

What is family violence?

Family violence is abuse or violence that occurs between intimate partners or family members. It takes many different forms and involves the abuse of power and the betrayal of trust.

It crosses all socio-economic, religious and ethno-cultural boundaries.

Some of the common terms used to describe family violence are; domestic abuse, spouse abuse, violence against women, elder abuse, domestic violence and battery.

**You are not alone.
Everyone deserves to live
free from violence. Abuse
is a choice, so is respect.**

What is the Coalition Against Family Violence?

The Coalition (CAFV) is a territorial interagency group that brings together individuals, non-government and government agencies to share information and undertake projects in keeping with the vision. The Coalition meets once a month; specific project committees also meet at least monthly



The CAFV Vision

The CAFV envisions a peaceful, equitable society where all Territorial residents, as individuals,

members of families, communities, organizations or governments, are valued, respected, safe and free from abuse, violence, and inequalities.

More Information

Coalition Against Family Violence
NWT c/o Status of Women Council
NWT

Box 1320

Yellowknife NT X1A 2L9

Phone Toll Free: 1.888.234.4485

Phone Yellowknife: 1.867.920.6177

Fax: 1.867.873.0285

Email: council@statusofwomen.nt.ca

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Different Types of Abuse

Bruises may be easier to see, but there are many types of family violence including:

- **Physical Abuse:** Hurting family members;
- **Psychological Abuse:** Threatening members of the family, destroying their things or making them afraid for their safety;
- **Emotional Abuse:** Treating a person in a way that wears down their confidence and self-esteem.
- **Financial Abuse:** Forcing family members to give up money or things;
- **Abusive Control:** dictating adult family members daily activities and who they can talk to;
- **Sexual Abuse:** Unwanted touching, being forced to do something sexual or rape;
- **Neglect:** Failure to provide adequate care to those that cannot care for themselves;
- **Stalking:** Repeated, unwanted, contact towards you or anyone known to you;
- **Familial Homicide:** Serious physical harm resulting in death by a family member;
- **Cyber Abuse:** Use of the Internet and related technologies including cell phones to harm, in a deliberate, repeated, and hostile manner; and
- **Witnessing/Exposure to Violence:** Witnessing violence towards a family member.

If you are experiencing any of these please call your local RCMP or shelter.

The Definition of Family in the Context of Family Violence

When we refer to family, we are speaking about anyone who has an intimate affiliation with the person that they are choosing to abuse. This could be an older adult such as a grandparent, or it could be a child. Family could be a couple that is living together, a boyfriend/girlfriend, or same sex partners. This can also include brothers and sisters, aunts and uncles. The term family in this context is not just limited to the "nuclear" definition of family; it encompasses the whole family dynamic such as extended family and blended family members.

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