

How do I obtain a  
**restraining order**  
against my partner?

How will that  
**protect me?**

I need some **time off**  
work to get through this.

What are **my options** if  
I decide to call the police?

I want to leave my abuser,  
but we have **children.**

My abuser is sponsoring me.  
How can I leave without  
jeopardizing my  
**immigration status?**

## Contact Us

for legal support regarding

- Restraining Orders
- Immigration
- Family Law
- Housing
- Employment
- Financial Issues

GLBT Attorney Program  
617-779-2130  
email:  
[paralegal@gmdvp.org](mailto:paralegal@gmdvp.org)

Gay Men's Domestic Violence  
Project 24-hour  
Hotline: 800-832-1901



# GLBT Domestic Violence Attorney Program

Representing gay,  
lesbian, bisexual and  
transgender survivors of  
domestic violence

**617.779.2130**

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## What is Abuse?

Partner abuse, or domestic violence, is a pattern of behaviors in which one person tries to control someone with whom they have an intimate relationship. This can take many forms, including:

### **Emotional Abuse:**

Humiliation, threats, causing someone to doubt their own judgment, and not respecting pronoun preferences

### **Physical Abuse:**

Strangulation, kicking, pulling hair, scratching, sleep deprivation, biting, withholding access to medications, hitting or punching

### **Financial Abuse:**

Controlling money and resources, identity theft, forcing someone to pay all bills, jeopardizing employment

### **Sexual Abuse:**

Rape, unwanted sexual contact or touching, withholding sex, forced sex work

### **Cultural/Identity Abuse:**

Outing to family and coworkers as GLBT or HIV+, forcing someone to speak English at all times, isolation from cultural communities, racial slurs, restricting access to wheelchair-accessible spaces

## Our Services

The GLBT Domestic Violence Attorney Program offers legal advice, referrals, and representation to low-income survivors. All services are free and confidential. Although our target populations are the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender communities, we work with all survivors regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression. We also work with the leather and S/M communities. Our services include assistance with:

### **Restraining Orders:**

Obtaining a protection order, which can require an abuser to stop contacting you and stay a set distance away from you at all times

### **Immigration:**

Assessing your immigration remedies as a survivor of abuse

### **Family Law:**

Divorce, child custody, child & spousal support, and establishing paternity

### **Housing:**

Applying for public housing or transferring to another location

### **Employment:**

Requesting a leave of absence due to domestic violence, unemployment benefits, and addressing discrimination

## Resources

### **GLBT DV Attorney Program**

Legal support regarding restraining orders, immigration, family law, housing, employment & financial issues

**Office: 617.779.2130**

**Email: [paralegal@gmdvp.org](mailto:paralegal@gmdvp.org)**

### **Gay Men's Domestic Violence Project**

24-hour hotline, support group, emergency safe home, advocacy for GLBT survivors of domestic abuse

**Web: [www.gmdvp.org](http://www.gmdvp.org)**

**Office: 617.354.6056**

**Hotline: 800.832.1901**

### **The Network/La Red**

Ending abuse in LGBTQ, poly-amorous, and SM communities. Hotline, support group, emergency safe home, advocacy

**Web: [www.tnlr.org](http://www.tnlr.org)**

**Office: 617.695.0877**

**Hotline: 617.742.4911 (voice)  
617.227.4911 (tty)**

### **Violence Recovery Program**

Counseling, support groups, advocacy, and referrals for GLBT survivors of bias crime, domestic violence, sexual assault, and police misconduct

**Web: [www.fenwayhealth.org](http://www.fenwayhealth.org)**

**Office: 800.834.3242**