

MEN AS VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IN THE USA

Recently the problem of domestic violence has become especially urgent in the context of the general radicalization of society, the domination of hatred in the media space and the decline of family culture as well as basic moral and spiritual values in the world. Women become more economically and socially independent. The US experience shows that not only women but also men are often victims of domestic violence.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, one in four adult men in the US will become a victim of domestic violence during his lifetime. Male victims of domestic violence often deal with intense self-doubt and anxiety before reaching out for help. Victims may fear their abusers will seek retribution if they go to the police, or they feel great uncertainty about leaving their home for temporary shelter.

In domestic violence situations, all states offer their courts the ability to issue restraining orders that restrict contact between abusers and victims. Restraining orders can be obtained regardless of gender. When it comes to other domestic violence statutes, most states (approximately 37) have laws that use gender-free language.

There are special structures in the US where victims of domestic violence may turn. The National Coalition Against Domestic Violence (NCADV) has full details of what to do if you become a victim of violence. There is also the National Domestic Violence Hotline.

As we saw, men also become victims of domestic violence. American experience should teach us a comprehensive understanding of the problem of domestic violence, in which the role of the victim and the abuser is independent of sex or gender.

Language adviser A. Ye. Korshenko