

## Abuse is NEVER OK

**Abuse** is the act of hurting others. **Domestic abuse** happens within a household. For example, a man may abuse his wife, a boyfriend may hurt his girlfriend or a parent may abuse a child. The people being hurt are called **victims**.

### What is domestic abuse?

- physical abuse like hitting or kicking
- threats
- being held against your wishes
- someone controls what you say or do



### REPORT ABUSE!

**Domestic or sexual abuse is a CRIME.**  
**Contact your local police department, or call 911 if you or someone you know is being abused.**



**FLORIDA COALITION  
AGAINST  
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

Call to find what  
help is in YOUR county.

**1-800-500-1119**

### Some Signs of Domestic Abuse

#### Does your partner:

- Humiliate or yell at you?
- Treat you so badly that you are embarrassed for your friends or family to see?
- Have a bad temper?
- Hurt you or threaten to hurt you?
- Keep you from seeing your friends or family?
- Control where you go and what you do?

### Sexual Abuse

**Sexual abuse** is any forced sexual act. Sexual acts do NOT have to be completed to be abuse.

#### Sexual abuse can be:

- If someone forces you to do anything sexual, this is called **rape**.
- An attempted, but not completed sex act
- Forced sexual contact or touching that does not feel right
- Threats of sexual violence

## Keywords

**abuse:** when someone hurts someone else

**birth control:** different ways to avoid spreading STIs and pregnancy

**domestic abuse:** abuse that occurs within a household

**rape:** when someone forces you to do anything sexual

**safe sex:** using condoms to avoid spreading STIs or unwanted pregnancy

**sexual abuse:** any forced sexual act

**STIs:** Sexually Transmitted Infections are diseases and virus you can get from sex

## Check Your Learning

1. **What is an example of domestic abuse?**
  - o A wife and husband having an argument
  - o Two children fighting over a toy
  - o A man slapping his wife
  
2. **What can you do about domestic violence?**
  - o Report it to the police
  - o Ignore it
  - o Give the abuser a second chance



### Key Points

- Abuse comes in many forms.
- Anyone can be abused.
- Always report domestic abuse!

### Dialog



**Caller:** I think there is a problem next door.

**911 Dispatcher:** Why do you think that?

**Caller:** I hear screaming and crying.

**911 Dispatcher:** Please give me the address where this is happening.

**Caller:** We live at 500 Main Avenue, Jamestown, Florida. I think they live in apartment C.