OCTOBER

is Relationship Violence Awareness Month, also known as Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

Relationship violence thrives when we are silent, but if we take a stand and work together, we can end relationship violence.
Relationship violence (also called Intimate Partner Violence) is a pattern of abusive behaviors used by one intimate partner against another to gain, maintain, or regain power and control in the relationship.

Abusive behaviors could be physical, mental, emotional or financial.
ACCORDING TO THE CDC

1 in 4 women and 1 in 7 men will report intimate partner violence.

24 people per MINUTE experience intimate partner violence
If abuse is happening, the victim can always easily leave the relationship.

There are many reasons why victims don’t or can’t leave an abusive relationship. These can include: fear of the perpetrator, religious or social stigma, self-blame, minimization of the violence, or loyalty to their partner.

Other factors like the perpetrator being in control of their finances or having children can make leaving more complicated.
Abuse only happens to women and only in heterosexual relationships.

8% of domestic violence incidences are perpetrated against men, and LGBTQ partners experience abuse at a rate equal to that of heterosexual relationships.

In some LGBTQ relationships, the perpetrator could threaten to “out” their partner to friends and family if they try to leave.
SIGN OF AN UNHEALTHY & HEALTHY RELATIONSHIP

*Important Note* The power and control wheel and the equality wheel uses she pronouns for the victim and he pronouns for the perpetrator, but we speak in gender neutral terms to acknowledge all perpetrators and victims/survivors.
RELATIONSHIP VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

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BREAK THE CYCLE OF VIOLENCE!

If you are experiencing relationship violence YOU HAVE OPTIONS:

i. The RSVP (Relationship & Sexual Violence Prevention) Center can assist you with finding resources through medical advocacy, legal advocacy, housing advocacy, academic advocacy and mental health advocacy. Visit the RSVP Center website for more information about these services and for a list of campus/community resources.

If your friend is experiencing relationship violence you can help!

i. Listen without judgment.
ii. Never blame them for the situation.
iii. Be supportive of their feelings and decisions.

1. Don’t pressure them to do anything. The way you would handle the situation is not necessarily the way someone else would want to. Give them support and resources, but let them make their own decisions.
RESOURCES
(FULL LIST AVAILABLE AT RSVP.MISSOURI.EDU)

RSVP Center: Crisis intervention, case management and advocacy for survivors, resources for friends and family.
G210 MU Student Center (Lower Level)
8am - 5pm - Monday - Friday
(573) 882-6638 - rsvp.missouri.edu

True North: (573) 875-1369 - Provides services to survivors of relationship violence, sexual assault, and stalking 24 hours/day, 7 days/week

Student Legal Services: Free legal consultation for students; assistance with orders of protection.
2500 MU Student Center
(573) 882-9700

Counseling Center: Free counseling sessions for students.
102 Parker Hall
(573) 882-6701