

# Teen Dating Violence Awareness

## Did you Know?

**58%** of parents cannot correctly identify all the warning signs of abuse.

Violent behavior often begins between the ages of **12 and 18**.

Only **33%** of teens who were in an abusive relationship told someone about it.

About **1 in 12** high school students experienced physical and/or sexual abuse.

## Warning Signs of Abuse

- Checking your phone, email, or social media accounts without your permission.
- Putting you down frequently, especially in front of others.
- Isolating you from friends or family (physically, financially, or emotionally).
- Extreme jealousy or insecurity.
- Explosive outbursts, temper, or mood swings.
- Any form of physical harm.
- Possessiveness or controlling behavior.
- Pressuring you or forcing you to have sex.

## How Can I Get Involved?

Empower Bystanders with Ideas on How to Get Help

Help Teens Recognize Warning Signs

Teach Teens to be Assertive

Discuss the Good and the Bad about Relationships

Create a “No Secrets” Policy

Talk About Healthy & Unhealthy Behaviors

Become a Trusted Information Source

Know When to Get Involved



301-475-4330



ST. MARY'S COUNTY  
HEALTH DEPARTMENT



smchd.org