

OFFICE OF LEGAL AFFAIRS

January 28, 2000

Edward Berg  
Mid-Missouri Legal Services  
205 East Forest Avenue  
Columbia, Missouri 65203

Re: Services to Alien Victim of Domestic Violence

Dear Mr. Berg:

We recently received your request for an opinion as to whether your Legal Services Corporation ("LSC") program may represent an alien in a divorce from an abuser. The Office of Legal Affairs is pleased to provide you with the relevant law

defined as “any legal assistance that will assist victims of abuse in their escape from the abusive situation.”<sup>2</sup> §1626.2(g).

It is important to note that the determination of whether legal assistance to alien victims of domestic relations is “directly related” to the prevention of, or relief from battery, must be made by Mid-Missouri Legal Services on a case-by-case basis.<sup>3</sup>

I hope this adequately responds to your inquiry. Please contact me