

# THE NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HOTLINE

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Creating a World Free From Violence

# The Hotline

## Creating a World Free from Violence

### Our Mission

To answer the call to support and shift power back to those affected by relationship abuse.

### Our Vision

A world where all relationships are positive, healthy and free from violence.

### Our History

Established in 1996, we are the only national 24 hour domestic violence hotline providing services via phone and chat. Our prevention project *loveisrespect* offers services 24/7 via phone, chat and text for teens and young people. On May 8<sup>th</sup> we answered our 5 millionth contact.

### Our Services

Highly trained, experienced Advocates offer compassionate support, safety planning, crisis intervention information, educational services and referral services in more than 200 languages.

“The Hotline is a symbol of hope. I wrote the number up and pasted it on the wall because I’m like, ‘This is a lifeline, this is where I’m going to turn my life around. I’m going to get safe and I’m going to stay safe.’”

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1 in 4 women and 1 in 7 men aged 18 and older in the United States have been the victim of severe physical violence by an intimate partner in their lifetime.



Nearly 3 in 10 women and 1 in 10 men in the US have experienced rape, physical violence and/or stalking by a partner and report a related impact on their functioning.



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Calls



Chats



Texts

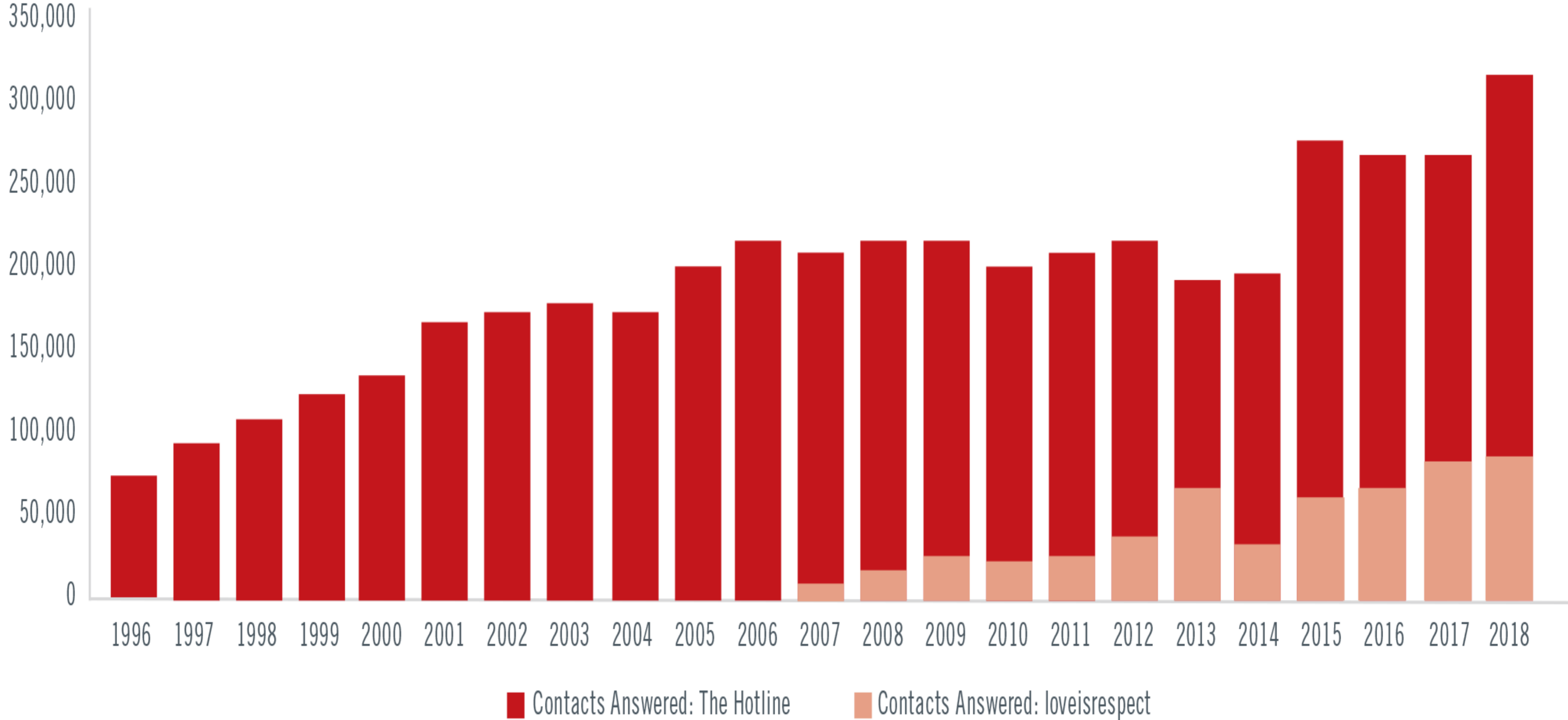
[www.thehotline.org](http://www.thehotline.org)



# The Hotline

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All Contacts Answered



[www.thehotline.org](http://www.thehotline.org)



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### What our Expert Advocates Provide:

- Compassionate and non-judgemental support
- Patiently listen
- Walk victims through ways to stay safe
- Discuss options for seeking medical care
- Directly connect them with resources in their area
- Never tell victims what they should do
- Empower victims to make their own decisions

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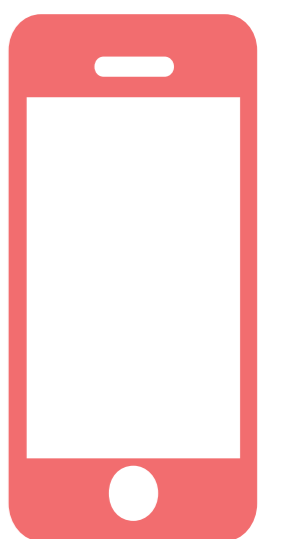
### Our Services in 2018

In calendar year 2018, we received 573,670 contacts (321,573 calls, 238,012 chats and 14,085 texts) from people all over the United States and its territories; people who felt they could finally seek the help they needed. Notably, our chat volume increased by 147% compared to 2017.

Of those who contacted The Hotline:

- 88% reported emotional/verbal abuse
- 60% reported physical abuse
- 24% reported economic/financial abuse
- 15% reported digital abuse
- 11% reported sexual abuse

Similar to 2017, 22% (83,209) of our contacts reported that children were directly or indirectly impacted because of the abusive situation. As a result of public and private support, we are able to provide a path to safety for thousands of people.



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### Financial Abuse

- Experiencing financial abuse is nearly universal with survivors – it is estimated that between 94-99% experience financial abuse.
- Financial abuse is often normalized and/or unrecognized (stereotype/expectation that husband “is the breadwinner” and controls the finances)
- Has been called an “invisible form of domestic violence” with little research or conversation around it until the last decade
- Financial abuse leads to financial dependence and insecurity, often cited as a leading reason for staying with an abusive partner



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### How You Can be Part of This Mission

- **Connect anyone who needs help to 1-800-799-SAFE or thehotline.org**
- **Make a gift– Text WOTCATX to 41444**
- **Follow NDVH on social media to know when your voice is needed to advance survivor-centered legislation**
  - Instagram: ndvhofficial
  - Facebook: National Domestic Violence Hotline
  - Twitter: ndvh

# Thank You

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