

# Dating abuse

is a pattern of abusive behaviors  
used to exert power and control  
over a dating partner

TEEN  
DATING  
VIOLENCE  
AWARENESS  
MONTH



#teenDVmonth



NO MORE

Break the Cycle

Because Everyone Deserves a  
Healthy Relationship

# Dating abuse

can happen to anyone regardless of gender, sexual orientation, socioeconomic standing, ethnicity, religion or culture

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# Physical abuse

is any intentional use of physical force with the intent to cause fear or injury, like hitting, shoving, biting, strangling, kicking or using a weapon

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# Sexual abuse

is any sexual activity that occurs without willing, active, unimpaired consent: including rape, coercion, unwanted touching, and restricting access to or tampering with birth control

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# Verbal & Emotional abuse

are any non-physical behaviors such as threats, insults, constant monitoring, humiliation, intimidation, or isolation

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# Digital abuse

is the use of technologies and/or social media networking to intimidate, harass or threaten a current or ex-dating partner such as demanding passwords, checking cell phones, cyberbullying, non-consensual sexting, excessive or threatening texts or stalking on social media

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# Financial abuse

is exerting power and control over a partner through their finances such as taking or withholding money from a partner or preventing them from earning

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# Stalking

is being repeatedly watched, followed, monitored, or harassed, and causes the person to feel fear; it can occur online or in person

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# Common Warning Signs

include: checking cell phones, emails or social networks without permission, extreme jealousy or insecurity, constant belittling or put-downs, explosive temper, isolation from family and friends, making false accusations, erratic mood swings, physically inflicting pain or hurt in any way, possessiveness, telling someone what to do, and repeatedly pressuring someone to have sex

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