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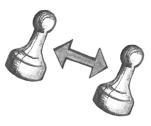
## CHAPTER 19

## A Somatic Sense of Boundaries AWARENESS OF PHYSICAL BOUNDARIES



**Purpose:** To identify situations in which your physical boundaries were crossed, describe your body's response to these boundary violations, and reflect on how you might handle such situations in the future.

**Directions:** Think about your experiences with physical boundaries as a child and adult. Read through the lists below that describe boundary violations and add any. Check the box next to any that you have experienced and add any not listed in the empty boxes. Choose three boundary violations to explore, then describe each situation, your body responses, how you handled it, and how you might handle it differently in the future.



Physical Distance Boundary Crossed	Physical Contact Boundary Crossed	
Being stared at	Someone brushing up against you	
Being looked at in a sexual way	Being hit or pushed	
Being looked at in a threatening way	Being held down	
Someone standing too close to you (e.g., in line at the store)	Forced physical contact (e.g., being coerced or made to hug, kiss, or sit on someone's lap)	
Someone talking or yelling too close to your face	Someone grabbing your wrist or arm	
Someone sitting beside you when you didn't want him or her to be that close	Being touched in a car, room or corner where you couldn't escape	
Someone talking "at" you in a derogatory or threatening tone	Someone demanding, or forcing, sexual contact	
Someone making threatening or insulting facial expressions to you	Someone touching you when you don't want to be touched, or in a way you didn't want to be touched	
Someone making obscene gestures at you	Being tickled when you didn't want it	

Situation	Body Response	How You Handled It	How You Might Handle it Differently in the Future

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