STRANGULATION IN INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE

FACT SHEET

STRANGULATION: the obstruction of blood vessels and/or airflow in the neck resulting in asphyxia.

1 in 4 women will experience intimate partner violence (IPV) in their lifetime.

Of women who experience IPV...
10% experience near-fatal strangulation by their partner.

Loss of consciousness can occur within 5 - 10 seconds. Death within minutes.

- 97% are strangled manually (with hands).
- 38% report losing consciousness.
- 35% are strangled along with sexual assault/abuse. 9% are also pregnant.
- 70% of strangled women believed they were going to die.

And odds for homicide increase 750% for victims who have been previously strangled, compared to victims who have never been strangled.

HOWEVER...

Oftentimes, even in fatal cases, there are NO EXTERNAL SIGNS of injury.

- Only half of victims have visible injuries.
- Of these, only 15% could be photographed.