Domestic Violence Affects Us All

How Economic Abuse Affects Victims of Domestic Violence...

Economic abuse, or financial abuse, is a power and control tactic used by abusers that prevents victims from acquiring, using or maintaining financial resources. Aspects of economic abuse may include:

- Controlling how money is spent or preventing their spouse from accessing a bank or credit card
- Forcing victims to work and be the sole source of income and then and denying them access to their money
- Withholding access to basic living resources, transportation, medication or food
- Not allowing their partner to work, go to school or earn money
- Stealing their partner’s identity, money, credit or property
- Sabotaging work or employment opportunities by stalking or harassing the victim at the workplace or causing the victim to lose her job

Statistics on Financial Abuse

- Financial abuse occurs in 98% of DV relationships¹.
- Nearly 8 million days of paid work each year are lost due to domestic violence issues—the equivalent of more than 32,000 full-time jobs².
- 96% of domestic violence victims who are employed experience problems at work due to abuse³.
- 57% of cities cite domestic violence against women and children as the top cause of homelessness⁴.
- Approximately 6 out of 10 Americans strongly agree that the lack of money and a steady income is often a challenge faced by a survivor of domestic violence when leaving her/his abuser⁵.

Financial Barriers to Leaving Victims Face...

1) Approval for housing rental and paying a security deposit
2) Finding a job with little or inconsistent work experience
3) Health insurance and other benefits lost
4) Transportation
5) Credit card debt and poor credit or other debt (student loans, car payment, etc.)

For more information visit www.abuseintervention.org, call 608.251.1237 or email info@abuseintervention.org.

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