Very Violent or Very Peaceful? (1 to 10 scale; 1 most peaceful, 10 most violent)

• A boy hits a girl

• A girl hits a boy

• A parent spanks a child

• Your friend gives you a hug when you feel sad

• A family lives in poverty

• Parents yelling at each other

 • Someone spreads a rumor about you

• Someone calls you “stupid”

• The teacher tells the whole class you got an “F” on your test

 • Someone kisses you when you don’t want them to

 • Your mentor helps you with your homework

• Someone touches your hair after you have asked them not to

• A friend shares their lunch with you

• Your brother steals all the money you’ve saved in your room

• Your brother calls you “fat”

• A boy shows you his butt and it makes you feel uncomfortable

• Murder

• Your mom tells you she will leave you unless you behave

• Someone you don’t know follows you home every day

• A group of girls give you the silent treatment

• Your sister breaks your favorite necklace

• Someone threatens to choke you if you don’t let them cheat off your homework

• A boyfriend threatens to share embarrassing photos if his girlfriends leave him

 • You lock the dog out of the house without dinner

• Your friend gives you a birthday present

• Your teacher tells you that you aren’t going to succeed

• You wish your friend good luck at their basketball game

1. What is violence?

2. What are some different types of forms violence can take?

3. What kind of violence do you see most often in society?

4. How would you define domestic violence?

5. What kind of actions constitute domestic violence?

6. What makes stopping domestic violence difficult?

7. Examine the statistics below:

-In a nationwide survey, 9.4% of high school students report being hit, slapped, or physically hurt on purpose by their boyfriend or girlfriend in the 12 months prior to the survey.

-About 1 in 5 women and nearly 1 in 7 men who ever experienced rape, physical violence, and/or stalking by an intimate partner, first experienced some form of partner violence between 11 and 17 years of age.

-One in 10 high school students has experienced physical violence from a dating partner in the past year.

-Nearly 1 in 10 teens in relationships report to having a partner tamper with their social networking account

-58% of college students say they don’t know what to do to help someone who is a victim of dating abuse

Which of these statistics do you find most interesting? Why?

Why do you think domestic violence is an issue for so many young people?