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**Understanding Love**



**What Separates Love from Other Relationships?**

* **Love:** characterized by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ acceptance, deep \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* **Infatuation:** involves \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ feelings, feelings of deep sexual \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. It is a relationship that could end quickly.
* **Friendship:** between any \_\_\_\_\_ persons who trust each other and like to spend \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ together.
* **Exploitation:** based on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and lack of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for the other person.

**Types of Abuse**

* **Psychological:** Involves various tactics to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ an individual’s self-\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ such as yelling, insults, threats, humiliation, or isolation.
* **Physical:** The most obvious, ranges from \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and shoving to hitting, beating, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ abuse with a weapon, torture, mutilation and murder.
* **Sexual**: Any form of non-\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ sexual activity, ranging from harassment, unwanted touching, to rape.
* **Financial**: tactics used to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ an individual’s finances, inheritance, or employment income. It may include \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ access to one’s own financial records and knowledge about personal investments, income, or debt, or \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ a partner to take employment outside the home.
* **Spiritual:** attempting to destroy an individual’s \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ or religious \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ through ridicule or punishment, forcing someone to practice a religion, or adopt another one.

**The Cycle of Abuse**

**1. Tension-building**: The abuser \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the other partner using insults and other verbal attacks. The victim tries to be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and feels \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

**2. Violent episode:** Built-up \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ erupt into incidents ranging from severe verbal/emotional abuse to physical/sexual abuse and can last from a few \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to a few \_\_\_\_\_\_. The victim is most likely to be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ injured or killed by the abusive \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ at this time.

**3. Honeymoon stage:** Following a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ episode the abuser is usually \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. The victim once again \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the person he or she fell in love with. The victim may accept promises from the abuser that “it will \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ happen again.”