

## Facts and Statistics

- Every 15 seconds in the United State's A women is beaten
- Domestic violence results in more injuries that require medical attention than rape, accidents and mugging combined.
- Two in five women who are murdered, are killed by their husbands.
- At least 95% of all cases of partner abuse involve a man beating a woman.
- Domestic violence happens in all cultures, religions, and classes. Level of income and education are not factors.
- Violence in the home usually becomes more frequent and severe over time.
- Children who grow up in violent homes come to believe violence is normal. They come to believe that it is an acceptable way to control someone else. The majority of adult violent prisoners witnessed domestic violence as children.
- Roughly 300,000 women are battered each year.
- In 2001, the Illinois State Police recorded approximately 95,000 Domestic Violence offences representing an 18.5% increase over the year 2000 statistics.
- 85% of non-family related domestic crimes are accounted for by a boyfriend/girlfriend relationship.
- 31 Percent of American Women have reported being physically or sexually abused by a husband or boyfriend.
- Approximately 240,000 pregnant women in the United State's are battered each year.
- In 2002 battered women and their children spent 252,300 nights in shelters.
- In 2002 23,000 adults and children were denied shelter due to lack of space.
- Domestic Violence costs American businesses approximately \$5.8 billion each year (\$4.1 billion in medical and mental health expenses and \$1.7 billion in loss of productivity).



### Who to call

To report domestic violence abuse you can call local authorities:

For emergencies dial 911

Rockford City Police Department:  
Non-Emergency Line (815) 966-2900

Winnebago County Sheriff Department:  
Non-Emergency Line (815) 282-2600

Illinois Coalition Against Domestic Violence  
(ICADV) (217) 789-2830



### Information Provided by:

Illinois Governor's Commission  
Attorney General's Office  
Illinois Coalition Against Domestic Violence  
American Overseas Domestic Violence Crisis  
Center

## *Domestic Violence*

## *Protect Yourself*



### *Winnebago County State's Attorney's Office*



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## Prosecuting Domestic Violence

The Winnebago County State's Attorney's Office is committed to prosecuting domestic violence cases and protecting victims of Domestic Violence and holding the abuser accountable.

The Winnebago County State's Attorney's Office has a special prosecution unit devoted to prosecuting domestic violence cases. The team of attorney's and advocates work to ensure that all domestic violence cases are handled with sensitivity and appropriately address the needs of the victims. If you or someone you know is a victim of domestic violence please report this to your local law enforcement agency or contact the Winnebago County State's Attorney's Office.



The duty of the prosecutor is to seek justice, not merely to convict.

## Types of Abuse

- \*Physical
- \*Social
- \*Spiritual
- \*Dating
- \*Emotional
- \*Sexual
- \*Spousal
- \*Child

## Tactics used to Manipulate you and exert your power

- \*Dominance
- \*Isolation
- \*Intimidation
- \*Blame
- \*Humiliation
- \*Threats
- \*Denial
- \*Shame



## Pattern Cycle of Violence



## Increase Safety Be Prepared...

### Before A Violent Incident Occurs

- Alert a neighbor and ask them to call the police if they overhear a disturbance.
- Devise a code word or signal to alert family, friends and neighbors to call police.
- Teach children to dial 911
- Determine an exit strategy that provides the best way to get out of the house.
- Have a bag packed and easily accessible which should includes:
  - \* Money
  - \* Identification
  - \* Extra Keys
  - \* Cell Phone
  - \* Credit Cards
  - \* Clothing
  - \* Medications
  - \* Shelter Hotline's
- Important papers (If you have an order of protection keep a copy with you at all times.)

### During A Violent Incident

- Stay close to a room that has easy access to an exit.
- Stay away from the kitchen, bedroom, or anywhere near weapons.
- Call 911
- Use good judgment and intuition: give the abuser what they wants to calm them down until you can get out of danger.

### After a Violent Incident Occurs

- Get medical attention, ask them to take pictures of any visible injuries.
- Make a police report even if you don't want the abuser arrested. The report becomes evidence of past abuse which may be helpful in the future.
- Save evidence such as medical records, police reports, dated photos of injuries or house in disarray, torn clothing, any weapons use and statements of any witnesses in case you decide to take legal action
- Go to court and get an order of protection
- Seek out support groups and domestic violence programs which have staff trained to listen to you, help you work out a personal safety plan and talk with you about your options including shelters, police and court protections and your rights under the law.