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Script by Maryna and Oksana Artemenko
Art by Zhenia Oliynyk
Expert support for preventing and combating domestic violence
was provided by Viktor Valchuk
Script editing and proofreading by Edward Gibson
Design by Illia Stronhovskyi
Layout and lettering by Kateryna Bazarova and Ihor Dunets
Executive editor Liliia Omelianenko

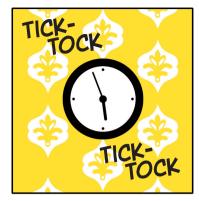
Heroes of Light. Maryna and Oksana Artementko. – Kyiv : Vydavnytstvo, 2021. – 36 p.

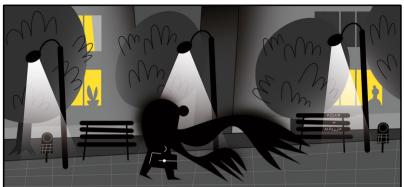
Five school students encounter a hitherto unseen danger when their relatives turn into shadows, something the kids don't know how to deal with. Acting like a team of superheroes, they are ready to fight back, but the threat proves to be stronger than they thought. In order to win, our Heroes of Light will have to put their trust in someone special.

Comic book series

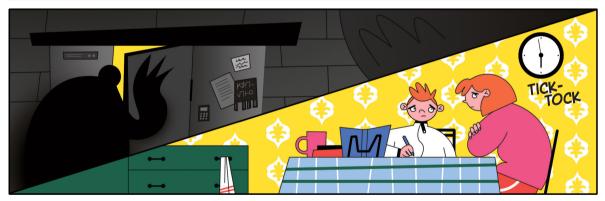
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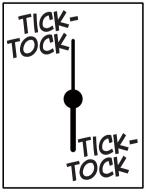










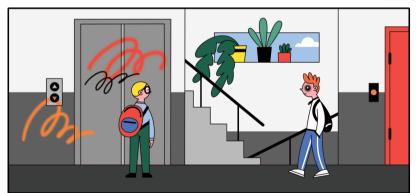




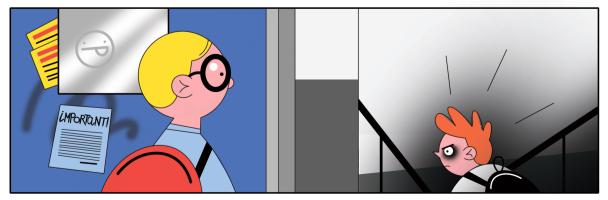


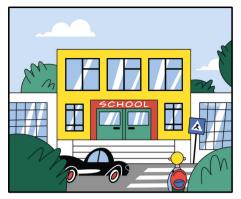




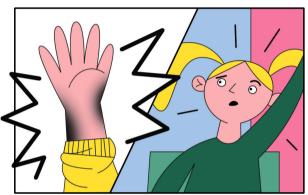


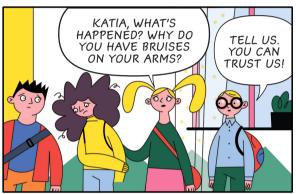
















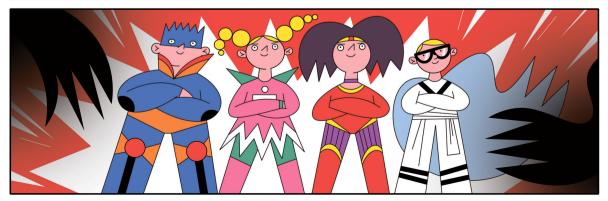




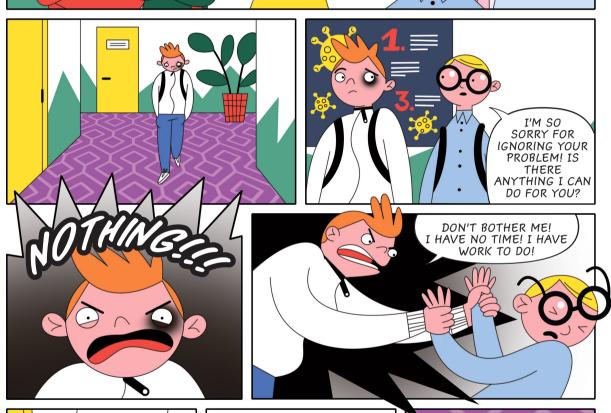




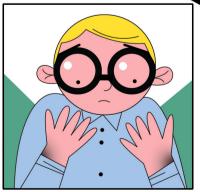


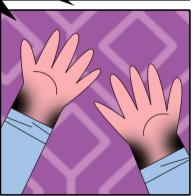






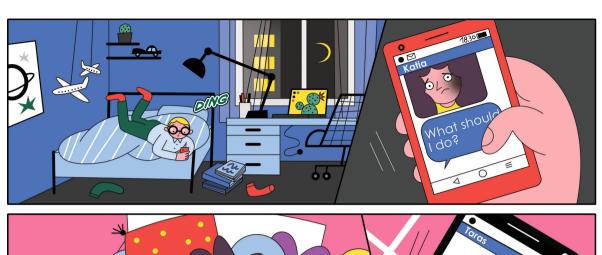


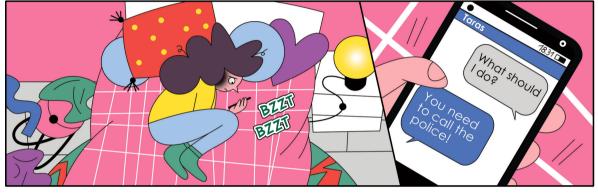


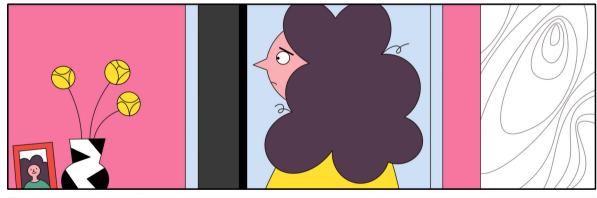




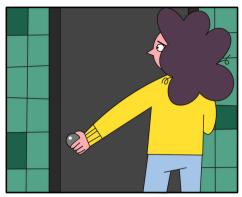






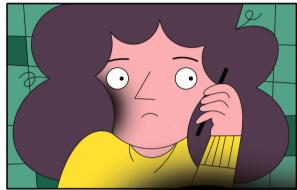












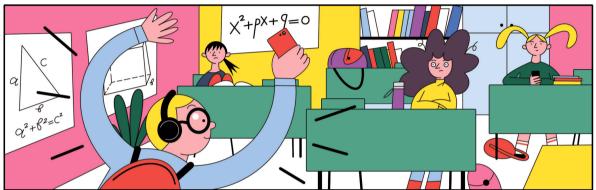


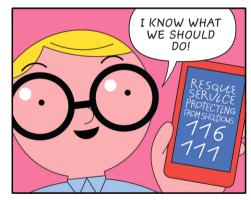


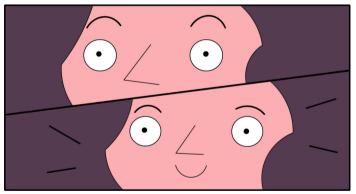




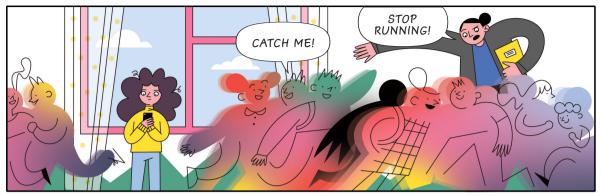






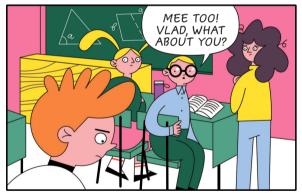


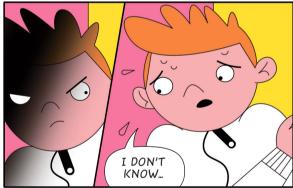


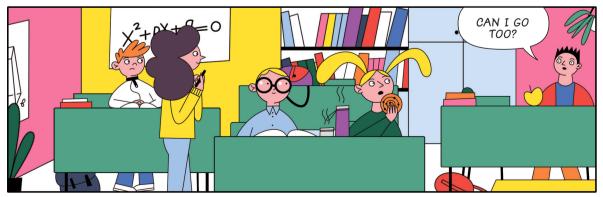












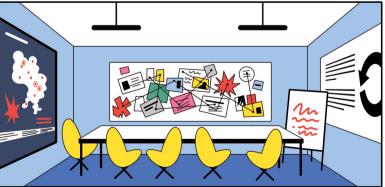


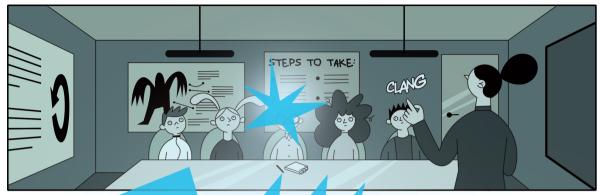














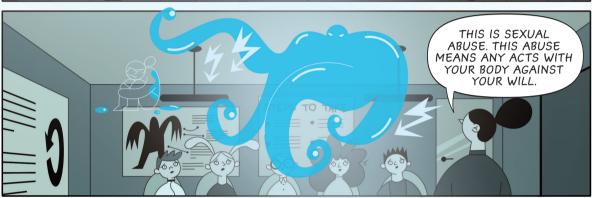


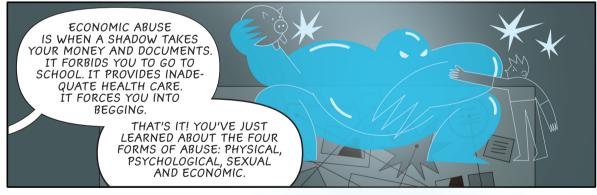












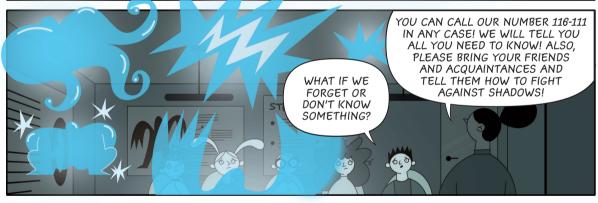


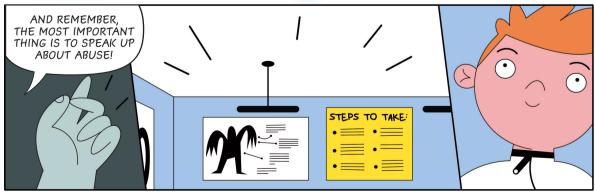
























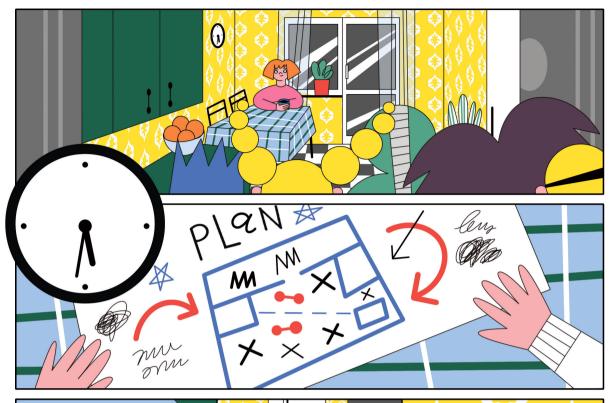




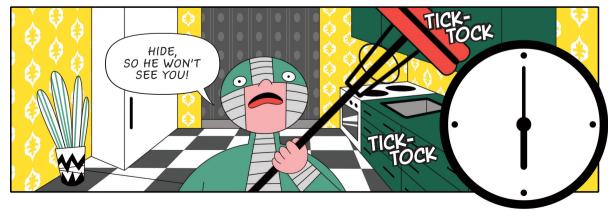


















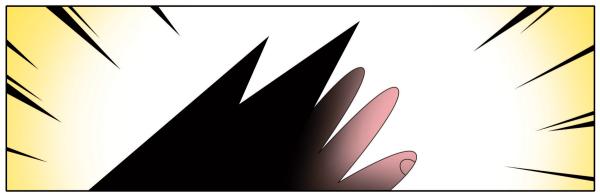




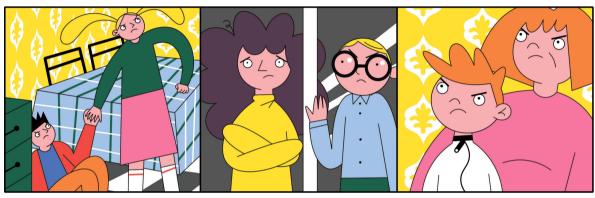


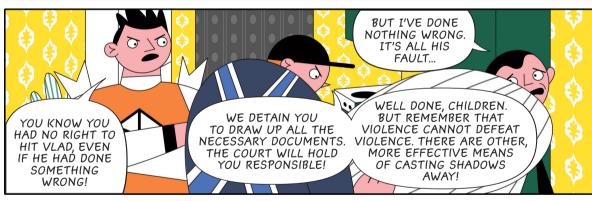




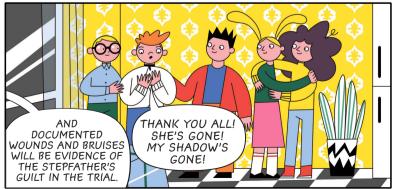


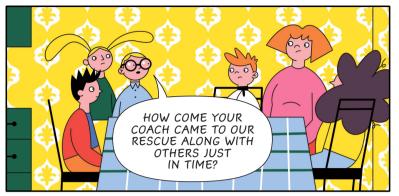






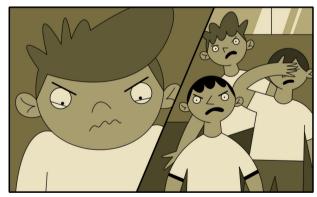
























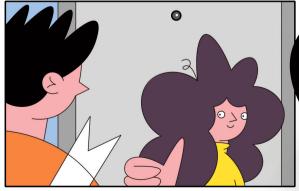




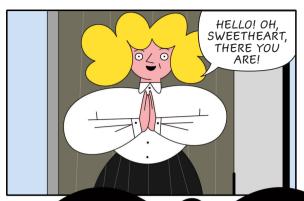






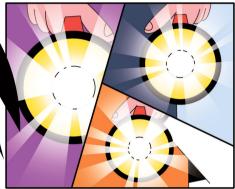




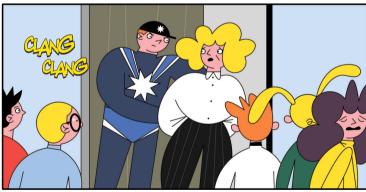




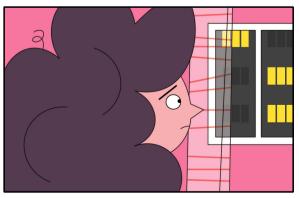


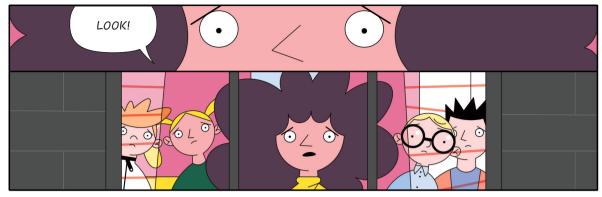




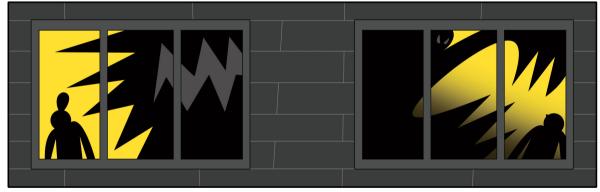








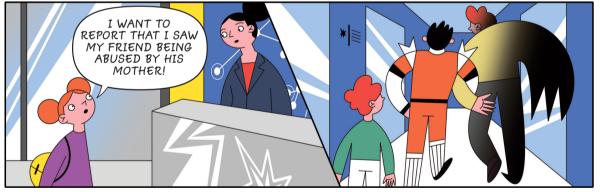


























## What is domestic violence?

According to the Law of Ukraine on Preventing and Combating Domestic Violence, **domestic violence** is an act (action or inaction) of physical, sexual, psychological or economic abuse committed within the family or the residence or between relatives, or former or current spouses, or other persons who are (or were) living together as a family but are not (were not) related or married to each other, regardless of whether the domestic violence offender or someone who threats to commit such acts lives in the same place as the victim.

## Forms of domestic violence

## Physical abuse:

- you are pushed or hit;
- you are not given help or medication when you are sick;
- you are threatened with weapons or other dangerous objects;
- you are forced to take alcohol or drugs.

# Psychological abuse:

- you are insulted, called names, humiliated;
- you are intimidated, bullied;
- you are criticised and mocked;
- you are constantly under control;
- you are told that you'll be murdered or injured.

## Sexual abuse:

- you are forced to watch acts of sexual intercourse or porn films;
- someone touches your private body parts;
- you are forced into prostitution.

#### Economic abuse:

- you are not given food or water;
- you are forbidden to study;
- you are forced to work rather than study;
- your money is taken from you (savings or pocket money);
- you are forced out of your home.

## What are the penalties for domestic violence?

Under the applicable Ukrainian legislation, domestic violence offenders are subject to criminal, administrative, or civil liability.

Thus, the administrative liability for committing domestic violence is stipulated in Article 173-2 of the Administrative Offence Code of Ukraine (AOC).

Systematic domestic violence is criminalised under Article 126-1, Domestic Violence, of the Criminal Code of Ukraine.

In addition to administrative or criminal liability, a domestic violence offender may also be subject to civil liability, requiring compensation of the victim's moral and material damage.

## What should be done in cases of domestic violence?

The main message in cases of domestic violence is **NOT TO KEEP SILENT!** 

# So how should you deal with abusive situations?

- You should call the **police immediately on 102** and report what has happened. In many cities in Ukraine, the police have special mobile teams for dealing with domestic violence calls. Police officers will arrive promptly to assess the situation on the spot and stop the offence. If it is indeed a domestic violence case and the situation is dangerous for the victim, the police officers will do what is legally necessary to punish the offender and protect the victim.
- Here is one of the main rules (tips) for a child who has suffered from domestic violence or is in a high-risk situation.

If possible, a child should **report it to an adult he/she trusts** (this could be not only a parent, but also a teacher, school psychologist, social counsellor, tutor, sports club coach, etc.). If there is no such person available, the child should call one or more of the hotlines. Hotlines provide both psychological and legal advice.

All incoming mobile calls (any Ukrainian mobile operator) to hotlines are TOLL-FREE!

## Contacts for national hotlines:

- National Domestic Violence Hotline: 15-47 (24/7; all incoming landline and mobile calls are toll-free);
- National Children's Rights Hotline: **116-111** (Mon-Fri from 12 pm to 4 pm; all incoming mobile calls are toll-free) or **0-800-500-225** (all incoming landline calls are toll-free);
- National Hotline for Preventing Domestic Violence, Human Trafficking and Gender Discrimination: **116-123** (24/7; all incoming landline and mobile calls are toll-free);
- National Contact Centre for Free Legal Aid: **0-800-213-103** (redirection is available 24/7; legal advice: Mon-Fri from 9 am to 6 pm; all incoming landline and mobile calls are toll-free).

We hope that this graphic novel has helped you to better understand what domestic violence is. So if you or someone close to you has suffered from abuse, now you know what to do.

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