Judicial Responses that Reinforce Women's Entrapment

NEGLECTING WOMEN'S FEARS
Ignoring women's fears
• lack of safe waiting areas in courthouse
• lack of coordination with police and probation
• inadequate training of court personnel

COURTROOM INTIMIDATION
Inattention to the impact of a courtroom on victims
• bureaucratic and indifferent treatment of abused women
• failure to provide women with information about their legal options

CONDESCENDING OR HARSH DEMEANOR
Patronizing displays of authority • harsh or hostile remarks • racist attitudes toward women of color • bias against

FURTHERING WOMEN'S ISOLATION
Failure to provide advocates for battered women • developing relationships with shelters, batterer's programs, and community services

MINIMIZING, DENYING, AND BLAMING
Mirroring batterers' actions by making light of the abuse • saying the abuse didn't happen • saying she caused it • making her feel guilty • saying it's just a "lovers' quarrel"

NEGLIGENCE THE NEEDS OF CHILDREN
Failing to see how batterers manipulate women through their children • lack of concern for safety of children • no space in the courthouse for children

COLLUDING WITH VIOLENT MEN
Unwillingness to impose sanctions on batterers • showing greater concern for defendants than for women seeking protection • joking and bonding with defendants

BLINDNESS TO ECONOMIC ASPECTS OF BATTERING
Ignoring women's requests for child support and restitution • bias against women on welfare

JUDICIAL RESPONSES THAT REINFORCE WOMEN'S ENTRAPMENT