TRC Sexual Abuse & Rape Support Greater Manchester

Newsletter 15th May 2024

RIGHTS of WOMEN helping women through the law

What is coercive control?

Coercive control is when a person you are personally connected to repeatedly behaves in a way which makes you feel controlled, dependent, isolated or scared. The following types of behaviour are just some examples of coercive control: • isolating you from your friends and family • controlling how much money you have and how you spend it • monitoring your activities and your movements • repeatedly putting you down, calling you names or telling you that you are worthless • threatening to harm or kill you or your child • threatening to publish information about you or to report you to the police or the authorities • damaging your property or household goods • forcing you to take part in criminal activity or child abuse Coercive-control-Final.pdf (rightsofwomen.org.uk)

women's aid until women & children are safe

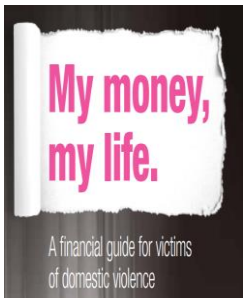
Statistics on coercive control. There were 17,616 offences of coercive control recorded by the police in the year ending March 2019, compared with 9,053 in the year ending March 2018. (ONS, 2019). The CPS Case Information System recorded 1,177 offences of coercive and controlling behaviour in an intimate or family relationship where a prosecution commenced at magistrates' courts in the year ending March 2019. 97% of defendants prosecuted for coercive and controlling behaviour in the year ending December 2018 were male. (ONS, 2019). Analysis of Merseyside Police domestic abuse data found that 95% of coercive control victims were women and 74% of perpetrators were men. 76% of coercive control cases happened within an intimate partner context. The study found that common abusive behaviours used in coercive control included "…use of technology (such as phone trackers, controlling social media usage, barrage of text messages or monitoring phone usage), sexual coercion, monitoring behaviours, isolation, threats, financial abuse, deprivation (depriving access to support) and physical violence (63% of coercive control cases featured reports of physical violence)." (Barlow et al, 2018)
Coercive control - Women's Aid (womensaid.org.uk)

Coercive control is an under researched type of intimate partner violence (IPV). The aims of this review were to (a) synthesize all available evidence regarding associations with coercive control and mental health outcomes including post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), complex PTSD, and depression; and (b) compare these with associations involving broader categories of psychological IPV. The Trauma and Mental Health Impacts of Coercive Control: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis - Susanne Lohmann, Sean Cowlishaw, Luke Ney, Meaghan O'Donnell, Kim Felmingham, 2024 (sagepub.com)

SURVIVING ECONOMIC ABUSE

One in five women in the UK has experienced economic abuse by a current or former partner in the past 12 months. The effects can last a lifetime, with some women never free of the abuser's control. Without control of the money or items needed to leave and live independently, many women are forced to stay with abusers for longer and experience more harm as a result. Women who experience economic abuse are five times more likely to experience physical abuse than those who don't. When women experience economic abuse in the context of coercive control, they are at increased risk of being killed. Surviving Economic Abuse work to save lives and stop economic abuse forever. About us - Surviving Economic Abuse

If you have experienced economic abuse, you may be struggling to make ends meet and need some financial help. There are charities and organisations that can support you with money and debt information and advice. There are also many organisations that support people in financial difficulty with grants to help with day-to-day expenses.
Grants, benefits and financial help - Surviving Economic Abuse



This guide provides information about agencies that can offer support and it takes you through some of the steps you may want to think about to regain your financial independence and re-build your life free from abuse.
https://refuge.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/My-Money-My-Life.pdf

Understanding Coercive and Controlling behaviour (CPD Course)
This training is aimed at any professional whose work brings them into contact with victims and perpetrators of controlling and coercive behaviour. Understanding Coercive and Controlling behaviour - Women's Aid (womensaid.org.uk)

SURVIVING ECONOMIC ABUSE

Watch the short video and answer the multiple-choice questions to test your learning. E-learning - Surviving Economic Abuse

But he didn't hit you, did he? At first, Victor love-bombed Anna. By the end, he'd rigged a doorbell camera to track her. Coercive and controlling behaviour has been a crime since 2015, but few cases get to court. What happens when they do? 'But he didn't hit you, did he?': inside the coercive control courtroom | Relationships | The Guardian

Man jailed for coercive and controlling behaviour. A man who demanded his partner wear loose clothing at all times and kept curtains shut to prevent her seeing anyone outside has been jailed for coercive and controlling behaviour. Man jailed for coercive and controlling behaviour towards partner - BBC News

A woman is calling for perpetrators of coercive control to face manslaughter charges if their victims take their own life has described her daughter's experience of domestic abuse. Chloe Holland death: Mum describes daughter's coercive control battle - BBC News

FiLiA podcast: #HerNameWasChloeHolland
#203 #HerNameWasChloeHolland - A Mother's campaign following her daughter's suicide (filia.org.uk)

New YouGov data shows that in many couple's women rely on their partner to get by financially – even if they work full-time themselves – while among men it's much rarer. Around a third of all women with a partner are entirely (6%) or somewhat (29%) dependent on their other half. One in three women in relationships are financially dependent on their partner | YouGov



Ending an unsafe relationship does not always end abuse. In my experience, it has only escalated the efforts to control and destroy me
Ten years after ending an abusive relationship my ex-partner is still trying to destroy me financially | Anonymous | The Guardian

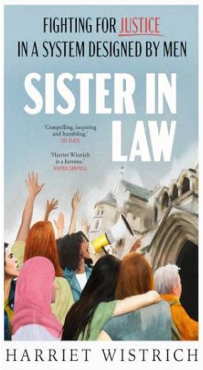
Campaign Win: Government Changes Law to Keep Rape Survivors' Counselling Notes Confidential The government has accepted an amendment in the House of Lords that will raise the legal threshold for when rape survivors' counselling notes can be requested by the police. The amendment was tabled by Baroness Bertin, following sustained campaigning by Rape Crisis England & Wales, Centre for Women's Justice, End Violence Against Women Coalition, and Rights of Women. PR: Campaign win: Government changes law to keep rape survivors' counselling notes confidential — Centre for Women's Justice (centreforwomensjustice.org.uk)

Rosa Summer Conference 2024

SAVE THE DATE - Wednesday 26 June 2024

Join Rosa for a day of inspirational talks, networking and celebration. Details of how to sign up will be available next month.

Homepage - Rosa (rosauk.org)



Harriet Wistrich is a heroine. Here is her story: 30 years of feminist and human rights activism, legal creativity, and tenacity. With great clarity and humanity, she describes watershed cases - from women locked up for killing their violent abusers, to undercover spy cops, the family of Jean Charles de Menezes, murdered by the police, and the bleak legacy of prostitution all of them exemplars in the art of making a difference. - - *Beatrix Campbell, author of Secrets and Silence*



UNDERSTANDING & RESPONDING TO ECONOMIC ABUSE: Despite being recognised by victim-survivors as a tactic used by abusers, economic abuse has received little attention in research, policy, or practice. This powerful book provides a crucial validation of the lived experience of victim-survivors, and highlights the urgent need to develop effective responses.



One of the most important books ever written on domestic violence, **Coercive Control** breaks through entrenched views of physical abuse that have ultimately failed to protect women. **Evan Stark,** founder of one of America's first battered women's shelters, shows how "domestic violence" is neither primarily domestic nor necessarily violent, but a pattern of controlling behaviours more akin to terrorism and hostage-taking.

Evan Stark: Sociologist whose research on coercive control led to new criminal justice responses to domestic abuse
Evan Stark obituary | Domestic violence | The Guardian

Shoulder to Shoulder: The fight for the right to vote. The landmark 70s drama series starring Siân Phillips, showcasing six pivotal stories in the history of the women's suffrage movement.
BBC iPlayer - Shoulder to Shoulder