



tennessee
coalition
to end domestic & sexual violence

Domestic Violence

Presented by Kathy Walsh

Who We Are

- The Tennessee Coalition to End Domestic Violence is the statewide resource center on domestic and sexual violence.
- Established in 1983 as a nonprofit organization, the Coalition provides information, education, awareness, resources, public policy advocacy, prevention programs, legal services, and emergency financial assistance to victims.

Domestic Violence Facts

- For four decades in the U.S., it was legal for a man to beat his wife with any instrument as long as it was no larger than the circumference of his thumbRule of Thumb.
- The first rape laws were similar to theft of cattle. Women were the property of either their father or husband.



Intimate Partner Violence



- Nearly 1 in 3 women are beaten or raped by an intimate partner during their lifetime.
- On average, more than 3 women a day in the US are murdered by their husbands or boyfriends.

Intimate Partner Violence

- Women are much more likely to be victimized by a current or former intimate partner.
- Women are 84% of spouse abuse victims and 86% of victims abused by a boyfriend or girlfriend.
- More than three-fourths of persons who commit domestic abuse are male.



Tennessee Facts

- Tennessee has 95 counties, but only 38 domestic violence shelters and 12 rape crisis centers.
- 1 million in state funds divided among the 38 shelters.
- No money in the state budget for sexual assault centers.
- Most of the money to support these programs comes from federal grants – STOP, VOCA, SASP, HHS
- Programs may also receive funding from United Way, foundations, and city/county governments.

TBI 2019 Crime in TN Report

- 71,042 number of domestic calls responded to by police
- 85 domestic violence murders
- 47,969 Simple assaults
- 10,604 Aggravated Assaults
- 8,607 Intimidation Cases
- 839 Stalking Cases

TBI 2019 Crime in TN Report

- 637 Rape
- 150 Forcible Sodomy
- 62 Sexual Assault with object
- 687 Forcible Fondling
- 23 Incest
- 105 Statutory Rape
- 1274 Kidnapping/Abduction

2019 Domestic Violence Counts Tennessee Summary

- 1,439 victims served in one day by local dv shelters statewide
- 774 adults & children found refuge in emergency shelters or transitional housing
- 665 adults & children received non-residential services such as counseling & legal advocacy



2019 Domestic Violence Counts Tennessee Summary



- 386 hotline calls answered in a 24 hour period – more than 16 per hour
- 283 requests for services went unmet due to lack of resources
- 74% of unmet requests were for housing & emergency shelter

When Men Murder Women: An Analysis of 2018 Homicide Data

- Tennessee ranks 5^h in the nation in the number of women murdered by men.
- Women are most often murdered by a male they know.
- Women are most likely to be killed with a firearm.
- Since 2001, TN has consistently been listed in the top 10 most dangerous states for women.

How Domestic Violence Victims are Impacted by COVID-19

- Victim may be stuck at home with the batterer and unable to leave.
- Victims may be afraid of going to the shelter for fear they will catch COVID.
- Victim may be out of work and not have the resources to leave.
- Victim may have reduced access to services.

TN Domestic Violence Shelters are Reporting an Increase in Hotline Calls

Some shelters are reporting as much as a 50% increase in hotline calls as compared to the same time last year.

Defining Domestic Violence

Domestic violence is a pattern of coercive behavior designed to exert power and control over a person in an intimate relationship through the use of intimidating, threatening, harmful, or harassing behavior including physical, sexual and emotional abuse.





Why do some victims stay in
abusive relationships?

- FEAR
- LOVE / HOPE
- CHILDREN
- DEPENDENCE ON THE ABUSER
- LACK OF RESOURCES
- LACK OF JOB, HOUSING, EDUCATION
- RELIGION
- FAMILY PRESSURE

Most Dangerous Time for Victims

- 75% of domestic homicides occur when the victim is in the process of leaving or has left the batterer.



Why do batterers batter?

Society says its OK – Society has not held batterers accountable.

It Works – The victim is so terrorized that victim will say or do anything to survive.

It's a Choice – Batterer chooses to use violence to control intimate partners, children and other family members.

Learned Behavior

- Learned in family
- Learned through observation
- Learned in communities: schools, peer groups, sports, etc.

What Battering Is Not Caused By

- Mental or physical illness
- Genetics
- Alcohol
- Out of control behavior
- Stress
- Anger
- Victim's behavior or relationship problems

What Are the "Warning Signs" of an Abuser?

- Extreme jealousy
- Possessiveness
- Cruelty to animals
- Verbal abuse
- Extremely controlling behavior
- Antiquated beliefs about roles of women and men in relationships
- Forced sex or disregard of their partner's unwillingness to have sex
- Blaming the victim for anything bad that happens
- Controls all the finances
- Control of what the victim wears and how they act

How You Can Help

- Educate yourself about domestic violence and available resources in your community. You can find a list of shelters on the TN Coalition website as well as training opportunities, www.tncoalition.org.
- Volunteer at a local domestic violence program.
- Be a friend to someone who may be experiencing domestic violence.
- Make a donation to a local domestic violence program or the TN Coalition.

Pearls & Pinstripes Gala

Join us for the TN Coalition's Virtual Pearls & Pinstripes Gala

On October 15, 2020

7 pm – 8 pm CST

Learn more about the event on our website

www.tncoalition.org

COALITION SERVICES

- State Resource Center on Domestic and Sexual Violence
- Training and Technical Assistance
- Public Policy Advocacy
- Legal Services
- Emergency Assistance for Victims
- Prevention Programs



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**BECOME A MEMBER
TODAY!**

