

# Break the Silence

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Franklin County Family Resource Center, (540) 483-5088

## Special Interest Articles

\*How Is Your Relationship?

\*What You Should Know  
About Domestic Violence  
and Firearms

\*Stalking and Domestic  
Violence

\*What Are These Bins Doing  
Here?

About 40% of all gun sales are handled by non-Federal Firearm Licensees who are not required to perform background checks on the buyer.

Source: *The HELP Network (2003)*



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Domestic Violence...  
It is your business!



## How Is Your Relationship? Take The Quiz!

So, you think things are great? Good? Fair? HELP! Take the following quiz and find out.

Does Your Partner:

- Call you bad names or put you down?
- Look at you or behave in ways that scare you?
- Control what you do, who you talk to, who you see or where you go?
- Take your money and make you ask for it or

refuse to give you money?

- Stop you from seeing or talking to family members or your friends?
- Make all the decisions without letting you have a say?
- Tell you that you are a bad parent or threaten to hurt or take your children from you?
- Act as if abuse is no big deal, that it's your

fault or even deny the abuse?

- Destroy your personal property or threaten to hurt or kill your pets?
- Intimidate you with weapons?
- Hit, slap, push, punch or kick you? Or threaten to kill you or kill themselves?

If you answered yes to even one of these you could be in an abusive relationship.

For more information call:  
483-5088.

## What You Should Know About DV & Firearms

Any time there is a presence of a firearm in a domestic violence situation, it greatly increases the danger level in an already violent situation.

VA State Law states: A person subject to a domestic violence protective order or a stalking order cannot "purchase or transport" any firearm. A violation is a Class 1 misdemeanor. All though Virginia law does not prohibit possession of a

firearm by a person convicted of a misdemeanor crime of domestic violence it does prohibit a person from obtaining a concealed weapons permit and this prohibition is in affect for three years following conviction. However, if you do and the U.S. Attorney finds out you could be prosecuted. Federal Law states that it is unlawful for anyone subject to a domestic violence

protective order against an intimate partner or child or anyone who has been convicted of a misdemeanor crime of domestic violence to "ship, transport or possess any firearm or receive any firearm or ammunition".

It is a class 5 felony to give a false statement on the state and federal disclosure form to purchase a gun. For more information on firearm laws, contact Angela Phillips at 483-5088 or the VSDVAA hotline at: 1-800-838-8238

BREAK THE SILENCE



"Every breath you take  
Every move you make  
Every bond you break  
Every step you take  
I'll be watching you"  
*(music by: Sting)*

Visit our web-site today!

[www.franklincountyva.org/shelter](http://www.franklincountyva.org/shelter)

Or, one of these other sites!

[www.stalkingvictims.com](http://www.stalkingvictims.com)

[www.ncsconline.org](http://www.ncsconline.org)

[www.m4c.nc.ca](http://www.m4c.nc.ca)



## Stalking and Domestic Violence

**Legally, stalking is defined as an unwanted pursuit, following or harassment.**

It is also described as a course of conduct directed at a specific person that places a reasonable person in fear for his/her safety. Stalking is a crime in all 50 states and 14 states classify stalking as a felony upon the first offense.

Statistics report that about 1 in 12 women and 1 in 45 men will be stalked in their lifetimes. Approximately 1.4 million people are stalked every year in the US.

**STALKING CAN BE VERY DANGEROUS AND SHOULD BE TAKEN SERIOUSLY!**

76% of women killed by their intimate partners were stalked by the perpetrators beforehand, and 67% had been physically abused as well. Many stalking victims lose time from work, suffer from anxiety, insomnia, social dysfunction and severe depression as a result.

**MOST STALKERS ARE NOT STRANGERS!**

If you are a victim of stalking, there are things you can do to regain control of your life.

- ✓ Keep a detailed log of contacts/harassments from the stalker.
- ✓ Obtain a copy of your state's stalking law.
- ✓ See if you have grounds to file a protective order.
- ✓ File a police report or obtain a warrant if necessary.
- ✓ Keep a file of all police reports.
- ✓ Obtain assistance from a victim advocate in your area.
- ✓ Call **1-800-FYI-CALL** for more information.

## WE'VE GOT BINS!!!

The Friends of the Family Resource Center have teamed up with Green Earth Recycling to create a new fundraiser for the shelter!

Have you started seeing white bins with the words, "clothing and shoe donations", in bold black letters?

The FFRC and GER have so far found homes for 14 bins in Franklin County. How does the shelter benefit, you might ask. That's simple, any winter clothes/shoes dropped into the bins comes to the shelter clothes closet for clients. GER makes a charitable donation to the FFRC for the shelter, of \$50

per bin, per month!

This is much needed help in funding for the FRC and their efforts to eliminate domestic violence in our community and help those who are victims.

Please, if you have any unwanted clothing or shoes, no matter what shape they are in, deposit them into one of these white bins!

The Family Resource Center still accepts donations at their office from those in need of a tax receipt. But, if you don't need a receipt, take it to the bins!

The following are a list of the locations now in place and operating:

- Schewel's Furniture Parking Lot
- Beside Advance Auto in the Rocky Mount Plaza
- Soon to be where ALL recycling collection boxes are found
- Boones Mill Shopping Center
- Mtn. View Apts.
- Parking lot on Maple St. where the Sarah Rice Law Firm is located
- Wal-mart, next to the Goodwill collection hut