

“...The Good Fight”

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February Is Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month

Teen Dating Violence (DV) Prevention and Awareness Month is a national effort to raise awareness about abuse in teen and 20-something relationships and promote programs that prevent it during the month of February. Throughout February, organizations and individuals nationwide are coming together to highlight the need to educate young people about dating violence, teach healthy relationship skills, and prevent the devastating cycle of abuse.

For more information about Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month, go to:
<http://www.teendvmonth.org/> or
<http://www.loveisrespect.org/teenDVmonth>.

Loveisrespect.org asserts that dating violence among teens and young adults is more common than many people think. Some statistics on teen dating violence show the frequency with which teen dating violence is occurring:

- ◆ Nearly **1.5 million** high school students

nationwide experience physical abuse from a dating partner in a single year.

- ◆ **One in three** girls in the US is a victim of physical, emotional or verbal abuse from a dating partner
- ◆ **One in ten** high school students has been purposefully hit, slapped or physically hurt by a boyfriend or girlfriend.
- ◆ **25%** of high school girls have been victims of physical or sexual abuse or date rape.⁴
- ◆ Among female victims of intimate partner violence, **94% of those age 16-19 and 70% of those age 20-24** were victimized by a current or former boyfriend or girlfriend.
- ◆ About **72%** of eighth and ninth graders are 'dating.'
- ◆ **43%** of dating college

women report experiencing violent and abusive dating behaviors.

- ◆ **16%** of college-aged women have been sexually abused in a dating relationship.
- ◆ Being physically or sexually abused makes teen girls **six times more likely to become pregnant and twice as likely** to get a STD.
- ◆ **Half of youth** who have been victims of both dating violence and rape attempt suicide, compared to 12.5% of non-abused girls and 5.4% of non-abused boys.

To read more statistics about teen dating violence go to:
<http://www.teendvmonth.org/research>.

TEEN
DATING
VIOLENCE
AWARENESS
MONTH



February Is Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month

Oregon Teen Dating Violence Resources

Home Free Teen is resource website created by Teen Advocates at Volunteers of America-Home Free in Portland, Oregon. "We put this website together because we believe that teen dating violence is a silent epidemic that affects 1 in 4 teens nationwide."

Resources include phone numbers for crisis lines and advocates, FAQs about teen DV, information about how to help a friend who might be in an abusive relationship, and a quiz called "QUIZ: Can You Spot the Warning Signs?" To see if you can spot the warning signs for teen dating violence, take the quiz at <http://homefreeteen.org/index.php/site/quiz>.

Visit Home Free Teen at: <http://homefreeteen.org/index.php>.

Oregon Teen Dating Violence Legislation to Watch

HB 2350: Establishes Teen Dating Violence Protection Study Fund

Oregon House Bill 2350 would mandate that the Director of Human Services set up a system to collect data about teen dating violence. The Oregon Health Authority would then be required to use this data to conduct a longitudinal study to determine the effectiveness of current services for victims of teen dating violence and to determine if additional services are needed in the state. The study would be funded by an additional \$5 filing fee assessed on petitions for dissolution of marriage. To read the text of the bill, go to: <http://www.leg.state.or.us/13reg/measpdf/hb2300.dir/hb2350.intro.pdf>.

Legislation to Watch

The Oregon legislative session starts on February 4th, 2013. There will be hundreds of bills introduced during the session. Here are a few to keep your eye on:

- ♦ HB 2362: Stalking
- ♦ HB 2541: Telephonic Harassment
- ♦ SB 124: Military service is mitigating/aggravating factor in sentencing
- ♦ LC 165: Sexual Assault Protection Order

Training: Watch a Webinar a Week!

The Basics on Teen Dating Violence: What You Need to Know About Dating Abuse. What does dating violence look like and what are the warning signs of abuse? This webinar will cover the basics of dating abuse – definitions, warning signs, health effects – and how to help when you know or suspect dating abuse is happening. When: **February 5, 2013** from 10:00am-10:30am PST. Register: go to <https://breakthecycle.ilinc.com/perl/ilinc/lms/event.pl> to sign up.

Polyvictimization: What It Is and Why It Matters to Victims' Rights. This webinar is designed for attorneys, advocates, and allied professionals who work with victims of crime. This webinar will include an introduction to the concepts of polyvictimization, complex trauma, and other short and long term impacts of polyvictimization and best practices for working effectively with polyvictims. When: **February 8, 12:00pm-1:30pm PST**. Register: Due to a high volume of registrants, registration is now full for this webinar. A rebroadcast of the webinar will be scheduled shortly after the live airing. Go to <http://law.lclark.edu/live/events/15261-webinar--polyvictimization-what-it-is-and-why-it> for more information or to watch the rebroadcast.

Know Your Rights: The Legal System's Response to Dating Abuse. Young survivors of dating abuse have a multitude of resources available to them, but many young people (and their supporters) do not know their legal options. Learn the ways that the legal system can help young people end abusive relationships and stay safe. When: **February 19, 2013** from 10:00am-10:30am PST. Register: go to <https://breakthecycle.ilinc.com/perl/ilinc/lms/event.pl> to sign up.

High-Tech Helping and Hurting: The Role of Technology in Dating Abuse. Technology has changed the field of abuse prevention and response. Find out how social media and other high-tech systems can be used both as tools of abuse and as resources for providing help. When: **February 26, 2013** from 10:00am-10:30am PST. Register: Go to <https://breakthecycle.ilinc.com/perl/ilinc/lms/event.pl> to sign up.

Blueprint for Safety

A Comprehensive Domestic Violence Intervention Policy for State Agencies

The [Blueprint for Safety](#) was originally developed and implemented in Saint Paul, MN. It is a prototype that can be used by any community hoping to link its criminal justice agencies together in a coherent, philosophically sound domestic violence intervention model.

In 2007, the Minnesota Legislature awarded a grant to the City of Saint Paul to write a comprehensive plan integrating the knowledge gleaned from thirty years of local and national research, demonstration projects, and practice into a “blueprint” for city and county agencies responding to misdemeanor and felony assaults. The Blueprint was created with the leadership of seven agencies and the district court bench in the City of Saint Paul, as well as through conversations and consultation with community members, advocates, researchers, and experts confronting this crime both locally and nationally.

The [Blueprint for Safety](#) is written as a single document with a chapter for each

agency within the criminal justice system. It is not a collection of good policies; it is a collective policy with each chapter linked inextricably to the whole. It uses interagency policies, protocols, case processing procedures, and information sharing to: (a) maximize the ability of the state to gain a measure of control over a domestic violence offender; (b) use that control to intervene quickly when there are new acts of violence, intimidation or coercion; and (c) shift the burden of holding the offender accountable for violence or abuse from the victim to the system.

The Blueprint is anchored in six foundational principles that have been identified as essential characteristics of intervention that maximize safety for victims of domestic violence and hold offenders accountable while offering them opportunities to change. The foundational principles are:

1. Adhere to an **interagency approach and collective intervention goals**.
2. Build attention to the **context and severity** of abuse into each intervention.

3. Recognize that most domestic violence is a patterned crime requiring **continuing engagement with victims and offenders**.

4. Establish **sure and swift consequences** for continued abuse.

5. Use the power of the criminal justice system to **send messages of help and accountability**.

6. Act in ways that **reduce unintended consequences and the disparity of impact on victims and offenders**.

The [Blueprint for Safety](#) website has an amazing amount of supplemental materials that could be tremendously helpful in shaping policies or developing training materials locally. To access these materials, go to: http://praxisinternational.org/blueprint_materials.aspx. If you would like to speak with someone about how to become a Blueprint community, or would like more information on The Blueprint, go to: http://www.praxisinternational.org/praxis_blue_print_for_safety.aspx or email blueprint@praxisinternational.org.

International Women’s Day: March 8

A promise is a promise: time for action to end violence against women

In 1975, during International Women's Year, the United Nations began celebrating 8 March as International Women's Day. Two years later, in December 1977, the General Assembly adopted a resolution proclaiming a United Nations Day for Women's Rights and International Peace to be observed on any day of the year by Member States, in accordance with their historical and national traditions. For the United Nations, International Women's Day has been observed on 8 March since 1975. The United Nations' theme for this year's International Women's Day is “A promise is a promise: Time for action to end violence against women.” For more information about International Women’s Day, go to <http://www.un.org/womenwatch/feature/iwd/> or <http://www.internationalwomensday.com/default.asp>.

Domestic Violence Fatalities: 2012

Over 40 **Oregonians** were killed by domestic violence in Oregon in 2012. The victims include women, men, and children in communities across the state.

Sixteen women, nine men, and six children were killed by domestic violence perpetrators in 2012. The women and children were all killed by a male perpetrator (the current/past boyfriend/husband of the female victim, or the victim's daughter's boyfriend/son).

Of the male victims one was killed by a same-sex partner; two by another male "over" a woman; two by a male family member; two by a current or past wife or girlfriend; one by a sister's estranged boyfriend; and, in one case, the male victim was shot as a husband fled the scene after killing his wife and children. In addition to the 31 victim deaths, an additional nine people lost their lives in domestic violence-related fatalities.

These are deaths of the perpetrators who committed suicide after murdering

a partner or family member, were killed in officer-involved incidents, or otherwise lost their lives.

To read more about last year's DV related deaths, you can read the following articles:

- ◆ Clackamas County: http://www.oregonlive.com/clackamascounty/index.ssf/2013/01/county_sees_10_slain_in_2012.html.
- ◆ Portland: http://www.oregonlive.com/portland/index.ssf/2013/01/portland-area_killings_in_2012.html#incartm-rpt-2.
- ◆ Washington County: http://www.oregonlive.com/washingtoncounty/index.ssf/2013/01/post_32.html.

This year has already seen its first DV-related homicides:

- ◆ A 16-year-old Beaverton girl who was fatally shot near the Oregon

coast by her 24-year-old boyfriend, Jacob Green. For more information, go to: http://www.ktvz.com/news/Slain-Ore-teen-recalled-as-beautiful-free-spirit-/413192/18241286/-/s5mshuz/-/index.html?utm_medium=referral&utm_source=pulsenews.

- ◆ An 83-year-old woman was shot and killed in La Pine by her 86-year-old husband, Lawrence Hubert Loeffler. For more information, go to: <http://www.ktvz.com/news/La-Pine-area-murder-suspect-86-appears-in-court-/413192/18308528/-/15p01wh/-/index.html>.
- ◆ A 26-year-old man was allegedly stabbed to death in Ontario by his live-in partner Ketra Savannah Siuce-Hale. For more information, go to: http://www.oregonlive.com/pacific-northwest-news/index.ssf/2013/01/ontario_oregon_woman_sought_in.html.

Cases to Watch

Timothy Patrick Cannon (Washington County)

Cannon, a Hillsboro police officer, is accused of firing a gun during an off-duty altercation with law enforcement officers at his Forest Grove home in January 2013 and was charged with aggravated animal abuse, fourth-degree assault, unlawful use of a weapon, and attempted aggravated murder. Trial is set for March 19, 2013. To read more, go to: http://www.oregonlive.com/forest-grove/index.ssf/2013/01/hillsboro_police_officer_accus.html

Jose Ponce-Guitron (Washington County)

Ponce-Guitron is accused of cutting his estranged girlfriend's neck after breaking into her Aloha apartment in January 2013. Court records show that Ponce-Guitron was arraigned on Christmas Eve on a charge of fourth-degree assault constituting domestic violence and harassment against the same victim. He is now charged with attempted murder. Trial is set for March 12, 2013. To read more, go to: http://www.oregonlive.com/aloha/index.ssf/2013/01/man_charged_with_attempted_mur.html

Philip Bernard Howells (Washington County)

Howells is accused of breaking into his ex-wife's Beaverton home and assaulting her and her boyfriend. Howells was charged with attempted aggravated murder, first-degree assault and first-degree burglary. Trial is set for February 26, 2013. To read more, go to: http://www.oregonlive.com/beaverton/index.ssf/2012/12/suspect_in_beaverton_attempted.html

Caleb Grotberg (Multnomah County)

Grotberg is accused of using his hair to choke his girlfriend during a domestic attack in their home. Grotberg was charged with menacing, fourth-degree assault, and strangulation. Pre-trial hearing is set for February 8, 2013. To read more, go to: http://www.oregonlive.com/portland/index.ssf/2013/01/portland_man_accused_of_using_1.html

VAWA—Clarification:

*On VAWA not being renewed by Congress in 2012
and what is currently being done to get it passed in 2013*

VAWA is a federal law that was first passed in 1994. It has been amended and reauthorized several times since then. While VAWA won the support of 68 Senators, the amended version of VAWA did not pass during the 112th Congress because the House of Representatives failed to vote on the legislation. Over the years, VAWA accomplished many things:

- ◆ **Substantive law protections:** Among other things, VAWA created the federal crime of interstate domestic violence, established federal housing protections for survivors, and prohibited gun possession by perpetrators who have been convicted of misdemeanor DV crimes or who have qualifying restraining orders against them. **These provisions are permanent protections – they stay in existence until modified or repealed.**
- ◆ **Funding and grant programs:** VAWA authorized several federal grant programs, through which federal dollars have been appropriated and awarded to eligible grantees. These grant programs generally need to be reauthorized periodically so they can continue to receive dollars appropriated by Congress for award to grantees. If these grant programs are not reauthorized periodically, it is harder to get money appropriated.

Thank you to Sybil Hebb, Dir. Of Legislative Advocacy, Oregon Law Center, for this clarification summary.

Attempts to Reauthorize and Amend VAWA in 2012 Failed:

- ◆ **Substantive law protections:** There was an effort to amend VAWA's substantive law provisions to (among other things) expand housing protections for sexual assault survivors, expand protections for native American survivors, and provide better coverage for LGBTQ survivors. Unfortunately, these improvements did not pass. **However, none of the pre-existing VAWA protections (housing protections, gun dispossession laws, etc.) were rolled back or repealed.**
- ◆ **Funding and grant programs:** The recent efforts also focused on "reauthorization" of the grant programs. These efforts also failed. The failure to reauthorize VAWA in 2012 **does not** have any impact on current grant programs, but does have a somewhat negative impact on future efforts to get more funds appropriated for future grants.

The current efforts to pass VAWA:

U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Patrick Leahy (D-VT) reintroduced the bipartisan Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act on Tuesday, January 21st—the first day that bills can be introduced in the Senate in the new 113th Congress— and called for the Senate to take up the measure without delay.

"This life-saving legislation should be a top priority of the new 113th Congress," Leahy said of the bill. "It is our hope that the Senate will act quickly to pass this strong, bipartisan bill to help all victims of domestic and sexual violence."

To read more from Senator Leahy's press release, go to: <http://www.leahy.senate.gov/press/leahy-crapo-reintroduce-bipartisan-bill-to-reauthorize-the-landmark-violence-against-women-act>. To read the text of the bill Senator Leahy introduced, go to: http://www.leahy.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/VAWA_Reauth2013.pdf.



Senator Leahy speaks at a VAWA rally:

"We have to pass a bill to protect all victims."

They Did What?!?

Timothy Bonner, a western Pennsylvania man, stopped at a bar and had a beer minutes after he broke out of a police station holding cell after his arrest on an assault charge. Police say that while they were processing Bonner, the man knocked the cell door off its hinges and ran away. After stopping at a

house to borrow shoes, the fugitive went to Richy's Bar, where a he asked for a beer. Bonner didn't get to enjoy it before police arrested him. To read the full story, go to: http://www.oregonlive.com/today/index.ssf/2013/01/suspect_breaks_out_of_jail_and.html#incart_river_default.

Oregon Department of Justice Domestic Violence Newsletter

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There is no job more interesting than the one we do. And, as they say, truth is stronger than fiction.

So, if you have a funny or disturbing anecdote, send it my way!

February 11-17: Random Acts of Kindness Week:

The Random Acts of Kindness Foundation believes people should practice kindness every day, but during RAK Week, they hope you will go above and beyond to make others feel special.

If you're going out to eat, pay for someone else's meal or give the server a big tip! If you are light on money, think about volunteering your time at a local charity (and during RAK Week, make a commitment to volunteer more than once). If you don't live near family or close friends, make an extra effort to reach out to them with a phone call or hand-written letter instead of a text or email. If you live near an animal shelter you can donate food, blankets, towels or old (clean) t-shirts.

For more information about Random Acts of Kindness Week, go to: <http://www.randomactsofkindness.org/rak-week>.

RAK Week® Kindness Ideas:

- ◆ Monday, Feb 11—Smile at 10 strangers.
- ◆ Tuesday, Feb 12—Buy something for the person in the line behind you.
- ◆ Wednesday, Feb 13—Reach out to someone you haven't talked to in a while.
- ◆ Thursday, Feb 14—Bring a treat to a neighbor or your co-workers.
- ◆ Friday, Feb 15—Donate your time or money to a local charity.
- ◆ Saturday, Feb 16—Cook a healthy meal.
- ◆ Sunday, Feb 17—Let someone go in front of you in line.

**"Life is mostly froth and bubble. Two things stand like stone:
Kindness in another's trouble, Courage in our own."**

~Adam Lindsay Gordon