

If You Are A Victim of
SEXUAL ASSAULT,
 You Might:

- Feel afraid, ashamed, angry, sad, lonely, betrayed or depressed.
- Feel guilty and confused if you knew or had a relationship with the attacker, even though the assault was not your fault.
- Feel like you have no friends or that your friends won't believe you.
- Want to hurt someone else or yourself.
- Feel like taking steps to defend yourself.
- Feel helpless to stop the assault.
- Feel hopeless about whether anything can be done.
- Be afraid to go anywhere that the attacker might be.
- Feel anxious all the time.
- Feel bad about yourself or your body.

You Are Not Alone

- Sexual assault is a widespread and underreported crime.
- In 2005, law enforcement received 69,370 reports of rapes.
- In 2005, more than 170,000 women and 15,000 men were victims of attempted or completed rapes.
- More teens are raped by people they know than by strangers.

There Is Help!

Helpful Telephone Numbers
 and Websites for Teens

Spartanburg Public Safety Department

145 W. Broad Street
 P.O. Box 1746
 Spartanburg, SC 29304

Emergency911

Non-Emergency 24-Hour Number (864) 596-2039

Office of Victim Assistance (864) 596-2067

Safe Homes/Rape Crisis Coalition

24-Hour Hotline (864) 583-9803
 1 (800) 273-5066

24-Hour Hopeline 1 (800) 442-HOPE

National Domestic Violence Hotline

1 (800) 799-SAFE (7233)

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline

1 (800) 273-TALK (8255)

**Office for Victims of Crimes,
 Directory of Crime Victim Services:**

<http://ovc.ncjrs.gov/findvictimservices>

Text-A-Tip

(Report Crimes Anonymously)

Dial 274637

In the text box, type TIP 649
 and then type the information that you have.

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There Is Help!

**FIGHT TO
 STOP
 TEEN
 VICTIMIZATION**



**SPARTANBURG
 Public Safety Department
 Office of Victim Assistance**

TEEN VICTIMIZATION

There are many crimes that affect teens, including sexual assault, robbery, gang violence, hate crimes, bullying, and dating violence. If you have been a victim of crime, The Spartanburg Public Safety Department and The National Crime Prevention Council wants you to know that help is out there.

Teen violence ending in homicide is the second leading cause of death among adolescents and teenagers. An average of fifteen young people are killed every day, usually with firearms, and 750,000 young people are treated in emergency rooms for violence-related injuries each year.

A recent Centers for Disease Control study of high school students found that 33 percent had been in a physical fight in the last year and 17 percent reported that they had taken a weapon to school in the previous 30 days. 15 to 25 percent of youth experience bullying each year.

There Is Help!

ARE YOU BEING BULLIED?

There are many reasons people bully their peers. Maybe it's because you're "different" or maybe it's your sexual orientation, perceived or real. You may be thinking that no one will listen or understand what you're going through. It's possible that you're thinking of leaving home, or worse, hurting yourself. These are all common situations and feelings. We can help and we can help you right now. Before you make your next move, use the helpful hotlines listed in this brochure.

GANG VIOLENCE

What Is A Gang, Anyway?

A gang is a group of people who share a common purpose; engage in criminal activity like drug dealing, graffiti, and violence; and often have a common name, symbol, or color. Gang members frequently hang out together and claim a specific area or "turf."

In A Gang and Want To Get Out?

Many teens have left gangs safely and you can too. If you or a friend are involved in a gang, getting out might seem impossible, but there are things you can do and organizations that are ready to help you. One of the first things you can do is talk to an adult you trust. This may be a teacher, school counselor, parent or other family member, local police officer, gang investigator, or community religious leader. You can also call your local teen crisis hotline. Hopeline (800-442-HOPE) is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Both crisis hotlines can speak with you about your situation, and help you find local resources to help you leave gangs.



RUNNING AWAY

Thinking About Running Away?

Sometimes the problem is fairly obvious, but in the middle of a crisis it's hard to know what's going on. We focus on how to control and manage your crisis situation. A trained front line team member will discuss several options with you and refer you to a local agency or services that can be of assistance. We are here to help you.

Call 1-800-RUNAWAY to talk with someone now.

DATING VIOLENCE

What Do We Mean When We Talk About Dating Violence?



Dating violence isn't an argument every once in a while, or a bad mood after a bad day.

Dating violence (or relationship abuse) is a pattern of violent behavior that someone uses against a girlfriend or boyfriend.

Abuse can cause injury or even death, but it doesn't have to be physical. It can include verbal and emotional abuse — constant insults, isolation from friends and family, name calling, controlling what someone wears — and it can also include sexual abuse.

It can happen to anyone, at any age, no matter what race or religion he or she is, no matter what his or her level of education or economic background. Dating violence also occurs in same-sex relationships.