

# YOUTH AGAINST VIOLENCE LINE

24/7 ◦ anonymous ◦ confidential ◦ and in your language



**Stand up. Be heard. Get help.**

## A message to YOUth!

Calling the YAV Line is a safe, confidential and anonymous way to report crime and violent incidents, or to talk through a problem – any problem – with a supportive person. We provide 24/7 assistance, and you don't have to identify yourself (we don't have call display, either).

We are trained support workers who talk with young people and concerned adults every day about bullying, gang activity, sexual exploitation, harassment, and many other youth-related issues. We know how to listen, can provide crisis support, and will tell you about services in the community that can help.

**Call 1.800.680.4264**  
**TTY 604-.875.0885**  
**Text 604.836.6381**

## About the Youth Against Violence Line – YAV Line

The YAV Line is a province-wide, 24/7, multilingual resource that provides confidential assistance to young people affected by youth violence or crime. Youth who are worried about their safety, or who want to anonymously report a crime or violent incident – *before* or after it has occurred – can call **1.800.680.4264** for help.

Parents, teachers, or service providers concerned about the well-being of a young person, can also call for assistance and information.

At the YAV Line we hear about all sorts of issues. Often criminal offences are involved, such as assault, drug trafficking, abduction, homicide, hate crime, and robbery. Sometimes, though, callers just need to talk through a concern.

Whatever the issue, however simple or complex, we know how to help. And because the YAV Line is a multilingual service, we can talk to you in your own language. Our staff speak several different languages and we also use interpreters from CanTalk Canada.

Deaf and hard of hearing callers can contact us by calling TTY **604 875-0885** (collect calls accepted), or texting us at **604 836-6381**.

To order YAV Line resource materials including copies of this information sheet, wallet cards, and bracelets, call **1.800.680.4264** or e-mail [info@youthagainstviolenceline.com](mailto:info@youthagainstviolenceline.com).

The Youth Against Violence Line is operated by Information Services Vancouver with funding provided by the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General and RCMP "E" Division – Community Policing Services.

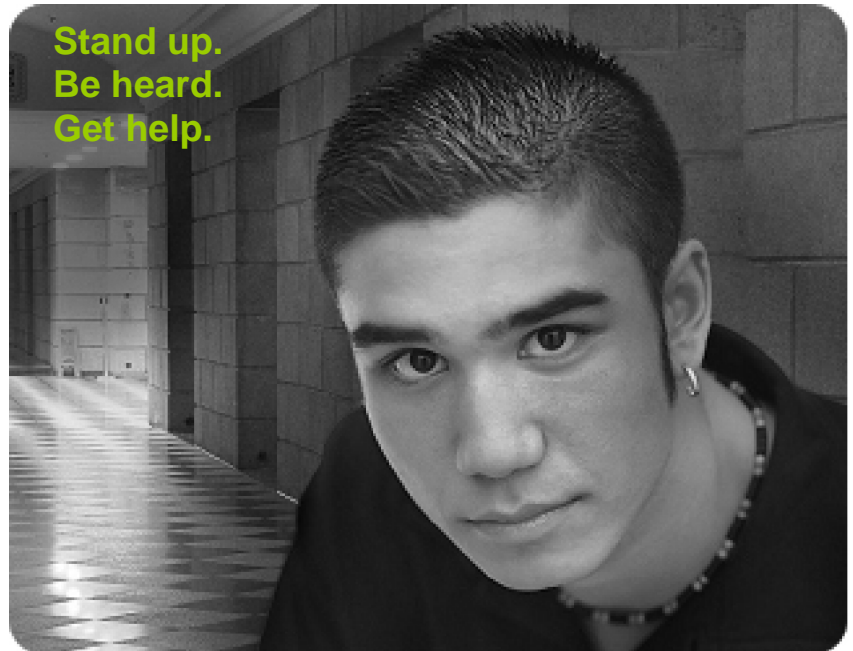
**WWW.YOUTHAGAINSTVIOLENCELINE.COM**  
**info@youthagainstviolenceline.com**

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### Other helpful resources

- Call **911** if you are in immediate danger.
- Call the toll free **Helpline for Children (310.1234)** if you are a victim of physical or sexual abuse.
- Call Youth in BC – **Crisis and Suicide Prevention Helpline** at **1.866.661.3311**.
- Youth who are injured from violent crime can apply to the **Crime Victim Assistance Program** for benefits. Call **1.866.660.3888** for information on eligibility.



**Stand up.  
Be heard.  
Get help.**

### Stand up.

A survey of students in grades 6, 8 and 10 conducted for the World Health Organization in 1997/98 showed that more than 60,000 people reported that they were bullied every day, or every week. Although 85 percent of these incidents were witnessed by others (often friends or acquaintances of the victim), less than one quarter of them stepped in to help. We know it's not easy to *stand up* against violence. But if you choose to, you can do it – and the YAV Line is here to help.

### Be heard.

At the YAV Line we're here to listen. *Really listen*. Say what you want, as much or as little as you feel comfortable disclosing. If you're dealing with a number of different concerns or issues, we'll help you to decide what your first steps should be. Remember, everything you say is in complete confidence and you remain totally anonymous.

### Get help.

Part of our job is knowing about the thousands of different community and health resources which are located all over BC. We have access to information on all these services and programs, and will tell you which ones can help you the most. Depending on your needs, we may recommend one service to you, or several. You choose whether or not to contact the service(s). **Call 1.800.680.4264.**

### What is violence?

- Bullying
- Harassment
- Stalking and monitoring other's activities
- Dating violence
- Racism
- Hate
- Rape or sexual assault
- Sexist, racist or homophobic comments
- Pushing, grabbing, shoving, slapping, kicking, punching, hitting, choking
- Using or threatening to use a weapon against someone
- Gang activity
- Sexual exploitation of children and youth
- Vandalism or throwing, smashing, kicking, or destroying property