

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IS WHEN SOMEONE HURTS OR CONTROLS ANOTHER PERSON. ABUSE CAN BE PHYSICAL, SEXUAL, EMOTIONAL, OR CONTROLLING BEHAVIOR.

Does your partner ever...

- Ignore you while you are signing or scare you by signing too close
- Hurt someone or something you love or need (TTY, VRS)
- Threaten to kill themselves if you do not do what he/she wants
- Hurt or beat your children or pets
- Say, "It's always your fault."
- Tell you, "Nobody wants you because you're Deaf."
- Threaten to hurt or kill you
- Scare you with a gun or knife
- Push, grab, hit, kick or choke you
- Won't let your children sign with you
- Force you to have sex
- Leave you alone in a hearing situation
- Not let you see friends in the Deaf Community
- Follow you everywhere
- Take your SSI/disability check

If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, you may be in an abusive relationship.

YOU ARE NOT ALONE. YOU CAN GET HELP. CALL 1-800-33-HAVEN (1-800-334-2836) V/TTY



The Georgia Coalition Against Domestic Violence (GCADV) is an organization made up of shelters and programs working to end domestic violence. The programs can help you 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. They can talk to you about your options, give you emotional support and provide safety planning or a safe place to stay. **All services are private/confidential and free.**



**CONTACT A DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PROGRAM NEAR YOU
24-HR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HOTLINE:
1-800-33-HAVEN V/TTY
1-800-334-2836**

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INFORMATION FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE VICTIMS WITH HEARING LOSS



**LOVE SHOULD NOT HURT.
GET HELP. BE SAFE.**

**24 HR Domestic Violence Crisis Line
1-800-33-HAVEN V/TTY
(1-800-334-2836)**

Safety at Home

Tell people that you trust what's going on and ask them if they can help.

Memorize important phone numbers: 911 (emergency), 1-800-33-HAVEN (domestic violence crisis line).

Think of safe places where you and your children can go if you need to leave your home in an emergency.

Talk to your children about what they should do if the abuse happens again. Where should they go? Who should they call?

Think about important items you might need to take with you if you left in an emergency: money, keys, medication, IDs, documents, etc. Keep these items in a safe place.

Trust your instincts. If you feel you are in danger, leave or call for help.

Safety Before/After Leaving

Leaving an abusive relationship can be dangerous.

Talk to a domestic violence program about your safety and options before leaving.

Change your routines and routes to/from places you visit (work, schools, stores, etc.)

Change door locks and passwords to email and bank accounts, etc.

Save any threatening emails or messages your partner sends you.

Keep a copy of your protective order with you at all times (if you have one).

Safety While Using Technology

Your partner may read your TTY, VRS, video-phone conversations, emails, or text-messages. If you contact someone to get help or to talk about plans to leave the relationship, try to go to the library or a friend's house to use a computer, VRS, TTY, or videophone that the person hurting you cannot use.

Your partner may also pretend to be you on the phone or computer or block you from receiving phone calls and emails. Plan a secret code with your friends and family so that they know it is you communicating with them.



Computers can show the person that is hurting you what websites you have visited. Email is not a secure form of communication because other people may be able to read it.

Call the 24-HR crisis line for more help in planning how you can stay safe during times of crisis.

For Help Call Georgia's
24-HR Domestic Violence Hotline
1-800-33-HAVEN V/TTY
(1-800-334-2836)

Georgia Coalition Against Domestic Violence
www.gcadv.org

Abuse is NOT Your Fault. It Can Happen to Anyone.

If your partner is hurting you, you may feel confused, scared, or trapped. It is normal to feel that way. No matter what your partner or others might think, it is not your fault! No one should be abused or hurt. You CAN and should be safe.

Where To Find Help

In Your Home Area: Friends, family, women's groups, places of worship, hospitals, shelters and others.

Domestic Violence Program: Many areas have organizations that can give free and private help to people who are abused in their relationship. They can talk to you about what is happening and your options for being safe.

Online: Online groups, blogs and networks can offer support, but if possible, use a computer that the person hurting you **cannot** use. Be careful of what you post since many sites are public or your posts may be seen by other group members.

Police: If someone is hurting, scaring, or threatening you, you can call 911.

Protective Orders: A Temporary Protective Order (TPO) is a piece of paper that a court or judge can give you to tell your partner to stay away from you and to stop hurting or threatening you. For help with a TPO call 1-800-33-HAVEN (V/TTY) to talk with a legal advocate.