

Domestic violence is...

- ✓ **Physical assault**
- ✓ **Sexual assault**
- ✓ **Willful intimidation** through emotional, psychological and verbal behavior used to coerce, threaten or humiliate an intimate partner.
- ✓ **Economic abuse** carried out by preventing a partner from getting or keeping a job. Making a partner ask for money, doling out an allowance and/or not letting them know about or have access to family income.
- ✓ **An epidemic** affecting individuals in every community, regardless of age, economic status, race, religion, nationality or educational background.
- ✓ **Increased isolation** to cut one's partner off from family and friends for support or advice.
- ✓ **A part of a systematic and cyclical pattern of dominance and control** resulting in physical injury, psychological trauma, and sometimes even death.

For more information:

Break the Cycle

5200 W. Century Blvd., Ste. 300, L.A., CA 90045
Helpline #: (310) 286-3366 Toll Free #: (888) 988-8336

Peace Over Violence

605 W. Olympic Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90015 (213) 955-9090
464 E. Walnut St., Pasadena, CA 91101 (626) 584-6191
24 Hour Hotline #: (213) 626-3393 (310) 392-8381 (626) 793-3385

Rape Treatment Center, Santa Monica – UCLA Medical Center
1250 Sixteenth St., Santa Monica, CA 90404 (310) 319-4000

L.A. Gay & Lesbian Center's Legal Services Dept.
Domestic Violence Legal Advocacy Project
(888) 928-7233 (SAFE) Email: dvlap@lagaycenter.org

24 Hour National Domestic Violence Hotline
1 (800) 799-7233 (SAFE)

National Council of Jewish Women/LA
543 N. Fairfax Avenue, Los Angeles, California 90036
(323) 651-2930

Women Helping Women
FREE Counseling Talkline
877-655-3807

City of West Hollywood Public Safety Division
(323) 848-6414 TTY (323) 848-6496

West Hollywood Sheriff's Station
(310) 855-8850



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Domestic Violence Prevention

Domestic Violence can take different forms, but its goal is always the same: to maintain control and power over one's partner through fear.

No one deserves to be abused!



Did you know?

- ✓ **One in every four women will experience domestic violence in her lifetime.**
- ✓ **An estimated 1.3 million people are victims of physical assault by an intimate partner each year.**
- ✓ **85% of domestic violence victims are women.**
- ✓ **Females who are 20-24 years of age are at the greatest risk of non-fatal intimate partner violence.**
- ✓ **Most cases of domestic violence are never reported to the police. It is one of the most chronically underreported crimes.**

Warning Signs of Domestic Violence

There is no way to be certain if someone is experiencing domestic violence. Those who are battered and those who abuse come in all shapes, sizes and colors. Victims are not always passive with low self-esteem, and batterers are not always violent or hateful to their partner in front of others. Most people experiencing domestic violence do not tell others what goes on in the home.

Signs of those who are battered:

Injuries and Excuses: When there are frequent injuries that are visible to the eye, the victim may make excuses about being clumsy or have elaborate stories of how the injuries occurred.

Low Self-Esteem: Some victims have low self-esteem, while others have a great deal of confidence and esteem in other areas of their life (at work, as a parent, with hobbies, etc.) but not within their relationship.

Personality Changes: People may notice that a very outgoing person, for instance, becomes more quiet and shy around their partner over time.

Absences from Work or School: If a person frequently takes time off from their normal schedule at work, school or day to day routine, this could be a sign of something such as domestic violence taking place in the home.

Signs of those who abuse are:

Constant put-downs: ridicules, humiliates or belittles you.

Extreme jealousy or insecurity: blames you for the violence because of your behavior, tells you what to do, prevents you from doing what you want to do.

Explosive temper/Big mood swings: throws things, screams at you, hits, slaps, kicks or bites.

Reads your email or checks your cell phone messages.

Same-Sex Violence

Domestic violence occurs within same-sex relationships.

Most LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender) domestic violence researchers and service practitioners believe that domestic violence in LGBT relationships is just as widespread as domestic violence in relationships between heterosexual couples. However, perpetrators in same sex relationships often attempt highly specific forms of psychological and verbal abuse including:

- ✓ **“Outing” or threatening to “out” a partner.**
- ✓ **Reinforcing fears that no one will help the victim.**
- ✓ **Telling the partner that abusive behavior is a normal part of LGBT relationships.**
- ✓ **Portraying the violence as mutual and even consensual.**
- ✓ **Reinforcing the idea that abuse in same-sex relationships cannot express a “power differential” because in theory, individuals who share the same gender have the same amount of real or perceived power.**