

## *Electronic Resources...*

There are many resources on the internet that can help a victim or family member further understand domestic violence. Please remember that browsing on the internet leaves traceable history. Victims or family members should always be careful when, and on what computer, they search for resources. There are public places to access these sites more securely, such as the public library. For more information on internet safety, please refer to:

[http://www.fcadv.org/internet\\_safety.php](http://www.fcadv.org/internet_safety.php)

## *Helpful Websites:*

### **Florida Coalition Against Domestic Violence**

This site provides links to domestic violence centers, legal resources, handbooks, and other informative resources.

<http://www.fcadv.org>

### **Florida Coalition Against Sexual Violence**

This site provides publications, policy information, awareness and prevention information, and information about Florida's certified Rape Crisis Centers.

<http://www.fcasv.org>

### **Abuse of Power**

This site provides information for victims regarding safety planning, internet safety, and the challenges of being a victim.

<http://www.abuseofpower.info>

## *Where do I call for help?*

Florida Domestic Violence Hotline

**1-800-500-1119**

Florida Abuse Hotline

*(this is the child abuse hotline)*

**1-800-96-ABUSE**

*Add contact information here*

*or attach business card.*

**Every Family  
Deserves to  
be SAFE!**

**Every Family  
Should Be a  
Safe Family**



*Every family should be a healthy family.  
A healthy family is free from violence.  
No person should suffer injury or harm  
at the hands of any family member.*

## **Did You Know...**

- ...In Florida, a person is killed by a family member every 36 hours?**
- ...Domestic violence is the leading cause of injury to women?**
- ...More than 124,000 incidents of domestic violence are reported in Florida each year involving victims young and old, male and female?**

# Keeping Your Home a VIOLENCE-FREE ZONE

## *What is domestic violence?*

Behaviors that are considered domestic violence include any criminal offense resulting in physical injury or death caused by a family or household member.

These behaviors include physical abuse, emotional/verbal abuse, and sexual abuse:

- Physical Abuse: pushing, slapping, kicking, choking, and beating.
- Emotional/Verbal Abuse: threats, verbal intimidation, following and stalking, or acting out in anger.
- Sexual Abuse: any unwanted touching or forcing of someone to engage in a sexual act against his/her will.

Family or household member means:

- Spouse
- Former spouse
- Relative by blood or marriage
- Live-in (or former live-in) boyfriend or girlfriend
- Person with whom you have a child

**Domestic violence is not just wrong: It's a CRIME!**

## *How to recognize potential abuse...*

Abuse can come in many forms. Here are some indicators to help a victim recognize if he or she is being abused:

- Has your partner harmed anyone in his or her family by choking, pushing, shoving, or beating?
- Has your partner forced you to have sex with him or her?
- Does your partner ever talk about hurting you or killing himself or herself if you ever left?
- Has your partner threatened you or a family member with a gun?

**Any family or household member displaying any of these behaviors is committing abuse.**

**Remember, domestic violence is **NOT** the victim's fault!**

## *How can the law help?*

Florida's domestic violence law enables a victim to work with the court system to help keep him or her safe. Contact the local certified domestic violence center for safety planning prior to filing for an injunction.

For more information about how to file an injunction, including a step-by-step guide, please refer to:

<http://clsmf.org/brochures.html>

**Once there, click on:**

**"Domestic Violence: Your Rights"**

For any questions about domestic violence, do not hesitate to contact the local domestic violence center.

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*Name of Local Domestic Violence Center*

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*Phone Number*

