

## TOO CLINGY

Bryce and Malia have been dating a few months and Malia feels smothered by Bryce's constant attention lately.

**Bryce:** Hey, I came by your place today but you weren't there. Where'd you go?

**Malia:** Oh, I had study group. There's a big math test coming up and I need a good grade if I want to pass.

**Bryce:** You should've told me where you were going. I don't like when you make me worry.

**Malia:** Sorry, I didn't know you were coming over, usually you text first.

**Bryce:** I wanted to surprise you. Don't you like it when I visit?

**Malia:** Yeah, I do, I've just been really busy lately. I'm kinda stressing about school right now.

**Bryce:** Well, you also need to spend time with me if we're going to be together. I want you to come to my football practice tomorrow.

**Malia:** Oh shoot, I told the math group we could study at my house.

**Bryce:** Again?! You didn't get enough time with them today? I bet there's some guy you'd rather see than me.

**Malia:** No, that's not true. I told you, I have to study for the test coming up.

**Bryce:** Well, then I'm also coming to your study group. I don't need my girlfriend getting too friendly with a bunch of guys.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS BELOW

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- Is this a healthy or unhealthy relationship?
- What about Bryce's behavior is unhealthy?
  - Stalking, Isolation, Controlling, Jealousy, Clingy, Possessive, Assumptions, Demanding, Not Supportive, Disrespectful, Uncaring, Guilt Trip
- Is there any abuse? What types?
  - MENTAL – Isolation, Guilt Trip, Manipulation
- Could you see this happening in real life?
- Could it occur the other way around (female abuser) or in a Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender (LGBT) relationship?
- How are his demands to join her study group and attend his practice forms of isolation?
- What assumptions is Bryce making? Does he have evidence to support his assumptions?
- What is a healthier way Bryce could have dealt with his jealousy?
  - Share his feelings with her in a respectful way
  - Ask questions instead of making assumptions
  - Be supportive of her academic aspirations
  - Recognize that they're in a committed relationship
  - Ignore his irrational jealousy and assumptions
- Other questions?