Different Motives of Those Who Batter

**SURVIVAL-BASED TYPE 1 & 2:** Those who batter who are Survival-Based are commonly abusive when the relationship is approaching an end. In some cases there is little or no abuse except when the batterer believes they are about to lose their partner: then desperation peaks, with rage and terror. Survival Based has two subtypes: in Type I, the person has few other meaningful relationships, and is unable to imagine life without their partner. They are desperate to have this “angel” in their life. Type II is equally desperate to maintain the relationship, but it is stemming from their need to maintain their “perfect image”, as they have narcissistic tendencies. Both Type I and Type II cannot imagine their partner being with someone else. Suicide-homicide cases concerning domestic violence are often Survival-Based.

**ENTITLEMENT-BASED:** Those who batter and are Entitlement-Based hold beliefs of superiority and privilege over their partner. They commonly batter to punish their partner for "over-stepping their bounds", or when their partner fails to do what is expected. The abuser commonly has the privilege, while the victim has the responsibility in the relationship.

A sub-type of the Entitlement-Based are those who are ENTITLED WITH MATERIAL MOTIVATION. Those with material motivation enter the relationship simply to gain access to material assets, and do not exhibit even the normal level of jealousy. Some have criminal histories and a low stake in conformity. In some cases, they sex traffic their victim.

**SADISTIC-BASED:** Those who are Sadistic-Based tend to use cruelty as a form of pleasure for themselves: they gain enjoyment out of causing pain and suffering to their partner. Part of their pleasure is derived from fooling others, so their sadistic ways are often unknown to the victim and the community until long after the marriage vows. Typical red flags for battering behavior are often missing in the dating relationship, as sadistic abusers are often calculated and cunning.

**NOTE:** These categories don’t reflect the complexity of individuals. It is possible for someone who batters to have characteristics of more than one type. As noted by the graphic, there is considerable overlapping. Most who batter have some entitlement. If an individual has entitlement, but additionally has the characteristics of another type, the most dangerous violence is likely to be motivated by their survival, sadistic, or material motivation.