

Dating Violence:
**Being Proactive with Securing &
Maintaining Healthy Relationships**

Presented by The Center For Abused Persons



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Breakdown

- Introduction
- Presentation
- What Would You Do Scenario
- CAP Services

"Unhealthy
relationships can
start early and
last a lifetime."

- CDC

Prevalence of Dating Violence



1 in 4

dating teens
are abused and harassed online
or via text by their partners



81%

of parents believe teen dating
violence
is not an issue



#TDVAM2020

- 1 in 10 high school students has experienced physical violence from a dating partner in the past year.⁽¹⁾
- 9.4% of high school students reported being hit, slapped, or physically hurt intentionally by their partner in the previous 12 months. ⁽¹⁾
- 10% of high school students has been intentional hit, slapped or physically hurt by their boyfriend or girlfriend ⁽¹⁾
- Violent behavior typically begins between the ages of 12 and 18 ⁽¹⁾

**Why do you
think it is hard to
detect Dating
Violence?**



Types of Abuse

Physical

- Ex. Slapping, Punching, Choking, Biting, Shoving, and/or Threatening use of a weapon

Verbal / Emotional

- Ex. Using profanity towards your partner, belittling them, and/or using threatening words to try and gain control over a person

Sexual

- Ex. Unwanted sexual touching, pressure/force to get a partner to consent, rape or attempted rape

Impact of Dating Violence

- Decrease in self confidence
- Depression
- Physical injuries
- Feelings of shame, guilt, and self-blame
- Loneliness
- Risk of contracting a sexually transmitted infection
- Decrease in work and/or school performance

It can happen to anyone.

Domestic violence can happen to anyone of any race, age, sexual orientation, religion or gender. It can happen to couples who are married, living together or who are dating. Domestic violence affects people of all socioeconomic backgrounds and education levels.



Warning Signs



- Checking of cell phones, emails, and social media accounts **WITHOUT** permission
- Extreme jealousy or insecurity
- Isolation from family and friends
- Possessiveness
- Trying to maintain constant control
 - Ex. Telling someone what they can and can not do → how they should dress
- Pressuring someone to have sex
- Mood Swings

What Would You Do?

- Your child comes home from school and runs past you to their room and slams the door shut.

What Would You Do?

- You notice your child leaves his/her headphones in during car rides instead of engaging with the family like they usually do.

What Would You Do?

- You overhear your child talking on the phone late at night. Sometimes, you hear them getting upset. When you confront them, they tell you everything is fine and not to worry.

What Would You Do?

- Your child has entered a new relationship with an intimate partner. You start noticing they hide their phone screen from you when they are using it in your presence. You want to respect their privacy, but you are concerned that they are having inappropriate conversations or sharing inappropriate images.

Conversations With Your Teen

Topic Starters:

1. Discuss consent
2. Setting boundaries
3. Creating nonnegotiables
4. Developing and maintaining trust



Toxic Love

Center for Abused Persons

Our Services

24/7 Crisis Hotline: 301-645-3336

Court Advocacy

Peer Support Group

One-on-one Counseling

Abuse Intervention Program

Community Education

Sources:

1. Dating Abuse Statistics. (n.d.). Retrieved from <https://www.loveisrespect.org/resources/dating-violence-statistics/>
2. Tsharp. (n.d.). The Consequences of Dating Violence | Violence Prevention Works. Retrieved from http://www.violencepreventionworks.org/public/consequences_of_dating_violence.page
3. Warning Signs. (2018, March 06). Retrieved from <https://www.breakthecycle.org/warning-signs>