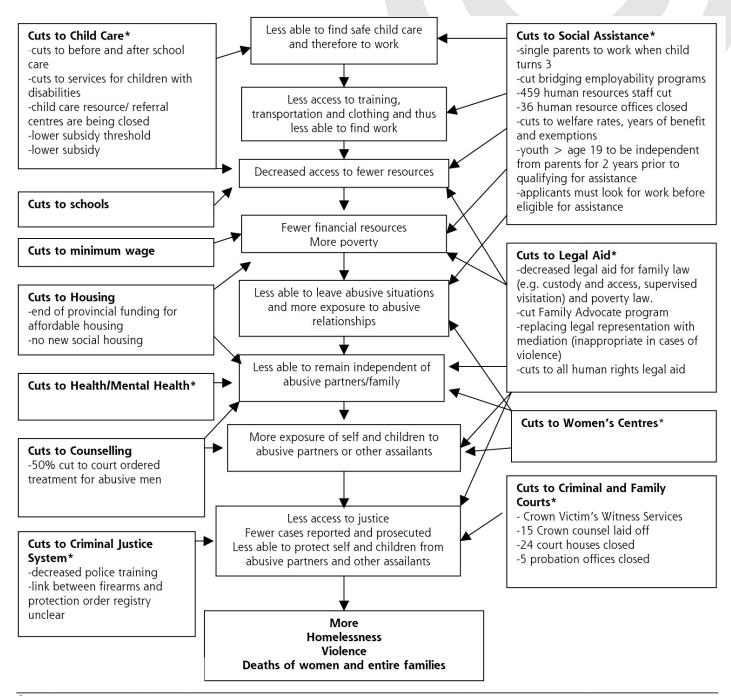
### BC PROVINCIAL CUTS

**INFORMATION ACCURATE AS OF APRIL 10, 2002** 

#### ANTICIPATED IMPACT ON WOMEN WHO EXPERIENCE VIOLENCE<sup>1</sup>



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> For the purposes of this publication, women who have experienced violence include women abused by intimate partners and women who are sexually assaulted by known or unknown assailants.

<sup>\*</sup>Further information in expanded fact sheets available, including additional fact sheets on the Impact of the cuts on seniors and on human rights.

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## EXPERIENCE VIOLENCE ANTICIPATED IMPACT ON WOMEN WHO

(Day, 1995; Thompson et al, 2000) increased health care costs

Increased legal liability of state

(legal challenges, suits)

apprehension by state Increased child

ncreased social costs of child abuse or children who witnesses violence (Knapp, 1998; Carson,

2000)

Costs (McFarlane, 1997;

Byrne et al, 1999)

Increased social service

Increased social costs of child raised in poverty (e.g. Weinreb, et al 1997) Increased justice system costs

(Greaves et al, 1995)

More fear, anxiety, depression, PTSD, drug & alcohol

suicides by women Increased rates of family homicides,

and victim's services (Bain et al 2000) houses, counseling, sexual assault More pressure on transition ncreased poverty for

Increased risk of violence toward children

> Increased exposure to sexual violence

homelessness (Lambert & Firestone, 2000; Byrne ncreased vulnerability to violence et al, 1999)

Increased

women and children

More pressure on children who witness violence programs Increased risk of

violence toward

-Less able to achieve economic independence -Less able to leave abusive partner **Cuts to Social Assistance** 

-More vulnerable to sexual assault

Less able to get custody

Men not treated or held accountable

for violent behavior

**Cuts to Legal Aid** 

Increased child/youth

prostitution

abusive relationships

Less able to leave and access orders

child support orders Less able to obtain

-Less able to leave and remain out of abusive relationships **Cuts to Housing** 

(Jones, 1999) women Increased 'unsafe' care Cuts to childcare

-Increased care by abusive partners

-Less able to leave abusive partners

**Cuts to Criminal Justice** 

-Less able to protect women

-High caseload/reduced staff and children

therefore less able to prosecute

Rural women and senior women will be less able to access services are all affected more by all cuts

Women who are poor, Aboriginal, racialized and/or have disabilities

due to office/court closures & transportation cuts

Women who speak limited English will be less able to access all services due to cuts to language programs

requirement to leave foster care at 17, and be independent from Youth will be less able to leave/avoid abusive situations due to parents for 2 years before qualifying for social assistance For the purposes of this publication, women who have experienced violence include women abused by intimate partners and women who are sexually assaulted by known

### and coordination with other services and supports

-Less direct support, advocacy,

**Cuts to Women's Centers** 

Cuts to Health/ Mental Health

-Less able to recover from abuse

<sup>\*</sup>References that appear here are sample references only – full reference list available. or unknown assailants