and 10 attorneys	Participants in phase 1 all participants were African American. In phase 2 (survey) 157 survivors, of which 97% had received a PO (Protection Order) prior to their hearing. In phase 3, an expert group of attorneys who represented IPV survivors in PO cases	This mixed methods study had 3 phases. The first phase was a semi-structured interview with 10 women related to the empowerment process of obtaining a PO, the next was a survey of 157 women. The survey consisted of women responding to a series of questions and asked to rank order why they wanted a PO--or their goals of obtaining a PO	Results showed that 93% wanted to move forward with their lives, 89.2% wanted to feel more at peace, 85.4% wanted others to know how the abuser treated them, 79% wanted to be taken more seriously or get help for their problems, 66.9% wanted the abuser to stay away. The most commonly endorsed reasons was to change the respondent's behavior, to stop them from hitting or physically hurting them, staying away, and stopping threats.
Jose, R., & Novaco, R. W. (2016). Intimate partner violence victims seeking a temporary restraining order. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*, *31*(20), 3352–3376.	136 female IPV victims	This study examined female Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) victims looking to acquire a temporary restraining order (TRO) from a Family Justice Center	The researchers determined the link between Intimate IPV help from the community, strength, and psychological pain Hierarchical regressions models were used for result symptom classifications: PTSD,	The victims' viewed social assistance and resilience were contrarily linked with more psychological pain. Researchers found that more social assistance was linked with less trauma. Greater resilience was related to less mood issues and less stress. Anger did not contribute to the model.

doi:10.1177/0886260515584352			mood, viewed stress, and anger. The first model only took into account abuse, ethnicity, current job, whether married, and age. The second model then added social assistance and resilience.	
Study (full reference)	**N**	**Sample Characteristics**	**Study Type**	**Results**
Palmer, J. E., Renner, L. M., Goodman, L. A., & Dutton, M. A. (2015). Does type of child risk affect whether mothers seek assistance for intimate partner violence from civil or Criminal Court? *Violence Against Women*, *22*(4), 474–495. doi:10.1177/1077801215604745	N= 293 women Who were seeking assistance in civil, criminal court or domestic violence shelter.	The majority of the sample (80%) were African American, 28.9% White, 14.1% Latina, and 7.0% were multi-racial or from additional racial/ethnic community Employed part-time or full-time: 49.5% Half Unemployed: 49.3% Not in the labor force: 2%	The study examined whether risks of children of IPV victims affected type of help-seeking. Type of child risk (Physical harm, emotional harm, custody) to determine whether women would seek protection orders criminally or civilly.	IPV intensity was related to civil court use. Mothers who thought their children could be emotionally abused used the civil court instead of criminal court. Being employed was related to seeking help from civil court but not criminal court, and the number of children was positively related to women's help-seeking in civil court. However, length of time in the relationship was negatively related to seeking help from civil or criminal court
Gover, A. R., Welton-Mitchell, C., Belknap, J., & Deprince, A. P. (2013). When abuse happens again: Women's reasons for *not* reporting new	N= 102 women previously involved in the criminal legal system but did not report recurrences of	The women were aged 19 to 63, with an average age of 33 (SD= 10.64). Almost half were White, 24% Black or African American, 1% Asian/Asian American, 1% Pacific Islander, 9% American	This mixed-methods study utilized data from a larger longitudinal study on women's engagement with the legal system for IPV. Women were interviewed at 3 points over the year. Those	The authors found 90 % of women who had previously engaged the courts for domestic abuse did not go to the police for additional instances of abuse. Almost half (47%) did not report the abuse because of their discontent with the legal process and 39% of women did not report abuse because they thought it was not bad enough or were worried that they would not be believed. 23% of

incidents of intimate partner abuse to law enforcement. *Women & Criminal Justice*, *23*(2), 99–120. doi:10.1080/08974454.2013.759069	DV to law enforcement	Indian or Alaska Native, 6% other, and 44% Hispanic or Latina. Median annual income was $7,500 (M = $10,335). Four percent had less than an 8th-grade education, 25% some high school, 21% completed high school, 30% attended some college, 10% had an associate's degree, 5% had a 4-year college degree, 3% had a postgraduate degree, and 1% had some other type of education (e.g., trade school). married (45%). 42% were single/ never married, 24% were divorced, 8% were separated, 6% were married, 12% were living with someone, and 7% reported "other."	who experienced partner violence since their prior interview created a subset of the sample. Researchers used a survey to ask women why they did not contact the court for additional domestic abuse.	women did not report abuse because of possible bad things that could happen to them or their children. 22% of women did not report the abuse because of their feelings for and wanting to help the perpetrator and 8% did not report abuse because they were fearful of the perpetrator

Table 5. Community and international studies - International

Study (full reference)	N	Sample Characteristics	Study Type	Results

Ben-Porat, A. (2017). Patterns of service utilization among women who are victims of domestic violence: The contribution of cultural background, characteristics of violence, and psychological distress. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*, *35*(17–18), 3167–3187. doi:10.1177/0886260517707308	499 women	499 women in 12 shelters in Israel. 142 were Jewish, 156 were Arab, 125 were born in the former Soviet Union, and 76 were born in Ethiopia.	The study used a survey to investigate how female victims of domestic violence in Israel use services. Variables of interest included culture, type and frequency of violence, separation attempts from partner, and traumatic events, severity of PTSD, depression, as a function of how women use services. Researchers classified service use as "substantial use, frequent use of welfare and criminal justice services, and minimal use"	Results showed 70% of women sought assistance from social services, 63% called police, 48% had gone to a shelter, 41% went to the courts. Israeli-Arab women had higher levels of physical violence than other women. Arab women made up the majority or "substantial use" of services. For all women, more sexual assault, abuse, and posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD), were connected to "substantial use" of services. Women receiving welfare and criminal justice services was high among employed women, and higher for those who experienced more severe violence. Women who were separating from the abuser were 2.76 times more likely to use all services. Also, those with higher levels of sexual abuse, PTSD and IPV led to more substantial use of services.
Pengpid, S., & Peltzer, K. (2014). Sexual assault and other types of intimate partner violence in women with protection orders in Vhembe District, South Africa. *Violence and Victims*, *29*(5), 857–871. doi:10.1891/0886-	268 women	Participants were recruited out of court when they obtained a civil protective order in South Africa during 2011-2012. The average age of participants was 28.8, all were from Black, with 9.8 years of education and almost 60% came from poverty. Most (76%) had children.	Study instruments included severity of violence against women, types, and frequency of assault, assess the prevalence and correlates of sexual assault in the context of intimate partner violence in a sample of women receiving a protection order.	40.7% of victims experienced sexual assault at least once in the past 3 months. 58.2% of victims had been stalked by their intimate partner. Almost all experienced psychological abuse (94.0%), physical abuse (93.7%), and danger (99.3%). 37% experienced psychological, physical, and sexual violence. Victims who were sexually assaulted were at greater risk of stalking and danger. Sexually assaulted victims experienced threats with a weapon, were assaulted while pregnant, and partner threatens suicide.

6708.vv-d-13-00008			Survey Measures included The Severity of Violence Against Women Scale (SVAWS) to measure threats of physical violence physical assault and sexual violence, Stalking Victimization Survey, Danger Assessment Scale, Suicidal behavior. Alcohol use and Sociodemographic	Psychological abuse, physical violence, stalking, danger and suicidal behavior in the last three months were connected to sexual assault.

Community

Study (full reference)	N	Sample Characteristics	Study Type	Results
Walker, R., & Logan, T. K. (2016). Health and rural context among victims of partner abuse: Does justice matter? *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*, *33*(1), 64–82. doi:10.1177/0886260516675918	213 women Follow-up for final sample size = 210.	Participants had an average age of 33, were mostly White, and most had children under 18. 25% despite area, had less than a high school education and no general equivalency diploma (GED), whereas almost 50% had some college education. Participants were interviewed 3 and 6 months after the POs were issued. Researchers used the 6-month period as a	Researchers examined SES and demographic information, abuse and violence, community safety, health and mental health, fear, stress-related consequences, global stress, PO violations, and perceived effectiveness of POs. The study focused on women living in rural and urban areas 6 months before, and 6 months after getting a PO.	Results found rural women who found the POs not effective were more likely to experience more PO violations and rural women experienced 2 times more PO violations than urban women. When PO violations were controlled, they found rural female victims of partner violence had inferior health, more stress, and inflated Stress-Related Consequences Scale scores, contrasted with urban female victims. Females' health was connected to what they viewed as "ineffectiveness" of the protective orders and their rural or urban community

		baseline and conducted a follow-up period for the time between the issuance of the PO and the baseline.		