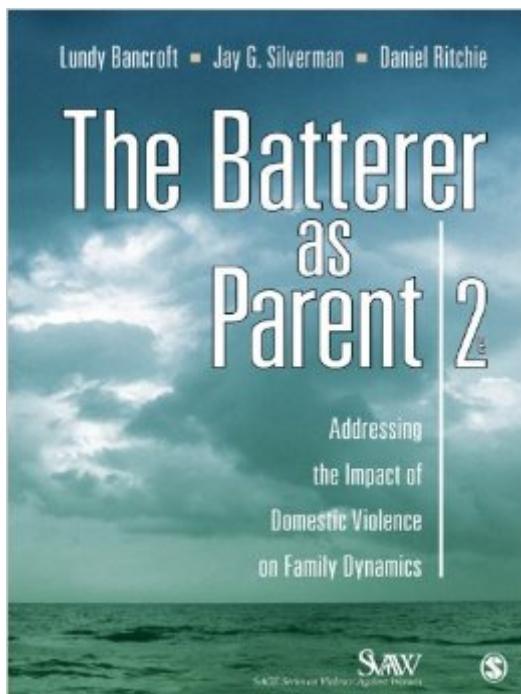


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# The Batterer As Parent: Addressing The Impact Of Domestic Violence On Family Dynamics (SAGE Series On Violence Against Women)



## **Synopsis**

Moving beyond the narrow clinical perspective sometimes applied to viewing the emotional and developmental risks to battered children, *The Batterer as Parent: Addressing the Impact of Domestic Violence on Family Dynamics*, Second Edition offers a view that takes into account the complex ways in which a batterer's abusive and controlling behaviors are woven into the fabric of daily life. This book is a guide for therapists, child protective workers, family and juvenile court personnel, and other human service providers in addressing the complex impact that batterers—specifically, male batterers of a domestic partner when there are children in the household—have on family functioning. In addition to providing an understanding of batterers as parents and family members, the book also supplies clearly delineated approaches to such practice issues as assessing risk to children (including perpetrating incest), parenting issues in child custody and visitation evaluation, and impact on children's therapeutic process and family functioning in child protective practice.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

This book should be a must read for all Guardian Ad Litem, Custody evaluators, Judges, Lawyers and Therapists. It explains how batterers act, why children often side with the batterer and gives an excellent guide for assessing visitation guidelines. I have only owned the book for two weeks and have already used it with three clients of mine. I am a LMFT and often work with children who have witnessed domestic violence, battering and whose parents are fighting over custody. In reading this book I have a better understanding for the dynamics in a family with battering. I now have research to support the things I have been recommending in regards to keeping children safe.

Anyone with real experience and knowledge in the realm of domestic violence can clearly see that Bancroft is on target. He is one of the few authors who truly understands the dynamics of abuse and can accurately assess those who are truly abusers ... many of whom call themselves the "victims." There are definitive signs of men who abuse, though they work so hard to hide it that they get angry when they discover their attempts don't work with Brancroft. This book is a must have for anyone truly interested in recovering from abuse or working within the justice system to stop such abuse.

This book succinctly provides critical information for judges, therapists, parent evaluators/GALs, and most importantly parents trying to protect their children from harm. It highlights the many misconceptions present in the legal system that enable abusers to continue to victimize their children and spouses, and explains how these situations should be addressed, backed by data to support the authors' conclusions. This is a credible well-written book that provides a rational counter to the awful theories of Richard Gardner.

Immediate facts don't always paint the entire picture of a household. This book is a more in-depth view about patterns of behavior which are typical when the father is trying to diffuse attention away from his lack of parenting and relational skills. I was relieved to find a source that shows how difficult it can be as a mother to respond to painful emotional and verbal abuse and neglect in a marriage and yet try to parent children in a healthy manner when the children are receiving messages from their father to disrespect their mother. A lot of studies are referenced in this book, and in my opinion, this is a must-read for every family law attorney and guardian ad litem.

As a former severely battered wife and for two decades as an advocate for social justice: this book is long overdue. Specifically, the authors address the untenable situation of a batterer's children. Public knowledge of the scourge of wife battering has increased dramatically in 20 years. Finally,

the most vulnerable to abuse, the children, are recognized. It is to be hoped that universities and all community groups, hospitals, social workers and police will have this as required reading. In conjunction with this book, the volume entitled From Madness to Mutiny should be studied. Then, all should view films - for example ; Breaking the Silence: Children's Stories.

In the middle of a very ugly divorce, I found this book to be the best. It is simple to read with real live situations and real research. Not based on textbook learned behaviors. It gives a very realistic view of some very ugly situations. It was like reading my life story with insights on why my divorce got so ugly with a man whom I thought I loved. This is a must read for every emotionally charged divorce.

I have read several books and articles on domestic violence, custody evaluations, and family recovery from domestic violence. This is the first title in that arc of subject area that presented a detailed and accurate picture of what constitutes a batterer and the batterer's effect on partner and children. There were no equivocations, no excuses, no back-pedaling to pander to the popular view that victims are either actually responsible for their and their children's plights, or they are fabricating to achieve some selfish end. I found a brief, but comforting refuge between the pages of this very insightful and thorough study. I highly recommend it to every custody evaluator and family court judge (and every family member who was been battered emotionally, physically, verbally, economically, or in any other way.)

This book really captured the essence of what has happened in our home for so many years. It provides solid reasoning for why my children's feelings are so twisted and their memories so warped. It has been helpful for my recovery because it has made clear and spelled out those things that I could never make sense of. This book would be great for helping to enlighten judges, custody evaluators and many women and their children who've been victimized by a batterer. I highly recommend it.

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