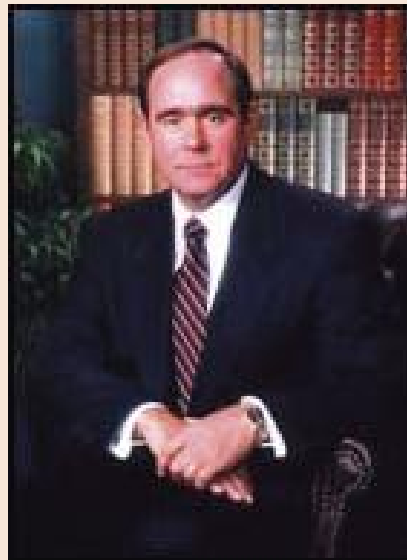


## Resources for Victims of Domestic Violence

- Catholic Charities  
513-863-6129
- Butler County Hotline  
513-863-7099
- Dove House Crisis Line  
513-863-7099  
800-618-6523 (Middletown)
- Lifespan, Inc  
513-868-3210
- Abuse and Rape Crisis Shelter of Warren County  
888-860-4084
- Rape Crisis Center  
Hamilton - 513-856-8618  
Oxford - 513-523-4149
- Animal Abuse and Neglect  
Butler County - 513-785-1300
- Citizens Against Domestic Violence  
513-423-0044  
[www.cadv-ohio.com](http://www.cadv-ohio.com)
- National Domestic Violence Hotline  
1-800-799-7233  
[www.ncadv.org](http://www.ncadv.org)
- Childhelp USA National Child Abuse Hotline  
1-800-422-4453
- Ohio Domestic Violence Network  
1-800-934-9840  
[www.odvn.org](http://www.odvn.org)
- Adult Protective Services  
513-887-4081
- Legal Aid  
513-241-9400  
800-582-2682 (Toll Free)



*"We can dream of a day when we end domestic violence and animal cruelty. It starts with a commitment to take action."*

*-Robin Piper, Prosecutor*

### Butler County Prosecutor's Office

(513)887-3474  
[www.countyprosecutor.org](http://www.countyprosecutor.org)



## Domestic Violence Is WRONG!

If you know that someone is hurting another person, take action.

There are many local and national agencies dedicated to stopping family violence.

Make the call.  
Help is available!



Domestic Violence takes many forms

# STOP Domestic Violence!



## Butler County Hotline

513-863-7099

Approximately 2.3 million people each year in the United States are raped and/or physically assaulted by a current or former spouse, boyfriend or girlfriend

# Watch for Signs of Domestic Violence

## What is Domestic Violence?

Domestic Violence is a means of establishing control and instilling fear in the people involved in an intimate relationship.

Signs of Domestic Violence:

- ▶ Frequent injuries excused as "accidents"
- ▶ Sudden absences from work or school
- ▶ Harassing phone calls from their partner
- ▶ Personality changes or sudden changes in work performance
- ▶ Excessive fear of conflict
- ▶ Unusually submissive behavior or lack of assertiveness
- ▶ Isolation from others
- ▶ Depression, crying and low self-esteem



Millions of tax dollars are allocated annually to law enforcement and shelters for those fleeing abusive homes. Each year, domestic violence costs American employers an estimated \$3.5 billion in related costs.

## Domestic Violence Touches Us

## Domestic Violence Includes Children

▶ 30%-60% of all domestic violence cases involve children

▶ Children exposed to domestic violence are more likely to continue the cycle of violence



▶ Children are often exposed to alcohol and other drug problems

▶ Many children develop serious physical and psychological problems that can last a lifetime

▶ Children often blame themselves for the violence

▶ Personality changes or sudden changes in a child's school performance

## Domestic Violence Includes Pet Abuse

▶ 71% of pet-owning women entering shelters reported that their batterer had injured, maimed, killed or threatened family pets for revenge or to psychologically control them

▶ Between 25-40% of battered women are unable to escape abusive situations because they worry about what will happen to their pets should they leave

▶ Abusers kill, harm, or threaten children's pets to coerce them into sexual abuse or to force them to remain silent about abuse



## Understanding Domestic Violence

Most of us do not understand domestic violence. We often wonder "why would someone stay in a violent relationship?"

Reasons Victims stay in abusive relationships:

- ▶ Fear that the abuse will become more frequent or more intense if they are not successful in leaving
- ▶ Lack of financial resources
- ▶ Unaware of community resources
- ▶ Believe they are at fault and deserve to be mistreated
- ▶ Afraid to call police
- ▶ Embarrassment
- ▶ Lack of family support
- ▶ Need to stay to protect children or the family pet

## What Can You Do?

If you see the signs:

- ▶ Educate yourself about the effects of Domestic Violence
- ▶ Learn about available community resources
- ▶ Support victim's efforts and give positive feedback
- ▶ Do not criticize the offender
- ▶ Do not make decisions or choices for the victim
- ▶ Be patient with the victim and help to point out the effects of abuse
- ▶ Encourage the victim to start a diary or journal
- ▶ Help the victim to develop a safety plan
- ▶ Encourage counseling



## All

### Facts:

According to the United States Justice Department, 31% of American women are victims of domestic violence

60% of battered women are beaten while they are pregnant

### Facts:

Domestic violence is the leading cause of injury to women ages 15 - 44

Every 12 seconds an incident of Domestic Violence occurs