



What is domestic violence?

Domestic violence is abusive behaviour by one person to control and dominate another person within a close relationship. It includes any type of physical assault, psychological abuse, social abuse, economic abuse or emotional abuse. It also includes behaviours that cause you to fear for your safety.

It can include things like:

- punching, hitting, kicking, slapping or choking you
- using weapons such as knives to threaten you
- forcing you to have sex (rape)
- forcing you to look at pornography
- forcing you to have sex with other people
- humiliating, insulting you or calling you names
- being told you are stupid, fat or ugly
- threatening to kill you
- threatening to send you back to your country
- threatening your children or other family members
- destroying things that are important to you
- keeping you short of money
- preventing you from working or seeing your friends and family
- locking you in the house
- accusing you of being unfaithful
- making unreasonable demands.

You may be staying with your partner for the sake of your children, you may not have any family or friends or you may feel ashamed to cause problems. You are not to blame for domestic violence and it is never your fault.

You are not alone – you can talk to someone who understands and get some help. The best thing you can do for your children and yourself is to talk to someone and get some help.

**Phone the Domestic Violence Line
on 1800 65 64 63**



NSW Department of
Community Services



If you need to talk to someone about your domestic violence problems, you can phone the Domestic Violence Line on 1800 65 64 63.

The Domestic Violence Line is a free-call, statewide 24 hour telephone crisis counselling and referral service. The Domestic Violence Line can also arrange interpreters. Any calls to the Domestic Violence Line are confidential.

There are trained female counsellors at the Domestic Violence Line who can help you to:

- find a safe place
- find emergency accommodation for you and your children
- talk to the police and get legal help
- get hospital care and family support services
- obtain an Apprehended Violence Order (AVO)
- find a service in your area to get support.

Many forms of domestic violence are a crime in Australia. Domestic violence is unacceptable behaviour. You don't have to put up with it. There are many services that can help you.

Phone the Domestic Violence Line on 1800 65 64 63. If you or your children are in immediate danger, call 000 for assistance.

This publication is available from the Department of Community Services (DoCS) website www.community.nsw.gov.au in the following languages:

Arabic	Farsi	Russian	Tamil
Chinese	Fijian	Samoan	Tongan
Croatian	Korean	Somali	Turkish
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