

Barbara Ball: Understanding School Prevention Policies

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On-line Resources for Teens and Adults.

Below is a listing of on-line resources for teens and adults on preventing teen dating violence.

Start Strong Austin: <http://www.startstrongaustin.org>

Start Strong Austin is a collaboration of school and community partners working together to promote safe and healthy teen relationships and prevent teen dating abuse. Austin is one of 11 sites in the United States participating in the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's Start Strong: Building Healthy Teen Relationship Initiative. Through this community-wide effort we are engaging community partners, strengthening youth leadership and utilizing innovative media strategies to build healthy teen relationships.

SafePlace's Expect Respect Program <http://www.safeplace.org/expectrespect>

SafePlace exists to end sexual and domestic violence through safety, healing and prevention. Serving Austin, Texas since 1974. SafePlace assists men, women and children who have been hurt by violence or abuse. Services include a 24-hour hotline, family shelter, counseling, supportive housing, legal services, disability services, and other programs. The Expect Respect Program works with youth in schools and community settings to build healthy teen relationships and prevent dating and sexual violence.

Choose Respect: <http://www.chooserespect.org>.

Choose Respect is a national campaign to motivate adolescents to challenge harmful beliefs about dating abuse and to take steps to form respectful relationships. The website has useful information for teens, parents and teachers, including: fact sheets, television and radio spots, videos for teens and parents, a teacher discussion guide, activity ideas, and clickable quizzes that inspire youth to choose respect.

That's Not Cool : <http://www.thatsnotcool.com>

Thatsnotcool.com is an interactive website for youth that aims to raise awareness about digital dating abuse. It addresses problems like unwanted and disrespectful texting, pressuring for nude pictures, and breaking into someone's e-mail or social networking page. The site includes a discussion board, videos, and callout cards.

A Thin Line: www.athinline.org

Sponsored by MTV, this campaign aims to stop the spread of digital abuse among teenagers by tackling issues like sexting, textual harassment and cyberbullying. A Thin Line is designed to raise awareness and spark conversation so that youth can recognize, respond to, and stop digital abuse on their cell phones and the Web.

The National Teen Dating Abuse Helpline www.loveisrespect.org

Sponsored by Liz Claiborne, Inc., [loveisrespect.org](http://www.loveisrespect.org) and the National Teen Dating Abuse Helpline offer real-time, one-on-one support from Peer Advocates for youth, parents, teachers, clergy, law enforcement, and service providers. The **National Teen Dating Abuse Helpline** is a 24-hour resource that can be accessed by phone or the internet, specifically designed for teens and young adults. **Call 866.331.9474 ; 866.331.8453 TTY.**

Love Is Respect: www.loveisrespect.org

Love is Respect, sponsored by Liz Claiborne, Inc., provides activities and campaigns for youth.

Love Is Not Abuse: www.loveisnotabuse.org

Liz Claiborne's other site provides information and tools for men, women, and teens concerned with ending domestic violence. Visit the "**Just for Teens**" section of the website for valuable information on subjects like relationship abuse, warning signs, talking to adults, breaking up, girl/guy talk and lots more or check out the **Love Is Not Abuse curriculum**. Seeking to help parents take a more proactive role in preparing their teens for relationships, Liz Claiborne launched **MADE: Moms and Dads for Education to Stop Teen Dating Abuse**.

Break the Cycle: www.breakthecycle.org

Break the Cycle engages, educates and empowers youth to build lives and communities free from domestic and dating violence. Break the Cycle programs provide help, tools and information to help young people live violence-free lives. **The SafeSpace** (a project of Break the Cycle) is a great resource for teens seeking information and support. Visit: <http://www.thesafespace.org> to see for yourself.

Think B4 You Speak: www.thinkb4youspeak.com

Lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) teens experience homophobic remarks and harassment throughout the school day, creating an atmosphere where they feel disrespected, unwanted and unsafe. Homophobic remarks such as “that’s so gay” are the most commonly heard. Thinkb4youspeak.com aims to raise awareness about homophobia in America’s schools and to create a more positive environment for LGBT teens. The site includes fact sheets, discussion boards, ecards, personal stories and videos, and ideas for taking action.

Coaching Boys Into Men: www.coaches-corner.org

Athletic coaches play an extremely influential role in the lives of boys and young men. Because of these special relationships, coaches can have a powerful and positive influence how young men think and behave both on, and off, the field. The Coaching Boys Into MenSM campaign invites men to help shape the attitudes and behaviors of young male athletes by teaching boys about respect for women and girls and that violence never equals strength.

Men Can Stop Rape: www.mencanstoprape.org

Men Can Stop Rape mobilizes boys and young men to prevent men’s violence against women. Young men are taught to rethink traditional ideas about masculinity and male strength and to see themselves as allies to women and girls in supporting gender equality in relationships.

GLSEN: www.glsen.org

GLSEN, the Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network, aims to ensure safe schools for all students, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity/expression. GLSEN seeks to develop school climates where difference is valued for the positive contribution it makes in creating a more vibrant and diverse community. GLSEN works to educate teachers, students and the public at large about the damaging effects of homophobia and heterosexism on youth and adults alike.

Family Violence Prevention Fund: www.endabuse.org/section/programs/teens

The Family Violence Prevention Fund is doing innovative work to address teen dating violence across the nation. Through work with teens, teachers, parents, coaches, and public service campaigns, the FVPF helps to stop relationship violence before it ever begins. The website includes fact sheets, resources on creating a teen safety plan, and more valuable information on the issue of teen dating violence.

Know the Red Flags <http://www.knowtheredflags.com>

Know the Red Flags is a project of the Texas Council on Family Violence (TCFV) and is designed to help teens and young adults form healthy relationships by learning to spot and deal with the warning signs of dating violence. The website includes facts and Texas specific statistics about dating abuse, a relationship quiz, news and tools, links to other on-line resources, PSAs, and a helpful Q&A section.