

# Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) Domestic Violence (DV)

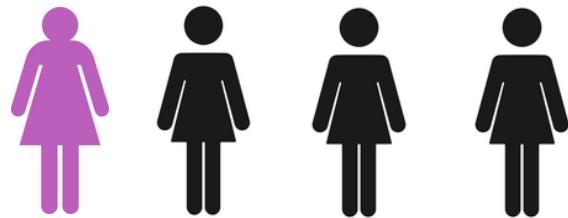
## DID YOU KNOW?

**Intimate Partner Violence/Domestic Violence can include the following:**

- **Physical violence** is when a person hurts or tries to hurt a partner by using physical force.
- **Sexual violence** is forcing or attempting to force a partner to take part in a sex act, sexual touching, or a non-physical sexual event (sexting) when the partner does not or cannot consent.
- **Stalking** is a pattern of repeated, unwanted attention and contact by a partner that causes fear or concern for one's own safety or the safety of someone close to the victim.
- **Psychological aggression** is the use of verbal and non-verbal communication with the intent to harm a partner mentally or emotionally or to exert control over a partner.
- **Cybervictimization** is the use of digital technologies and the internet to harm, control, and demean a current or former intimate partner. It encompasses acts like stalking, harassment via texts and social media, unauthorized access to emails and messages, sharing private images without consent (revenge pornography) and cyberstalking, all aimed at asserting power and dominance within the relationship.

## STATISTICS

**1 in 4 women will experience physical violence by their intimate partner their lifetimes.**



- About 41% of women and 26% of men experienced contact sexual violence, physical violence, or stalking by an intimate partner during their lifetime and reported a related impact.
- IPV starts early and continues throughout people's lives. When IPV occurs in adolescence, it is called teen dating violence (TDV).
- About 16 million women and 11 million men who reported experiencing intimate partner violence in their lifetime said that they first experienced it before the age of 18.
- On average, it takes a woman **7 attempts** to leave an abusive relationship for good.
- Victims who experience non-fatal strangulation by an intimate partner are **750% more likely to be murdered by that partner in the future.**

## INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE AND FIREARMS

- An abusive partner's access to a firearm makes it **5X** more likely that a woman will be killed.
- Domestic violence assaults involving a gun are **12X** more likely to result in death than those involving other weapons or bodily force.
- Every year, more than 750 American women are shot to death by intimate partners—roughly one every 12 hours.
- In the US, firearms are used to commit more than 60% of all intimate partner homicides.
- Women are the victims in more than 75% partner homicides with a gun.
- Roughly 25 million US adults have experienced firearm abuse by an intimate partner.

**Remember that experiencing IPV is NEVER the fault of the victim.**

## WHO IS AT RISK?

- Adolescents: 10% of female high-school students in the United States reported experiencing physical violence from their dating partners.
- Pregnant women:
  - Over 300,000 pregnant women are abused yearly in the US
  - High rates of birth control sabotage and pregnancy pressure in abusive relationships are correlated with unintended pregnancies.
  - Adverse pregnancy outcomes include low birth weight, placental abruptions, substance use/abuse and preterm delivery.
- Immigrant women may be hesitant to report IPV because of fears of deportation.
- Persons physical and developmental disabilities usually are less able to care for themselves and are more reliant on their partners or caregivers for help.
- Approximately 1-2 million of women aged 65 years or older have been injured, exploited, or mistreated by someone caring for them
- Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC)
- LGBTQIA+ persons
- American Indian/American Native (AI/AN)

## IMPACT ON CHILDREN

- *More than 15 million children in the United States live in homes in which domestic violence has happened at least once.*
- *These children are at greater risk for repeating the cycle as adults by entering into abusive relationships or becoming abusers themselves.*
- *Increased risk of experiencing:*
  - *Depression, Anxiety, Eating disorders, PTSD*
  - *Behavioral issues*
  - *Thoughts of suicide*
  - *Physical health problems*
  - *Poor self-esteem*
  - *Risky behaviors: lying, cheating, fighting, bullying, substance abuse*

## In Virginia

- More than 30% of Virginia's homicides are domestic violence related.
- Approximately 56% of domestic violence homicides involve firearms.
- Approximately 80% of domestic violence homicides happen in people's homes.
- Approximately 40% of domestic violence homicides happen during or after a relationship breakup.
- More than 20% of domestic violence homicides involve a homicide-suicide.
- Although men make up 51% of Virginia's population they account for 63% of the people killed by firearms in IPV/DV related-homicides.
- More than 22,000 adults and nearly 5,300 children received domestic violence advocacy services.
- A total of 20% of the people who received these services had to relocate or experienced homelessness as a result of domestic violence.
- In Virginia, 87% of the domestic violence perpetrators were men, while 13% were women.



## How do we screen?

The **HITS tool (Hurt-Insult-Threaten-Scream)** is a **4-question self reported** screening tool that assesses the frequency of certain components of IPV.

- Each item is scored from 1-5.
- Total score can range from 4 to 20.
- A score of 10 or higher is positive indicates a high risk of abuse by a partner.
- It is FREE and available in Spanish.

## Recommendations for IPV/DV Screening

### American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology (ACOG):

- Once per trimester of pregnancy
- At comprehensive 6- week postpartum check
- May also consider:
  - At 2, 6, 12, 18, and 24 months postpartum
  - Whenever there is a change in partners
- As needed based on clinician judgment



### American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP):

- Pediatricians may routinely provide brief education and resources during office visits, rather than following a traditional screening model.
- Suggest pairing with PPD screening at 1, 2, 4, 6 months infant well child checks.

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Find Resources Here:



## **RESOURCES/REFERENCES**

1. Thackeray J, Livingston N, Ragavan MI, Schaechter J, Sigel E; Council on Child Abuse and Neglect , Council on Injury, Violence and Poison Prevention. *Intimate Partner Violence: Role of the Pediatrician*. *Pediatrics*. 2023 Jul 1;152(1):e2023062509.
2. ACOG Committee Opinion No. 518: *Intimate partner violence*. *Obstet Gynecol*. 2012 Feb;119(2 Pt 1):412-7. doi: 10.1097/AOG.0b013e318249ff74.
3. Dicola D, Spaar E. *Intimate Partner Violence*. *Am Fam Physician*. 2016 Oct 15;94(8):646-651.
4. Giffords Law Center to prevent gun violence
5. Centers for Disease Control
6. Office on Women's Health, US Department of Health and Human Services
7. National Child Traumatic Stress Network
8. Virginia Department of Health

# Intimate Partner Violence

# RESOURCES

## National Domestic Violence Hotline

[www.thehotline.org](http://www.thehotline.org)

Call: 1-800-799-SAFE (7233)

Text START to 88788

Anonymous, confidential help available 24/7

Interpreters available

## National Sexual Assault Hotline

[www.rainn.org](http://www.rainn.org)

Call: 1-800-656-HOPE (4673)

Text "HOPE" to 64673

Anonymous, confidential help available 24/7

## Love is Respect Hotline

[www.loveisrespect.org](http://www.loveisrespect.org)

Call: 1-866-331-9474

Text: LOVEIS to 22522

## Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action

### Alliance Statewide Hotline

[www.vsdvalliance.org](http://www.vsdvalliance.org)

Call: 1-800-838-8238

Text: 804-793-9999

Anonymous, confidential help available 24/7

Interpreters available