

County Family Justice Center

If you need to talk, we are here to help.

Bexar County Family Justice Center 126 E. Nueva, 2nd Floor San Antonio, Texas 78204

Phone: (210) 631-0100 Fax: (210) 631-0199

Website: www.bcfjc.org

Assisting
Victims in their
Journey from
Survivorto

Bexar County
Family Justice Center

Phase 1: Tens and arguing Phase 3: Honeymoon stage fordiveness, promises

**CYCLE OF** 

Where in the Have you seen this

# **VIOLENCE**

cycle are you? pattern in your relationship?

# **MY SAFETY PLAN**

# **IMPORTANT NUMBERS**

Police Emergency Number 9-1-1

Battered Women's Shelter (210) 733-8810

Texas Department of Family and Protective Services 1-800-252-5400

The Rape Crisis Center Hotline (210) 349-RAPE (7273)

Bexar County Criminal District Attorney's Office-Victim Assistance Division

(210) 335-2105

Bexar County Sheriff's Office (210) 335-6000

Victim Information & Notification Everyday (VINE) 1-877-894-8463

# **SAFETY TIPS**

No one deserves to be abused! If at any time you feel threatened or are being abused, dial 9-1-1 immediately! These tips have been designed to help you with your situation.

### Tip 1: Preparing for a violent incident

- When with the abuser, try to keep away from rooms containing dangerous objects, such as the kitchen or bathroom.
- Identify rooms with an exit. Know which doors, windows, elevators or stairwells to use.
- Keep a packed bag with a friend, a relative or a neighbor. Be sure to include copies of important documents.
- Tell one or more neighbors about the violence and ask them to call the police if they notice/hear a disturbance.
- Create a code word to use with your children, family, friends and neighbors when you need the police.
- Have a plan! Know where you will go if you decide to leave your home.

## Tip 2: Preparing to leave

- Get your own post office box.
- Open a checking/savings account in your name.
- Leave money, an extra set of keys, copies of important documents, extra clothes and/or medicine in a safe place or with someone you trust.
- Identify a friend or relative willing to provide a safe place for you and your children to stay or who can lend you money.
- Always keep with you important numbers and some change or a calling card for emergency phone calls.
- If you have pets, make arrangements for them to be cared for in a safe place.

### Tip 3: Safety with a Protective Order

- Always keep a copy of your protective order with you, including in your car, at work, at home and with close relatives.
- Inform family members, friends, and neighbors that you have a protective order in effect.
- Call the police if your abuser violates the protective order.
- Always have a backup plan you can use while waiting on the police to respond.
- Always ask for police report numbers after calling the police.

### Tip 4: Safety in your day to day life

- Keep all windows and doors locked.
- Develop a safety plan with your children.
- Inform your child(ren)'s school, day care, or anyone who cares for your children what individuals have permission to pick up your children.
- Inform neighbors if your abuser no longer lives with you and ask them to call the police should they see the abuser.
- Request to have your telephone number unlisted/unpublished.
- Never call the abuser from your home or tell him where you live.

### Tip 5: Safety on the job and in public

- Have someone with you at all times.
- Use a variety of routes to and from home each day.
- At work, inform management, a co-worker and security of your situation and if possible provide them with a picture of your abuser.
- If possible, make arrangements to have calls screened.

# **CHECKLIST**

Be sure to have the following items when you leave:

### Identification

- □ Driver's License
- □ Birth Certificate
- □ Child(ren)'s Birth Certificate(s)/Photos
- □ Social Security Cards
- □ Military ID Cards

### **Financial**

- □ Social Security Cards
- □ Money and/or Credit Cards (in your name)
- □ Checking and/or Savings Account Books
- □ Other identifying Financial Information
- □ Safe Deposit Box Key

### **Legal Papers**

- □ Protective Order
- □ Divorce/Custody Papers
- □ Marriage License
- □ Lease/Rental Agreement
- □ House Deed
- □ Car Registration and Insurance Papers
- □ Health and Life Insurance Papers
- □ Medical Records for you and your Children
- □ School Records
- □ Work permits/Green Card/Visa Passport

### Other

- □ Medications
- □ House and Car keys
- □ Valuable Jewelry
- □ Address Book
- □ Change of clothes for you and your Children