

TEEN DATING VIOLENCE STATISTICS

- *Girls and women between the ages of 16 and 24 experience the highest rates of intimate partner violence.
- *Teen girls face relationship violence 3 times more than adult women.
- *1 in 5 high school girls is physically or sexually hurt by a dating partner.
- *1 in 3 teens experience some kind of abuse in their romantic relationships.
- *1 in 3 teens reports knowing a friend or peer who has been hit, punched, kicked, slapped, or physically hurt by a partner.
- *45% of teen girls know someone who has been pressured or forced into having intercourse or oral sex.
- *Nearly 1.5 million high school students report physical dating violence each year.
- *Only 33 % of teens who have been in or known about an abusive dating relationship report having told anyone about it.
- *25% of victims say they have been isolated from family and friends.
- *More than half of victims say they have compromised their own beliefs to please a partner.
- *A third of teens worry about their physical safety.
- *Many teens think this is normal.
- *Teens report dating abuse via cell phones is a serious problem.
- *Cell phone calls and texting mean constant control: 1 in 3 teens say they are text messaged 10, 20, 30 times an hour by a partner keeping tabs on them.
- *82% of parents whose teens were emailed or text messaged 30 times an hour were not aware of this.
- *The majority of parents of teen victims are unaware of the abuse.

Statistics from the US Dept. of Justice, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and Liz Claiborne Inc. teen dating violence survey

DEFINITION: TEEN DATING VIOLENCE

Dating violence, like domestic violence, is a pattern of controlling, aggressive, and abusive behaviors of one person over another within a romantic relationship. It can include verbal, emotional, physical, sexual, and financial abuse. It can occur in both heterosexual and homosexual relationships. It knows no boundaries and crosses all lines of race, socio-economic status, etc. It CAN happen to ANYONE.

TYPES OF VIOLENCE

- Verbal** – name-calling, using put-downs, accusing, blaming, lying, yelling, accuses you of cheating, threatens to harm or kill you, threatens to commit suicide, says they are the only one that loves you, puts down your friends and family, tells you what to wear, tells you everything is your fault, tells you no one else will ever be interested in you
- Emotional** - shows jealousy, embarrassing or humiliating you, controlling behavior, keeping tabs on you through frequent phone calls, e-mails, Instant Messaging, breaks your possessions, smashes things, destroys property, causes isolation by keeping you from spending time with others, tries to keep you from working or controls where you work, stalking
- Physical**- hitting, slapping, biting, squeezing, punching, kicking, choking, pushing, shoving, shaking, twisting your arm, grabbing, pulling hair, spitting, burning, trapping you, hiding your car keys or money or sabotaging your car to keep you from leaving
- Sexual**- forcing you to have sex against your will, rape, unwanted rough or violent sex, not letting someone use birth control (they intentionally try to get you pregnant so you are tied to them for years)
- Financial**- if the victim has a charge card, the abuser may tell the victim to put their name on it and they will run up high bills making the victim responsible for payment, making the victim pay for other things as well