



Why leaving isn't easy

It is important to recognize that many victims do leave their partners who abuse. As with any change, leaving is a process. It involves seeking help from many sources and gaining internal strength.

Given the proper validation, support and opportunities for empowerment, victims are usually strong survivors who can regain control of their lives.

Below are factors that make it difficult to leave or present obstacles to overcome in the process of leaving.

- Victim faces heightened danger when attempting to leave
- Fears for the safety of those who try to help him/her leave
- Financial dependence
- Lack of alternative housing
- Religious, cultural or socially learned beliefs
- Social isolation
- Emotional dependence on partner
- Victim loves him/her and wants to believe partner's promises during the honeymoon phase
- Victim wants the relationship to continue – it's the violent behavior that he/she wants to stop
- Reluctance to involve the police
- Stays for the sake of the children

24-Hour Helpline 920-432-4244
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