

Children's Exposure to Violence

Forms of Intimate Partner Violence

Physical Abuse - threat of harm or any forceful physical behavior that intentionally or accidentally causes bodily harm or property destruction.

Sexual Abuse - forced or coerced sexual act or behavior motivated to acquire power and control over the partner. It is not only forced sexual contact but also contact that demeans or humiliates the partner and instigates feelings of shame or vulnerability - particularly in regards to the body, sexual performance or sexuality.

Emotional/Psychological Abuse - the use of words, voice, action or lack of action meant to control, hurt, or demean another person.

Financial Abuse - the use or misuse, without the partner's freely given consent, of the financial or other monetary resources of the relationship.

Identity Abuse - the use of personal characteristics such race/ethnicity, immigration status, age, beauty etc. to manipulate and control the partner.

Spiritual Abuse - Can make survivors question their values and belief systems in a way that is harmful, isolating and destabilizing. Examples include: citing spiritual scripture to justify abuse, denying freedom to engage in spiritual practices, forcing survivors to violate spiritual beliefs, ritual abuse, manipulating others in religious community to isolate survivor.

Stalking/harassment - Demanding inappropriate time, energy and attention, whether to create fear or not. Examples include: making unwanted visits or communications, following, "checking up" constantly, refusing to leave when asked, harassing over social media & other technology, using technology to monitor whereabouts, using friends, family & others to monitor whereabouts, tampering with vehicles, etc.