

## Law on the Prevention of Domestic Violence against a Spouse or Partner

Act on the Prevention of Spousal Violence and the Protection of Victims, etc.

- In every prefecture in Japan and Kyoto City, Spousal Violence Counseling and Support Centers have been established. These centers offer assistance through consultation and provision of various kinds of information that help DV victims attain safety and self-sufficiency, and also provide temporal protection for those needing shelter.
- Through application at the Court, a restraining order can be issued, which will prohibit the perpetrator from approaching the victim.
- This law protects all people in Japan regardless of nationality or status of residence (not just Japanese citizens or residents but also all individuals from overseas). It is not limited to spouses, but also applies to other intimate partners, such as former spouses, dating partners, domestic partners, and so forth.



The Cabinet Office has a website providing information on support for victims of domestic violence in a spousal or intimate relationship.

[http://www.gender.go.jp/policy/no\\_violence/e-vaw/index.html](http://www.gender.go.jp/policy/no_violence/e-vaw/index.html)

The information is provided in Japanese, English, Spanish, Thai, Tagalog, Korean, Chinese, Portuguese and Russian.

## What happens to my status of residence if I separate or divorce from my spouse?

- Even if you get divorced, your status of residence will not be revoked until its expiration date. However, after your divorce, you must submit the required "Notification concerning the spouse" to the Immigration Bureau of Japan or its regional office (within 14 days after divorce) and apply for permission to change your status of residence (within 6 months after divorce).
- Even if you get divorced, if you are raising a child that you had with a Japanese citizen, you can apply for "long-term resident" status.
- Even if you get divorced and do not have a child, depending on the length and conditions of your marriage, you could still be granted "long-term resident" status.
- Even if you have overstayed your visa, you may still be granted status of residence by "special permission for residence" if you are being married or if you have a child with a Japanese.  
\*For details on the above information, please consult the Immigration Bureau of Japan or its regional office. (Please refer to the section for consultation and assistance services.)

- If you know of anyone suffering from domestic violence, please give them information on where to get help.
- If the victim wants to get help but cannot make a phone call, please call or make contact on behalf of them.

Published by Gender Equality Promotion Section,  
Coexistence Promotion Office,

Culture and Citizens Affairs Bureau, City of Kyoto

Telephone 075-222-3091

Organization cooperated Kyoto YWCA APT  
2019/4 Kyoto City Printing #305096

## To those suffering violence from a spouse or partner

No one needs to put up with violence even from a spouse or intimate partner.

Don't bear it alone.

Ask for help.



Kyoto City

Do not bear it alone.  
Ask for help.

You want to leave but don't know where to go, or worry about getting caught even in the event you try to run away. Or maybe you are putting up with it for your children's sake. If you are worrying all alone, the situation will not change. And the violence might get worse. For your safety, get help as soon as possible.

Physical violence is not the only form of violence that exists. Violence can come in many different forms such as intimidation, verbal and non-verbal threats, and emotional abuse – for example, your spouse or partner is not cooperating with you in renewing your visa, threatening to capture you if you run away, and showing contempt for your way of thinking or lifestyle. If a person is continuously abused, they tend to have feelings of despair and helplessness, and to lose their confidence and will to live as well as their ability to make a sound judgement.

If you have ever felt like you want to escape, don't hesitate to seek help.



In addition to the Law on the Prevention of Domestic Violence against a Spouse or Partner, there are a variety of laws and systems to help victims obtain protection and attain self-sufficiency. Seek consultation from professional organizations to acquire proper information.

These are organizations which are knowledgeable about problems that foreigners face in Japan, including domestic violence (DV).

<Free of charge. Your privacy will be protected.>  
In case of an emergency, call 110

- \* Some organizations listed are not specialists in DV.
  - \* The consultation services marked with ★ require appointments.
  - \* Please note that the information provided in this chart may change.
- [Consultations in languages other than Japanese]

Organization	Telephone	Languages spoken	Days and hours of operation	Consultation method	Problems handled
Kyoto YWCA-APT (Asian People Together)	075-451-6522 (e-mail apt@kyoto.ywca.or.jp)	Thai, Tagalog, English, Chinese	Mon 13:00~16:00 Thurs 15:00~18:00	Tel. In person★	Variety of problems specific to foreigners, DV
Kyoto International Community House	075-752-3511	English, Korean, Chinese, and others	Daily - excluding Mondays* and the year-end and New Year holidays. (* If the public holiday falls on a Monday, the facility will be closed on the following "non-holiday.") 09:00 - 21:00 <Opening hours of the facility>	Tel. In person★	Problems foreigners may face with daily life in Japan
		English, Chinese *Other languages by appointment (languages other than those listed above may also be possible)	In principle, 1st & 3rd Saturdays (excluding the year-end and New Year holidays.) 13:30 - 16:00	In person★	Legal consultation, immigration procedures
	075-752-1166	Interpretation for administrative procedures. *Connects foreign residents to local public organizations to provide three-way telephone interpretation and consultation.	English: Tues., Thurs. 9:00 - 17:00 Chinese: Wed., Fri. 9:00 - 17:00 (Excluding the year-end and New Year holidays)	Tel.	Questions foreigners may have about daily life in Japan as well as over the phone translations and consultations regarding problems they may face

[Consultations in Japanese]

Organization	Telephone	Days and hours of operation	Consultation method	Problems handled
Kyoto-shi DV Soudan Shien Center (Kyoto City DV Consultation and Support Center)	075-874-4971	Mon-Sat (excluding holidays, New Year) 9:00 - 17:15	Tel. In person★	DV
Kyoto-fu Katei Shien Sogo Center (Kyoto Prefectural Family Support Center, Kyoto Prefecture Spousal Violence Counseling and Support Center)	075-531-9910	Daily 9:00 - 20:00	Tel.	DV, various problems faced by women
		Mon-Fri (excluding holidays, New Year) 9:00 - 19:00	In person★	
Kyoto-shi Danjo Kyodo Sankaku Center (Kyoto City Men and Women's Joint Participation Center, Wings Kyoto)	075-212-7830	[General Consultations] Monday, Thurs.-Sat. (excluding holidays) 11:00 - 18:30 Tuesday (excluding holidays) 11:00 - 20:00 (Excluding public holidays and the year-end and New Year holidays) * calls taken until 30minutes ago	Tel. In person★	Violence against women, various problems faced by women (marital problems, sex/health, etc.)
		[Violence against women consultation] by appointment	In person★	
		[Legal consultation] 1st and 3rd Fridays 13:30 - 16:00 by appointment	In person★	
Kyoto-fu Danjo Kyodo Sankaku Center (Kyoto Prefecture Men and Women's Joint Participation Center, Rara Kyoto)	075-277-1326	[Phone consultations on DV for men - both victims and perpetrators of DV] 2nd & 4th Tuesdays (excluding public holidays) 19:00 - 21:00 * Calls are accepted only until 20:30.	Tel.	DV (both victims and perpetrators)
		[General consultations and labor consultations for women] Mon & Tues 10:00 - 12:00 and 13:00 - 19:00 Thurs, Fri & Sat 10:00 - 12:00 and 13:00 - 18:00 (Excluding public holidays and the year-end and New Year holidays)	Tel. In person★	DV and women's worries about various other matters
		[Legal counseling for women] 2nd and 4th Thursdays (excluding public holidays) 13:30 - 16:30	In person★	Divorce, property inheritance, financial issues, etc.

[Immigration Bureau•Police]

Organization	Telephone	Languages spoken	Days and hours of operation	Consultation method	Problems handled
Osaka Regional Immigration Bureau, Kyoto Branch Office	075-752-5997	Japanese, English	Mon thru Fri (excluding public holidays and the year-end and New Year holidays) 9:00 - 12:00 and 13:00 - 16:00	Tel. In person	Residence procedures (excluding overstay)
Kyoto Prefectural Police General Consultation Center (Kyoto prefectural Police Headquarters) Consultant at prefectural police station	075-414-0110 Or #9110 each police station	Japanese	Mon thru Fri (excluding public holidays and the year-end and New Year holidays) 9:00 - 17:45 (In case of emergency, please call 110.)	Tel. In person	DV (physical violence)