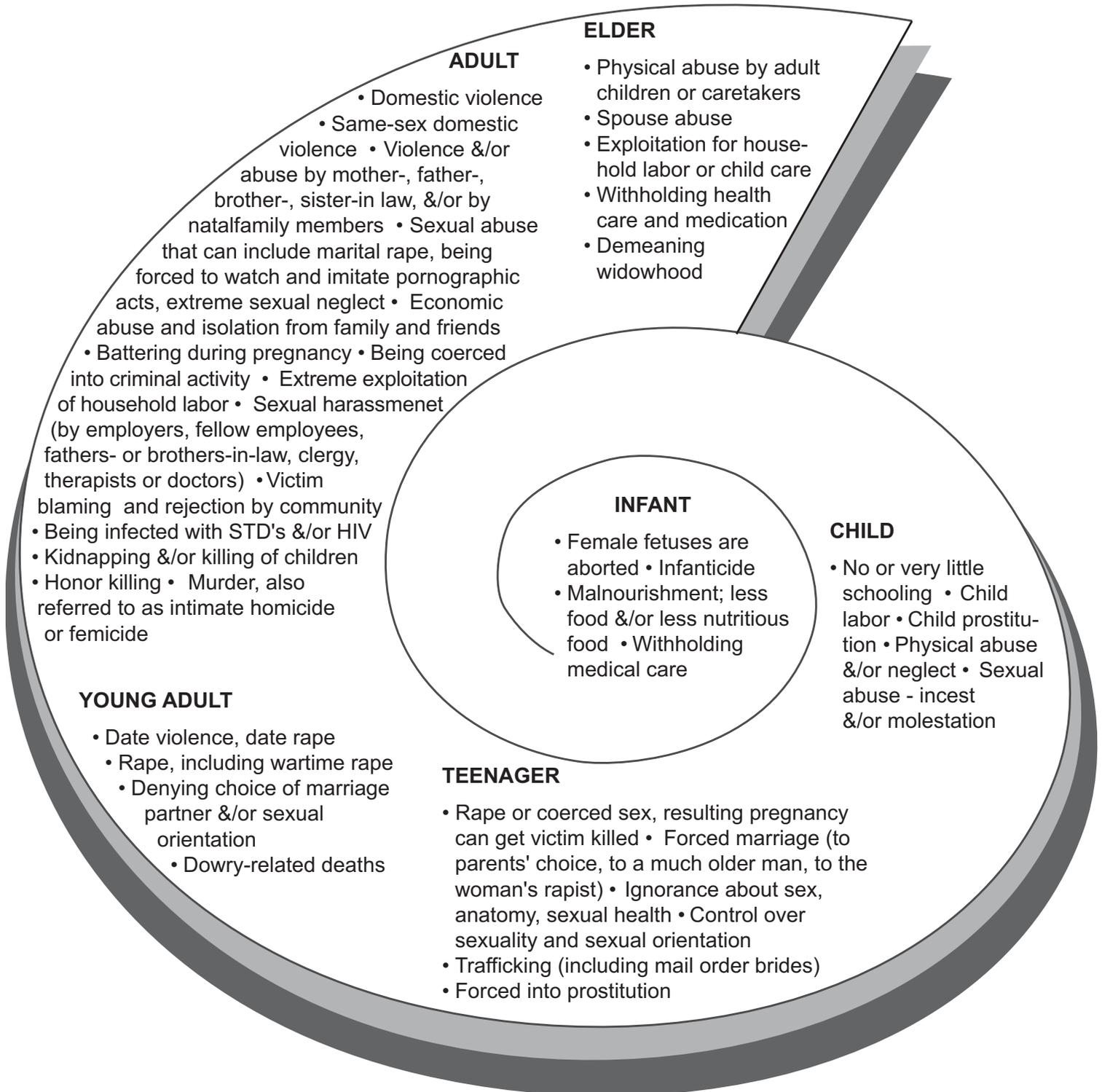


## ABUSES ENDURED BY A WOMAN DURING HER LIFE CYCLE

Although some of these occur at a specific stage in a woman's life, most can reoccur or continue throughout her life.



Developed by: **ASIAN & PACIFIC ISLANDER INSTITUTE ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

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## **A LIFETIME SPIRAL OF GENDER VIOLENCE**

Domestic violence is just one amongst many forms of violence against women. From the aborting of female fetuses to intimate homicide, girls and women can encounter numerous oppressions during infancy, childhood, adolescence, adulthood, and as elders. Some of these are confined to one stage in the lifecycle, some continue into subsequent stages. Violence against women is more than physical, sexual, economic and emotional abuse; it is also about living in a climate of fear, misery, loss, mistrust, humiliation and despair. The lives of abused Asian and Pacific Islander women are shadowed by the cultural burdens of shame and devaluation. These abuses are experienced in the context of additional oppressions based on race, ethnicity, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, type of labor being performed, level of education, class position, disability, or immigration/refugee status.

We hope that advocaates can use this spiral in their work with abused women, to help them identify the abuses they have been exposed to. Doing so, may lessen the burden of feeling that they are somehow to blame or responsible for causing the violence. We hope this spiral can raise awareness and stop victim-blaming.

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