

25

25 percent, or one in four women, will experience domestic violence in her lifetime

one in four teenagers, both boys and girls, will experience abuse in a dating relationship before graduating from high school

96

96 percent of battered workers experience problems at work due to abuse; 74 percent are harassed at work by their abuser

**Free, Private, and Confidential
24-hour hotline**

1.800.220.8116

**Administrative Office
215.343.9241**



www.awomansplace.org

Domestic Violence at ~~home~~ work



What you should know
What you can do



727

727.8 million dollars in lost productivity and 7.9 million paid workdays are lost each year due to domestic violence

4.1

4.1 billion dollars are spent each year on healthcare costs related to domestic violence

Domestic violence is a specific and deliberate pattern of behavior for the sole purpose of establishing and maintaining **power and control** over another person in an intimate relationship.

It does not discriminate. It **can happen to anyone**, regardless of age, gender, race, ethnicity, religion, marital status, sexual orientation, income, social status, education level, health status, or profession.

If you are a victim of domestic abuse or violence, **you are not alone. It is not your fault.** Free, private, and confidential help is available 24-hours a day at **1-800-220-8116**. You can also access free counseling at all area Bucks County hospitals. At the hospital, ask to have a Medical Advocate from A Woman's Place contacted.

You also can document your injuries and keep the evidence secure in your medical records at the hospital. And, create a personal and workplace safety plan for when you need it. Find out how by calling 1-800-220-8116.

Domestic violence can absolutely follow a victim out of the house and into work.

Employers who address domestic violence can provide real help to victims and reduce the associated risks. Domestic violence results in reduced employee productivity, increased medical expenses, and higher rates of absenteeism. It also is a security and liability risk, as abusers may attempt to harass, threaten, or injure victims who are at work. But, you can make a difference. **Taking action in response to domestic violence works.** Develop and implement a workplace domestic violence policy. Partner with a local domestic violence agency to provide ongoing domestic violence awareness and prevention education opportunities. Establish and maintain security procedures and systems at your location.

Co-workers can help. Look for signs your co-worker might be a victim of domestic abuse or violence, including changes in behavior or work performance; lack of concentration; increased rate of or unexplained absences; receiving harassing phone calls; and bruises or other physical injuries that don't have reasonable explanations. Trust your instincts. If you think something is wrong, it probably is wrong. If a victim of domestic abuse or violence confides in you, **listen without judging and believe her or him.** You may be the only person the victim has told. Tell the victim that she or he is not alone and that help is available. **You too can call 1-800-220-8116 for free and confidential information on how to help your co-worker,** and you can refer her or him to the number as well.

