



Open Heart
ADVOCATES
Danger Assessment

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Several risk factors have been associated with increased risk of homicides (murders) of women and men in violent relationships. We cannot predict what will happen in your case, but we would like you to be aware of the danger of homicide in situations of abuse and for you to see how many of the risk factors apply to your situation.

Using the calendar, please make the approximate dates during the past year when you were abused by your partner or ex-partner. 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 continuing pain.
3. "Beating up", severe contusions, burns broken bones.
4. Threat to use weapon, 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. (He refers to your husband, partner, ex-husband, ex-partner or whoever is currently physically hurting you.

- ___ 1. Has the physical violence increased in severity or frequency over the past year?
- ___ 2. Does he own a gun?
- ___ 3. Have you left him after living together during the past year?
- ___ 4. Is he unemployed?
- ___ 5. Has he ever used a weapon against you or threatened you with a lethal weapon? (If yes, was the weapon a gun?)
- ___ 6. Does he threaten to kill you?
- ___ 7. Has he avoided being arrested for domestic violence?
- ___ 8. Do you have a child that is not his?
- ___ 9. Has he ever forced you to have sex when you did not wish to do so?
- ___ 10. Does he ever try to choke you?
- ___ 11. Does he use illegal drugs? By drugs meaning: "uppers", or amphetamines, "meth", speed, angel dust, cocaine, "crack", street drugs or mixtures.
- ___ 12. Is he an alcoholic or problem drinker?

___ 13. Does he control most or all of your daily activities? For instance: Does he tell you 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 he tries, but you do not let him, check here:___)

___ 14. Is he violently and constantly jealous of you?

___ 15. Have you ever been beaten by him while you were pregnant? (If you have never been pregnant by him, check here :___)

___ 16. Has he ever threatened or tried to commit suicide?

___ 17. Does he threaten to harm your children?

___ 18. Do you believe he is capable to killing you?

___ 19. Does he follow or spy on you, leave threatening notes or messages, destroy your property, or call you when you don't want him to?

___ 20. Have you ever threatened or tried to commit suicide?

Add total number of "yes" responses: 1-20	
Add 4 points for each "yes" to questions 2 and 3	
Add 3 points for a "yes" to question 4	
Add 2 points for a "yes" to questions 5, 6 and 7	
Add 1 point for each "yes" to questions 8 and 9	
Subtract 3 points if 3 is checked	
	Total here:

Based on the sum of weighted scoring, place your danger assessment in one of the following categories:

- Less than 8 "variable danger" – Be sure to state that the level can change quickly- watch for other signs of danger and believe in their gut.
- 8-13 "increased danger"- Advise of the risk, assertive safety planning, consult with judges. High level of supervision recommendations.
- 14-17 "severe danger" – Advise of risk, assertive safety planning, consult with judges, high level of supervision recommendations.
- 18 or more "extreme danger"- Advise of the serious danger, take assertive actions, call for criminal justice or other professional help, and recommend the highest bail, highest sentencing, and highest probation supervision.