



AOD/MH/DFV: Co-occurring or Intersecting Issues?

Dawson Ruhl & Mark O'Hare – Stopping Family Violence

Intersections

Interfere

Cause

Exacerbate

Basic Case scenario



Jack has used violent and coercive behaviours towards Jenny for 3 years of their 4 year relationship together. They have 2 children aged 2 & 3 and they currently all live together.



Child protection are concerned for the safety of the children due to Jack's violence



Jenny has been referred to an AOD program and been instructed that she must stop using substances

Taking a Deeper Dive...



If we look to treat Jenny's substance use in isolation of Jack's pattern of abuse, what could be some risks associated with that?



What happens when she fails to attend appointments?



Why might Jack think it is in his best interest for Jenny to be seen to have a substance use issue?

Understanding
the
Perpetrator's
Pattern of
Abuse +
Understanding
Purpose of
Referral

How are we improving
safety and well-being
for the family?

Is the referral going to
improve child and
family functioning?