

Domestic Violence is the physical, sexual or emotional abuse inflicted on a man, woman or child by another family member.

Assaults are most commonly made on women and children but Domestic Violence can occur in all kinds of relationships.

In families where there is, or has been, an incident of Domestic Violence children will have witnessed two thirds of the abuse and half will have been hurt or beaten. Sexual and emotional abuse is more likely to happen in families where Domestic Violence occurs.

It is upsetting for children and young people to see one of their parents abusing or attacking the other; they often show signs of great distress.

In the long term, children and young people from homes where there are Domestic Violence incidents are more likely to become abusers or victims themselves in later life. Children and young people copy behaviour learned from their parents, although they do not always repeat the same patterns, as they grow up. Many children do not like what they see and will try hard not to repeat the behaviors of the parents; even so, many young people grow up feeling anxious and depressed and have difficulty forming and maintaining relationships.

Dreadnought's Domestic Violence programme is designed to break the cycle of abuse, (the link effect) and to give young people the information and knowledge they need about themselves and the world around them, to bring about the changes they want, for themselves.



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*The programme also recognises the possible support needs of children and young people in connection with parental Substance Abuse and Domestic Violence. We also offer support with Sexual Abuse, Eating Disorders, Sibling Work, Self Harm and Anger Management and many other support programmes.*

*See our website below for details*

[www.thedreadnought.co.uk](http://www.thedreadnought.co.uk)

**Domestic**

**Violence**

**Hurts**

The Physical Pain  
Goes Away In Time But

The Emotional Scars

Remain.

President: Right Reverend Tim Thornton Bishop of Truro

# Dreadnought's Children and Young People's Domestic Violence and Abuse Programme

## The Aims of the Programme are:-

- To give children and young people a safe place to talk.
- To give children and young people clear information.
- To aid children and young people in making informed choices for themselves.
- To aid children and young people in becoming responsible adults and to make a positive contribution to the society in which they live.

## Statistics:-

- 1 in 4 women and 1 in 6 men can expect to experience some form of Domestic Abuse at some time in their lives.
- On average a women is assaulted 35 times before seeking help.
- Where the mother is abused up to 70% of fathers also abuse the children (*Home Office*).
- **999** calls reporting Domestic Violence are made every minute in the UK.
- Domestic Violence accounts for one quarter of all crime (*Home Office*).
- Every day the police receive 1300 calls from women in Britain who are experiencing Domestic Violence (*count in year 2000*)
- 65% of people accessing mental health have a history of Domestic Violence or Abuse.

- Dreadnought's Domestic Violence and Abuse programme has been designed to work with young people in a safe environment where they are given the opportunity to be themselves within a group, or one to one, setting.
- The programme enables young people to understand more about themselves and the world around them. They will gain a better understanding about relationships and society and about their rights and responsibilities.
- Children and young people will gain new skills; they will learn how to recognise a situation and how to keep themselves safe and, after completing the programme, young people may learn how not to continue the pattern of negative learned behaviour.

