# How to Recognize a **Control Freak**

A control freak is someone with a need to control other people, situations, or environments to create a false sense of security for themselves. They are insecure feelings and concerns? and out of control so they become perfectionists to cover up their fears and keep from letting their anxieties overwhelm them.

### Do you know one?

Do they put down your friends? Control freaks have a way of isolating you from your pals and a tell tale sign of a controller is their readiness to bad-mouth your friends.

Do they dominate every conversation? What you have to say is not important to them and they get very upset if you interrupt their diatribe.

Are they jealous when you talk to others? Does their mood change and can you sense them seething with anger?

Do they criticize your clothing? Your occupation? Your cooking? Your family? Your looks?

Do they ignore your

Do you feel a constant sense of disapproval from them?

Do they try to control you with threats of suicide?

### Are you one?

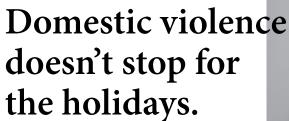
Do people tell you that you're bossy as they start disappearing from your life?

Do you tell people how to fix their lives and problems even when they don't ask?

Do you have a hard time taking failure or criticism?

Do you resent authority?

A control freak stirs up problems in their relationships and often finds themselves in arguments and shouting matches. Then they use their anger, hysterics, or silent treatment to control Continued on page 10...



The holidays should be a time for family and friends to share the joy and hope of the season. For those experiencing abuse, however, December can also be a particularly stressful time. Domestic violence doesn't stop for the holidays and the added pressures of holiday expectations can worsen an already unhealthy situation.

This year, help those living with abuse to know that they're never alone, especially during the holidays.

The Domestic Abuse Shelter (DAS) is a non-profit organization, providing comprehensive services for individuals and families experiencing domestic and sexual abuse in the Florida Keys. Our mission is to reduce the incidence and minimize the impact of domestic and sexual abuse in Monroe County by *directing victims and abusers to appropriate, effective programs and services.* 

The Domestic Abuse Shelter, Inc. is the only certified emergency shelter in Monroe County that provides refuge for victims of domestic and sexual violence and their children. Residents may stay at the shelter for up to six weeks. The shelter is a safe and secure environment that empowers residents through its services to form the beginning of independent lifestyles. Residents obtain crisis intervention, supportive counseling, children's services, food, clothing, support group counseling and advocacy. All agency services are available to shelter residents. For more information, call (305) 743-4440. The National Domestic Abuse Hotline is 1-800-799-SAFE (7233).

Below is a list of items needed by the Domestic Abuse Shelter. You can drop off your gifts at 100670 Overseas Highway #5, Key Largo, FL. Monetary donations are also accepted. You can mail a check to Domestic

For more information call 305-451-5666, or go to www.domesticabuseshelter.org.

Abuse Shelter, Inc., PO Box 522696, Marathon Shores, FL 33052

Domestic Abuse Shelter, Inc. Wish List

### **General Needs**

- Copy paper
- laundry detergent
- Gift certificates to drug grocery stores (Albertson, Winn-Dixie and Publix)

- Shampoo, conditioner,
- bath soaps

- Books
- Diapers & wipes
- Baby bottles















Don't become someone else's puppet.

## • Paper towels & toilet paper • Cleaning supplies &

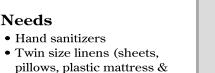
- (Kmart, CVS, Walgreens) & in small denominations
- Tooth brushes & toothpaste
- Hair brushes & combs
- Nail files & clippers, razors
- Deodorant

### Children's Needs

- Art & school supplies
- Baby foods & juices

- **Personal Needs**
- Cotton balls, Q-tips

- DVDs (age appropriate) • Kid oriented gift certificates
- (movies, food, fun stuff)



- pillows, plastic mattress & pillow covers) • Bath towels & wash cloths
- Non perishable foods
- First aid supplies
- Bus passes (Keys transit)

• Feminine hygiene products

• Women's panties & bras in

assorted sizes, pajamas,

night shirts & socks

Children's underwear in

assorted sizes & socks

• Gas cards

• Blow dryers