Sometimes after you have tried everything you can think of to make the relationship work, including giving up friends, jobs, and family; keeping your mouth shut; agreeing even when you don't want to; keeping the peace...

Sometimes after you have tried, forgiven, and given in, you begin to feel trapped, hopeless. You may even begin to feel you are crazy or wish you would die.

You don't deserve to be called names or be put down.

You do deserve to express your thoughts and opinions, to be treated with respect.

You don't deserve to be told what you can and cannot do.

You do deserve to be in control of your own life, to make your own decisions.

You don't deserve to have your hair pulled or to be slapped, kicked or punched.

You do deserve to be safe and free from fear in your home.

St Paul Domestic Abuse Intervention Project 651-645-2824

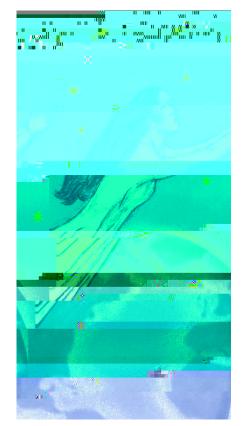
## Your rights as a victim

You do have rights under Minnesota state law throughout the court process, including the right to: O

> Are married or used to be married O Lived or used to live together O Have a child/pregnancy in common O Are related by blood

Domestic Violence:

No one should have to face it alone



(651) 645-2824

Crisis line answered 24 hours a day

> Office hours: Monday-Friday, 8:30 AM – 4:30 pm

Domestic violence is a problem that you do not have to face alone. No matter how hard you try, you cannot change your partner's behavior. Only your partner can decide to change.

If your partner was arrested, it is not your fault. Your partner's actions caused the arrest. Furthermore, once the assault is charged, the decision to prosecute the abuser is up to the state of Minnesota.

Throughout this process, advocates from the Intervention Project can help you understand how the criminal justice system can or cannot work for you. The system may not always respond the way you want it to, and your abuser may not always pay attention to the court orders,