

Let's Talk About Domestic Violence

Presented by Alternatives to Violence

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What is Domestic Violence?

A pattern of behavior in which one individual attempts to exert power and control over another individual in a current or former intimate relationship.



Legal Definition

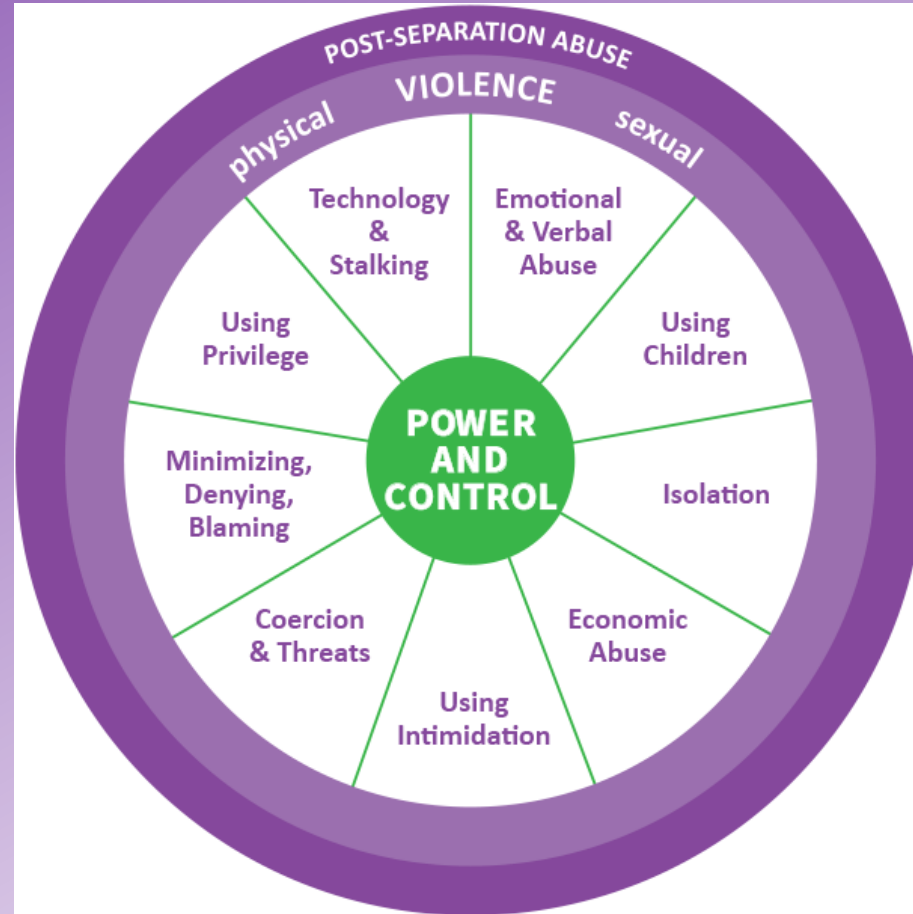
Colorado Definition:

“an act or threatened act of violence upon a person with whom the actor is or has been involved in an intimate relationship. ...includes any other crime against a person or property, including an animal, when it is used as a method of **coercion, control, punishment, intimidation** or **revenge** directed against a person with whom the actor is or has been in an intimate relationship”.

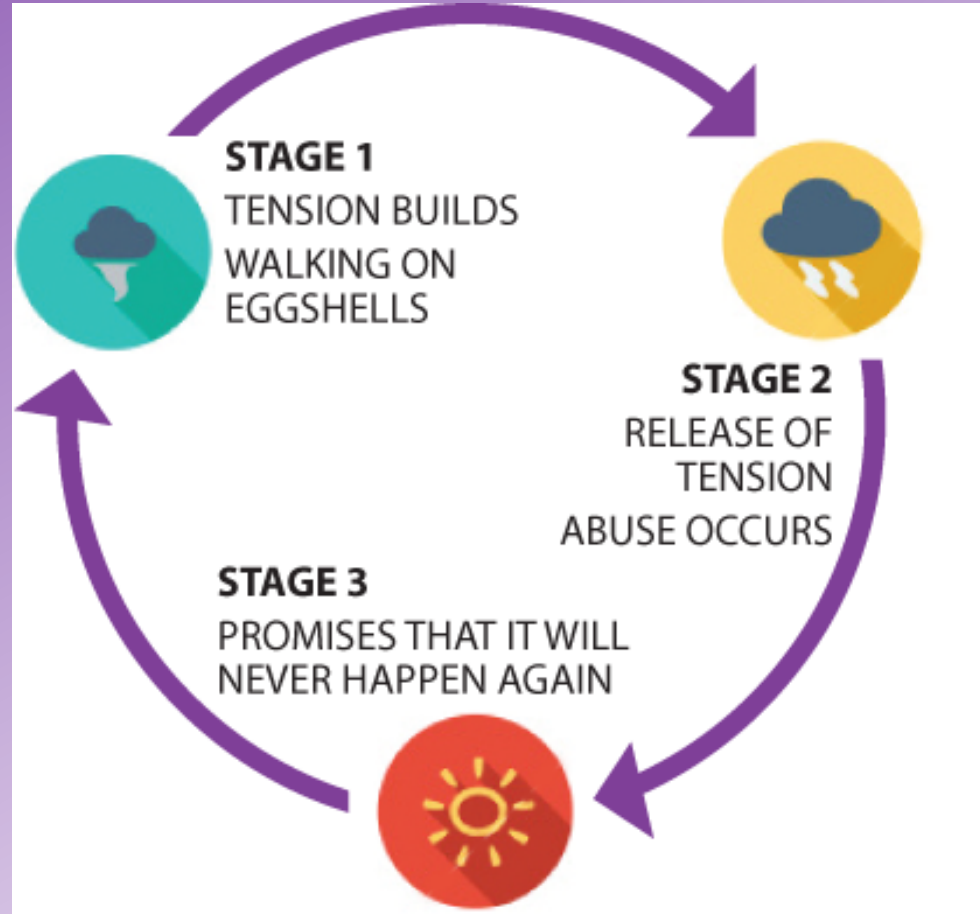
18-6-800.3 C.R.S.



Power and Control Wheel



Cycle of Abuse



Types of Abuse

Physical Abuse

This is the type of abuse most people think of when they hear Domestic Violence.

- Any physical contact
- Hitting
- Kicking
- Slapping
- Strangulation
- Restraint
- Throwing objects at person



Sexual Abuse

This type of abuse is any unwanted sexual act forced upon a victim.

- Rape or attempted rape
- Unwanted touching
- Distribution of private information or photos
- Sodomy



Sexual Abuse is not reported in some communities or cultures due to their view of the wife or female as property to use as they wish.

Stalking

This is unwanted and/or repeated surveillance by an individual or group towards another person. It can be electronically or in person.

- Following an intimate partner, or having others follow
- Using their passwords to gain access to their personal information
- Keeping tabs on a partner through electronics
- Going through a partner's mail or emails without permission



Verbal Abuse

This occurs when an abuser uses words and body language with the intent to hurt their partner.

- Put-downs
- Name calling
- Demeaning criticisms



Mental Abuse

This is the most common type of abuse. It is designed to hurt their intimate partner emotionally.

- Humiliation and shaming
- Coercion
- Attempt to isolate
- Threatening
- Silence
- Gaslighting



Gaslighting: a form of psychological manipulation in which a person seeks to sow seeds of doubt in a person making them question their own memory, perception and sanity.

Financial Abuse

This happens when an individual restricts access to money from their intimate partner.

- No access to bank accounts
- Controlling where a person works
- Preventing access to financial information
- Using another person's name to take out lines of credit without permission
- Withholding money from an individual





Red Flags



- Fast involvement
- Quick to anger
- Extreme jealousy
- Controlling behavior
- Isolation
- Blaming others
- No remorse for actions

- Threats of violence
- Putting partner on a pedestal
- Blurred boundaries
- Negative talk about past partners
- Close accompaniment
- Talking on behalf of one's partner

Some Statistics

- 1 in 3 women will be a victim of DV in their lifetime.
- 1 in 4 men will be a victim of DV in their lifetime.
- In 2022, Colorado reported 20,400 DV Victims w/cases.
- On average it takes 7 attempts to leave an abusive partner.
- In 2022, ATV received over 1,400 crisis calls.

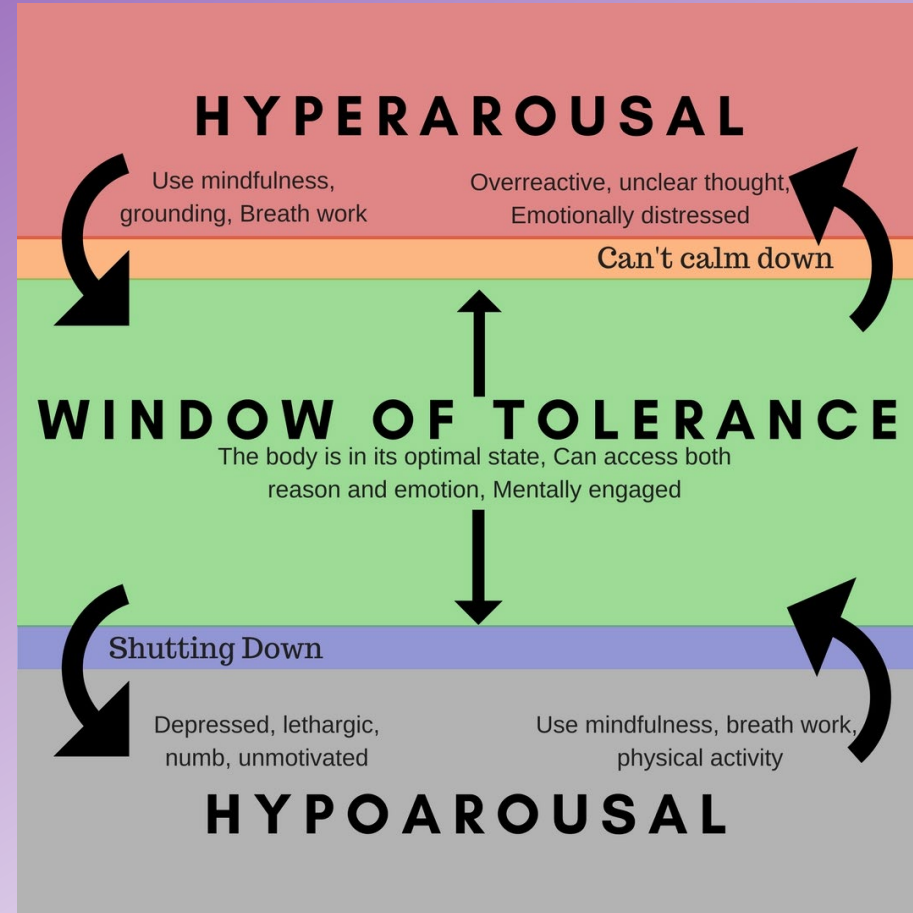
Trauma Response

Fight

Flight

Fawn

Freeze



Domestic Violence and Substance Use



Sunshinebehavioralhealth.com

- Addiction is common among victims and perpetrators both.
- Some women who experience abuse are more likely to abuse multiple substances prior to, and during, pregnancy.
(S.L. Martin et. al)
- Addiction can be a means of control over the victim.
- Type of substance can play a role:
 - Some can increase likelihood of violent behavior (Alcohol, cocaine, methamphetamine, ecstasy, etc....)
 - Some can impair rational thinking (LSD, inhalants, prescription stimulants, etc....)



DV and homelessness

Sexual and Domestic Violence are leading causes of homelessness among women and children.

50% of all homeless women report DV as immediate cause of loss of housing. (National Center on Family

Homelessness)

Safehouses are often all full. Other options are limited.

Barriers to Safety: Understanding the Intersection

As a direct result of the power and control dynamics related to their abuse, survivors often face unique barriers to accessing shelter and affordable housing.

Poor Credit & Ruined Rental Histories



Often caused by abusers running up credit card bills or lying about paying rent, utilities, childcare and other bills. This affects a survivors' ability to pass a landlord background check.

Lack of Steady Employment



Caused when victims are forced to miss work as a result of violence, or are fired as a result of stalking and harassment that occurs at the workplace.

Housing Discrimination



The most common cases of this occur when landlords evict victims from housing due to repeated calls to the police or property damage caused by the abuser.

Loss of Subsidized or Other Affordable Housing



Caused by lease or voucher policy violations committed by the abuser.

Safehousingpartnerships.org



Safety Planning

Safety Planning is brainstorming ways to stay safe and reduce the risk of future harm.

Some examples...

- Establishing “code words” with a trusted person.
- Tell someone where you’re going and how long you plan to be there.
- Keep a log of incidents
- Changing phone numbers
- Find a safe neighbor that children can go to if needed



Alternatives to Violence

- Located in Loveland
- Services provided:
 - Emergency Shelter
 - 24-hour Crisis Line
 - Court Advocacy
 - Housing Resource Services
 - Community Education
 - Referrals and Resource Information
- *Alternatives to Violence envisions a safe community free from domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking.*



Contact Us

Call: 970-669-5150

Text: 970-669-5157

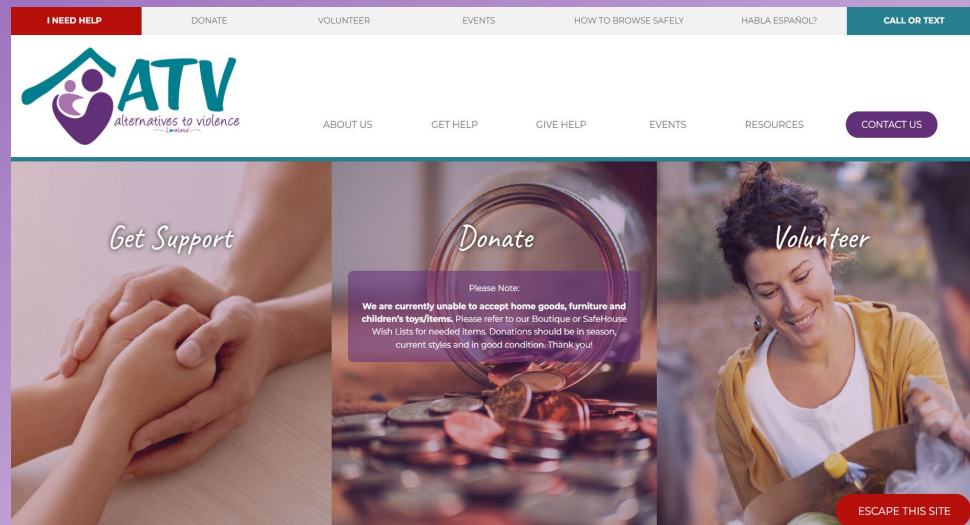
alternativestoviolence.org



Fort Collins
970-482-3502



Greeley
970-356-4226





Questions?



Domestic Violence and CAHPS



Confidentiality

- A victim's advocate shall not be examined as to any communication made to such victim's advocate by a victim of domestic violence, as defined in section 18-6-800.3 (1), C.R.S., or a victim of sexual assault, as described in sections 18-3-401 to 18-3-405.5, 18-6-301, and 18-6-302, C.R.S., in person or through the media of written records or reports without the consent of the victim. (C.R.S. 13-90-107)



Coded Names

- A necessary step for safety and confidentiality.
- Our community is simultaneously big, and small.
 - 60+ people in CAHPS meetings (often new faces)
 - Hundreds of clients on the BNL
 - You might know coded clients.

Has your client been scored under a code? With client permission, we can share that code with you.

Coded Names look like:

ATV123

12ABCD

AWP123



VSP's and HMIS

Any project that is classified as a “victim service provider” under VAWA (Violence Against Women Act) CANNOT enter client-level data into their Homeless Management Information System.



hudexchange.info



Category 1 of Homelessness

Category 1: Literally Homeless

Individual of family who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence, meaning:

1. Has a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not meant for human habitation; **or**
2. Is living in a publicly or privately operated shelter designated to provide temporary living arrangements (including congregate shelters, transitional housing, and hotels and motels paid for by charitable organizations or by federal, state, or local government programs); **or**
3. Is exiting an institution where (s)he has resided for 90 days or less and who resided in an emergency shelter or place not meant for human habitation immediately before entering that institution.



Category 4 Homelessness

Category 4: Fleeing/Attempting to Flee Domestic Violence

Any individual or family who:

1. Is fleeing, or is attempting to flee, domestic violence;
2. Has no other residence; and
3. Lacks the resources or support networks to obtain other permanent housing.

Note: “Domestic Violence” includes sexual assault, dating violence, stalking, human trafficking, and other dangerous or life-threatening conditions that relate to violence against the individual or family member that either takes place in, or him or her afraid to return to, their primary nighttime residence.

Vulnerability Level vs. Imminent Danger

Vulnerability

Vulnerability is something that everyone on the CAHPS list has – otherwise they wouldn't be on the list!

Includes those additional factors like vulnerability to illness/death, high utilization of emergency services, significant functional impairments, imminent danger, etc.

Imminent Danger

In CAHPS, 'imminent danger' is used to describe how much danger a victim is in from their perpetrator.



Examples of Imminent Danger

- Low: Away from perpetrator but still suffering immediate effects
 - Perpetrator has been arrested or client has temporarily shelter like family/friends
- Medium: still living with perpetrator but able to keep them happy
 - Having to constantly walk on eggshells
- High: perpetrator is threatening high levels of physical harm
 - Perpetrator has access to weapons / have used weapons against them before
 - Perpetrator has strangled them before
 - Heavily restricting access to basic needs



VI-SPDAT

Trauma-Informed Care in the VI-SPDAT

- Conscious of using the word ‘family’
- If they are category four, using ‘housing instability’ instead of ‘homeless’
- Offering breaks throughout
- Not prying or asking additional questions unless absolutely relevant
- Always thanking them at the end

VULNERABILITY INDEX – SERVICE PRIORITIZATION DECISION ASSISTANCE TOOL (VI-SPDAT)
SINGLE ADULTS AMERICAN VERSION 3.0, NoCo Version June 2020

OPENING SPEAKING POINTS: Check boxes off as you discuss with participants

This is a 10-15 minute questionnaire that I would like to complete with you today. The answers will help us determine how we can go about supporting and helping you to find housing. That doesn't mean we can guarantee that you'll get housing, so if you have been working on finding housing you will probably want to continue that effort.

- The answers to the questions are 'yes', 'no' or a simple 'one-word' answer
- You can skip or refuse to answer any question
- Being as honest as you feel comfortable being
 - "Some people will tell us what they think we want to hear rather than telling us what is or was happening in your life. The more honest you are, the better we can figure out how best to support you. Your answers don't make things better or worse. What's important is to answer as honestly as you feel comfortable doing."
- Where we will store your information
 - "The results from your questionnaire will be stored in a safe and secure database (HMIS). If you ever want to have your name and information removed from that database, you can ask me or anyone else at [organization]."
- Consent to participate in the process
 - CAHPS ROI
 - COHMIS ROI
 - VA ROI (if they identify as a veteran)

ADMINISTRATION

Client First Name:		Client Last Name:	
Date:	Assessment Location:	<input type="checkbox"/> Outdoors	<input type="checkbox"/> Agency Office
Assessment Type:		<input type="checkbox"/> Crisis Needs Assessment	<input type="checkbox"/> Housing Needs Assessment
Primary Language:	Identifies as LGBTQ2+?		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Survey Location: <input type="checkbox"/> Shelter <input type="checkbox"/> Outreach <input type="checkbox"/> Drop In <input type="checkbox"/> Other : _____	Pet(s)?		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No



Referrals



- Safest ways to connect with DV households
 - Importance of following their preferred method of contact
 - Giving them extra patience – effects of abuse are long-lasting
 - Working with mental illness. PTSD, anxiety, depression, etc.

Housing DV Referrals

Yes, you can!

If coded clients are in so much danger that it's very likely for the perpetrator to show up to their new home, we're not going to refer them to a program that can't help. With imminent danger that high, we're working on relocating them as fast as possible.

For immediate safety concerns, have them call 911!

Anything that you may not know how to handle? Refer to your local DV agency!





Questions?

