



Guiami

0802-0802

Domestic violence and
child abuse hotline

INFORMATION FOLDER

Guiami, the advice for domestic violence and child abuse hotline, is for everyone. For children, young people, adults and the elderly. The people who work at Guiami are trained professionals. They provide advice and support to victims, perpetrators, family, bystanders, and professionals in all cases of domestic violence or child abuse.

The provided advice, assistance, or support is determined by the nature of the report. This is sometimes delivered in cooperation with various aid organisations on the island. This means it is possible to offer tailor-made support.

How can I make contact and what happens then exactly?

You can call, send a whatsapp or visit us by appointment. The Guiami employee will listen especially well to your story and ask questions to clarify what advice or help is needed. Depending on the situation, Guiami's employees may immediately provide assistance, for example if the situation is very threatening. But it may also be that several conversations are needed so that together, the right type of guidance may be determined.

'I am so afraid! I don't know what to do? What if they tell me to leave my husband right away? Where would I go then and how would I support myself and my daughter? I can't do that. Not alone and not now!'

Do not hesitate to contact the people of Guiami. They are staffed with experienced and specialized care providers who also understand your situation. If you make contact, it does not automatically mean that you have to leave the family or your home. We will work with you to determine what is appropriate.

What does domestic violence consist of?

Domestic violence is perpetrated by somebody from the victim's domestic circle, such as a partner, ex-partner, family member, or family friend. Domestic violence does not always take place at home. Abuse by an ex-partner in the street or stalking, for instance, are also considered as domestic violence.

The term 'domestic violence' does not only refer to intimate partner violence, but also includes child abuse, elder abuse, and honour-related violence. Women are the largest group of victims. However, men, children, and elderly people are also victims of domestic violence.

What does child abuse consist of?

Child abuse includes all types of abuse that are threatening or violent to a child. This not only includes physical violence but also emotional abuse or neglect.

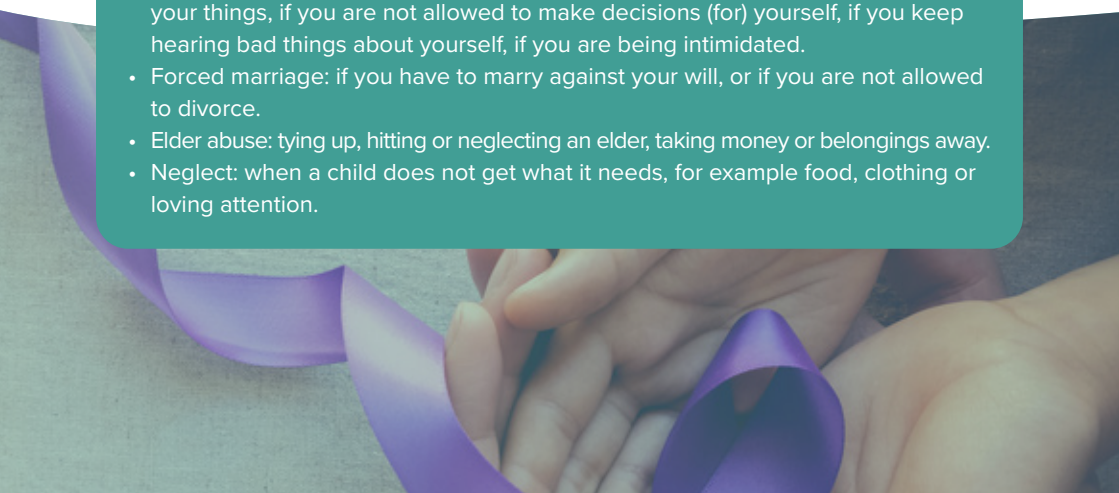
The way he opens the gate already says enough. My son feels it too. He runs over to me, climbs up on my lap and wraps his arms around me tightly. I can feel his heart beating fast through his shirt. I take a deep breath and stand up with my son clutched tightly in my arms. I try to stay as calm as possible. "Hey, where are you?!" and then our eyes meet. I freeze from what I see in it.

How to recognize signs of domestic violence and child abuse?

This is not always so easy to identify. The causes can vary greatly, as can the form and level of violence. Physical abuse is often easier to recognize than emotional or verbal abuse. Additionally, domestic violence is more than hitting, neglect also falls under domestic violence.

Examples of violence are:

- Hitting, kicking and other physical forms of violence.
- Sexual assault: touching or having sex against your will or blackmailing via social media.
- Mental violence: verbal abuse, humiliation, threats of violence, destroying your things, if you are not allowed to make decisions (for) yourself, if you keep hearing bad things about yourself, if you are being intimidated.
- Forced marriage: if you have to marry against your will, or if you are not allowed to divorce.
- Elder abuse: tying up, hitting or neglecting an elder, taking money or belongings away.
- Neglect: when a child does not get what it needs, for example food, clothing or loving attention.



An older man sits across from me. His slender body just can't stop shaking. "How are you?" I try as an introduction. "I'm okay, I'm living with my daughter now, you know that, right?" I nod and take in the shadow of the man he once was. Are you eating enough and may I ask who manages your money? The mask falls off. We know each other too well by now to ignore it. His fragile body shudders with grief. The loyalty to his family is beautiful and harrowing at the same time. "I have already lost so many loved ones. I don't want to lose her too. She doesn't mean it badly, really." I take his blue veined hands in mine and warm them up. "We'll figure it out together, don't you worry too much'.

Guiami is available 24/7

Call toll free 0802 0802 or call [+599] 777 2263. You can also send a Whatsapp.

You can send emails to guiami@bonaigov.com.

For more information you can visit the site www.meldpuntguiami.com.

Shame

We often hear that people find it difficult to take the first step. Domestic violence occurs in all walks of life and all over the world. So you are not alone. You do not have to be ashamed. Only you can break the circle. Guiami's employees are there for you. Contact us.

