

# 5 Facts Every Parent MUST Know About Teen Dating Violence

Each year nearly 1.5 million high school students in the United States experience physical abuse from a dating partner.

Approximately 65% of teens in an abusive relationship never tell anyone about the abuse.

An estimated 1 in 3 high school relationships involves some sort of physical, emotional, or sexual abuse.

Nearly 4 out of 5 girls who have been physically abused continue to date their abuser.

Roughly 72% of eighth and ninth graders are in a dating relationship.

## Warning Signs of Teen Dating Violence

Since teen dating violence is often kept secret, it is important to be able to recognize the warning signs. While some of these signs may also indicate other problems, here are some of the most common warning signs of a teen in dating violence situation:

- Sudden changes in appearance, diet, or sleeping habits
- Failing grades or dropping out of school activities
- Sudden changes in mood or personality
- Avoiding friends and family
- Becoming secretive or withdrawn
- Apologizing and/or making excuses for the dating partner
- Responding immediately when contacted by dating partner. Gets upset when unable to respond
- Unexplained bruises, scratches, or marks

