



Teen Dating Violence Myths

Myth

My partner's jealousy is a sign of their true love.

Reality

It's a sign that you are a possession, something that they can control.

Myth

You can tell if someone is going to be abusive by the way they look.

Reality

You can't tell if someone will be abusive just by how they look, what their achievements are, or how much money they make.

Myth

My friend is staying with her abusive boyfriend. He must not be that bad.

Reality

Victims of abuse stay with their abuser for various reasons: fear, no self-confidence, or hoping that the person will change.

If you are a victim:

Do not be afraid to ask for help. Talk to an adult, such as a school counselor, teacher, parent, or coach. They can help you get the resources you need. It's better to have someone help you than to handle it on your own.

If someone you know is being abused:

Listen to them and help create solutions for what they can do. Encourage them to talk to an adult, but don't force them to, the decision must be their own. Most of all, be there for your friend and remind them how important they are.

National Teen Dating Abuse Helpline
1-866-331-8453
www.loveisrespect.org

Lancaster Helpline
717-299-4855

Domestic Violence of Lancaster County
717-299-1249
www.dvslanc.org

Warwick School
District



TEEN
DATING
VIOLENCE

PREVENTION
EDUCATION



It will never happen to me...

Dating violence can happen to anyone, regardless of how you look, your academic achievements, or how much money you have. The violence can be both physical and emotional.

What are the signs?

- Your partner constantly needs control by making all decisions and constantly texting or calling you to see who you are with.
- They play mind games or put you down in front of friends, making you feel less confident about yourself.
- They blame you for “making” them treat you badly.
- They pressure you to do things you don’t want to do, including having unprotected sex or sex before you are ready.

2 in 10 teen girls have been abused by a dating partner.

1 in 10 teen boys have been abused in relationships.

Is it happening to me or one of my friends?

Ask yourself:

Do you feel less confident when you’re with your partner?

Do you feel scared?

Do you change your behavior to avoid fighting or because you are afraid?



Abusers Need Help Too

Abusers often have low-self esteem and anger problems. Encourage them to talk to an adult and get help. Reach out to them and let them know they matter to you, but that you disagree with how they are treating their partner.