

LGBTQ+

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE



Domestic violence is a pattern of coercive behavior used by one person to gain power and control over another in an intimate or familial relationship.

Many terms are used interchangeably to describe and discuss domestic violence. It may also be referred to as: abuse, domestic violence, battery, intimate partner violence (IPV), or family, spousal, relationship or dating violence.

DOES YOUR PARTNER(S)...

Threaten to out you to your family, friends, employer, faith leader, landlord, nursing home staff, etc.?

Control or question your gender identity and/or gender expression?

Deny access to gender affirming clothing and devices such as binders and gaffers?

Refuse to use your affirming pronouns, or refuse your chosen name?

Withhold hormones like testosterone and/or estrogen?

Tell you that you're not gay/lesbian/bi/trans/queer enough?

Exploit vulnerabilities by hiding or denying access to your wheelchair or other assistive devices?

SIGNS OF ABUSE

It can be very difficult to acknowledge that you yourself, or someone you are close to, is experiencing relationship or family violence. Abusers go to great lengths to control their partners, their interactions, and everyday life.

Physical Abuse

- Hitting, kicking, and/or choking their partner without consent or permission
- Harming body parts related to identity
- Destroying property and their partner's personal items
- Harming or killing pets and/or livestock

Emotional and Psychological Abuse

- Using bi/trans/homophobic slurs
- Threatening to "out" their partner
- Threatening to use identity and/or sexuality to impact custody of children
- Using bi/trans/homophobic bias in systems to their advantage
- Threatening to withdraw, hide, or destroy important paperwork relating to immigration status, and/or passports, ID cards, or healthcare cards

Sexual Abuse

- Forcing or pressuring their partner to engage in sex acts
- Forcing their partner to watch or view pornographic movies or pictures
- Touching parts of their partner's body they don't like touched during transition
- Taking nude, sexual photos or videos without consent

Financial Abuse

- Withholding banking information
- Opening credit cards in their partner(s)'s name without permission
- Building up debt from credit, loans, and bills in their partner(s)'s name
- Not allowing their partner to establish their own credit history to keep them dependent

LOOKING FOR HELP?

Are you or someone you know
experiencing abuse?

**Free and confidential help
is available. Contact:**

The National Domestic Violence Hotline

TheHotline.org or **1.800.799.7233.**

In Pennsylvania, to find the local
program serving your community,
please visit **PCADV.org**



717.545.6400 | 800.932.4632

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