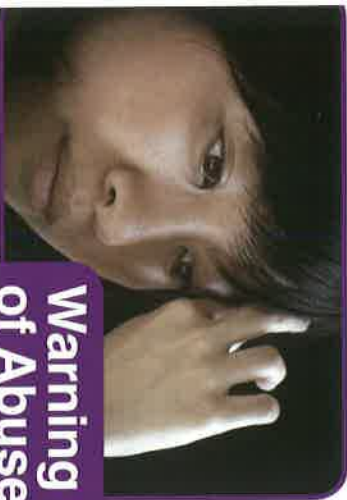


What is abuse?

There is no single cause of family violence. However, research indicates that some people use abuse as a way to deal with stress and attempt to control others.



Warning Signs of Abuse

Is your partner or family member...

- Extremely Jealous?
- Quick to get angry?
- Isolating you from others?

Does your partner or family member...

- Verbally abuse, insult, or humiliate you?
- Control your behavior?
- Threaten you with physical harm?
- Use any form of physical force against you?

What happens to the children?

Children raised in violent homes suffer greatly. Children receive the message that such behavior is acceptable. 60% of the children raised in violent homes grow up to repeat the cycle as either survivor or abuser.

What services does SAFE offer?

We have trained crisis intervention staff who will assist the survivor with available options.



The agency may also be able to provide the survivor with the following:

- Temporary shelter for survivors and their dependent children
- Protective Order technical assistance
- Information about legal rights and referrals to legal aid
- Court escort and support
- Individual and group support
- Housing opportunities
- Referral to other community resources



SAFE advocates can meet survivors in multiple locations throughout the four parishes. Call the Hammond office at (985) 542-8384 for appointments.

What can you do?

Domestic violence can have a devastating effect on the entire family. Living with years of abuse can cause severe trauma. With continued hope and assistance from professionals, families can start to heal and rebuild their lives.



• **SAFE** advocates are available for information and assistance 24/7.

• You have the right to call Law Enforcement to protect your children and yourself.

• **SAFE** can assist you if you need to leave home.

• **SAFE** can assist you with obtaining a Protective Order.

• Opportunities for professional counseling are available with a counselor trained in Domestic Violence.

• **SAFE** can assist you with accessing legal services.

It may be dangerous to remain in or return to the home if you and the children are not safe there.