

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IS A CRIME IN SOUTH CAROLINA

South Carolina law states that it is unlawful to cause physical harm to a spouse, former spouse, parent of your child or partner in an intimate relationship.

Additionally it is unlawful to threaten to cause physical harm if the person making the threat has the ability and opportunity to carry it out, thereby causing fear on the part of the person threatened.

SOUTH CAROLINA VICTIMS' RIGHTS

1. You have the right to be treated with fairness and respect and to be protected from intimidation or harm throughout the criminal and juvenile justice process.
2. You have the right to be informed about victims' rights, criminal proceedings and the release or escape of the accused.
3. You have the right to be heard at bond, bail, release, pleas, or sentencing.
4. You have the right to reasonable access to documents relating to the crime.
5. You have the right to be present at criminal proceedings where the accused can be present and confer with prosecution before the case is heard in court.
6. You have the right to restitution from adult or juvenile offenders.

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CODA SERVICES

CODA is a private, non-profit organization. Its services are available to victims of domestic violence in Beaufort, Colleton, Hampton and Jasper counties.

In addition to court advocacy and legal assistance, CODA operates a 24-hour crisis line and offers safe shelter in its modern, comfortable facility.

CODA provides counseling for victims and their children in both individual and group settings.

Case managers assist with practical issues such as housing, employment and day care.

Services are available to not only shelter residents but also victims of domestic violence not currently in need of shelter.

CODA's community educators are available for presentations tailored to community, business, school and/or church groups.

*All CODA Services are
Confidential and Free of Charge.*



P. O. Box 1775
Beaufort, SC 29901

24-Hour Crisis Lines:
843-770-1070 or 800-868-2632

Administrative Line:
843-770-1074

E-mail: executivedirector@codabft.com

Web: codalowcountry.org

Fax: 843-770-1084



CODA provides equal opportunity in employment and client services and does not discriminate on the basis of age, disability, race, ethnicity, sex, gender, sexual orientation, pregnancy, religion, national origin or veteran status.

Court Advocacy



Are you a victim of domestic violence?

Do you know your legal rights?

C O D A
SUPPORTING VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

ARE YOU BEING ABUSED?

Does the person you love...

...grab, push, kick, strangle or hit you?

...threaten to hurt you or your children?

...try to isolate you from family or friends?

...put you down in front of others?

...jealously monitor your activities?

...blame you for his or her anger?

Do you...

...feel frightened to leave?

...always do what your partner wants?

...walk on “eggshells” trying not to do anything that would make your partner angry?

...believe that your partner would change if you behaved “better?”

If you've answered “yes” to just one question, you may be in an abusive relationship.

But, you are not alone and you have choices!

To explore your options and learn more about domestic violence, contact CODA:

843-770-1070 or 800-868-2632
coda@lowcountry.org

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Domestic Violence (DV) is an intentional pattern of behavior that uses physical, emotional, psychological, sexual and/or economic abuse to maintain power over another person.

DV occurs in every neighborhood, among people of all races, ages and economic backgrounds.



One in four women will experience DV during her life.

In the United States, more than three women are murdered by their partners every day.

The mental health consequences of DV include depression, anxiety disorders, suicide, eating disorders and substance abuse.

Children who witness abuse can grow up to be victims or batterers themselves. Studies show that 50% of men who frequently assault their wives abuse their children.

Keep yourself and your children safe! Get help!

HOW CAN CODA'S LEGAL TEAM HELP YOU?

CODA'S legal staff consists of an attorney and a court advocate. They can....

...give you information about SC laws and what to expect when you enter the legal system;

...alert you to measures you can take to safeguard your rights and property;

...obtain copies of police reports and alert you to times and dates of bond hearings;

...help you to prepare for and accompany you to bond hearings and court sessions;

...help you obtain a “No Contact Order” that will prohibit your abuser from contacting you in person, by phone, e-mail or through friends and family;

...help you obtain a Family Court “Order of Protection” granting temporary custody of your home and/or your children and allow for child support;

...work with local victims' advocates and law enforcement on your behalf;

...give you 911-ready cell phones;

...help you file for victim's compensation funds;

...refer you to legal aid clinics or attorneys for cases beyond CODA's scope.