WASHINGTON STATE COALITION WASHINGTON STATE COALITION AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

The leading voice for ending domestic violence in Washington State

Everyone has the right to safety and freedom from abuse.

We are a non-profit network of over 70 domestic violence programs across Washington. We...

- Work for laws that ensure safety and justice for survivors
- Provide specialized support to domestic violence advocates
- Conduct research to promote local-level change
- Educate the public

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What is Domestic Violence?

Domestic violence is a pattern of behavior that one person in a relationship uses to gain power and control over the other.

Abuse is not caused by anger, mental problems, alcohol, drugs, or other common excuses. It is caused by a person's belief that they have the right to control their partner.

Common tactics:

- Isolation from friends and family
- Emotional abuse
- Using children
- Dominating finances and family resources
- Physical and/or sexual assault

To Help a Friend:

- Listen to their story and believe them.
- Hold what you are told in confidence.
- Encourage your friend to think about safety. Help your friend make concrete plans that deal with the most likely "what ifs."
- Reach out to a local domestic violence program. Anyone can call.
- Call the National Domestic Violence Hotline at 1-800-799-SAFE.



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