

# Relationship Violence Awareness Month (RVAM) Toolkit Understanding Relationship Violence

October is Relationship Violence Awareness Month (RVAM).

During this month, advocates across the nation work together to end all forms of relationship violence. Relationship violence has many names – domestic violence, dating violence, intimate partner violence – all of these can be defined as physical and/or sexual violence, stalking, or psychological harm by a current or former partner or spouse<sup>1</sup>.

This toolkit includes a collection of resources that will equip stakeholders with the information they need to build a path to ending relationship violence.

**If you or someone you know needs help, call**

**Office of Respect (Emory Students only) (24-hr hotline: 470-270-5360)**

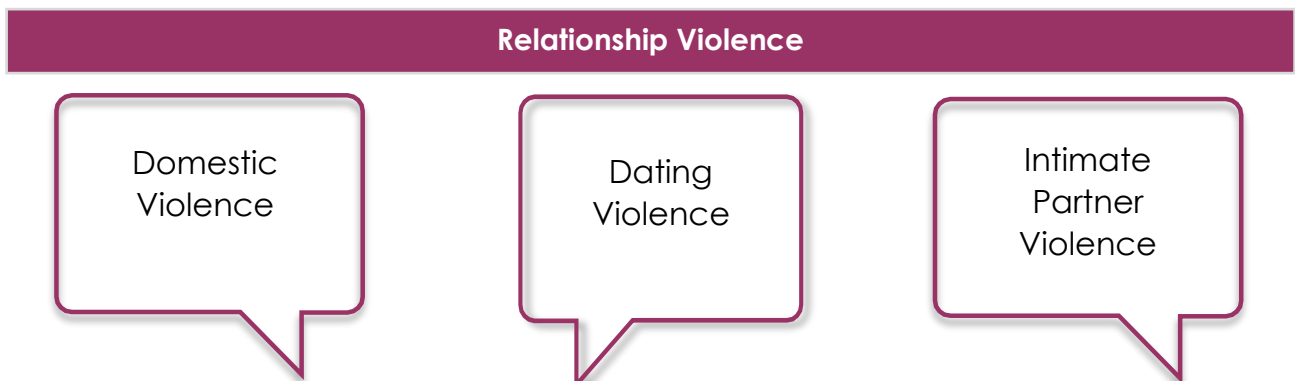
**Emory Faculty Staff Assistance Program (404-727-WELL)**

**National Domestic Violence Hotline (24-hr hotline: 1-800-799-SAFE)**

## Defining Relationship Violence: What's in a Name?

*This section has been adapted from the Office of Respect's website<sup>2</sup>.*

**Relationship violence** – is a pattern of behavior used by a perpetrator to gain and maintain power over their intimate partner(s). This may include physical, emotional, spiritual, mental, sexual, verbal, psychological, and/or economic abuse. Here at Emory, we choose to use the term “relationship violence” because it best describes the people between whom violence exists, both on and off campus. Abusive or violent acts can also be considered relationship violence if they occur between people who were previously dating, in a relationship, or engaging in sexual activity with each other.



<sup>1</sup> <https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/intimatepartnerviolence/index.html>

<sup>2</sup> Office of Respect, "About." 2020. <http://respect.emory.edu/about.html>

## Relevant Publications

Eckhardt, C. I., Parrott, D. J., & Crane, C. A. (2019). Alcohol, conflict, and aggression in intimate relationships: A dyadic approach. *Journal of Social and Personal Relationships*, 36(5), 1459–1475. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0265407518825308>

**Intimate partner aggression (IPA) is a critical public health problem. Alcohol intoxication and a pattern of heavy alcohol consumption are robust correlates of IPA perpetration, there has been limited research that examines this association from a dyadic perspective. Read the article above to learn more about the correlation.**

Niolon, P.H., Stearns, M., Dills, J., Rambo, K., Armstead, T.L., Gilbert, L. (2017). *Preventing intimate partner violence across the lifespan: A technical package of programs, policies and practices*. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. <https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/ipv-technicalpackages.pdf>

**Compilation of core strategies to prevent and reduce intimate partner violence.**

## Community Resources

Partnership Against Domestic Violence  
**Providing Support During the Pandemic (Blog)**  
<https://www.padv.org/padvishere>

Georgia Coalition Against Domestic Violence  
**Creating Helpful Resources (Pocket Cards)**  
<https://bit.ly/2F7FHPU>

## National Resources

National Domestic Violence Hotline Public Service Announcement (PSA) relationship violence videos  
<https://www.youtube.com/user/NDVHotline/>

## Video and Audio Resources

Finding even a flicker of positivity in the wake of a domestic violence (DV) event seems impossible, yet it happened. Christian Rainey, who lost his family to such tragedy, has committed himself to eradicating DV and engaging men in this movement. Here's his story: <https://youtu.be/zhKoy2QPThE>

Listen to our [Empowerment Playlist Here!](#) 

**IPRCE:** [iprce.emory.edu](http://iprce.emory.edu) | Facebook and Twitter @IPRCEmory

**Emory's Office of Respect:** [respect.emory.edu](http://respect.emory.edu) | Instagram @office\_of\_respect | Facebook and Twitter @RespectWell