

DEFINITION OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE:

It is the violence committed by someone to another person in the same domestic ties. This can occur between partners, relatives, and even divorcees and ex-partners.

Does not necessarily include physical abuse; rather, it encompasses psychological, emotional, sexual, and even financial abuse. Most abusers use domestic violence as a way to gain power over the victim.

It is a repetitive process of abuse where the perpetrator takes over the victim constantly.

MAIN CATEGORIES OF DOMESTIC ABUSE IN THE U.S.:

- **Physical abuse:** includes shoving, kicking, strangling, hair pulling, hitting, scalding/burning, punching
- **Sexual abuse:** consists of forced sex, sexual assault, sexual threats, rape, child sexual abuse, incest, and intimate partner sexual abuse
- **Emotional abuse** (also known as psychological abuse): consists of threats, manipulation, lies, stalking, insults, public embarrassment, sarcasm, appearance prospects,
- **Economic abuse:** denying the victim access to bank accounts and other financial platforms

SEVERAL TYPES
ARE INCLUDED IN
THIS DEFINITION,
SUCH AS:

Physical abuse: Involves violent behavior such as hitting, beating, punching, slapping, cutting, burning, pinching, etc. It may also include denial of medical treatment or coercion to use alcohol and drugs

Emotional abuse: Means deflating or invalidating the self-worth and self-esteem of the victim through constant criticism and insults.

Sexual abuse: Occurs when the abuser forces/coerces the victim into sexual behavior or contact without her consent; marital rape, physical violence followed by forced sex or sexual teasing

Psychological abuse: This is when an abuser invokes fear through intimidation, threatens to hurt himself and others, isolate himself from loved ones, and prohibit the victim from going to work or school

Economic abuse: Occurs when the abuser tries to or makes the victim financially dependent

Stalking: includes following the victim, observing, harassing, spying, sending gifts, gathering information, showing up at work or school, etc.

Threats: to hurt, hit or use a weapon.

Cyber bullying: the online action or repeated sending of emails that inflicts significant emotional distress on the recipient.