



## Fleeing the House of Horrors: Women Who Have Left Abusive Partners

By Aysan Sev'er

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**Fleeing the House of Horrors: Women Who Have Left Abusive Partners** By Aysan Sev'er

Thirty-nine women and their strategies of survival are the central focus of Aysan Sev'er's newest study on women who have left abusive situations. Through a mainly feminist orientation, Sev'er analyzes abuse, its many definitions, and existing theories surrounding violence against women, and incorporates an extensive literature review of Canadian and American sources that investigates feminist, non-feminist, and social-psychological theories of abuse. She then proceeds to relate the intimate stories of women who survived.

These interviews, from women outside institutional settings, candidly reveal the women's strengths and weaknesses. Some successful, some eventually destructive, the detailed stories allow Sev'er to analyse positive and negative social support systems, women's own aggression, and finally to develop a new model for post-violence adjustment. Erudite, revealing and ultimately affirming, Sev'er's study provides a new look and new hope to the issue of violence against women, and will be indispensable to anyone who is involved in women's issues.

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## **Fleeing the House of Horrors: Women Who Have Left Abusive Partners** By Aysan Sev'er **Bibliography**

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Review

'This [book] will have a significant contribution to the research on intimate violence experienced by women ... Her analysis is heart wrenching yet honest, brutal yet vital to our understanding of those women ... This work is long overdue.'

(Cheryl Gosselin, Department of Sociology and Anthropology *Bishop's University*)

About the Author

**Aysan Sev'er** is an Associate Professor in the Department of Sociology at the University of Toronto.

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