

TOP 10 MYTHS

about

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

1 MYTH: ABUSERS ARE VIOLENT IN ALL THEIR RELATIONSHIPS

TRUTH: Abusers are skilled at hiding abuse, appearing completely normal, and can be wealthy, successful individuals. This can cause people to not believe the victim.



2 MYTH: IF THE VICTIM DOESN'T LEAVE IT MUST NOT BE THAT BAD

TRUTH: There are several reasons people stay in abusive relationships. Some people can't leave, and it doesn't mean they are not in a dangerous situation or the abuse is not as serious or severe.



3 women are killed by an abusive partner every day in the U.S.

3 MYTH: ALCOHOL AND DRUGS CAUSE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE



TRUTH: ALCOHOL & DRUGS

do not cause domestic violence. Abusing someone is a choice an abuser makes.

4 MYTH: I DON'T KNOW A VICTIM, SO IT CAN'T BE THAT PREVALENT

TRUTH:

1 IN 4 WOMEN in the U.S. will experience domestic violence



1 IN 7 MEN in the U.S. will experience domestic violence

5 MYTH: DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IS A PRIVATE MATTER

TRUTH: It's more likely than not that you know someone who has been affected by domestic violence. By listening to survivors, educating yourself, and doing what you can every day, you help build a future where domestic violence doesn't exist



6 MYTH: ABUSE IS MORE COMMON IN MARRIED COUPLES

TRUTH: More people are killed by a GIRLFRIEND OR BOYFRIEND than by a SPOUSE or ex-spouse

7 MYTH: VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ARE ALWAYS PHYSICALLY ABUSED

1 in 3 teens report being in an abusive relationship BUT... **TRUTH:** ...90% of abusive teen relationships don't involve physical abuse. Abuse takes many forms, and isn't purely physical, it can be emotional, verbal, psychological, financial or online.



8 MYTH: DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IS A WOMAN'S ISSUE

TRUTH:

1 in 10 calls to the National Domestic Abuse Hotline are made by men

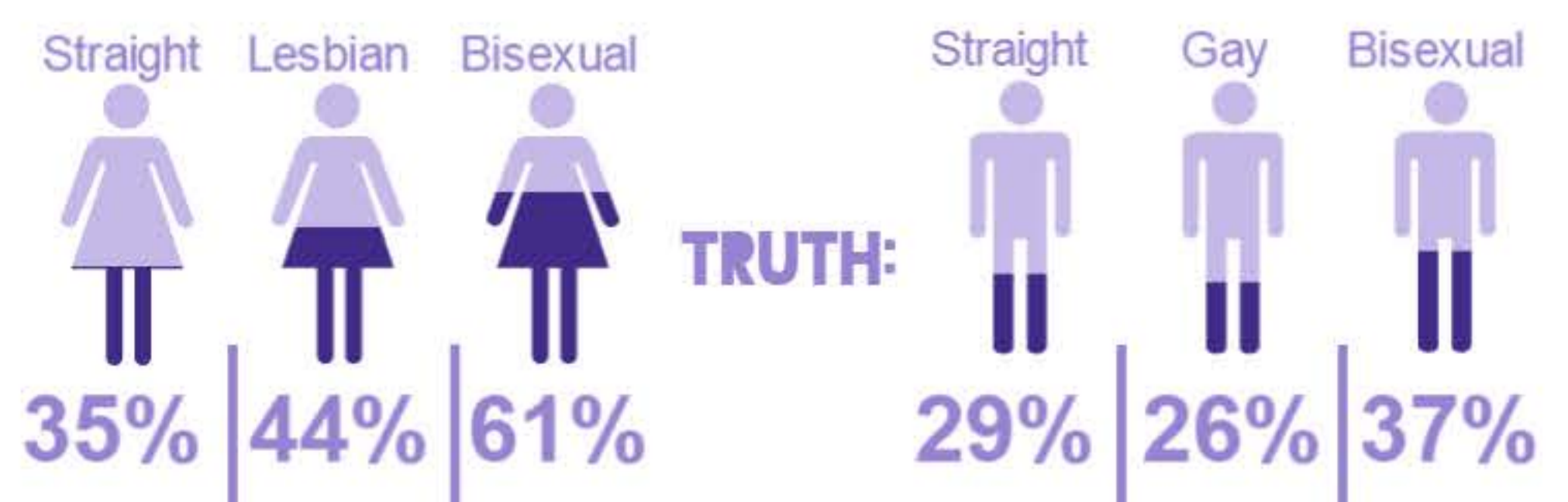
49% OF MEN in the U.S. will experience psychological abuse by a partner

9 MYTH: LGBTIQ RELATIONSHIPS DON'T EXPERIENCE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE BECAUSE WOMEN AREN'T VIOLENT, AND MEN AREN'T ABUSED.

TRUTH: Domestic violence happens in every demographic, and more LGBTIQ Women and Men experience abuse than their straight counterparts.



10 MYTH: IF ABUSE DOES HAPPEN IN AN LGBTIQ RELATIONSHIP, IT ISN'T AS BAD AS IN STRAIGHT RELATIONSHIPS



Bisexual women & men experience the most instances of rape, physical violence & stalking by an intimate partner