

What is Domestic and Family Violence?

Most people think Domestic and Family Violence involves hitting and other forms of physical abuse... but it is really about an abuse of power, it involves an ongoing pattern of behaviours aimed at controlling one's partner or family member through fear

Domestic and Family Violence occurs when someone in an intimate or family relationship engages in behaviour that causes fear or harm.

Domestic and Family Violence happens within all cultures, all demographic and socio economic groups, at all ages and between de facto and married relationships; within intimate personal relationships including same sex relationships, between family members and within informal care relationships.

A wide range of abusive behaviours can be adopted by people who use domestic violence, and include but are not limited to: -

- Verbal abuse
- Physical abuse
- Social abuse
- Financial abuse
- Damage to personal property
- The use of Psychological abuse
- Spiritual / Cultural abuse
- Stalking
- Sexual Abuse

(A more comprehensive description is available at www.dvconnect.org)

Domestic and Family Violence has an enormous physical, psychological and emotional impact. Domestic and Family Violence can seriously impact a child's development by destroying the safe, secure and loving environment they need to flourish.

Mensline is a free, confidential telephone referral and support service for men who would like to address their own use of violence or who have been victims of violence in their own relationships



We provide professional non judgemental counselling and act as a strategic point of referral for Queensland men around issues of:

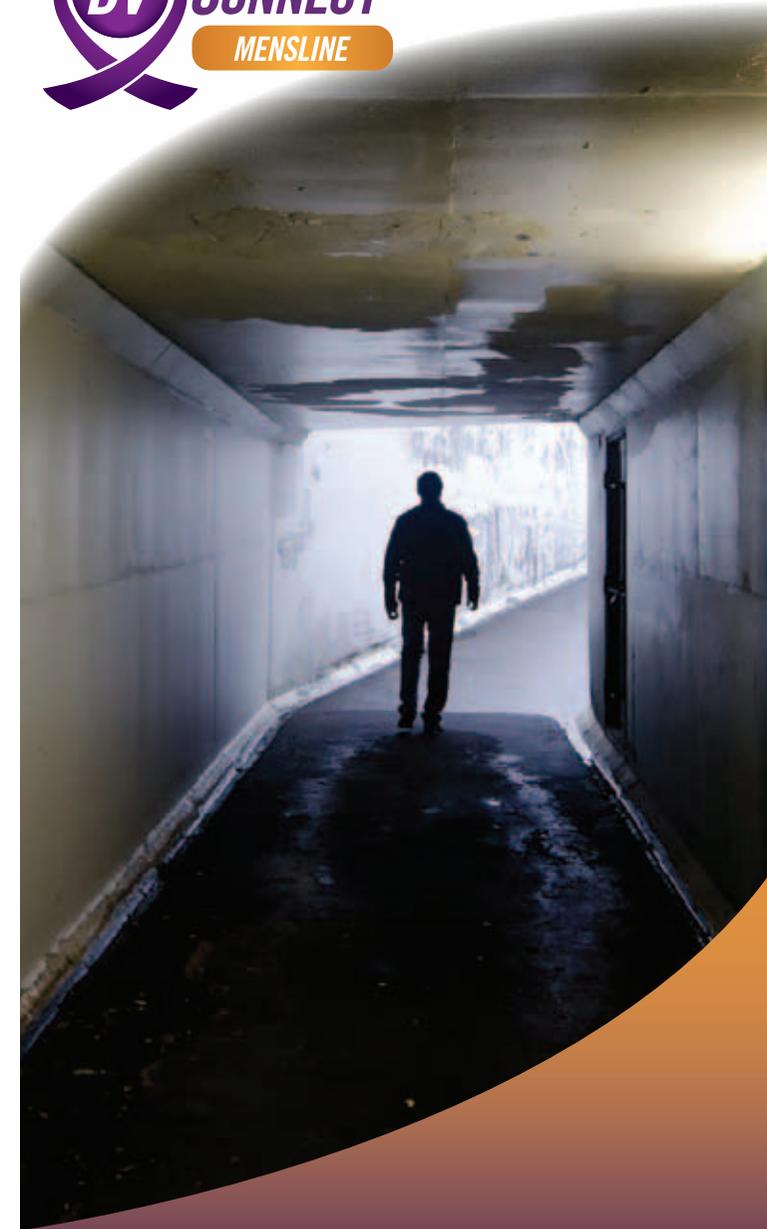
- Domestic and family violence
- Relationship problems and separation issues
- Men's emotional health
- Child support
- Family law issues
- Suicide and other significant issues for men.

Importantly Mensline offers specialist assistance for men who are seeking help and looking for ways to address their own use of violence and other destructive patterns in their personal lives and relationships, as well as those who may be (or have been) victims of violence themselves.

Mensline also receives calls from people seeking information about these, and related issues, such as family members, parents and friends.



DV CONNECT
Anyone can **make the call.**



www.dvconnect.org

1800 600 636

9am to Midnight / 7 days

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Free counselling and support for men affected by domestic or family violence

PO Box 10575 Adelaide Street Brisbane 4000

About Mensline



DVConnect Mensline acknowledges and promotes the notion that not using violence is a choice, and that those men that do choose to use violence can change these behaviours.

We provide professional, non-judgemental safety focused counselling and a referral service for men in Queensland; we actively support men in the following ways:-

- We acknowledge the courage it takes to ask for help to address destructive patterns of behaviour.
- We acknowledge that relationship and other stresses can negatively impact men's behavioural choices.
- We acknowledge and encourage through support, referral and advocacy, all choices that demonstrate full accountability for destructive patterns of family violence.

Have you been accused of using Domestic Violence?

Research suggests that while some men who are violent may think about getting help, the majority of them don't.

There are many reasons why men who have used domestic violence to control their partners or family, do not seek out help.

One of the most common reasons is that they are ashamed, or that they may have tried to get help in the past and it hasn't worked out well, or they just didn't know where to go or who to talk to.

Remember

'Mensline counsellors are experienced in listening to and dealing with men's problems'

Many men who have previously used violence in their personal or family relationships and who choose to get help, can change their behaviours, and they can go on to have healthier and happier relationships

If you have accepted that your violent behaviour has led to problems in your life and have taken the next step to get some help, Mensline can assist you.

You will need to understand that it may take a while for you to sort out your problems, and for your family to learn to trust you again.

You may also have to come to terms with the fact that your partner has the right to end the relationship if they chose.

"Men of quality – respect women's equality"

What we can and cannot do for you

We can - provide you with information and if required telephone counselling about domestic violence (9am – midnight 7 days a week)

We can - provide you with referrals to other suitable services which may be able to assist you.

We can - provide information about Domestic Violence court procedures, and refer you to other legal services

We cannot - support you financially

We cannot - provide you with legal advice, advocate for you, or represent you at court

We cannot - schedule ongoing counselling or 'telephone appointments' with one particular counsellor.



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