

City of Seattle
Office of City Auditor



JUVENILE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IN SEATTLE: UNDERSTANDING THE PROBLEM AND HOW BEST TO ADDRESS IT

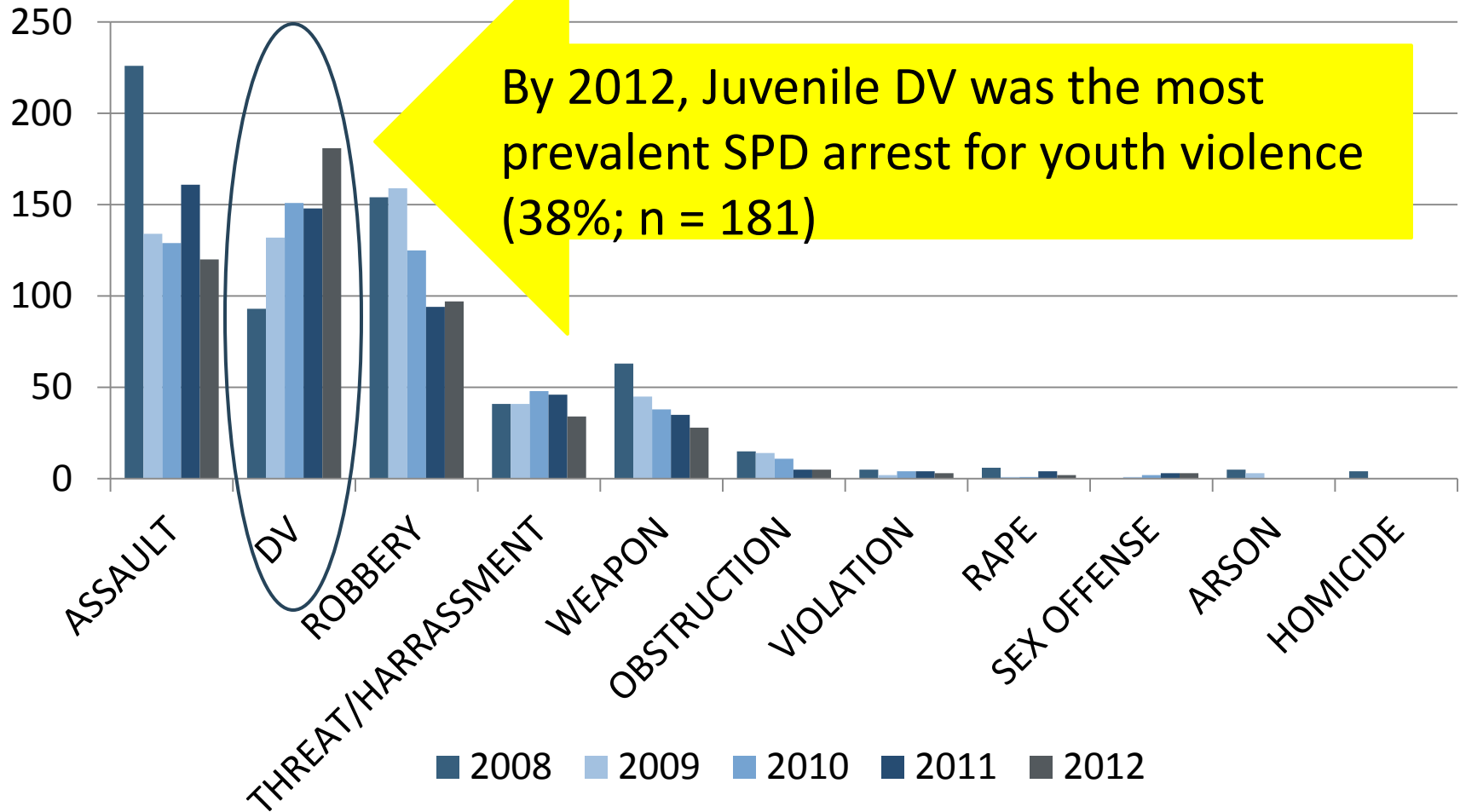
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Seattle City Council – Public Safety, Civil Rights, and Technology

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JUVENILE DV ARRESTS INCREASED BETWEEN 2008-2012



JUVENILE DV CHARACTERISTICS



- **87% of the King County Juvenile DV cases involved youth violence toward a family member, often the mother (2013).**
- **45% of the Seattle Juvenile DV police incidents occurred between 4pm – 10pm (2011-2013).**

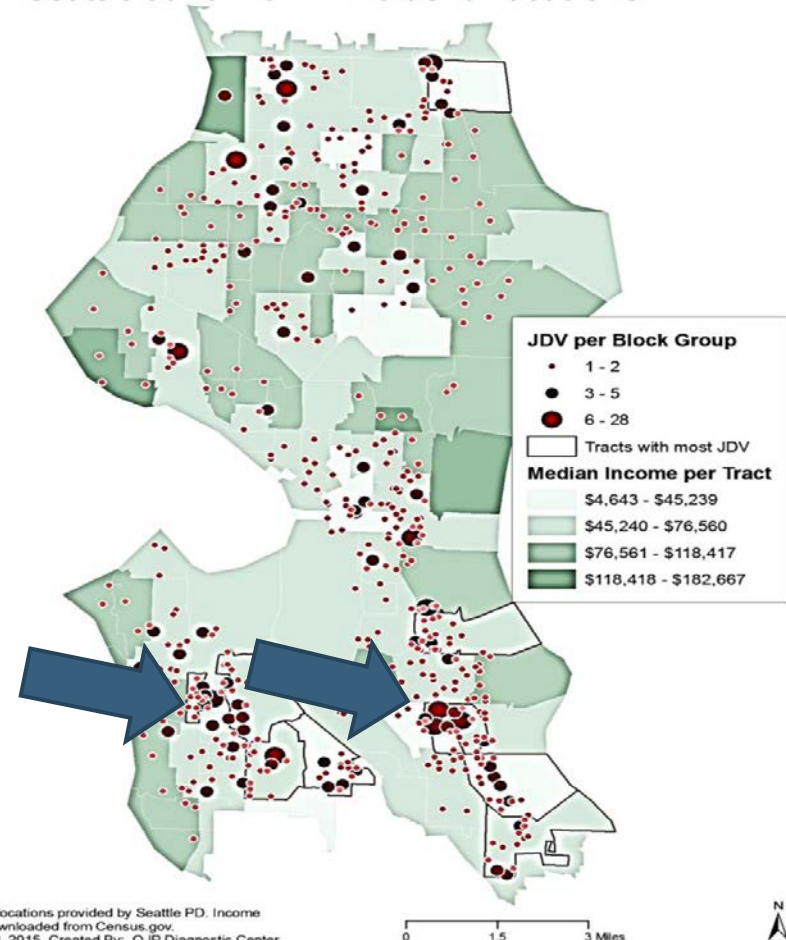
INCIDENT CONCENTRATIONS

Juvenile DV incidents reported to SPD (2011-2013) concentrated in lower income census tracts

31% of incidents occurred in two Police sectors

- South Park/Delridge
- New Holly/Rainier Beach

Seattle Juvenile DV Incident Locations



CURRENT RESPONSE: DETENTION

- Juvenile DV accounted for 32% of new offenses booked to detention in King County in 2013.
- Research shows that formal processing in the juvenile justice system increases youth delinquency.
- In Washington, youth identified as a primary aggressor in a DV issue must be arrested if they are 16 or older.



LIMITED INTERVENTIONS FOR FAMILIES

- **Intervention services only available after formal prosecution of arrested youth.**
- **Only one juvenile DV intervention program.**
 - **Step-Up: Building Respectful Family Relationships (King County)**
 - **Funded to serve 45 families per year County-wide.**
 - **No Seattle locations.**



PREVENTION SERVICES

- **“Minimal prevention efforts for youth family violence in Seattle” -
-U.S. Office of Justice Programs
Diagnostic Center.**
- **Seattle Youth Violence
Prevention Initiative does
not address juvenile
domestic violence.**



WHAT ARE WE DOING?

- **Family Intervention and Restorative Services FIRS Pilot Program (King County).**
 - **Alternative to detention and prosecution while securing family safety**
- **Improved coordination.**
 - **Seattle Juvenile Domestic Violence Core Team**
- **Research on culturally responsive approach for families in Seattle's immigrant and minority communities.**
 - **Ethnographic research request (U.S. Office of Justice Programs Diagnostic Center technical assistance)**

WHAT IS NEEDED?

- **Prevention services for families in communities with greatest need.**
- **Culturally responsive approach to prevention and intervention.**
- **Continued coordination among City, County and community partners.**

THANK YOU, PARTNERS!



King County

