



WHO TO CONTACT

If you are suffering from domestic violence, please do not suffer alone in silence and shame. **Speak out about your pain and change your situation.** Domestic violence is a breach of your human rights and a global concern for all of humanity.

You can contact the following agencies for assistance to make tomorrow a brighter day for yourself and your children.

Police

Central Police Station, Victoria, [Mahé](#)
Tel: **288000**

Probation Services

Oceangate House, Victoria, [Mahé](#)
Tel: **281500**

Horizon Complex, Baie Ste Anne, [Praslin](#)
Tel: **232027**

Family Tribunal

Room 105, Victoria House, Victoria, [Mahé](#)
Tel: **322223**

Room 10, Horizon Complex, Baie Ste Anne, [Praslin](#)
Tel: **232838**

Ministry of Health

Victoria Hospital, [Mahé](#)
Tel: **388000**

Baie Ste Anne Hospital, [Praslin](#)
Tel: **232333**

Logan Hospital, [La Digue](#)
Tel: **234255**



GENDER SECRETARIAT

Policy Planning Section
Ministry of Health and Social Development
P.O. Box 190
Victoria House
Victoria, Mahé
Phone: 281841 / 281660

Gender
Secretariat

Ministry of Health and
Social Development

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE: THE FACTS

16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence

25th November - 10th December 2007



INTRODUCTION ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Gender equality is a democratic principle articulated in our Constitution.

Domestic Violence is a human rights abuse

and a concern for the whole of society and not a private issue to be hidden behind closed doors.

Domestic violence includes emotional, psychological, physical and sexual violence.

Common assault (including threats of violence) = 2 years imprisonment.

Assault resulting in actual bodily harm = 7 years imprisonment.

Spousal rape and sexual harassment = 20 years imprisonment.

11% of women have been raped by an intimate partner in Seychelles.

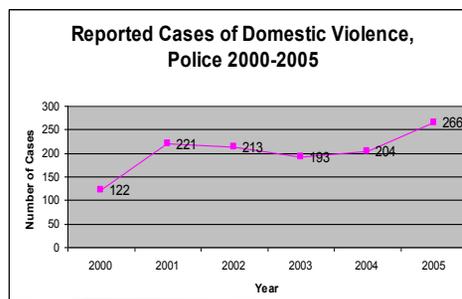
As a sign of Government's commitment to addressing the problem of domestic violence, the President announced a proposal for a **Domestic Violence Act and National Strategy**. The Ministry of Health and Social Development is currently working closely with all Stakeholders to develop this national strategy.

85% of abuses occur in the home.

FIGURES SPEAK LOUDER THAN WORDS

Statistics from various sources indicate a significant rise in the number of reported cases of domestic violence.

Police cases have more than doubled over the past 6 years.



In the first 8 months of 2007, Family Tribunal cases have grown by 45% compared to 2006.

The Gender Secretariat is currently working on a national survey on the extent, causes and consequences of domestic violence. Preliminary findings suggest that Domestic Violence is a problem that affects both men and women.

42% of women and 36% of men admitted to having experienced emotional abuse by an intimate partner.

27% of women and 23% of men have experienced moderate physical Violence.

28% of women and 26% of men admitted to being a victim of severe physical violence.

Deeper analysis of the survey findings found that although most people have witnessed an incident of domestic violence, they do not intervene because they see it as a private matter and none of their business.

Most victims remain silent and violence goes unreported

Low expectation of outcome of reporting cases to officials and love of partner stop most victims from seeking outside help.

In the study amongst those who did seek outside help for domestic violence:

32% of men and **44%** of women sought help for depression;

26% of men and **28%** of women sought help for aches and pain;

Infidelity was identified as a causal factor amongst **46%** of victims

Domestic violence affects the whole family

Protect yourself!
Protect your children!