

Contents

Foreword	7
Acknowledgements	10
 Part I Literature review and method	
1 Introduction and overview of literature	13
 Part II What does it mean to experience domestic violence?	
2 Forms of domestic violence and child abuse	27
3 Forms of violence witnessed by children	61
 Part III Impacts of domestic violence	
4 Effect of domestic violence on children	69
5 How children understand and cope with domestic violence	95
 Part IV Agency responses to domestic violence	
6 Social services' responses to domestic violence	113
7 Police responses to domestic violence	129
8 Schools' responses to domestic violence	143
9 Health professionals' responses to domestic violence	149
10 Refuges and counselling services	163
11 Legal remedies?	175

Part V Overcoming the obstacles

12	Barriers to seeking or utilising help	185
13	Conclusion	213
14	Recommendations	227
	Appendix	233
	Useful contacts	237
	References	239
	Subject Index	245
	Author Index	253