

Danger Assessment

Several risk factors have been associated with homicides (murders) of both batterers and victims in research conducted after the murders have taken place. No one can predict what will happen in your case, but we would like you to be aware of the danger of homicide in situations of severe battering and for you to see how many of the risk factors apply to your situation.

Using a calendar, please mark the approximate dates during the past year when you were beaten by your abuser. Write on that date how bad the incident was according to the following scale:

1. Slapping, pushing; no injuries and/or lasting pain.
2. Punching, kicking, bruises, cuts and/or lasting pain.
3. "Beating up"; severe contusions, burns, broken bones.
4. Threat to use weapons; head injury, internal injury, permanent injury.
5. Use of weapon; wounds from weapon.

(If any of the descriptions for the higher number apply, use the higher number.)

Mark **Yes** or **No** for each of the following.

- 1. Has the physical violence increased in severity or frequency over the past year?
- 2. Has a weapon been used against you or have you been threatened with a weapon?
- 3. Does your abuser ever try to choke you?
- 4. Does your abuser own a gun?
- 5. Have you ever been forced to have sex when you did not wish to do so?
- 6. Does your abuser use drugs? By drugs, this implies "uppers" or amphetamines, speed, angel dust, cocaine, "crack", meth, street drugs or mixtures.
- 7. Does your abuser threaten to kill you and/or do you believe they are capable of killing you?
- 8. Is your abuser drunk every day or almost every day? (In terms of quantity of alcohol.)
- 9. Does your abuser control most or all of your daily activities? For instance: are you told who you can be friends with, when you can see your family, how much money you can use, or when you can take the car? (If your abuser tries, but you do not let him, check here :____)
- 10. Have you ever been beaten while you were pregnant? (If you have never been pregnant by your abuser, check here: ____)
- 11. Is your abuser violently and constantly jealous of you? (For instance, are you told "If I can't have you, no one can.")?
- 12. Have you ever threatened or tried to commit suicide?
- 13. Has your abuser ever threatened or tried to commit suicide?
- 14. Does your abuser threaten to harm your children?
- 15. Do you have a child that is not your abuser's child?
- 16. Is your abuser unemployed?
- 17. Have you left your abuser during the past year? (If you never lived with your, check here: ____)
- 18. Do you currently have another (different) intimate partner?
- 19. Does your abuser follow or spy on you, leave threatening notes, destroy your property, or call you when you don't want them to?

___ Total "Yes" Answers

18 and over = Extreme Danger

14 – 17 = Severe Danger

8 – 13 = Increased Danger

Less than 8 = Variable Danger