

This October

WEAR A LITTLE PURPLE

with your pink



DID YOU KNOW?

68% of women experiencing domestic violence also reported their partner was violent towards their animals

**OCTOBER IS DOMESTIC
VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH**

The Center for Women and Families and the Kentucky Humane Society offer safe foster homes for pets of domestic violence survivors who need shelter through their Safe Haven Program.

ANIMAL CRUELTY AS PART OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

COERCION & THREATS: Threatening to harm your pet if you leave or assert any independence.

EMOTIONAL ABUSE: Calling your pet names (“Your stupid, ugly dog is useless. We should just put him down!”) Giving away or killing a pet to take away your primary source of comfort and unconditional love.

ISOLATION: Refusing to allow you to take your pet to your preferred veterinarian. Prohibiting you from socializing your dog with other dogs.

MINIMIZING, DENYING & BLAMING: Blaming you or your pet for the cruelty. Saying the pet deserved to be hurt as punishment for doing something wrong.

USING CHILDREN: Harming or taking away the children’s pet in order to intimidate the children, or blaming the “disappearance” of the family pet on you in order to create a wedge between you and the children.

ECONOMIC ABUSE: Refusing to allow you to spend money on adequate pet food and/or veterinary care. (Then, blaming you when neglect is noticed by authorities.)

LEGAL ABUSE: Trying to take possession of a pet for which you have been the primary caretaker, or filing charges of pet theft against you if you leave with the pet.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

- Have your pets vaccinated against rabies, and license your pets within your town or county: make sure these registrations are in your name to help prove your ownership.
- Consider and plan for the safety and welfare of your animals. Be prepared to take your pets with you: many shelters, including The Center, have Safe Haven programs to provide a safe foster home for your animal. Or you can arrange temporary shelter for your pets with a veterinarian, family member, trusted friend or pet boarding facility.
- If you need help keeping your pet, call the Kentucky Humane Society’s free Pet Help Line, 502-509-4PET.

If you need help, contact The Center at 1-844-237-2331 to learn more about our partnership with the Kentucky Humane Society and the Safe Haven Program. We are here to help you and your pet stay safe.

Make a safety plan, talk to someone, or just learn more at
www.thecenteronline.org



THE
CENTER
FOR
WOMEN
AND
FAMILIES

24 Hour Crisis & Information Line
1-844-BE-SAFE-1

Kentucky
Humane Society™
Lifelong Friends