

STATE DEFINITIONS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

STATE	STATUTE	DOMESTIC VIOLENCE/RELATIONSHIP DEFINITION
Alabama	§ 30-3-130	For the purposes of this article “domestic or family abuse” means an incident resulting in the abuse, stalking, assault, harassment, or the attempt or threats thereof. Abuse means any offense under Article 4 (commencing with § 13A-6-60) of Chapter 6 of Title 13A, and under Chapter 15 (commencing with § 26-15-1) of Title 26. Stalking means the offenses prescribed in §§ 13A-6-90 to 13A-6-92, inclusive. Assault means the offense prescribed in §§ 13A-6-20 to 13A-6-25, inclusive. Harassment means the offenses prescribed in § 13A-11-8.
Alaska	§ 18.66.990	<p>“Domestic violence” and “crime involving domestic violence” mean one or more of the following offenses or an offense under a law or ordinance of another jurisdiction having elements similar to these offenses, or an attempt to commit the offense, by a household member against another household member: (A) a crime against the person under AS 11.41; (B) burglary under AS 11.46.300--11.46.310; (C) criminal trespass under AS 11.46.320--11.46.330; (D) arson or criminally negligent burning under AS 11.46.400--11.46.430; (E) criminal mischief under AS 11.46.475--11.46.486; (F) terrorist threatening under AS 11.56.807 or 11.56.810; (G) violating a protective order under AS 11.56.740(a)(1); or (H) harassment under AS 11.61.120(a)(2)--(4).</p> <hr/> <p>“Household member” includes: (A) adults or minors who are current or</p>

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		former spouses; (B) adults or minors who live together or who have lived together; (C) adults or minors who are dating or who have dated; (D) adults or minors who are engaged in or who have engaged in a sexual relationship; (E) adults or minors who are related to each other up to the fourth degree of consanguinity, whether of the whole or half blood or by adoption, computed under the rules of civil law; (F) adults or minors who are related or formerly related by marriage; (G) persons who have a child of the relationship; and (H) minor children of a person in a relationship that is described in (A)-(G) of this paragraph.
Arizona	§ 13-3601	“Domestic violence” means any act that is a dangerous crime against children as defined in § 13-705 or an offense prescribed in §§ 13-1102, 13-1103, 13-1104, 13-1105, 13-1201, 13-1202, 13-1203, 13-1204, 13-1302, 13-1303, 13-1304, 13-1406, 13-1502, 13-1503, 13-1504, 13-1602 or 13-2810, § 13-2904, subsection A, paragraph 1, 2, 3 or 6, § 13-2910, subsection A, paragraph 8 or 9, § 13-2915, subsection A, paragraph 3 or § 13-2916, 13-2921, 13-2921.01, 13-2923, 13-3019, 13-3601.02 or 13-3623, if any of the following applies: (1) The relationship between the victim and the defendant is one of marriage or former marriage or of persons residing or having resided in the same household; (2) The victim and the defendant have a child in common; (3) The victim or the defendant is pregnant by the other party; (4) The victim is related to the defendant or the defendant's spouse by blood or court order as a parent, grandparent, child, grandchild, brother or sister or by marriage as

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		a parent-in-law, grandparent-in-law, stepparent, step-grandparent, stepchild, step-grandchild, brother-in-law or sister-in-law; (5) The victim is a child who resides or has resided in the same household as the defendant and is related by blood to a former spouse of the defendant or to a person who resides or who has resided in the same household as the defendant.
Arkansas	§ 9-15-103	“Domestic abuse” means: (A) Physical harm, bodily injury, assault, or the infliction of fear of imminent physical harm, bodily injury, or assault between family or household members; or (B) Any sexual conduct between family or household members, whether minors or adults, that constitutes a crime under the laws of this state; and (4) “Family or household members” means spouses, former spouses, parents and children, persons related by blood within the fourth degree of consanguinity, any children residing in the household, persons who presently or in the past have resided or cohabited together, persons who have or have had a child in common, and persons who are presently or in the past have been in a dating relationship together.
California	Fam. Code § 6211	“Domestic violence” is abuse perpetrated against any of the following persons: (a) A spouse or former spouse; (b) A cohabitant or former cohabitant, as defined in § 6209; (c) A person with whom the respondent is having or has had a dating or engagement relationship; (d) A person with whom the respondent has had a child, where the presumption applies that the male parent is the father of the child of the female parent under the Uniform Parentage Act; (e) A child of a party or a child who is the subject of an action under the Uniform Parentage Act, where the presumption applies that the

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		male parent is the father of the child to be protected; (f) Any other person related by consanguinity or affinity within the second degree.
Colorado	§ 18-6-800.3	<p>“Domestic violence” means an act or threatened act of violence upon a person with whom the actor is or has been involved in an intimate relationship. “Domestic violence” also includes any other crime against a person, or against property, including an animal, or any municipal ordinance violation against a person, or against property, including an animal, when used as a method of coercion, control, punishment, intimidation, or revenge directed against a person with whom the actor is or has been involved in an intimate relationship.</p> <hr/> <p>“Intimate relationship” means a relationship between spouses, former spouses, past or present unmarried couples, or persons who are both the parents of the same child regardless of whether the persons have been married or have lived together at any time.</p>
Connecticut	§ 46b-38a	<p>“Family violence” means an incident resulting in physical harm, bodily injury or assault, or an act of threatened violence that constitutes fear of imminent physical harm, bodily injury or assault, including, but not limited to, stalking or a pattern of threatening, between family or household members. Verbal abuse or argument shall not constitute family violence unless there is present danger and the likelihood that physical violence will occur.</p> <hr/> <p>“Family or household member” means any of the following persons,</p>

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		regardless of the age of such person: (A) Spouses or former spouses; (B) parents or their children; (C) persons related by blood or marriage; (D) persons other than those persons described in subparagraph (C) of this subdivision presently residing together or who have resided together; (E) persons who have a child in common regardless of whether they are or have been married or have lived together at any time; and (F) persons in, or who have recently been in, a dating relationship.
Delaware	tit. 10 § 1041	“Domestic violence” means abuse perpetrated by one member against another member of the following protected classes: (a) Family, as that term is defined in § 901(12) of this title, regardless, however, of state of residence of the parties; or (b) Former spouses; persons cohabitating together who are holding themselves out as a couple, with or without a child in common; persons living separate and apart with a child in common; or persons in a current or former substantive dating relationship. For purposes of this paragraph, neither a casual acquaintanceship nor ordinary fraternization between two individuals in business or social contexts shall be deemed to constitute a substantive dating relationship. Factors to consider for a substantive dating relationship may include the length of the relationship, the type of relationship, or the frequency of interaction between the parties.
District of Columbia	§ 16-1001	“Interpersonal violence” means an act punishable as a criminal offense that is committed or threatened to be committed by an offender upon a person: (A) With whom the offender shares or has shared a mutual residence; or (B) Who is or was married to, in a domestic partnership with, divorced or

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		<p>separated from, or in a romantic, dating, or sexual relationship with another person who is or was married to, in a domestic partnership with, divorced or separated from, or in a romantic, dating, or sexual relationship with the offender.</p> <hr/> <p>“Intimate partner violence” means an act punishable as a criminal offense that is committed or threatened to be committed by an offender upon a person: (A) To whom the offender is or was married; (B) With whom the offender is or was in a domestic partnership; or (C) With whom the offender is or was in a romantic, dating, or sexual relationship.</p> <hr/> <p>“Intrafamily violence” means an act punishable as a criminal offense that is committed or threatened to be committed by an offender upon a person to whom the offender is related by blood, adoption, legal custody, marriage, or domestic partnership, or with whom the offender has a child in common.</p>
Florida	§ 741.28	<p>“Domestic violence” means any assault, aggravated assault, battery, aggravated battery, sexual assault, sexual battery, stalking, aggravated stalking, kidnapping, false imprisonment, or any criminal offense resulting in physical injury or death of one family or household member by another family or household member.</p> <hr/> <p>“Family or household member” means spouses, former spouses, persons related by blood or marriage, persons who are presently residing together as</p>

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		if a family or who have resided together in the past as if a family, and persons who are parents of a child in common regardless of whether they have been married. With the exception of persons who have a child in common, the family or household members must be currently residing or have in the past resided together in the same single dwelling unit.
Georgia	§ 19-13-1	<p>“Family violence” means the occurrence of one or more of the following acts between past or present spouses, persons who are parents of the same child, parents and children, stepparents and stepchildren, foster parents and foster children, or other persons living or formerly living in the same household: (1) Any felony; or (2) Commission of offenses of battery, simple battery, simple assault, assault, stalking, criminal damage to property, unlawful restraint, or criminal trespass.</p> <hr/> <p>The term “family violence” shall not be deemed to include reasonable discipline administered by a parent to a child in the form of corporal punishment, restraint, or detention.</p>
Guam	§ 30.10	<p>“Family violence” means the occurrence of one (1) or more of the following acts by a family or household member, but does not include acts of self-defense or defense of others: (1) Attempting to cause or causing bodily injury to another family or household member; (2) Placing a family or household member in fear of bodily injury.</p> <hr/> <p>“Family or household members” include: (1) Adults or minors who are</p>

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		current or former spouses; (2) Adults or minors who live together or who have lived together; (3) Adults or minors who are dating or who have dated; (4) Adults or minors who are engaged in or who have engaged in a sexual relationship; (5) Adults or minors who are related by blood or adoption to the fourth degree of affinity; (6) Adults or minors who are related or formerly related by marriage; (7) Persons who have a child in common; and (8) Minor children of a person in a relationship described in paragraphs (1) through (7) above.
Hawaii	§ 571-2	“Family violence” means the occurrence of one or more of the following acts by a family or household member, but does not include acts of self-defense: (1) Attempting to cause or causing physical harm to another family or household member; (2) Placing a family or household member in fear of physical harm; or (3) Causing a family or household member to engage involuntarily in sexual activity by force, threat of force, or duress.
Idaho	§ 39-6303	<p>“Domestic violence” means the physical injury, sexual abuse or forced imprisonment or threat thereof of a family or household member, or of a minor child by a person with whom the minor child has had or is having a dating relationship, or of an adult by a person with whom the adult has had or is having a dating relationship.</p> <hr/> <p>“Family member” means spouses, former spouses and persons related by blood, adoption, or marriage.</p> <hr/>

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		<p>“Household member” means persons who reside or have resided together, and persons who have a child in common regardless of whether they have been married or have lived together at any time.</p>
Illinois	820 ILCS 180/10 750 ILCS 60/103	<p>“Domestic violence” means abuse, as defined in § 103 of the Illinois Domestic Violence Act of 1986, by a family or household member, as defined in § 103 of the Illinois Domestic Violence Act of 1986.</p> <hr/> <p>“Abuse” means physical abuse, harassment, intimidation of a dependent, interference with personal liberty or willful deprivation but does not include reasonable direction of a minor child by a parent or person in loco parentis.</p> <hr/> <p>"Family or household members" include spouses, former spouses, parents, children, stepchildren and other persons related by blood or by present or prior marriage, persons who share or formerly shared a common dwelling, persons who have or allegedly have a child in common, persons who share or allegedly share a blood relationship through a child, persons who have or have had a dating or engagement relationship, persons with disabilities and their personal assistants, and caregivers as defined in § 12-4.4a or paragraph (3) of subsection (b) of § 12-21 of the Criminal Code of 1961. For purposes of this paragraph, neither a casual acquaintanceship nor ordinary fraternization between two individuals in business or social contexts shall be deemed to constitute a dating relationship. In the case of a high-risk adult with disabilities, "family or household members" includes any person who</p>

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		has the responsibility for a high-risk adult as a result of a family relationship or who has assumed responsibility for all or a portion of the care of a high-risk adult with disabilities voluntarily, or by express or implied contract, or by court order.
Indiana	§ 34-6-2-34.5 § 35-31.5-2-128	<p>“Domestic or family violence” means, except for an act of self-defense, the occurrence of one or more of the following acts committed by a family or household member: (1) Attempting to cause, threatening to cause, or causing physical harm to another family or household member without legal justification; (2) Placing a family or household member in fear of physical harm without legal justification; (3) Causing a family or household member to involuntarily engage in sexual activity by force, threat of force, or duress; (4) Beating, torturing, mutilating, or killing a vertebrate animal without justification with the intent to threaten, intimidate, coerce, harass, or terrorize a family or household member.</p> <hr/> <p>For purposes of IC 22-4-15-1 and IC 34-26-5, “domestic or family violence” also includes stalking or a sex offense whether or not the stalking or sex offense is committed by a family or household member.</p> <hr/> <p>An individual is a “family or household member” of another person if the individual: (1) is a current or former spouse of the other person; (2) is dating or has dated the other person; (3) is or was engaged in a sexual relationship with the other person; (4) is related by blood or adoption to the other person;</p>

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		<p>(5) is or was related by marriage to the other person; (6) has or previously had an established legal relationship: (A) as a guardian of the other person, (B) as a ward of the other person, (C) as a custodian of the other person, (D) as a foster parent of the other person, (E) in a capacity with respect to the other person similar to those listed in clauses (A) through (D); or (7) has a child in common with the other person.</p> <hr/> <p>An individual is a “family or household member” of both persons to whom subsection (a)(1), (a)(2), (a)(3), (a)(4), (a)(5), (a)(6), or (a)(7) applies if the individual is a minor child of one (1) of the persons.</p>
Iowa	§ 236.2	<p>“Domestic abuse” means committing assault as defined in § 708.1 under any of the following circumstances: a.) The assault is between family or household members who resided together at the time of the assault; b.) The assault is between separated spouses or persons divorced from each other and not residing together at the time of the assault; c.) The assault is between persons who are parents of the same minor child, regardless of whether they have been married or have lived together at any time; d.) The assault is between persons who have been family or household members residing together within the past year and are not residing together at the time of the assault; e.) The assault is between persons who are in an intimate relationship or have been in an intimate relationship and have had contact within the past year of the assault.</p> <hr/>

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		<p>“Family or household members” means spouses, persons cohabiting, parents, or other persons related by consanguinity or affinity. “Family or household members” does not include children under age eighteen of persons listed in this paragraph.</p> <hr/> <p>“Intimate relationship” means a significant romantic involvement that need not include sexual involvement. An intimate relationship does not include casual social relationships or associations in a business or professional capacity.</p>
Kansas	§ 60-3102	<p>“Abuse” means the occurrence of one or more of the following acts between intimate partners or household members: (1) Intentionally attempting to cause bodily injury, or intentionally or recklessly causing bodily injury; (2) Intentionally placing, by physical threat, another in fear of imminent bodily injury; (3) Engaging in any of the following acts with a minor under 16 years of age who is not the spouse of the offender: (A) The act of sexual intercourse, or (B) Any lewd fondling or touching of the person of either the minor or the offender, done or submitted to with the intent to arouse or to satisfy the sexual desires of either the minor or the offender, or both.</p> <hr/> <p>“Intimate partners or household members” means persons who are or have been in a dating relationship, persons who reside together or who have formerly resided together, or persons who have had a child in common.</p>

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Kentucky	§ 403.720	<p>“Domestic violence and abuse” means physical injury, serious physical injury, sexual abuse, assault, or the infliction of fear of imminent physical injury, serious physical injury, sexual abuse, or assault between family members or members of an unmarried couple;</p> <hr/> <p>“Family member” means a spouse, including a former spouse, a grandparent, a parent, a child, a stepchild, or any other person living in the same household as a child if the child is the alleged victim.</p>
Louisiana	§ 9:362	<p>“Family violence” includes, but is not limited to, physical or sexual abuse and any offense against the person as defined in the Criminal Code of Louisiana, except negligent injuring and defamation, committed by one parent against the other parent or against any of the children. Family violence does not include reasonable acts of self-defense utilized by one parent to protect himself or herself or a child in the family from the family violence of the other parent.</p>
Maine	tit. 19-A § 1501 tit. 19-A § 4002	<p>“Domestic abuse” means abuse as defined in § 4002.</p> <hr/> <p>“Abuse” means the occurrence of the following acts between family or household members or dating partners or by a family or household member or dating partner upon a minor child of a family or household member or dating partner: A.) Attempting to cause or causing bodily injury or offensive physical contact, including sexual assaults; B.) Attempting to place or placing</p>

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		<p>another in fear of bodily injury through any course of conduct, including, but not limited to, threatening, harassing or tormenting behavior; C.) Compelling a person by force, threat of force or intimidation to engage in conduct from which the person has a right or privilege to abstain or to abstain from conduct in which the person has a right to engage; D.) Knowingly restricting substantially the movements of another person without that person's consent or other lawful authority; confining that person for a substantial period either in the place where the restriction commences or in a place to which that person has been moved; communicating to a person a threat to commit, or to cause to be committed, a crime of violence dangerous to human life against the person to whom the communication is made or another, and the natural and probable consequence of the threat, whether or not that consequence in fact occurs, is to place the person to whom the threat is communicated, or the person against whom the threat is made, in reasonable fear that the crime will be committed; repeatedly and without reasonable cause, stalking the plaintiff.</p> <hr/> <p>“Family or household members” means spouses or domestic partners or former spouses or former domestic partners, individuals presently or formerly living together as spouses, natural parents of the same child, adult household members related by consanguinity or affinity or minor children of a household member when the defendant is an adult household member and, for the purposes of Title 15, § 1023, subsection 4, paragraph B-1, this chapter and Title 17-A, §§ 15, 207-A, 209-A, 210-B, 210-C, 211-A, 1201, 1202 and</p>

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STATE	STATUTE	DOMESTIC VIOLENCE/RELATIONSHIP DEFINITION
		1253 only, includes individuals presently or formerly living together and individuals who are or were sexual partners. Holding oneself out to be a spouse is not necessary to constitute “living as spouses.” For purposes of this subsection, “domestic partners” means two unmarried adults who are domiciled together under long-term arrangements that evidence a commitment to remain responsible indefinitely for each other's welfare.
Maryland	§ 4-501	“Abuse” means any of the following acts: (i) an act that causes serious bodily harm; (ii) an act that places a person eligible for relief in fear of imminent serious bodily harm; (iii) assault in any degree; (iv) rape or sexual offense under §§ 3-303 through 3-308 of the Criminal Law Article or attempted rape or sexual offense in any degree; (v) false imprisonment; or (vi) stalking under § 3-802 of the Criminal Law Article.
Massachusetts	ch. 209A § 1	<p>“Abuse” is the occurrence of one or more of the following acts between family or household members: (a) attempting to cause or causing physical harm; (b) placing another in fear of imminent serious physical harm; (c) causing another to engage involuntarily in sexual relations by force, threat or duress.</p> <hr/> <p>“Family or household members” are persons who: (a) are or were married to one another; (b) are or were residing together in the same household; (c) are or were related by blood or marriage; (d) have a child in common regardless of whether they have ever married or lived together; or (e) are or have been in a substantive dating or engagement relationship.</p>

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STATE	STATUTE	DOMESTIC VIOLENCE/RELATIONSHIP DEFINITION
Michigan	§ 400.1501	<p>“Domestic violence” means the occurrence of any of the following acts by a person that is not an act of self-defense: (i) Causing or attempting to cause physical or mental harm to a family or household member; (ii) Placing a family or household member in fear of physical or mental harm; (iii) Causing or attempting to cause a family or household member to engage in involuntary sexual activity by force, threat of force, or duress; (iv) Engaging in activity toward a family or household member that would cause a reasonable person to feel terrorized, frightened, intimidated, threatened, harassed, or molested.</p> <hr/> <p>“Family or household member” includes any of the following: (i) A spouse or former spouse; (ii) An individual with whom the person resides or has resided; (iii) An individual with whom the person has or has had a dating relationship; (iv) An individual with whom the person is or has engaged in a sexual relationship; (v) An individual to whom the person is related or was formerly related by marriage; (vi) An individual with whom the person has a child in common; (vii) The minor child of an individual described in subparagraphs (i) to (vi).</p>
Minnesota	§ 518B.01	<p>“Domestic abuse” means the following, if committed against a family or household member by a family or household member: (1) physical harm, bodily injury, or assault; (2) the infliction of fear of imminent physical harm, bodily injury, or assault; or (3) terroristic threats; criminal sexual conduct or interference with an emergency call.</p>

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STATE	STATUTE	DOMESTIC VIOLENCE/RELATIONSHIP DEFINITION
		<hr/> <p>“Family or household members” means: (1) spouses and former spouses; (2) parents and children; (3) persons related by blood; (4) persons who are presently residing together or who have resided together in the past; (5) persons who have a child in common regardless of whether they have been married or have lived together at any time; (6) a man and woman if the woman is pregnant and the man is alleged to be the father, regardless of whether they have been married or have lived together at any time; and (7) persons involved in a significant romantic or sexual relationship.</p>
Mississippi	§ 93-21-3 § 99-47-1	<p>“Abuse” means the occurrence of one or more of the following acts between spouses, former spouses, persons living as spouses or who formerly lived as spouses, persons having a child or children in common, other individuals related by consanguinity or affinity who reside together or who formerly resided together or between individuals who have a current or former dating relationship: (i) Attempting to cause or intentionally, knowingly or recklessly causing bodily injury or serious bodily injury with or without a deadly weapon; (ii) Placing, by physical menace or threat, another in fear of imminent serious bodily injury; (iii) Criminal sexual conduct committed against a minor; (iv) Stalking; (v) Cyberstalking; or (vi) Sexual offenses. “Abuse” does not include any act of self-defense.</p> <hr/> <p>For purposes of the Address Confidentiality Program, domestic violence means any of the following acts committed against a current or former</p>

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		spouse, a person living as a spouse or who formerly lived as a spouse or a child of persons living as spouses or who formerly lived as spouses, a parent, grandparent, child, grandchild or someone similarly situated to the defendant, a person with whom the defendant has a biological or legally adopted child in common, or a person in a current or former dating relationship: (i) A violation of a domestic violence protection order; (ii) Simple or aggravated domestic violence as defined in § 97-3-7(3) or 97-3-7(4); or (iii) Threats of such acts.
Missouri	§ 455.010	<p>“Domestic violence” is abuse or stalking, as both terms are defined in this section.</p> <hr/> <p>“Abuse” includes, but is not limited to, the occurrence of any of the following acts, attempts or threats against a person who may be protected pursuant to this chapter, except abuse shall not include abuse inflicted on a child by accidental means by an adult household member or discipline of a child, including spanking, in a reasonable manner: (a) “Assault,” purposely or knowingly placing or attempting to place another in fear of physical harm; (b) “Battery,” purposely or knowingly causing physical harm to another with or without a deadly weapon; (c) “Coercion,” compelling another by force or threat of force to engage in conduct from which the latter has a right to abstain or to abstain from conduct in which the person has a right to engage; (d) “Harassment,” engaging in a purposeful or knowing course of conduct</p>

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		<p>involving more than one incident that alarms or causes distress to an adult or child and serves no legitimate purpose. The course of conduct must be such as would cause a reasonable adult or child to suffer substantial emotional distress and must actually cause substantial emotional distress to the petitioner or child.</p> <hr/> <p>“Stalking” is when any person purposely and repeatedly engages in an unwanted course of conduct that causes alarm to another person when it is reasonable in that person's situation to have been alarmed by the conduct</p>
Montana	§ 45-5-206	<p>A person commits the offense of “partner or family member assault” if the person: (a) purposely or knowingly causes bodily injury to a partner or family member; (b) negligently causes bodily injury to a partner or family member with a weapon; or (c) purposely or knowingly causes reasonable apprehension of bodily injury in a partner or family member.</p> <hr/> <p>“Family member” means mothers, fathers, children, brothers, sisters, and other past or present family members of a household. These relationships include relationships created by adoption and remarriage, including stepchildren, stepparents, in-laws, and adoptive children and parents. These relationships continue regardless of the ages of the parties and whether the parties reside in the same household.</p> <hr/> <p>“Partners” means spouses, former spouses, persons who have a child in</p>

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		common, and persons who have been or are currently in a dating or ongoing intimate relationship with a person of the opposite sex.
Nebraska	§ 42-903	<p>“Abuse” means the occurrence of one or more of the following acts between household members: (a) Attempting to cause or intentionally and knowingly causing bodily injury with or without a dangerous instrument; (b) Placing, by means of credible threat, another person in fear of bodily injury. For purposes of this subdivision, credible threat means a verbal or written threat, including a threat performed through the use of an electronic communication device, or a threat implied by a pattern of conduct or a combination of verbal, written, or electronically communicated statements and conduct that is made by a person with the apparent ability to carry out the threat so as to cause the person who is the target of the threat to reasonably fear for his or her safety or the safety of his or her family. It is not necessary to prove that the person making the threat had the intent to actually carry out the threat. The present incarceration of the person making the threat shall not prevent the threat from being deemed a credible threat under this section; or (c) Engaging in sexual contact or sexual penetration without consent.</p> <hr/> <p>“Family or household members” include spouses or former spouses, children, persons who are presently residing together or who have resided together in the past, persons who have a child in common whether or not they have been married or have lived together at any time, other persons related by consanguinity or affinity, and persons who are presently involved in a dating</p>

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		relationship with each other or who have been involved in a dating relationship with each other. For purposes of this subdivision, dating relationship means frequent, intimate associations primarily characterized by the expectation of affectional or sexual involvement, but does not include a casual relationship or an ordinary association between persons in a business or social context.
Nevada	§ 33.018	“Domestic violence” occurs when a person commits one of the following acts against or upon the person’s spouse or former spouse, any other person to whom the person is related by blood or marriage, any other person with whom the person is or was actually residing, any other person with whom the person has had or is having a dating relationship, any other person with whom the person has a child in common, the minor child of any of those persons, the person’s minor child or any other person who has been appointed the custodian or legal guardian for the person’s minor child: (a) A battery; (b) An assault; (c) Compelling the other person by force or threat of force to perform an act from which the other person has the right to refrain or to refrain from an act which the other person has the right to perform; (d) A sexual assault; (e) A knowing, purposeful or reckless course of conduct intended to harass the other person; (f) A false imprisonment; (g) Unlawful entry of the other person’s residence, or forcible entry against the other person’s will if there is a reasonably foreseeable risk of harm to the other person from the entry.
New Hampshire	§ 173-B:1	“Domestic violence” means abuse as defined in RSA 173-B:1, I.

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		<p>“Abuse” means the commission or attempted commission of one or more of the acts described in subparagraphs (a) through (g) by a family or household member or by a current or former sexual or intimate partner, where such conduct is determined to constitute a credible present threat to the petitioner's safety. The court may consider evidence of such acts, regardless of their proximity in time to the filing of the petition, which, in combination with recent conduct, reflects an ongoing pattern of behavior which reasonably causes or has caused the petitioner to fear for his or her safety or well-being: (a) Assault or reckless conduct; (b) Criminal threatening; (c) Sexual assault; (d) Interference with freedom; (e) Destruction of property; (f) Unauthorized entry; or (g) Harassment.</p> <p>“Family or household member” means: (a) Spouses, ex-spouses, persons cohabiting with each other, and persons who cohabited with each other but who no longer share the same residence; or, (b) Parents and other persons related by consanguinity or affinity, other than minor children who reside with the defendant.</p> <p>“Intimate partners” means persons currently or formerly involved in a romantic relationship, whether or not such relationship was ever sexually consummated.</p>
New Jersey	§ 2C:25-19	“Domestic violence” means the occurrence of one or more of the following

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		<p>acts inflicted upon a person protected under this act by an adult or an emancipated minor: (1) Homicide; (2) Assault; (3) Terroristic threats; (4) Kidnapping; (5) Criminal restraint; (6) False imprisonment; (7) Sexual assault; (8) Criminal sexual contact; (9) Lewdness; (10) Criminal mischief; (11) Burglary; (12) Criminal trespass; (13) Harassment; (14) Stalking.</p> <hr/> <p>When one or more of these acts is inflicted by an unemancipated minor upon a person protected under this act, the occurrence shall not constitute “domestic violence,” but may be the basis for the filing of a petition or complaint pursuant to the provisions of § 11 of P.L.1982, c. 77.</p>
New Mexico	§ 40-13-2	<p>“Domestic abuse” means an incident of stalking or sexual assault whether committed by a household member or not. “Domestic abuse” likewise means an incident by a household member against another household member consisting of or resulting in: (a) physical harm; (b) severe emotional distress; (c) bodily injury or assault; (d) a threat causing imminent fear of bodily injury by any household member; (e) criminal trespass; (f) criminal damage to property; (g) repeatedly driving by a residence or work place; (h) telephone harassment; (i) harassment; or (j) harm or threatened harm to children as set forth in this paragraph; and does not mean the use of force in self-defense or the defense of another.</p> <hr/> <p>“Household member” means a spouse, former spouse, parent, present or former stepparent, present or former parent in-law, grandparent, grandparent-</p>

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		in-law, child, stepchild, grandchild, co-parent of a child or a person with whom the petitioner has had a continuing personal relationship. Cohabitation is not necessary to be deemed a household member for purposes of this section.
New York	§ 459-a	“Victim of domestic violence” means any person over the age of sixteen, any married person, or any parent accompanied by his or her minor child or children in situations in which such person or such person's child is a victim of an act which would constitute a violation of the penal law, including, but not limited to acts constituting disorderly conduct, harassment, aggravated harassment, sexual misconduct, forcible touching, sexual abuse, stalking, criminal mischief, menacing, reckless endangerment, kidnapping, assault, attempted assault, attempted murder, criminal obstruction of breathing or blood circulation, or strangulation; and (i) such act or acts have resulted in actual physical or emotional injury or have created a substantial risk of physical or emotional harm to such person or such person's child; and (ii) such act or acts are or are alleged to have been committed by a family or household member.
North Carolina	§ 50B-1	“Domestic violence” means the commission of one or more of the following acts upon an aggrieved party or upon a minor child residing with or in the custody of the aggrieved party by a person with whom the aggrieved party has or has had a personal relationship, but does not include acts of self-defense: (1) Attempting to cause bodily injury, or intentionally causing bodily injury; or (2) Placing the aggrieved party or a member of the

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		<p>aggrieved party's family or household in fear of imminent serious bodily injury or continued harassment that rises to such a level as to inflict substantial emotional distress; or (3) Committing any act defined in G.S. 14-27.2 through G.S. 14-27.7.</p> <hr/> <p>For purposes of this section, the term “personal relationship” means a relationship wherein the parties involved: (1) Are current or former spouses; (2) Are persons of opposite sex who live together or have lived together; (3) Are related as parents and children, including others acting in loco parentis to a minor child, or as grandparents and grandchildren. For purposes of this subdivision, an aggrieved party may not obtain an order of protection against a child or grandchild under the age of 16; (4) Have a child in common; (5) Are current or former household members; (6) Are persons of the opposite sex who are in a dating relationship or have been in a dating relationship. For purposes of this subdivision, a dating relationship is one wherein the parties are romantically involved over time and on a continuous basis during the course of the relationship. A casual acquaintance or ordinary fraternization between persons in a business or social context is not a dating relationship.</p>
North Dakota	§ 14-07.1-01	<p>“Domestic violence” includes physical harm, bodily injury, sexual activity compelled by physical force, assault, or the infliction of fear of imminent physical harm, bodily injury, sexual activity compelled by physical force, or assault, not committed in self-defense, on the complaining family or household members.</p>

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		<hr/> <p>“Family or household member” means a spouse, family member, former spouse, parent, child, persons related by blood or marriage, persons who are in a dating relationship, persons who are presently residing together or who have resided together in the past, persons who have a child in common regardless of whether they are or have been married or have lived together at any time, and, for the purpose of the issuance of a domestic violence protection order, any other person with a sufficient relationship to the abusing person as determined by the court under § 14-07.1-02.</p>
Ohio	§ 3113.33	<p>“Domestic violence” means attempting to cause or causing bodily injury to a family or household member, or placing a family or household member by threat of force in fear of imminent physical harm.</p> <hr/> <p>“Family or household member” means any of the following who is residing or has resided with the person committing the domestic violence: (a) A spouse, a person living as a spouse, or a former spouse of the person committing the domestic violence; (b) A parent, foster parent, or child of the person committing the domestic violence, or another person related by consanguinity or affinity to the person committing the domestic violence; (c) A parent or a child of a spouse, person living as a spouse, or former spouse of the person committing the domestic violence, or another person related by consanguinity or affinity to a spouse, person living as a spouse, or former spouse of the person committing the domestic violence; (d) The dependents</p>

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		of any person listed in division (B)(1)(a), (b), or (c) of this section.
Oklahoma	tit. 22 § 60.1	<p>“Domestic abuse” means any act of physical harm, or the threat of imminent physical harm which is committed by an adult, emancipated minor, or minor child thirteen (13) years of age or older against another adult, emancipated minor or minor child who are family or household members or who are or were in a dating relationship.</p> <hr/> <p>“Family or household members” means: a.) spouses, b.) ex-spouses, c.) present spouses of ex-spouses, d.) parents, including grandparents, stepparents, adoptive parents and foster parents, e.) children, including grandchildren, stepchildren, adopted children and foster children, f.) persons otherwise related by blood or marriage, g.) persons living in the same household or who formerly lived in the same household, and h.) persons who are the biological parents of the same child, regardless of their marital status, or whether they have lived together at any time. This shall include the elderly and individuals with disabilities.</p>
Oregon	§ 107.705	<p>“Abuse” means the occurrence of one or more of the following acts between family or household members: (a) Attempting to cause or intentionally, knowingly or recklessly causing bodily injury; (b) Intentionally, knowingly or recklessly placing another in fear of imminent bodily injury; (c) Causing another to engage in involuntary sexual relations by force or threat of force.</p> <hr/> <p>“Family or household members” means any of the following: (a) Spouses.</p>

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		(b) Former spouses; (c) Adult persons related by blood, marriage or adoption; (d) Persons who are cohabiting or who have cohabited with each other; (e) Persons who have been involved in a sexually intimate relationship with each other within two years immediately preceding the filing by one of them of a petition under ORS 107.710; (f) Unmarried parents of a child.
Pennsylvania	§ 6102	<p>“Abuse” is the occurrence of one or more of the following acts between family or household members, sexual or intimate partners or persons who share biological parenthood: (1) Attempting to cause or intentionally, knowingly or recklessly causing bodily injury, serious bodily injury, rape, involuntary deviate sexual intercourse, sexual assault, statutory sexual assault, aggravated indecent assault, indecent assault or incest with or without a deadly weapon; (2) Placing another in reasonable fear of imminent serious bodily injury; (3) The infliction of false imprisonment; (4) Physically or sexually abusing minor children; (5) Knowingly engaging in a course of conduct or repeatedly committing acts toward another person without proper authority, under circumstances which place the person in reasonable fear of bodily injury.</p> <hr/> <p>“Family or household members” are spouses or persons who have been spouses, persons living as spouses or who lived as spouses, parents and children, other persons related by consanguinity or affinity, current or former sexual or intimate partners, or persons who share biological parenthood.</p>

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Puerto Rico	8 P.R. Laws Ann. § 602	“Domestic abuse” means a constant pattern of conduct involving physical force or psychological violence, intimidation or persecution against a person by his/her spouse, former spouse, a person with whom he/she cohabits, or has cohabited, with whom he/she has or has had a consensual relationship, or a person with whom a son or daughter has been procreated, to cause physical harm to their self, their property, or another's self, or to cause him/her grave emotional harm.
Rhode Island	§ 12-29-2	<p>“Domestic violence” includes, but is not limited to, any of the following crimes when committed by one family or household member against another: (1) Simple assault; (2) Felony assaults; (3) Vandalism; (4) Disorderly conduct; (5) Trespass; (6) Kidnapping; (7) Child-snatching; (8) Sexual assault; (9) Homicide; (10) Violation of the provisions of a protective order entered pursuant to § 15-5-19, chapter 15 of title 15, or chapter 8.1 of title 8 where the respondent has knowledge of the order and the penalty for its violation or a violation of a no contact order issued pursuant to § 12-29-4; (11) Stalking; (12) Refusal to relinquish or to damage or to obstruct a telephone; (13) Burglary and Unlawful Entry; (14) Arson; (15) Cyberstalking and cyberharassment; and (16) Domestic assault by strangulation.</p> <hr/> <p>“Family or household member” means spouses, former spouses, adult persons related by blood or marriage, adult persons who are presently residing together or who have resided together in the past three (3) years, and</p>

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		persons who have a child in common regardless of whether they have been married or have lived together, or if persons who are or have been in a substantive dating or engagement relationship within the past one year which shall be determined by the court's consideration of the following factors: (1) the length of time of the relationship; (2) the type of the relationship; (3) the frequency of the interaction between the parties.
South Carolina	§ 20-4-20	<p>“Abuse” means: (1) Physical harm, bodily injury, assault, or the threat of physical harm; (2) Sexual criminal offenses, as otherwise defined by statute, committed against a family or household member by a family or household member.</p> <hr/> <p>“Household member” means: (i) a spouse; (ii) a former spouse; (iii) persons who have a child in common; (iv) a male and female who are cohabiting or formerly have cohabited.</p>
South Dakota	§ 25-10-1	<p>“Domestic abuse” means physical harm, bodily injury, or attempts to cause physical harm or bodily injury, or the infliction of fear of imminent physical harm or bodily injury between family or household members. Any violation of § 25-10-13 or chapter 22-19A or any crime of violence as defined in subdivision 22-1-2(9) constitutes domestic abuse if the underlying criminal act is committed between family or household members.</p> <hr/> <p>“Family or household members” are spouses, former spouses, or persons</p>

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		related by consanguinity, adoption, or law, persons living in the same household, persons who have lived together, or persons who have had a child together.
Tennessee	§ 36-3-601	<p>“Domestic abuse” means committing abuse against a “domestic abuse victim.”</p> <hr/> <p>“Abuse” means inflicting, or attempting to inflict, physical injury on an adult or minor by other than accidental means, placing an adult or minor in fear of physical harm, physical restraint, malicious damage to the personal property of the abused party, including inflicting, or attempting to inflict, physical injury on any animal owned, possessed, leased, kept, or held by an adult or minor, or placing an adult or minor in fear of physical harm to any animal owned, possessed, leased, kept, or held by the adult or minor.</p> <hr/> <p>“Domestic abuse victim” means any person who falls within the following categories: (A) Adults or minors who are current or former spouses; (B) Adults or minors who live together or who have lived together; (C) Adults or minors who are dating or who have dated or who have or had a sexual relationship. As used herein, “dating” and “dated” do not include fraternization between two (2) individuals in a business or social context; (D) Adults or minors related by blood or adoption; (E) Adults or minors who are related or were formerly related by marriage; or (F) Adult or minor children of a person in a relationship that is described in subdivisions (5)(A)-(E).</p>

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Texas	Tex. Fam. Code § 71.004 Tex. Fam. Code § 71.005	<p>“Family violence” means: (1) an act by a member of a family or household against another member of the family or household that is intended to result in physical harm, bodily injury, assault, or sexual assault or that is a threat that reasonably places the member in fear of imminent physical harm, bodily injury, assault, or sexual assault, but does not include defensive measures to protect oneself; (2) abuse, as that term is defined by §§ 261.001(1)(C), (E), and (G), by a member of a family or household toward a child of the family or household; or (3) dating violence, as that term is defined by § 71.0021.</p> <hr/> <p>“Household” means a unit composed of persons living together in the same dwelling, without regard to whether they are related to each other.</p>
Utah	§ 77-36-1 § 78B-7-102	<p>“Domestic violence” means any criminal offense involving violence or physical harm or threat of violence or physical harm, or any attempt, conspiracy, or solicitation to commit a criminal offense involving violence or physical harm, when committed by one cohabitant against another.</p> <p>“Domestic violence” also means commission or attempt to commit, any of the following offenses by one cohabitant against another: (a) aggravated assault; (b) assault; (c) criminal homicide; (d) harassment; (e) electronic communication harassment; (f) kidnapping, child kidnapping, or aggravated kidnapping; (g) mayhem; (h) sexual offenses including sexual exploitation of a minor; (i) stalking; (j) unlawful detention or unlawful detention of a minor; (k) violation of a protective order or ex parte protective order; (l) any offense against property described in Title 76, Chapter 6, Part 1,</p>

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		<p>Property Destruction, Part 2, Burglary and Criminal Trespass, or Part 3, Robbery; (m) possession of a deadly weapon with intent to assault; (n) discharge of a firearm from a vehicle, near a highway, or in the direction of any person, building, or vehicle; (o) disorderly conduct, if a conviction of disorderly conduct is the result of a plea agreement in which the defendant was originally charged with any of the domestic violence offenses otherwise described in this Subsection (4). Conviction of disorderly conduct as a domestic violence offense, in the manner described in this Subsection (4)(o), does not constitute a misdemeanor crime of domestic violence under 18 U.S.C. § 921, and is exempt from the provisions of the federal Firearms Act, 18 U.S.C. § 921 et seq.; or (p) child abuse as described in § 76-5-109.1.</p> <hr/> <p>“Cohabitant” has the same meaning as in § 78B-7-102.</p> <hr/> <p>“Cohabitant” means an emancipated person pursuant to § 15-2-1 or a person who is 16 years of age or older who: (a) is or was a spouse of the other party; (b) is or was living as if a spouse of the other party; (c) is related by blood or marriage to the other party; (d) has one or more children in common with the other party; (e) is the biological parent of the other party's unborn child; or (f) resides or has resided in the same residence as the other party.</p>
Vermont	tit. 15 § 1101	<p>“Abuse” means the occurrence of one or more of the following acts between family or household members: (A) Attempting to cause or causing physical harm; (B) Placing another in fear of imminent serious physical harm; (C)</p>

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		<p>Abuse to children; (D) Stalking; (E) Sexual assault.</p> <hr/> <p>“Household members” include persons who, for any period of time, are living or have lived together, are sharing or have shared occupancy of a dwelling, are engaged in or have engaged in a sexual relationship, or minors or adults who are dating or who have dated. “Dating” means a social relationship of a romantic nature.</p>
Virginia	§ 16.1-228	<p>“Family abuse” means any act involving violence, force, or threat that results in bodily injury or places one in reasonable apprehension of death, sexual assault, or bodily injury and that is committed by a person against such person's family or household member. Such act includes, but is not limited to, any forceful detention, stalking, criminal sexual assault, or any criminal offense that results in bodily injury or places one in reasonable apprehension of death, sexual assault, or bodily injury.</p> <hr/> <p>“Family or household member” means (i) the person's spouse, whether or not he or she resides in the same home with the person, (ii) the person's former spouse, whether or not he or she resides in the same home with the person, (iii) the person's parents, stepparents, children, stepchildren, brothers, sisters, half-brothers, half-sisters, grandparents and grandchildren, regardless of whether such persons reside in the same home with the person, (iv) the person's mother-in-law, father-in-law, sons-in-law, daughters-in-law, brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law who reside in the same home with the</p>

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		person, (v) any individual who has a child in common with the person, whether or not the person and that individual have been married or have resided together at any time, or (vi) any individual who cohabits or who, within the previous 12 months, cohabited with the person, and any children of either of them then residing in the same home with the person.
Virgin Islands	16 V.I.C. § 91	“Domestic violence” means the occurrence of any of the following acts, attempts or threats against a person who may be protected under this chapter pursuant to subsection (c) of this section: (1) Assault; (2) Battery; (3) Burglary; (4) Kidnapping; (5) Unlawful sexual contact; (6) Rape; (7) Forcible or unlawful entry; (8) Coercion; (9) Destruction of property; (10) Harassment; (11) Threats; (12) False imprisonment; or (13) Stalking; (14) Violation of a restraining order issued pursuant to § 97(b)(2) or § 98 of this chapter.
Washington	§ 26.50.010	<p>“Domestic violence” means: (a) Physical harm, bodily injury, assault, or the infliction of fear of imminent physical harm, bodily injury or assault, between family or household members; (b) sexual assault of one family or household member by another; or (c) stalking of one family or household member by another family or household member.</p> <hr/> <p>“Family or household members” are spouses, domestic partners, former spouses, former domestic partners, persons who have a child in common regardless of whether they have been married or have lived together at any time, adult persons related by blood or marriage, adult persons who are</p>

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		presently residing together or who have resided together in the past, persons sixteen years of age or older who are presently residing together or who have resided together in the past and who have or have had a dating relationship, persons sixteen years of age or older with whom a person sixteen years of age or older has or has had a dating relationship, and persons who have a biological or legal parent-child relationship, including stepparents and stepchildren and grandparents and grandchildren.
West Virginia	§ 48-27-202	<p>“Domestic violence” or “abuse” means the occurrence of one or more of the following acts between family or household members: (1) Attempting to cause or intentionally, knowingly or recklessly causing physical harm to another with or without dangerous or deadly weapons; (2) Placing another in reasonable apprehension of physical harm; (3) Creating fear of physical harm by harassment, stalking, psychological abuse or threatening acts; (4) Committing either sexual assault or sexual abuse as those terms are defined in articles eight-b and eight-d, chapter sixty-one of this code; and (5) Holding, confining, detaining or abducting another person against that person's will.</p> <hr/> <p>“Family or household members” means persons who: (1) Are or were married to each other; (2) Are or were living together as spouses; (3) Are or were sexual or intimate partners; (4) Are or were dating: provided, that a casual acquaintance or ordinary fraternization between persons in a business or social context does not establish a dating relationship; (5) Are or were residing together in the same household; (6) Have a child in common</p>

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		regardless of whether they have ever married or lived together; (7) Have the following relationships to another person: (A) Parent; (B) Stepparent; (C) Brother or sister; (D) Half-brother or half-sister; (E) Stepbrother or stepsister; (F) Father-in-law or mother-in-law; (G) Stepfather-in-law or stepmother-in-law; (H) Child or stepchild; (I) Daughter-in-law or son-in-law; (J) Stepdaughter-in-law or stepson-in-law; (K) Grandparent; (L) Step grandparent; (M) Aunt, aunt-in-law, or step aunt; (N) Uncle, uncle-in-law, or step uncle; (O) Niece or nephew; (P) First or second cousin; or (8) Have the relationships set forth in paragraphs (A) through (P), subdivision (7) of this section to a family or household member, as defined in subdivisions (1) through (6) of this section.
Wisconsin	§ 813.12	“Domestic abuse” means any of the following engaged in by an adult family member or adult household member against another adult family member or adult household member, by an adult caregiver against an adult who is under the caregiver's care, by an adult against his or her adult former spouse, by an adult against an adult with whom the individual has or had a dating relationship, or by an adult against an adult with whom the person has a child in common: 1.) Intentional infliction of physical pain, physical injury or illness 2.) Intentional impairment of physical condition; 3.) A violation of s. 940.225(1), (2) or (3); 4.) A violation of s. 943.01, involving property that belongs to the individual; 5.) A threat to engage in the conduct under subd. 1., 2., 3., or 5.

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		<p>“Family member” means a spouse, a parent, a child or a person related by blood or adoption to another person.</p> <hr/> <p>“Household member” means a person currently or formerly residing in a place of abode with another person.</p>
Wyoming	§ 35-21-102	<p>“Domestic abuse” means the occurrence of one or more of the following acts by a household member, but does not include acts of self-defense: (A) Physically abusing, threatening to physically abuse, attempting to cause or causing physical harm or acts which unreasonably restrain the personal liberty of any household member; (B) Placing a household member in reasonable fear of imminent physical harm; or (C) Causing a household member to engage involuntarily in sexual activity by force, threat of force or duress.</p> <hr/> <p>“Household member” includes: (A) Persons married to each other; (B) Persons living with each other as if married; (C) Persons formerly married to each other; (D) Persons formerly living with each other as if married; (E) Parents and their adult children; (F) Other adults sharing common living quarters; (G) Persons who are the parents of a child but who are not living with each other; and (H) Persons who are in, or have been in, a dating relationship.</p>

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