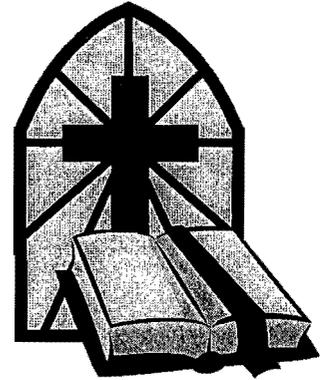


# ***A Safety and Protection Plan***

*How the*  
**Clergy**  
&



# **Congregation** **Can Help Victims** **of** **Domestic Violence**

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***Call for a Free Lecture***

# AVAILABLE & ACCESSIBLE

Research indicates that one of every three women in America today is affected by violence and abuse in their homes.

Women of faith often turn to clergy and fellow congregation members when seeking help for a situation involving domestic violence.



Whenever possible, appoint a female church worker to be available and accessible. Abused women may be reluctant to approach male church leaders.

# LISTEN & OBSERVE

This might be the single most important and helpful thing you can do. Let her talk without interruption or judgment.



The victim and/or children may need immediate medical attention and/or psychiatric intervention.

# SAFETY & PROTECTION

The victim's and children's safety and protection from the batterer/abuser is the first priority.

Help the victim establish a safety, escape, and protection plan that can be implemented immediately.



# AWARENESS

Informing the congregation of the warning signs of a violent relationship and where to get help will reduce domestic violence/abuse and dating violence/abuse.



# TRAINING

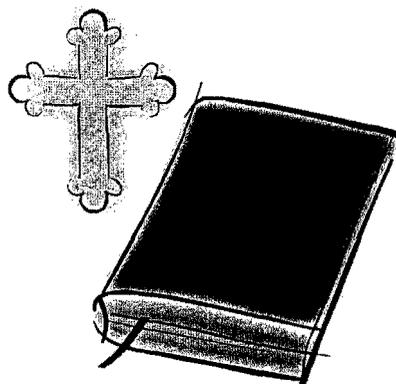
- ❖ Invite experts in the field of domestic violence prevention to train and educate clergy and the congregation
- ❖ Clergy should speak out against domestic violence from the pulpit
- ❖ Encourage members to discuss violence and abuse prevention
- ❖ Provide materials that address victim concerns and resources



# YOUTH MINISTRY

Organize Youth Ministry and leadership groups to discuss dating violence/abuse, resources for help, and what is inappropriate dating behavior.





*There is no excuse  
for  
domestic violence  
or  
abuse*

National Teen Dating Abuse Helpline: 1-866-331-9474

Domestic Violence Hotline: 1-800-799- (SAFE) 7233

Batterers Group Helpline: 213-351-0359

Referral for Individual & Couples Counseling: 818-788-8667