

The prevalence of domestic violence among Gay and Lesbian couples is approximately 25 - 33%. It is as common as it is in heterosexual relationships. (Barnes, It's Just a Quarrel', American Bar Association Journal, February 1998, p. 25.)

Each year, between 50,000 and 100,000 Lesbian women and as many as 500,000 Gay men are battered. (Murphy, Queer Justice: Equal Protection for Victims of Same-Sex Domestic Violence, 30 Val. U. L. Rev. 335 (1995).)

While same-sex battering mirrors heterosexual battering both in type and prevalence, its victims receive fewer protections. (Barnes, It's Just a Quarrel', American Bar Association Journal, February 1998, p. 24.)

More recent statistics concerning abuse in LGBT relationships are few and far between because little research is done on the topic. Abuse is a threat to all communities, so this standard needs to change. Help AVH in its Abuse Victim Awareness Campaign. Abuse should NOT be a silent issue for any demographic.

Visit:
www.avhotline.org
for more information

The Abuse Victim Hotline, Inc.'s vision, leadership, and action empower people to advance their roles, rights and well being. AV Hotline provides support services to survivors of domestic and sexual violence. We serve people without regard to age, gender, race, religion, sexual orientation, ethnicity, color or ability. We educate and inform children, youth and the community at large to prevent and eliminate the causes of domestic and sexual violence.

Our services are
CONFIDENTIAL
and provided
FREE of charge.

ABUSE VICTIM HOTLINE

500 BEACH STREET

REVERE, MA 02151

1.866.MOBILELAW

Office Phone: (781) 656-0370

www.AVHotline.org

Abuse Does Not Discriminate



Abuse is just as common in LGBT relationships as it is in the straight community

For **Free**, **Confidential**
Legal Advice and
Counsel, contact the
**Abuse Victim
Hotline**

By phone: **1.866.MobileLaw**

By email: **help@avhotline.org**

www.avhotline.org

Abuse is an issue of power

Abuse is:

Physical- physical force to harm, withholding medication, denying someone basic necessities (food/water, shelter, sleep)

Emotional- verbal abuse, threats, controlling social life

Sexual- rape, unwanted touching, exposure to STDs

Economic- controlling funds and property, stealing, fraud, extortion

Abuse specific to the LGBT community:

Personal: using personal information such as one's sexual orientation, gender, and HIV/AIDS status as a means of control

-The fear of being "outed" causes many in the LGBT community to withstand abuse

-The fear of being discriminated against by legal/criminal authorities causes many to internalize the abuse and let it go unreported

If you or a loved one has been abused, contact the

Abuse Victim Hotline

For FREE, CONFIDENTIAL, Legal Advice and Counsel

1.866.MOBILELAW

confidential email:

HELP@AVHOTLINE.ORG

Abuse Victim Hotline takes great pride in its confidentiality standards. AVH follows HIPAA standards, but more importantly, AVH acknowledges the fact that

You reserve the right to your own privacy

www.avhotline.org

People of all sexual orientations, all colors, all ages and all socio-economic backgrounds can be subject to abuse.

You are more than your sexual identity. You are a person. As a person, you deserve to feel and to be safe.

Abuse Victim Hotline, Inc. welcomes, respects, and values diversity. We believe that as an organization that supports inclusion, we utilize the unique talents of all people to the greatest extent. By integrating and appreciating diversity, we support our mission to create a safer community and better world.