Domestic Violence Statistics

- In the United States, 20 people per minute are victims of physical violence by an intimate partner.
- One in four women have been the victims of severe physical violence by an intimate partner; one in seven men have experienced the same.
- Nearly 44% of lesbian women and 61% of bisexual women have experienced rape, physical violence, and/or stalking by an intimate partner at some point in their lifetime, as opposed to only 35% of heterosexual women.


According to the Bureau of Justice Statistics, from 2003 to 2012, domestic violence accounted for 21% of all violent crime.

Only about half of domestic violence incidents are reported to police. African-American women are more likely than others to report their victimization to police.


Between 30% and 60% of perpetrators of intimate partner violence also abuse children in the household.


In the United States, 1 in 15 children are exposed to intimate partner violence each year, and 90% of these children are eyewitnesses to the violence.


Witnessing violence between one’s parents or caretakers is the strongest risk factor of transmitting violent behavior from one generation to the next.


Children exposed to violence engage in higher levels of generalized aggression.


In a recent study, 63% of children exposed to intimate partner violence suffered from one or more sleep problems.


According to leading research, childhood domestic violence has a profound and lasting impact on a person’s life and hope for the future. Children from homes where domestic violence is/was prevalent are:

- 6 times more likely to commit suicide
- 50 times more likely to abuse drugs and alcohol
- 74 times more likely to commit violent crimes against another

From the Childhood Domestic Violence Association, www.cdv.org

National CASA  •  Chapter 6