

Violence in the Home

Kids Say...

"If I were a good boy, my Dad wouldn't hit my Mom."

— Jason, age 7

"I am scared when they fight. I am scared when they fight."

— Sara, age 3

"I always pretended I was asleep."

— Linda, age 5

"I get really mad when my Dad hits my Mom. I yell at him and say, 'Do not touch my Mom.'"

— Dan, age 10

Mom Says...

"Sometimes I woke up with their heads next to my heart to see if I was still alive."

"Domestic violence against a woman is also against a child. It damages their mind."

"I would tell mothers to get out in order to save you and your kids. You have to be strong for your kids."

"When he talks about things like you're never going to get custody, that's just a scare tactic."

Signs of a Battering

Personality:

- Jealousy - Jealousy is not love, it's a sign of possessiveness and lack of trust.
- Controlling Behavior- Batterer angers when rules are broken or challenged.
- Quick Involvement - Most battered women date or know the abuser for less than six months.
- Unrealistic Expectations - Expect the partner to meet all of their needs.
- Isolation - Cuts the victim off from all resources and supports.
- Blames Others for Problems/Feelings - Is chronically unemployed, believes someone is "out to get him."
- Hypersensitivity * Easily insulted, claiming his feelings are hurt when he is really mad.
- "Playful Use of Force In Sex - May like to throw the victim down or hold her down during sex. May demand sex.
- Cruelty to Animals and/or Children - Brutally punishes animals, is insensitive to their pain and suffering and/or may kill them.
- Verbal Abuse - Degrades or curses victim
- Ridgid Sex Rules
- Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde - prone to sudden mood changes

St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office



S.A.V.E.

Stop Abusive

Violent Episodes

Crime Victim

Assistance Division

985-783-6230



"Seldom do you have control over another person's violent behavior. You do, however, have choices about how you respond. Victims of domestic violence can take steps to increase their safety and that of their children. To help in the fight against abuse, the St. Charles Sheriff's Office has established a Crime Victim Assistance Division to aid victims and the court. Investigating domestic violence cases is a top priority in my office.

If you are a victim of abuse or know someone who is being battered, do not ignore the problem in hopes that it will get better. -- **It won't. Over time, it will only get worse.**

Help is available. Contact a Victim Advocate officer at (985) 783-6230 today for more information. To report incidents of domestic violence, call 911 or (985) 783-6807."

Sheriff Greg Champagne

Where Do I Begin?

1. Reporting –

Domestic Violence is not a "family matter." It is a criminal act and is treated as such by the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office. Domestic violence incidents should be reported to sheriff's deputies, who will take appropriate action.

2. Protection –

You have the right to obtain a protection order, which instructs the abuser to stay away from you or your children. This protection order is filed with the Clerk of Court and must be signed by a judge.

You can get a protection order by seeing a Victim's Assistance Coordinator at the St. Charles Parish District Attorney's Office. For more information, call (985) 783-6264.

3. Professional Assistance –

A state-funded program called "Victims Reparations" will help reimburse certain expenses incurred as a result of a domestic violence incident. For example, the program will pay medical treatment and therapy for the victim and/or children in domestic violence cases.

For more information on the filing process, call the Crime Victim Assistance Division at 985-783-6230.

Available Resources:

Crime Victim Assistance Division 985-783-6230

NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HOTLINE:

Toll Free 1-800-799-7233

COPE-line: Toll Free 1-504-269-2673

(A 24-hour, 7 day a week crisis intervention number)

ASSOCIATED CATHOLIC CHARITIES:

(985) 785-2113

CRESCENT HOUSE: 504-866-7481

(Shelter for victims.)

THE HAVEN: (985) 872-0757 or (800) 915-0045 (24-hour hotline; shelter for victims)

METROPOLITAN BATTERED WOMEN'S PROGRAM:

(504) 837-5400 (24-hour emergency hotline.)

ST. CHARLES PARISH DEPT. OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

(985) 764-7944 and (985) 783-5025

(Various programs designed to help disadvantaged residents of St. Charles Parish.)

ST. CHARLES SOCIAL CONCERNS

Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m.-noon, (985) 785-1229

(Emergency help with food, clothing, rent and utilities based on need and availability of funds.)

ST. CHARLES DISTRICT ATTORNEY

(985) 783-6263

Parish Courthouse – 2nd Floor, River Road, Hahnville

ST. CHARLES CLERK OF COURT

(985) 783-6632

Parish Courthouse – 1st Floor, River Road, Hahnville

