

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.

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 Domestic Violence Line
1800 811 811 7 Days, 24hours

Women's Legal Service
1800 677 278

Legal Aid
1300 651 188

Police Prosecutions
55 71 4383

Southport Courthouse
5583 5900

Coolangatta Courthouse
55363 133

Domestic Violence Prevention Centre Gold Coast

Counselling Information



Produced By
Domestic Violence Prevention Centre
Gold Coast

Services Available

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

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

Confidentiality Policy

The Domestic Violence Prevention Centre upholds the safety of women and their children as its primary concern. Safety of women and their children is central to all interventions.

Information disclosed during counselling is confidential and will not be shared outside the agency without her consent, except in the following circumstances:

- The woman expresses that she is at risk of physically harming herself.
- The woman expresses that she is at risk of physically harming others.
- The woman discloses that her children's safety is at risk due to threats of physical or sexual violence, neglect, severe emotional or psychological abuse from her partner, ex-partner or an outside party.

Where any of the above serious safety concerns are present the Domestic Violence Prevention Centre will attempt to contact the woman and will encourage her to participate in notifying the appropriate services. If after speaking to the woman the support of the woman is not gained the Domestic Violence Prevention Centre has a Duty of Care and will respond accordingly.

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.