

# TAKE ACTION to prevent Employment Sabotage

67%

of nearly 3,000 teens surveyed in 2021 reported experiencing some form of employment interference from a dating partner

Employment interference - including being prevented from going to work or pressured to respond to calls and texts during a shift - is an aspect of teen dating violence that is often overlooked and can have devastating effects on their immediate and future wellbeing.

Economic abuse: when an individual interferes with their partner's education, employment, or finances - is common among teens, yet few recognize these harmful behaviors.

Ensuring that young people develop safe relationships that support their success in their first jobs is critical for their future career success. For example, being new to the workforce, teens are often unaware of workplace expectations and norms, particularly as they are new to navigating relationships. Teens should have guidance on how to be successful in the workplace and how to stay safe at work.

Youth workforce development specialists and businesses who employ teens should be aware of economic abuse to help ensure that teens are able to benefit from early employment opportunities. Get started with these steps:

- 1** Educate workforce development professionals on economic abuse and potential signs that program participants may be experiencing employment sabotage from a partner
- 2** Train individuals who supervise teenage employees to be aware of teen dating violence and economic abuse and to provide support rather than discipline when an employee may be experiencing abuse
- 3** Include economic abuse as examples of control and coercion in dating violence prevention programming
- 4** Educate teens about workplace rights and safety, including sexual harassment and violence
- 5** Provide mentorship for teens to help them learn about appropriate workplace conduct and what to do when facing obstacles impacting their performance and success

For more information visit: [www.futureswithoutviolence.org/teenDV/](http://www.futureswithoutviolence.org/teenDV/)

