
SPECIFIC POPULATIONS

- breaking into your social media accounts, and posting things using your identity; and
- telling you what to do and pressuring you to give up things that are important to you such as friendships and extracurricular activities at school.

Whether you want to stay together or are thinking about breaking up, there are options. Your abuser may act more abusive or angry when you try to break up, so make sure you have a [*safety plan*](#) before trying to end the relationship. You can go to [*Family Court*](#) to ask for an [*order of protection*](#) if you are (or have been) in an intimate relationship with an abuser. An intimate relationship is considered to include any dating relationship, even if it wasn't a sexual relationship. See "[*The Police and Courts*](#)" section of this booklet for more information on this and all legal options.

For help and to create your own safety plan, visit bit.ly/LoveIsRespectSafetyPlanning.

GANG MEMBER INVOLVEMENT

If your abusive partner is involved with a gang and you are afraid of what will happen if you call for help, a domestic violence program can offer confidential assistance and can help you explore options that won't put you or others at greater risk. Gangs often have a large network of members that could threaten you or anyone you know. It is critical, in order to plan for your safety, that you tell your domestic violence advocate that your partner is in a gang -- even if your partner has made you do things that are against the law and is now using that against you. If you have been tattooed by your partner, or another member of the gang, there may be a service available to remove the tattoo free of charge. Ask your domestic violence advocate or contact the New York State Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence.

VICTIMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Human trafficking is a serious crime that is punishable by both New York State and federal law. Trafficking is the act of using human beings for some type of labor or commercial sex purpose. Victims are often promised jobs but instead are forced or pressured into prostitution or domestic, farm, factory, or other types of labor. Trafficking and domestic violence can occur at