

Provided to you by...



The Metropolitan Police Department Gay and Lesbian Liaison Unit

Providing 24-hour police response to members of the GLBTQ communities. Brett Parson (Sergeant), and Kelly McMurry (Officer).

Contact Info:

Website: www.gaydc.net/gllu; **Email:** Gayliaisondc@hotmail.com

Pagers: Brett Parson: 1-877-495-5995; Kelly McMurry: 202-996-9790

Voicemail: 202-727-5427; **TTY/TTD:** 202-347-8164

Fax: 202-727-4406

Also available via the **MPDC Communications Center:**

Emergencies- 911

Non-emergencies- 311

OR,

Synchronized Operations Command Center (SOCC): 202-727-9099

My Sister's Place – Hotline: 202-529-5991

Provides shelter, transitional housing, support groups, advocacy, case management, and hotline. Provides workshops specifically on Gay and Lesbian domestic violence.

House of Ruth – 410-889-7884

Provides shelter, counseling, day-care, and legal services.

Violence in GLBTQ Relationships...

YOU ARE NOT ALONE

Many people think violent relationships only happen between men and women, but violence among same-sex couples happens at close to the same rate – in about 1/3 of all relationships. It can happen to anyone – gay or straight, young or old, rich or poor, female or male. It happens to people of all races, in all cultures of the world.

IT IS NOT YOUR FAULT

Domestic violence happens when one person believes they can control another person, using certain tactics to establish power through fear and intimidation. It can include, but is not limited to, the threat or actual use of physical violence, emotional abuse, sexual abuse, and isolation. Also, homophobia or heterosexism within society may enforce the silence that surrounds same-sex domestic violence.

YOU CAN GET HELP

Nobody deserves to be in an abusive situation. The following page has examples of how an abuser might try to establish power or control over their partner. No two abusive situations are the same, and abusers may use many, some, or just a few of these behaviors, as well as other kinds of abuse. Also included in the pamphlet is a list of resources specifically geared towards, or accepting of all members of the GLBTQ community.

ABUSE TACTICS:

Using Coercion & Threats:

making and/or carrying out threats to do something to harm you • threatening to leave or commit suicide • driving recklessly to frighten you • threatening to “out” you • threatening others who are important to you • stalking

Using Intimidation:

making you afraid by using looks, gestures, actions • smashing things • abusing pets • displaying weapons • using looks, actions, gestures to reinforce homophobia and control

Using Physical Abuse:

threat or actual use of physical violence • hitting • punching • kicking • biting • choking • pulling hair • slapping • grabbing • twisting arms • tripping • shoving

Using Sexual Abuse:

forcing you to have sex • using unwanted sexual comments, gestures, or actions • forcing you to engage in unwanted sexual contact

Using Emotional Abuse:

making you feel bad about yourself • calling you names • playing mind games • making you feel guilty • humiliating you • questioning if you are a “real” gay or lesbian • reinforcing internalized homophobia

Using Isolation:

controlling what you do, who you see or talk to • limiting your outside activities • using jealousy to control you • making you account for your whereabouts • saying no one will believe you because you are gay or lesbian

Minimizing, Denying & Blaming:

making light of the abuse • saying it didn’t happen • shifting responsibility for abusive behavior • saying it is your fault, you deserved it • accusing you of “mutual abuse” • saying women can’t abuse women/men can’t abuse men

Using Children:

making you feel guilty about the children • using children to relay messages • threatening to take the children • threatening to tell your ex-spouse or the authorities that you are gay or a lesbian so they will take the kids

Using Privilege:

treating you like a servant • making all the big decisions • acting like the “lord of the castle” • being the one to define each partner’s place or duties in the relationship

Using Economic Abuse:

preventing you from getting/keeping a job • making you ask for money • interfering with work or education • using your credit cards without permission • not working and requiring you to support him/her • putting assets in partner’s name only

**NOBODY DESERVES TO BE IN AN ABUSIVE SITUATION.
YOU ARE NOT ALONE. YOU CAN GET HELP.**

You deserve a healthy relationship, free of abuse. There are many places to go for help. The following resources are specifically geared towards, or accepting of all members of the GLBTQ community...

Civil Protection Orders: CPOs are available to all victims of domestic violence within the GLBTQ community. Information on how to get one can be found on pages 17-19 of the Domestic Violence Handbook for Victims.

NATIONAL:

The National Domestic Violence Hotline – 1-800-799-7233 (SAFE)

A countrywide hotline that gives callers resource numbers for a specified area.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA:

DC Coalition Against Domestic Violence – 202-299-1181

Provides domestic violence resource and referral services.

Domestic Violence Intake Center – 202-879-1000

Provides various free legal services.

Gay & Lesbian Hotline – 202-797-4444

A crisis intervention hotline through the Whitman-Walker Clinic; a therapist is on-call.

Legal Aid Society of DC – 202-628-1161

Provides free legal assistance related to domestic violence, family law, adoption, custody, and housing in DC. Provides outreach specifically to the Gay and Lesbian community regarding domestic violence.

NORTHERN VIRGINIA:

Violence Intervention Program – Hotline: 703-228-4848

Offers violence intervention and counseling for domestic violence, sexual assault, and abusive behaviors.

Virginians Against Domestic Violence/Lesbian Caucus – 1-800-838-8238

A hotline and referral service.

MARYLAND:

Community Anti-Violence Project – 410-377-8111

A program of TurnAround. Specifically provides services to the Gay and Lesbian community, including counseling, shelter, advocacy, and training to hospital staff on Gay and Lesbian issues. Serves Baltimore city and county.