

Statistics

Almost **14%** of women experiencing domestic violence, or **17,000** women in intimate relationships, believed at some point that their lives were in danger.

In Canada between 1974 and 2001, **2,072 women** were killed by their male partners (husbands/close friends/lovers or exes), for an **average of 80 women a year**.

In Quebec, **446 women** were killed; about **17 women each year**. If we include attempted murders, this figure more than triples or quadruples (depending on the year).

Does your partner threaten to kill you?
Is he violent towards you?
Are you sometimes afraid of him?
Help is just a phone call away. . . .
Emergency: 911
SOS Violence conjugale hotline:
1-800-363-9010

Are you afraid to keep this brochure?
If so, talk to someone about it.

Design: Christine Drouin and Julie Drolet

A project of CRI-VIFF and the Fédération de ressources d'hébergement pour les femmes violentées ou en difficulté du Québec, in collaboration with the Women's Centres of Montreal, Laval and Verdun

This project is funded in part by the National Crime Prevention Strategy of the Government of Canada.

Canada

Fédération de ressources d'hébergement
pour femmes violentées
et en difficulté du Québec

cri viff
Centre
de recherche
interdisciplinaire
sur la violence familiale
et la violence faite aux femmes

Feel free to make copies of this document.

Preventing Domestic
Homicide of Women

Are you afraid of your partner ?



How to recognize a high-risk situation

Domestic Homicide

This folder talks about domestic homicide. Our goal isn't to scare or alarm you, but we do want you to be informed about these dangerous situations. This includes knowing the danger signals and how to protect yourself.

If you're afraid of your partner, respect that fear and trust in your intuition -- and please talk to a worker about your situation. She will listen to you and provide you with help and support as you take the necessary steps, while respecting whatever decisions you make regarding your situation

Danger Signs

If your partner...

- ▶ threatens to kill you
- ▶ makes indirect threats (e.g., "until death do us part"; suggests you read an article on domestic homicide)
- ▶ threatens to kill the children
- ▶ threatens to commit suicide or has suicidal thoughts
- ▶ is violent towards you at home
- ▶ has seriously hurt you physically during a domestic violence episode
- ▶ is jealous and controls where you go
- ▶ does not accept a separation or the possibility of your leaving him
- ▶ calls you constantly
- ▶ continually follows you or is always waiting for you
- ▶ has ready access to weapons or objects that could be used as weapons

If you recognize yourself in some of these danger signs, you could be in a high-risk situation.

If you...

- ▶ are sometimes afraid of him
- ▶ think he might carry out some of his threats or wonder how far his violence will go
- ▶ fear for your children
- ▶ feel powerless to do anything about your situation
- ▶ experience a great deal of anxiety
- ▶ have a friend or family member who is afraid for you

Self-Protection Strategies

Tell someone...

- ▶ in an emergency, call 911 (or your local police station if you don't have 911 service)
- ▶ share what you are going through with a worker (at a women's shelter, Women's Centre, SOS Violence conjugale line, CLSC)
- ▶ visit or call a professional, taking advantage of another appointment or times when you take the kids to school or daycare
- ▶ talk about your situation with someone you trust

Safety measures

- ▶ Develop a safety plan with your local emergency services to ensure your safety (leave the room, go with the children to a neighbour's in case of emergency, call 911)
- ▶ set up a signal so that your neighbours know to call the police if they hear screams or sounds of struggle.

Preparing to leave

- ▶ think ahead of time about a plan to leave (a public place to go to, who to call)
- ▶ memorize the phone number for SOS Violence conjugale for information or referrals
- ▶ never tell your partner beforehand or threaten that you're leaving
- ▶ don't tell your children ahead of time that you're leaving
- ▶ leave when your partner is away or you're out of the house for another reason
- ▶ put aside some money for a taxi or other means of transportation

Leave quickly

- ▶ leave home as quickly as possible (**your own and your children's safety take priority**). You can always return home later to get your belongings
- ▶ call 911 in an emergency

RESSOURCES

Emergency

911

SOS Violence conjugale
(Referral or counselling service available around the clock)

1-800-363-9010

Local reference numbers:

