

Fast Facts on Domestic Violence

- Battering on women is the most under reported crime in America.
- Domestic violence is the leading cause of injury to women between the ages of 15 and 44 in the United States; more than car accidents, muggings, and rapes combined. "Violence Against Women, A Majority Staff Report", Committee on the Judiciary, United States Senate, 102nd Congress, October 1992, p. 3.
- Three to four million women in the United States are beaten in their homes each year by their husbands, ex-husbands, or male lovers. "Women And Violence", Hearings before the U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee, August 29 and December 11, 1990, Senate Hearing 101-939, pt. 1, p. 12.
- One woman is beaten by her husband or partner every 15 seconds in the United States. Uniform Crime Reports, Federal Bureau of Investigation, 1991
- About one out of four women are likely to be abused by a partner in her lifetime. Sara Glazer, "Violence Against Women" co-researcher, Congressional Quarterly, Inc., Volume 3, Number 8, February 1993, p. 171
- Approximately 95% of the victims of domestic violence are women. Statistics, National Clearinghouse for the Defense of Battered Women, Ruth Peachey, M.D. 1988.
- Police report that between 40% and 60% of the calls they receive, especially on the night shift, are domestic violence disputes. Carrillo, Roxann "Violence Against Women: An Obstacle to Development", Human Development Report, 1990
- Battering occurs among people of all races, ages, socio-economic classes, religious affiliations, occupations, and educational backgrounds.
- Fifty percent of all homeless women and children in this country are fleeing domestic violence. Senator Joseph Biden, U.S. Senate Committee on the Judiciary, Violence Against Women: Victims of the System, 1991
- A battering incident is rarely an isolated event.
- Battering tends to increase and become more violent over time.
- Many batterers learned violent behavior growing up in an abusive family.
- Twenty-five to forty-five percent of all women who are battered are battered during pregnancy.
- Domestic violence does not end immediately with separation. Over 70% of the women injured in domestic violence cases are injured after separation.
- Domestic violence is not only physical and sexual violence, but also psychological. Psychological violence means intense and repetitive degradation, creating isolation, and controlling the actions or behaviors of the spouse through intimidation to the detriment of the individual. "Five Year State Master Plan for the Prevention of and Service for Domestic Violence", Utah State Department of Human Services, January 1994