

Teen Dating Violence

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**SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS A TEEN IS
IN AN ABUSIVE RELATIONSHIP**

- **Physical bruises or injuries**
 - Attempts to hide their injuries
 - Sudden change in dress or make-up
 - Explanation of injuries
- **Truancy or withdrawal**
 - Decreased interest in school activities
 - Dropping out of school
 - Failing in school

- **Social isolation**
 - Due to shame
 - Jealous accusations by boyfriend
 - Spends all their time with boyfriend
 - Withdrawl from friends and family
- **Difficulty making decisions**
 - Feeling of anxiety about making decisions
 - Must get permission from boyfriend
 - Avoid eye contact

- **Changes in mood or personality**
 - Depression, withdrawn, acting out, secretiveness, increased insecurity
 - Feelings of inadequacy, anxiousness
 - Emotional ambivalence about the relationship
 - Change in routine, give up activities
- **Pregnancy**
 - Feel pregnancy will help them get out of relationship
 - Pregnancy increases the risk of violence in teenage relationships

- **Crying easily, Overreacting**
 - Reacting to stress
 - Hysterical in response to something minor
 - Living under extreme tension

Warning signs of a batterer

- **Jealousy**
 - Abuser will say it's a sign of love but really it's a sign of insecurity and possessiveness
 - Tells girlfriend he can't live without her
 - Acts jealous or says jealous things
 - Possessive about the time you spend with friends
- **Controlling behavior**
 - Abuser will say he is concerned for their safety
 - Controls who she sees and what she does
 - Makes all major decisions
 - Constantly checking up on girlfriend and asking where and who they are with

- **Quick involvement**
 - Jump into a relationship too fast
 - Needs someone desperately
 - Will pressure for commitment
 - Refuses to take no for an answer
- **Unrealistic expectations**
 - Dependant
 - Meet all of his needs

- **Isolation**
 - Accuses her of people who are her support
 - Keeps her from school, friends, or activities
 - Forces you to choose them over family and friends
- **Blames others for his problems**
 - Someone is always doing him wrong
 - Blames girlfriend for his faults
 - Blows disagreements out of proportion

- **Blames others for his feelings**
 - Uses feelings to manipulate
- **Rigid sex roles**
 - Expects girlfriend to serve him
 - Sees women as inferior to men
 - Unable to be a whole person without a relationship
 - Think men should be in control and women should do what they're told
 - Treats you like property rather than a person they value

- **Verbal abuse**
 - Degrades women
 - Runs down her accomplishments
 - Rarely calls her by her own name
 - Insults, humiliates, or belittles girlfriend
- **Past battering**
 - Says past girlfriend made him hit her
 - Blames past bad relationships on everything and everybody instead of accepting any of the responsibility
- **Threats of violence**
 - Threat of physical force to control
 - Threatens to hurt himself if you break up with him
 - Abusive or aggressive toward animals or objects

**Domestic Violence and
Sexual Assault**

True or False?

T/F?

Physical abuse is more emotionally damaging than verbal abuse and other methods of control and intimidation.

T/F?

Most batterers show their violent side later in the relationship.

T/F?

Some abusers do not drink alcohol.

T/F?

The goal of battering is to establish control over another.

T/F?

A victim is usually at high risk while pregnant of taking action to leave the partner.

T/F?

A battered partner is constantly seeking ways to survive or change the abusive situation.

T/F?

It is the women's fault if she is raped while passed out from drinking?

T/F?

1 out 3 native girls will be sexually assaulted by the age of 18.

T/F?
Over two-thirds of rape are committed by an acquaintance.

Questions or Comments?
