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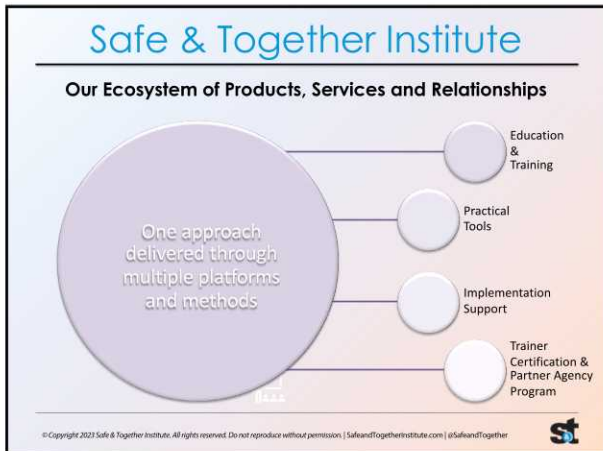
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## Global Leader/Local Partner



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## Global Leader/Local Partner



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## Global Leader/Local Partner

Australia & New Zealand  
Family Court of Australia  
PATRICIA, Invisible Practices,  
STACY projects  
Queensland  
Western Australia  
Northern Territory  
Victoria  
South Australia  
New South Wales  
Australia Capital Territory

Asia  
Hong Kong  
Singapore  
Japan

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## Safe & Together Institute

### By the numbers

- Just under 20 employees including 2 staff in the United Kingdom and 1 Asia Pacific Regional Manager in Australia.
- Around 100 Partner Agencies & 375 Certified Trainers
- 167,000+ hours of CORE training since 2019
- Estimated 50,000 professionals trained in the last five years

***If each worker has a caseload of 30 children (wildly conservative!) a year  
x 50,000 professionals = 1.5 million children impacted***



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## Safe & Together Institute

### By the numbers

- The Model's implementation has been correlated with significant reductions in child protection cases involving domestic violence
- Recently completed ESTIE Project: 96% of practitioners said Safe & Together improved their practice
- Kirkpatrick Evaluation Data (CORE Training):
  - Confidence in assessing perpetrators' patterns rose from 17% to 60%
  - Confidence in partnering with survivors rose 28% to 70%
- Collaboration Kickstarter (how can S&T improve collaboration between women sector and child protection): Participants reported improvements:
  - Trust went from 17% to 67%
  - Communication went 8% to 83%



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## What is the Safe & Together Model?

- **A set of practice tools, principles, and concepts designed to innovate how we approach domestic violence and children: improved competencies**
- **A common language and framework to coordinate practice within and across agencies and sectors**
- **A child-centered domestic violence framework that helps systems partner with protective parents and intervene with perpetrating parents**
  - **A systems change method**



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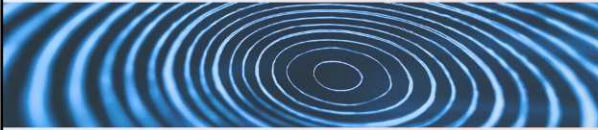
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## The Foundation

**The Safe & Together Model is a perpetrator pattern-based approach to domestic violence assessment**

The perpetrator's behaviour, not the relationship or the survivor's behaviour, is the source of the domestic violence child risk and safety concerns



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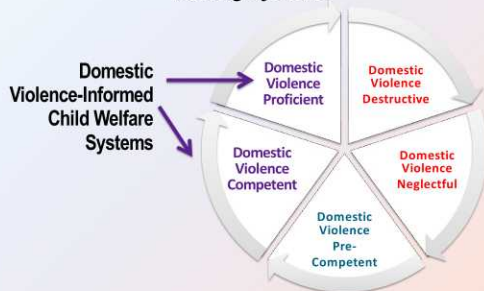
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## Domestic Violence-Informed Continuum

### Moving Systems



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## Safe & Together Principles

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**Keeping child Safe and Together with non-offending parent**  
Safety | Healing from Trauma | Stability & Nurturance

2

**Partnering with non-offending parent as default position**  
Efficient | Effective | Child-centered

3

**Intervening with perpetrator to reduce risk and harm to child**  
Engagement | Accountability | Courts

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## Safe & Together Critical Components



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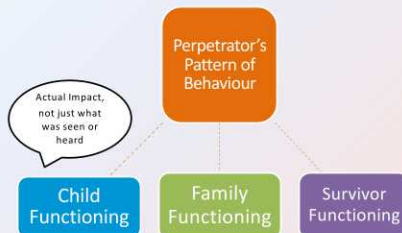
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## Making the Connection



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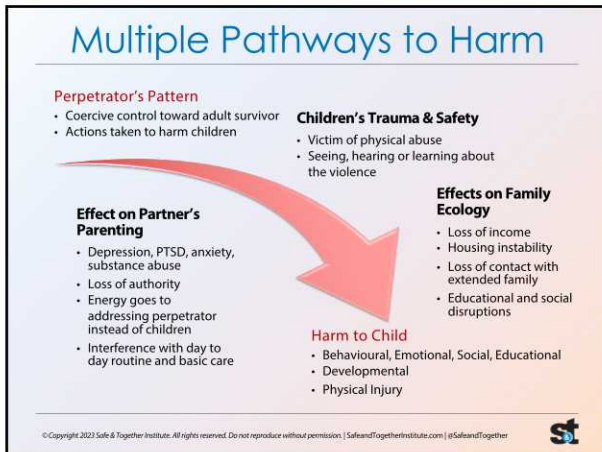
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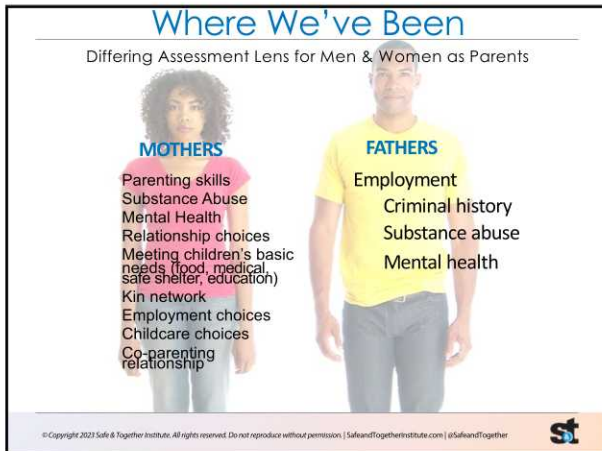
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**Assume domestic violence survivors are engaging in behaviours of resistance and protection – even after separation.**

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## One Way to Assess Protective Efforts

- **Safety: Physical & Emotional Examples**
  - Managing household to reduce children's exposure to abuse
  - Sending children away (other room, other house, relatives, after school activities)
  - Verbally or physically intervening to protect children
  - Getting order of protection
- **Healing from Trauma Examples**
  - Talking to children
  - Bringing to counseling
  - Providing normalcy/routine/enjoyable activities
  - Engaging relatives in lives of children
- **Stability and Nurturance Examples**
  - Making sure household continues to function
  - Maintaining children's basic needs
  - Informing children about any changes in household
  - Parenting in a "foxhole"

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## Intersections

**How perpetrators' behaviors intersect with survivors' mental health & substance misuse**



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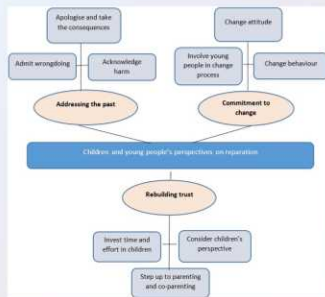
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## Listening to Voices of Child Survivors

"Your Behavior Has Consequences" research: Lamb, Humphreys, Hegarty (2018)



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22

## High Standards for Perpetrators as Parents

### Setting Child-Centered Expectations

- Stop identified abusive, controlling behaviors
- Parenting specific expectations
- Support for other parent's parenting
- Compliance with court orders including child support/custody
- Support for children's basic needs
- Support for recommended children's therapeutic needs (when necessary)
- Engage in treatment/intervention specifically designed to address identified pattern
- Engage in other treatment/services (when necessary)

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23

## Case Study

Carrie, 12 years old, had experienced her father abusing her mother, who are now separated. Carrie had been present when her father was abusive towards her mother and had also been directly affected by her father's coercive and controlling behaviors. Carrie has contact with her father, and wanted this, but she was struggling to make sense of her feelings. Her mother took her to counseling, hoping it would help Carrie cope.

Carrie attended fifteen counselling sessions which took place at clinical near her school. Her counsellor used creative interventions like play, imagery, and narrative therapy to help Carrie better understand and manage her feelings.

Through these interventions, Carrie and her counsellor explored her worries; her relationships at home with her mother and her father; her friendships and performance at school; and feeling and staying safe.

By the end of the counselling sessions, Carrie felt better, and reported feeling more in control of her emotions. She had a greater sense of what was her fault and what wasn't her fault. She also had a better understanding domestic violence and the skills needed for healthy communication. Her counsellor reported that she felt confident that Carrie would ask for help if she needed it. She became less overwhelmed at home, and more able to manage difficult and complicated emotions. She also felt more confident communicating her own wants and needs.

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24



## Behavioral Expectations

Connecting change to the children

\_\_\_\_\_ = Child Safety?

\_\_\_\_\_ = Child Healing from Trauma?

\_\_\_\_\_ = Child Stability and Nurturance?

\_\_\_\_\_ = Improved Family Functioning?

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## Safe & Together Institute

Making a difference that matters

*"By partnering with the survivor, highlighting her strengths and helping her to see the impact of the abuse on her family, I was able to build a good relationship with the survivor. She then opened up to me and a domestic abuse specialist, we filled in a DASH form and she let me refer her to IDAS for support. When I first started working with the family, she wouldn't engage in any support for her so this was a big achievement."*

- R.H., UK, CORE, fall 2021

*"We have taken 2 cases before the Judge and through use of documentation and articulation by the worker (we prepped and worked hard for it), the Judge authorized the petitions and ordered the perpetrator out of the home."*

- B.H., U.S., CORE, fall 2021

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## Safe & Together Institute

Making a difference that matters

*"Shortly after completing the training, I was allocated a young 17-year-old Aboriginal woman who had a high-risk pregnancy. She experienced significant DV such as strangulation, hitting, punching, dragging. There was also coercive control, financial abuse, emotional and verbal abuse. I was able to map the perpetrator behaviors and convey these to other agencies to create safety, work with the young woman to plan for her safety and the safety of her unborn baby, as well as advocate with confidence on her behalf with Child Protection and accommodation providers. I felt so empowered, armed with knowledge to be confident in my work."*

- J.D., AU, CORE, summer 2021

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## Survivor on the Model

"The impact of Safe & Together was massive. It was the difference between separation and togetherness. It was the difference between safety and harm. It was the difference potentially between life and death."  
(Jane, Australia)

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## Voice of a Practitioner

"Safe & Together stops the needless suffering of mothers and children every day and gives fathers opportunities to change."

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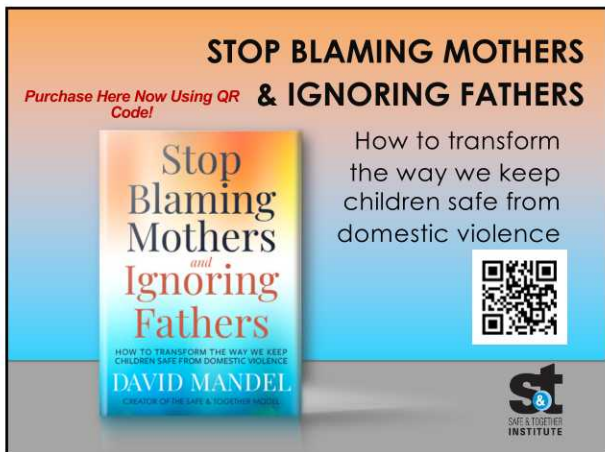
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A Safe & Together Institute Conference

**North America & Europe  
Conference**

**Coercive  
Control  
& Children**

3-5 December, 2024



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