

Teen dating violence (TDV) is a pattern of abusive behavior used to exert power and establish control by one intimate partner over another. If you suspect teen dating violence is occurring, follow this guide to help address the matter appropriately.



Checklist

If you witness TDV or a teen discloses experiencing TDV to you, consider taking the following steps after you have talked to the victim/survivor.

DANGER ASSESSMENT

Is it safe for the teen to go home?

CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES

Report to CPS if necessary.

OC CPS: 714-940-1000

SAFETY PLAN/RESOURCES

Address immediate safety concerns at home, school, community, etc. and give resources.

REPORT

situation to school liaison and direct supervisor as soon as possible.

DOCUMENT INCIDENT

Include specific description of incident and any referrals made.

Intervention Strategies

If you witness an unhealthy or violent situation...

- ⇒ Intervene and separate the teens and get help from another staff member.
- ⇒ Address safety and health first. Ask if either individual needs immediate medical attention.
- ⇒ Tell both students what you saw and what steps you will take next.
- ⇒ Explain your concerns for the victim's safety and remind them that the violence is not their fault.
- ⇒ Tell the perpetrator of abuse that you are concerned about their behavior and that their actions were abusive.
- ⇒ Ensure both students meet separately with the school principal/counselor or employee designated to handle TDV.



**WE CAN HELP
CALL US TODAY**

(877) 854-3594

24-Hour Hotline



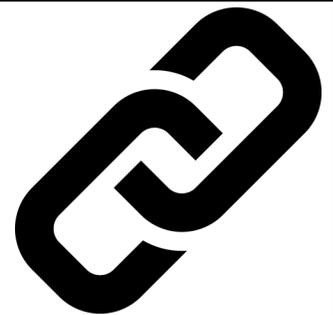
What to Say

It can be difficult to communicate with a student who has disclosed that they are or have been a victim of dating violence. Here are a few pointers to help facilitate the conversation.

- ⇒ Give students options as opposed to giving advice.
- ⇒ Avoid victim-blaming language. This can make teens shut down and places the blame on them rather than the abusive partner.
- ⇒ Do not tell the student to break up with their partner and end it there. Instead suggest that they create a new aspect of their life that their partner isn't a part of.
- ⇒ Make sure the student knows you support them, and that you are always around to listen.
- ⇒ Don't focus on how bad the abusive partner and the relationship is, focus on the well-being of those involved.

Resources

- ⇒ 211OC.org/dv
- ⇒ Love is Respect
Chat at lovisrespect.org 24/7/365
Call: 1-866-331-9474 or text "loveis" to 22522
- ⇒ National Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 1-800-273-8255
- ⇒ National Domestic Violence Hotline: 1-800-799-SAFE
- ⇒ National Runaway Hotline: 1-800-RUNAWAY



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