

# 2010

## State Law Report Card



## Michigan

**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 school, 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

A protection order can be changed if things in your life change (for example, if you transfer to a new school or get a new job).

**You can get a protection order against someone, age 10 and older, who:**

- You are/were dating, living with or married to OR
- You have a child with OR
- You are related to by blood or marriage

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

- Threatened to, attempted to or actually physically abused you OR
- Sexually abused you OR
- Stalked or harassed you

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

**If you are under 18 years old, someone 18 years old or older must go to court with you to file for a protection order on your behalf. Michigan law does not say whether the court has to notify your parent/guardian if you receive a protection order. If you are filing a petition for a protection order against someone who is under 18 years old, you must do so in juvenile court.**

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

### What other laws do you need to know about?

All teens can consent to:

- Testing and treatment for HIV and sexually transmitted infections\*
- Medical care during pregnancy\*
- Medical care for their child(ren)

\*If you are a minor, a doctor may tell your parents.

Some minors may consent to birth control services. If you are a minor, you must have your parent's consent to have an abortion or put a child up for adoption.

### What are schools doing about dating violence?

Michigan law does not include information about dating violence in schools.

### How can Michigan improve its response to teen dating violence?

- Allow all minors to file for protection orders without parental involvement.
- Add to what the court can order a current or ex-partner to do.
- Allow all minors to access health services without parental involvement.
- 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](http://www.thesafespace.org)