

From Suffering Domestic Violence to Independent Living: Preliminary Research on Employment Experiences of Middle-Aged and Older Battered Women

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Abstract

The study aimed to explore employment experiences of middle-aged and older battered women by collecting interview data from 3 participants. It was found that these women quitted the job for getting married. Although suffered from marital violence, they still stayed in marriage for several reasons, which nevertheless made them feel anxious, depression and powerless. Since participating in employment service programs, these women had not only been trying hard to find jobs but also realized that they could expand interpersonal relationships, regain self-confidence and resist domestic violence. Thus the study concluded with some reflections: 1. the labor

and social systems should cooperative to promote employment service programs for middle-aged and old battered women; 2. the labor management unit should also work together with the private sector; 3. enforcing the Employment Discrimination Act; and 4. the social management unit should promote the batterer intervention program.

Keywords: Domestic Violence, Mental Trauma, Anxiety, Depression, Social Welfare