

2010

State Law Report Card



Connecticut

A protection order is a FREE court order that can protect you from an abusive dating partner. This order can prevent your current or ex-partner from:

- Threatening or abusing you
- Contacting or coming near you or your family
- Coming to your home or work
- Possessing a gun

The order may also require your current or ex-partner to:

- Move out of your home
- Agree to a custody and visitation schedule, if you have children
- Do anything else the court finds is necessary for your protection

You can get a protection order against someone who:

- You are or were dating, living with or married to OR
- You have a child with OR
- You are related to by blood or marriage if you are both 18 years old or older

The law requires you to show that your current or ex-partner:

- Threatened to, attempted to or actually physically abused you

Other types of abuse may also qualify you for a protection order.

Connecticut law does not say at what age you may file for a protection order on your own behalf, who may file for you if you are unable to file on your own behalf or whether the court has to notify your parent/guardian if you receive a protection order.

This is the law in your state only. The law is different in every state.

What other laws do you need to know?

All teens can consent to:

- Testing and treatment for HIV and sexually transmitted infections (STI)*
- Abortion services
- Medical care for their child(ren)

*If you are under 12, your parent will be told if you test positive for an STI.

Some minors can consent to birth control services.

What are schools doing about dating violence?

Connecticut law does not include any information about dating violence in schools.

How can Connecticut improve its response to teen dating violence?

- Allow all minors to file for protection orders without parental involvement.
- Allow courts to issue protection orders to persons who have been sexually abused, stalked or harassed by a dating partner.
- Require schools to include dating violence education in health classes in all middle schools and high schools.

Break the Cycle

Empowering Youth to End Domestic Violence

If you or someone you know is experiencing abuse in their relationship go to www.thesafespace.org