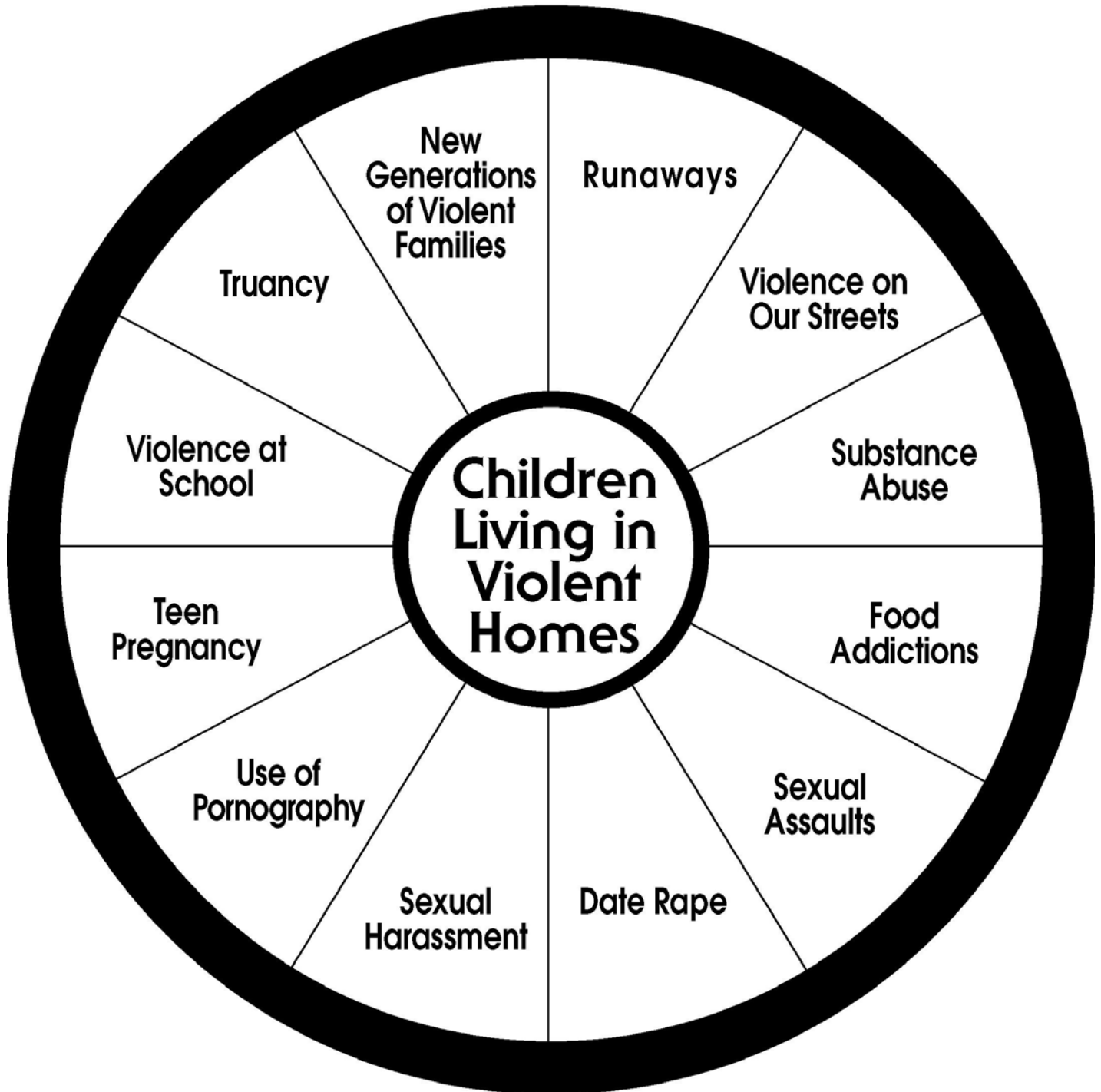


Children Coping with Family Violence



This, and other domestic violence wheels, have been inspired by the Domestic Abuse Intervention Project, Duluth, MN

~ See Back Side for Additional Information ~

CHILDREN COPING WITH FAMILY VIOLENCE

New Generations of Violent Families...

Statistics are pretty clear that children use the models they have experienced to form their own families. It is important that they learn that their experience of “home” is not the only experience of family life. Boys who experience domestic violence are more likely to batter their partners as adults, and girls who witness abuse have a high risk of being battered as adults.

Runaways...

Leaving home to avoid the conflict may seem like the only alternative, especially for teens. Teens who have left home and need help can call the National Runaway Switchboard: 800-621-4000.

Violence on Our Streets...

The lack of knowledge and experience in problem resolution can lead children to always react with violence, the only method they have seen.

Substance Abuse...

Children from violent homes have a higher risk of substance abuse. They may attempt to escape their problems by numbing themselves.

Food Addictions...

Food addictions, like anorexia and bulimia, are a way to continue the cycle of violence through self-abuse. These addictions can be a way of controlling at least one aspect of their lives.

Sexual Assaults... Date Rape... Use of Pornography...

Because of their vulnerability, young people may become the targets of others who would prey upon them. They also may become the perpetrators of crimes, using the understanding they have witnessed – power, control and domination.

Teen Pregnancy...

Teens often seek validation and love and can be very vulnerable. They may also deliberately choose to become pregnant and have a child who will fill this void in their lives.

Violence at School...

Without good models for handling conflict, the “skills” witnessed at home get translated onto the schoolyard. For younger children, this may come out as bullying behavior; older youths may consider more violent behaviors.

Truancy...

Children may try to stay home to protect their mom or simply not have the support that is needed to establish regular school attendance. Worrying about survival for themselves or members of their families makes school and learning difficult.