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**Lived Lives and Told Stories – a Biographical Analysis of Men’s Presentations of Self  
in the Context of Being a Victim of Intimate Partner Abuse**

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Intimate partner abuse is a social problem. This phenomenon impacts on the health and well being of millions of people worldwide. Current social constructions of intimate partner abuse represent a gendered perspective i.e. that it is predominantly male-perpetrated. This dominant discourse shaped by the prevailing gender order implies female passivity and as such has suppressed a societal consciousness in relation to women’s abuse of men.

Little is known about how men make sense of their experiences of abuse from their female partner. Being a male victim of abuse challenges the dominant discourse both in private and public worlds. This poster presents preliminary findings of a study of three biographies of intimate partner abuse using Biographic Narrative Interpretive Method (BNIM). BNIM separately analyses both the lived life and told story using interpretive panels. The evolution of men’s selves during their lived lives and told stories of abuse is presented in the context of contemporary Irish society.

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