



During your time in the United States, if you or someone you know is a victim of domestic or child abuse, please know that immediate help and support is available. Domestic violence is against the law and therefore a reportable incident in the US.

In the United States and Canada, dialing **911** on your telephone is the fastest way you can get help for yourself or someone else. With those three numbers, you can reach the fire department, the police, or an ambulance. When you call **911**, an emergency operator immediately connects you to the person you need.

NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HOTLINE

Phone: 1-800-799-SAFE (7233) Website: www.thehotline.org/

Staffed 24 hours every day by trained counselors who can provide crisis assistance and information about shelters, legal advocacy, health care centers and counseling.

(Multi-Lingual Resources include Hindi, Punjabi, Bangla, Gujarati, Urdu, Telugu, Tamil, Nepali):

- **Manavi** (NJ-based organization that works to end violence against South Asian women living in the US) (732) 435-1414 or <http://www.manavi.org/index.php>
- **New York Asian Women's Center** (based in NYC but will work with people anywhere in US) Multi-Lingual Hotline: 1-888-888-7702 or www.nyawc.org/index.html
- **Asian Task Force Against Domestic Violence** (Boston/New England area) Multi-Lingual Hotline: (617) 338-2355 or www.atask.org/site/our-programs/multilingual-helpline.html
- **Saheli** (Boston/New England area) Hotline: 1-866-4SAHELI or <http://www.saheliboston.org/>
- **Maitri** (based in San Jose, California, serving Alameda, Santa Clara and San Mateo Counties, but will talk with people anywhere in US; also take calls from India) Multi-Lingual Hotline: 1-888-8-MAITRI or www.maitri.org/

LEGAL RESOURCES:

- **Seva Legal Aid** (focusing on women's issues, child/domestic abuse, immigration) www.sevalegalaid.org/legal-services.html
- **National Asian Pacific American Association (NAPABA)** A national legal aid directory at www.napaba.org/napaba/showpage.asp?code=legalaid#AL
- **Asian Pacific American Legal Resource Center (APALRC)** (202) 393-3572 or www.apalrc.org/dp/node/3?id=34
- **U.S. Department of Justice** - a list of pro bono immigration-related legal services across the US www.justice.gov/eoir/probono/states.htm

OTHER RESOURCES:

- **Americans Overseas Domestic Violence Crisis Center** (help anywhere in the U.S.; also have a representative in India) Toll-free Hotline: 1-866-879-6636 or <http://www.866uswomen.org/Get-Help-Now.aspx>
- **Embassy of India (Washington, DC)** Phone: (202) 939-7000 or <http://www.indianembassy.org/>
- **U.S. Department of State - Domestic Violence Resources** http://www.travel.state.gov/travel/tips/emergencies/emergencies_1748.html
- **SAWNET (South Asian Women's Network)** - a resource list and online forum for South Asian women www.sawnet.org/orgns/violence.php

INTERNATIONAL PARENTAL CHILD ABDUCTION IS ILLEGAL

Removing a child from the United States against another parent's wishes can be considered a crime in every U.S. state. In some cases an abducting parent may be charged with a Federal crime under the International Parental Kidnapping Crime Act. This can be the case even when neither parent holds a custody decree prior to the abduction. Nevertheless, a custody decree can be helpful to prevent an international parental child abduction, or to recover your child if he/she is abducted. For more information about international parental child abduction, including steps to take if an abduction has already occurred, see http://www.travel.state.gov/abduction/abduction_580.html and http://www.travel.state.gov/abduction/prevention/prevention_560.html

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