Teens: Is it Abuse or Not? Take the Quiz

By Roberta McCulloch-Dews

Two Minutes has featured stories on unhealthy teen dating relationships for the past two weeks. The subject is a concern as nearly 40 percent of girls will experience this type of union, says Joan Ostrander, community educator for Rape Crisis of the Southern Tier.

Ostrander provides a quiz to help teenagers recognize the danger signs:

1) **Dating violence is:**
   a. Controlling, abusive, aggressive behavior in a romantic relationship
   b. Does not really happen to teens
   c. Abusive behavior that only happens to girls
   d. None of the above

2) **Which of the following could be considered a sign of relationship abuse?**
   a. My boyfriend didn’t call me last night
   b. My boyfriend called me a slut in front of his friends because of the clothes and makeup I was wearing
   c. My boyfriend forgot our anniversary
   d. None of the above

3) **Which of the following is considered a crime?**
   a. Robbery
   b. Rape
   c. Relationship violence
   d. All of the above

4) **What kinds of behavior could be considered relationship abuse?**
   a. Keeping someone away from their friends or family
   b. Calling someone names
c. Controlling what someone wears
d. All of the above

5) When someone touches you or kisses you and you do not want it, it is called:
a. Physical abuse
b. Sexual abuse
c. Controlling
d. None of the above

6) I think a friend of mine might be in a violent relationship. What should I do?
a. Take her shopping
b. Talk to her, ask her if everything is OK in a calm, nonjudgmental way
c. Have your boyfriend beat up her boyfriend
d. Mind your own business

7) What can you do when you end a violent relationship, but your ex-boyfriend keeps trying to see you?
a. Explain your situation to an adult you trust
b. Avoid situations where you might see your ex
c. Call the police if you are threatened or if you feel afraid
d. All of the above

Answer key: 1) a, 2) b, 3) d, 4) d, 5) b, 6) b, 7) d.

For more information, contact Rape Crisis of the Southern Tier at 888/810-0093 or visit www.rcst.org.

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