

What You Should Know About Family Violence

- Family violence is the physical, emotional or psychological abuse or threat of abuse of a family or household member.
- Ohio law enforcement agencies received nearly 72,000 domestic dispute calls in 2006.
- Nearly 5.3 million intimate partner victimizations occur each year among U.S. women ages 18 and older.
- Annually, more than 300,000 pregnant women are abused by an intimate partner. Murder is the second leading cause of injury-related death for pregnant women.
- Nearly 60 percent of female victims and 30 percent of male victims are stalked by an intimate partner. Eighty-one percent of women stalked by an intimate partner are also violated by that partner.
- The costs of intimate partner victimization against women exceed an estimated \$5.8 billion a year.
- Family members commit 90 percent of verified incidents of domestic elder abuse and neglect.
- Children who witness domestic violence and receive counseling and treatment are less likely to become abusers or have other violence-related problems as they grow up.

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Family Violence Prevention Center

Coordinating Ohio's Resources for Safer Families

www.fvpc.ohio.gov

1-888-448-4842



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Stopping the Family Violence Cycle . . .

Safety planning is critical to ending an abusive relationship and is the first step in breaking the cycle of violence.

Some practical tips include:

- ✓ If you fear for your safety or are in immediate danger, call 9-1-1.
- ✓ Identify and practice an escape route.
- ✓ Inform a trusted friend or neighbor about what is happening.
- ✓ Put important documents like driver licenses, Social Security cards, credit cards, bank account numbers, prescriptions, passports, school records, immunization cards and birth certificates in a readily accessible place.
- ✓ Pack a bag with necessities and hide it.
- ✓ Know where temporary shelter is available.
- ✓ Abusers can monitor the Web sites you have visited and even read your personal e-mails from their computer. **Be cautious:** Use a computer that the abuser does not have direct or remote access to, such as one at a trusted friend's house or library.
- ✓ Consider getting a cellular phone to call the police in case of emergency.
- ✓ Seek counseling when stressful situations are impairing your ability to respond non-violently to your children.

The opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this publication are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Department of Justice. This project was supported by Award # 2003-DG-B0V-7239 awarded by the Bureau of Justice Assistance, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice, and administered by the Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services.



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WWW.PUBLICSAFETY.OHIO.GOV

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For Help, Call:

Ohio Domestic Violence Network

1-800-934-9840

Action Ohio Coalition for Battered Women

1-888-622-9315



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