

SCHOOLS **CAN** AND **DO** PREVENT DATING VIOLENCE.

Dating Violence

What Florida Schools Need to Know

HERE'S WHAT YOU CAN DO!

1. Make your dating violence policies clear and implement them consistently. Contact FCADV at preventionviolence@fcadv.org to access the Teen Dating Violence Model Policy for schools.
2. Train faculty, counselors, nurses and staff to recognize and respond to the signs of dating abuse.
3. Educate youth about positive relationships and the dynamics of abuse.
4. Make sure students know how and where to get help for themselves or a friend. Make contact with your local certified domestic violence center by calling the Florida Domestic Violence Hotline.
5. Create a positive school environment that encourages equality and respect and discourages violence.



Sponsored by the Florida Coalition Against Domestic Violence and the State of Florida, Department of Children and Families.



What is Teen Dating Violence?

Dating violence takes place when a person physically, sexually, verbally or emotionally abuses another person in the context of a dating or romantic relationship.

What can it look like on school grounds?

According to recent studies, between 42% and 87% of dating violence occurs in a school building or on school grounds.

Teen dating violence takes on many forms.

It can involve: put-downs, extreme demands on time, intimidation, isolation, constant texting, stalking, and physical injury. Teen dating violence can also involve forced sex, forced pregnancy, threats of violence or suicide, stalking, and murder.

You can do something about dating violence.

Dating violence takes place in all schools. School staff, administration, and policies make a critical difference in preventing and responding to dating violence.

What Guidelines Apply to My School?

S. 1006.148, Florida Statute mandates the following:

- Each district school board adopt and implement a dating violence and abuse policy which must be integrated into each school district's discipline policies.
- Each school district must provide training for teachers, faculty, staff and school administrators to implement the new dating violence and abuse policies.

S. 1003.42, Florida Statute requires that a teen dating violence and abuse component be added to the comprehensive health education curriculum for students in grades 7 through 12. FCADV developed a dating violence prevention curricula that is available for free online. The resource curricula were designed to address the core components required by the statute, including:

- The definition of dating violence and abuse,
- Warning signs of dating violence and abusive behavior,
- Characteristics of healthy relationships,
- Measures to prevent and stop dating violence, and
- Community resources available to victims of dating violence and abuse.

Who Can Help?

Certified domestic violence centers often provide free dating abuse prevention programs in schools, such as classroom-based curricula or after school groups. Advocates at centers can help students or educators create safety plans and can provide crisis counseling.

LevelsRespect.org, the national dating abuse helpline, can help educators and students safety plan and handle difficult situations. They are available 24/7 by text, chat, or phone.

The Florida Coalition Against Domestic Violence has resources for educators available at **fcadv.org/educators**

For more information about the Florida Coalition Against Domestic Violence Prevention Initiatives, including statewide and local resources on violence prevention, please contact us at:

PreventViolence@fcadv.org

The **Florida Domestic Violence Hotline** is a 24/7 hotline available to anyone seeking resources and support on dating and domestic violence.

1-800-500-1119

TTY 1-800-621-4202

Florida Relay 711