

## General Statistics on Domestic Violence

- 1 out of 3 women around the world has been beaten, coerced into sex or otherwise abused during her lifetime.<sup>1</sup>
- 1 in 5 female high school students reports being physically and/or sexually abused by a dating partner.<sup>1</sup>
- 1 in 3 teens report knowing a friend or peer who has been hit, punched, slapped, choked or physically hurt by his/her partner.<sup>2</sup>
- As many as 324,000 women each year experience intimate partner violence during their pregnancy.<sup>3</sup>
- Violence against women costs companies \$72.8 million annually due to lost productivity.<sup>4</sup>
- Witnessing violence between one's parents or caretakers is the strongest risk factor of transmitting violent behavior from one generation to the next.<sup>5</sup>
- 30% to 60% of perpetrators of intimate partner violence also abuse children in the household.<sup>6</sup>
- Domestic violence is one of the most chronically underreported crimes.<sup>7</sup>
- Domestic violence is a significant cause of homelessness.<sup>8</sup>

1. Silverman, Jay G., Raj, Anita, and Clements, Karen. "Dating Violence Against Adolescent Girls and Associated Substance Use, Unhealthy Weight Control, Sexual Risk Behavior, Pregnancy, and Suicidality." *Pediatrics*, August 2004.

2. Teenage Research Unlimited. Findings from study commissioned by Liz Claiborne Inc. to investigate the level of and attitudes towards dating abuse among American teenagers aged 13 to 18 [online] 2005 Feb [cited 2006 Mar 20]. Available from: URL: [www.loveisnotabuse.com/statistics\\_abuseandteens.htm](http://www.loveisnotabuse.com/statistics_abuseandteens.htm)

3. Gazmararian JA, Petersen R, Spitz AM, Goodwin MM, Saltzman LE, Marks JS. "Violence and reproductive health; current knowledge and future research directions." *Maternal and Child Health Journal* 2000; 4(2):79-84.

4. Costs of Intimate Partner Violence Against Women in the United States. 2003. Center for disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Injury Prevention and Control. Atlanta, GA/

5. Break the Cycle. 2006. *Startling Statistics*. [http://www.breakthecycle.org/html%20files/I\\_4a\\_startstatis.htm](http://www.breakthecycle.org/html%20files/I_4a_startstatis.htm).

6. Edelson, J. L. 1999. "The Overlap Between Child Maltreatment and Woman Battering." *Violence Against Women*. 5:134-154

7. U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, "Criminal Victimization," 2003.

8. U.S. Conference of Mayors, 2007.



24-hour hotline: 1-800-300-1080

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

## Relationship Abuse and Teens

- 62% of tweens (age 11-14) who have been in a relationship say they know friends who have been verbally abused (called stupid, worthless, ugly, etc) by a boyfriend/girlfriend.<sup>1</sup>
- Only half of all tweens (age 11-14) claim to know the warning signs of a bad/hurtful relationship.<sup>1</sup>
- More than three times as many tweens (20%) as parents (6%) admit that parents know little or nothing about the tweens' dating relationships.<sup>1</sup>
- 1 in 3 teenagers report knowing a friend or peer who has been hit, punched, kicked, slapped, choked or physically hurt by their partner.<sup>2</sup>
- Nearly 1 in 5 teenage girls who have been in a relationship said a boyfriend had threatened violence or self-harm if presented with a break-up.<sup>2</sup>
- 13% of teenage girls who said they have been in a relationship report being physically hurt or hit.<sup>2</sup>
- More than 1 in 4 teenage girls in a relationship (26%) report enduring repeated verbal abuse.<sup>2</sup>
- Only 33% of teens who have been in or known about an abusive relationship said they have told anyone about it.<sup>2</sup>
- Abused girls are significantly more likely to get involved in other risky behaviors. They are 4 to 6 times more likely to get pregnant and 8 to 9 times more likely to have tried to commit suicide.<sup>3</sup>
- Twenty-four percent of 14 to 17-year-olds know at least one student who has been the victim of dating violence, yet 81% of parents either believe teen dating violence is not an issue or admit they don't know if it is an issue.<sup>4</sup>

1. Liz Claiborne Inc. study on teen dating abuse conducted by Teenage Research Unlimited, February 2008.

2. Liz Claiborne Inc. study on teen dating abuse conducted by Teenage Research Unlimited, February 2005.

3. Silverman, Jay G., Raj, Anita, and Clements, Karen. "Dating Violence Against Adolescent Girls and Associated Substance Use, Unhealthy Weight Control, Sexual Risk Behavior, Pregnancy, and Suicidality." *Pediatrics*, August 2004.

4. Survey commissioned by the Empower Program, sponsored by Liz Claiborne Inc. and conducted by Knowledge Networks, Social Control, Verbal Abuse, and Violence Among Teenagers, December 2000.

