

## Southwest Family Life

**Centers, Inc.** provides services to victims of Teen Dating Violence in Medina, Uvalde, Real, Kinney and Frio County and surrounding communities.

**UVALDE COUNTY:** (serves Real and Kinney County)

Uvalde Outreach Office:

**(830)278-1067**

**(830)426-5131 - HOTLINE**

**REAL COUNTY:**

**(830)426-5131 - HOTLINE**

**KINNEY COUNTY:**

**(830)426-5131 – HOTLINE**

**FRIO COUNTY:**

Pearsall Outreach Office:

**(830)334-4556**

**(830)426-5131 - HOTLINE**

**MEDINA COUNTY:**

Administration/Shelter

Phone: (830) 426-5972

**HOTLINE: (830) 426-5131**

If you or someone you know is involved in an abusive relationship, you are not alone.

Southwest Family Life Centers, Inc. is ready to help you obtain the help you need.

### SERVICES AVAILABLE:

- 24-Hour crisis hotline
- Peer counseling services
- Safety planning
- Crisis intervention
- Legal advocacy, referral and court accompaniment
- Assistance in obtaining protective orders
- Information and referral on community resources



Community Resources and Information

Providing Awareness and Prevention services to victims of Teen Dating Violence, and general services to the community

# What is Teen Dating Violence?

Teen Dating Violence is a pattern of controlling behavior that someone uses against his/her girlfriend or boyfriend.

Teen Dating Violence can be physical, emotional, or sexual, and includes stalking. It can occur in person or electronically, which includes texting, social media, and other online applications.

Victims of teen dating violence are more likely to experience symptoms of depression and anxiety. They might also engage in unhealthy behaviors, such as using tobacco, drugs, and alcohol.

Teens who are victims in high school are at a higher risk for victimization during college and throughout their lifetimes.

**THE FACTS**

Youth, age 16-24, are more vulnerable to intimate partner violence than any other age group at a rate almost triple the national average.<sup>1</sup>

1 in 3 high school students has been or will be in an abusive relationship.<sup>2</sup>

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.<sup>3</sup>

Sources:  
1. Loveisrespect.org  
2. U.S. Department of Justice  
3. Loveisrespect.org



## Teen Dating Violence is a serious health concern for many students:

- 1 in 3 high school students will be involved in an abusive relationship
- 45% of teenage girls 14 to 17 say they know someone their age who has been hit or beaten by a boyfriend
- Nearly 80% of girls who have been physically abused in their intimate relationship, continue to date their abuser
- Both boys and girls can be abused by a dating partner and both girls and boys can be abusers

[www.loveisrespect.org/content/why-should-teens-care-about-domestic-violence/](http://www.loveisrespect.org/content/why-should-teens-care-about-domestic-violence/)

## Know the Warning Signs:

- Seems afraid to disagree with his or her boyfriend or girlfriend
- Always does what partner wants
- Excessive text messaging, phone calling, emailing, or visiting with boyfriend or girlfriend
- Stops hanging out with friends or participating in family activities
- Starts having declining grades or missing school
- Has injuries he/she tries to cover up or can't explain

**82% OF PARENTS**



feel confident that they could recognize if their teen was experiencing dating violence, **but more than half of these parents could not correctly identify the warning signs of abuse.**



SOURCE: *LoveIsRespect.org, Dating Abuse Statistics*