



**Hillsborough  
County**

*Crime prevention and safety tips*

Board of County Commissioners | Criminal Justice Liaison

February 2010

***Dating violence and abuse affects 1 in 3 teens  
in the United States.***

***What Parents and Teens Should Know***

### Teen Dating Violence Facts

- One in five teens report being hit, slapped or pushed by a partner in a relationship.
- More than one in four teenage girls in a relationship report enduring verbal abuse.
- One in three teens say they are text messaged 10 to 30 times an hour by a partner inquiring where they are and what they're doing.
- One in five college females will experience some form of dating violence.
- One in four teens in a relationship say they've been called names, harassed or put down by their partner.
- 38 percent of date rape victims are young females between 14 to 17 years of age.
- 30 percent of females between ages 15-19 murdered each year are killed by their husbands or boyfriends.

### Signs You Should Notice

- Threats
- Emotional, physical or sexual abuse
- Put-downs, insults or verbal abuse
- Making you feel bad about yourself
- Jealousy
- Controlling behavior
- Cruelty to animals or children
- Excessive text messages
- Tells you what clothes to wear, how to wear your hair, who to talk to

## Prevent Teen Dating Violence

***February is National Teen Dating  
Violence Awareness  
and Prevention Month***

### What You Can Do

- Double-date the first few times you go out with someone new.
- Before leaving on a date, make sure you and your parents know the exact plans for the evening.
- If you leave a party with someone you don't know well, make sure you tell someone you are leaving and with whom.
- Memorize key phone numbers of people to contact in an emergency.
- Turn off your phone, block calls or change your number if you are harassed.
- Be careful of pictures you let someone take of you, or send to someone yourself.
- Talk to your parents, or other safe adults like a teacher or school counselor, if you feel threatened.

### Who To Call

- 2-1-1 Tampa Bay
- National Teen Dating Abuse Helpline  
1-866-331-9474
- National Domestic Violence Hotline  
800-799-SAFE (7233)

Hillsborough County Board of County Commissioner goals are to reduce property crime, violent crime and overall crime by 2015. These tips are intended to increase your awareness and help avoid crime. If you have a proven prevention or awareness tip that can be shared, fax it to 813-276-2630 for consideration for a future Crime Prevention and Safety Tip. If you have questions regarding this tip, call 813-276-2033.