

WHAT DO I DO IF MY CHILD HAS BECOME VIOLENT?

ADOLESCENT DOMESTIC BATTERY (ADB)

Adolescent Domestic Battery (ADB) is defined as a youth committing an act of violence against a parent, sibling or other family member living in the home.

Not all Adolescent Domestic Battery is the same and should not be treated the same.

Types of Adolescent Domestic Battery:*

- **Defensive:** any violence (not just the current incident) directed toward the parent in response to a physical threat by the parent.
- **Isolated Incident:** violence was an isolated event of aggression born out of atypical family or individual stress. Without such stress youth may have chosen a more appropriate conflict resolution.
- **Family Chaos:** a pattern of events in which the youth's behavior predictably spirals to the point of aggression in order to obtain his or her purposes and is characterized by inconsistent and unclear parental authority.
- **Escalating:** a pattern of behavior designed to intimidate, control and coerce the parent into giving into the youth's demands and ultimately to shift parental authority to the youth, effectively establishing the youth in a position of control over the parent.

**Researchers and colleagues at the University of Massachusetts Medical School produced the Adolescent Domestic Battery Typology Tool (Nussbaum et al., 2015) with funding from the John D. & Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation.*

If you or someone you know is experiencing violence from an intimate partner or family member, please call the **Florida Domestic Violence Hotline** at:

1-800-500-1119 • 1-800-621-4202 (TDD)
Florida Relay 711

www.FloridaNetwork.org

HOW DOES THE FLORIDA NETWORK ADDRESS ADOLESCENT DOMESTIC BATTERY?

Florida Network Domestic Violence Respite

Program: *Services are for youth charged with domestic violence on a household member and they must be referred by the Florida Department of Juvenile Justice.*

The Florida Network works in conjunction with the Florida Department of Juvenile Justice to provide youth arrested for domestic violence (DV) a safe alternative to secure detention; focusing on preventing youth from falling further into the juvenile justice system while striving to keep families together.

Services are short-term residential placements for youth ages 10-17 who do not meet criteria to be detained and do not have an alternative relative placement. Youth are referred by the Florida Department of Juvenile Justice following an arrest for DV on a household member. Services provided to eligible youth are:

- face-to-face assessments,
- service orientation,
- case management,
- counseling,
- transportation, and
- referrals for additional services or specialized counseling.

Upon intake counselors begin working with the youth and his/her family to resolve the conflict that resulted in the youth's arrest with the goal of family reunification. Families are encouraged to participate in outpatient counseling to help promote the healthy communication and behavior learned while in respite. Family involvement is critical to ensure the longevity of positive family development. To learn more about the Domestic Violence Respite Program, visit: www.FloridaNetwork.org

The Florida Department of Juvenile Justice, through the Office of Prevention and Victim Services, offers many voluntary prevention, intervention, and treatment service programs for youth throughout the state of Florida. To learn more about the services offered in your area please call our Prevention Help Line number at 1-866-757-0634. Please note: the helpline is not a counseling service number, it is for informational calls only. All calls go to a voicemail system that is monitored Monday through Friday.