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What Is

V E

ENDING

DATING VIOLENCE

domestic violence solutions 805-564-4488

FACT SHEET

Teen dating violence is an **urgent, silent epidemic in Santa Barbara County**. **ONE in THREE** teens report experiencing abuse in a dating relationship and most teens will never report the abuse to anyone. Dating violence is not just dangerous and sometimes lethal, teens that experience abuse in a relationship exhibit higher:

- Rates of violence
- School drop-out rates
- Drug abuse
- High-risk sexual behavior and
- Suicide

Teens of all ages, boys and girls can both be victims and abusers, rich and poor, gay and straight.

Teen Dating Violence affects everyone equally

The Problem- a silent epidemic

ONE in THREE teens in Santa Barbara County report being in an abusive relationship

40% of teenage girls know someone their age that has been hit or beaten by their partner

Nearly 80% of girls who have been physically abused in their intimate relationships continue to date their abuser

Every year nearly 1.5 million high school students nationwide experience physical abuse from a dating partner

Over 70% of pregnant or parenting teens are beaten by their partner

ONE in FOUR teenage girls who have been in a relationship reveals they have been pressured to perform oral sex or engage in intercourse

Dating Violence is not just dangerous; it is devastating to teens' **health and safety**

WE BELIEVE EVERYONE HAS THE RIGHT TO SAFE AND HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS

CRISIS LINE: 805-964-5245 www.dvsolutions.org