

# Locations

For more information about services offered at The Center, please call any of our locations or visit our website.

*“Usually after my husband beat me, he would tell me that it was all my fault, I made him do it. If I had only done what he told me to do, I wouldn’t have to be punished.”*

*I have since learned that it was never my fault and that I am not responsible for his actions. He is the one with the problem, and the only way to deal with the problem is to get help.”*



*“My boyfriend comes from a ‘respected’ family in town. Sometimes he treats me nice, but lately it seems that everything I do angers him and he keeps telling me to do what he says or else.”*

**KENTUCKY**  
Kentucky Campus  
Open 24 Hours  
P.O. Box 2048  
Louisville, KY  
(502) 581-7222 Domestic Violence Crisis Line  
(502) 581-7242 TDD

**West Louisville Campus**  
(502) 775-6408

**Bullitt County Services**  
(502) 538-0212

**Shelby County Area Services**  
(502) 633-7800

**INDIANA**  
Southern Indiana Campus  
Open 24 Hours  
New Albany, IN  
(812) 944-6743 Crisis Line

**Corydon Office**  
(812) 734-0280

**Marengo Office**  
(812) 365-2338

**Scottsburg Office**  
(812) 752-7996

▼ **(877) 803-7577**

Toll Free Crisis Line • 24 Hours

**www.thecenteronline.org**

The Center for Women and Families is committed to creating an environment in which diversity is valued and assures no person shall be excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, subjected to discrimination under, or denied employment on the basis of race, religion, sex, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, handicap, disability, veteran status, familial status, or political opinion.

Our programs are funded in part by the following: Kentucky Domestic Violence Association, Kentucky Association of Sexual Assault Programs, Kentucky Housing Corporation, Metro Louisville, Metro United Way, United Way of Scott County, Inc., U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, and many more federal, regional and local sources. Please review our most recent annual report at [www.thecenteronline.org](http://www.thecenteronline.org) for a complete list of our funders.

# Profile of an Abuser



Information from



THE  
CENTER  
FOR  
WOMEN  
AND  
FAMILIES

## Domestic Violence can be...

Mental, emotional, sexual or physical. An abuser can be from any socio-economic, religious or ethnic background. In some cases, physical abuse does not start until after marriage or during pregnancy. Thus, early warning signs are very important. Although men are also victims of partner abuse, physical assaults are usually against women. Below are examples of an abusive personality. Some or all of these characteristics may be visible. Any one of these may signal a potential problem of later abuse.

## Abusive Personality

- Inability to identify feelings; emotions such as fear and loneliness come out as anger.
- Rapidly changing moods, a Dr. Jekyll, Mr. Hyde personality; may be charming one minute, abusive the next. However, depression is the prevailing mood.
- Child in an adult body; has constant need for reassurance and approval. Views response to these demands as a sign of “love.”
- A violent temper, especially about little things. It may begin by fists through doors, throwing furniture, violence against objects.

## Profile of an Abuser

Adults who abuse other adults will have many of the following characteristics:

- History of abuse as a child, or witnessed abuse of mother by father.
- High job dissatisfaction.
- Heavy drinking or drug usage.
- Preoccupation with weapons; violence-prone background, such as prison or military.
- Poor self-image.

## Poor Communication Skills

- Uses verbal “put-downs” in order to damage self-esteem of partner. “You’re so stupid that no one else would want you.”
- Criticizes, frequently tries to change the other person.
- Frequently blames others for his problems, especially wife or girlfriend. May seem angry at the world; claims “there’s nothing wrong with me!”
- Dominates conversations, may seem uncaring, is a poor listener.

**There’s NO Excuse For Abuse.**

## Relationship Difficulties

- Extremely jealous and/or possessive.
- A need to keep partner isolated and “controlled” in every way (financially, emotionally and physically).
- Minimizes or denies abuse; “I didn’t hit you that hard.” May be sorry after abusive episode; will promise that it won’t happen again.
- Doesn’t relate to mate as an equal in the relationship.
- Unable to achieve or maintain intimacy.
- Rigid expectations of relationship: wants partner to fill traditional stereotype of “wife.” Mate must conform to definition of role.
- Great tendency to view “partner” as “mother” which creates both hostility and dependence.
- Negative and derogatory or idealized attitude towards women in general.
- Sex is used as an act of aggression.



## Help is Available

If you or someone you know is a victim of domestic violence, The Center For Women And Families may be able to help. We offer these services:

- 24-hour crisis line
- Emergency shelter for battered women and their children
- Longer-term transitional housing
- Shelter classroom for “at-risk” children
- Counseling and therapy
- Support groups
- Help with legal options
- Hospital advocacy
- Child development

**Domestic Violence can be mental, emotional, sexual or physical.**