What is the Impact of Teen Dating Violence?

Survivors of teen dating violence may experience a wide range of emotional, psychological, social, and health issues

Emotional and Psychological Issues

- Depression and anxiety
- Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and difficulty concentrating
- Contemplated or attempted suicide
- Stress, anger, hurt, and/or fear
- Lowered self-esteem
- For LGBTQ survivors, feelings of isolation due to discrimination, homophobia, and a lack of services available to this community

in a relationship can
shatter a teenager's belief that
she is a worthy, decent, and independent
person who can cope with life in a mature,
self-assertive fashion. For the teen victim,
the world becomes a frightening, confusing
place where understanding how things are
supposed to work is called into question.
The victim's sense of her ability to protect
herself and function autonomously
is undermined."1

Evidence suggests that the consequences of Teen Dating Violence tend to be greater for girls compared to boys, but it affects students regardless of race, income, sexual identity, religion,

Social and Health Issues

- Limited contact with peers, family, and other organizations, resulting in social isolation
- Increased likelihood of engagement in unhealthy and antisocial behaviors such as:
 - o Drug, alcohol, and/or tobacco use
 - Eating disorders
 - o Unsafe sex
- Possibility of sustained injuries such as bruises, broken bones, cuts, lacerations, and concussions
- Female high school survivors of TDV are:
 - 4 to 6 times more likely to get pregnant than non-survivor
 - 3 times more likely to have been tested for Sexual Transmitted Infections and HIV than non-survivors
 - o More than twice as likely to have an STI than non-survivor

References

¹Button, D. M., and Miller, S. L. (2013). Teen dating relationships and outcomes of well-being: Examining gender differences in nonviolent and violent dating relationships. Women and Criminal Justice, 23(3), 247-265; Roberts, S. (2001). Bullying and dating violence: Effective intervention and prevention in Multnomah County. (n.d.). Multnomah County Domestic Violence Coordinator's Office: Portland, OR. http://bit.ly/173xt30; Promote Prevent. (2011). Teen dating violence: Prevention, identification, and intervention. http://bit.ly/173yyzv; "Dating violence in LGBTQ communities." (n.d.). <a href="http://bit.ly/17bit.l



