Stop Domestic Violence

WE ARE NEW YORK
Study Guide

LEARN ENGLISH!
**STUDY GUIDE CONTENTS**

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**Read**

the story in the Study Guide.

**Watch**

the show on TV.

**Learn**

English with our stories.

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**Acknowledgments**


We Are New York TV (Stop Domestic Violence episode): Created by Leslee Oppenheim and Anthony Tassi. Produced by Andrzej Krakowski and Bob Perkis. Directed by Paul Epstein. Written by David Hellman, Kayhan Irani and Sandra Sollod Poster, with additional writing by K Webster.

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Stop Domestic Violence

Erica is in a play about domestic violence. In the play, her husband is abusing her.

What can she do?
Where can she go?
Who can help her?
We are ACTORS in a theater.

My name is Asad. I play a little boy named Billy.

My name is Abdul. I play Billy’s grandfather.

My name is Erica. I play Billy’s mother.

My name is Julie. I play Billy’s aunt.

My name is Renata. I play a police officer.
The Actors Get Their Roles

Yumi is the director of a play about a family.

Welcome back, everyone. Our new play is about a very important, but difficult, subject.

Erica, you are going to play the mother.

Asad, you are going to play a little boy named Billy.

How old is Billy?

Seven. And that's your bear.

roles = characters in a play
The actors don’t know the story.
The director tells the actors to learn their lines.

So, what is this play about?

lines = words the actors say
Scene 1: Billy and the Bear

The play begins.

13

You make me so mad. You will never do that again!

14

Billy! Come here.

15

Why are you hitting Mr. Bear? Isn’t he your friend?

16

I’m playing a game. The bear is Mommy, and I am Daddy.

17

Daddy hits Mommy when he is mad.

18

scene = a part of a play
Scene 2: Grandfather with His Daughter

That night, the Grandfather talks with his daughter (Billy’s aunt).

What’s wrong, Dad?

I am worried.

He tells her about Billy.
She tells him not to worry.

He was punching his bear.

You know how boys are.
He was probably just playing a game.

But Grandfather is worried about Billy’s mother.

He said the bear was Mommy, and he was Daddy.

He probably saw it on TV.
Dad, you’re not going to ask your son if he’s beating his wife.
You don’t know that for sure.
Scene 3: 
Grandfather and Billy’s Mother

The next day, Grandfather asks a difficult question.

Billy’s mother doesn’t know what to say.

Grandfather finds out the truth.

This is not easy for me to ask. But yesterday, I heard Billy say that Daddy hits Mommy.

Hitting me? My husband loves me.

You know how he is. He just gets angry sometimes.

And what does he do when he gets angry?

What am I supposed to do? I feel so hopeless.
Scene 4: You Are Not Alone

Billy’s aunt listens and gives good advice.

Billy’s mother is worried — she doesn’t have immigration papers.

You don’t understand. I can’t go to the police.

I don’t have my “papers.” There’s nothing I can do.
Billy’s mother can get help.

Yes, you can do something. There are people that can help you…

…people you can talk to. Call 311.

She thinks about it.

She makes the call.
Scene 5: At the Police Station

The two women also get information from a police officer.

Do you want to report a crime?

Well... not exactly. We have a “friend.”

And we think her husband is abusing her.

You have come to the right place. It is my job to help women like your friend.

Can you tell me what's going on?
In New York City, she doesn’t need “papers” to get help.

Your friend doesn’t have to worry. Here in New York, we help everyone.

You can tell your friend to come see me. I’ll be here for her.
What Can You Do?

The play is over. The actors speak to the audience about domestic violence.

Domestic violence affects people of every nationality, in every community.

It is not your fault. If you are a victim of domestic violence, do not feel bad about yourself.

For information and advice, call 311. For emergencies and to get help right away, call 911.

People working together can help stop domestic violence.
Talking about Theater

Look at the pictures. Read the sentences. Say the words.

A play is a show in a theater. This play has five scenes. A scene is a part of a play.

The director is in charge of the play. The director tells the actors what to do.

First, the actors read the script. The script has the lines—the words the actors say.

Next, the actors rehearse the play. They practice again and again. The actors must learn their lines.

The audience comes to see the play. Sometimes they laugh. Sometimes they cry.
Who We Are

Match the character with the description. Follow the example.

1. I tell Billy’s mother about calling 311.
   - I go with her to the police station.
   - I am a nurse.
   - I am an aunt, a daughter and a sister-in-law.

   Who am I? ____Billy’s aunt____

2. I take care of Billy after school.
   - I am worried that my son is an abuser.
   - I am a grandfather, a father and a father-in-law.

   Who am I? ____________

3. I am afraid of my husband.
   - I don’t have my “papers.”
   - I am a mother, a wife, a daughter-in-law and a sister-in-law.

   Who am I? ____________

4. I stay with my grandfather after school.
   - I hit my bear, and it’s not a game.
   - I am a son, a grandson and a nephew.

   Who am I? ____________

5. I protect people who need my help.
   - I wear a uniform to work.
   - I give advice to Billy’s mother and his aunt.

   Who am I? ____________
Lesson 3

What Happens?

Complete the sentences. Follow the example.

asks • is playing • is worried • sees • thinks

1. Billy’s grandfather **sees** Billy hit his bear. He asks Billy why he is hitting his bear.

2. Billy says that he **is playing** a game. He explains that sometimes Daddy hits Mommy.

3. Billy’s grandfather **is worried**.

4. That night, Billy’s grandfather **asks** his daughter for advice.

5. His daughter **doesn’t know** that Billy sees violence on TV. She doesn’t want her father to say anything.

doesn’t know • go • help • must • suggests

6. Billy’s grandfather decides he **must** do something. The next day, he talks to Billy’s mother.

7. Billy’s mother says that she **doesn’t know** what to do. She doesn’t have immigration papers.

8. Billy’s aunt **suggests** that they call 311.

9. Billy’s mother and aunt call 311. They also **suggest** to a police station.

10. The police officer says that the police **must** all people, with or without immigration papers.
Where Is It?

Find these things in the story.
Write the page number(s). Follow the example.

1. teddy bear
   pages 2, 3, 4
2. script
3. baseball cap
4. couch
5. lamp
6. dinner plates
7. 311
8. desk
9. audience

**props** = things that actors use to help tell the story
Talking about Domestic Violence

Find the meaning. Follow the example.

1. domestic violence __________ immediately
2. abuse __________ without hope
3. scared __________ when someone is being hurt by a family member or friend
4. doesn’t let __________ suggestions
5. emergency phone number __________ mad
6. advice __________ harm or hurt
7. right away __________ doesn’t allow or permit
8. angry __________ 911
9. hopeless __________ afraid
Grandfather: This is not (1) _______ easy for me to ask.
But yesterday, I heard Billy say that Daddy hits Mommy.
Is this true? Is my son (2) _______________ you?

Mother: Hitting me? My (3) __________________ loves me.
You know how he is. He just gets (4) __________________
sometimes.

Grandfather: And what does he do when he gets angry?

Mother: What am I (5) _______________ do?
I feel so (6) __________________.
Talking about Domestic Violence

Complete the sentences. Follow the example.

- abusing
- help
- money
- trouble
- crime
- let
- scared
- worry

Police Officer: Please sit down. Do you want to report a (1) _______?

Billy’s Aunt: Well… not exactly. We have a “friend.” And we think her husband is (2) _____________.

Police Officer: You have come to the right place. It is my job to (3) ____________ women like your friend. Can you tell me what’s going on?

Billy’s Aunt: He doesn’t (4) ____________ her see her friends. And her husband takes all the (5) ____________ from her paychecks.

Police Officer: Well, those are often signs of (6) ________________.

Billy’s Mother: But she doesn’t have her immigration papers. She doesn’t know what to do. She is (7) ________________.

Police Officer: Your friend doesn’t have to (8) ________________. She does not need to have “papers.” Here in New York, we help everyone.
Lesson 8

Talking about Domestic Violence

Circle have to or don’t have to. Follow the example.

1. You **have to / don’t have to** call 911 in an emergency. You must get help right away.

2. You **have to / don’t have to** live with domestic violence. You can get help from family, the police and city agencies.

3. You **have to / don’t have to** think first about your safety. You can ask for emergency shelter for you and your children.

4. You **have to / don’t have to** tell the police your immigration status. The police help everyone—people with “papers” and people without “papers.”

5. You **have to / don’t have to** solve the problem yourself. You can call 311 for more help.

6. You **have to / don’t have to** be afraid to ask for help. You can get help 24 hours a day from the Domestic Violence Hotline. The number is 1-800-621-4673.

have to = necessary  don’t have to = not necessary

emergency shelter = a safe place to stay
Good Question!

Put the words in order.
Follow the example.

1. old • Billy • is • How • ?

   How old is Billy?

2. about • What • this • play • is • ?

3. wrong • What • is • ?

4. supposed to • What • I • am • do • ?

5. tell • Can • you • what • is • me • going on • ?

Practice saying these questions out loud.
What can you say? Follow the example.

1. You are **Billy’s grandfather**. Ask Billy to sit near you.
   
   *Come here.*

2. You are **Billy’s aunt**. Tell Billy’s mother that she is not alone.

3. You are **Billy’s aunt**. Ask your father why he is worried.

4. You are **the police officer**. Ask about the problem.

5. You are **Billy’s mother**. You feel hopeless. Ask for advice.

   *Say the words out loud—like actors in a play!*
What Can You Do?

But she doesn’t have her immigration papers. She doesn’t know what to do. She is scared.

Call 911 in an emergency. You don’t need “papers” to get help. Ask for an interpreter. Say: I speak ________________.

It’s an emergency. You don’t have “papers.”

Your husband hits you, but you are safe right now. You don’t have “papers.”

Call 311 for information. You don’t need “papers” to get help. Ask for an interpreter. Say: I speak ________________.

Your friend is being abused, but she is safe right now. She doesn’t have “papers.”

Talk to your friend. Make sure she’s safe.

Call 311 for information. She doesn’t need “papers” to get help. Ask for an interpreter. Say: I speak ________________.
Lesson 12

Watch the Show
Who says it?

Watch Stop Domestic Violence. Listen carefully.
Find out who says these lines.

Who says it?

1. “Don’t worry about me. I am just tired.
   I have been working overtime this week.”

2. “I need to ask you a question. And I want you
to be honest.”

3. “311? This is a family problem. Can 311 help?”

4. “They said I should not talk about this.
   But this is happening to my sister.”

5. “I will not raise my child in a home
   where people hurt each other.”

6. “If you are here on your husband’s visa,
   there is help for you. But you have to ask for it.”

Renata
(police officer)

Erica
(Billy’s mother)

Abdul
(Billy’s grandfather)

Julie
(Billy’s aunt)

Domestic violence is a crime.
In New York City, everyone can get help.
Watch the Show
What’s going on?

What do you think is going on in these pictures?

Watch WE ARE NEW YORK • Stop Domestic Violence to find out what is going on.

Go to www.nyc.gov/LearnEnglish.

Or watch the show on TV.
Lesson 14

Tell the Story

Use these words to tell a friend about Stop Domestic Violence.

Find 5 family words.

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

Word picture: www.wordle.net/
What You Can Say
If You Need Help

If you need help, you can say:
• I need help.
• I need information about domestic violence.
• I want to talk to someone.
• I am being abused.
• I need an interpreter.
  I speak ________________.

What You Can Say
To Help Someone

If you know someone who needs help, you can say:
• What's going on?
• Are you okay?
• Can you tell me what's going on?
• What's wrong?
• You can talk to me anytime.
• You are not alone.
• I need information about domestic violence.
• I need an interpreter.
  I speak ________________.
What You Can Do
To Get Help

• **Call 911 in an emergency.** You don’t need to speak English. Ask for your language. Say: *I speak _________.*

• **Call 3-1-1** for free, 24 hours a day. You don’t need to speak English. Ask for your language. Say: *I speak _________.*

• **Call the Domestic Violence Hotline at 1-800-621-4673.** Ask for an interpreter. Say: *I need an interpreter. I speak _________.* Ask about emergency shelter for you and your children.

• If you have a friend who needs help, talk to her and ask if she’s okay. Help her get good advice. Call 3-1-1 for information.

• **Keep the victim safe.** Don’t talk to the abuser before talking to the victim.

• Learn more about these **New York City resources** for victims of domestic violence:
  
  - [www.safehorizons.org](http://www.safehorizons.org)
  - [www.nyc.gov/domesticviolence](http://www.nyc.gov/domesticviolence)
  - [www.sanctuaryforfamilies.org](http://www.sanctuaryforfamilies.org)

If you are a victim of domestic violence, you can get help. You are not alone.

Go to [www.nyc.gov/LearnEnglish](http://www.nyc.gov/LearnEnglish). Learn more about stopping domestic violence. Get information in Arabic, Bengali, Chinese, Russian and Spanish.
What You Can Do
To Learn More English

✔ Get together with friends who are learning English, too. Watch We Are New York together. Do the exercises together.

✔ Read the story out loud with a friend—like actors on TV! It’s a good way to learn.

✔ Take a free English class. Call 311 to get information, or go to www.nyc.gov/AdultEducation to find a program near you.

✔ Go to your local public library. To find the nearest library, call 311 or go to www.nypl.org, www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org or www.queenslibrary.org.

✔ If you have a high school diploma and want to improve your English and start college, go to www.clip.cuny.edu or www.cuny.edu.

✔ Make a list of words and expressions you learned from Stop Domestic Violence.

Visit the We Are New York website.
• Read the Study Guides.
• Practice your English.
• Watch videos of all the episodes.
• Read about your favorite characters!

www.nyc.gov/LearnEnglish
## Dictionary: Translations of Key Words

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<tr>
<th>English</th>
<th>Español</th>
<th>中文</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. abuse, to abuse</td>
<td>maltrato, maltratar</td>
<td>虐待</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. beat/hit/kick</td>
<td>pegar/golpear/patear</td>
<td>打/撃/踢</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. domestic violence</td>
<td>violencia doméstica</td>
<td>家庭暴力</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. emergency</td>
<td>emergencia</td>
<td>緊急情況</td>
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<td>5. emergency shelter</td>
<td>refugio para emergencias</td>
<td>緊急情況庇護所</td>
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<td>6. hotline</td>
<td>línea de ayuda directa</td>
<td>熱線</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. immigration papers</td>
<td>papeles de inmigración</td>
<td>移民文件</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. interpreters</td>
<td>intérpretes</td>
<td>翻譯員</td>
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<td>9. safe, safety</td>
<td>a salvo, seguridad</td>
<td>安全</td>
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<td>10. victim</td>
<td>vítima</td>
<td>受害者</td>
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<td>Русский</td>
<td>বাংলা</td>
<td>العربية</td>
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<td>---------------------------------------------</td>
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<td>жестокое обращение, жестоко обращаться</td>
<td>নির্ধাতন, নির্ধাতন করা</td>
<td>إبداع، يؤدي</td>
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<tr>
<td>бить/ударять/пинать</td>
<td>পেটানো/আঘাত করা/লাগি মারা</td>
<td>ضرب/لطم/ركل</td>
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<td>দৌরায়ি</td>
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<td>безопасный, безопасность</td>
<td>নিরাপদ, নিরাপতা</td>
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<td>жертва</td>
<td>নির্ধাতনের শিকার</td>
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Dear Erica

Write a letter to Billy’s mother.
Ask her a question.
Give her advice.
Tell her your story!

Dear Erica,

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

Sincerely yours,

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

Send your letter to www.nyc.gov/LearnEnglish. Click on Tell Us Your Story.
Or mail your letter to:
We Are New York • P.O. Box 807 • New York, NY 10116
Answers

Page 13
1. Billy’s aunt
2. Billy’s grandfather
3. Billy’s mother
4. Billy
5. police officer

Page 14
1. sees
2. is playing
3. is worried
4. asks
5. thinks
6. must
7. doesn’t know
8. suggests
9. go
10. help

Page 15
1. pages 2, 3, 4
2. pages 2, 3, 11
3. pages 1, 2, 3, 11
4. page 4
5. pages 4, 5, 6, 7, 8
6. page 5
7. page 8
8. page 9
9. page 11

Page 16
1. when someone is being
   hurt by a family member or friend
2. harm or hurt
3. afraid
4. doesn’t allow or permit
5. 911
6. suggestions
7. immediately
8. mad
9. without hope

Page 17
1. easy
2. hitting
3. husband
4. angry
5. supposed to
6. hopeless

Page 18
1. crime
2. abusing
3. help
4. let
5. money
6. trouble
7. scared
8. worry

Page 19
1. have to
2. don’t have to
3. have to
4. don’t have to
5. don’t have to
6. don’t have to

Page 20
1. How old is Billy?
2. What is this play about?
3. What is wrong?
4. What am I supposed to do?
5. Can you tell me what is going on?

Page 21
1. Come here.
2. We’re here for you.
3. What’s wrong, Dad?
4. Can you tell me what’s going on?
5. What am I supposed to do?

Page 23: Watch the show for these answers.
1. Erica
2. Abdul
3. Renata
4. Renata
5. Erica
6. Julie

Page 25: There are other correct answers.
mother, family, husband, aunt, daddy
WE ARE NEW YORK
Learn English with our stories

Watch all nine episodes on TV.
Read the Study Guides.
Practice your English.

www.nyc.gov/LearnEnglish