

Dear Friends,

The ABC's of Teen Dating Violence is presented in workshops to Cook County high schools.

The goal of the Dating Violence Prevention Speakers' Program is to bring the problem of teen dating violence directly to the individuals most at risk: the students. Through use of a video, this brochure, and additional resource material on dating violence, specially trained volunteers from the Circuit Court Clerk's Office guide students through discussions on the topic.

Our office also offers workshops on this topic to parent and teacher groups. These seminars are intended to give teachers and parents the tools needed to be both familiar with and have the tools to support the student.

Our program is meant to be a beginning, an initiation, the start to an open dialogue on the topic of teen dating violence. Only with continued awareness, discussion, and action can we begin to make a difference.

For more information on scheduling a workshop at your school, call the Office of the Circuit Court Clerk of Cook County, Domestic Violence Program at (312) 325-9467.

Sincerely,

Clerk of the Circuit Court of Cook County

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**COOK COUNTY
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PROGRAMS**
(INCLUDES TEEN DATING VIOLENCE COUNSELING)

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HELPLINE

(Phone Access to All Agencies)
(877) 863-6338 (*) TDD (877) 863-6339(#)

***24-HOUR HOT LINE NUMBERS #TDD SERVICE**

- APNA GHAR*(800) 717-0757
- C.A.W.C. GREENHOUSE*(773) 278-4566
-#(773) 278-4114
- CHICAGO METRO. BATTERED WOMEN'S NETWORK**
-*(877) 863-6338
-#(877) 863-6339
- CLARA'S HOUSE(773) 778-8854
- CONSTANCE MORRIS HOUSE*(708) 485-5254
-#(708) 485-5257
- CRISIS CENTER FOR SOUTH SUBURBIA*(708) 429-7255
-#(708) 429-7284
- DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COURT ADVOCACY PROJECT**
-*(312) 341-2883
-#(708) 429-7233
- FAMILY RESCUE*(800) 360-6619
-#(773) 375-8774
- FRIENDS OF BATTERED WOMEN*(800) 603-4357
-#(773) 274-6508
- HORIZONS ANTI-VIOLENCE PROJECT*(773) 871-2273
- HOUSE OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD**
-(773) 935-3434
-#(773) 935-3523
- KOREAN WOMEN IN NEED (KAN-WIN)(773) 583-0880
- LIFE SPAN(312) 408-1210
-*(847) 824-4454
-#(847) 824-0189 ... (POLISH) *(847) 824-1158
- METROPOLITAN FAMILY SERVICES**(773) 884-2235
-#(773) 884-0005
- MUJERES LATINAS EN ACCION*(312) 738-5358
-#(312) 226-3350
- NEOPOLITAN LIGHTHOUSE*(773) 722-0005
-#(773) 826-2883
- RAINBOW HOUSE(773) 762-6611
-#(773) 762-6802
- SARAH'S INN*(708) 386-4225
-#(708) 386-3687
- SHALVA*(773) 583-4673
- SOUTH SUBURBAN FAMILY SHELTER*(877) 335-3020
-#(708) 647-6843
- SOUTHWEST WOMEN WORKING TOGETHER**
-*(773) 582-0550
-#(773) 582-9392
- WELLSPRING(773) 723-2119
- WOMEN'S COUNSELING CENTER(773) 561-3500
-#(773) 561-6119
- THE WOMEN'S PROGRAM(773) 847-4417
- YWCA OF NORTH SHORE*(877) 718-1868

DOROTHY BROWN
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
OF COOK COUNTY

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PROGRAM



**THE ABC'S
OF TEEN DATING
VIOLENCE**



The ABC's of Teen Dating Violence

Anyone can be a victim of dating violence. Teens who are wealthy or not, religious or not, straight or not. It makes no difference what race or ethnic background a person is. Anyone can be a victim. Anyone can be an abuser.

Be safe. Be a survivor, not a victim. Understand the three types of abuse.

Control. Abuse is about control, not love. Learn the difference. Be safe.

Dating violence is a consistent pattern of verbal (or emotional) abuse, physical abuse, or sexual abuse.

Emotional abuse can be more serious than physical abuse. Does your partner call you names? Humiliate you? Isolate you from your friends? Make all the decisions? Threaten you? Make you afraid?

Family and friends can help you. Don't keep any abuse secret. The more people who know, the safer you are.

Get help. Call a domestic violence program. You are not alone.

Help your friends who may be victims. They need you as a friend now more than ever.

Intervention and prevention begin with you. Do not accept any abuse from anyone or to anyone.

Judges know the problems of dating violence. If you have to get an order of protection to be safe—do it.

Kicking, hitting, and punching are types of physical abuse. Once is too many.

Love should be special. It is never controlling. It is never about one person telling the other person what to think, do, or how to act.

Murder is the ultimate horror of dating violence. It is the cause of 24% of teen homicides.

No one likes being hit. Victims are afraid to leave abusers because they are afraid of being hit harder. Leave. Be a survivor.

Orders of protection tell the abusers what they can and cannot do. Call the Clerk's Office for more information.

Physical abuse doesn't always leave bruises, but it always leaves scars.

Qualified counselors are available to help teen dating violence victims 24 hours a day. Call now for support.

Read and remember everything you can about dating violence. It could be a real lifesaver.

Sexual abuse can be anything from ruining your reputation, to touching you improperly, to rape.

Tell. The abuser wants you to think that no one will believe you. The abuser wants you to think that no one else cares about you. The abuser is wrong. People believe. People care. Abuse should not be a secret. Tell.

Understand that you are not alone: friends, family, teachers, the police, judges, are all there to help.

Victory is in becoming a survivor. You do not have to be a victim. Only you can begin to make that change.

Winning the battle against teen dating violence is everyone's job. Listen to your friends. Share this brochure with anyone who may need it. You can make a difference.

X-rays don't show all the hurt. Teen dating violence hurts everyone. Help stop the hurt.

Yearly, about 25% of all teens are dating violence victims. Don't be a statistic.

Zero tolerance is the only acceptable level of teen dating violence.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT TEEN DATING VIOLENCE, PLEASE CALL THE CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PROGRAM

(312) 325-9467
(312) 325-9468