

You care about safety...

**...but how do you
communicate it?**

Does the Person You Love...



- Threaten to hurt or kill you or your children?**
- Throw, push, hit, choke, kick or slap you?**
- Say it's your fault, promise it won't happen again - but then it does?**
- Control where you go, who you talk to, and how you spend your money?**
- Force you to have sex when you don't want to?**

**If you answered
"yes"
to any of these questions,
you may be a victim of physical,
sexual or emotional abuse.**

We can help you if you are unable to follow certain rules because of Domestic Violence. Talk to your caseworker at any time if you need help.



If you experience physical, sexual or emotional abuse...

**you may claim "good cause"
so you can be excused from:**

- Work requirements**
- Child support cooperation requirements**
- Requirement for teen parent to live at home**
- Time limits**
- Some other requirements with approval**

**For More Information, Talk To Your
Income Maintenance Caseworker.**

We can help you if you are unable to follow certain rules, because of Domestic Violence
Talk to your caseworker at any time, if you need help.

DOES THE PERSON YOU LOVE ...

- Threaten to hurt or kill you or your children?
- Throw, push, hit, choke, kick, or slap you?
- Say it's your fault, promise it won't happen again – but then it does?
- Control where you go, who you talk to, and how you spend your money?
- Force you to have sex when you don't want to?

If you answered “yes” to any of these questions, you may be a victim of physical, sexual, or emotional abuse.

Your Income Maintenance Caseworker can excuse you from some of the welfare requirements and provide names and telephone numbers of local agencies that can help.



YOU AND YOUR CHILDREN HAVE THE RIGHT TO BE SAFE FROM FAMILY VIOLENCE

If you or your children are in danger of abuse,
we may be able to excuse you temporarily from
some welfare requirements ...

**FOR MORE INFORMATION TALK TO
YOUR INCOME MAINTENANCE CASEWORKER**



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS
GREG ABBOTT

Get Smart

Know the child support process

Get Safe

Protect yourself and your children

Get Support

Receive financial and medical support for your children



When You Open a Child Support Case:

The court will establish an order for financial and medical support, as well as custody and visitation.

You will have to appear in court with the other parent or participate in a negotiation meeting at a child support office.

Your physical address will be printed on child support documents and could be accessed by the other parent.

There Are Steps You Can Take To Protect Yourself And Your Children.

Tell child support staff about your safety concerns.

Ask child support staff about safety measures that can be in place for your court date.

Ask about family violence protections and keeping your address confidential.

If you have immediate safety concerns or questions contact the

National Domestic Violence Hotline

Providing crisis intervention, safety planning, information and referrals nationwide, 24 hours a day.

1.800.799.SAFE | 1.800.787.3224 (TTY)

This project was supported by the Texas Health and Human Services Commission, Family Violence Program.

APPLYING FOR CHILD SUPPORT IS A REQUIREMENT OF TANF

When you open a child support case:

The court will establish financial and medical support, as well as custody and visitation.

You will have to appear in court with the other parent or participate in a negotiation meeting at a child support office.

Your physical address will be printed on child support documents.

If you have concerns that these things may put you and your children in danger,
YOU HAVE OPTIONS.

1

Ask your TANF case worker/Texas Works advisor about GOOD CAUSE.

This waives the requirement of child support cooperation and allows you to receive TANF without applying for child support if doing so would place you or your children in danger.

2

If you choose to apply for child support, ask child support office staff about FAMILY VIOLENCE PROTECTIONS.

The Office of the Attorney General can protect your address and take other safety measures throughout the child support process.

If you have immediate safety concerns or questions contact the
National Domestic Violence Hotline

Providing Crisis Intervention, safety planning, information and referrals nationwide, 24 hours a day.
1.800.799.SAFE | 1.800.787.3224 (TTY)

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Get Smart. Get Safe. Get Support.

www.getchildsupportsafely.org

Get Smart

know the child support process

Get Safe

Protect yourself and your children

Get Support

Receive financial and medical support for your children.

Applying for
child support
through the
Office of the
Attorney
General
(OAG)

Applying for
child support as
a requirement of
a government
benefits
program (TANF,
Adult Medicaid,
Child Care
Services (CSS),
or housing
assistance)

Going
through the
child support
process
as the
respondent

Preparing for
court and the
court process

Following
or modifying
a child
support order

Anne Menard

National Resource Center on Domestic Violence

800-537-2238 ext 121

amenard@pcadv.org
