



Physical Abuse

Physical abuse is a specific type of abuse that one person in a relationship chooses to use as a way to control and manipulate the other person. There are a variety of ways physical abuse may show up.

- Hitting, kicking, pushing, slapping, choking, etc.
- Threatening to physically harm their partner
- Using weapons to harm their partner
- Harming children or pets
- Preventing use of emergency services
- Trapping their partner in the home or other locations
- Preventing partner from meeting basic needs (food, water, sleep, shelter, bathroom, medication)
- Driving recklessly with partner
- Abandoning partner when driving
- Throwing objects at their partner
- Forcing partner to use drugs or alcohol, especially if partner has a history of substance abuse
- Grabbing of the face to force eye contact
- Pulling hair
- Physically restraining (such as pinning against a wall, floor, bed, etc.)
- Forcing sex or sexual acts (also sexual abuse)

If you believe you or someone you know is experiencing physical abuse, or any other forms of abuse from a current or former intimate partner, contact MSU Safe Place for information and support.

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