

**Best Practices Using Technology:  
Supporting Survivors & Their Advocates  
in Rural & Remote Communities**

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Luke's Place*

CANADIAN DOMESTIC HOMICIDE PREVENTION CONFERENCE  
October 18/19, 2017




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**Agenda**



- Introduction
- What we do
- What we've learned
- Discussion




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**VAW sector: Using technology**

Opportunities	Challenges
Women are using it	Not all women > Digital divide Which technology? > Cost Leaves a digital footprint > Safety Abusive partners are using it > Safety
Community/connections	Privacy > Safety > Evidence
Bridges distance	Not a replacement for in-person
Access to information, training, legal advice	Make material accessible
Can be a cheaper option than in-person	Technical equipment & skills cost money <i>constantly</i>
Evidence of abuse	Evidence against her




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## FCSW community of practice



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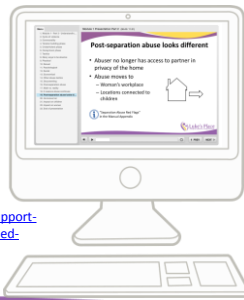
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## Online training for service providers & lawyers

Effective  
Lawyering with  
Clients Leaving  
Abusive  
Relationships  
<http://lukesplace.ca/support-us-for-lawyers/accredited-training-for-lawyers/>



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## Virtual Legal Clinic



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### Audience: Survivors

**What we know**

- Anyone can be subjected to abuse
- Phones
- At risk
- Trauma impacts learning

**Best practices**

- Inclusivity
- AODA standards
- Technical considerations
- Plain language
- Ease of use
- Need to know
- Make it safe(r)



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**Motivations:**  
*Client safety, justice*

**Technology:**  
*Cautious*

**Audience:**  
**Advocates**

**Learning style:**  
*Comfortable with grey*

**Work environment:**  
*Limited resources*



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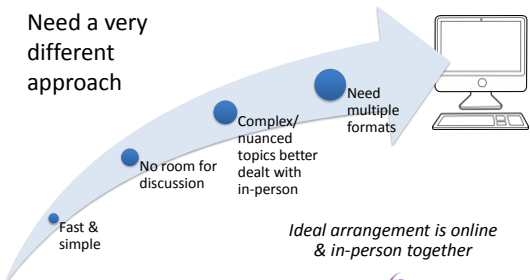
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### Moving in-person content online

Need a very different approach



*Ideal arrangement is online & in-person together*



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### Training formats

**E-learning**

- User-end bandwidth, software
- Time available
- Resources for clients

**Blended learning**

- Online: facts, processes
- In-person: discussion
- Tie closely together

**Community of Practice**

- In-person events essential
- Respected moderator
- Self-selection
- Email reminders




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### Statistics



Text messaging, Facebook & GPS most commonly tools used by abusive partners (Australia, 2015)

- 80% abusive partners admit to cyberstalking in last 12 months (US, 2017)
- 82% VAW clients are stalked via phone or social media (Australia, 2015)
- 55% VAW programs report clients were subjected to revenge porn (US, 2015)
- 60% VAW programs report children's technology used to monitor woman (US, 2015)



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### Tech safety strategy

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    graph TD
      A[Partner with local experts] --> B[Visit: TechSafety.org]
      B --> C[Part of her safety plan]
      C --> D[Know the warning signs]
      D --> E[Ask her about tech abuse]
      E --> F[It's her right to use tech]
      F --> A
      G[Advocates: take care online too!]
  
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## Collecting evidence

Valuable source of evidence:

- Is he stalking her online?
- Is there evidence of bad parenting or dishonesty in his financial statement/disclosure online?



Women need to protect themselves online as well




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## Contact

[admin@lukesplace.ca](mailto:admin@lukesplace.ca)




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## References

- "Cyber Abuse Among Men Arrested for Domestic Violence: Cyber Monitoring Moderates the Relationship Between Alcohol Problems and Intimate Partner Violence", *Psychology of Violence*, M.J. Brem, et al, 2017  
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<https://www.techsafety.org/blog/2015/2/17/a-glimpse-from-the-field-how-abusers-are-misusing-technology>




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## Images



<https://opencipart.org/user:cliparts/Improux>



<https://opencipart.org/user:cliparts/Joede>



<https://opencipart.org/user:detail/team/labama>



<https://opencipart.org/user:cliparts/GDJ>



**Luke's Place**  
Through the Spirit of Luke

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