The following is a presentation of...
TEEN DATING VIOLENCE IS . . .

... a local, state & national concern.

2006  Teen Dating Violence Awareness & Prevention Week
2008  National Association of Attorneys General
2009  “Shelter from My Storm”
2010  Teen Dating Violence Awareness & Prevention Month
2010  Louisiana HB 46 signed into Law

- Definition
- Warning Signs
- Characteristics of Healthy Relationships
TEEN DATING VIOLENCE IS . . .

. . . defined as a pattern of behavior where one person threatens to use or actually uses physical, emotional, verbal and/or sexual abuse to control his or her dating partner.
an issue that affects young people of all cultures, religions, ages, sexual orientations, educational backgrounds, and income levels.
TEEN DATING VIOLENCE IS . . .

. . . a public health problem.

• 20% of teens who have been in a serious relationship report they have been hit, slapped or pushed by a dating partner.

• 1 in 4 teens report feeling pressure to date; 14% say they would do almost anything to keep a boyfriend or girlfriend.

• Young women (16-24) experience the highest per capita rates of IPV (nearly 20 per 1000 women).

• One study found that 38% of date rape victims were young women from 14-17 years old.

• A survey of adolescent and college students revealed that date rape accounted for 67% of sexual assaults.
A Fight We Can Win is a program designed to address the issue of teen dating violence. Your participation in this anonymous survey will help us include your voice in this important project. Your answers to these survey questions will be used as a guide in the creation of training and educational programs for parents, teachers, counselors, school resource officers and the community.

Please give us some general information about you: 3% Null
34% Male  63% Female  Age_____ Grade_____ School_______

1. How would you define “teen dating violence?” (Check all that apply.)
   65% Physical abuse  67% Emotional abuse  58% Sexual abuse  61% Verbal abuse

2. How serious a problem do you think teen dating violence is?
   62% A very serious problem  31% A moderately serious problem  7% Not serious

3. Do you know, or have you known someone who is in an abusive relationship?
   32% Yes  45% No  23% Not sure

4. If you know, or have known someone in an abusive relationship, have you ever wanted to do something to help or intervene?
   71% Yes  29% No

5. If you have wanted to help or intervene but did not, indicate why. (Check all that apply.)
   43% Didn’t know how  23% Afraid of getting someone in trouble
   49% Didn’t want to get involved  19% Afraid of getting hurt
   25% Didn’t want to lose a friend  6% Afraid others would dislike/distrust me

6. What type of abuse have you witnessed? (Check all that apply.)
   52% Hitting, pushing & shoving  64% Yelling & screaming
   39% Threatening violence  42% Embarrassing/humiliating the victim
   23% Choking  46% Excessive calling & texting
   21% Unwanted kissing & touching  25% Stalking/spying
   13% Forcing to have sex  63% Name-calling

7. Are you presently or have you ever been in an abusive relationship?
   14% Yes  80% No  6% Not sure  A 17 year-old girl answered this question with “hell no!”

8. If you have experienced abuse in the past . . .
   . . . how old were you when the abuse occurred? Average age 13.5
   . . . how long did you stay in the relationship? Range 4 mos to 2 yrs

9. If you have been in an abusive relationship, have you been in more than one?
   6% Yes  94% No  If yes, how many? Average 2.5
10. If you have experienced abuse, check all that apply.
   - 40% Hitting, pushing & showing
   - 33% Threatening violence
   - 16% Choking
   - 19% Unwanted kissing & touching
   - 8% Forcing to have sex
   - 52% Yelling & screaming
   - 27% Embarrassment & humiliation
   - 39% Excessive calling & texting
   - 22% Stalking/spying
   - 73% Name-calling

11. If you are, or have been in an abusive relationship that you couldn’t get out of, why do you (did you) stay? (Check all that apply.)
   - 33% Don’t (didn’t) know how to leave
   - 19% Afraid of losing partner
   - 48% Believe things will (would) get better
   - 11% Believe it is (was) my fault
   - 15% Afraid of being hurt
   - 6% Afraid of losing friends
   - 43% Believe I can (could) change him/her
   - 26% He/she is only abusive some of the time

12. If you have been in an abusive relationship but were able to get out of it, how did you end it?
   - 65% Broke up with partner on my own
   - 15% I didn't - my partner broke up with me
   - 9% I sought & received help
   - 14% Parents got involved

13. If you asked someone for help, whom did you ask?
   - 33% Parents
   - 18% Teacher
   - 10% Counselor
   - 1% School Resource Officer
   - 10% Minister
   - 58% Friend
   - Other Examples - brother, police, aunt, sister

14. If you or a friend have been in an abusive relationship, where did the abuse most often occur?
   - 67% Partner's Home
   - 29% School
   - 19% In vehicles
   - 13% Online
   - Other Examples: public, outings, streets

15. Number the following list beginning with most trusted at number one. Whom would you trust the most to help you if you were in an abusive relationship?
   - 35% Friends
   - 48% Parents
   - 0% Teacher
   - 6% Police Officer
   - 2% Minister/Priest/Rabbi
   - 0% School counselor
   - Other (please name) Examples - uncle, sister, youth minister, therapist, grandparent

   These results reflect only the percentage of number one listings received by each group.

16. Have you ever witnessed your mother being abused by her husband/boyfriend?
   - 20% ☐ Yes
   - 80% ☐ No

Please add any comments you would like to share about dating violence in the space below:

"I think people should talk about this."

"Get help no matter what. Don't be afraid."

"Some teens stay in a relationship because they don't want to be alone."

"If you're in an abusive relationship, immediately go and get help - it's not worth your life."

Thank you for participating in this survey. If you have concerns about a relationship that you or a friend are in, call:

National Teen Dating Violence Helpline: 866-331-9474

If you or a friend are in danger, please let a trusted adult know immediately.
TEEN DATING VIOLENCE IS . . .

. . . a factor negatively affecting teens’ well-being.

• More likely to do poorly in school.
• More likely to engage in unhealthy behaviors.
• More likely to experience stress, eating disorders & depression.
• More likely to contemplate or attempt suicide.
• Will carry the patterns of violence into future relationships.
• Three times more likely than non-abused peers to experience violence during college.
TEEN DATING VIOLENCE IS . . .

...influenced by how teenagers look at themselves & others.

Young men may believe:

- they have the right to “control” their female partners any way they choose.
- “masculinity” is physical aggressiveness.
- they “possess” their partner.
- it’s okay to demand intimacy.
- they may lose respect if they are attentive & supportive toward their girlfriends.
TEEN DATING VIOLENCE IS . . .

...influenced by how teenagers look at themselves & others.

Young women may believe:

- they are responsible for solving problems in their relationships.
- their boyfriend’s jealousy, possessiveness & even physical abuse is “romantic.”
- abuse is “normal” because their friends or mothers are also being abused.
- there is no one who will understand or to ask for help.
TEEN DATING VIOLENCE IS . . .

...all about Power & Control

Domestic Abuse Intervention Project, Duluth, MN
TEEN DATING VIOLENCE ~ Risk Factors

- History of Violence
- Witness to Violence
- Low Self Esteem & Depression
- Traditional Role Beliefs
- Community Violence
- Alcohol use
- Inability to manage conflict / behavior problems
## WHAT ARE THE WARNING SIGNS?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Extreme jealousy</th>
<th>Shows hypersensitivity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Controlling behavior</td>
<td>Believes in rigid sex roles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quick involvement</td>
<td>Blames others for problems</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unpredictable mood swings</td>
<td>Cruel to animals or children</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alcohol &amp; drug use</td>
<td>Verbally abusive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Explosive anger</td>
<td>Abused former partners</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Isolates from friends &amp; family</td>
<td>Threatens violence</td>
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<tr>
<td>Uses force during arguments</td>
<td>Was abused as a child</td>
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<tr>
<td>Common Clues</td>
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<td>----------------------------------</td>
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<tr>
<td>Physical signs of injury</td>
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<tr>
<td>Truancy/Failing grades</td>
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<tr>
<td>Indecision</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pregnancy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Isolation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Changes in mood or personality</td>
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<tr>
<td>Excuses</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dropping out of school</td>
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<tr>
<td>Low self-esteem</td>
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<td>Emotional outbursts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Self-blame</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fear of conflict</td>
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</table>
The longer abuse goes on, the more frequently it occurs and the more severe it can become.
HOW TO HELP

- Listen.
- Do not blame.
- Assure victims it’s not their fault.
- Be patient.
- Recognize it’s extremely difficult to leave.
- Don’t give advice.
- Give them resources for help.
- Suggest safety planning.
HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS - WHAT DO THEY LOOK LIKE?

Domestic Abuse Intervention Project - Duluth, MN
Teen Dating Bill of Rights

Teens have the right to:

- Be treated with respect.
- Be in a healthy relationship.
- Not be hurt physically.
- Not be hurt emotionally.
- Ask for a date.
- Refuse a date.
- Suggest activities.
- Refuse any activities.
- Have their own feelings & express them.
- Have their limits & values respected.
- Refuse affection.
- Refuse to have sex any time.
- Refuse to lend money.
- Have friends aside from their partners.
- End a relationship.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Resource</th>
<th>Phone Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>National Dating Abuse Helpline</td>
<td>866.331.9474</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Sexual Assault Hotline</td>
<td>800.656.HOPE (8255)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Suicide Prevention Hotline</td>
<td>800.656.TALK (8255)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sexual Assault Center of Family Counseling Agency</td>
<td>318.448-0284</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turning Point Battered Women’s Program</td>
<td>318.442.7196</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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