Parents: Are You in the Know About Teen Dating Violence?



33%

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

1 in 3 **† † †**

will experience some form of physical, sexual, emotional, and/ or verbal abuse from a dating partner. That's nearly 1.5 million teens.

25%



of high school girls have been victims of physical or sexual abuse. Girls between the ages of 16 and 24 experience the highest rate of intimate partner violence.

6x

more likely that girls who are physically or sexually abused will become pregnant and twice as likely to get an STI.

Signs of an Abusive Partner

- Checking a partner's phone or email without permission
- Isolating their partner from family or friends
- Intimidating their partner or telling their partner what to do
- Mood swings or explosive temper
- Extreme jealousy or insecurity
- Make false accusations or possessiveness
- Constantly putting them down
- Physically hurting in any way

Dating and Technology



1 in 4

dating teens say they have been harassed or abused online or through texts from their partners

2x

as many girls than boys reported sexual abuse online and through texts

Less 1 in 10

victims of digital dating abuse sought help

Source: URBAN Institute Sept. 2013

How to Help Your Teen

- Express concerns and avoid being judgmental
- Try to be specfic with your concerns and reassure that this is not their fault
- Build their confidence and let them know they are brave for coming to talk to someone
- Do not put conditions on your support, as some teens may not share, fearing you will be angry or upset
- Refer them to a local Domestic Violence support program or call the national hotline at 1-800-799-SAFE

