


Family Violence Quiz

Indicate whether you think each statement below is TRUE or FALSE

1. Based on population size, Alberta has the highest reported rate of spousal abuse in Canada. TRUE FALSE
 2. People are not responsible for violence against their partners if they have been provoked. TRUE FALSE
 3. Most people who are violent with their partner are not violent with others, outside of their homes. TRUE FALSE
 4. Alcohol or drugs and stress are the main causes of spousal abuse. TRUE FALSE
 5. An abused person just needs to leave their violent partner to put an end to the violent situation. TRUE FALSE
 6. Most people who are abused by their partner have a low level of education. TRUE FALSE
 7. Spousal/partner assault is highest for victims between the ages of 18 and 24 than for any other age group. TRUE FALSE
 8. It is useless to help a victim of spousal abuse who decides to go back to his/her partner. TRUE FALSE
 9. Victims of spousal abuse must show their partner a lot of love in order to change their partner's violent behaviors. TRUE FALSE
 10. Insults, intimidation, threats, jealousy, control, pressure, yelling and humiliation are acts of violence. TRUE FALSE
 11. Many violent partners have psychiatric problems TRUE FALSE
-



Family Violence Quiz: Answers and Explanations

- 1. Based on population size, Alberta has the highest reported rate of spousal assault in Canada.**
TRUE: Alberta has the highest rate in Canada, at 11%.¹ In 2002, the police received more than 6,000 reports of spousal assault, and over 4,000 charges were laid.²
- 2. People are not responsible for violence against their partners if they have been provoked**
FALSE: Anyone who uses violence in a situation, even when troubled by the behavior of another is entirely responsible. Nobody deserves to be abused. Violence is a learned behavior, chosen and used as a way to control and dominate. "There's no excuse for abuse."
- 3. Most people who are violent with their partner are not violent with others, outside of their homes.**
TRUE: Violent partners are often good co-workers or charming neighbours. We are often surprised to hear this or that person has abused his or her partner.
- 4. Alcohol or drugs and stress are the main causes of spousal abuse.**
FALSE: People do not become violent with their partner because they have taken alcohol or drugs. No substances or stressful situations have the power to make someone violent against his or her will. Even if alcohol or drugs reduce inhibitions and stress causes tension, these factors must not be used by violent persons to avoid taking responsibility.
- 5. An abused person just needs to leave their violent partner to put an end to the violent situation.**
FALSE: Even after a separation, divorce, a violent person may threaten, harass or physically attack his or her ex-partner. The victim requires a great deal of support at that time.
- 6. Most people who are abused by their partner have a low level of education.**
FALSE: People abused by their partners possess all levels of education and are found in every socioeconomic class.
- 7. Spousal/partner assault is highest for victims between the ages of 18 and 24 than for any other age group.**
TRUE: Assault by a partner in this age group is about four times the Canadian average.³
- 8. Helping a victim of spousal abuse who decides to go back to their partner is useless.**
FALSE: Asking for help can be the first step in getting out of the situation. Helping the victim allows him or her to take the necessary steps, at their own pace. It is essential not to blame victims and to respect and support them.
- 9. Victims of spousal abuse must show their partner a lot of love in order to change their partner's violent behaviors.**
FALSE: Victims are not responsible for and cannot change their partners. Only the abusers themselves, after becoming aware of their violence and admitting responsibility, can decide to change their own behavior.
- 10. Insults, intimidation, threats, jealousy, control, pressure, yelling and humiliation are acts of violence.**
TRUE: A partner's psychological and verbal violence can have very serious consequences: They reduce self-esteem, break, destroy, and slowly kill . . . These forms of violence are often more devastating for the victim than physical abuse.
- 11. Many violent partners have psychiatric problems.**
FALSE: Only a small percentage of people who abuse their partners have such problems. Spousal abuse isn't a disease.

1. Federal-Provincial-Territorial Ministries Responsible for the Status of Women, 2002

2. Alberta Solicitor General, 2002

3. Statistics Canada, 2005