



Get the Facts! **Dating Violence**

Dating violence is defined as the physical, sexual, or psychological/emotional violence within a dating relationship, as well as stalking. It can occur in person or electronically and may occur between a current or former dating partner.

Only 33% of teens who were in a violent relationship ever told anyone about the abuse.

81% of parents believe teen dating violence is **not** an issue or admit they don't know if it's an issue.

In a nationwide survey, 9.4% of high school students report being hit, slapped, or physically hurt on purpose by their boyfriend or girlfriend in the 12 months prior to the survey.

One quarter of high school girls have been victims of physical or sexual abuse.

One in three adolescents in the U.S. is a victim of physical, sexual, emotional or verbal abuse from a dating partner, a figure that far exceeds rates of other types of youth violence.

Girls and young women between the ages of 16 and 24 experience the highest rate of intimate partner violence -- almost triple the national average for women over 24.

Violent behavior typically begins between the ages of 12 and 18.

The severity of intimate partner violence is often greater in cases where the pattern of abuse was established in adolescence.

Violent relationships in adolescence can have serious ramifications by putting the victims at higher risk for substance abuse, eating disorders, risky sexual behavior and further domestic violence.

Being physically or sexually abused makes teen girls six times more likely to become pregnant and twice as likely to get a sexually transmitted disease (STD).

Half of youth who have been victims of both dating violence and rape attempt suicide, compared to 12.5% of non-abused girls and 5.4% of non-abused boys.

Works Cited

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. *Teen Dating Violence*. 22 August 2012. 20 September 2012.
LoveIsRespect.org. *Dating Abuse Statistics*. 2007-2011. 20 September 2012.