

ACT's Services

Abuse Counseling and Treatment, Inc. provides the following services to victims of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault. All services are provided free of charge.

- 24 hour hotline
- safety plan awareness
- emergency shelter
- information and referrals
- one-on-one confidential counseling
- male, female, and senior support groups
- advocacy
- rape support groups
- support groups for significant others of sexual assault survivors
- children's program
- information and assistance in obtaining injunctions for protection
- support through the judicial system and accompaniment to court
- 24 hour on-call counseling and support at all local hospitals and medical professional offices
- Teen Hotline
- Community Education
- Professional Trainings
- Middle and High School Educational Programs
- Volunteer Opportunities



Important Numbers

- ACT 24-hour hotline
Lee County
(239) 939-3112 Crisis Hotline
(239) 939-4741 FAX
(239) 939-3112 TDD
(239) 939-2553 Administration/Appointments
- ACT 24-hour hotline
Glades & Hendry Counties
1-800-500-1119 Hotline
(863) 674-0964 FAX
- ACT Victim Advocates
State Attorney's Office
(239) 335-2140
- Domestic Violence Division
of the Lee County Court
Injunctions for Protection
(239) 335-2884
- Florida Domestic Violence Hotline
1-800-500-1119
- National Domestic Violence Hotline
1-800-799-SAFE (7233)

Abuse Counseling and Treatment, Inc.
P.O. Box 60401
Fort Myers, Florida 33906

E-Mail: act@actabuse.com

Web Site: <http://www.actabuse.com>

*ACT is funded in part by:
United Way, Lee County, City of Fort Myers,
City of Cape Coral, Florida Department
of Children and Family Services,
Office of the Attorney General,
Florida Department of Health and
private donations from the community.*

Love Shouldn't



Hurt

A guide for those hurting from abuse

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Fort Myers, Florida 33906

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FAX	(239) 939-4741
E-Mail	act@actabuse.com
Web Site:	http://www.actabuse.com
Toll Free 24-hr. hotline	1-800-500-1119



Love Shouldn't Hurt...

If it does, you may be experiencing one of the many types of domestic abuse. The problem of abuse is not a new one, nor are you alone in your search for answers and options.

The following facts reflect the magnitude of the problem:

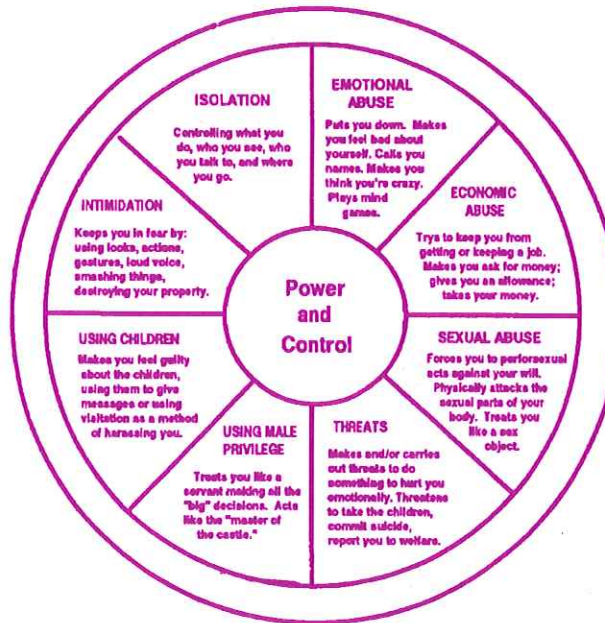
- ◆ A woman is beaten in the United States every 9 seconds.
- ◆ Statistics are not available for the number of men who are abused annually, but there are many.
- ◆ Florida Department of Law Enforcement reports that in domestic violence crimes involving victims over 60 years of age, 71% of the crimes were committed by spouses, ex-spouses, or co-habitants.
- ◆ As violence in the home becomes more severe and more frequent, children experience a 300% increase in physical violence.
- ◆ 65% of children from violent homes become abusers or victims as adults.

Domestic violence is more than just hitting; it comes in many forms. It manifests itself by:

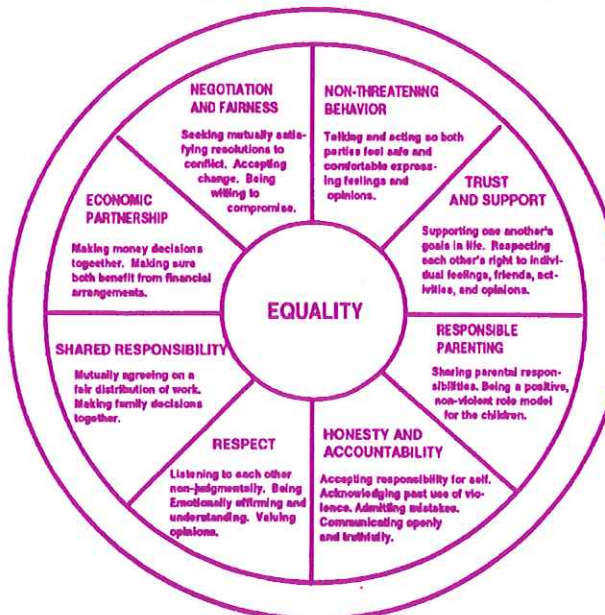
Intimidation
 Isolation
 Verbal threats
 Economic control
 Emotional abuse
 Unpredictable behavior
 Unequal power in the relationship
 Sexual abuse
 Destruction of property or pets

The wheels in the next column show a sharp contrast in the difference between a relationship based on power and control and one based on equality.

Abusive, unequal relationship



Nurturing, equal relationship

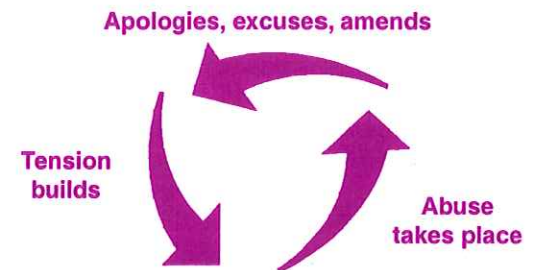


If you are hurting...

Your deepest desire is most likely to make the hurt stop. Abuse Counseling and Treatment shares that desire with you. Violent and hurtful behavior threatens the stability of the family and leaves a legacy of violence to impressionable children.

ACT's mission is the elimination of interpersonal violence. All of our services are free to victims of abuse and will provide you with support and options for beginning the journey to a safe, healthy relationship. We want to help you stop the cycle of violence.

Cycle of Violence



ACT is certified by the State of Florida Department of Children and Families as a provider of services to victims of domestic violence. Our sensitive, professional staff has provided services, support, information and referrals to victims of domestic abuse for over 27 years.

You don't have to be living in emergency shelter to get help. Our counselors will provide one-on-one counseling and may offer our support groups as an additional source of assistance. Our victim advocates will help you through the legal process if you need an injunction for protection or you wish to prosecute. Our 24-hour hotline is available to you if you need a listening, caring ear. We can help you explore your options. All of our services are free to victims of domestic violence and their children, survivors of sexual assault and their families.

We want to help!

Love Shouldn't Hurt...