



How Well Do You Know Your Lover?

Parents think their child will be safe in their own home. The reality is that many children are abused by their parent's lover and some even die. You hold the key to your child's safety!

The National Incidence Study of Abuse and Neglect found that children whose parent had a live-in partner were at least:

8x more likely to be **MISTREATED** in one way or another

10x more likely to **EXPERIENCE ABUSE**

8x more likely to **EXPERIENCE NEGLECT**

Signs that your child may be being abused include:

- Nightmares or trouble sleeping
- Shyness or withdrawn behavior
- Frequent illness
- Excessive crying in infants
- Aggression
- Developmental delays
- Loss of skills (such as potty training)
- Hurting themselves
- Constant worrying about brothers and sisters
- Fear of being with or being left alone with your partner



Any person you invite into your home will also impact the life of your child. They may be kind and loving to you and still be a danger to your child.

If your lover is hurting you, he or she may also be hurting your child. If your lover is hurting your child, you may be in danger too.



Prevent Child Abuse
Illinois™

www.preventchildabuseillinois.org

Does Your Lover Pass the Safe Test?

Does Your Lover:

- ✓ Enjoy spending time with you and your child?
- ✓ Say nice things about your child?
- ✓ Talk to your child in a respectful way?
- ✓ Provide attention to your child through positive words and actions?
- ✓ Listen to your child and respect their feelings?
- ✓ Understand how children grow and what they can do at different ages?
- ✓ Use positive discipline like time-outs?
- ✓ Make your child feel safe and secure?

QUESTIONS YOU CAN ASK YOUR CHILD WHEN THEY HAVE BEEN CARED FOR BY SOMEONE ELSE.



THINK ABOUT WHO ELSE SPENDS TIME WITH YOUR CHILD

Family member, friend, babysitter, daycare provider, neighbor, teacher, coach, mentor, other parents

DO NOT always assume the person you leave your child with will take good care of them! Remember your child is counting on **YOU** to keep them **SAFE!**

HELPFUL RESOURCES

IL Violent Offender Against Youth look-up website:

www.isp.state.il.us/cmvo/cmvo.cfm

Domestic Violence Hotline:
800-799-7233