

Intimate Partner Violence in the LGBTQ+ Community

Domestic or intimate partner violence is aggressive, harmful acts against a sexual or romantic partner or spouse. Reports of domestic or intimate partner violence are equal to or **higher** in LGBTQ+ relationships than in heterosexual relationships nationwide.



<i>Lifetime prevalence of rape, physical violence, and/or stalking by an intimate partner</i>		
	Women	Men
<i>Lesbian/Gay</i>	44%	26%
<i>Bisexual</i>	61%	37%
<i>Heterosexual</i>	35%	29%

NISVS, 2013

The rates of IPV are not specific to transgender survivors due to small number of cases that were reported when compared to cisgender people.



*The survivor of domestic or intimate partner violence is **never** at fault for abuse.*

By the Numbers*:

- ◆ 77% of LGBTQ+ intimate partner-related homicides in 2015 were transgender people of color (NCAVP, 2016).
- ◆ In nearly 31% of all reported LGBTQ+ intimate partner violence cases, the survivor was arrested instead of the abusive partner in 2015 (NCAVP, 2016).
- ◆ In 2015, 44% of survivors attempting to access emergency shelter and were denied (NCAVP, 2016).
- ◆ Over 40% of women who have cohabitated with other women reported rape, physical violence, or stalking by an intimate partner (Tjaden & Thoennes, 2000).
- ◆ Survivors with disabilities were two to four times more likely to experience certain types of violence, including isolation, stalking, and financial abuse (NCAVP, 2016).

**The National Coalition for Anti Violence Programs (NCAVP) collects annual data from partnering LGBTQ+ serving domestic violence programs through the country.*



Coalition for Family Harmony LGBTQ+ Program

Main office:
(805) 983-6014 ext. 106
24-hour Bilingual Crisis Hotline:
1 (800) 300-2181

Call to ask about 10 free counseling sessions or walk in crisis counseling for the LGBTQ+ community



Coalition for Family Harmony
Building Stronger Families

1030 N. Ventura Rd. Oxnard, CA 93030

A Call to Action: Helping Survivors

It's important to understand the cycle of violence. Educate yourself on survivor stories.

There are 3 main Phases in the LGBTQ+ Cycle of Violence (Holt et al., 2002):

Phase 1. The Tension Builds: Abusive partners may use name-calling (ex., drama queen, butch, tranny), criticism, and mental tactics to demean and/or harm the survivor.

Challenge those criticisms and validate their feelings; suggest getting help from our 24 hour bilingual crisis helpline.

Phase 2. Physical Violence Occurs: The abusive partner releases the tension built up in Phase 1 and attacks the survivor physically and/or sexually.

Reach out to the survivor with resources: our MFT interns or legal department, local police services, medical services, etc.

Phase 3. "Honeymoon" Phase: Abusive partners may feel remorseful and try to "make up" for their behavior and make promises to stop the abuse.

Encourage the survivor to research cycles of abuse. Educate yourself on resources for help, available on our website.

Survivors of intimate partner violence may stay with their abusive partner for a variety of reasons. This does not mean they like or want to be abused (LA LGBT Center, 2017).

- Leaving an abusive partner without planning and preparation can lead to more violence. Safety planning is an important step and our crisis hotline can assist with this.

Survivors may believe they are being abused for something they did, or as punishment for their sexual and/or gender identity.

- Remind survivors it is never their fault; it's not their responsibility to change their abusive partner. The actions fall on the abuser (Refer to our Batterer's Intervention Program).

Romanticizing jealousy, possessive behavior, and controlling behavior puts people at risk of entering relationships with abusive partners.

- Discuss healthy relationship behavior. Remind them that jealousy, possessiveness, and controlling behavior are unhealthy relationship behaviors. Our support groups can help.

The Coalition for Family Harmony provides general counseling services, emergency shelter & transitional living programs, and Ventura County's rape crisis center that is staffed by trained victim advocates for those in need.

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www.thecoalition.org



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