

## The Ties that Bind (Sam) Discussion Questions

1. When and why would a victim such as Sam become your client? What could you and your agency do in a case such as this?
2. How were the dynamics of domestic abuse in Sam's case similar to or different from those involving female victims?
3. Male and female victims struggle with the decision of whether to maintain or end a relationship with the abuser? What factors and barriers similar regardless of gender? What factors may be specific to older adults?
4. What services are available in our community for older victims, both male and female? What services would you like to see added?
5. Sam lived in a rural community. Describe how living in a rural area both benefits and challenges for older victims.
6. Given that the domestic violence movement is grounded in a feminist philosophy and a gender-based power and control dynamic, what were your reactions to Sam's story?
7. What types of power and control tactic did Sam's wife use against him?
8. How do you continue to work with victims who have returned to their abuser and then seek your agency's assistance again?