

# Domestic abuse in the Somali and Hmong Community

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# OUR TEAM TODAY



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# Understanding Hmong

- Male Dominated
- Shame Driven
- 18 Clans / 2 dialogue
- White/ Green Hmong have different cultures
- Handles conflict internally

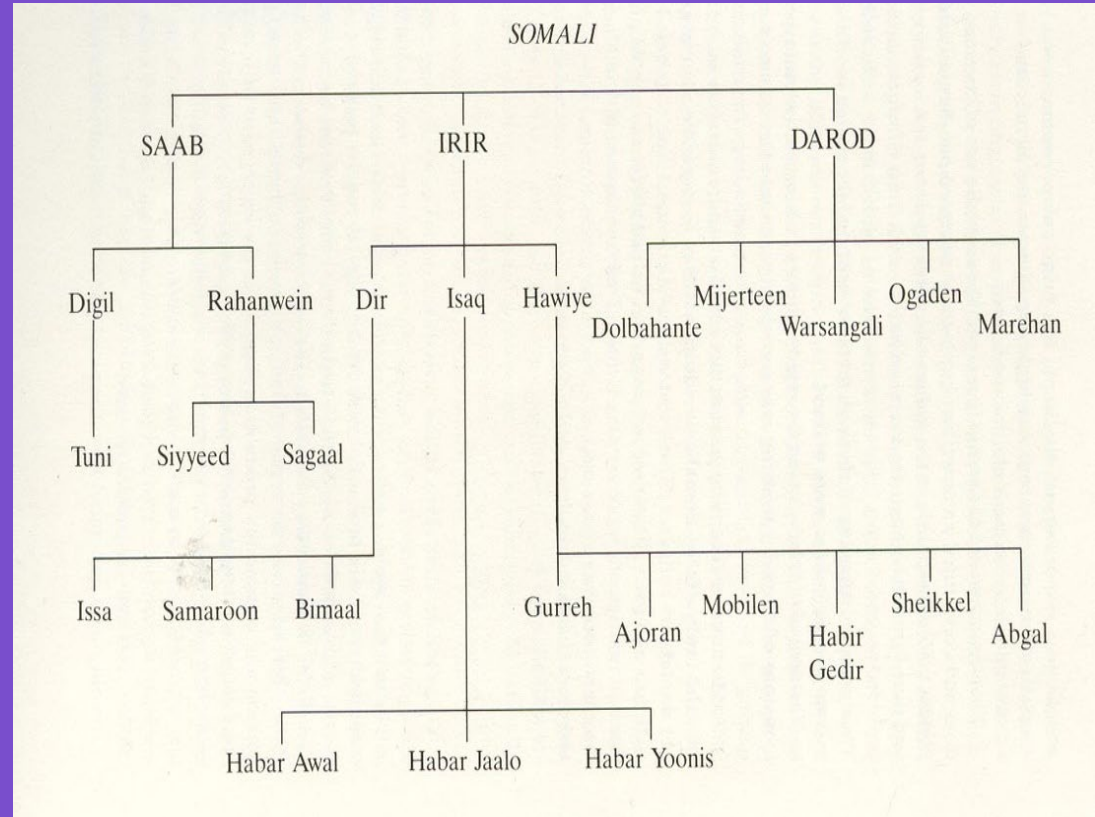
# Understanding the Somali Community

- 99% Of Somali's are Muslim
- Minnesota Holds the largest Somali Population outside of Somali
- Handles conflict internally
- 12 Dialects spoken throughout Somalia

# The clans

## THE 18 CLANS

Chang/Cha • Chue/Chu • Cheng • Fang  
Her/Heu • Hang • Khang • Kong • Kue  
Lee/Ly • Lao/Lo/Lor • Moua/Mua • Pha  
Thao/Thor • Vang/Wang/Va • Vu/Vue  
Xiong/Song • Yang



# What Gender based Violence Looks like in our communities

- Men are in power in our communities, its hard reporting the abuse to others that may condone it.
- Shame culture is very prevalent, reporting this abuse can make the family look bad.
- Culturally in a divorce, the children should stay with father.
- Victims being denied cultural support
- Religion being used to condone the abuse.
- Since 2020 reports of gender based violence went up by 75% in Somalia, 60% reported the violence to be IPV.
- 28% or respondents reported that they had been abused by their partner for 5 years, 14% reported 6-10 years, 5% reported 11-15 years, and 10% reported 16-20 years of abuse from a study conducted in Saint Paul of Hmong women in 2019

## Verse from the Quran

Men are the caretakers of women, as men have been provisioned by Allah over women and tasked with supporting them financially. And righteous women are devoutly obedient and, when alone, protective of what Allah has entrusted them with. And if you sense illconduct from your women, advise them first, if they persist, do not share their beds, but if they still persist, then discipline them gently.<sup>2</sup> But if they change their ways, do not be unjust to them. Surely Allah is Most High, All-Great



## Assisting Hmong and Somali Victims

- Do not auto assume they want to work with someone of the same culture.
- Be understanding of the decisions they make.
- Allow room for mistakes
- Understand that they may be also fighting for a safe space in their communities.
- Do not shame them, they already get enough of that from everyone else.
- LISTEN!



## **GIVE CONTROL**

An abuser takes control away from their victim. Support your participants decisions about who to disclose abuse to, and what steps to take.

Questions?