



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

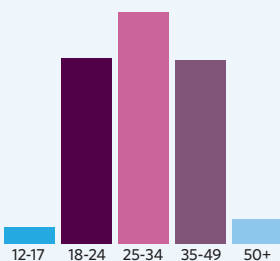
STATISTICS



1 IN 4 WOMEN (24.3%)



1 IN 7 MEN (13.8%)
aged 18 and older in the
United States have been
the victim of severe physical
violence by an intimate
partner in their lifetime.



Females ages 18 to 24
and 25 to 34 generally
experienced the highest
rates of intimate
partner violence.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, on average, 24 people per minute are victims of rape, physical violence or stalking by an intimate partner in the United States. That is more than 12 million women and men over the course of a year. In addition to intimate partner abuse, the GFWC Signature Program: Domestic Violence Awareness and Prevention also works to combat child abuse, teen dating violence, and elder abuse.

The United States Department of Justice defines domestic violence as a pattern of abusive behavior in **any relationship** that is used by one partner to gain or maintain power and control over another intimate partner. Domestic violence can be physical, sexual, emotional, economic, or psychological actions or threats of actions that influence another person.

PHYSICAL ABUSE

Hitting, slapping, shoving, grabbing, pinching, biting, hair pulling, etc. are types of physical abuse. This type of abuse also includes denying a partner medical care or forcing alcohol and/or drug use upon him or her.

SEXUAL ABUSE

Coercing or attempting to coerce any sexual contact or behavior without consent. Sexual abuse includes, but is certainly not limited to, marital rape, attacks on sexual parts of the body, forcing sex after physical violence has occurred, or treating one in a sexually demeaning manner.

EMOTIONAL ABUSE

Undermining an individual's sense of self-worth and/or self-esteem is abusive. This may include, but is not limited to constant criticism, diminishing one's abilities, name-calling, or damaging one's relationship with his or her children.

ECONOMIC ABUSE

Is defined as making or attempting to make an individual financially dependent by maintaining total control over financial resources, withholding one's access to money, or forbidding one's attendance at school or employment.

PSYCHOLOGICAL ABUSE

Elements of psychological abuse include — but are not limited to — causing fear by intimidation; threatening physical harm to self, partner, children, or partner's family or friends; destruction of pets and property; and forcing isolation from family, friends, or school and/or work.



Domestic violence can happen to anyone regardless of race, age, sexual orientation, religion, or gender. Domestic violence affects people of all socioeconomic backgrounds and education levels. Domestic violence occurs in both opposite-sex and same-sex relationships and can happen to intimate partners who are married, living together, or dating.

Domestic violence not only affects those who are abused, but also has a substantial effect on family members, friends, co-workers, other witnesses, and the community at large. Children, who grow up witnessing domestic violence, are among those seriously affected by this crime. Frequent exposure to violence in the home not only predisposes children to numerous social and physical problems, but also teaches them that violence is a normal way of life — therefore, increasing their risk of becoming society's next generation of victims and abusers.

TEEN DATING VIOLENCE

Teen Dating Violence is defined as the physical, sexual, psychological, or emotional violence within a dating relationship, including stalking. It can occur in person or electronically and might occur between a current or former dating partner.

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

STATISTICS

NEARLY
1.5 MILLION
HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS
NATIONWIDE EXPERIENCE
PHYSICAL ABUSE FROM
A DATING PARTNER IN A
SINGLE YEAR.



INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE
DISPROPORTIONATELY HARMS
YOUNG WOMEN AND
**GIRLS BETWEEN
AGES 16 AND 24.**
THEY EXPERIENCE ABUSE AT
A RATE ALMOST **TRIPLE**
THE NATIONAL LEVEL.



ONLY **33%**
OF TEENS WHO
WERE IN A VIOLENT
RELATIONSHIP EVER
TOLD ANYONE ABOUT
THE ABUSE.

Sources: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Love is Respect

RELATED ISSUES

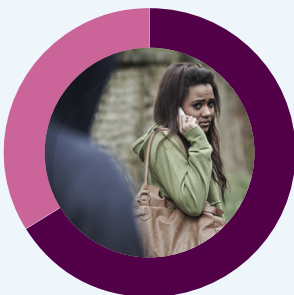
FIREARMS



The presence of a gun
in a domestic violence
situation **increases the
risk of homicide by 500%**

Source: Campbell

STALKING



**Two-thirds (66.2%) of
female victims** of stalking
were stalked by a current
or former intimate partner.

Source: Centers for Disease Control and
Prevention

RELEVANT LEGISLATION

THE FAMILY VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND SERVICES ACT (FVPSA)

First passed by Congress in 1984, FVPSA is the primary federal funding stream dedicated to the support of emergency shelter and related assistance for victims of domestic violence and their children. It is administered by the Family Violence Prevention and Services Program, a program of the Family and Youth Services Bureau (FYSB) in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Source: The National Domestic Violence Hotline

VICTIMS OF CRIME ACT (VOCA)

The Crime Victims Fund was established by the Victims of Crime Act of 1984 (VOCA) and serves as a major funding source for victim services throughout the country. Each year, millions of dollars are deposited into this Fund from criminal fines, forfeited bail bonds, penalty fees, and special assessments collected by U.S. Attorney's Offices, U.S. Courts, and the Bureau of Prisons. These dollars come from offenders convicted of Federal crimes not from taxpayers.

THE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT (VAWA)

This amendment to the Clery Act, passed in 1990, requires more specific information to be reported including statistics on sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking. Universities must also implement an awareness and prevention program focused on healthy relationships and bystander intervention that reaches all incoming and continuing students, faculty and staff.

Source: U.S. Department of Justice

Sources

Acierno R, Hernandez MA, Amstadter AB, Resnick HS, Steve K, Muzzy W, et al. (2010). Prevalence and correlates of emotional, physical, sexual, and financial abuse and potential neglect in the United States: The national elder mistreatment study. *American Journal of Public Health*, 100(2), 292-297.

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CHILD ABUSE

Child abuse is when a parent or caregiver, whether through action or failing to act, causes injury, death, emotional harm or risk of serious harm to a child. There are many forms of child maltreatment, including neglect, physical abuse, sexual abuse, exploitation, and emotional abuse.

PHYSICAL ABUSE

Physical abuse of a child is when a parent or caregiver causes any non-accidental physical injury to a child. Physical abuse includes striking, kicking, burning, biting, hair pulling, choking, throwing, shoving, whipping or any other action that injures a child. Even if the caregiver didn't mean to cause injury, when the child is injured it is abuse. Physical discipline from a parent that does not injure or impair a child is not considered abuse; however, non-violent alternatives are always available.

SEXUAL ABUSE

Sexual abuse occurs when an adult uses a child for sexual purposes or involves a child in sexual acts. It also includes when a child who is older or more powerful uses another child for sexual gratification or excitement.

EMOTIONAL ABUSE

When a parent or caregiver harms a child's mental and social development, or causes severe emotional harm, it is considered emotional abuse. While a single incident may be abuse, most often emotional abuse is a pattern of behavior that causes damage over time.

CHILD NEGLECT

Child neglect is when a parent or caregiver does not give the care, supervision, affection and support needed for a child's health, safety and well-being. Child neglect includes: physical neglect and inadequate supervision, emotional neglect, medical neglect, and educational neglect.



Source: Child Help

STATISTICS

THERE IS A COMMON LINK BETWEEN DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND CHILD ABUSE. AMONG VICTIMS OF CHILD ABUSE, **40%** REPORT DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IN THE HOME.

EVERY YEAR MORE THAN **3 MILLION** REPORTS OF CHILD ABUSE ARE MADE IN THE UNITED STATES



28.3% OF ADULTS REPORT BEING PHYSICALLY ABUSED AS A CHILD



20.7% OF ADULTS REPORT BEING SEXUALLY ABUSED AS A CHILD

10.6% OF ADULTS REPORT BEING EMOTIONALLY ABUSED AS A CHILD



Source: Child Help, Unicef



ELDER ABUSE

Federal definitions of elder abuse first appeared in the 1987 Amendments to the Older Americans Act, however, these definitions are guidelines. Each state defines elder abuse according to its unique statutes and regulations, and definitions vary from state to state. Researchers also use varying definitions to describe and study the problem.

Domestic elder abuse generally refers to any of the following types of mistreatment that are committed by someone with whom the elder has a special relationship (for example, a spouse, sibling, child, friend, or caregiver).

Institutional abuse generally refers to any of the following types of mistreatment occurring in residential facilities (such as a nursing home, assisted living facility, group home, board and care facility, foster home, etc.) and is usually perpetrated by someone with a legal or contractual obligation to provide some element of care or protection.

Elder abuse can affect people of all ethnic backgrounds and social status and can affect both men and women. The following types of abuse are commonly accepted as the major categories of elder mistreatment:



PHYSICAL ABUSE

Inflicting, or threatening to inflict, physical pain or injury on a vulnerable elder, or depriving them of a basic need.

SEXUAL ABUSE

Non-consensual sexual contact of any kind, coercing an elder to witness sexual behaviors.

EMOTIONAL ABUSE

Inflicting mental pain, anguish, or distress on an elder person through verbal or nonverbal acts.

EXPLOITATION

Illegal taking, misuse, or concealment of funds, property, or assets of a vulnerable elder.

NEGLECT

Refusal or failure by those responsible to provide food, shelter, health care or protection for a vulnerable elder.

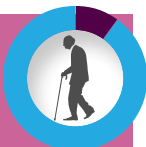
ABANDONMENT

The desertion of a vulnerable elder by anyone who has assumed the responsibility for care or custody of that person.

Source: National Center on Elder Abuse: Administration on Aging

STATISTICS

THE MOST RECENT MAJOR STUDIES ON INCIDENCE REPORT THAT BETWEEN **7.6%-10%** OF PARTICIPANTS EXPERIENCED ABUSE.



ELDERS WHO HAVE BEEN ABUSED HAVE A **300%** HIGHER RISK OF DEATH WHEN COMPARED TO THOSE WHO HAVE NOT BEEN MISTREATED.

PEOPLE WITH **DEMENTIA** ARE AT A GREATER RISK OF ELDER ABUSE THAN THOSE WITHOUT.

IN ALMOST **60%** OF ELDER ABUSE AND NEGLECT INCIDENTS, THE PERPETRATOR IS A FAMILY MEMBER.

