



CDHS POSITION PAPER ON DV ADVOCATES REPORTING TDV



**CCADV September
Statewide Meeting
September 14, 2010**

1

TEENS OFTEN DON'T DISCLOSE THEY ARE BEING ABUSED



- **82%** - of parents were unaware their teen was emailed or texted 30 times per hour.
- **75%** - unaware their teen physically hurt or bruised by their partner.
- **69%** - unaware their teen pressured by partner to perform oral sex.
- **58%** - unaware their teen hit, slapped, pushed, punched, kicked or choked by partner.


2

HOW MANDATED REPORTING OF TDV GOT ON OUR RADAR...

- School trainings - disclosures?
 - Confidential?
- Parent permission?
- Liability?
 - Teen support groups?
- *When and what do we report?*

3

CHILD WELFARE ACTION COMMITTEE



- Co-Occurring Issues Subcommittee
 - Child Welfare staff didn't see any ambiguity
 - Federal guidelines
- A position paper would clarify the CDHS intent in Mandated Reporting expectations

4

CDHS POSITION PAPER

- Background on magnitude of TDV
- Purpose of paper:
"to bridge the understanding between Colorado's DV advocates and Child Welfare workers of what is expected of DV advocates regarding reporting TDV"
- Mandated reporting of TDV as barrier to teens seeking services

5

CDHS POSITION PAPER (CONTD.)

- "The assault or abuse of a teen by a dating partner is a third party crime that Child Welfare would not have the jurisdiction, capacity, or mandate to investigate or adjudicate."
- "If the victim **wanted** to make a report, that report would best be given to law enforcement."



6

CDHS POSITION PAPER (CONTD.)

- “The focus of Child Welfare is a minor’s parents/ guardians, not a third party perpetrator.”
- Reports should be made when a parent/ guardian is aware of the TDV and is unwilling to take action to keep the minor safe.


7

BENEFITS

 <p>Orgs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Clarity of intent from DHS ○ Ability to engage this underserved population ○ Provide variety of confidential services 	 <p>Teens</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Confidential services ○ Get support services earlier ○ More likely to bring parents in as support
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8


CONCERNS



- Need to report to law enforcement?
- Age when teen can receive confidential services?
- What about shelter services?
- What about when the dating partner is in a position of trust?

9

BREAKOUT GROUPS



Internal Impacts on Programs


- What does this mean for policy, protocol, crisis line?
- Will this impact my organization’s liability?
- How do I integrate this information into training?

Sharing Information with Community

- How does this impact working in the schools?
- Will people ask if we are sheltering teens?
- How does this affect our relationship, if at all, with other teen serving organizations?

10

QUESTIONS?



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11