

Teen Dating Violence Statistics

Tweens (11-14 years old):

One in four tweens (24%) say dating violence, physically hurting relationship partners is a serious problem for people their age. More than a third (37%) of tweens agree that verbal abuse is a problem for people their age.ⁱ

One-in-five between the ages of 13 and 14 say their friends are victims of dating violence, such as getting struck, hit or slapped by a boyfriend or girlfriend, and nearly half of all tweens in relationships say they know friends who are verbally abused.ⁱⁱ

Only half of all tweens (51 percent) claim to know the warning signs of a bad/hurtful relationship.ⁱⁱⁱ

Sixty-Nine percent of all teens that have had sex by age 14 said they have gone through one or more types of abuse in a relationship.^{iv}

Teens (15-18 years old):

Approximately 1 in 5 female high school students report being physically and/or sexually abused by a dating partner.^v

Nearly one-half of adult sex offenders report committing their first sexual offense prior to 18.^{vi}

81% of parents surveyed either believed teen dating violence is not an issue or admit they don't know if it's an issue.^{vii}

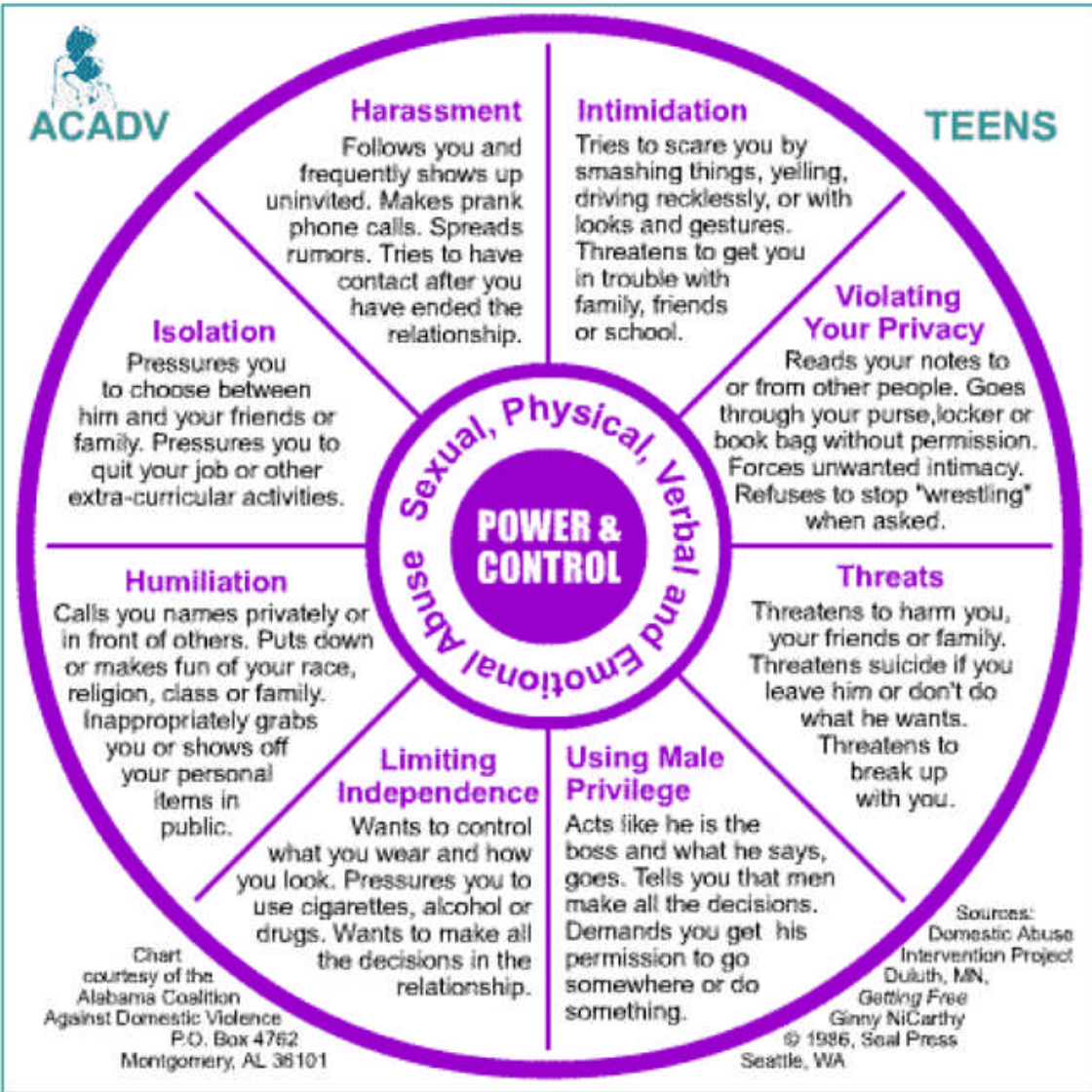
When female high school students were asked whom they would talk to if someone they date is attempting to control them, insults them, or physically harms them, 86% percent said they would confide in a friend, while only 7% said they would talk to police.^{viii}

A study of 1,600 juvenile sexual assault offenders nationwide indicated that only around 33% of the juveniles perceived sex as a way to demonstrate love or caring for another person; 23.5% percent perceived sex as a way to feel power and control; 9.4% as a way to dissipate anger; 8.4% percent as a way to punish.^{ix}

50% of youth reporting both dating violence and rape also reported attempting suicide, compared to 12.5% of non-abused girls and 5.4% of non-abused boys.^x

More than half of both prison and jail inmates serving time for violence against an intimate were using drugs, alcohol or both at the time of the incident for which they were incarcerated.^{xi}

Violent relationships in adolescence can have serious ramifications for victims: Many will continue to be abused in their adult relationships and are at a higher risk for substance abuse, eating disorders, risky sexual behavior, and suicide.^{xii}



ⁱ same as above

ⁱⁱ <http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/2008/07/08/earlyshow/living/relationships/main4240192.shtml>

ⁱⁱⁱ same as above

^{iv} same as above

<http://www.abanet.org/unmet/teendating/facts.pdf>

^v Jay G. Silverman, PhD; Anita Raj, PhD; Lorelei A. Mucci, MPH; and Jeanne E. Hathaway, MD, MPH, "Dating Violence Against Adolescent Girls and Associated Substance Use, Unhealthy Weight Control, Sexual Risk Behavior, Pregnancy, and Suicidality," *Journal of the American Medical Association*, Vol. 286, (No. 5, 2001).

^{vi} Ron Snipe, et al, "Recidivism in Young Adulthood, Adolescent Sexual Offenders Grown Up," *25 Criminal Justice & Behavior*, 109,117, (1998).

^{vii} "Women's Health," June/July 2004, *Family Violence Prevention Fund and Advocates for Youth*,

<http://www.med.umich.edu/whp/newsletters/summer04/p03-dating.htm>.

^{viii} Tiffany J. Zwicker, Education Policy Brief, "The Imperative of Developing Teen Dating Violence Prevention and Intervention Programs in Secondary Schools." *12 Southern California Review of Law and Women's Studies*, 131, (2002).

^{ix} California Coalition Against Sexual Assault (CALCASA) 2002 Report: *Research on Rape and Violence*, <http://www.uasasonoma.org/teensite/statistics.htm#Child/Teen%20Victimization>

^x D. M. Ackard, Minneapolis, MN, and D. Neumark-Sztainer, Division of Epidemiology, School of Public Health, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN, "Date Violence and Date Rape Among Adolescents: Associations with Disordered Eating Behaviors and Psychological Health," *Child Abuse & Neglect*, 26 455-473, (2002).

^{xi} U.S. Department of Justice, <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/pub/press/vi.pr>, (1998).

^{xii} Jay G. Silverman PhD, et Al, "Dating Violence Against Adolescent Girls and Associated Substance Use, Unhealthy Weight Control, Sexual Risk Behavior, Pregnancy, and Suicidality." *Journal of the American Medical Association*, (2001).

Picture: http://images.google.com/imgres?imgurl=http://www.cchers.org/cap/teenwheel.jpg&imgrefurl=http://www.cchers.org/cap/teendatingviolence.html&usq=vmruh69ne7HOplSDI1D9wx7NEtE=&h=652&w=650&sz=417&hl=en&start=101&um=1&tbnid=L_0qH4ufDv6BgM:&tbnh=138&tbnw=138&prev=/images%3Fq%3Dteen%2Bdating%2Bviolence%26ndsp%3D18%26hl%3Den%26client%3Dfirefox-a%26rls%3Dorg.mozilla:en-US:official%26sa%3DN%26start%3D90%26um%3D1