

# Warning Signs of Domestic Violence

## Batterer

These are some characteristics common to perpetrators of domestic violence.

Extreme Jealousy  
Controlling Behavior  
Unpredictable Behavior  
Unrealistic Expectations  
Isolates Victim  
Blames Others  
Minimizes or Denies Abuse  
Hypersensitive

Cruel to Children or Animals  
Uses Force During Sex  
Verbally Abusive  
Sudden Mood Swings  
Past History of Battering  
Threatens Violence  
Breaks or Strikes Objects  
Uses Force During an Argument

## Victim

Victims often display these characteristics. The longer the abuse continues, the more extreme these characteristics become.

Physical Signs of Injury  
Low Self-Esteem  
Depression  
Isolated From Family & Friends  
Blames Self  
Suffers from Anxiety  
Abusive Toward Others

Neglects Self or Children  
Feels Hopeless  
Makes Excuses for Batterer  
Suffers from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder  
Self-Medicates With Drugs or Alcohol



If someone you know needs help, call  
1-800-799-SAFE  
Or

*The Center for Violence Prevention*  
P.O. Box 6279  
Pearl, MS 39288

601-932-4198, 800-266-4198

# **Effects of Domestic Violence on Children**

Children of all ages are negatively impacted by domestic abuse. There are no exceptions to this rule. This is a limited list of consequences some children suffer from abuse in the home.

## **Physical**

Physical Abuse  
Chronic Head Aches  
Stomach or Digestive Problems  
Bedwetting  
Increased or Decreased Appetite  
Trouble Sleeping  
Hair Pulling or Nail Biting  
Developmental Delays

## **Behavioral, Social & Emotional**

Aggressive	Depression
Angry	Low Self-Esteem
Hostile	Nightmares
Oppositional Behavior	Phobias
Fear	Passive or Clingy
Anxiety	Role Reversal
Withdrawal	Poor Impulse Control

## **Cognitive Problems**

Lower Cognitive Functioning  
Poor School Performance  
Lack of Conflict Resolution Skills  
Pro-Violence Attitude  
Belief in Rigid Gender Stereotypes

**Long-term effects on children include a higher rate of adult depression, and an increased tolerance for violence in relationships. Boys raised in abusive homes often grow up to be abusers; and girls raised in abusive homes often grow up to be victims.**