

# DOMESTIC VIOLENCE \ də-‘mes-tik vī-lən(t)s \ n.

**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CAN BE DEFINED AS A PATTERN OF BEHAVIOR IN ANY RELATIONSHIP THAT IS USED TO GAIN OR MAINTAIN POWER AND CONTROL OVER AN INTIMATE PARTNER.**

Abuse is physical, sexual, emotional, economic or psychological actions or threats of actions that influence another person.

Domestic violence can happen to anyone of any race, age, sexual orientation, religion or gender. It can happen to couples who are married, living together or who are dating. Domestic violence affects people of all socioeconomic backgrounds and education levels.

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# SEXUAL ASSAULT \ ‘sek-sh(ə-)wəl ə-‘sölt \ n.

**SEXUAL ASSAULT IS AN ASSAULT OF A SEXUAL NATURE ON ANOTHER PERSON, OR ANY SEXUAL ACT COMMITTED WITHOUT CONSENT.**

Sexual assault is a crime motivated by a need to control, humiliate and harm. Perpetrators use sexual assault as a weapon to hurt and dominate others.

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## RESOURCES:

The National Domestic Violence Hotline | [www.thehotline.org](http://www.thehotline.org)

The National Sexual Assault Hotline | [www.rainn.org](http://www.rainn.org)

The National Dating Abuse Helpline | [www.loveisrespect.org](http://www.loveisrespect.org)