



# “Will You Hold My Child...?”

## A Theatrical Production

Intervening in Domestic Violence Cases where children are involved.

Praxis has available an original drama production which looks at the issues of intervening in domestic violence cases where children are involved.

This 45 minute interactive play can be used as a catalyst for discussing how agency interventions to protect children and/or battered women can affect an abuser’s use of intimidation, coercion and violence. Based on stories from battered women’s lives, it brings participants into the physical, emotional, and spiritual turmoil of a home where battering is occurring. It offers a deeper understanding of the complex dynamics created by an abuser, and in particular, demonstrates how destructive the abuse is to the relationship between a mother and her children.

The play encourages practitioners to consider the intended and unintended impact of agency interventions in these cases. The production and subsequent facilitated discussions are designed to:

- Demonstrate how violence and abuse perpetrated against a mother is also an assault on the relationship between her and her child.
- Promote dialogue and critical thinking on policy and programming issues related to child witnesses of domestic violence.
- Encourage the development of community interventions that halts the damage being done to the relationship between mother and child and work towards repairing it.

Dec 2003 sample costing for 2 actors and one facilitator arriving the night before the event and leaving next day after the performance/training:

		Actors	Facilitator
Facilitator: \$400	1 x 400		400
Actor fee: \$400 per day per actor.	2 x 400	800	
Travel time: \$20 per hour*	2 x 8 x 20	320	160
Per Diem: \$40 per day*	2 x 40 x 2	160	80
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$1,280</b>	<b>\$640</b>

**\*please note that your program is responsible for paying actual travel time and federal per diem rate for your location. Figures do not include travel and accommodation expenses.**

Contact Amanda McCormick (ext 103) for more information about using the play in your community for local organizing and/or training.

Actors only total: \$1,280      Actors with Facilitator total: \$1,920  
Totals do not include travel and accommodation expenses.