Domestic Abuse, Dating Violence, & Stalking

ADELPHI’S COMMITMENT TO SAFETY

Adelphi University is committed to providing an atmosphere in which employees can pursue their professional goals and achieve personal growth. Maintaining a safe environment for students, faculty and staff has long been recognized as an essential part of University life.

At Adelphi, safety and security are of the highest priority and are considered a shared responsibility, requiring the cooperation of everyone concerned—students, faculty and staff.

The University has established policies and procedures, and offers comprehensive services, to ensure the well-being of members of the University community. All forms of discrimination, harassment (including sexual misconduct, dating violence, domestic violence and stalking) and retaliation are prohibited on the campus. See Adelphi University’s Anti-Discrimination, Harassment (including Sexual Misconduct/Title IX) and Retaliation Policy at adelphi.edu/policies/title-ix for complete information.

The University advises and updates students about security procedures through a variety of means, including University publications, on-campus meetings and trainings, new student orientation programs, email and the emergency notification system, as necessary. For information on resources and reporting, visit adelphi.edu/safety-transportation.

The following information was developed for survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, and/or stalking and for those individuals at Adelphi University who might be called upon to support and advise them.

WHAT IS DOMESTIC/DATING VIOLENCE?

Domestic/dating violence is also referred to as intimate partner or relationship violence. It is a pattern of behavior that is used to gain or maintain power or control over a partner. Abuse can be physical, sexual, emotional, economic or psychological acts or threats of action. It includes any behavior that frightens, intimidates, terrifies, manipulates, hurts, humiliates, coerces, blames or injures someone. Domestic violence usually occurs between spouses, former spouses, persons living together in an intimate relationship or those who have a child in common. Dating violence occurs between two partners involved in a dating or intimate relationship.

Domesticating violence may be hard to recognize if the abuse does not happen continuously. However, it is still abuse even if your partner has exhibited abusive behavior only a few times or has only threatened violence. Violence generally escalates over time. Leaving a violent relationship can be difficult due to feelings of guilt, denial, love and hope, and economic factors. If you feel threatened by violence or abuse in an intimate relationship, even occasionally, you are a victim of domestic/dating violence.

DOMESTIC/DATING VIOLENCE

Domestic and dating violence can occur in any community and cut across all socioeconomic and educational levels. Survivors can be any age, gender, ethnicity, religion or sexual orientation.

Victimization is not limited to the person being abused. Children who grow up in abusive environments often become abusers or victims of abuse when they become adults.

COMMON MYTHS ABOUT DOMESTIC AND DATING VIOLENCE

Myth: People who are abused contribute to the abuse in some way.
Fact: Many people who are abused blame themselves for causing the violence, saying things like, “I shouldn’t have brought that subject up; I know how mad he gets.” No one is to blame for another person’s violence. Being abusive is always a choice and the sole responsibility of the person who is abusive.

Myth: People abuse their partners because they can’t control their anger.
Fact: People who abuse others are not usually out of control. They do it to gain power and control over the other person. They often use tactics besides violence, such as threats, intimidation, psychological abuse and isolation from friends or family.

Myth: If a person stays in an abusive relationship, it must not be that bad.
Fact: People stay in abusive relationships for many reasons, including fear, economics, dependence, confusion, lack of self-esteem, denial or the belief that the abuser needs their help.

Myth: Jealousy and possessiveness are signs of love.
Fact: Jealousy and possessiveness are signs that a person sees you as a possession. It is the most common early warning sign of abuse.

Myth: Since there has never been any physical abuse, I am not a survivor of domestic/dating violence.
Fact: Domestic/dating violence can take many forms, including emotional abuse, sexual abuse and verbal abuse.

WHO ARE THE SURVIVORS OF DOMESTIC AND DATING VIOLENCE?

Domestic and dating violence can occur in any community and cut across all socioeconomic and educational levels. Survivors can be any age, gender, ethnicity, religion or sexual orientation.

WHAT IS STALKING?

Stalking is a course of unwanted conduct directed at a particular person, designed for no legitimate purpose, and which places the person or a third person in reasonable fear of physical, emotional or mental harm. Stalking can take many forms, including:

• Unwanted visits
• Following
• Driving by your home or place of business
• Threatening or harassing phone calls
• Unwanted digital communication
• Cyberstalking through unlawful video surveillance, posting unwanted pictures or videos, revenge porn, messages and other harassing behavior online

IF STALKING OCCURS, YOU CAN...

• Report the incident to the University

IF DOMESTIC/DATING VIOLENCE OCCURS, YOU CAN...

• Report the incident to Public Safety (516.877.3511), local law enforcement and/or the state police, or choose not to make a report.
• Report the incident to the University and be protected by the University from retaliation for reporting the incident.
• Receive assistance and resources from the University.
• Speak with the Title IX coordinator or designee, who can provide you with more information and answer your questions.
• Obtain medical care if necessary and seek counseling services.
• Preserve digital communications and photograph all injuries.

REPORTING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, DATING VIOLENCE, OR STALKING

To report to the police: Dial 911.

On-Campus Incidents: Garden City campus Public Safety can be reached by dialing 516.877.3511, or by dialing 5 on emergency campus phones located inside and outside the buildings.

Hauppauge Education and Conference Center Dial 516.237.8605.

NYC-Brooklyn Center Contact the SFC Security Guard located in the Lobby at the SFC Campus Security desk at 718.489.2100 or 2105

Hudson Valley Center Dial 845.471.3348.

Title IX Coordinator Contact Allison Vernace located in Levermore Hall, Room 327, or at titleix@adelphi.edu.

Online Reporting To file an online report, visit adelphi.edu/title-ix or email titleix@adelphi.edu. For an immediate emergency response, follow the instructions and report to Public Safety at 516.877.3511, or dial 911.

Online Resources

• Unwanted visits
• Following
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• Report the incident to the University and be protected by the University from retaliation for reporting the incident.
• Receive assistance and resources from the University.
• Speak with the Title IX coordinator or designee, who can provide you with more information and answer your questions.
• Seek counseling services.
• Preserve digital communications.
• Take the matter seriously because stalking can often escalate.

SIGNS OF AN ABUSIVE RELATIONSHIP

You may be in an abusive relationship if your partner:

• Acts jealously when you talk to others, even friends
• Criticizes what you do, what you wear and who your friends are
• Does not listen to what you say or want
• Controls you in small ways, such as by holding you too tightly or pulling you around by your hand
• Always needs to know where you are and whom you are with
• Easily becomes angry or violent
• Tries to force you into sexual activity that you do not want
• Intervenes and calls your names
• Degrades your gender with jokes
• Threatens to hurt you or someone/something you care about
• Emotionally or physically harms you and then shows remorse afterwards

PREVENTION

Domestic and dating violence can take many forms, including unwanted phone calls, texts, emails, messages and other harassing behavior online.

You can prevent stalking by:

• Taking the matter seriously because stalking can often escalate.
• Reporting stalking to the police: Dial 911.
• Reporting stalking to the University: Email titleix@adelphi.edu.
• Developing a safety plan.
• Seek counseling services.
• Preserve digital communications.

The University offers comprehensive services, to ensure the well-being of members of the University community. All forms of discrimination, harassment (including sexual misconduct, dating violence, domestic violence and stalking) and retaliation are prohibited on the campus. See Adelphi University’s Anti-Discrimination, Harassment (including Sexual Misconduct/Title IX) and Retaliation Policy at adelphi.edu/policies/title-ix for complete information.

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• Unwanted texts
• Unwanted messages online
• Unwanted visits
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WHO ARE THE PERSONS INVOLVED IN A DATING OR INTIMATE RELATIONSHIP?

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Common myths about domestic and dating violence

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ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

CAMPUS SUPPORT SERVICES
Counseling services available for employees through The WorkPlace EAP by calling 877.622.4327.

Crisis intervention and counseling services are provided at the Garden City campus by The Safe Center LI.
The Safe Center LI offers its services free of charge to survivors of domestic or dating violence. Survivors can call the center’s free 24-hour hotline at 516.542.0404.

COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES
Adelphi partners with experts who will provide support services to domestic violence, dating violence or stalking victims.

Community support services available at Adelphi include:
In the Garden City area:
The Safe Center LI 24-hour hotline: 516.542.0404
Long Island Crisis Center Online/Mobile Chat Counseling: longislandcrisiscenter.org/get-help-now/#mobil

In the Hauppauge area:
Victims Information Bureau of Suffolk: 631.360.3606 (24-hour crisis line)
Long Island Crisis Center Online/Mobile Chat Counseling: longislandcrisiscenter.org/get-help-now/#mobil

In the NYC-Brooklyn area:
Safe Horizon hotlines:
Domestic violence hotline: 800.621.4673
Crime victims hotline: 866.689.4357
Rape, sexual assault and incest hotline: 212.227.3000
TTY phone number for all hotlines: 866.604.5350
safehorizon.org

In the Hudson Valley Center area:
Family Services hotlines and websites:
familyserviceny.org

Universal Response to Domestic Violence Project in coordination with Family Services Inc.: 845.485.5550
Rape/Crime/Victim Hotline: 845.452.7272 (24-hour hotline)

More Information on specific Locations—SUNY SAVR
suny.edu/violence-response/

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

UNIVERSITY DISCIPLINARY OPTIONS

Once the University has notice of an allegation of domestic violence, dating violence or stalking, we must conduct a prompt and equitable investigation of the incident. The investigation is independent of a criminal investigation and will generally be concluded within 60 calendar days of the report.

The complaint is investigated and adjudicated by impartial individuals who do not have a conflict of interest and who have been trained annually in conducting investigations involving sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence and stalking, the effects of trauma, the need for impartiality, the rights of the accused and the presumption of “not responsible”.

Employee complaints of domestic violence, dating violence or stalking by employees of the University can be filed with the Title IX coordinator.

RETAILATION

Retaliation is intentional action taken by an accused individual or allied third party, absent legitimate nondiscriminatory purposes, that harms or attempts to harm an individual as reprisal for filling a complaint, supporting a complainant or otherwise participating in a proceeding pursuant to Title IX. Under no circumstances will Adelphi University tolerate any form of the above retaliation.

TITLE IX AND NY ARTICLE 129-B

Title IX is a federal law and Article 129-B is a NYS law that prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in all education programs and activities, and in employment. Domestic violence, dating violence and stalking are considered forms of discrimination prohibited under these statutes. Title IX and Article 129-B protects both students and employees from the above discrimination by any University employee, student or non-employee third party.

All such incidents can be reported to Adelphi University Title IX coordinator, Allison Vernace, Levermore Hall, Room 207, 516.877.4819 or billefte@adelphi.edu

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

LEGAL OPTIONS

Complainants of domestic violence, dating violence or stalking have the following options:

Criminal Prosecution
Report the incident to the local or state police for possible arrest and prosecution. Criminal investigations are independent of campus disciplinary proceedings.

Complainants can be assisted by University personnel in reporting these cases to the police.

Civil Remedies
Pursue civil remedies. Civil proceedings are independent of any criminal or campus disciplinary proceedings.

APPLICABLE LAWS AND PENALTIES

CRIME | CLASS | MAXIMUM PENALTY
--- | --- | ---
Harassment—2nd Degree | Violation | 15 days
Harassment—1st Degree | B Misdemeanor | 3 months
Agravated Harassment—2nd Degree | A Misdemeanor | 1 year
Agravated Harassment—1st Degree | E Felony | 4 years
Assault—3rd Degree | A Misdemeanor | 1 year
Assault—2nd Degree | D Felony | 7 years
Assault—1st Degree | E Felony | 5 years
Menacing—3rd Degree | B Misdemeanor | 3 months
Menacing—2nd Degree | A Misdemeanor | 1 year
Menacing—1st Degree | E Felony | 4 years
Criminal Obstruction of Breathing or Blood Circulation | A Misdemeanor | 1 year
Strangulation—2nd Degree | D Felony | 7 years
Strangulation—1st Degree | C Felony | 15 years
Stalking—4th Degree | B Misdemeanor | 3 months
Stalking—3rd Degree | B Misdemeanor | 1 year
Stalking—2nd Degree | E Felony | 4 years
Stalking—1st Degree | D Felony | 7 years
Unlawful Surveillance—2nd Degree | E Felony | 4 years
Unlawful Surveillance—1st Degree | D Felony | 7 years
Dissipation of an Unlawful Surveillance Image—2nd Degree | A Misdemeanor | 1 year
Dissipation of an Unlawful Surveillance Image—1st Degree | E Felony | 4 years

Rights for Reporting Individuals and Complainants in Sexual Assault, Dating Violence, Domestic Violence, and Stalking cases:

1. A reporting individual or complainant shall remain private at all times if the reporting individual or complainant wishes to maintain privacy.
2. If the accused is an employee of the University, the complainant has the right to disclose the incident to Human Resources and the right to request a confidential or private employee to assist in the reporting.
3. The right to receive assistance from an appropriate University representative on how to initiate legal proceedings in family or civil court.
4. The right to withdraw a complaint or involvement from the University process at any time.
5. All parties have the right to be provided with information about available resources, including intervention, mental health counseling and medical services, including costs.
6. To be assisted by Public Safety in obtaining an Order of Protection or an equivalent protective or restraining order. To receive a copy of the Order of Protection or equivalent when received by the University and be provided with the opportunity to speak with a Public Safety officer to answer questions and explain the provisions of the order. To receive assistance from Public Safety in effecting an arrest when an Order of Protection is violated.
7. When the accused is a not a student, but is a member of the University Community and presents a continuing threat to the health and safety of the community, to subject the accused to interim measures in accordance with applicable collective bargaining agreements and the policies of the University.
8. To receive reasonable interim accommodations regarding academics, housing, employment, travel or other applicable arrangements to help ensure student's safety and protect the University from disrupting their ability to receive an education.
9. To receive a prompt response to the complaint and have it investigated and adjudicated by impartial individuals who have been trained annually in conducting investigations.
10. Both parties have the right to exclude their own prior sexual history with persons other than the other party to the proceedings/other persons or their own mental health diagnosis and/or treatment from admissibility into the disciplinary stages that determine responsibility.
11. Both parties have the right to decide whether to disclose or discuss the outcome of the University proceeding and have information obtained during the proceeding protected from public release until the appeals panel makes final determination, unless required by law.

Adelphi University
Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Stalking
WHAT EVERY ADELPHI EMPLOYEE NEEDS TO KNOW