

Abuse/Violence

The National Resource Center on Domestic Violence defines teen dating violence as:

A pattern of actual or threatened acts of physical, sexual, verbal and/or emotional abuse, perpetrated by an adolescent against a current or former dating partner. The abusive teen uses this pattern of violent and coercive behavior—either in a heterosexual or homosexual dating relationship—in order to gain power and maintain control over the dating partner.

Prevalence



WARNING SIGNS OF ABUSIVE RELATIONSHIPS

Ask Yourself: Does my boyfriend or girlfriend....

- Tell me what to wear?
- Have to be with me all the time?
- Call me names, insult me, or criticize me?
- Act jealous, possessive, controlling, or bossy?
- Give me orders or make all the decisions?
- Get angry very quickly, or fight a lot?
- Threaten to hurt me or someone in my family if I don't do what they want?
- Threaten to hurt themselves if I don't do what they want?
- Shove, punch, slap, pinch, kick, or hit me? Pull my hair? Strangle me?
- Touch or kiss me when I don't want to?
- Check my email, Facebook or text messages?
- Refuse to accept that the relationship is over or not working?



- ◆ Denton County Friends of the Family 24-hour Crisis Line (940) 382-7273 or (800) 572-4031
- ◆ National Dating Abuse Helpline 1-866-331-9474
- ◆ Texas Department of Family and Protective Services: 24-hour Family Violence Hotline 1-800-252-5400

Personal wellness. Empowered students. Promising futures.

Electronic Dating Violence

"I call it an electronic leash. I've had girls come into my office with cell phone bills showing 9,000 text messages and calls in a month. This is all hours of the day and night. And it's threatening. 'Hi. How are you? Where are you? Who are you with? Who are you talking to?'"

– Dr. Jill Murray, Psychologist

If You Are Being Abused You Might...



In a survey of kids ages 11 to 18, one in 20 boys admits to having uploaded or shared a humiliating or harassing photo of their romantic partner online. Roughly 10 percent of both boys and girls claim to have received a threatening cell-phone message from a romantic partner. Teens are using their ever-present technology for such maliciousness that a new term had to be coined for it: "electronic dating violence."

<http://www.nbcnews.com/>

Warning Signs

Tips to Keep You Safe

"It's the phenomenon of no place to run and no place to hide. Now, you can be stalked electronically. You can't even see your predator coming."

– Kevin Jennings,
Assistant Deputy Secretary,
US Department of Education

There are normal reactions. You are not alone.

RESOURCES

- www.ncsu.edu
- www.loveisrespect.org
- www.breakthechain.org
- www.dcof.org
- www.tcfv.org
- www.loveisnotabuse.org
- www.chooserespect.org
- www.thesafeplace.org