

SEXUAL ABUSE BY HUSBANDS/PARTNERS/LOVERS/DATES

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

- 1. Do you ever have sex when you don't want to? How often?**
- 2. Is sex ever unpleasant? Why?**
- 3. Do you believe that you have an obligation to keep your partner sexually satisfied? Do you believe that your partner has an obligation to keep you sexually satisfied?**
- 4. Do you believe that sex is the duty of a wife? Does your husband/spouse/partner? If yes, are there exceptions? When?**
- 5. Do you feel free to initiate sex? Does your partner ever agree to have sex when he doesn't want to?**
- 6. Do you ask for things you want sexually? Does your partner?**
- 7. Have you ever had sex to "keep the peace?" To prevent your partner from becoming angry? To put your partner in a good mood?**
- 8. Have you become less interested in sex since you met your partner? Do you feel less physically attractive?**
- 9. Does your partner guilt trip you about sex? How? Manipulate you? How? Do you feel as you have sex because your partner has "worn you down"?**

- 10. Does your partner call you sexual names (whore, cunt, slut, bitch)?**

- 11. If you refuse sex, does your partner call you cold or frigid? Does he accuse you of not being a "real woman"?**

- 12. Does your partner withhold affection or withdraw emotionally if you refuse to have sex?**

- 13. Has a date ever threatened to throw you out of a car, or abandon you far away from transportation, if you refused to have sex?**

- 14. Has a date ever threatened to spread negative rumors about you if you refuse to have sex? (For example, that you really did have sex, or that you're sleeping around, etc.)?**

- 15. Has a partner ever threatened or tried suicide if you didn't have sex?**

- 16. Is your partner constantly jealous? Unjustly jealous? Does he accuse you of having affairs with men? With women?**

- 17. Does he make explicitly sexual comments about you in public against your wishes?**

- 18. Does he have affairs with other people (after agreeing not to)?**

- 19. Does your partner criticize you sexually? Does he constantly compare you unfavorably to past lovers? In private? In front of others?**

- 20. Does he say that no one would ever want to have sex with you?**
- 21. Do you feel you have to "put out" sexually to get money for food, clothing, etc.**
- 22. Does he read or look at pornography? Violent pornography? S & M pornography? Does he urge/pressure/force you to act out what he sees or reads?**
- 23. Does he urge/pressure/force you to have pictures taken of you engaged in sex acts? Videotapes? Does he later use these against you, or threaten to show them to people?**
- 24. Does he urge/pressure/force you to drink so that you'll have sex with him?**
- 25. Does he urge/pressure/force you to use other drugs such as marijuana, ecstasy, cocaine, crack, meth, heroin etc. so that you will have sex with him, or you will do specific sexual things he knows you would not do if you had not taken the drugs? Does he give you "date rape" drugs?**
- 26. Does he initiate sex with you when you're sleeping (and you have asked him not to)? Drunk? High?**
- 27. Has he insisted/pressured/forced you to have sex when you were ill? Returned from the hospital? Pregnant? Recovering from child birth?**
- 28. Has your partner threatened to go out and have sex with someone else if you refuse him?**
- 29. Has your partner threatened to go out and have sex with someone else, and bring home a sexually transmitted disease (such as AIDS or gonorrhea), if you refused to have sex with him?**

30. Has he ever forced you to have sex in front of the children?

31. Has he ever forced you have sex with another man? Other men? A woman? Other women? Has he ever forced you to prostitute yourself?

32. Has he ever threatened to hit you or beat you if you refuse sex?

33. Has he ever inserted objects in you against your will? Has he ever inserted his fist into you against your will?

34. Has he ever threatened to hurt others if you refused sex? Has he threatened to hurt the children?

35. Does your partner threaten to have sex with your children if you refuse him sex?

36. Does he withhold money, or limit access to transportation, friends, family, food, clothing, recreation, unless he gets sex?

37. Does he pressure you to perform a sex act that you did not want to? Vaginal intercourse? Anal intercourse or penetration? Oral sex? Sex with animals? Sex with others, or in a group? Sadomasochistic sex?

38. Does he threaten you if you do not do an unwanted sexual act? (see previous question) Does he physically force you?

39. If you have a physical disability, has your partner ever threatened to withhold personal care from you if you did not have sex with him?

40. If you are a lesbian or a gay man, has your partner ever threatened to tell others of your sexual orientation or your relationships that you did not want to know, if you refused to have sex with her/him? (This could include parents, friends, teachers, children, employers, welfare, insurance companies, etc.)

41. Does your partner ridicule you about sex in terms which are specific to your race, class, community, or lifestyle?

42. Has your partner ever hit or burnt you in the sexual areas of the body?

43. Have you ever had sex because you were afraid you'd be physically assaulted if you didn't?

44. Has your partner ever physically assaulted you for refusing sex?

45. Has your partner ever forced you to have sex after a physical assault? To make up?

46. Has your partner ever tied you down and force you to have sex?

47. Has your partner ever used a weapon to force you to have sex?

48. Has your partner ever physically forced you to have sex?

49. Has your partner every set you up to be raped by someone else?

This questionnaire needs to be revised to include information about relationship between transgendered people. Common tactics such as use of social media, texting, sexting, webcams, pornography and extortion need to be explored. Assaults forcing victims to remove pubic hair and in other ways mimic pornography is a major trend.

These questions are meant to be used for discussion. They are not a diagnostic or assessment tool. They illustrate the continuum and/or progression of sexual abuse or assault in intimate relationships. A yes answer to one of the questions (particularly at the beginning) may not necessarily indicate sexual abuse. Comments or acts that might not be abusive outside of a battering relationship are more likely to be when there is physical violence presence. (Because of the real fear of what refusal might bring).

The use of the pronoun "he" is not meant to preclude sexual abuse or assault in lesbian relationships or in the very rare cases where a woman sexually abuses a man. It is meant to acknowledge and underline that the vast majority of people who perpetrate sexual assault are men.

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