



## **SPOUSE ABUSE**

### **Checklist of Physical Violence Predispositions\***

1. Unreasonable jealousy.
2. Controlling behavior, initially presented as for the woman's safety and well-being.
3. Quick involvement and pressure to make a quick commitment.
4. Unrealistic expectations that the partner will meet all of his needs.
5. Isolation or cutting the woman off from all resources.
6. Blaming others for all his problems.
7. Blaming others for his feelings.
8. Hypersensitivity: easily insulted or hurt.
9. Cruelty to animals and children.
10. "Playful" use of force in sex.
11. Verbal abuse.
12. Rigid sex roles.
13. Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde: abrupt mood changes.
- \*\*14. Past battering.
- \*\*15. Threats of violence (e.g., "I'll beat the hell out of you").
- \*\*16. Breaking or striking objects, especially prized possessions.
- \*\*17. Use of any force during an argument.

\*Modified with permission from materials developed by the Project for Victims of Family Violence, Ind., Fayetteville, Arkansas.

\*\*These factors are almost always predictive of battering.