

DATING VIOLENCE FACT SHEET

What is Dating Violence?

The Michigan Domestic Violence Prevention and Treatment Board define **Dating Violence** as a pattern of assaultive and controlling behaviors that one person uses against another in order to gain or maintain power in the relationship. The abuser intentionally behaves in ways that cause fear, degradation and humiliation to control the other person. Forms of abuse can be physical, sexual, emotional and psychological.

National Center for Victims of Crime Reports

32% of Students report dating violence by a previous partner and 21% report violence by a current partner.

12% of completed rapes, 35% of attempted rapes, and 22% of threatened rapes occur on a date.

Estimated 5% of college women experience a completed or attempted rape in a given year.

51% of college males admit perpetrating on or more sexual assault incidents during college.

50% of dating violence victims reports the violence to someone else of these, 88% report the violence to a friend and 20% criminal justice authorities.

Last year there was an increased awareness of dating violence due to the Brianna and Chris Brown incident. Soon students will be embarking on a new school year full of excitement and anticipation for both parents and students. Exploring new relationships and friendships are also part of that new school year excitement. It's important that during this time parents and students open up the lines of communication to encourage the independents needed for growth.

Things you should know:

Parents

Start opening up all lines of communication. Talk to your young adult about dating violence. If for some reason you are concern that their current relationship is abusive let them know that you're there for support (non judgmental). If they find it difficult to talk to you offer the 1-800- Numbers as a resource.

Students ask yourself questions about your relationship

1. Are your feelings taken seriously?
2. Are not being blamed for your partner's behavior?
3. Are you able to grow independently in this relationship?
4. Is the word no accepted without question?
5. Are you able to express yourself freely verbally and physically including dress?

Remember good relationships are giving, respectful, understanding and acceptant of the word no. Please keep in mind that based on the national statistics Sexual Assault is also a part of Dating Violence. Safety plan when you are going out.

Safety Plan

1. Text or phone parents or friends to let them know where you are and who you are with.
2. Walk in pairs at night on campus.
3. Keep with you numbers to on campus security and support groups.
4. Carry cash.

Finally ask your school administrator what proactive measures the administrators are doing to prevent and educate students about Dating Violence.

RESOURCES AND HOTLINES:

HAVEN (248) 334-1274 or (877) 922-1274

The National Teen Dating Abuse Helpline, (866) 331-9474 and TTY 1-800-331-8453

National Domestic Violence Hotline (800) 799-SAFE

RAIN Rape Abuse & Incest National Network (800)-656-HOPE