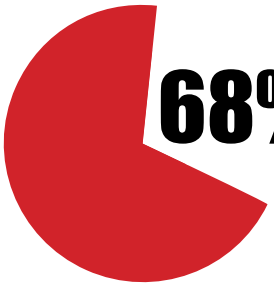
TRAINING INSTITUTE on STRANGULATION PREVENTION

STRANGULATION
IN INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE
FACT SHEET

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

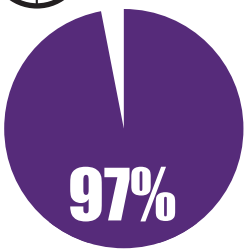
1 in 4 women will experience intimate partner violence (IPV) in their lifetime.[1]

Of women at high risk, up to...

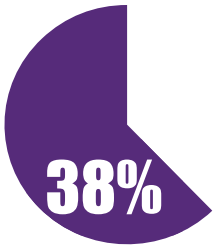


will experience near-fatal strangulation by their partner.[2]

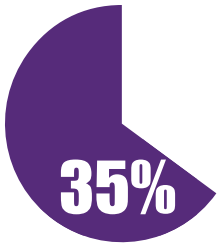
Loss of consciousness can occurr within 5 - 10 seconds. Death within minutes.[2]



are strangled manually (with hands).[3]



report losing consciousness.[4]



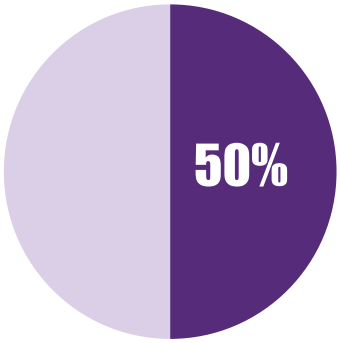
are strangled along with sexual assault/abuse.[5] **9% are also pregnant.**[4]



of strangled women believed they were going to die.[6]

And odds for homicide increase 750%
for victims who have been previously strangled, compared to victims who have never been strangled.[7]

HOWEVER...
Oftentimes,
even in fatal *cases*,
there are
NO EXTERNAL SIGNS
of injury.[3]



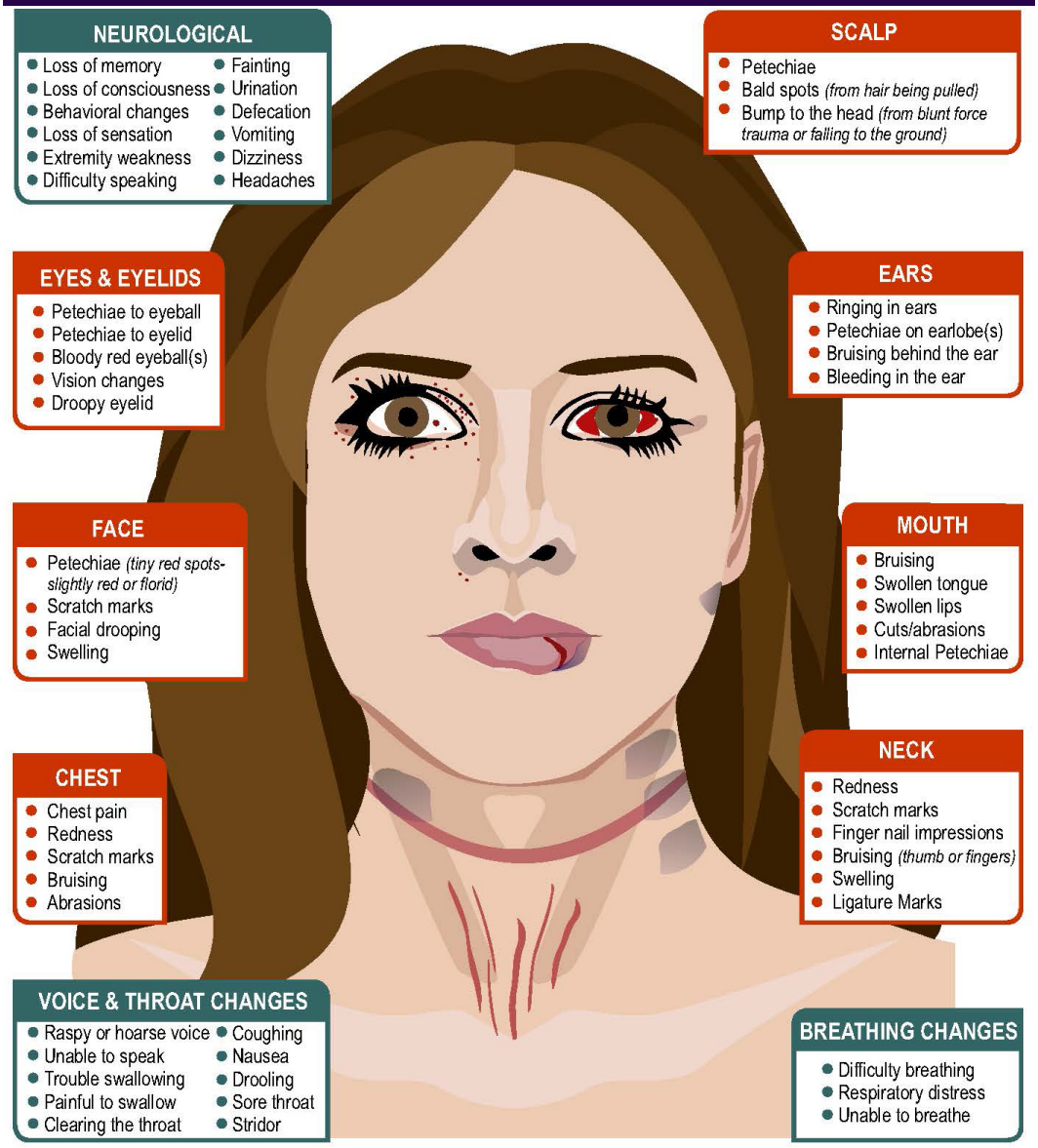
Only half of victims have visible injuries



Of these, only 15% could be photographed

STRANGULATION

SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS[2]



NEUROLOGICAL
- Loss of memory
- Loss of consciousness
- Behavioral changes
- Loss of sensation
- Extremity weakness
- Difficulty speaking
- Fainting
- Urination
- Defecation
- Vomiting
- Dizziness
- Headaches

SCALP
- Petechiae
- Bald spots *(from hair being pulled)*
- Bump to the head *(from blunt force trauma or falling to the ground)*

EYES & EYELIDS
- Petechiae to eyeball
- Petechiae to eyelid
- Bloody red eyeball(s)
- Vision changes
- Droopy eyelid

EARS
- Ringing in ears
- Petechiae on earlobe(s)
- Bruising behind the ear
- Bleeding in the ear

FACE
- Petechiae *(tiny red spots-slightly red or florid)*
- Scratch marks
- Facial drooping
- Swelling

MOUTH
- Bruising
- Swollen tongue
- Swollen lips
- Cuts/abrasions
- Internal Petechiae

CHEST
- Chest pain
- Redness
- Scratch marks
- Bruising
- Abrasions

NECK
- Redness
- Scratch marks
- Finger nail impressions
- Bruising *(thumb or fingers)*
- Swelling
- Ligature Marks

VOICE & THROAT CHANGES
- Raspy or hoarse voice
- Unable to speak
- Trouble swallowing
- Painful to swallow
- Clearing the throat
- Coughing
- Nausea
- Drooling
- Sore throat
- Stridor

BREATHING CHANGES
- Difficulty breathing
- Respiratory distress
- Unable to breathe

Source: *Strangulation in Intimate Partner Violence*, Chapter 16, Intimate Partner Violence, Oxford University Press Inc. 2009.

CONSEQUENCES[9]

PSYCHOLOGICAL INJURY

PTSD, depression, suicidal ideation, memory problems, nightmares, anxiety, severe stress reaction, amnesia, and psychosis.

DELAYED FATALITY

Death can occur days or weeks after the attack due to cartoid artery dissection and respiratory complications such as pneumonia, ARDS and the risk of blood clots traveling to the brain (embolization).

Today,
38 States
have legislation
AGAINST
STRANGULATION[8]

VAWA 2013
added strangulation and suffocation to FEDERAL LAW

TRAINING INSTITUTE on STRANGULATION PREVENTION

a program of Alliance for HOPE International

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San Diego, CA 92101
1-888-511-3522

StrangulationTrainingInstitute.com

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