



A Coordinated Response to End Abuse in Dating Relationships

The Dating/Domestic
Abuse Project

University of Illinois
at Urbana-Champaign

1 DATING RIGHTS

I have the right to
be free of fear.

I have the right to
state opinions and
express my feelings.

3

I have the right to
be treated fairly and
honestly.

Protection from Abuse: Legislation

The Illinois Domestic Violence Act (IDVA) recognizes dating violence as a serious crime. It creates a legal remedy for domestic and dating violence called an Order of Protection and requires that law enforcement officers provide specific types of assistance to victims. An Order of Protection is a written court order, signed by a judge, that requires an abusive dating partner or household or family member to stop the abuse and may require him/her to do other things, such as stay away from the victim or vacate a shared residence.

Dating violence is also a violation of the University's Student Conduct Code under Section 10 E.1: "Physical abuse, intimidation, harassment, coercion, and/or other conduct that threatens or endangers the health or safety of any person, or creates in such person a reasonable fear that such a result will occur." Students charged with a violation of this provision may be subject to "no contact" orders and additional sanctions, including possible dismissal from the University.

Resources

Seeking help is critical for people who use abuse and for their victims. If you or someone you know is involved in an abusive relationship, the resources described below can help.

Law Enforcement

In an emergency situation, the police can provide prompt assistance. Police officers are required by law to provide transportation to victims as well as detailed information about other community resources.

Police Emergency	911
From University phone	9-911
Non-Emergency	
University of Illinois Police	333-1216
Champaign Police	351-4545
Urbana Police	384-2320
Sheriff's Department	384-1204



Organizing College Campuses Against Dating Abuse

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I have the right to
share equally in
decision-making.

5

I have the right to
decide whether or not
to engage in sexual
activity.

6

I have the right to
privacy and time
for myself.

7

I have the right to
choose my friendships
and choices.

8

I have the right to
end a relationship.

Protective Measures Against Abuse

The University's Office for Student Conflict Resolution (Student Judicial Affairs) can issue "no contact" orders against abusive students and impose additional sanctions. The Champaign County State's Attorney's Office (Victim/Witness Services) offers assistance with petitions for civil orders of protection as well as support through criminal justice procedures. A Woman's Place assists with petitions for civil orders of protection.

<i>Office for Student Conflict Resolution</i>	333-3680
<i>Champaign Co. State's Attorney's Office</i>	384-3733
<i>A Woman's Place</i>	384-4390

Medical Attention

Because assault can result in injury, infection, or disease, seeking medical attention is important. Medical documentation can also be used as evidence. McKinley Health Center provides medical services for injuries, STD and pregnancy testing, referrals, and follow-up care. Carle and Covenant Hospitals provide emergency and full-service medical treatment.

<i>McKinley Health Center</i>	333-2700
<i>Carle Hospital-Emergency</i>	383-3313
<i>Covenant Hospital-Emergency</i>	337-2131

Emergency Shelter

After even one incident of abuse, there are some serious decisions to be made. Some people decide to seek shelter away from the relationship, for a few days or even longer. University Safe Place, through Family and Graduate Housing, provides short-term housing to students, faculty, staff, and all residents of Family Housing. A Woman's Place provides temporary shelter for women and children and off-site emergency shelter for men.

<i>University Safe Place</i>	333-5656
<i>A Woman's Place</i>	384-4390

Emotional & Academic Support

Through the University's Counseling Center, students are able to receive confidential counseling. A Woman's Place offers confidential counseling to students and non-students in the community. The University's Office of Women's Programs offers short-term crisis intervention, information and referral, and advocacy with student discipline and academic issues. The Office of the Dean of Students will help students with information and referrals, and with academic issues.

<i>Counseling Center</i>	333-3704
<i>A Woman's Place (24-hour hotline)</i>	384-4390
<i>Office of Women's Program</i>	333-3137
<i>Office of the Dean of Students</i>	333-0050

Group Support for People Who Have Experienced Abuse

Support groups can have an empowering effect for anyone involved in an abusive relationship. The Dating/Domestic Abuse Project offers two ongoing groups of guided discussions and peer support for any woman who is currently in an abusive relationship or who has experienced abuse in a past dating relationship. One group focuses on the dynamics of abuse in heterosexual relationships. The second group, cosponsored by OUTpost and A Woman's Place, is for lesbians and bisexual women who are experiencing abuse from their female partners. Both groups address power dynamics and the process for regaining a sense of personal control. The groups are confidential.

<i>Office of Women's Programs</i>	333-3137
<i>A Woman's Place</i>	384-4390

Intervention Groups for People Who Have Used Abuse

Intervention groups are available for people who have either been charged with dating abuse or domestic violence or who are concerned with their own use of violence in intimate relationships. Referrals to current groups are available.

<i>The Student Assistance Center</i>	333-0050
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Professional Education & Training

The Dating/Domestic Abuse Project provides professional training and consultation to faculty and staff in order to increase awareness of the scope of dating abuse and to facilitate a more effective response to victims and their abusive partners.

<i>Dating/Domestic Abuse Project</i>	333-3137
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Education and Awareness

Student educators use interactive theater as well as classroom and small group workshops to raise awareness about dating abuse. In addition, the Clothesline Project, a visual display comprised of shirts decorated to bear witness to violence in the lives of women and children is available for viewing at campus and community events. You can become involved by volunteering with the Dating/Domestic Abuse Project, by attending a presentation, or by scheduling a performance, workshop or Clothesline display for a group with which you are involved.

<i>Office of Women's Programs</i>	333-3137
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Dating and violence don't seem to belong together—and they shouldn't. But for approximately one out of four college students who date, dating violence is a reality.

To help eliminate abuse and violence in campus dating relationships, the University has formed a coalition known as the Dating/Domestic Abuse Project. This coordinated response includes multiple campus units and community resources. The project focuses on victim safety, offender accountability, and public awareness and education.

If you think you may be involved in an abusive dating relationship—or think you know someone who is—the information in this brochure will give you a start toward ending the abuse and setting things right. You can also call the Dating/Domestic Abuse Project at 333-3137 for more information and assistance.

What Exactly Is Dating Abuse?

Dating abuse can be physical, sexual, and/or emotional in nature. It occurs in all socioeconomic, racial, ethnic, and religious groups. It is not limited to straight relationships, occurring in the gay and lesbian communities at approximately the same rate as in heterosexual relationships.

Although disagreements are a normal part of most relationships, behaviors used to gain or maintain control over a partner are not—that constitutes abuse. Examples of abusive tactics include:

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| Emotional | <i>Insults, name-calling, yelling, threats, humiliating partner in public or in private, isolating a partner from friends or family</i> |
| Physical | <i>Hitting, pinching, shoving, restraining, destroying property, choking</i> |
| Sexual | <i>Rape, sexual abuse, or any coercion or manipulation of a partner to engage in sexual conduct.</i> |

These behaviors are unacceptable and harmful.

You Can Make a Difference!

Educate yourself and others about relationship abuse.

If someone you know is experiencing abuse, it is critical not to ignore this problem. Let them know that there are multiple resources available. Offer to go with them if they'd like. It is equally important to assist those who abuse in finding ways to change their behaviors.

There must be accountability and consequences for the use of violence. Ignoring someone's violent behavior does not help that individual and endangers others.

Initiate and/or support broad educational efforts which address violence on campus (e.g. class lectures, panel discussions, professional training, public awareness campaigns) and encourage others to do the same.

For more information about relationship abuse at UIUC, contact the Dating/Domestic Abuse Project at 217-333-3137.

Participating units of the Dating/Domestic Abuse Project include:

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| A Woman's Place | Office of the Vice Chancellor for |
| Counseling Center | Student Affairs |
| Family and Graduate Housing | Office of Women's Programs |
| Greek Affairs | Private Certified Housing |
| McKinley Health Center | Residential Life |
| Office of International Student Affairs | UIUC Police |
| Office for Student Conflict Resolution | |

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