LIFEWIRE™
Together Against Domestic Violence

Supporting LGBTQIA2S+ Survivors

People of all sexual orientations and gender identities deserve to be safe, respected and loved in their intimate relationships. You are not alone.

- 26 percent of gay men and 37 percent of bisexual men experience domestic violence compared to 29 percent of heterosexual men
- 44 percent of lesbians and 61 percent of bisexual women experience rape, physical violence, or stalking by an intimate partner, compared to 35 percent of straight women
- 1 in 2 trans people has experienced sexual violence and over half experience intimate partner violence, including coercive control and physical violence.

Warning Signs

Many warning signs of domestic violence within LGBTQIA2S+ relationships are similar to those in cisgender heterosexual relationships, including emotional abuse, psychological abuse, economic abuse, physical violence, or sexual assault.

However, people in abusive LGBTQIA2S+ relationships also experience unique power and control tactics from their partners. If you're unsure whether or not your relationship is abusive, ask yourself if your significant other:

- Threatens to "out" your sexual orientation or gender identity.
- Makes you feel unworthy of love or support because of your sexual orientation or gender identity.
- Threatens to reveal your HIV/AIDS status.
- Limits your access to medicine, including hormones or PrEP/PEP.
- Makes you feel like you're not "really" lesbian, gay, or bisexual.
- Questions you gender identity, purposefully misgenders you, or refuses to use your preferred name or pronoun.

If you answered yes to any of these questions, you might want to seek support and help with your relationship. LifeWire's services are open to everyone.

If you or someone you know is concerned about or experiencing abuse, call the DVHopeline at **425-746-1940** or **1-800-827-8840** to speak with a trained advocate.