

## 2020- An Invisible Abuse; Coercive control

Coercive Abuse is a form of domestic violence. It can come in the form of humiliation, and intimidation or other abuse that is used to frighten their victim. It is about preventing the right to defend your self because you are terrified and cannot see an alternative way of living. Between 60% and 80% of all abuse cases include coercive control.

The perpetrator becomes an environmental architect and creates circumstances (no money, time control, misogynous culture, isolating tactics, etc.,) that directly or indirectly forces the victim to remain in a stressful and harmful situation.

Source: "Violence Against Women: Current Theory and Practice in Domestic Abuse, sexual violence and exploitation" By Nancy Lombard, Lesley McMillan.



**A General Practitioner, with a special interest in Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults, provided presentations on coercive control. These talks were addressed to the general population but also to Health Care professionals. Our main objective was to increase awareness of this specific type of "invisible" abuse considered as a major crime since 2015, under British Law. Different strategies and tools were offered to help to identify possible victims of this type of violence and to provide available resources to address the problem.**