

# 2010

## State Law Report Card



## Wisconsin

**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
- Coming to your home or work
- Possessing a gun

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

- Do anything else the court finds is necessary for your protection

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 who:**

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

**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

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

**If you are under 18 years old, you may file for a protection order on your own behalf, but the law does not say at what age you can do so. If you are under 18, a parent, step-parent or guardian may also file on your behalf. If you are able to file on your own behalf, the law does not say 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 about?**

All teens can consent to:

- Testing and treatment for sexually transmitted infections

If you are a minor, you must have your parent's consent to have an abortion.

### **What are schools doing about dating violence?**

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

### **How can Wisconsin improve its response to teen dating violence?**

- State the age at which a minor may file for a protection order without parental involvement.
- Allow courts to issue protection orders against minor abusers.
- Allow courts to issue protection orders to persons who have been stalked or harassed by a dating partner.
- 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)