

Government definition of domestic violence

Any incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive or threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between those aged 16 or over who are or have been, intimate partners or family members regardless of gender or sexuality.

The abuse can encompass but is not limited to:



EMOTIONAL ABUSE



ECONOMIC ABUSE



PSYCHOLOGICAL ABUSE



SEXUAL ABUSE



PHYSICAL ABUSE

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Controlling Behaviour

Controlling behaviour is a range of acts designed to make a person subordinate and/or dependent by isolating them from sources of support, exploiting their resources and capacities for personal gain, depriving them of the means needed for independence, resistance and escape, and regulating their everyday behaviour.

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Coercive Behaviour

Coercive behaviour is an act or a pattern of acts of assault, threats, humiliation and intimidation or other abuse that is used to harm, punish, or frighten a person.

Links Between Domestic Abuse and Child Abuse

Exposure to, and the experience of, abuse between primary caregivers has an abusive and detrimental impact on a child (more than being exposed to other forms of violence).

The perpetrator may abuse the child as part of their abuse of their partner.

The perpetrator may directly abuse (physically or sexually) the children – 70% of men who are violent to their partner are also violent to the children.

Perpetrators create an environment of coercion and fear which may have a profound impact on a child's experience, engagement with the world and development.

HELP