

Statements that will never be made to your partner or in the BIP classes

- 1) Your partner needs counseling.
- 2) You can't change if your partner doesn't.
- 3) She's just as responsible as you are.
- 4) It takes two to tango.
- 5) It sounds like she was asking/provoking it.
- 6) A man can only take so much.
- 7) Sometimes violence is just an accident.
- 8) Just because you got in a fight with her doesn't mean you're not a good dad.
- 9) Shoving her isn't really violence.
- 10) Women are just as violent as men.
- 11) Everyone fights sometimes.
- 12) If your kids were asleep, they don't know what happened.
- 13) Have you tried marriage/couples counseling?
- 14) You weren't being possessive, you were being protective.
- 15) As the man of the house...
- 16) Some women are too demanding.
- 17) Have you told her what you expect?

...or any other victim blaming comment/
statement that would demean, insult, or hold you
responsible, in any way, for his choice and
behavior.

**Violence is always a choice...
his choice**



**Perry County
1.812.547.8878**

**Spencer County
1.812.649.2303**

**Dubois County &
Business Office
P.O. Box 903
Jasper, IN 47547
1.812.482.1555
1.812.482.1571 Fax**

Mission Statement

The mission of Crisis Connection, Inc is to work in partnership with communities to empower victims, survivors and persons affected by domestic & sexual violence through confidential crisis intervention, education, and advocacy in Crawford, Dubois, Orange, Perry and Spencer Counties.

Vision Statement

An enlightened, safe community fostering personal growth and change.



**Partner Information
for the
Men's Batterers'
Intervention Participants**



**24-Hour Indiana Hotline
1.800.245.4580
www.crisisconnectioninc.org
cci@psci.net**

We provide free, confidential & professional services for the victims and survivors of domestic & sexual violence

What is the Men's Batterers' Intervention Program (BIP)?

The *Men's Batterers' Intervention Program* is a deliberate and purposeful intervention designed to interrupt men's cycle of violence. The classes are specific and structured. BIP does not focus on saving relationships, but on assisting a man in becoming a person who is safe to be around. BIP is based on his accountability and responsibility for his choices.

"If someone is going down the wrong road, he doesn't need motivation to speed him up. What he needs is education to turn him around." *Jim Rohn*

The program teaches that violence is rooted in a desire to exert power and control over an intimate partner and any children who may be in the home. We believe that it is very important to stress that his abuse of you consists of more than isolated episodes of physical violence. We define abuse as any behavior which serves to control or dominate another person or, that inhibits another from making independent choices for themselves.

The important feature of our definition is that the intention (excuse) of the abuser *doesn't matter*. It is your experience of being afraid or of being controlled that names an action as violent or abusive.

We are available 24 hours a day at **1.800.245.4580** to discuss your relationship and your options with you.

Is BIP just another name for anger management?

No. BIP classes are facilitated by women and men who are committed to working with abusive men in an effort to end those men's violence and abuse toward their intimate partners and children. The facilitators do not offer therapy or counseling, their role is closer to that of a teacher. They present classes designed to help men, who have committed to making changes in their lives: to making changes in their choices and behavior and to ending their power and control tactics.

BIP is **much more** than anger management. The choice to be abusive is not rooted in anger, it is rooted in a man's desire to use power and control tactics against his intimate partner...you. Generic anger management will do nothing to assist a man in specifically learning to be nonviolent toward his intimate partner and his children.

What topics will be discussed in his weekly classes?

Negotiation & compromise
Listening & communication skills
Thinking before he speaks or acts
Respect for your feelings & opinions
Sharing, trust & fairness
Support & encouragement of others
Equality & partnership
Accountability & responsibility
Sexual respect & sharing
Effect of his abuse on his children
Alcohol, drugs and anger do **not** cause violence

**Violence is ALWAYS a choice...
his choice**

How can I be sure he will really change?

You can't and neither can we, but there are two main principles to keep in mind when deciding how much potential your partner has to become a kind, respectful person in the long run:

- 1) He will not change unless he deals openly and honestly with his entitled and superior attitudes. No superficial changes, that he may make, offer any real hope for your future with him.
- 2) It makes little difference how "nice" he may be in the short run...nearly all abusive men are "nice" most of the time. What matters is how respectful and noncoercive he chooses to become at **all times**.

How many of the following questions can you **honestly** answer "yes" to?

- Has he learned to treat your opinions with respect, even when they differ strongly from his?
- Has he stopped making excuses for his treatment of you, including not using your behavior as an excuse for his choices?
- Have you been free to raise your grievances, past and present, without retaliation from him?
- Has he stopped talking about his abuse of you as if it were an accident and begun to acknowledge that he used abuse to control you?
- Has he stopped blaming "everything" on you (in particular) or others?
- Has he accepted full responsibility for **his** choices and behavior?

**24-Hour Indiana Hotline
1.800.245.4580**