



# Coercive Control

A criminal offence as from 3 March 2015.

## WHERE SUCH BEHAVIOURS MAY IMPACT IN A PERSON'S LIFE

### Coercion

- Depriving a person of their basic needs
- Repeatedly putting someone down, telling them they are worthless
- Enforcing rules and activity which humiliate, degrade, or dehumanise the victim
- Forcing the victim to take part in criminal activity such as shoplifting, neglect, fraud, abuse, or abuse of children to encourage self-blame and prevent disclosure to authorities
- Threats
- Threats to hurt or kill
- Threats to reveal or publish private information (e.g., revenge porn, threatening to 'out' someone)

### Control:

- Monitoring a person's time
- Preventing a person from having access to transport or from working
- Monitoring a person via on-line communication tools or using spyware
- Taking control over aspects of their everyday life, such as where they can go, who they can see, what to wear and when they can sleep
- Financial abuse including control of finances, such as only allowing a person a punitive allowance
- Depriving a person of access to support services, such as specialist services or medical services
- Criminal damage
- Assault
- Rape

Controlling or coercive behaviour does not only happen in the home, the victim can also be monitored by phone or social media from a distance and can be made to fear violence on at least two occasions or adapt their everyday behaviour as a result of serious alarm or distress.

Coercive Control as part of the Domestic Abuse Act 2021 now includes post-separation abuse and harassment.