WHAT IS SEXUAL VIOLENCE?
The term sexual violence refers to sexual contact or behavior that occurs without explicit consent (RAINN) and affects all individuals regardless of age, economic status, race, religion or education. Different types of sexual violence include non-contact unwanted sexual experiences, sexual harassment, unwanted sexual contact, sexual coercion, sexual exploitation, and attempted or completed rape.

WHAT IS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE?
A pattern of coercive, controlling behavior that can include many types of abuse, such as physical, emotional or psychological, sexual, or financial, and affects individuals regardless of age, economic status, race, religion or education. This includes people in an intimate, dating or familial relationship.

WHAT CAN I DO?
BECOME A MEMBER OF ACESDV through our website or by calling us. Supporting and Program Memberships are available.

PROVIDE FINANCIAL SUPPORT to ACESDV and sexual and domestic violence programs in your community.

ASK politicians and candidates for public office what they have done, or promise to do, to support sexual and domestic violence services and legislation.

PARTICIPATE in one of ACESDV’s Committees.

ATTEND ACESDV training and events.

VOLUNTEER for the ACESDV Sexual and Domestic Violence Services Helpline and a sexual and/or domestic violence program in your community!

STAY CONNECTED
WWW.ACESDV.ORG • INFO@ACESDV.ORG
@ACESDV
This project was funded by the Arizona Department of Economic Security, Division of Aging and Adult Services; Arizona Department of Health Services, Family Violence, and US Department of Health and Human Services. Points of view are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the agencies above. Under the Americans with Disabilities Act, Arizona Coalition to End Sexual and Domestic Violence (ACESDV) must make reasonable accommodation to allow a person with a disability to take part in a program, service, or activity. For example, this means that if necessary, ACESDV must provide sign language interpreters for people who are deaf, a wheelchair accessible location, or enlarged print materials. It also means that ACESDV will take any other reasonable action that allows you to take part in and understand a program or activity, including making reasonable changes to an activity. If you believe that you will not be able to understand or take part in a program or activity because of your disability, please let us know of your disability needs in advance if at all possible. To request this document in an alternative format or for further information about this policy, please contact info@acesdv.org or 602-279-2900. Para obtener este documento en otro formato o para obtener información adicional sobre esta política, favor de comunicarse a info@acesdv.org o 602-279-2900.
Sexual and domestic violence are symptoms of oppression, defined by Merriam-Webster as “an unjust or cruel exercise of authority or power.” When someone is part of any oppressed group, based on sex, race, nationality, sexual orientation, or other identities, they are at risk of being dominated and having someone exploit or abuse them. This risk grows exponentially when multiple forms of oppression exist. In order to end sexual and domestic violence, we must dismantle ALL forms of oppression: sexism, racism, elitism, classism, ageism, heterosexism, cissexism, ableism, and nationalism, among others. As long as any individual is being oppressed, no one is free.

The definition of equity, according to Merriam-Webster, is “freedom from bias or favoritism.” Promoting equity – within economic, social and political systems – ensures that everyone has opportunity, access, and freedom to live fully as their authentic selves, without threat of harm, discrimination or marginalization. Equity leads to liberation for all.

WHAT WE DO

EDUCATION & TRAINING
ACESDV provides education and training to professionals statewide on the most effective and inclusive strategies to serve survivors of sexual and domestic violence through an intersectional lens, including dynamics of sexual and domestic violence, victim-centered advocacy, and trauma-informed care.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE
ACESDV staff are available to support and assist survivors of sexual and domestic violence, direct service providers, community members, responders, and other service providers.

PUBLIC POLICY ADVOCACY
ACESDV advocates for systemic change by championing the passage of laws to increase protections for victims, hold offenders accountable, and keep children and youth safe. We also provide a strong, statewide advocacy voice for funding for programs and services statewide that support victims of sexual and domestic violence.

COLLABORATION
ACESDV hosts a number of collaborative efforts to bring concerned leaders and community members together to solve some of the most pressing issues facing sexual and domestic violence survivors.

SEXUAL & DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SERVICES HELPLINE
Provides information and answers questions related to sexual and domestic violence, including resources, referrals, safety planning, navigating the legal system, and legal rights through our phone and chat services in both Spanish and English.

1-800-728-6400  www.acesdv.org/helpline

WHY DISMANTLE OPPRESSION?

WHY PROMOTE EQUITY?

National Sexual Assault Hotline (RAINN):
1-800-656-4673

National Domestic Violence Hotline:
1-800-799-7233

IF YOU ARE CURRENTLY OR HAVE EXPERIENCED VIOLENCE:
You are not alone. Help and resources for healing are available.

HELPFUL THINGS TO SAY IF SOMEONE YOU KNOW IS OR HAS EXPERIENCED SEXUAL OR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE:
“I believe you. It took a lot of courage to tell me about this.”

“It’s not your fault. You didn’t do anything to deserve this.”

“You are not alone. I care about you and am here to listen or help in any way I can.”

“I’m sorry this happened.”

SHIFTING THE CULTURE: WHAT CAN YOU DO TO BE AN AGENT OF CHANGE?
Educate yourself on the issues of sexual and domestic violence.
Use your voice and speak out against harmful remarks or behaviors.
Be a champion in your community.