

STATISTICS

Approximately 1 in every 10 elders in the US experience abuse, neglect, or financial exploitation.

Every year in the US, elders lose close to \$2.9 billion from financial abuse and 1 in 20 older adults indicate some form of perceived financial mistreatment.

Nearly 90% of abusers are family members, with 2/3 being adult children or spouses.

Elders who have been abused have a 300% higher risk of death when compared to those who have not been mistreated.

** National Council on Aging

RESOURCES

report elder abuse, contact the Adult Protective Services (APS) agency in the state where the elder resides. You can find the APS reporting number each state by visiting: www.aa.acl.gov

The National Center on Elder Abuse

www.ncea.acl.gov/

The Eldercare Locator

www.eldercare.gov

800- 677-1116

Institute on Aging

www.ioaging.org

415-750-4111

*Protect
and
Respect
our
Elders*

ABOUT SAFE

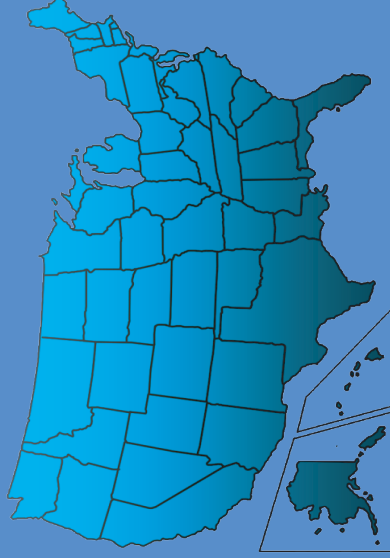
STOP ABUSE FOR EVERYONE is an organization that provides information, resources, a media campaign, educational brochures, an advocacy program, as well as, expert speakers on an array of abuse topics.

We differ from most organizations because we help underserved survivors who have few services available to them.

SAFE views domestic violence as a human rights issue. If you are in an abusive relationship, services should be available to you regardless of your gender, sexuality, or age.

SAFE addresses individual concern and fills in the gaps in domestic violence services where other organizations do not.

Aside from domestic violence, SAFE also addresses bullying, dating violence and sibling abuse.



Check out our National Directory of Service Providers on our website. Consider becoming a member, subscribing to our newsletter, and donating.

Stop Abuse For Everyone™ is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization. Your tax-deductible charitable contribution to SAFE is needed and appreciated!

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ARE YOU

(OR SOMEONE YOU CARE ABOUT)

A VICTIM OF ELDER ABUSE



SAFE

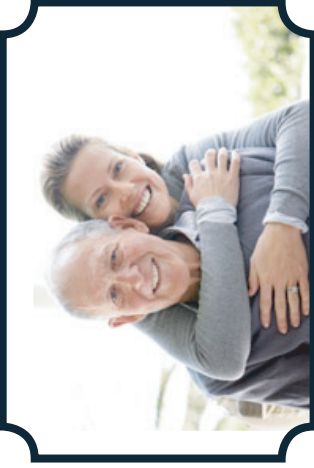
STOP ABUSE FOR EVERYONE

A HUMAN RIGHTS AGENCY

STOPABUSEFOREVERYONE.ORG

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WHAT IS ELDER ABUSE?

Hundreds of thousands of older adults are abused, exploited, and neglected each year. Elder abuse refers to any intentional or negligent act by a caregiver that causes harm, a serious risk of harm, to a vulnerable adult. The victims are usually vulnerable and depend on others because they cannot help themselves. Abusers are often caregivers or well-trusted individuals, such as family members, friends, or acquaintances.

TYPES OF ELDER ABUSE

Emotional or psychological abuse - inflicting mental or emotional pain through behaviors such as name-calling, insults, threats, isolation from others, or treating the elder like a child.

Financial or material exploitation - this can range from misuse of an elder's funds to stealing. It also includes improper use of legal guardianship arrangements, powers of attorney, or financial misrepresentation.

Neglect - failure on behalf of the caregiver to provide food, shelter, health care, or protection.

Self-neglect - failure to perform self-tasks that threaten one's life.

Abandonment - desertion of older individuals by a caregiver.

Physical abuse - inflicting injury, which includes assault, battery, and inappropriate restraints.

Sexual abuse - non-consensual contact of any kind.

WARNING SIGNS OF ELDER ABUSE

- * Sudden changes in financial situations may be the result of exploitation.
- * Unexplained withdrawal from normal activities, a sudden change in alertness, and unusual depression.
- * Behaviors such as belittling, threats, and other uses of power and control by caregivers.
- * Strained or tense relationships, including frequent arguments between the caregiver and elderly person.
- * Bedsores, unattended medical needs, poor hygiene, and unusual weight loss.
- * Bruises around breasts or genital area.

Be alert for signs that may indicate elderly abuse. Oftentimes, the suffering is silent. If you notice any changes in behavior or personality, question the situation.



HOW TO PREVENT ELDER ABUSE?

- * Take care of your physical and mental health.
- * Seek professional help for drug, alcohol, and depression concerns and encourage family members to seek help as well.
- * Attend support groups and learn about local domestic violence services.
- * Plan for your own future. Talk to a lawyer to address health care decisions and seek independent advice from someone you trust before signing documents.
- * Stay active in the community and connected with friends and family.
- * Do not provide personal information over the phone.
- * Review your will periodically and know your rights. If you live in a nursing home or engage in the services of another caretaker, you have the right to state your concerns.
- * Prepare a living trust before it is too late. A living trust can be the most important part of your estate plan.
- * If you or someone you know is in immediate danger, call 911 or the local police for immediate help. If the danger is not immediate, please confide with a doctor, friend, or family member that you trust. Remember, you are not alone. There are many people who care and can help.

“To care for those that once cared for us is one of the highest honors.”

– Tia Walker