

## What is violence?

Domestic violence is any of the following:

- Causing harm (for example, hitting, scratching, pulling hair, pushing)
- Damaging property, including the injury or death of pets
- Verbal abuse (swearing, screaming, shouting, name-calling, put-downs)
- Intimidation (threats)
- Harassment (always humbugging, not leaving them alone)
- Stalking (prowling someone)
- Controlling someone's money
- Sexual abuse
- Trying to do or saying that you will do any of the above

## What is a domestic relationship?

Examples of domestic relationships:

- Family relationship (e.g. brother, sister, husband, wife, grandparents, cousins)
- Custody or guardianship of another (someone you look after)
- People you live with
- Boyfriend/girlfriend
- Carers
- Kinship relationships

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The North Australian  
Aboriginal Family  
Legal Service

**What are Domestic  
Violence Orders?**

**A Domestic Violence Order (DVO) can be made by the court or the police. A DVO has rules to stop a violent person from hurting someone.**

**Police can make a DVO straight away if they think someone is going to be hurt very soon.**

**If you want to talk to a lawyer about a DVO, you can contact NAAFLS.**



## Types of Domestic Violence Orders



### NON-HARM DVO

The person who was violent (defendant) cannot:

- Be violent towards the person they have hurt (protected person). This includes trying to hurt them or saying that they will hurt them.
- Damage any property of the protected person (this includes trying to damage their property or saying that they will damage their property).
- Intimidate, harass or verbally abuse the protected person.
- Stalk the protected person
- Expose a protected person or their children to domestic violence.

### NON-CONTACT DVO

The person who was violent (defendant) cannot:

- Talk to the person they have hurt (protected person) in any way – this includes phone calls, texts, social media, and passing messages through others.
- Be in the same place as the protected person. If the protected person is somewhere the defendant is, the defendant must leave.

### NON-INTOXICATION DVO

- The violent person (defendant) cannot:
- Be around the person they have hurt (protected person) in any way when under the influence of alcohol or drugs
- Approach, enter or remain at any place where the protected person is living, working, staying, or visiting when under the influence of alcohol or drugs
- Hurt, damage the property of, or verbally abuse the protected person.
- The defendant can be drug tested by police at any time.

DVOs have an expiry date. DVOs can last six months, one year or many years - it's up to the judge to decide.