



# Protection from Abuse

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## What can a Protection From Abuse Order do to protect me?

- Order the abuser to stop abusing you
- Order the abuser to not contact you
- Order the abuser to pay child support (temporarily)
- Give you custody of your child
- Evict the abuser from a home you share (in some circumstances)
- Order the abuser to give any weapons s/he owns to the police

**About 20% of teen girls report having been in an abusive relationship; many boys have too.**

You may be able to get a Protection From Abuse Order if you have experienced

- **physical harm** (including sexual abuse);
- **threats of physical harm** (including electronic threats);
- **false imprisonment**; or
- **stalking**

by a romantic partner (including “ex” partners, same sex partners, and dating relationships) or relative (by blood or marriage).

*Parents can also get “PFA” orders for their children, if the children have also been abused.*

- You can get a Protection from Abuse Order against a minor if the minor has abused you.
- An unemancipated minor who has experienced abuse cannot get a Protection from Abuse Order for him/herself without adult help.

*For more on support for teen parents, try [philalegal.org/teenparentbook](http://philalegal.org/teenparentbook)*

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## Get Help

If you need help getting a Protection from Abuse Order, Philadelphia Legal Assistance may be able to help. Call us at:

### Philadelphia Legal Assistance

Monday and Wednesday  
10:00 am - 12:00 pm  
(215) 981-3838

