

# INTRODUCTION

Each year in America, approximately 4 million women are battered by their partners. Domestic abuse affects people of all socioeconomic, racial, ethnic, and religious groups. Children from homes where domestic violence occurs suffer physical abuse or neglect at a much higher rate than the national average.

Even if not physically harmed themselves, children who witness abuse suffer emotional trauma. They may experience confusion, stress and fear...which can lead to stress-induced health problems. Domestic abuse is a crime and can result in the abuser being removed or restrained from the home and/or jailed.

**WHEN THERE IS ABUSE  
IN THE RELATIONSHIP,  
NO ONE WINS.**

**IT HURTS EVERYONE.**

[JBWS.ORG](http://JBWS.ORG)

# REACH OUT & HELP

Show **C-O-N-C-E-R-N** for those friends or family members who may be hurting from abuse. Say "I'm **C**oncerned about you" to open the conversation. Share specific **O**bservations that identify the pattern of control. Tell them **N**o one deserves to be abused. Assure them that the services of JBWS are **C**onfidential. **E**mpathize with the complexity of feelings when abused. Ask "R you safe?" **N**aming the problem as a pattern of abuse can lead to help.

Helpline staff are available to talk about any concerns and to help with safety planning.

**END THE SILENCE.**  
**CALL 973-267-4763**  
**or 1-877-R-U-ABUSED**  
24-Hour Confidential Helpline

JBWS is a private, nonprofit agency  
located in Morris County, New Jersey.  
Fax: 973-605-5898 • Adm: 973-267-7520  
A United Way Member Agency



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# GENERAL INFORMATION



Helping those hurt  
by domestic abuse



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# WHAT IS DOMESTIC ABUSE?

Domestic abuse is when one person controls or coerces the other in an intimate relationship. Types of abuse include physical, verbal, emotional, economic, and sexual, as well as intimidation and threats of violence.

## WHO ARE THE VICTIMS?

Most victims of reported domestic violence cases are women abused by men. However, there are reported cases of women who abuse their male intimate partners, women who abuse women, and men who abuse men. A person may be a victim even if he/she is not legally married to the abusive partner, is gay or lesbian, separated or divorced, or is abused by someone else in the household, such as a parent, sibling or child.

## WHY DOESN'T THE VICTIM LEAVE?

Most victims want to leave, and many try to leave. Sometimes their partner uses intimidation and violence to stop them, and they fear retaliation. Victims don't stay because they like or need the abuse. They stay, hoping the violence will end, because they are financially dependent on the abuser, lack alternative housing, or are trying to keep the family together. They stay hoping change is possible.

# SERVICES OFFERED BY JBWS

- 24-hour, free and confidential helpline
- Emergency safe house for women and their children\*
- Counseling and legal assistance
- Children's services\*
- Transitional housing
- Life-skills education
- Vocational counseling
- Community education
- Training for professionals
- Teenage dating abuse prevention
- Primary prevention
- Batterers' intervention

\*Funding, in part, by the Morris County Board of Chosen Freeholders

More than 75 paid staff and 100 volunteers work together with the help of the community to fulfill the agency mission.

# ABOUT JBWS

In 1976, a small group of women in Morris County began a hotline to aid victims of domestic violence. When two of those callers were murdered by their husbands, the need for a confidential shelter became urgent.

From its grass-roots beginnings, Jersey Battered Women's Service opened its safe house doors to the community in late December 1978. Now, JBWS is a full-service, private, nonprofit domestic violence agency.

The mission of JBWS is the prevention of domestic violence through the protection and empowerment of the victim, the rehabilitation of family members, and the education of the public about domestic violence and its consequences.

**OUR VISION IS TO CREATE A COMMUNITY-WIDE CULTURE THAT REFUSES TO TOLERATE THE PRESENCE OF ANY FORM OF FAMILY OR PARTNER VIOLENCE.**

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