

# Crime Victims' Institute

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Winter 2020



## Our Mission

The mission of the Crime Victims' Institute is to :

- Conduct research to examine the impact of crime on victims of all ages in order to promote a better understanding of victimization
- Improve services to victims
- Assist victims of crime by giving them a voice
- Inform victim-related policy-making at the state and local levels.

## CVI's Community Outreach

- Texas Victim Services Association Board Member
- Victim Services Coalition Member

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## February is Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Month

According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), teen dating violence may involve, "physical, emotional, or sexual" violence, which can also include stalking. These behaviors may happen face-to-face or can occur electronically using social media and internet capable devices. Consequences of victimization can be far-reaching and include internalizing disorders such as generalized anxiety and clinical depression. involve anti-social coping mechanisms such as tobacco use, and drug or alcohol consumption.

Prevention programs have focused on teaching healthy relationship skills, effective and assertive communication strategies, and bystander intervention. The goal of these approaches is to reduce violence-tolerant norms, empower victim/survivors, and develop respectful relationships.

The CDC's Division of Violence Prevention's initiative, "Dating Matters: Strategies to Promote Healthy Teen Relationships" is a comprehensive model that uses evidence-based practices to promote and facilitate non-violent relationships among youth and young adult populations. The CDC's VetoViolence website provides more information: <https://vetoviolence.cdc.gov/dating-matters>

## DATING MATTERS

STRATEGIES TO PROMOTE HEALTHY  
TEEN RELATIONSHIPS



Information retrieved on February 3, 2020 from: <https://www.cdc.gov/features/datingviolence/index.html>

## Teen Dating Violence Prevalence

Nearly  
**1 in 11**  
female teens



reported experiencing  
physical dating violence  
in the last year.

About  
**1 in 15**  
male teens



About  
**1 in 9** female  
and **1 in 36** male



high school students  
reported experiencing sexual  
dating violence in the last year.

**26% of women**  
and  
**15% of men**

experienced intimate partner  
violence for the first time  
before age 18.



## Teen Dating Violence Prevention



### Teach safe and healthy relationship skills

- Social-emotional learning programs for youth
- Healthy relationship programs for couples



### Engage Influential adults and peers

- Men and boys as allies in prevention
- Bystander empowerment and education
- Family-based programs



### Disrupt the developmental pathways toward partner violence

- Early childhood home visitation
- Preschool enrichment with family engagement
- Parenting skill and family relationship programs
- Treatment for at-risk children, youth, and families



### Create protective environments

- Improve school climate and safety
- Improve organizational policies and workplace climate
- Modify the physical and social environments of neighborhoods



### Strengthen economic supports for families

- Strengthen household financial security
- Strengthen work-family supports



### Support survivors to increase safety and lessen harms

- Victim-centered services
- First responder and civil legal protections
- Treatment and support for survivors of IPV, including teen dating violence
- Housing programs
- Patient-centered approaches



Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

CDC 24/7: Saving Lives, Protecting People™





## In the Works...

- Trauma-Informed Training and Police Case Disposition
- Service Referral for Gender Violence Survivors
- Sexual Assault Criminal Justice Case Processing

## Houston FBI Field Office Conducts Combating Extremism and Hate Seminar

Hate crimes are the highest investigative priority of the FBI's civil rights program. The FBI Houston Division, Anti-defamation League (ADL), Federal Reserve Bank, Houston Police Department, Homeland Security, Harris County Sheriff's Office, Montgomery County Sheriff's Office, and the Texas Department of Public Safety Region II conducted a Combating Extremism and Hate Seminar on the heels of the Oct. 29 10-year anniversary of the enactment of The Matthew Shepard and James Byrd Jr. Hate Crimes Prevention Act. "The multiagency training is aimed to educate attendees about current trends, terms, and tactics employed by racially motivated extremists and their impact on our community," asserted Assistant Special Agent in Charge, Deron Ogletree, who served as the seminar's Planning Committee Chair.

While the FBI has federal jurisdiction to investigate hate crimes, they often conduct investigations jointly with state and local law enforcement. Over 100 Houston-area midlevel law-enforcement executives, law enforcement training officers, school resource officers, and community leaders from organizations such as the local chapter of the NAACP and Houston Coalition Against Hate attended the Nov. 13, 2019, training held at the Federal Reserve Bank in Downtown Houston.

Subject matter experts led seminar sessions highlighting current trends in racially motivated extremism and hate crime. The seminar included the following presentations: The Resurgence of White Nationalism in America by the ADL's Center on Extremism, FBI's Domestic Terrorism Hate Crimes Fusion Cell, Community Engagement by the Consul General of Mexico in Houston, Effects of Extremism and Hate Crimes on Victims and Communities by the ADL Southwest Regional Office. ADL Investigative Researcher, Vegas Tenold stated, "Of 427 domestic extremist-related murders that occurred over the last decade, 73.3 percent were white supremacy related." And it's the murder of one person – the brother whom she "cherished" that motivates James Byrd Jr.'s sister, Louvon Harris, to share her story. "It's important to me that others remember my brother was a person – not just a man who died as a hate crime victim," Harris said.

Chief executive law enforcement officials also offered professional insights and relayed best practices for fighting bias-motivated violent extremism and hate crime in our community. FBI Houston Special Agent in Charge, Perrye K. Turner concluded, "The FBI remains ready to deploy our robust resources, forensic expertise, and experience in identification and proof of hate-based motivations even when federal charges are not brought. Today's training and the enormous multiagency and community support it received demonstrates our unyielding willingness to prioritize the ongoing threat posed by bias-based extremists."

For more information, view the FBI Criminal Justice Information Services Division 2018 Hate Crime Statistics Report at <https://ucr.fbi.gov/hate-crime/2018>.



## Upcoming Events...



Western Society of Criminal Justice Phoenix, AZ	Feb 6-8, 2020
Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences San Antonio, TX	March 24-28, 2020
Texas Association Against Sexual Assault Conference Houston, TX	May 17-20, 2020
Crimes Against Women Conference Dallas, TX	May 18-21, 2020
Texas Resilience Conference Austin, TX	May 20-21, 2020

### Share your ideas:

We welcome your input.  
Please send issues or  
topics you would like to  
see CVI conduct re-  
search on to :

crimevictims@shsu.edu

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