



DOMESTIC ABUSE INTERVENTION SERVICES

Domestic Violence Affects Us All

Our Children and Our Youth...

- Each year between **3 and 10 million** children in the U.S. are exposed to domestic violence in their homes.
- **30 - 60%** of perpetrators of domestic violence also abuse children in the household.
- Children from violent homes are at a higher risk for juvenile delinquency, membership in gangs, and alcohol and drug abuse. Children who witness domestic abuse are found to show more anxiety, depression, traumatic symptoms and temperamental problems than other children. Domestic violence also contributes to teenage runaways and homeless street youth.
- More than **50%** of all child abductions result from domestic violence.
- **40%** of teenage girls know someone their age that has been hit or beaten by a boyfriend.
- Boys who witness domestic violence are **twice** as likely to abuse their own partners and children when they become adults.
- Children exposed to domestic violence statistically score less than their peers on reading and math tests.

What Educators Can Do to Help Stop Domestic Violence:

- 1) Work with school personnel to establish a safe, confidential method of screening children for domestic violence and properly intervening when the need arises.
- 2) Provide information to parents about domestic violence and the services available to them. Give parents the resources necessary to ensure safety for themselves and for their children.
- 3) Establish a relationship with DAIS or any other organization that works to help victims and survivors of domestic violence. Contact DAIS for more information or if you have any questions or concerns.

“No woman deserves to get beat on, every woman is powerful and strong.”

- taken from a drawing by a 7 year old boy in shelter.