

Resources:

The 519 (416) 392-6874

www.the519.org

Assaulted Women's Helpline (416)
863-0511 or call 1-866-863-0511

www.awhl.org

David Kelly Counselling Services
(416) 595-9618

Distress Lines (416) 408-4357

www.torontodistresscentre.com

Gerstein Centre (416) 929-5200

www.gersteincentre.org

Ontario Aboriginal HIV/AIDS
Strategy (416) 944-9481 or 1-800-
743-8851 www.oahas.org

Tumivet Youth Shelter (416) 651-6750
www.nameres.org

Yorktown Family Shelter (416) 394-
2960

www.yorktownfamilyservices.com

2 Spirited People of the 1st Nations

43 Elm street, 2nd floor
Toronto, Ontario, M5G 1H1
Phone (416) 944-9300
Fax (416) 944-8381

<http://www.2spirits.com>

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of Attorney General*

Two Spirit People

(Aboriginal Women,
Men, Youth, & Trans
Identified community)

Do experience
Domestic
Violence...
Is it happening to
you?

**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IS AN ACT OF
UNWANTED AND ABUSIVE
BEHAVIOUR. IT CAN INCLUDE:
MENTAL, EMOTIONAL, SPIRITUAL,
FINANCIAL AND PHYSICAL ABUSE. IT
ALSO CAN BE MATERIAL AND
PROPERTY DESTRUCTION. IT IS
CARRIED OUT BY A PARTNER, LOVER,
GIRLFRIEND/BOYFRIEND, A RELATIVE,
OR A GUARDIAN AGAINST THE
PERSON BEING HARMED.**

How Do I know I am being abused?

What is Abuse?

Domestic Violence assumes that
the individuals have some sort of
relationship and share the same
living space (i.e. partner, lover,
girlfriend, boyfriend etc).
However, you do not have to be
living with your intimate partner
to experience domestic violence
and the abuse does not always
occur in the home.

WHAT ARE SOME RESULTS OF ABUSE?

Bruises
Black Eyes
Broken bones
Cuts
Scratches on the body
Feelings of fear
Feelings of lowered self-esteem
Feelings of lowered self worth
Feelings of Isolation
Feelings of shame
Feelings of self-doubt

IF YOU ARE BEING ABUSED YOU NEED TO KNOW

You are not to blame for the
violence
You do not deserve to be
abused
You have a right to live without
fear
You cannot control the abusers
behavior
Abuse always gets worse over
time

WHAT YOU CAN DO

Tell someone what is happening
to you

Call for counseling and support

Make a plan in case you have to
leave: Set aside extra sets of
keys, I.D., eye-glasses, bank
card, money, address book,
medications, quarters, extra
clothing, copies of important
documents. Keep them in a safe
place outside your home

Find a safe place to go i.e. a
shelter, or a supportive friend or
relative.

- 60% of Two Spirit women have experienced homophobia in their communities
- 60% of Two Spirit women didn't know where to go for social service agencies
- 70% of Two Spirit women practice safe sex
- 73% of Two Spirit women feel their identities important
- 73% of Two Spirit women want to know how to protect themselves from abuse
- 75% of Two Spirit women have been stalked by their partners
- 80% of Two Spirit women sought out counseling more than one occasion
- Two Spirit women do not feel welcome at social services agencies as a result of racism and sexism

- 50% of men could not access social services because of no transportation
- 70% of men live in poverty and are unemployed
- 70% of men in the last year were forced to have sex against their will
- 70% of men have sought out counseling BUT felt they could not disclose abuse at social services were not culturally sensitive or validating!
- 73% of men want to know how to protect themselves from abuse!
- 73% want financial stability but 7 out of 10 men are on ODSP!

(Please refer to the final report on Domestic Violence).

- 60% of Trans members had their partners stalk them
- 1 in 3 trans members are afraid to access social services because of homophobia, racism & homophobia
- 70% were able to access counseling BUT only 1 felt safe to disclose abuse to social service agencies
- 78% of Trans members feel pride in their cultural background BUT 1 in 4 have been put down, criticized or ridiculed for their racial identity
- Trans community members do not feel included in social service agencies because of the language used at the agency or by the staff's insensitivity

staff, volunteers & in decision making positions of the agency

- Help Two Spirit & Trans community members by listening to & believing their experiences
- Provide Two Spirit & Trans community members with safety planning
- Validate Two Spirit & Trans community member's experiences
- Be respectful of Two Spirit & Trans community members
- Be non-judgmental
- Be culturally sensitive
- Be accessible

Elders need to:

- Acknowledge & validate VIOLENCE in Two Spirit & Trans community member's relationships
- Recognize that native communities have Two Spirit & Trans community members
- Provide spiritual guidance for Two Spirit & Trans Community members
- Be Accepting & non-judgmental