



How Aware Are You?

A Quiz to Promote Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Illinois Attorney General Lisa Madigan compiled this quiz to enhance public awareness of the startling facts about domestic violence and promote October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

1. True or False:

Verbal Abuse is not a form of domestic abuse.

2. Who are the most frequent victims of domestic violence?

- a) Women
- b) Men
- c) Children
- d) None of the above, all equally

3. In 2003, approximately how many domestic violence incidents were reported to the police in Illinois?

- a) 100,000
- b) 125,000
- c) 150,000
- d) 200,000

4. How many orders of protection are issued in Illinois each year?

- a) 600
- b) 6,000
- c) 60,000
- d) 600,000

5. How many women are killed by domestic abusers each day in the United States?

- a) One
- b) Two
- c) Three
- d) Four

6. What percentage of homicides of women in the United States is the result of domestic violence?

- a) 10 percent
- b) 25 percent
- c) 33 percent
- d) 50 percent

7. True or False:

Teenagers often report abuse to their parents or school counselors.

8. True or False:

Most abusers of elderly victims are family members.

9. How many days of work are missed each year by women in the United States because of domestic violence?

- a) 80,000
- b) 800,000
- c) 8 million
- d) 80 million

10. True or False:

There's nothing I can do about domestic violence.

If you are a victim or know a victim of domestic violence, please visit the Office of the Attorney General's Web site at www.IllinoisAttorneyGeneral.gov/dvsa to access a searchable database of local domestic violence and sexual assault programs and crisis centers.



How Aware Are You?

ANSWERS

1. False

Verbal abuse is one of many tactics abusers use to control victims. Domestic violence is a pattern of physical abuse, threats, intimidation, isolation and/or economic abuse used by one person in a relationship to control the other person.

2. a) Women

Approximately 85 percent of domestic violence victims are women and 15 percent of domestic violence victims are men, the U.S. Department of Justice reports. Children who witness domestic violence, hear the threats and insults, feel the isolation and learn to fear one of their parents also are victims.

3. b) 125,000

According to the Illinois State Police's 2003 annual crime report, Illinois residents reported 124,917 domestic violence incidents to police.

4. c) 60,000

Courts issue 60,000 orders of protection in Illinois each year. That's nearly the population of Illinois towns such as Bolingbrook and Bloomington.

5. d) Four

The Violence Policy Center reported that 1,587 women were killed by an intimate partner in 2002, for an average of about four a day.

6. c) 33 percent

33.5 percent of murders of women in 2000 were intimate partner homicides.

7. False

Only six percent of girls and 11 percent of boys experiencing severe abuse tell an authority figure. Mostly, if they tell anyone, young people tell their friends about abuse.

8. True

According to the Illinois Department on Aging, 75 percent of elder abusers are family members, with adult children being the most likely abusers followed by other family members and then spouses.

9. c) 8 million

Women in the United States lose nearly eight million days of paid work each year because of violence perpetrated against them by current or former husbands, cohabitants, or boyfriends.

10. False

You can make a difference by supporting programs that work to end violence against women. Among other things, you can volunteer or contribute to local shelters, hotlines and outreach agencies. You can find your local programs at www.illinoisattorneygeneral.gov/dvsa/.