

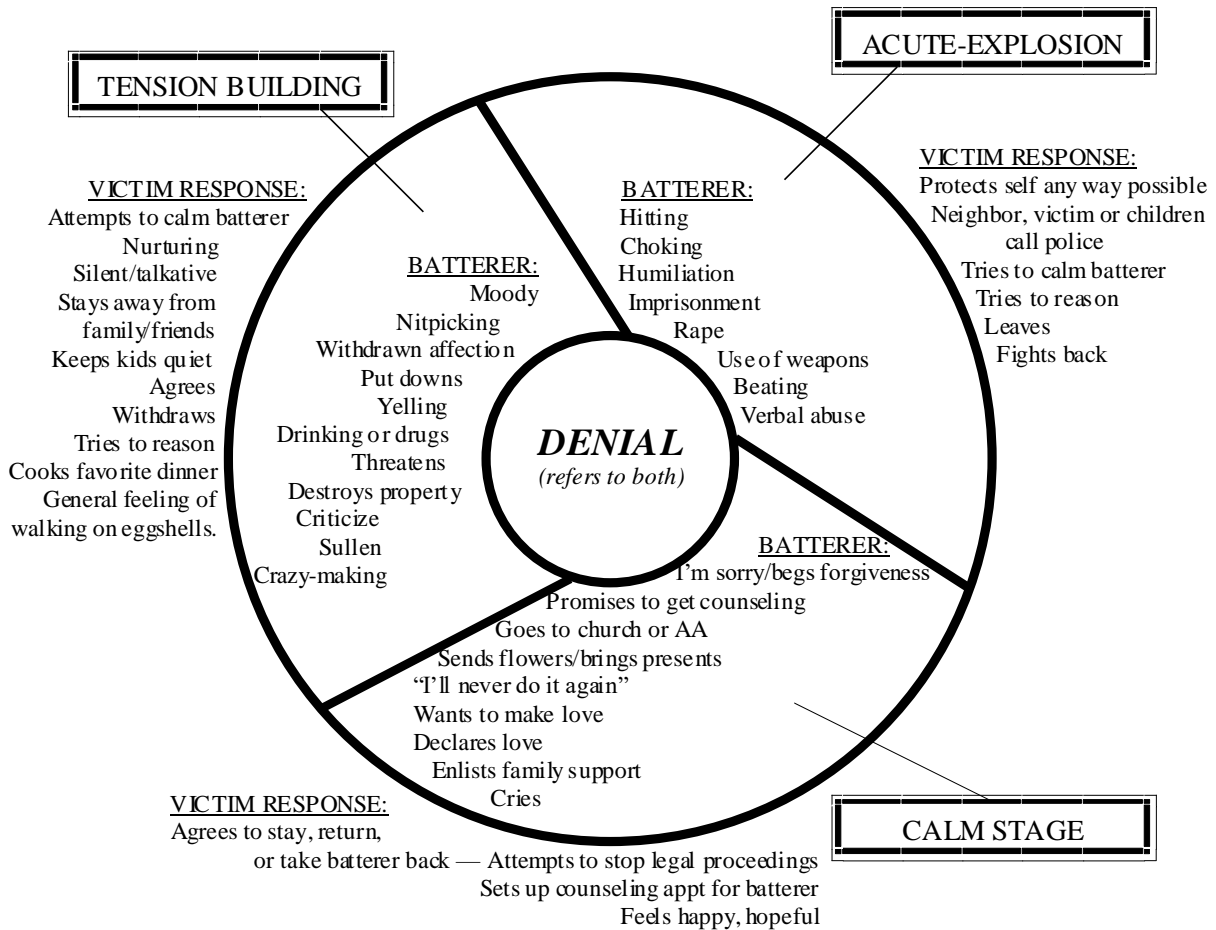


Family Violence Education

24 Hour Hotline:

713-473-2801

CYCLE OF VIOLENCE



HOW DENIAL WORKS IN EACH STAGE OF THE CYCLE TO KEEP THE CYCLE GOING.
 (ONLY BY BREAKING THROUGH THIS DENIAL CAN THE CYCLE BE BROKEN)

1. TENSION BUILDING
 Denies it's happening, excuses it as some outside stress (work, etc.)
 Blames self for batterer's behavior, denies that the abuse will worsen
 Batterer denies by blaming the tension on victim, the traffic, getting drunk, anything.
 Batterer denies responsibility for actions.
2. EXPLOSION
 Denies injuries, says they are only minor ("I bruise easily"), does n't require police or medical help;
 Blames it on drinking ("They didn't know what they were doing");
 Does not label it rape because of their relationship;
 The batterer blames it on the victim, stress, etc. ("They had it coming")
3. CALM STAGE
 They minimize their injuries ("It could have been worse");
 Believes that this is the way it will stay, that this is the person of their dreams, believes the promises.
 The batterer also believes it won't happen again.

This period grows shorter over time.

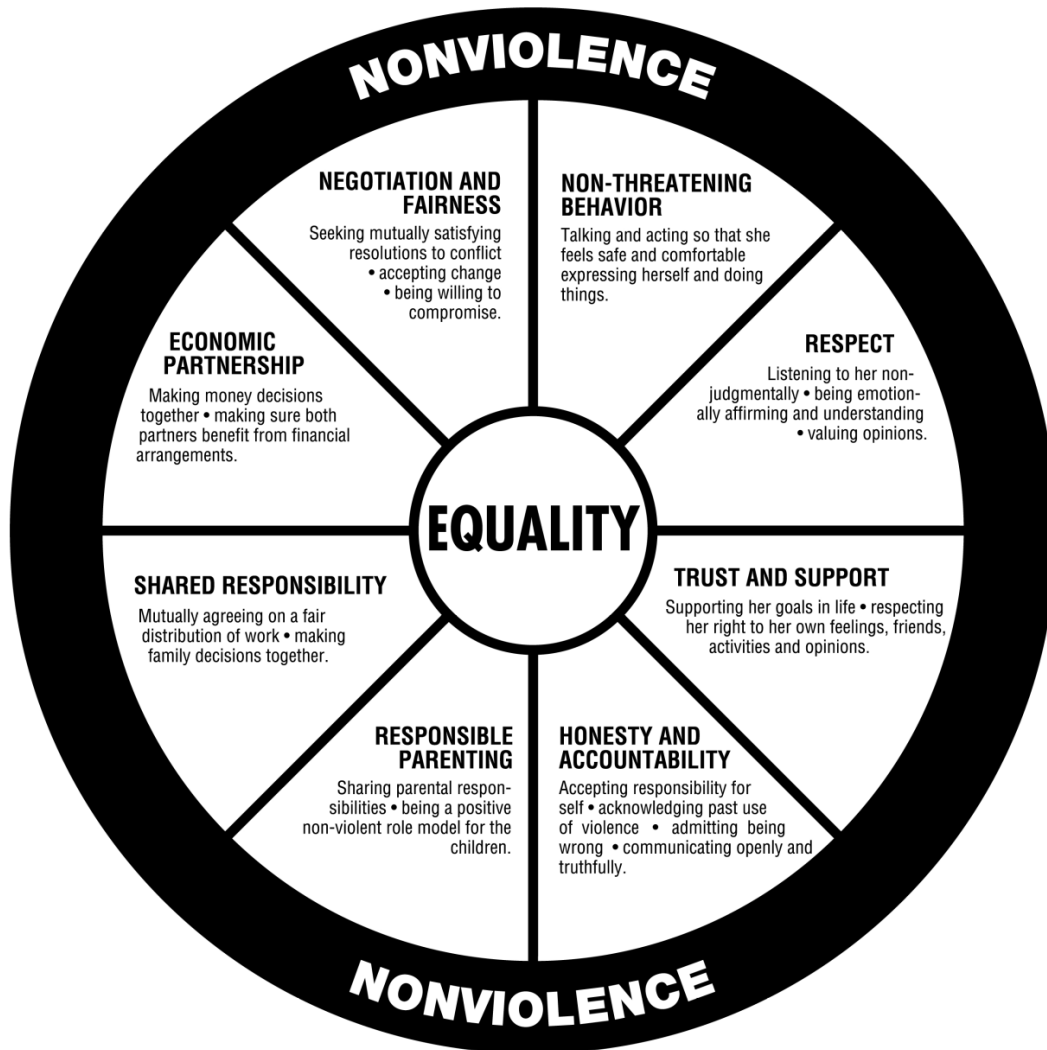
Power and Control Wheel



DOMESTIC ABUSE INTERVENTION PROJECT

202 East Superior Street
Duluth, Minnesota 55802
218-722-2781
www.duluth-model.org

Equality Wheel



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Possible Effects of Domestic Violence on Families

Infants

Sleep disturbances
Continual fussing and crying
An inability to be comforted
Being easily startled
Being easily irritated
Listlessness



Toddlers/Preschoolers

Frequent Physical Complaints
Difficulty going to bed
Frequent nightmares
Inability to be comforted
Slow movements in an otherwise healthy child
Not knowing how or when to play
General Sadness
Acting mean to other children and adults
Cursing



Elementary Age Children

All toddler/preschooler symptoms
Difficulty concentrating
Drop in grades
Inability to sit still, stand in line, or follow directions in class
Frequent trips to bathroom
Hiding
Extreme shyness
Excessive talking
School phobia
Regressive behaviors such as thumb sucking, crawling, inability to control urine
Bullying
General "acting out" behavior



Adolescents

Property destruction
Self-destructive behavior
Frequent physical complaints
Cruelty to animals, small children, and peers of opposite gender
Truancy
Aggressive/violent behavior
Running away
Drug and alcohol abuse
Suicidal talk, threats, or attempts
Carrying or keeping weapons
Nightmares/Sleep disorders
Depression
Eating disorders
Obsessive compulsive disorder
Isolation
Lack of social involvement with peers or family



Adults

Death by homicide (perpetrator or victim)
Death by suicide
Disabling injuries
Depression
Emotional abuse and deprivation
Difficulty in obtaining, maintaining, or adjusting to employment
Isolation
Expansion of violence into community



Why Do Women Stay?

Statistics show that women leave an abusive relationship an average of seven times before they leave for good. But how common is it to hear the question “Why do women stay in abusive relationships?” The following are some very real reasons why you or someone you know may identify with regards to remaining in an abusive relationship or leaving and then returning:

- Shame and guilt
- Fear: the batterer may have made violent threats before and kept their word. If the victim has been told “I will kill you if you leave me!”-do they have any reason to doubt it?
- Loss of income: if the victim has been unable to find or maintain employment because- a) his controlling behavior prohibits her from leaving the house, assuming they have transportation; b) excessive sick time at work due to injuries sustained from the violence; or c) the abusive behavior at the job or towards coworkers.
- Women are frequently held hostage in their homes literally. Doors are locked and phones are removed to prevent outside communication.
- Fear of the unknown
- Poor health
- Language/cultural barriers
- Severe depression, anxiety, and feelings of worthlessness
- Threats to take or hurt the children



Please remember that there is help available for you-

Please call The Bridge Hotline at 713-473-2801

Signs to Look for in a Battering Personality

Many women are interested in ways they can predict whether they are about to become involved with someone who will be physically abusive. Usually battering occurs between a man and a woman, but battering also takes place in same-sex relationships. Below is a list of behaviors seen in people who beat their partners; the last four signs listed are battering, but many women do not realize that this is the beginning of physical abuse. If a person exhibits several of the other behaviors, say, three or more, there is strong potential for physical violence. The more signs a person has, the more likely the person is a batterer. In some cases, a batterer may have only a few behaviors that the woman can recognize, but they are very exaggerated (for example, will try to explain the behavior as a sign of love and concern); a woman may be flattered at first. As time goes on, the behaviors become more severe and serve to dominate and control the woman.

1. JEALOUSY. At the beginning of a relationship, an abuser may say that jealousy is a sign of love. Jealousy has nothing to do with love. It is a sign of possessiveness and lack of trust. The abuser may question his partner about who she talks to, accuse her of flirting, or be jealous of time she spends with family, friends, or children. As the jealousy progresses, he may call her frequently during the day or drop by unexpectedly. He may refuse to let her work for fear she'll meet someone else, or even engage in behaviors such as checking her car mileage or asking friends to watch her.

2. CONTROLLING BEHAVIOR. At first the batterer will say this behavior is due to his concern for her safety, her need to use her time well, or her need to make good decisions. He will be angry if the woman is "late" coming back from the store or an appointment; he will question her closely about where she went and who she talked with. As this behavior progresses, he may not let the woman make personal decisions about the house, her clothing, or even going to church. He may keep all the money or even make her ask permission to leave the house or room.

3. QUICK INVOLVEMENT. Many battered women dated or knew their abuser for less than six months before they were married, engaged, or living together. He comes on like a whirlwind, claiming, "you're the only person I could ever talk to", or "I've never been loved like this by anyone." He will pressure the woman to commit to the relationship in such a way that later the woman may feel very guilty or that she's "letting him down" if she wants to slow down involvement or break off the relationship.

4. UNREALISTIC EXPECTATIONS. Abusive people will expect their partner to meet all their needs. He expects a perfect wife, mother, lover, friend. He will say things such as "if you love me, I'm all you need, and you're all I need." His partner is expected to take care of everything for him emotionally and in the home.

5. ISOLATION. The abusive person tries to cut his partner off from all resources. If she has male friends, she's a "whore." If she has women friends, she's a lesbian. If she's close to family, she's "tied to the apron strings." He accuses people who are the woman's supports of "causing

trouble." He may want to live in the country, without a telephone, or refuse to let her drive the car, or he may try to keep her from working or going to school.

6. BLAMES OTHERS FOR PROBLEMS. If he is chronically unemployed, someone is always doing him wrong or out to get him. He may make mistakes and then blame the women for upsetting him and keeping him from concentrating on the task at hand. He may tell the woman she is at fault for virtually anything that goes wrong in his life.

7. BLAMES OTHERS FOR FEELINGS. The abuser may tell his partner "you make me mad," "you're hurting me by not doing what I want you to do," or "I can't help being angry ." He is the one who makes the decision about what he thinks or feels, but he will use these feelings to manipulate his partner. Harder to catch are claims, "you make me happy," or "you control how I feel."

8. HYPERSENSITIVITY. An abuser is easily insulted, claiming his feelings are "hurt," when in actuality he is angry or taking the slightest setback as a personal attack. He will "rant and rave" about the injustice of things that have happened, things that are just a part of living (for example, being asked to work late, getting a traffic ticket, being asked to help with chores, or being told some behavior is annoying).

9. CRUELTY TO ANIMALS OR CHILDREN. Abusers may punish animals brutally or be insensitive to their pain or suffering. An abuser may expect children to be capable of things beyond their abilities (punishes a 2-year old for wetting a diaper). He may tease children or young brothers and sisters until they cry. He may not want children to eat at the table or may expect them to be kept in their rooms when he is home. Studies indicate that about 60% of men who physically abuse their partners also abuse their children.

10. "PLAYFUL" USE OF FORCE IN SEX. An abuser may enjoy throwing the woman down or holding her down during sex. He may want to act out fantasies during sex where the woman is helpless. He is letting his partner know that the idea of rape is exciting. He may show little concern about whether the woman wants to have sex and uses sulking or anger to manipulate her into compliance. He may begin having sex with the woman while she is sleeping or demand sex when she is ill or tired.

11. VERBAL ABUSE. In addition to saying things that are intentionally meant to be cruel and hurtful, verbal abuse is also apparent in the abuser's degrading of his partner, cursing her, and belittling her accomplishments. The abuser tells her she is stupid and unable to function without him. This may involve waking her up to verbally abuse her or not letting her go to sleep.

12. RIGID SEX ROLES. The abuser expects his partner to serve him. He may even say the woman must stay at home and obey in all things-even acts that are criminal in nature. The abuser sees women as inferior to men, responsible for menial tasks, and unable to be a whole person without a relationship.

13. DR. JEKYL/MR. HYDE PERSONALITY. Many women are confused by the abuser's sudden changes in mood. She may think he has some sort of mental problem because one minute he's agreeable, the next he's exploding. Explosiveness and moodiness are typical of men who beat their partners. These behaviors are related to other characteristics, such as hypersensitivity.

14. PAST BATTERING. The abuser may say he has hit women in the past, but blame them for the abuse ("~hey made me do it"). The women may hear from relatives or ex-partners that he is abusive. A batterer will abuse any woman he is with if the relationship lasts long enough for the violence to begin~ situational circumstances do not make one's personality abusive.

15. THREATS OF VIOLENCE. This includes any threat of physical force meant to control the partner: "I'll slap your mouth off," "I'll kill you," "I'll break your neck." Most people do not threaten their partners~ abusers will try to excuse their threats by saying "everybody talks like that."

16. BREAKING OR STRIKING OBJECTS. Breaking loved possessions is used as a punishment, but mostly to terrorize the woman into submission. The abuser may beat on the table with his fist, or throw objects around or near his partner. Again, this is remarkable behavior. Not only is this a sign of extreme immaturity, but there is great danger when someone thinks he has the right to punish or frighten his partner.

17. ANY FORCE DURING AN ARGUMENT. This may involve the abuser's holding the woman down, physically restraining her from leaving the room, or any pushing or shoving. He may hold his partner against the wall, telling her "You're going to listen to me!"

LETHALITY ASSESSMENT

Domestic violence can and does lead to serious injury and death. The following behaviors are indicators of increased risk of assault to the victim/survivor; a safety plan should be developed.

➤ Have there been threats of homicide/suicide? Against you, children, relatives, or self? _____ Has your partner verbalized a specific plan? _____ Are there any prior attempts? _____

➤ Has there been an increased use of threats and violence? _____
Has it increased in frequency and severity over time? _____

What was the most severe violence? _____

➤ Does your partner have a prior criminal history? _____
Has your partner been charged or convicted of assault? Against you? _____ Children? _____
Previous partners? _____ Is there a prior probation history? _____
Have there been charges/convictions related to drugs or alcohol? _____

Have the police been to your home before? _____ How many times? _____

➤ Is there a current possession and/or past use of weapons? _____
Have there been threats with weapons? _____ Does your partner have access to weapons? _____

➤ Has there been any alcohol/drug use by your partner? _____
Used when depressed/enraged? _____ Frequency, amount, type _____

➤ Is there occupational/military history relating to using force? _____

➤ Does your partner have access to you? _____ Is there a history of stalking/harassment? _____

➤ Is your partner depressed and/or have rage over life stressors? _____
Examples: Unemployment? Significant debt? Has there been a recent death of a loved one?

➤ Is there isolation? Abuser isolated from support system? _____ Victim isolated? _____

➤ Has there been violence in previous relationship? As a child? _____ As an adult? _____

➤ What has been the history of prior separations? _____

➤ Is there any history of mental illness? _____ History of psychiatric assistance? _____
Past or current medications? _____ Has there been any substance abuse counseling? _____

➤ Is there any neurological impairment? _____ Are there any physical health problems? _____
Any hospitalizations? _____ Does your partner take any medications? _____

➤ Is there an age difference? _____

➤ Do you have children from a previous relationship or other adults living in your home? _____

Safety Plan for Victims of Domestic Violence

This safety plan is for victims of domestic violence. Safety planning helps develop tools in advance of potentially dangerous situations. Choose only the suggestions listed here that make sense for your set of circumstances.

SAFETY DURING AN EXPLOSIVE INCIDENT

Go to an area that has an exit.

Not a bathroom (near hard surfaces), kitchen (knives), or near weapons.

Stay in a room with a phone.

Call 911, a friend or a neighbor, if possible. Inform them if there are weapons in the home.

Know your escape route.

Practice how to get out of your home safely. Visualize your escape route.

Have a packed bag ready.

Keep it hidden in a handy place in order to leave quickly, or leave the bag elsewhere if the abuser searches your home.

Devise a code word or signal.

Tell your children, grandchildren or neighbors so you can communicate to them that you need the police.

Know where you're going.

Plan where you will go if you have to leave home, even if you don't think you'll need to.

Trust your judgment.

Consider anything that you feel will keep you safe and give you time to figure out what to do next. Sometimes it is best to flee, sometimes to placate the abuser - anything that works to protect yourself and the children.

SAFETY WHEN PREPARING TO LEAVE

LEAVING CAN BE THE MOST DANGEROUS TIME!

Have a safe place to stay.

Make sure it is a place that can protect you and your children or grandchildren.

Call a domestic violence victim service program.

Find out which services and shelters are available as options if you need them. Keep their address and phone number close at hand at all times.

Find someone you trust.

Leave money, extra keys, copies of important documents and clothing with them in advance, so you can leave quickly, if necessary.

Open a savings account.

Put it in your name only, to increase your independence. Consider direct deposit from your paycheck or benefit check.

Review your safety plan.

Study and check your plans as often as possible in order to know the safest way to leave the abuser.

Concerns about immigration status.

You may qualify under a law called the Violence Against Women Act. Talk to an immigration expert (not Immigration and Customs Enforcement) or your local domestic violence victim services program for more information.

IF YOU NEED TO LEAVE, TAKE WITH YOU...

- Marriage and Driver's licenses
- Birth certificates - yours and family's
- Money, checkbooks, credit cards, ATM cards, mortgage payment book, car title
- Social Security card, work permit, green card, passport, visa
- Divorce, custody papers and restraining order
- Insurance papers and medical records
- Lease, rental agreement and/or house deed
- School and health records
- Keys - house, car, office, friend's
- Medications, glasses, hearing aids, etc. needed by you and your family
- Personal items - address book, pictures, toys
- Copies of your spouse's green card or social security card and all immigration related documents
- Benefit card

SAFETY IN YOUR OWN HOME

(If the abuser does not live with you)

Upgrade your security system.

Change the locks on doors and windows as soon as possible. Consider a security service, window bars, better lighting, smoke detectors and fire extinguishers.

Have a safety plan.

Teach your children or grandchildren how to call the police or someone they can trust. Have a secret code word that you and your children agree on - to communicate trouble and for the people who are allowed to pick the children up.

Change your phone number.

Screen your calls if you have an answering machine or caller ID. Save all messages with threats or that violate any orders. Contact your local phone company about getting an unpublished number.

Talk to neighbors and landlord.

Inform them that the abuser no longer lives with you and that they should call the police if they see the abuser near your home.

Get legal advice.

Find a lawyer knowledgeable about domestic violence to explore custody, visitation and divorce provisions that protect you and the children. Discuss getting a restraining order as an option. The abuser may be mandated to a batterers' intervention program. Talk with the program to find out more

about potential risks to you while your abuser participates. Additionally, contact your local domestic violence victim services program.

SAFETY AND EMOTIONAL HEALTH

Get support. Call a domestic violence crisis help-line and/or attend a women's or victims support group for at least two weeks to gain support from others and learn more about yourself and the relationship with the abuser.

Do what is safe for you. If you have to communicate with the abuser, arrange to do so in the way that makes you feel safe whether by phone, mail or in the company of another person.

SAFETY AND YOUR CHILDREN

Tell schools and childcare. Let them know who has permission to pick up the child/ren and give them your code word. Discuss with them other special provisions to protect you and your child/ren. Provide a picture of the abuser if possible.

Exchange child/ren in a safe place. Find a safe place to exchange the child/ren for visitation. Some communities have specific locations just for this purpose. Contact your local domestic violence victim services program for more information.

YOU AND YOUR CHILDREN DESERVE TO BE SAFE!

SAFETY ON THE JOB

Tell somebody. Decide whom at work you will inform of your situation, especially if you have a Protection From Abuse Order (PFA). This may include office security if available. Provide a picture of the abuser if possible. It is your right to request and expect confidentiality from those you disclose to.

Screen your calls. Arrange to have someone screen and log your telephone calls if possible.

Make a safety plan. Create a safety plan for when you enter and leave your work place. Have someone escort you to your vehicle or other transportation.

If you and the abuser work at the same place, discuss with your supervisor your options regarding scheduling, safety precautions, employee/family benefits.

Contact your local domestic violence victim services program to receive additional information about workplace safety.

IN AN EMERGENCY CALL 911.

Crime Victims' Compensation (CVC) Program

- The CVC Program may provide financial assistance to victims of violent crime for related expenses that cannot be reimbursed by insurance or other sources.
- The Program is administered by the Office of the Attorney General and is committed to assisting victims and claimants who qualify. The information provided is meant to be generally informative, and the statutory requirements of the Texas Crime Victims' Compensation Act (Texas Code of Criminal Procedure, Chapter 56) and the rules set forth in Title 1 of the Texas Administrative Code, Part III, Chapter 61, govern the Program.
- Money in the Victims of Crime Compensation Fund comes from fees paid by those convicted of a crime.

What are the basic eligibility requirements for Crime Victims' Compensation Program benefits?

- The victim must be a resident of Texas, a United States resident who is victimized while in Texas or a Texas resident victimized in another state or country that does not have a crime victim compensation fund.
- The victim or claimant must report the crime to the appropriate state or local public safety or law enforcement agency within a reasonable period of time.
- The victim or claimant must cooperate with law enforcement officials in the investigation and prosecution of the case.
- All other available third party resources (for example, Medicare, Medicaid, personal health insurance, worker's compensation and settlements) must meet their legal obligation to pay claims before CVC pays crime-related compensation benefits.
- The Crime Victims' Compensation Program must be notified when a civil lawsuit is filed in relation to the crime or if restitution is ordered.

Who may be *eligible* for Crime Victims' Compensation Program benefits?

- Victims of violent crime who suffer physical or emotional harm as a direct result of the crime.
- A victim's dependents and/or family or household members who qualify as claimants.
- Someone who legally or voluntarily assumes financial responsibility for a victim's medical or burial expenses.

Who is *not eligible* for Crime Victims' Compensation Program benefits?

- The offender, an accomplice or any person who may unjustly benefit from an award to a victim or claimant.
- Anyone injured as a result of a motor vehicle accident, except under certain circumstances provided by law.
- Benefits may be denied or reduced if the victim's or claimant's own behavior contributed to the crime.
- Anyone incarcerated when the crime occurred.
- Any victim or claimant who intentionally provides false or forged information to the Crime Victims' Compensation Program.

What expenses *may be covered* with Crime Victims' Compensation Program benefits?

- Reasonable and necessary medical and funeral expenses.
- Travel for medical, court and funeral events if more than 20 miles one-way.
- Loss of earnings as a result of the death of the victim (funeral/bereavement).
- Loss of earnings for crime-related disabilities and court or medical appointments.
- Loss of support to dependents of victims, if the victim was employed at the time of the crime.
- Counseling for victim and immediate family members of the victim.
- Eyeglasses, hearing aids, dentures or prosthetic devices, if damaged or needed as a result of the crime.
- Crime scene clean-up.
- Replacement of property seized as evidence.
- New expenses for child or adult dependent care as a result of the crime.
- One time rent and relocation expenses for victims of family violence or sexual assault who were assaulted in their residence.
- Reasonable attorney fees for assistance in filing the Crime Victims' Compensation Program application and obtaining benefits.

What expenses are *not covered* by Crime Victims' Compensation Program benefits?

- Damage, repair or loss to property or vehicle.
- Pain, suffering or emotional distress damages.
- Any expense which is not the direct result of the crime.

Payment for Cost of Forensic Sexual Assault Examinations - A forensic sexual assault examination is a medical examination of the victim of the alleged assault for use in the investigation or prosecution of the offense. Either a law enforcement agency or the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) pays for the costs of forensic sexual assault examinations. CVC does not pay for the cost of forensic sexual assault examinations but reimburses law enforcement agencies and DPS directly for the costs they incur for the exams. Therefore, a victim of sexual assault who receives a forensic sexual assault examination is not required to submit a CVC application for reimbursement of the cost of the examination.

- If a victim of sexual assault reports the alleged crime to a law enforcement agency, the law enforcement agency will request a forensic sexual assault examination and pay all costs of the examination. If a victim of sexual assault reports the assault to the law enforcement agency and requires medical treatment for crime related injury, the victim may submit an application to CVC for reimbursement of costs other than the forensic sexual assault examination.
- If a victim receives a forensic sexual assault examination and chooses not to report the alleged crime to a law enforcement agency, the Texas Department of Public Safety pays all costs of the examination. CVC may only pay for other crime related expenses if a victim reports the crime to law enforcement.

Information obtained from the Attorney General of Texas website (http://www.oag.state.tx.us/victims/about_comp.shtml)

Protective Orders

What is a Protective Order?

- Court order that protects you from someone else who has been violent or threatened to be violent, the order is good for 2 years
- It orders the other person not to hurt or threaten to hurt you, not to contact you or go near you, your children, your children's schools, your home, or your work
- The police can arrest the other person for violating the orders

Types of Protective Orders

- Emergency- good for 31-61 days; you qualify when abuser has been arrested for domestic violence; MUST ask arresting officer to file before abuser is released from jail
- Temporary Ex Parte- provides immediate protection; if application shows clear and present danger of violence; provides protection until full court hearing (14 days)
- Permanent Protective Order- good for 2 years and abuser is present at court

Who is eligible to file a Protective Order?

- A person who has a close relationship with the offender (whether married, dating, or living together, have a child together, or are close relatives) and they have hurt or threatened to hurt them
- If there is fear that this person will hurt them in the future
- New partners of victims
- A pet, companion animal, or assistance animal in possession of the victim

Where to file a Protective Order

- DA's Office Family Law Division
- Prior to going to the DA's Office an application can be completed online at www.texaslawhelp.org, click on the Family Law and Domestic Violence link
- An application can also be completed with a Bridge caseworker

What to bring to file a Protective Order

- Your picture ID
- Documentation that violence has occurred (usually through police reports, medical records, pictures, witness contact information)
- All the addresses you wish to include on the order, as well as an address where the perpetrator can be served the protective order

What happens at the District Attorney's Office?

- Once you complete an application, a caseworker will review it and you will be asked some questions about the abuse
- The caseworker will inform you as to whether or not you qualify for a protective order
- There is no fee for the protective order

What happens after you have been granted a Protective Order?

- For the protective order to be finalized the perpetrator will need to be served (usually within 14 days of when you applied)
- Once the perpetrator is served then you will be required to go to court (a DA will represent your case)

What happens at court?

- Once you arrive at court you will be shown to a separate room and the DA will mediate between you and the perpetrator if he/she does not have an attorney
- If the perpetrator has an attorney or refuses to sign you may be required to go before the judge and testify

IMPORTANT: You are required by law to follow the protective order too. If granted a protective order, keep a copy with you at ALL times

ADDRESS CONFIDENTIALITY PROGRAM (ACP)

WHAT IS THE TEXAS ADDRESS CONFIDENTIALITY PROGRAM (ACP)

With increased public access to person information, there is a rising need for address confidentiality for victims of family violence, stalking and sexual assault. Texas has a new program to help these victims keep their actual addresses confidential. The ACP, administered by the Office of the Attorney General (OAG), provides a substitute address and mail forwarding service for these victims and members of their household. ACP should be utilized as a portion of an overall safety plan. It is not a witness protection program or a guarantee of safety.

HOW TO APPLY

Applicants must meet with a local domestic violence shelter, sexual assault center, law enforcement, or prosecution staff member to discuss a safety plan and enroll in the program. To get contact information for local shelters, please access the Texas Council on Family Violence Web site at www.tcfv.org or call the national Domestic Violence hotline at (800) 799-SAFE. To contact local centers please access the Texas Association Against Sexual Assault Web site at www.taasa.org or the National Sexual Assault hotline at (800) 656-HOPE. Meeting with an advocate is vital to this process and required by law. The OASG will not accept applications submitted directly by victims.

To learn more about the program contact:

Texas Confidentiality Program

Office of the Attorney General

PO Box 12199 MC069

crimevictims@oag.state.tx.us

512-936-1750 * 888-832-2322

Information obtained from www.texasattorneygeneral.gov

EVAL 9/13

VICTIM INFORMATION AND NOTIFICATION EVERYDAY (VINE)

WHAT IS VINE

- Provides basic information on jailed suspects/offenders and their scheduled court events
- Notifies registered users of changes in jail status and court events
- Free service for crime victims and other concerned citizens
- Available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week in English and Spanish

FOR VICTIMS OF CRIME THERE IS STRENGTH IN NUMBERS

Especially this one. Toll Free 1-877-TX4-VINE. 1877-8948463. Call 24 hours a day for information on county jail status and court events. Register to be automatically notified of court events and changes in jail status. Receive information on both suspects and offenders in county jail.

Make Texas VINE part of your safety plan. The suspect/offender will not know you are registered with VINE; however, do not depend only on Texas VINE, or any single program, for your protection.

When you first access VINE, you will identify the suspect/offender by entering the person's name as a number. To do this, match each letter of the name to a number using the telephone keypad. Use 1 for "Q" and "Z".

You can get the court case number from your local District Attorney's office.

The Booking Number is a unique identifying number assigned by law enforcement when a person is booked into the county jail. You will be given the offender's booking number the first time you access the system. If you forget the booking number, you can still access VINE information by entering the person's name in number format.

Select a personal Identification Number (PIN) that is easy to remember.

LOCATING INFORMATION ON JAIL STATUS AND COURT DATES

Call toll free 1-877-TX4-VINE; 1877-894-8463 from a touch tone phone. If calling from a rotary phone, please stay on the line to speak to an operator.

Follow the voice instructions using the information you wrote below.

If you need assistance Press 0 to speak to an operator when the system prompts you to choose an option.

REGISTERING FOR NOTIFICATION

Texas VINE allows you to register for automatic notification of court events and changes in county jail status. You may need to register separately for each type of notification. When you register, you will be asked to provide two things:

1. Phone number where you wish to be notified. Register as many numbers as you like, including your home and work phone. Do not register a phone that rings to a receptionist or a switch board.
2. Four digit PIN (PERSONAL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER). Use the PIN you already have chosen. You may use the same PIN with each phone number you register.

RECEIVING A NOTIFICATION CALL

Texas VINE will automatically notify registered persons of a suspect/offender status and court event changes. To confirm that you have received the notification, enter your four digit PIN. Texas VINE will keep calling for 24 hours until this PIN is entered.

Texas VINE automatically notifies registered users in English or Spanish whenever one of the following situations occurs:

- The suspect/offender is released or transferred
- A court event has been set or changed
- There is a change in custody status such as death or escape

RECORD IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Suspect's/Offender's Name:

(Last)

(First)

(Middle Initial)

(Court Number)

(Booking Number)

(Your 4 digit PIN Code)

Information obtained from www.state.tx.us



United Way of
Greater Baytown Area
& Chambers County



United Way of Greater Houston