



Teen Dating Violence

Adults are not the only ones who experience violence in dating relationships. Often, teenagers experience violence in dating relationships as well. Some statistics have shown that one in three teenagers has experienced violence in a dating relationship. This is also referred to as domestic violence or intimate partner violence.

Both females and males can be victims of dating violence, however, most victims are young women, who are also at greater risk for serious injury. Dating violence crosses all racial, economic and social lines. Sometimes teens do not recognize that they are in a controlling relationship because they are inexperienced with dating relationships and they see some controlling acts as "romantic jealousy".

Dating Violence occurs when one partner tries to maintain power and control over the other through physical/emotional abuse and threats. Below is a list of some of the warning signs:

- Calls you names
- Tries to scare you by yelling or screaming at you
- Tries to control you by threatening or hurting you, your friends, your family, or your pets
- Pushes/hit/slaps/punches/throws things at you
- Pulls your hair
- Tells you how to dress, or what to wear and not wear
- Threatens you with a weapon (knife, gun, bat, lighter, or anything that could be used to hurt you)
- Tries to manipulate you by making it seem that things are your fault
- Threatens to hurt or kill him/herself if you break up
- Tries to isolate you from your friends and family
- Forbids you from leaving the house, getting a job, or talking to your family or friends
- Forces you to use drugs or have sex

If you are concerned that you or someone you know is involved in an unhealthy relationship, 1736 Family Crisis Center can help with:

- 24-hour crisis hotline referrals
- Developing a safety plan
- Emergency and long-term shelter for domestic violence victims and their children
- Nurturing counseling
- Other life-changing support

Please call one of our 24-hour hotlines at: (310) 370-5902, (562) 388-7652, (213) 745-6434, (310) 379-3620.