

1 Almost 36 percent of women are victims of rape, physical violence, and/or stalking by an intimate partner at some point in their lifetime\*

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2 Approximately 1 in 5 American women are raped at some point in their lifetime; nearly half of American women experience sexual assault other than rape.

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3 Twenty-four percent of women and 14 percent of men experience severe physical violence by an intimate partner during their lifetime. In 2011 alone, 1.4 million people experienced domestic violence in the United States.

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4 Only 60 percent of domestic violence and intimate partner violence incidents are ever reported to the police.

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# Domestic Violence Awareness Month

October 2013

5 Forty-four percent of non-Hispanic Black women, 46 percent of American Indian or Alaska Native women, and 53.8 percent of multiracial non-Hispanic women are raped, physically abused, or stalked by an intimate partner in their lifetime.

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6 Twenty percent of youth in detention centers report witnessing or experiencing some combination of sexual or physical abuse or family violence; 15 percent report experiencing emotional abuse and family violence without physical or sexual abuse.

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\*Although both men and women can be victims of domestic violence, the majority of victims of abuse and coercive control are women. Therefore, this fact sheet reflects that reality. See Michele C. Black et al., National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, The National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey (NISVS): 2010 Summary Report 39 (2011), [http://www.cdc.gov/ViolencePrevention/pdf/NISVS\\_Report2010-a.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/ViolencePrevention/pdf/NISVS_Report2010-a.pdf). (finding that women are over 3.5 times more likely than men to experience rape, physical violence, and/or stalking at the hands of an intimate partner during their lifetime).

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# Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Approximately one of every five Latinas will experience intimate partner violence during her lifetime. Latinas are only half as likely to report abuse to authorities as survivors from other ethnic/racial groups.

Latinas prefer to tell family members, female friends, or neighbors about intimate partner violence, while non-Latinas are more likely to tell health care workers or clergy.

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Married immigrant women experience higher levels of physical and sexual abuse than unmarried immigrant women—59.5 percent versus 49.8 percent, respectively.

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An estimated 30 percent of second generation Filipina women experienced physical violence and an estimated 18 percent of second generation Indian/Pakistani women experienced sexual violence at 16 years of age.

8

Men and women who are raped, stalked and/or physically abused by an intimate partner in their lifetime are more likely to experience frequent headaches, chronic pain, difficulty sleeping, limitations on activity, poor physical health and poor mental health than those who do not experience intimate partner violence.



The majority of stalking victims (66 percent of women and 41 percent of men) are stalked by a current or former intimate partner.

12

Seventy-six percent of femicide victims were stalked by intimate partners prior to their murder.

Approximately one in six women in the United States experiences severe stalking, which makes her fear that she or someone close to her will be harmed or killed.

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Approximately 9 percent of high school students report experiencing dating violence in the form of hitting, slapping, or the intentional infliction of physical harm.

# Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Dating violence among adolescent girls has been shown to increase the risk of heavy episodic drinking, depression, suicidal ideation, smoking, and future victimization in young adulthood. **14**

Teenagers who experience physical dating violence are almost twice as likely to consider or attempt suicide as teens that do not experience similar violence. **18**

**15** Forty-four percent of youth reporting physical teen dating violence also reported a history of child maltreatment; two out of three reported witnessing an assault between other family members.

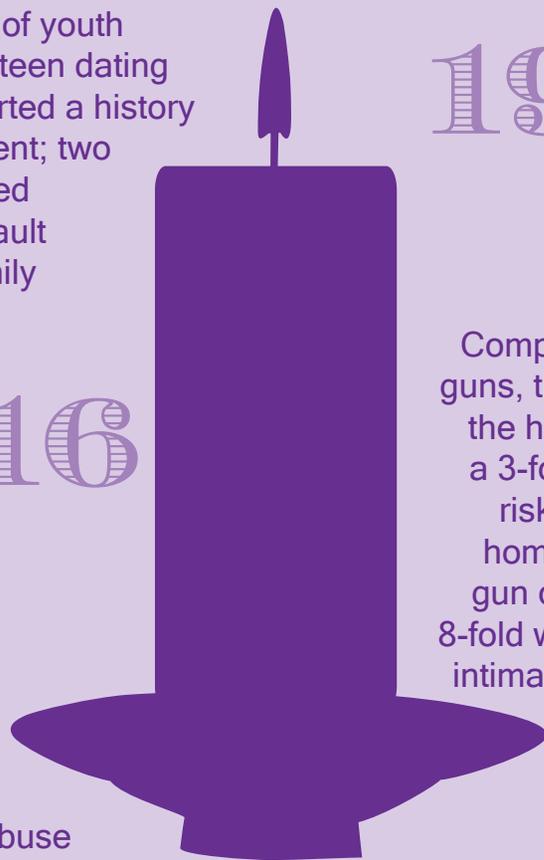
**19** Children who are frequently exposed to domestic violence are more likely to suffer from depression and to become victims of statutory rape and sexual misconduct.

Twenty-two percent of adult female and 15 percent of adult male victims of rape, physical violence, and/or stalking by an intimate partner first experienced some form of partner violence between the ages of 11 and 17. **16**

Compared to homes without guns, the presence of guns in the home is associated with a 3-fold increased homicide risk within the home. The homicide risk connected to gun ownership increases to 8-fold when the offender is an intimate partner or relative of the victim, and is 20 times higher where previous domestic violence exists. **20**

**17** Victims of digital abuse and harassment are twice as likely to be physically abused, two and a half times as likely to be psychologically abused, and five times as likely to be sexually coerced.

**21** Almost half of children who witness domestic violence try to intervene to stop the violence by yelling at the abuser to stop, calling 911, or trying to seek help from another.



# Domestic Violence Awareness Month

**22** | A recent study found that 50 percent of youth between the ages of 14-24 experienced technology abuse.

LGBTQ victims of domestic violence may be reluctant to report the abuse due to fear of discrimination or bias based on sexual status. When LGBTQ victims do seek help, they face barriers unique to their status, such as lack of access to domestic violence shelters.

**23**

**27** | One in four dating teenagers is abused or harassed by their partners either online or through text messages.

Domestic violence in same-sex relationships occurs at the same or higher rate as in heterosexual relationships.

**28**

**24** | Female intimate partners are more likely to be murdered with a firearm than all other means combined.

According to one study, every dollar spent on protective order intervention in domestic violence cases results in a savings of \$30.75 to society.

**25**

**26** | Between 18 and 48 percent of battered women remain in their home out of concern for the well-being of their pets or livestock.



**29**

Within the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer and HIV-Affected (LGBTQH) Community, people of color make up the majority of survivors of intimate partner violence at 66.8 percent.

Domestic violence is a leading cause of homelessness for women and children.

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**31**

Ninety-four percent of female murder victims are killed by a man they knew. This means that females are 16 times more likely to be killed by a male acquaintance than by a male stranger.

## RESOURCES BY FACT

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