

Setting yourself free from violence...brings hope.

Advocacy Services for Abused Deaf Victims of Monroe County, New York, (ASADV) is an incorporated 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. It is a member of the Rochester/Monroe County Domestic Violence Consortium, and Justice for Deaf Victims National Coalition

Mission and Vision

ASADV's mission is to provide support for Deaf adults and their children who are or have been victims of sexual assault and/or domestic violence. ASADV is dedicated to aiding in recovery through advocacy and empowerment.

It is ASADV's vision to offer a safe environment of empowering, advocacy and educational/training services to Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing victims of domestic and/or sexual assault.

It is also ASADV's vision that the various components of ASADV be Deaf-run as well as be advocates within institutionalized systems and work cooperatively with hearing-based agencies.

ASADV Goals...

ASADV has two main goals to help meet the needs of Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing victims of domestic violence and sexual assault:

- To ensure services are available to these victims.
- To ensure full access to communication where ASADV staff and advocates use American Sign Language (ASL).

ASADV also empowers victims to obtain assistance through hearing-based agencies.

Are You...

- ...frightened by your spouse's, boyfriend's/ girlfriend's, family members', lover's/partner's, roommate's temper?
- ...afraid to disagree with him or her?
- ...often apologetic for his/her behavior?
- ...hit, kicked, shoved, grabbed, or the target of things thrown at you by your partner?
- ...unable to see your family and friends sometimes because of his/her jealousy?
- ...afraid to say "no" to sex? ... forced to have sex?
- ...unable to go out, get a job, or go to school without his/her permission?
- ...prevented from using TTY, email, pager, or videophone while he/she is gone so you cannot contact anyone?

If you answered "yes" to two or more of these questions, you are in a relationship that is abusive or likely to become abusive.

What Can You Do to Get Help?

If you find yourself in an abusive relationship, seek help. Relationship abuse is a crime! Tell someone whom you can trust.

- Go to your local shelter, such as the YWCA. They can contact ASADV advocates for you at your request.
- Use the safety plan.
- Call 911 if you are afraid or threatened.



By Danielle, 6