

DID YOU KNOW?

Gay and bisexual men experience abuse in intimate partner relationships at a rate of 2 in 5, which is comparable to the amount of domestic violence experienced by heterosexual women.

Approximately 50% of the lesbian population has or will experience domestic violence in their lifetime.

In one year 44% of victims in LGBT domestic violence cases identified as men, while 36% identified as women.

Since November of 1991 same-sex partners have been covered under New Jersey's Domestic Violence Law. If the victim and the abusive person are or have been household members, or have dated, the victim is entitled to legal protection by way of an order restraining the abusive person from contacting the victim.

FOR MORE INFO:

National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs **212-714-1184** • www.ncapv.org

GLBT National Help Center **1-888-843-4564**
www.glbtnationalhelpcenter.org

Gay Men's Domestic Violence Project
1-800-832-1901 • www.gmdvp.org

National Domestic Violence Hotline
1-800-799-SAFE

National Sexual Assault Hotline
1-800-656-HOPE

YOUR LOCAL RESOURCE IS SAFE in Hunterdon

Services include 24/7 hotline, court accompaniment for restraining orders, free individual counseling, group counseling, and creative art therapies.

BARRIERS TO SEEKING SERVICES INCLUDE:

The belief that domestic violence does not occur in LGBT relationships and/or is a gender-based issue.

Societal anti-LGBT bias (homophobia and transphobia).

Lack of appropriate training regarding LGBT domestic violence for service providers.

A fear that airing of the problems among the LGBT population will take away from progress toward equality or fuel anti-LGBT bias.

Domestic violence shelters are typically female only, thus transgender people may not be allowed entrance into shelters or emergency facilities due to their gender/genital or legal status. We are in the process of correcting this issue.

TYPES OF ABUSE

PHYSICAL: threat of harm or any forceful physical behavior that intentionally or accidentally causes bodily harm or property destruction.

SEXUAL: any forced or coerced sexual act or behavior motivated to acquire power and control over the partner. It is not only forced sexual contact but also contact that demeans or humiliates the partner and instigates feelings of shame or vulnerability—particularly in regard to the body, sexual performance or sexuality.

EMOTIONAL/VERBAL: any use of words, voice, action or lack of action meant to control, hurt or demean another person. Emotional abuse typically includes ridicule, intimidation or coercion.

FINANCIAL: the use or misuse, without the victim's consent, of financial or other monetary resources of the partner or of the relationship.

IDENTITY: using personal characteristics to demean, manipulate, and control the partner. This category includes the social "isms" including racism, sexism, ageism, able-ism, and beauty-ism, as well as homophobia. This also includes threats to "out" the victim.

TRANSGENDER ABUSE

Specific forms of abuse occur in relationships where one partner is transgender, including:

- Using offensive pronouns such as "it" referring to the transgender partner
- Ridiculing the transgender partner's body and/or appearance
- Telling the transgender partner that s/he is not a real man or woman
- Ridiculing the transgender partner's identity as "bisexual", "trans", "femme," "butch," "gender queer, "etc."
- Denying the transgender partner's access to medical treatment or hormones or coercing him/her to not pursue medical treatment