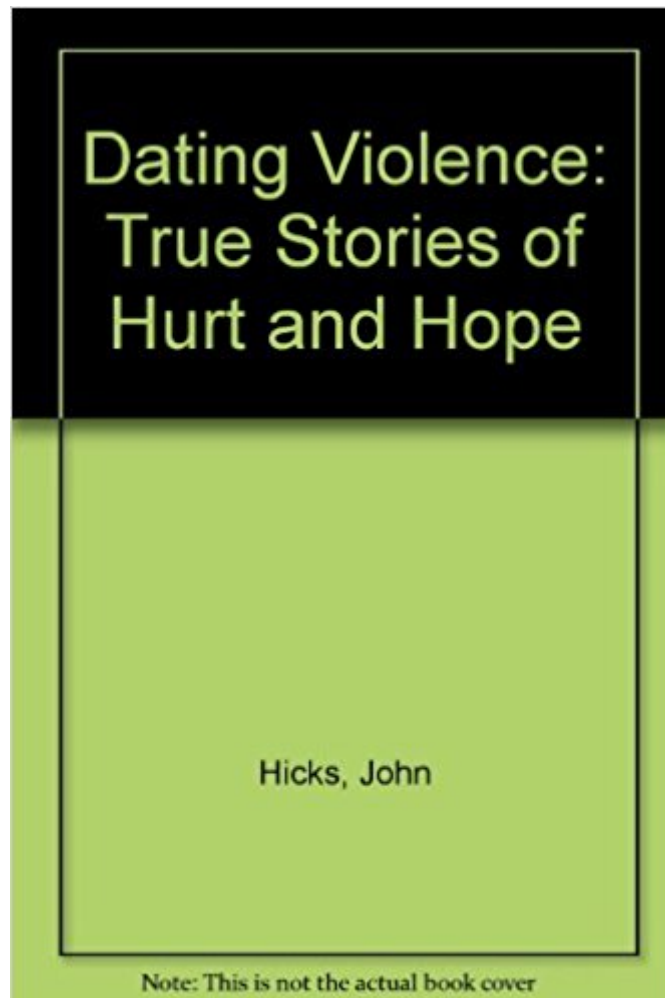




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Dating Violence: True Stores Of Hurt And Hope



Synopsis

Interviews with abusers and victims form the basis of this discussion of the characteristics and dangers of unhealthy relationships, the importance of honest communication, and cooperative ways of resolving conflict.

Book Information

Age Range: 12 and up

Library Binding: 112 pages

Publisher: Millbrook Press (October 1, 1996)

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Customer Reviews

Grade 7 Up-Using anecdotes from abusers and victims to reinforce his arguments, Hicks describes the characteristics and dangers of unhealthy relationships and presents several checklists and questionnaires so that readers can identify abusive behaviors. The author outlines the standard cycles that occur-courtship, accommodation, increasing tension, power struggle, violence, denial and minimization, remorse and reconciliation-and emphasizes the importance of honest communication and personal safety. The writing style is lively but serious and nonjudgmental. Facts and explanations are interspersed with quotes and first-hand accounts, which are set off from the text by red borders. A lengthy list of resources and hotlines are appended. *Dating Violence* is a good complement to Barrie Levy's excellent *In Love and in Danger* (Seal Press, 1992) and Janet Bode and Stan Mack's *Heartbreak and Roses* (Delacorte, 1994). Reluctant readers may prefer Donna Chalet's brief and heavily illustrated *Staying Safe on Dates* (Rosen, 1995). Susan R. Farber, Chappaqua Library, NY Copyright 1996 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Gr. 7⁺-12. An insightful resource for those unfortunate teenagers involved in emotionally or

physically abusive relationships, this reassures them they are not alone, they need not be embarrassed or ashamed, and help is available. Following a graphic first-person account of a 15-year-old girl's physical (including sexual) and emotional abuse, the book analyzes dating patterns and relationships--primarily heterosexual ones, and ones in which the male is the abuser. The connections between the abused and the abuser are examined in terms of a cycle of violence: a struggle for power and control, tension building, acute battering, remorse and reconciliation, and the inevitable recurrence of abuse. The concise, relevant checklists are an excellent tool to help readers identify destructive behavioral patterns; a glossary effectively augments the text; and resources for further help and information are supplied. A good introduction to the pattern behind abuse and realistic ways to stop the suffering. Karen Simonetti

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