

Ways Family Violence May Affect Kids



Boys may fear they will become just like the abuser.

Some children act out aggressively as a way to feel less vulnerable.

Children may assume a parental role, dealing with the abuser so mom doesn't need to.

Children may feel betrayed by the ones they love the most.

Powerless, hopeless.

Low self-esteem.

Acting out, disruptive behaviors.

Depression, anxiety.

Sense of privilege and superiority as a male.

Sense of weakness and inferiority as a female.

The abuse interferes with the mother/child relationship, leaving children feeling starved for attention, approval and affection.

Kids suffer the pain of the injustices.

Shame, isolation.

Vulnerable. View adults in their life as unable to protect them.

Kids may view the world as dangerous and unpredictable.

Withdrawn. Unable to express feelings and emotions.

May side with the abuser against mom and/or act-out abusively towards mom.