

What is Domestic Violence?

Domestic Violence is when one person in a relationship uses violence or abuse to control or dominate the other person, causing them to live in fear. There are several different forms of abuse.

Psychological Abuse:

Abuse which deliberately destroys your self confidence, it makes you feel like you are useless, stupid or going crazy. It can be like a type of brainwashing where you believe that everything that goes wrong is your fault.

Verbal Abuse:

Constantly putting you down, calling you names, making you feel worthless, or making comments about your competence. Humiliating you or insulting you in public. Can also include threats of physical abuse.

Financial Abuse:

When you are not allowed to have a say in how the money is spent, or being refused money for family needs, being made to get into debt for the other person.

Sexual Abuse:

Being forced to have unwanted sexual contact or drugging you.

Physical Abuse:

Physical assault can take many forms from pushing, poking, biting, burning, slapping, hair pulling, strangulation, using a weapon, smashing things or hurting pets.

If an Emergency dial: 000

Or you can ring the
**Domestic Violence
Prevention Centre
55329 000**

- To talk
- To get support
- To seek information
- To arrange to see a counselor
- To join a women's support group
- To ask about brochures / pamphlets
- To arrange speakers for groups

Open from Monday, Tuesday
Thursday, Friday
9am—5pm
Wednesdays 9am—1pm

Website **www.domesticviolence.com.au**
PO Box 409 Southport QLD 4215
Facsimile: **5571 1508** Admin: **5591 4222**

Other Useful Telephone Numbers

D V Connect Womens Line
1800 811 811 7 Days, 24hours

Women's Legal Service
1800 677 278 / 3392 0670

Legal Aid + Women's Legal Aid QLD
1300 651 188

Police Prosecutions
5571 4383

Southport Courthouse
5583 5900

Coolangatta Courthouse
55363 133 / 5569 3040

Domestic Violence
Prevention Centre
Gold Coast

Counselling Information

A Free and Confidential Service



Produced By
Domestic Violence Prevention Centre
Gold Coast Inc.

Please enquire about our Privacy Policy

Services Available

The Domestic Violence Prevention Centre Gold Coast offers the following services to women and their children affected by domestic and family violence.

- Telephone Counselling & Support (Monday to Friday 9.30am—4.30pm)
- Crisis Counselling Appointments
- Groups for Women
- Children's Counselling Appointments (Children & Young People)
- Domestic Violence Court Support, Information & Advocacy Program
- Referrals to other Agencies
- Domestic Violence Information
- School based education programs

What is Counselling?

The Domestic Violence Prevention Centre operates within a feminist framework in which women who have or are currently experiencing domestic violence are viewed as the experts in their lives.

This philosophy is supported by the Staff at the Domestic Violence Prevention Centre who are experienced and specialized in the area of domestic violence and are able to offer counselling on a range of different issues.

- Safety Plans
- Support through an emotional experience
- Understanding of the Cycle of Violence
- Understanding of Power & Control
- Strategies & Tools
- Healthy Boundaries
- Healthy Relationships

Counselling Appointments

The Domestic Violence Prevention Centre offers free Counselling appointments for women, children and young people affected by domestic violence.

Counselling sessions are available by appointment only. Counselling sessions last for approximately one hour.

During counselling other significant issues may emerge. Referrals can be made to appropriate services for specialist counselling if required.

The location of the Domestic Violence Prevention Centre is confidential. When you arrive for your appointment please press the intercom button at the front door and a staff member will let you in.

If anyone rings the Domestic Violence Prevention Centre asking for information, we will not identify that you are a client of the service e.g. Your partner, relative, friend, other service provider.

If a counselor needs to telephone you at home she will identify herself by first name only and not the organisation if someone else answers the phone.