

STATISTICS

- + ON AVERAGE, **THREE WOMEN PER DAY ARE MURDERED** BY THEIR BOYFRIENDS OR HUSBANDS.
- + IN THE US, **1 IN 4 WOMEN WILL EXPERIENCE VIOLENCE** FROM A PARTNER IN HER LIFETIME.
- + **WOMEN OF ALL AGES ARE AT RISK** FOR ABUSE, BUT FEMALES AGES **16 - 24** ARE MOST VULNERABLE FOR INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE AT A RATE ALMOST TRIPLE THE NATIONAL AVERAGE
- + **1 IN 3 TEEN GIRLS ARE A VICTIM** OF DATING ABUSE.
- + TEEN VICTIMS OF DATING ABUSE ARE **MORE LIKELY** TO SMOKE, DRINK ALCOHOL, ENGAGE IN RISKY SEXUAL BEHAVIORS OR ATTEMPT SUICIDE.
- + **TWO THIRDS OF NONFATAL INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE OF WOMEN OCCURS IN THE HOME**
- + IN A SINGLE DAY IN 2008, **16,458** CHILDREN WERE **LIVING** IN A DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SHELTER.

GET HELP NOW IF

YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW IS EXPERIENCING ABUSE IN THE FORM OF PHYSICAL, SEXUAL OR EMOTIONAL VIOLENCE.

WHO TO CALL:

HOWARD COUNTY DVC

410-997-0304

24 HOUR HELP LINES

410-997-2272

1-800-752 - 0191

24 HOUR SEXUAL ASSAULT
HELPLINE

(410) 997 - 3292

CALL 911 IF IN IMMEDIATE DANGER

SOURCES OF INFORMATION:

CENTER FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND
PREVENTION, INJURY CENTER: VIOLENCE
PREVENTION

FUTURES WITHOUT VIOLENCE (FORMERLY
THE FAMILY VIOLENCE PREVENTION FUND)

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CENTER OF HOWARD
COUNTY

HOWARD COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT,
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE UNIT

COMPILED BY: MEGHAN MCNEIL
SPONSORED BY THE DVC OF HOWARD
COUNTY

GIRL SCOUT GOLD AWARD PROJECT

PROJECT ALERT

DATING ABUSE

AWARENESS

LETS

EVERYONE

REALIZE

TROUBLE

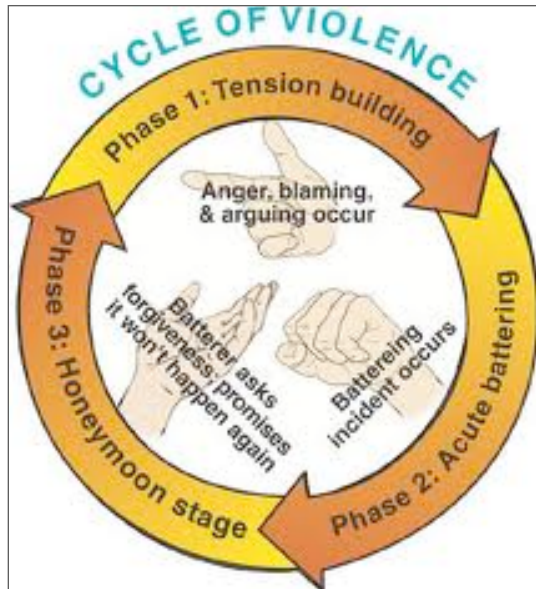
INFORMATION TO HELP
YOURSELF OR A FRIEND

SPEAK UP. BECAUSE NO ONE
SHOULD BE AFRAID.

WHAT IS DATING ABUSE?

“THE PHYSICAL, SEXUAL, PSYCHOLOGICAL/EMOTIONAL VIOLENCE WITHIN A DATING RELATIONSHIP.”

~ CENTER FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION



THE CYCLES OF VIOLENCE

THREE STAGES THROUGH WHICH PARTNERS TYPICALLY CYCLE THROUGH, WHEN INVOLVED IN A VIOLENT RELATIONSHIP.

DESCRIBED AND ILLUSTRATED IN THE ABOVE DIAGRAM

WHO IS AT RISK?

NO WOMAN IS IMMUNE TO ABUSE. IT DOES NOT DISCRIMINATE AGAINST SOCIO-ECONOMIC STATUS, AGE, EDUCATION LEVEL, RACE OR RELIGION.



WHAT IS A HEALTHY RELATIONSHIP?

- + COMMUNICATION - YOU CAN SPEAK OPENLY ABOUT IMPORTANT THINGS TO EACH OTHER
- + YOU RESPECT EACH OTHER AND YOUR DECISIONS, BELIEFS AND BOUNDARIES
- + TRUST IS MUTUAL
- + HONESTY AND EQUALITY IN THE RELATIONSHIP
- + YOUR DECISIONS INVOLVING EACH OTHER ARE CONSENSUAL

MAKE A DIFFERENCE. JOIN THE DVC'S YOUTH AMBASSADORS PROGRAM AND **THE EMPOWERMENT MOVEMENT.**

CONTACT: VANITA LEATHERWOOD FOR MORE INFORMATION

410 - 997 - 0304

EMAIL: OUTREACH@DVCENTER.ORG

WARNING SIGNS OF AN ABUSIVE RELATIONSHIP

- + EXTREME **JEALOUSY**
- + CONSTANT **INSULTS** OR RIDICULE
- + FINANCIAL **CONTROL**
- + **POSSESSIVENESS** OR CONTROLLING BEHAVIOR
- + **KEEPS YOU** FROM FRIENDS OR FAMILY

CONSIDER YOUR PARTNER'S BEHAVIOR:

- + HISTORY OF ABUSIVE BEHAVIOR?
- + MOOD SWINGS?
- + PROBLEMS CONTROLLING THEIR TEMPER?
- + BELIEVES ABUSE IS ACCEPTABLE?

WHAT TO DO ABOUT IT

- + ALERT THE POLICE
- + ALERT SOMEONE YOU TRUST, IMMEDIATELY, IF YOU OR A FRIEND IS IN AN ABUSIVE RELATIONSHIP.
- + LEAVE THE FIRST TIME IT HAPPENS, BECAUSE IT WILL HAPPEN AGAIN, NO MATTER WHAT THE ABUSER SAYS.
- + REMOVE THE ABUSER FROM ALL POINTS OF CONTACT (FACEBOOK, MYSPACE, SKYPE, TWITTER, PHONE)
- + REMEMBER, IT IS NOT YOUR FAULT.
- +