

Forms of Abuse in Later Life

Elder Abuse encompasses five areas of mistreatment:

Physical Abuse

hitting, shaking, kicking, pushing, beating, choking, burning, restraining

Sexual Abuse

forcing the victim to perform unwanted sexual activities, degrading treatment

Emotional Abuse

making humiliating remarks, name-calling, mocking, yelling, blaming, swearing, interrupting, threatening, harming pets, destroying personal property, withholding affection, not respecting the victim's feelings, rights and opinions

Financial Abuse

stealing money or property, using money as a way to maintain control

Neglect

withholding or failing to provide food, water, assistive devices, shelter, clothing, personal care, medical treatment

MISSION

Victims Information Bureau of Suffolk exists to assist survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault; to prevent these crimes through education and services; and to raise community awareness of the need for justice and compassion for victims.



VICTIMS INFORMATION BUREAU OF SUFFOLK

PO Box 428, Holbrook, NY 11741

24 Hour Hotline: (631) 360-3606

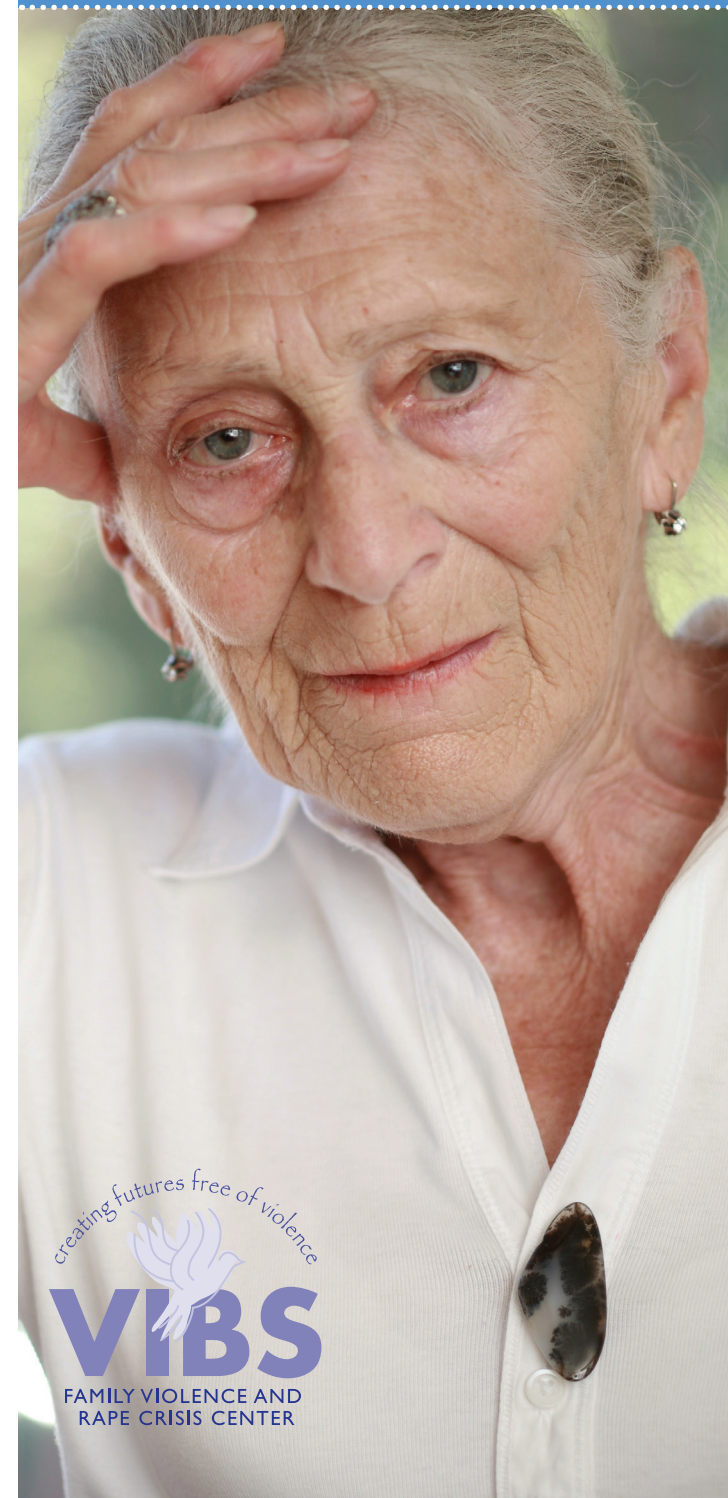
Business Phone: (631) 360-3730

www.vibs.org

info@vibs.org

*Printing of this brochure provided by the
New York State Office of Victim Services*

*Photos are for illustrative purposes only;
any person depicted in this brochure is a model.*



What can we do for you?

If you are 60 or older, VIBS can provide you with:

- Counseling
- Court/Law Enforcement Advocacy and Accompaniment
- Case Management
- Community Education Programs
- Crime Victims Board
Compensation Applications
- Referrals



Could this be happening to you?

Betty, 65, and Joe, 68, have been married for almost 40 years. Joe has been verbally, emotionally, and at times physically abusive to Betty. Since his retirement, Betty has been increasingly isolated from her friends and community.

Grace 72, agreed to let her 28-year-old grandson, Eddie, stay with her while he tried to get back on his feet. Grace hoped she could help him make a new start. Eddie is struggling with drug addiction and badgers Grace for money. When she refuses, he becomes abusive and threatening. Grace's physical and emotional health is suffering.



Assisting the Victim

Always speak to the victim alone.

Believe the victim and offer hope and support.

Questions to ask:

- How are things going with your spouse/partner/family member?
- Are you getting to see your friends?
- Has anyone made you feel afraid or threatened?
- Does anyone threaten you or force you to do things you don't want to do?
- Have you ever been hurt by someone close to you?
- Have you ever been forced into sexual acts you did not wish to do?
- Is this going on now?

**No one needs to suffer.
Help is available.**

**Call VIBS' Elder Abuse Program
631-360-3730**