

WARNING

Signs of a Batterer



Family Violence, the intentional use of physical force or threat by an adult of the same household toward another, is illegal in Texas. Anyone can be a victim. The social, educational, economic level of success is not important. It happens to people of all ages, races, religions, genders, and is found in all areas of the city.

The first step to ending family violence is to recognize it when it first starts. It is difficult to believe that a loved one can hurt you, but it is possible that you are a victim of family violence if you notice the following:

- **Excessive Jealousy/Possessiveness**
- **Isolates or restrains you**
- **Anger is a typical response when limits are set**
- **Controlling behavior**
- **Calls on the phone all the time or spies on you**
- **Blames others for problems or actions**
- **Sudden mood swings**
- **Threats of violence or suicide**
- **Cruelty to animals, children, or the elderly**
- **Quick involvement**
- **Dr. Jeckyll/Mr. Hyde personality**
- **Believes in rigid sex roles**
- **Hypersensitivity**
- **Attacks, accusations, belittles, or humiliates you**
- **Emotional abuse, threats or extreme lack of affection**
- **Economic abuse, refusing to let you work or to have access to bank accounts**
- **History of past battering**
- **Break objects or intentionally damages your personal property**
- **Uses force during an argument**
- **Playful use of force during sex or forces you to perform degradable sexual acts**
- **Any force used during an argument or at any time that results in being pushed, pulled, hit with a fist or palm, kicks, strangled or threatened with a weapon.**