

Parent/Teen Follow-Up Discussion to the online safety course: Dating Abuse

A 2009 survey found that nearly 10% of adolescents had been hit, slapped, or physically hurt by their boyfriend or girlfriend in the prior year.

Does this statistic surprise you?

Why or why not?

- List some things that you value in a dating relationship.
- How do you get to know someone?
- How do you choose someone to date who has the qualities that you value in a dating relationship?
- Does the length of time you know someone determine how well you know them? Why or why not?
- Does it help to be friends with someone before dating that person?
- What are some examples of emotional abuse, physical abuse, and sexual abuse in a dating relationship?
- Why might teens not know if they are in an abusive relationship?
- Why might abusers not know that they are being abusive?
- What emotions do victims feel?
- What do abusers feel when they are controlling their partner?
- What are “personal boundaries” and how do they relate to dating abuse?
- Why are personal boundaries important?
- Can controlling behavior sometimes feel like love or caring? Why or why not?
- Why do victims often feel that things will get better when they are experiencing abuse?
- What are some ways that you can break-up with someone who is abusing you?
- Can abusers change their behavior themselves?
- What can abusers do if they don't feel good about the way they're acting?