

WEB SITES

Attorney General State of Ohio

www.ag.state.oh.us

Ohio Domestic Violence Network

www.odvn.org

Justice League of Ohio

www.thejusticeleagueohio.org

ACTION Ohio Coalition for Battered Women

www.actionohio.org

Ohio Hispanic Coalition

www.ohiohispaniccoalition.org

BRAVO-Buckeye Region Anti-Violence Organization

www.bravo-ohio.org

CHOICES

www.choicesdvcols.org

Community Refugee and Immigration Services

www.cris-ohio.com

Directions for Youth & Families

Children Who Witness Violence

www.dfyf.org

Ohio Alliance to End Sexual Violence

www.oaesv.org

VICTIM SERVICE AGENCY

Fayette County

Fayette County Victim Witness Division

(740) 335-8033

www.fayette-co-oh.com

My Sister's House Domestic Violence

Shelter

(740) 636-9300

Crisis Line: 740-572-2919

Greene County

Family Violence Prevention Center

937-376-8526

Crisis Line: 937-372-4552

www.fvpcgc.org

Clinton & Highland County

Alternatives to Violence Center

937-383-3285 or 866-296-5415

www.avconline.us

Ross County

Coalition Against Domestic Violence

740-775-5396

Pickaway County

Haven House

740-477-9113

Clark, Champaign & Logan Counties

Project Woman

937-328-5308

Hotline: 800-634-9893

www.projectwomanohio.org



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Victim Witness Division

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND SAFETY PLANNING

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Victim Witness Division

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What is Domestic Violence?

Domestic Violence is when a family or household member uses physical violence, threats, intimidation, and/or emotional sexual or economic abuse to maintain power and control over the other person, usually within an intimate relationship. Domestic violence is most often a combination of psychological and physical actions; the physical results are just the most visible. Domestic violence is a pattern of conduct in which one intimate partner uses force or threats of force to control the other person.

When a family or household member tries to cause you bodily harm by hitting, punching, beating, or physically hurting you, that is domestic violence. When a family or household member makes you afraid that you will be harmed, that is domestic violence. When a family or household member stalks, commits sexually oriented offenses against you, or forces sexual relations on you that is domestic violence. When a family or household member abuses your children, that is domestic violence.

Some facts about Domestic Violence

Between 25 and 50 percent of all women in America will be physically abused by a partner at least once in their lives. Domestic Violence is the number one cause of injury to women between the ages of 15–44 in the U.S. — More than car accidents, muggings, and stranger rapes combined.

50% of men who frequently abuse their wives also frequently abuse their children.

A child who lives in a family where there is violence between parents is 15 times more likely to be abused.

About 80% of sexual assaults are committed by partner or acquaintance of the victim

Pregnant women are especially at risk for battery and it is common for physical abuse to begin or escalate during pregnancy.

What To Do

There are resources available to assist victims of domestic violence leave their abusers.

Safety Planning— It is important that anyone living in or planning to leave an abusive relationship to safety plan.

If you are planning to leave make sure that you keep these items in an area that is easily accessible to you:

- Money and checkbook
- Identification— driver's license, passport, green card, public assistance information, work permit, etc.
- Civil Protection Order
- Birth Certificates and Social Security Cards— Yours and your children's.
- Clothing
- Lease, rental agreement, house deed.
- Insurance papers
- House and car keys
- Medications
- Address book.
- Divorce papers
- School records

Safety during an explosive incident—

- If an argument seems unavoidable, move to an room or area with easy access to an exit.
- Identify which exit offers the quickest way out of the home.
- Have a bag packed and ready, keep it in an und disclosed but accessible place.
- Find neighbors that you can tell about the violence and have them call police if they hear a disturbance.

Safety at home and at work

Safety at Home

Develop a safety plan and discuss it with you children. Review the plan as often as possible. Your advocate can assist you with completing a safety plan and implementing your decisions.

Change the locks and install devices to secure your windows.

Make sure that your children's school, day-care center, and babysitter knows who is authorized to pick up your children. If there is an order of protection make sure that you have discussed this with your child's teacher and school administrator. Make sure that your child's school or daycare have a copy of your protection order.

Before you resume a potentially abusive relationship, discuss alternatives with someone you trust.

Safety at Work

If you have an order of protection, keep it with you at all times. Make sure that your supervisor is aware of your situation and that you employer has a copy of your protection order. If possible, provide a photo of your abuser to your supervisor.

Inform building security and co-workers you trust of your situation.

Vary your routes to and from work and arrange for someone to escort you to your car.