



ECONOMIC ABUSE FACT SHEET



As your kids approach 18, they might be entering into their first experiences with financial independence. Learn the facts about economic abuse as it relates to intimate partner violence.

What is Economic Abuse?

- Economic abuse is a form of intimate violence where the perpetrator seeks to control their partner's ability to acquire, use or maintain economic resources
- Research supports it is one of the most common forms of domestic violence and has lasting psychological and financial impacts
- 31% of teens ages 13-18 report experiencing some kind of economic abuse in their romantic relationships

What to look out for: Economic Exploitation

- Economic Exploitation is a perpetrator exploiting the financial resources of another partner for some kind of personal gain.
- Examples:
 - Your teen tells you they've loaned a bunch of money to their partner, and the partner isn't paying them back.
 - Your teen tells you they loaned their partner their credit card, and their partner racked up a lot of debt.
 - Your teen tells you there was an argument, and their partner destroyed their personal property like their furniture, car, etc.

What to look out for: Economic Control

- Economic Control is a perpetrator controlling their partner's access to economic information, resources and assets as a form of control and manipulation over their partner.
- Example:
 - Your teen tells you their partner has access to their bank account because they "know more about money" and "helps" them by telling them what they should and should not buy.

What to look out for: Employment Sabotage

- Employment Sabotage are actions that purposefully prevent their partner from working.
- Examples:
 - Your teen tells you their partner has been harassing them at work and they are at risk of getting fired.
 - Your teen tells you they shouldn't get a job because their partner has said they will "take care" of them.

What can you do?

- Educate your teens on the warning signs of economic abuse.
- Take charge of your own finances with financial capability courses so that you feel confident talking to your children about economic issues.
- Seek support through your local Domestic Violence Agency: 1-800-799-SAFE
- Financial Empowerment Resources: Consumer Financial Protection Bureau's Your Money, Your Goals

