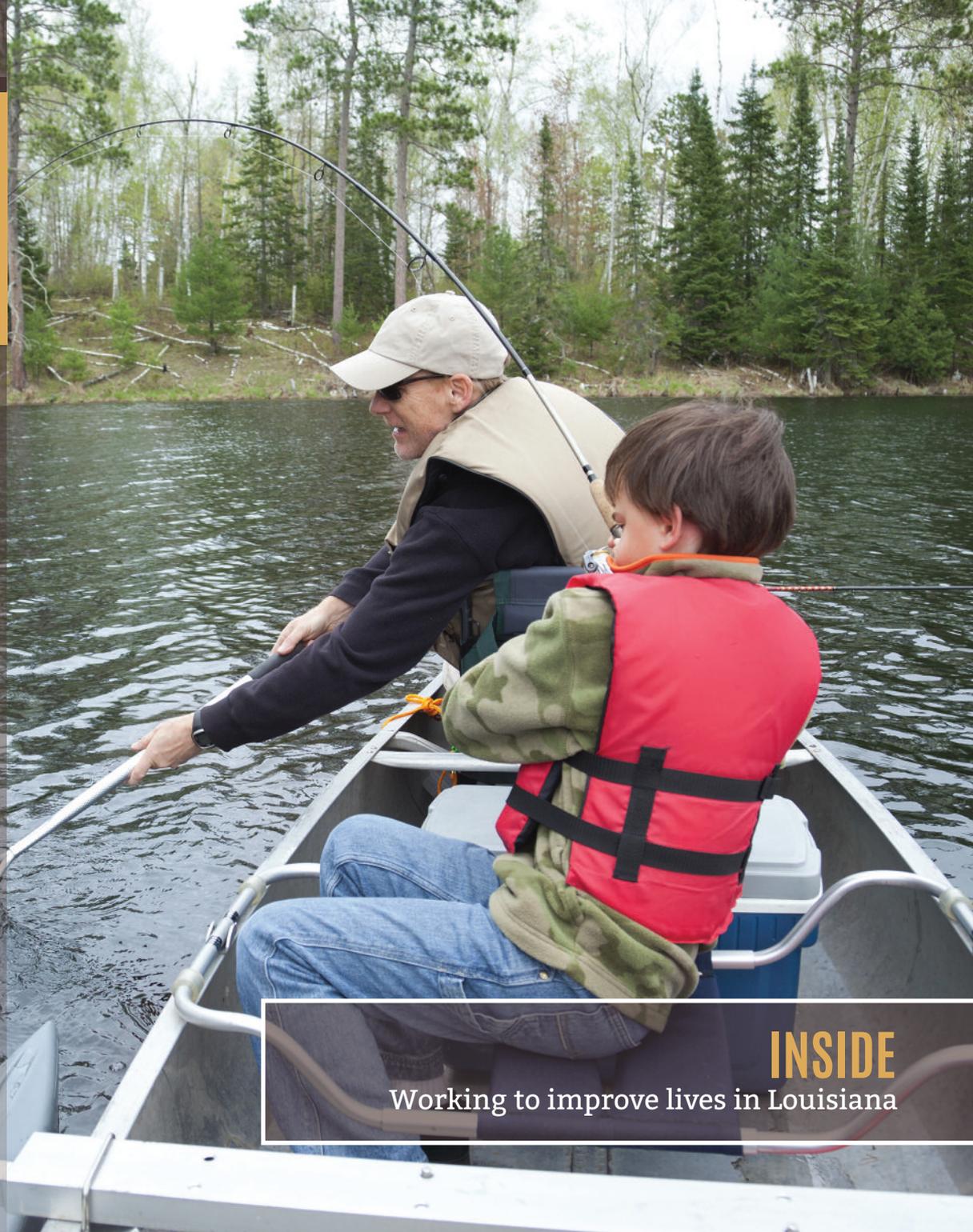


# TAKING CARE OF LOUISIANA

Helping Boys  
Become Men



**INSIDE**

Working to improve lives in Louisiana

A photograph of four young boys sitting together outdoors, smiling and looking towards the camera. They are dressed in casual clothing like t-shirts and a denim jacket. The background shows a wooden structure and trees, suggesting a park or outdoor setting. The image has a semi-transparent dark overlay.

**BE A DAD**

**MENTORING  
BEGINS AT HOME**

**STAND  
UP**

**GET INVOLVED**

**BUILD STRONG  
FAMILY TIES**

**EVERY BOY HAS A STORY**



A number of studies have proven that young males in their pre-teen and teenage years are heavily influenced by the male role models in their lives. They learn how to treat others by what they see and what they experience. Being a positive role model has a tremendous influence on the next generation of young adults. What our young males see today is how they will treat women tomorrow.

**TEACH YOUR CHILDREN THAT DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IS WRONG.**



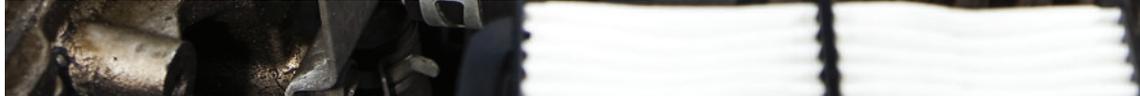
**“It’s easier to build strong children than to repair broken men.” – Fredrick Douglass**

Long-term effects, especially from chronic exposure to domestic violence, may include:

- Physical health problems
- Behavior problems in adolescence (e.g., juvenile delinquency, alcohol, substance abuse)
- Emotional difficulties in adulthood (e.g., depression, anxiety disorders, PTSD)



**TEACH YOUR CHILD . . .**  
that violence in the home is not acceptable and that no one deserves to be abused.



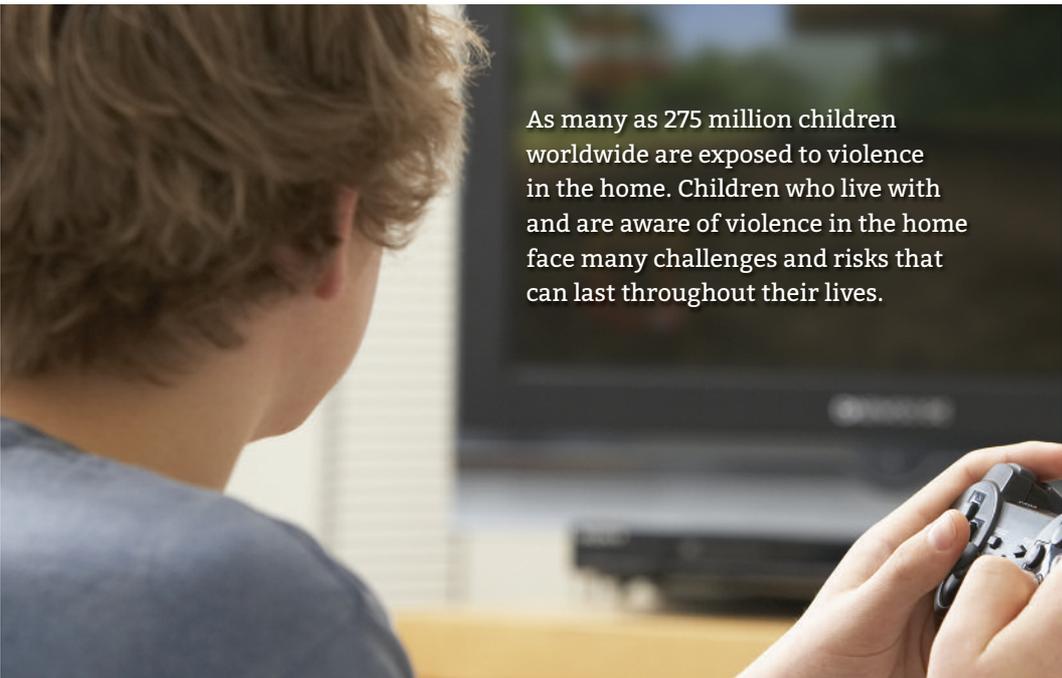


Children from violent homes may learn that it is acceptable behavior to exert control or relieve stress by using violence.



### TEACH YOUR CHILD...

that using positive words and not fists is a more powerful way to express his emotions.



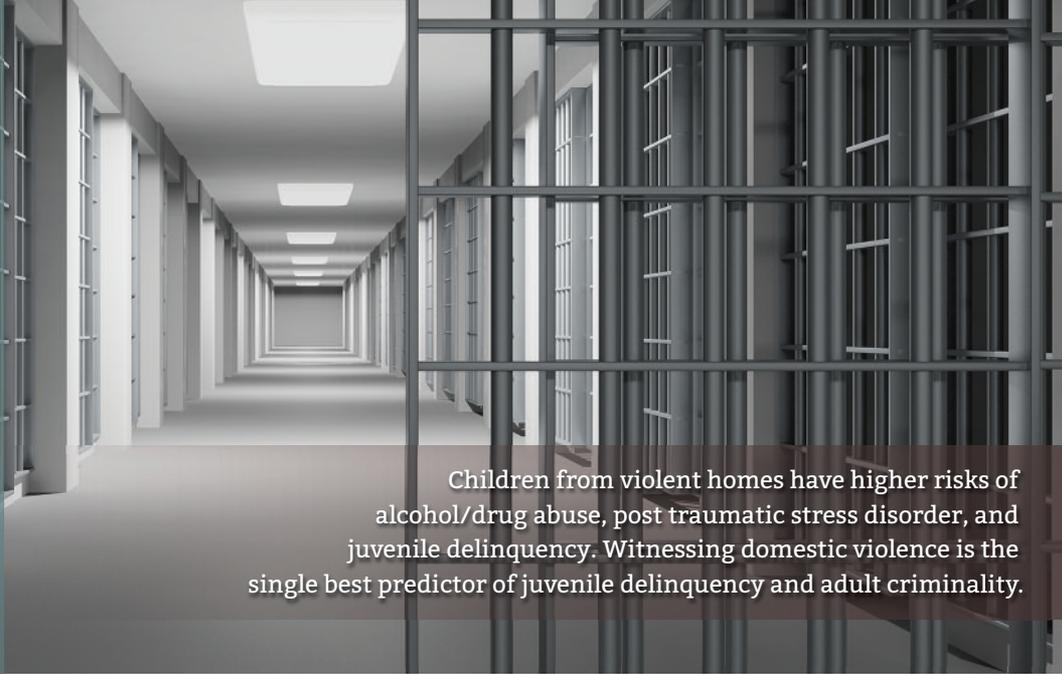
As many as 275 million children worldwide are exposed to violence in the home. Children who live with and are aware of violence in the home face many challenges and risks that can last throughout their lives.

### TEACH YOUR CHILD...

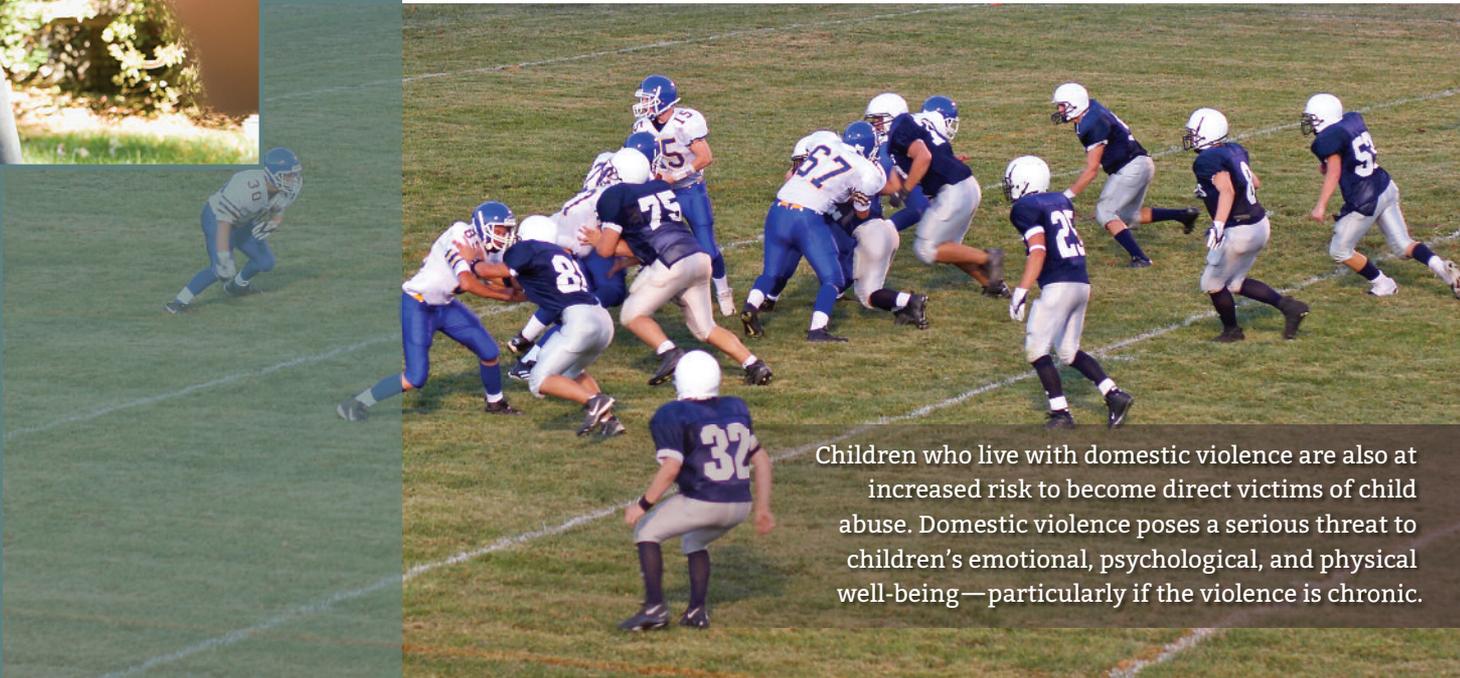
to talk about what he sees and hears. Encourage him to discuss his worries and fears.

**TEACH YOUR CHILD...**

that violence is not a normal way of reacting to stressful situations at home, at school, or in the community.



Children from violent homes have higher risks of alcohol/drug abuse, post traumatic stress disorder, and juvenile delinquency. Witnessing domestic violence is the single best predictor of juvenile delinquency and adult criminality.



Children who live with domestic violence are also at increased risk to become direct victims of child abuse. Domestic violence poses a serious threat to children's emotional, psychological, and physical well-being—particularly if the violence is chronic.



One in five teen girls are victims of dating violence.

**TEACH YOUR CHILD...**

that healthy relationships consist of trust, honesty, respect, equality, and compromise.

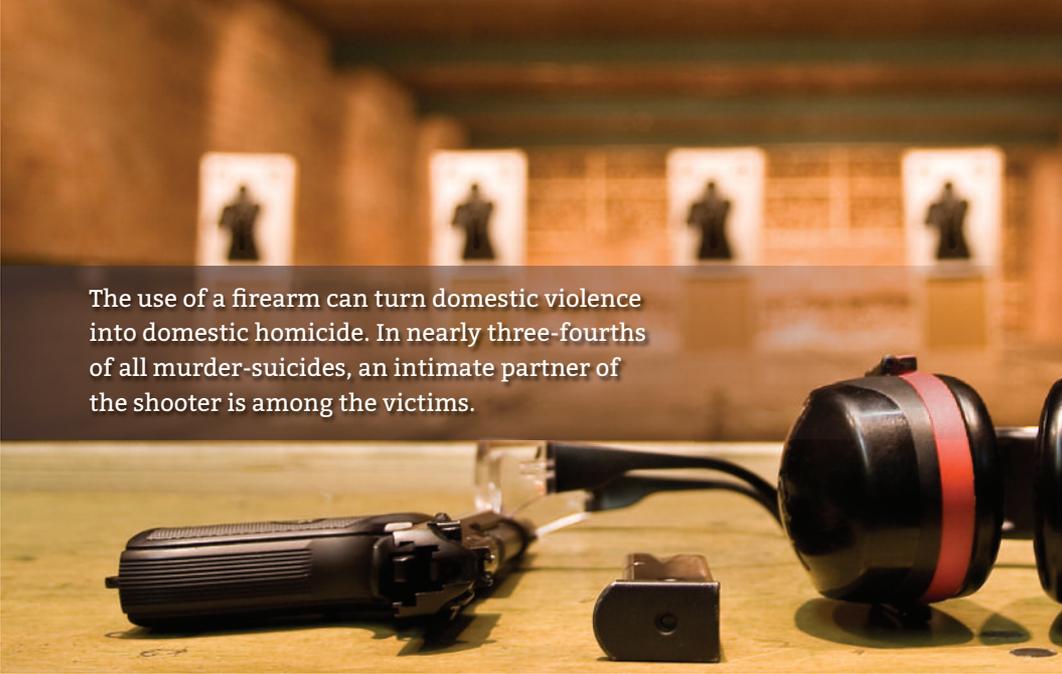




**TEACH YOUR CHILD...**

to tell someone if he sees or experiences violence and that he should always report abuse.

Witnessing or directly experiencing violence can impair a child's ability to concentrate, make it difficult to complete school work, and lower scores on measures of verbal, motor, and social skills.

A handgun and a mallet are shown on a wooden surface. The handgun is on the left, and the mallet is on the right. In the background, there are several framed silhouettes of people on a wall.

The use of a firearm can turn domestic violence into domestic homicide. In nearly three-fourths of all murder-suicides, an intimate partner of the shooter is among the victims.

## HELP YOUR CHILD UNDERSTAND...

the importance of gun safety, from handling to use to storage.

A close-up shot of two hands tying a red rope knot. The hands are positioned on either side of the rope, and the knot is being tightened. The background is a light-colored fabric with a zigzag pattern.

Victims and children of domestic violence carry a higher lifetime risk of suicide than the general population. Research indicates there is a two to fivefold increase in suicidal behavior for children exposed to domestic violence.

## TEACH YOUR CHILD...

to tell someone when he is afraid and confused. He does not need to feel alone.



## REMEMBER...

A strong relationship with a caring nonviolent parent is one of the most important factors in helping children grow in a positive way despite their experiences. Supporting your child can provide a foundation for a healthy future.

Teenage years are a critical time when boys make choices that affect the rest of their lives. Teach your children that domestic violence is wrong.

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## MENTORING AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SEXUAL ASSAULT SOURCES

**The National Child Traumatic Stress Network**

[www.nctsn.org](http://www.nctsn.org)

**UNICEF**

[www.unicef.org/media/files/BehindClosedDoors.pdf](http://www.unicef.org/media/files/BehindClosedDoors.pdf)

**Domestic Violence Round Table**

[www.domesticviolenceroundtable.org/effect-on-children.html](http://www.domesticviolenceroundtable.org/effect-on-children.html)

**USA TODAY**

[www.usatoday.com/story/news/2015/03/02/teen-dating-violence-study/24127121/](http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/2015/03/02/teen-dating-violence-study/24127121/)

**Violence Policy Center**

[www.vpc.org](http://www.vpc.org)

**Overcoming the Darkness**

[www.OvercomingtheDarkness.com](http://www.OvercomingtheDarkness.com)

**U.S. Department of Health and Human Services**

[www.hhs.gov](http://www.hhs.gov)

**From Boys to Men Project**

[www.BoystoMenProject.com](http://www.BoystoMenProject.com)

**Adverse Childhood Experiences Study**

[www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/11754674](http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/11754674)

**KNOW MORE**

[www.knowmorelouisiana.com](http://www.knowmorelouisiana.com)



“As husbands, fathers, grandfathers, uncles, and guardians—it is our moral obligation to teach the next generation of men right from wrong. We have a duty to foster healthy relationships. Make sure they know domestic violence is wrong. Learn more and get tips in this magazine and online at [www.AGJeffLandry.com](http://www.AGJeffLandry.com).”

**JEFF LANDRY**

Louisiana Attorney General