

Religious Organizations Help Educate

- * Provide classes on family violence and prevention
- * Sermons throughout the year to educate entire congregations
- * Provide a safety/temporary shelter for women/children in crisis
- * Provide Counseling to victims and community resources
- * Provide support: financial, emotional, spiritual
- * Religious Leaders continue to be educated about Domestic Violence



- * Provide a "Ministers On Call 24/7 Crisis Line"
- * Classes, Support Groups, Counseling: Pre-Marriage, Healthy Marriage, Relationship Conflict, Divorce/Separation, Teen/Adult/Senior Dating, Men's Group, Women's Group, Mixed Support Groups for Other Problems

Resources: Domestic Violence Hotline - 1-800-700-7233

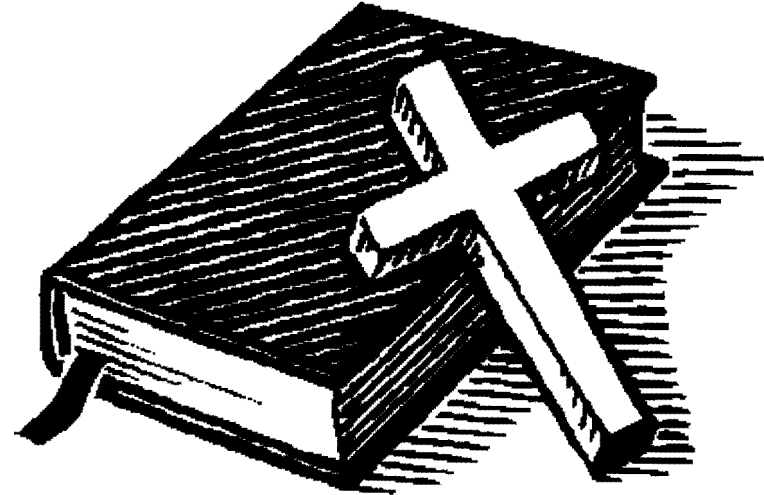
Elder Abuse Hotline - 877-477-3646

Teen Violence Hotline- 1-866-331-9474

Woman's Shelter Hotline- 1-800-580-4878

Domestic Violence Prevention

Religious Organizations



Help

Victims

of

Domestic Violence

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Did You Know?

- * 1 out of 2 families in the United States is involved in domestic violence of some kind
- * Over 50% of the marriages in the U.S. are involved in at least one incident of battering
 - * 1 out of 2 women in this country will be in a violent relationship in their lifetime
 - * A woman is battered every 9 seconds
 - * 1 in 3 teens has experienced violence in a dating relationship
 - * Every 26 seconds a woman is raped
- * Up to 1,800 women die of domestic violence each year
 - * More than 4 women are killed by their husbands or boyfriends everyday
- * Over 500 men die of domestic violence each year



Problems Some Victims Face In Religious Organizations

- * Women may be viewed as submissive servants
- * Woman may become doormats who accept violence as a part of their women's duty to their husbands/partners
- * The myth that families who follow Biblical Standards are not supposed to have problems like wife abuse
- * Being ignored or shunned by Religious Organizations because of the domestic violence in their family
- * Woman may be judged for not being a good enough wife to their husband

It's Great When Religious Organizations Function As An Extended Family

- * It can provide much needed social support, spiritual encouragement, and practical assistance
- * Spiritual healing can restore a sense of meaningfulness and power



Religious Organization Can Provide

- * A friendly, home-like environment
- * A place of acceptance where people don't have to hide their problems
 - * Approaches to difficulties with an attitude of love & Support
 - * Forgiveness and grace that is easily extended
- * Understand that emotional or family problems must be taken seriously

How to Help a Relative/Friend Who Is A Victim of Abuse:

Believe Her/Him: Tell your friend/relative that abuse is not her/his fault and that she/he is not alone there is help (family/friends, community resources). **Know the Warning Signs of Domestic Violence and Abuse:** Help your friend/relative recognize the abuse by asking questions about what is happening to her/him. **Listen To Her/Him:** This might be the single most important and helpful thing that you can do. Let her/him talk without interruption. **Support Their Strength:** Recognize the things their doing to take care of themselves. **Protect Your Friend's/Family's Privacy:** Talk to her/him in a safe and private place.