



## RISK ASSESSMENT TOOL FOR VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

This Risk Assessment Tool is primarily for use by victims of intimate partner violence. It is intended to assist them to assess the potential risk/harm they face by remaining in contact with their abusers. It is a tool that seeks to empower these victims to make informed decisions on whether or not to exit a domestic/intimate relationship as a means to protect themselves from future abuse/harm which may potentially lead to a domestic homicide or death if unattended.

**If you are a victim of domestic violence you are encouraged to respond honestly to the questions below. If you respond YES to any of the questions you are at risk of further domestic violence or domestic homicide/death. DO NOT DELAY. Take action today and report the abuse to the nearest police station. You may also go to the local magistrates court to apply for a protection order in terms of the Domestic Violence Act, 1998(Act 116 of 1998).**

RISK INDICATOR	YES	NO
1. Has your abuser ever threatened to kill/harm you or your family?		
2. Has your abuser ever threatened or physically assaulted you or your family, or arranged for someone else to do so, with any weapon or dangerous object (e.g. knife, pot, firearm, etc)?		
3. Has your abuser ever harmed or killed a family pet or threatened to do so?		
4. Are you afraid of your abuser harming your unborn child or children who live with you?		
5. Has your abuser ever been convicted of the violation of a protection order?		
6. Does your abuser constantly insult, humiliate, degrade or blame you for all his/her problems to cause you emotional pain?		
7. Has your abuser constantly stalked or harassed you in person, on social media, or via text or email or arranged for someone else to stalk you/monitor your movement?		
8. Has your abuser ever damaged your property e.g. deflating your tyres or breaking your windows or doors etc?		
9. Has your abuser ever raped you, attempted to rape or forced you to do any sexual act without your permission?		
10. Does your abuser control your access to your money or take your money without your permission or refuse to allow you to work or earn an income?		
11. Does your partner have access to a firearm or any dangerous weapon?		
12. Do you think your abuser has a problem with substance abuse such as alcohol or drugs or prescription drugs which have or may potentially lead to his or her violent behaviour?		
13. Is your partner jealous towards you, display possessive behaviour or is controlling of you?		
14. Is your partner on bail or parole, or has served a time of imprisonment or has recently been released from custody in relation to an offence involving violence?		
15. Is the violence or controlling behaviour becoming worse?		
<b>Total number of indicators</b>		



**the doj & cd**

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