

Elephant in The Room Q & A

Outreach Events
Fall 2019



This document can also be accessed at <https://www.bloom365.org/faqs>

Resources:

For additional resources, please visit bloom365.com/resources

<p>BLOOM365 Advocacy Line and Support Groups</p>	<p>Text or call a BLOOM365 advocate for free, confidential support. Text/Call: 1-888-606-HOPE (4673) Advocacy Line Hours of Operation: Monday-Friday from 3PM-9PM</p> <p>Join us every Monday, Wednesday, and/or Thursday evening for one of our drop-in support groups (Holidays excluded)!</p>
<p>Teen Lifeline</p>	<p>Text or call 602-248-TEEN (8336) for free, confidential support 24/7 relating to suicide, depression, bullying, or relationships. Peer/Teen Counselors answer the hotline from 3pm-9pm every day, including weekends and holidays.</p>
<p>National Teen Dating Violence Hotline</p>	<p>Text "LOVEIS" to 22522 24/7</p>
<p>National Domestic Violence Hotline</p>	<p>1-800-799-SAFE (7233)</p>
<p>National Sexual Assault Hotline</p>	<p>1-800.656.HOPE (4673)</p>
<p>National Human Trafficking Hotline</p>	<p>1-888-373-7888</p>
<p>Crisis and Suicide Prevention</p>	<p>Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 1-800-273-TALK (8255)</p> <p>Crisis Text Line: Text TALK to 741741</p>

Ironwood High School

Q: Is teen dating abuse really that common? I knew it happened but not that often at least.

A: Teen dating abuse is disturbingly common. Most people don't recognize that teen dating abuse is a problem. However, we know that 1 in 3 teens will experience dating abuse. The data we have collected indicates this number may be even higher in Arizona. We believe that by increasing awareness around this issue, we will begin to see these issues discussed more often. You can help increase awareness of teen dating violence by sharing your message via hobbies you have (event planning, marketing, artwork, public speaking, project planning, public policy, community collaboration, etc.). In fact, look into joining BLOOM365's Peer Advocate Crew (PAC) to help raise awareness about teen dating abuse or to help prevent teen dating abuse from continuing.

Centennial High School

Q: How do I approach the situation of...I have a friend and they're a good friend of mine. But I feel like an annoyance to them.

A: Communication is an important part of healthy relationships, including friendships. It may be helpful to utilize the communication technique called I-Statements. For example: Saying something like, "I feel _____ (emotion) when _____ (situation), can you/we please _____ (solution)?" This style of conflict resolution allows you to take ownership of your own feelings, allowing the other person to understand your perspective of the situation without feeling directly attacked. This prevents them from feeling like they need to defend themselves and allows for more effective communication and empathy. It is important to remember that you and your friend both have the right to set boundaries and the freedom to choose who you spend time with. Ultimately, talking about how you feel and helping your friend gain an understanding can help you both get on the same page about your friendship. You might also consider asking your friend to spend time together doing things you both enjoy, as this could strengthen your relationship and allow for a more open dialogue. If you'd like to talk more about this situation, please reach out to our Advocacy Line on Monday-Friday from 3-9 PM MST.

First Star – Arizona State University

Q: What happened to Katy and what did her mom have to do to make Katy's Law

A: To learn about Kaity's Story, visiting <https://kaitysway.org/home/kaitys-story/>.

The following information can be found on: <https://kaitysway.org/kaitys-korner/#kaitys-law>

According to the Kaity's Way website:

Kaity's Law was enacted on September 30, 2009.

Kaity's Law is an act amending Arizona revised statutes; 13-3601 relating to domestic violence.

It allows those in Dating Relationships (Romantic or Sexual in nature) Protection under the law.

What kind of protection?

-Law Enforcement with or without a warrant may arrest the individual that committed the offense

-An Order of Protection can be obtained

-Firearms can be confiscated

-Law Enforcement shall provide certain information to the victim

-Information about an OOP or IAH

-Emergency Telephone number for local police

- Telephone numbers for local community resources
- 3 Strikes – A 3rd conviction under this law should be a felony

This law in Arizona allows those in dating relationships the same protection under the law as those who live with, are married to, blood-related, or pregnant by an abusive partner.

There is another Law called Katie's Law. According to dnasaves.org, Katie's Law, also known as the Katie Sepich Enhanced DNA Collection Act of 2010, is a federal law to provide funding to states to implement minimum and enhanced DNA collection processes for felony arrests. The bill is named after Katie Sepich, who was brutally attacked outside of her New Mexico home in August 2003 (dnasaves.org).

Q: What is the best way to get over the fear of telling someone about an intimate situation

A: First off, we want you to know that if you were sexually assaulted, it is not your fault and you are not alone. Engaging in these conversations is not easy and ultimately the decision of what you want to do is yours to make. However, the best thing we can do is be honest and open about the situation with a trusted adult in our life. But the most important thing to do is reach out in a way, and to the person, that makes you feel most comfortable. Telling someone about an abusive relationship can be hard, but your parents can help provide support during this difficult time and help you determine the best way to stay safe. If you don't feel comfortable telling parents everything, you can just let them know how you feel. You can come together to talk about ways to keep you safe and if you want to take any legal action (i.e. protective order). You also have the option to reach out to someone who is not your parent, for instance, a school social worker or a BLOOM365 Advocate at the number above.

Q: What are places that can help overcome violence?

A: There are many organizations and people, that help to support and advocate for those who have experienced violence. We would like to express that violence is never the victim's fault. If you would like to reach out to an advocate, please reach out to us at the number above.