

Domestic Abuse

WORKBOOK

Name

Class

THROUGH THEIR EYES

What is good about families and home

a place we belong
where we are loved
safe
predictable
we can relax
feel happy
parents/carers are kind and offer guidance
where we are listened to
siblings share the space
time and space to play
regular mealtimes with good food
a comfortable place to sleep well
appropriate clean clothes
support for attending school
care when we are unwell
acceptance when we make mistakes

Everyone needs to be safe at home:

If you or someone living with you, doesn't feel safe at home, or feels controlled, or is being made to do things they don't want to do, this is domestic abuse.

What is domestic abuse?

Definition of domestic abuse: Any incident or pattern of behaviour, violence or abuse between those aged 16 or over, who are or have been intimate partners or family members regardless of gender or sexuality.

Domestic abuse: may be verbal, physical, psychological, emotional, sexual, financial, hurtful behaviours.

What else is domestic abuse?

Honour based violence/abuse: is a violent crime or incident which may have been committed with a stated reason to protect or defend the honour of the family or community.

A forced marriage: is carried out without the consent of one or both people. This is very different from an arranged marriage, to which both people will have agreed.

Cutting/female genital mutilation: is when girls/women are cut for cultural, religious, or social reasons. It is illegal in this country.

If you or someone you know is not feeling safe at home, who can you talk to?

THROUGH THEIR EYES

Who are you concerned about and why?

Tyler

He is much younger
He isn't allowed to do what he wants
He is being called names
He is being hit and kicked
His dad has left the family
His mum doesn't seem to be able to protect him

Riley

His dad is not around
He is being verbally and physically abusive to his little brother
He is verbally abusive to his mum
His step father has now left the family too

Mum

She has to care for the family on her own, the fathers of the boys have left the family
She worries about Tyler being picked on by his brother
She is trying to keep the peace and cook dinner
She makes excuses for Riley, but she thinks he is being mean
She wonders if the fact that Bill couldn't control Riley's behaviour is a factor in why he left
She feels that Riley's behaviour is getting worse
She has had a phone call from Tyler's teacher at school, telling her he has problems at school

Mrs Townsend

"I just wanted to talk to you about Tyler. He is a lovely boy and he was doing really well in class before Christmas. More recently, he has not seemed interested in class, he has been very quiet, and has fallen out with Harry, his best friend. We don't know why. He was getting changed for PE today and I noticed bruises on his arms and legs. Do you have any idea how he got these bruises?"

Does the family need help?:

All three family members need help, this includes Riley, despite the fact that he is so abusive. If this continues, his behaviour will affect his chances to do well at school, have friends who are positive, and whether he can control himself.

Who can help and how?:

Mum could talk to a friend/or staff at a local community hub, to get some support
She could go to Social Care for advice and help with Riley's behaviour
She could talk to her local Police Community Support Officer
She could talk to Tyler's teacher and get her to refer Tyler for help

Imagine you are a friend of Riley or Tyler, what could you do to help?

THROUGH THEIR EYES

Mum is depressed and frightened

She worries about where Riley has gone.

She feels it is hard for him because “he doesn’t remember his dad, he left when Riley was three years old.”

She hasn’t told Riley that his dad used to hit her, she called the Police, and ended up in hospital twice, but she still she didn’t say what he had done. His dad used to steal cars, drink and do drugs. He didn’t leave the family, he is in prison

She is depressed when Riley blames her.
She is frightened when he gets angry.

Andrew a Youth Worker, talks to Mr Lewis, Riley’s Form Tutor at school

“Thank you for taking the call. I am one of the Youth Workers at the Youth Club near the parade. We had a spot of bother last night. There are a group of boys who hang round outside the club. They don’t come into the club. They are often outside, drinking alcohol, and we think there is some drug dealing. They shout at the kids who do come to the club and some of the kids have reported being offered drugs. Well last night was worse. One of them threatened my co-worker and we had to call the Police. They scarpereed when the Police came. One of our lot said that the ringleader was a boy called Riley, and he thought that he went to your school.”

In what ways are matters now worse for Riley?

He has been hanging out near the parade, with others who behave badly.
They don’t go to the club, which is there to help young people have something to do.
They have been seen drinking and drug taking.
They are shouting at young people who do go to the club.
They have offered the young people drugs.
The night before, one of them threatened a co-worker, so the Police were called.
Young people using the Youth club have named Riley as the ringleader.
His school has been told about all this, and will be asked for his details by the Police.

How will the Police view his behaviour?

The rowdy behaviour of the group may escalate into Anti Social Behaviours, if the group is causing a public nuisance.
They are too young to be drinking alcohol, it is illegal. The Police will be concerned.
They will follow up how the youths got the alcohol, as it is illegal to sell alcohol to people their age.
It is illegal to be taking drugs: they are committing Unlawful Possession and Intent to supply.
They have made a threat to a Youth Club worker, which may be seen as Common Assault.

What do you think is stopping mum getting help?

THROUGH THEIR EYES

Mum's neighbour, Sue, acts

There were lots of things Sue could have done:

She could have invited mum round to hers, so she could ask her what happened.
She could have offered to have Tyler round to play with her son Freddie more often.
She could have talked about what was happening to her other neighbours.
She could have done nothing.

She did the bravest thing, which was to be an Upstander, and involve the Police:

Domestic Abuse is illegal, mum is a victim all over again. The Police can act.
The well-being of both boys is a Safeguarding matter, policy/practices exist for this.
The Police have a representative in the Muti Agency Safeguarding Hub, (MASH).
Social Care will then be alerted.
The schools of the boys will be contacted and asked to provide in-school support.
There will be a part of the plans going forward which will set out support for mum.

women's aid

until women & children are safe

www.womensaid.org.uk

Design a logo for in school, a symbol reminding everyone it is good to talk about Domestic Abuse.