



IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT

- You did NOT cause the abuse.
- No one has the right to abuse you.
- Know that most children raised with abuse learn to use violence as one way to control others by using power and force.
- Know that relationships based on fear, power, and control are abusive.
- Know that others understand why you would want to stay and that leaving a relationship is not easy.

DID YOU KNOW...

It's a crime to threaten, beat or sexually assault any person, even if they are married.

Domestic violence is more than just a family problem - its a CRIME.

Battering is not a crime exclusively committed against women, but they do constitute the majority of victims; so this pamphlet is directed at you - a battered wife or woman

A WAY OUT

Everyone has the right to be safe from threats and violence - but YOU must take the first step. Once you recognize that it's NOT YOUR FAULT, and it IS possible to change your situation, seek the help you need.

The Center for Violence Prevention is funded through federal and state grants, private foundations, businesses, civic organizations, churches and individuals who believe everyone has the right to violence-free living.



Serving Hinds, Issaquena, Madison, Rankin, Sharkey, Simpson, Warren, and Yazoo Counties.

24 Hour Crisis Line

1-800-266-4198 or

(601) 932-4198 Central MS

P.O. Box 6279, Pearl, MS 39388
601-932-4198 • Fax 601-936-7749



THE CENTER FOR VIOLENCE PREVENTION



Domestic Violence Programs & Services

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IF YOU BECOME A VICTIM OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE:

- Call the police
- Make sure you are safe from continued violence. When you believe you are in danger, leave home and take your children with you. Also take important papers like your driver's license, birth certificates, vehicle registration, etc.
- Get medical attention. Don't try to treat yourself-you may be more hurt than you realize.
- Seek assistance. Whether or not you decide to file charges, you may need to talk to a professional about your situation. Contact your local shelter, support group or victim's assistance center.
- Save all the evidence (proof) that you can. You may want to take pictures of any injuries. If you decide to file charges later, you will need proof of your injuries.

YOU CAN HELP TO PROTECT YOURSELF

- Find out about shelters and safe houses BEFORE you need them.
- Have photos taken of your injuries; you can use them later.
- Keep money, important papers, clothes, car keys and other essential items in a safe place.
- Teach your children to use the telephone to contact the police in case of an emergency.
- Meet with an advocate from a shelter or other program designed to help or with a friend and make a safety plan. Practice this plan with your children.

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

Crisis and Referral Line

The Center For Violence Prevention has a twenty-four hour crisis and referral line to assist in immediate needs. Trained personnel will provide a wide range of references and resources.

Temporary Shelter

The Center provides a home-like setting designed to assist families that are in need of a safe environment. Services are in place to help these individuals begin a productive life, independent of abusive relationships.

Counseling

Individual, family, and group counseling is provided by professionals. Out-patient counseling is provided to the community on a sliding fee scale.

Workshops

The Center For Violence Prevention will provide education on domestic violence and related issues to interested organizations and community groups free of charge.

Day Care

A safe day care is provided for the children of mothers who are in the shelter services. This service allows the women to work or continue their education.

Second Chance

A place to bring merchandise you no longer can use. The merchandise is given to the shelter clients or sold in our retail store with all proceeds going directly to client services.