

## SELBUC VICTIM OF CRIME SUPPORT SERVICES



February is Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month, a national effort in the United States to raise awareness about abuse in teen and 20-something relationships and promote programs that prevent it. Because everyone deserves a safe and healthy relationship.

### DID YOU KNOW:

- **Girls and young women between the ages of 16 and 24 experience the highest rate of intimate partner violence — almost triple the national average.**
- **89% of college students report that they are not confident in their ability to recognize the warning signs of dating abuse.**
- **1 in 3 teens in the U.S. will experience physical, sexual or emotional abuse by someone they are in a relationship with before they become adults.**
- **Only 33% of teens who were in a violent relationship ever told anyone about the abuse.**

### Red Flags in Teenage Relationships

**Unhealthy or abusive relationships take many forms, and there is not one specific behavior that causes a relationship to be categorized as such. However, there are certain behaviors that should be cause for concern. Behaviors that should raise a red flag include:**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Excessive jealousy or insecurity;</li> <li>• Invasions of your privacy;</li> <li>• Unexpected bouts of anger or rage;</li> <li>• Unusual moodiness;</li> <li>• Pressuring a partner into unwanted sexual activity;</li> <li>• Blaming you for problems in the relationship and not taking any responsibility for the same;</li> <li>• Controlling tendencies;</li> <li>• Explosive temper;</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preventing you from going out with or talking to other people;</li> <li>• Constantly monitoring your whereabouts and checking in to see what you are doing and who you are with;</li> <li>• Falsely accusing you of things;</li> <li>• Vandalizing or ruining your personal property;</li> <li>• Taunting or bullying; or</li> <li>• Threatening or causing physical violence.</li> </ul>
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If your partner frequently engages in these behaviors it may be wise to speak with someone with whom you feel comfortable. Adults (parent, teacher, counselor) may be able to provide advice that can help you to determine if you are in any danger

**or call our office for help (609) 518-7171.**

**Your call is confidential.**