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Teen Site: www.reachoutnh.com

MEMBERS:

RESPONSE to Sexual & Domestic Violence

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Rape and Domestic Violence

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Concord

Starting Point

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Sexual Harassment and Rape Prevention Program (SHARPP)

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Durham

Monadnock Center for Violence Prevention

Keene
Jaffrey

New Beginnings:

A Women's Crisis Center
Laconia

WISE

(Women's Information Service)
Lebanon

The Support Center at Burch House

Littleton
Woodsville

YWCA Crisis Service

Manchester
Derry

Bridges: Domestic & Sexual Violence Support

Nashua
Milford

Voices Against Violence

Plymouth

A Safe Place

Portsmouth
Rochester
Salem

Sexual Assault Support Services

Portsmouth
Rochester

For information or help,
call toll free 1-800-277-5570
for sexual assault,
or 1-866-644-3574 for
domestic violence.

A FACT SHEET ABOUT TEEN DATING VIOLENCE

Dating violence, like domestic violence, is a pattern of coercive behavior that is used by one person to gain power and control over another, which may include physical violence, sexual, emotional, and psychological intimidation, verbal abuse, stalking, and economic control.

(Family Violence Prevention Fund, "Model Policy on Domestic Violence in the Workplace.")

Approximately 1 in 5 female students (9th through 12th grades) reported being physically and/or sexually assaulted by a dating partner.

(Journal of the American Medical Association, August 1, 2001, "Dating Violence Against Adolescent Girls and Associated Substance Use, Unhealthy Weight Control, Sexual Risk Behavior, Pregnancy and Suicidality")

45% of females and 43% of males reported that they had experienced some form of physical aggression from dating partners at least once in the course of dating.

(O'Keefe, M., Treister, L. "Victims of Dating Violence Among High School Students," Violence Against Women, 4, pp. 195-223, 1998)

Girls reported that their boyfriend initiated the violence 70% of the time.

Boys reported that their girlfriends were the initiators 27% of the time.

(Molidor, C., Tolman, R., "Gender and Contextual Factors in Adolescent Dating Violence," Violence Against Women, 4, pp. 180-194, 1998)

Women between the ages of 16 and 24 are the most likely victims of intimate partner violence.

(Bureau of Justice Statistics, U.S. Department of Justice, "Intimate Partner Violence and Age of Victim," 1993-1999, NCJ-187635)

Dating violence against adolescent girls is associated with increased risk of substance abuse, unhealthy weight control, sexually risky behavior, pregnancy, and attempted suicide.

(Journal of the American Medical Association, August 1, 2001, "Dating Violence Against Adolescent Girls and Associated Substance Use, Unhealthy Weight Control, Sexual Risk Behavior, Pregnancy and Suicidality")

According to a recent Department of Justice survey, younger victims of intimate partner violence were least likely to report the violence to the police.

(Bureau of Justice Statistics, U.S. Department of Justice, "Intimate Partner Violence and Age of Victim," 1993-1999, NCJ-187635)

In a study on low-income teen mothers, 55% experienced domestic violence by their boyfriends in the past year. Domestic violence among girls with older boyfriends was more severe than for those with younger boyfriends.

(Raphael, J., "Domestic Violence and Birth Control Sabotage: A Report from the Teen Project," Center for Impact Research, 2000)

TEEN DATING VIOLENCE Page 2

Less than 3% of teenagers reported a violent incident to an authority figure such as the police, a social worker, counselor, or teacher. Only 3% told a family member about the incident.

(Molidor, C., Tolman, R., "Gender and Contextual Factors in Adolescent Dating Violence," Violence Against Women, 4, pp. 180-194, 1998)

Among female victims, the most common response to the violence was fear, followed closely by emotional hurt. Male victims were more likely to respond that they thought it was funny or that the violence made them angry.

(O'Keefe, M., Treister, L. "Victims of Dating Violence Among High School Students," Violence Against Women, 4, pp. 195-223, 1998)

Girls were much more likely than boys to be punched and forced to engage in sexual activity against their will. Boys, on the other hand, were more likely to be pinched, slapped, scratched, and kicked.

(Molidor, C., Tolman, R., "Gender and Contextual Factors in Adolescent Dating Violence," Violence Against Women, 4, pp. 180-194, 1998)

42% of boys and 43% of girls said that the abuse occurred in a school building or on school grounds.

(Molidor, C., Tolman, R., "Gender and Contextual Factors in Adolescent Dating Violence," Violence Against Women, 4, pp. 180-194, 1998)

Teenage girls who witness or experience violence may be at increased risk of engaging in unhealthy behaviors such as smoking, taking drugs, drinking alcohol, and having unsafe sex. Girls who only witnessed violence were two to three times more likely to report using tobacco or marijuana, drinking alcohol, or using drugs before sex, and having sex with a partner who had multiple partners, compared with girls who had not witnessed or experienced violence. Girls who experienced violence firsthand were also more likely to take these health risks. In addition, they were two to four times more likely than those with no exposure to violence to have sex at an early age, have sex with strangers, have multiple sex partners, or test positive for a sexually transmitted disease.

(Archives of Pediatric and Adolescent Medicine, 2001: 155:1238-1242)

60% of the girls and 51% of the boys stated that the couple was alone at the time of the violent incident.

(Molidor, C., Tolman, R., "Gender and Contextual Factors in Adolescent Dating Violence," Violence Against Women, 4, pp. 180-194, 1998)

The 14 member groups of the NH Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence assist survivors of sexual assault, and domestic violence, and members of their families, with 24-hour crisis lines, emergency shelter, counseling, support groups and help dealing with police, medical and court personnel. The programs provide speakers and educational programs to community groups. In 2003, Coalition member agencies assisted 1,325 sexual assault survivors.

Updated 11/2004

Printing financed with funds provided in part or in whole by the State of NH
and/or United States Department of Health & Human Services.