

Teen Dating Violence

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS & CAREGIVERS



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FLYER DESIGNED BY:

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Approximately 1 in 3 teens will experience some form of physical, sexual, emotional, or verbal dating abuse.

Only 33% of those involved in abusive relationships ever tell anyone about the abuse.

80% of parents do not believe teen dating violence is an issue.

THE FOLLOWING ARE SIGNS THAT YOUR CHILD MAY BE EXPERIENCING AN UNHEALTHY RELATIONSHIP.

- Sudden changes in mood including anxiety, depression, or isolation.
- Physical changes to your child's health or hygiene.
- A new interest in their looks or change in styling habits.
- Changes in friends, or who they spend their time with influenced by a partner.
- Spending all their time with a partner, feeling the need to be available to them either in person, through texts or calls, or on social media. Worrying about missing calls or texts.
- Becoming secretive about interactions, conversations, or friends.
- Sudden changes in interests or not being interested in things that they once enjoyed.
- They show fear or anxiety about how their partner may react to certain situations.
- Their partner uses degrading language, uses threats, or pressures your child.

Not all these signs mean that an abusive relationship is happening, but they are potential Red Flags.

The best way of helping protect your child against dating violence is encouraging open communication in a judgement free zone and empowering them to ask for guidance. Also, knowing your area's resources for further help.

Bay Area Women's Center offers free counseling services to people of all genders who have experienced relationship violence or sexual assault. You can reach them 24/7 at 989-686-4551.

If your family is experiencing homelessness or displacement from the home your children do not have to experience a lapse in school attendance. Contact the school's McKinney-Vento liaison for transportation help.