

Why Teens Don't Tell Friends or Parents about Dating Violence

They are:

Afraid their parents will make them break up.

Embarrassed and ashamed.

Afraid of getting hurt.

Convinced it is their fault or that their parents will blame them or will be disappointed.

Confused—they may think this is what a relationship is all about.

Afraid of losing privileges like being able to stay out late or use the car.

They:

Have little or no experience with healthy dating relationships.

Believe being involved with someone is the most important thing in their life.

Confuse jealousy with love.

Do not realize they are being abused.

Do not think friends and others would believe this is happening.

Have lost touch with friends.

Know that the abuser acts nice—sometimes.

Battered Women's Project

24-hour hotline

1-800-439-2323 / out of state 207-769-8251