



Child Abuse, Family Violence, Dating Violence, & Human Trafficking

High School

ABUSE



Types of Abuse

Physical Abuse - involves actions that cause physical harm to another person

Emotional/Mental Abuse - involves attitudes or controlling behaviors that harm a person's mental and emotional health

Financial Abuse - the use of money to show power in a relationship

Sexual Abuse - involves sexual violence



Examples of Abuse

Physical Abuse	Threatening, hitting, pushing, kicking, rough handling, burning, etc.
Emotional/Mental Abuse	Making hurtful jokes or putting someone down, name calling, controlling, isolating such as preventing someone from seeing their friends/family, etc.
Financial Abuse	Using money to make someone do what you want, sabotaging job opportunities, controlling all finances, restricting access to money or bank info., etc.
Sexual Abuse	Non-consensual touching or intercourse, sexual jokes, stalking, unwanted sexting, etc.



What is Sexual Violence?

Sexual behavior that occurs **WITHOUT** legal consent.

Sexual Harassment or Sexual Assault



What is Legal Consent?

- Direct, verbal, freely given agreement when someone older than the legal age of consent says yes.
 - In Texas, you must be 17 to legally consent



It is important to note.... People also **CANNOT** legally consent if:

- They feel pressured or coerced
- Are under the influence of alcohol or drugs
- Have certain disabilities or disorders
- Are asleep or unconscious



What is the difference?

Sexual Harassment

- Sexual attention without legal consent.

Examples:

- Spreading sexual rumors
- Sexual jokes
- Sexual comments about a person's body
- Sexual gestures
- Staring at a person's body
- Exposing a person's body (ex: pantsing)
- & more

Sexual Assault

- Threatening or forcing someone into sexual activity without legal consent.

Examples:

- Rape (nonconsensual intercourse)
- Attempted rape
- Kissing without consent
- Unwanted sexual touching
- Flashing/exposing genitals
- Taking pictures of someone who is nude
- & more



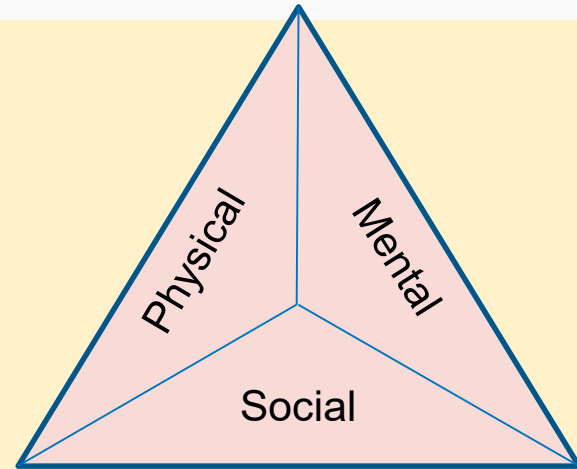
Statutory Rape

- **This occurs when someone under the age of legal consent (including teens) engages in sex.**
 - This charge can occur even if the child/teen agrees to having intercourse.
 - WHY?
 - They haven't developed the maturity and decision-making abilities to legally consent



What are the effects of abuse?

- Think back to the health triangle:



- How can abuse of any kind affect a person's physical, mental, and social health?

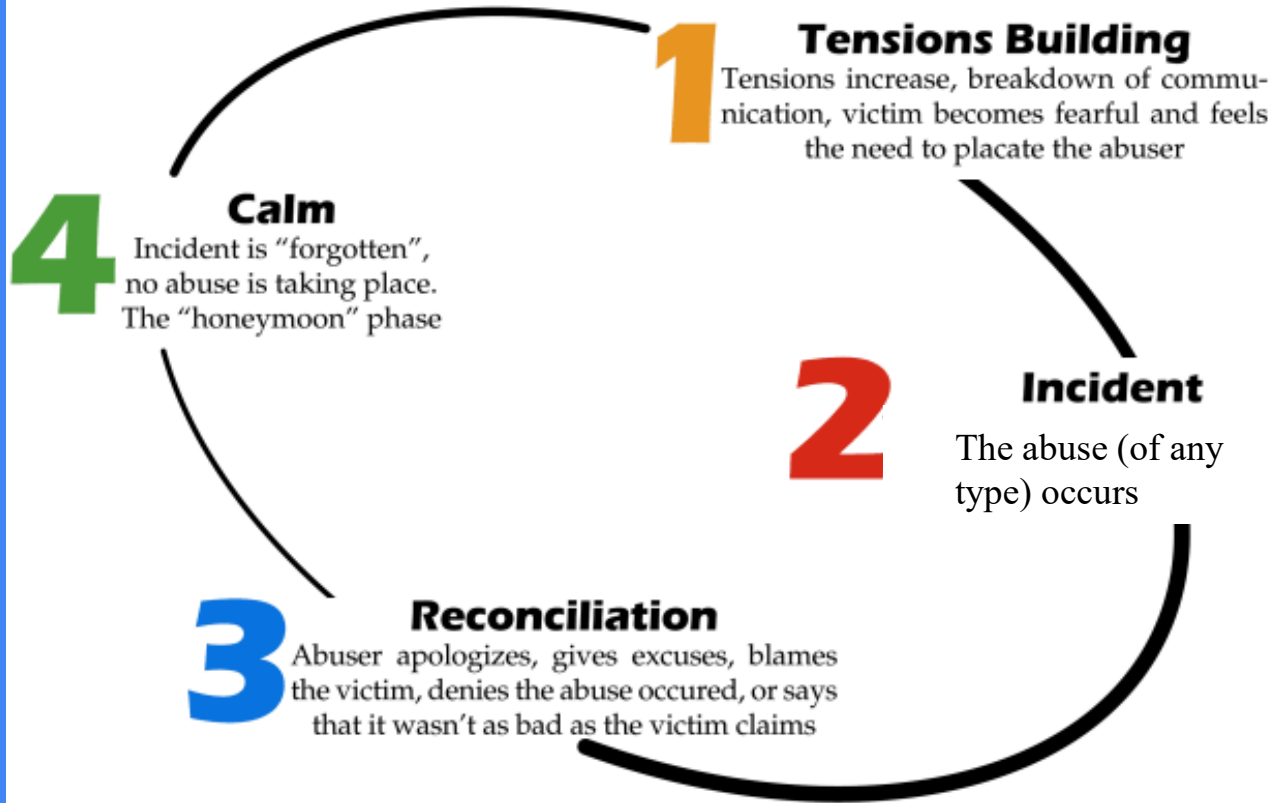


Preventing Sexual Assault

- **Setting and Respecting Boundaries**
- **Avoiding Risky and Dangerous Situations**
 - Be aware of surroundings
 - Avoid walking alone at night
 - Do not leave a drink unattended
 - Let others know where you will be



Cycle of Abuse



Child Abuse & Neglect

Child abuse refers to any intentional act an adult commits that causes harm or threatens to cause harm to a child.

Neglect occurs when an adult fails to meet a child's basic physical, emotional, medical, or educational needs. Neglect also includes the failure to protect a child from harm.



Signs of Child Abuse & Neglect

Type of Abuse	Signs
Neglect	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Underweight• Poor physical development• Lack of cleanliness
Physical Abuse	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Injuries, such as broken bones or severe bruises• Many injuries on different parts of the body• Several injuries that occurred at different times
Emotional/Mental Abuse	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Withdrawn attitude and unwillingness to talk to others• Anxiety and worry• Difficulty sleeping• Aggressive behavior
Child Sexual Abuse	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sexual activity with a child/teen• Having children/teens view sexual images• Sexual touching or kissing of a child/teen



Family Violence

Sibling Abuse - the violent mistreatment of one sibling by another

- Can be physical or emotional
- Some conflict or rivalry is normal, but abuse is not
- Unlike rivalry, abuse is part of an ongoing pattern

Elder Abuse - the abuse of an older adult

- Occurs in older adults' homes, nursing homes, or other living situations
- Can be physical, emotional, financial, or neglect
- Older adults who are abused and neglected often show signs of helplessness, loneliness, or distress



Dating Violence

Dating Violence - abuse between two people who are dating

- Occurs when one or both partners try to dominate or control each other through physical, emotional, or financial abuse
- Can occur in person or electronically
- People who experience dating violence may have physical injuries or may have feelings of depression, anxiety, fear, and shame



Signs of Dating Violence

It could be dating violence if your partner...

Gets upset when you spend time with others	Does not take responsibility for actions	Blames you or uses emotions to manipulate you
Gets angry easily, gets violent, or tries to scare you during conflicts	Puts you down and does not listen to your concerns	Pressures you or does not respect your boundaries
Frequently contacts you throughout the day to keep tabs on you.	Equates jealousy with love	Encourages spending less time with family and friends.



Break the Pattern of Abuse

1. **Recognize** the abusive situation for what it is.
 - Do not make excuses.
 - There is never a good reason for abuse occurring.
2. **Remember** that abuse may seem to stop during the calm stage
 - Even if the calm stage is lasting a long time, do not be fooled!
3. **Do not try to change** the person committing the abuse
 - You cannot change a person. Abusers need professional help!
4. **Leave** or help someone leave the abusive relationship/situation.
 - Talk with a trusted adult or call a hotline
 - Child Abuse Hotline
 - National Domestic Violence Hotline
 - Love Is Respect Hotline
 - Montgomery County Women's Shelter



Human Trafficking



Human Trafficking

a form of modern slavery in which people are forced or pressured to perform a job or service

Labor Trafficking

Employers use threats, violence, imprisonment, or deportation to force people to work long hours for very little, if any, money.

Sex Trafficking

People are forced to engage in sexual activity against their will, sometimes for money.

Traffickers make money off people they traffic and use threats, violence, drugs, and coercion to make people do what they want.



TRUE OR FALSE: Human Sex Trafficking

Texas has the 2nd highest rate of human trafficking in the U.S.

TRUE

DALLAS has the highest rate of sex trafficking in the country.

F-Houston

The perpetrators are usually STRANGERS.

F-Someone you know

Child Trafficking usually starts ONLINE.

TRUE

Researchers estimate 100,000 people are being trafficked at any given time in Texas.

F- 313,000

Human Trafficking

- Sometimes, trafficking begins with kidnapping
- More often, people trick others with promises
- A person may reach out to someone on social media and ask to meet.

Grooming: building a relationship with the intent of taking advantage of a person.

- People are often groomed for awhile before becoming a trafficking victim.



Signs of Human Trafficking

- Unexplained, regular school absences
- Running away from home
- Regular travel
- Bruises or other physical injuries
- Lack of control over schedule
- Hunger
- Sudden changes in behavior or hygiene
- Dodging questions or lying
- Dating an older person
- Lack of concentration
- Anxiety, anger, and depression



Human Trafficking Prevention

- Do not go anywhere with people you do not know well or people you meant online.
- Do not give your personal information.
- If someone offers you a job or experience, that seems too good to be true (traveling or modeling), talk to a trusted adult
- If someone gives you gifts or money, or makes a lot of promises, be aware that those behaviors are GROOMING.
- If you feel unsafe in a relationship, try to leave or tell someone you trust!



HUMAN TRAFFICKING



Human Trafficking is a form of modern-day slavery that involves controlling a person through force, fraud or coercion to exploit the victim.



MISCONCEPTIONS

- Sex trafficking and prostitution are not the same thing – although all child prostitution is human trafficking
- Victims can easily seek help or leave unsafe/unfair situations - many victims may not feel safe to do so or lack courage due to manipulation and psychological control by traffickers
- Human trafficking does not discriminate



VICTIMS

- Anyone can be a victim
- Males and females of all races, ethnicities and socioeconomic levels
- Victims are often lured by false promise of relationships
- Many victims are often hidden in plain sight and/or may not realize they are being exploited



TRAFFICKERS

- Traffickers can be anyone: males, females, a fellow classmate, friend, family, someone you met online, boy or girlfriend, pimps, gangs, family members and employers
- Traffickers use various methods such as violence, threats, fraud, coercion, blackmail, false promises, deception, and manipulation, to trap vulnerable individuals
- Traffickers employ a variety of control tactics, including physical and emotional abuse, sexual assault, isolation from friends and family, and even renaming victims



RECRUITMENT TACTICS

- Grooming by providing expensive items
- Grooming by fulfilling emotional needs (spending time, listening, giving compliments)
- Peer pressure
- Pressure of entering a relationship or meeting face to face
- Online recruitment through social media (comments on posts, sends private message, etc.)
- Offering help such as a place to stay or a job
- Blackmail (threatening to share photo and personal information, or anything else that might elicit fear, cause embarrassment, or lead to legal consequences)

PREVENTION

- Do not post your troubles/frustrations online
- Keep social media and game accounts private
- Do not converse with someone online you have never met in person
- Contact the National Human Trafficking Hotline directly at **1-888-373-7888** if you have concerns about a potential trafficking situation



Violence Prevention



What to Do If You Experience Violence

- If someone in a relationship uses or threatens you with violence, **tell a parent or trusted adult** and get out of the relationship as soon as possible. There is no excuse for violent behavior.
- If you witness or suspect violence of any kind, **tell a parent or trusted adult**.
- If you are tempted to act violently, get out of the situation and **talk to a parent or trusted adult**.
- If you experience violence, get medical help for any physical injuries, and **report the violence to a trusted adult, such as a parent or guardian, school official, or the police**.



Violence Prevention

- Resist the pressure to hurt others. Focus on your values and beliefs and find healthy ways to feel good about yourself.
- Practice healthy conflict resolution. Negotiate and remain calm.
- Learn self-control to prevent yourself from becoming violent. Encourage others to use self-control, too.
- Choose your friends carefully. Build healthy relationships that are free from violence.



Violence Prevention

- Do not pick up a gun or other weapon. Report unsecured guns or weapons to a **parent or trusted adult**.
- Practice safety when home alone or in public places.
 - Lock the doors and windows at home
 - Do not give out your personal information
 - Do not speak to strangers on social media
- If you are tempted to act violently, **seek help from a parent or trusted adult**.
- **Talk to a parent or trusted adult** if you witness any threats or violent behavior.



References

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