

Reality Check

Does your Partner...

- **Embarrass** you with bad names & put downs?
- Look at you or act in ways that **scare** you?
- **Control** what you do, who you see or talk to, or where you go? **Constantly** call, text or IM you?
- **Stop** you from seeing or talking to friends or family?
- **Take** your money, **make** you ask for money or **refuse** to give you money?
- **Make** all the decisions?
- Tell you that you're a **bad** person?
- Act like the **abuse** is no big deal, that it's your fault or even deny doing it?
- **Destroy** your property or **threaten** to hurt your pets?
- **Intimidate** you with weapons?
- **Shove, slap** or **hit** you?
- **Force** or **coerce** you to have sex?
- **Threaten** to break up with you?

If you checked even one of these items, you may be in an abusive dating relationship. If you need to talk, call us. Support is free and confidential. (214) 946 - HELP

Did You Know?

1 in 3 teens reports knowing a friend or peer who has been hit, punched, kicked, slapped or physically hurt by their dating partner.

Violent relationships *begin* at an average age of **15**.

WHAT DO WE MEAN WHEN WE TALK ABOUT DATING VIOLENCE?

Danger Zone

Dating violence isn't an argument every once in a while or a bad mood after a bad day. Warning signs can be extreme jealousy and quick involvement in the relationship.

Remember you have a choice in who you date!

Dating violence (or relationship violence) is a **pattern of violent behavior** that someone uses against a girlfriend or a boyfriend.

Abuse can cause injury and even death, but it doesn't have to be physical. It can include **verbal and emotional abuse, constant insults, isolation from friends and family, name calling, control** - and it can also include **sexual abuse**.

It can happen to anyone, at any age, regardless of race, religion, level of education or economic background. Dating violence also occurs in same-sex relationships.

Did You Know?

Females age 16-24

are more vulnerable to intimate partner violence than any other age group.

50% of teenage girls ages 14 to 17 report knowing someone their age who has been hit or beaten by a boyfriend.

Hitting your girlfriend or boyfriend is a crime, just like robbery or rape. It's Against the Law!

Helping Your Friends

DO: Help your friends. Make sure they know they are not alone.

DO: Listen without judging. They may feel responsible, ashamed, inadequate and afraid.

DO: Tell them that it is NOT their fault.

DO: Suggest they develop a safety plan. They need to know a safe place to run to, a support number to call and who they can trust in an emergency.

DO: Help them identify resources. Encourage them to take care of themselves, get emotional support and build their self-esteem.

DO: Encourage them to call for help. Genesis Women's Shelter has counseling and safety planning for teens in abusive dating relationships. Let your friends know there are people who can help.

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Physical and sexual abuse against adolescent girls in dating relationships increases the likelihood that the girl will abuse drugs and/or alcohol, develop an eating disorder, consider and/or attempt suicide, engage in risky sexual behavior and/or become pregnant.

Did You Know?



Become a part of Genesis Women's Shelter **STAR** (Students Tackle Abusive Relationships). The mission of STAR is to educate and promote awareness of relationship violence in the teen years, in order to prevent the occurrence of abusive relationships.

Young adults from area high schools have joined **STAR** to help spread the message that dating violence is NOT acceptable.

MORE ABOUT **STAR**...

STAR members help plan and attend parties for children at Genesis Women's Shelter.

STAR members organize donation drives at their schools, places of worship and clubs.

STAR members volunteer individually or in small groups at our benefit thrift store after school or on weekends.

STAR members tell their friends, "I am scared for you," when they notice a friend in an abusive relationship.

HOW TO JOIN...

STAR membership is \$25 a school year and is for teen guys and girls.

STAR is an excellent way to get involved and make a difference.

For more information on becoming a member of **STAR**, please call Genesis Women's Outreach at (214) 389-7700 or visit www.genesisshelter.org

214.946.HELP
www.genesisshelter.org



Drawer G
Dallas, TX 75208
Ph. (214) 942-2998
Fax (214) 943-9269
24 Hour Hotline (214) 946-HELP



4411 Lemmon Ave., Ste. 201
Dallas, TX 75219
Ph. (214) 389-7700
Fax (214) 559-2361

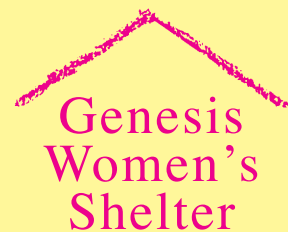
For counseling, to volunteer or to make a financial donation



3419 Knight Street
(Knight and Lemmon Ave.)
Dallas, TX 75219
Ph. (214) 520-6644
Monday - Friday 10 am - 5:30 pm
Saturday 10 am - 5 pm
Sunday 1 pm - 5 pm
Shop and Donate

Get the Facts on Teen Dating Violence

Because Love Doesn't Hurt



214.946.HELP
www.genesisshelter.org