

Questions (and definition) from North Carolina Social Determinants of Health

Interpersonal violence refers to violence between individuals, and is subdivided into family, intimate partner violence, and community violence.

Family and intimate partner violence “includes child maltreatment, intimate partner violence; and elder abuse, while [community violence] is broken down into acquaintance and stranger violence which includes youth violence; assault by strangers; violence related to property crimes; and violence in workplaces and other institutions” ([World Health Organization, 2024](#)).

1. Do you feel physically or emotionally unsafe where you currently live?
2. Within the past 12 months, have you been hit, slapped, kicked or otherwise physically hurt by anyone?
3. Within the past 12 months, have you been humiliated or emotionally abused by anyone?

General ways to start the conversation:

Domestic violence is hard to talk about. Here are some examples of how you can **Start the Conversation**:

- “I noticed that sometimes [insert partner’s name] does this [insert concerning tactic that you’ve seen]. Does that happen a lot? How does that make you feel?”
- “I’m concerned about your safety. Is it okay if we talk about it?”
- “I’m so glad you told me about [insert disclosure of abuse]. How can I help or support you? What do you need?”
- “I noticed lately that you’ve been [insert survivor’s behavior like “getting hurt a lot lately” or “not going out as much”]. Is everything okay? If you ever want to talk about it, I’m here for you. ”
- “I know this can be really hard to talk about. I promise I believe you and won’t judge any of your choices or experiences. I care about you and just want you to be safe. ”
- “I recently read/watched/heard [insert book, article, movie, podcast about domestic violence]. Have you read/seen/heard it? What do you think?”