

NATIONAL FRAMEWORK

**FOR POLICE INTERVENTION
IN INTIMATE PARTNER
COERCIVE CONTROL**



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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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SECTION ONE

UNDERSTANDING THE ISSUE OF COERCIVE CONTROL IN INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE (IPV) SITUATIONS

Summary

- This section offers definitions of coercive control in the context of intimate partner violence.
- Explains there are three main pillars of coercive control.
- Highlights tactics.
- Addresses the impacts on victims and identifies that women are most victims.
- Highlights that anyone can be a victim of coercive control.

The National Framework for Collaborative Policing of Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) has adopted the definition elaborated by the World Health Organization (2014):

“ Intimate partner violence refers to behaviour by an intimate partner or ex-partner that causes physical, sexual, or psychological harm, including physical aggression, sexual coercion, psychological abuse, and controlling behaviours.¹ ”



¹ World Health Organization. (2014). Violence against women. Fact Sheet No. 239.

This definition already recognizes controlling behaviours. However, it does not emphasize the notion of a pattern of control in IPV situations, and it does not provide a broad understanding of its manifestation. In this section, we offer a broad definition of coercive control, highlighting key indicators as well as who are the victims and the impact upon them.

We will keep in mind that the Criminal Code of Canada defines intimate partner:

“with respect to a person, includes their current or former spouse, common-law partner and dating partner. (Criminal Code, Article 2)”

A. Definition of Coercive Control

Violence that is coercive and controlling is the use of different physical or non-physical tactics, more frequently deployed by men against women in the context of intimate partner relationships (Dawson et al., 2019; Stark, 2007). Coercive control encompasses acts of both coercion and control using force and/or deprivation to produce a victim's obedience, ultimately eliminating their sense of freedom in the relationship, or what Stark refers to as “entrapment” (Stark & Hester, 2019).

This type of violence is continuous, and the resulting harms are cumulative over time; therefore, coercive control cannot be explained by a singular event. Instead, it is an ongoing pattern of behaviour that features repetitive tactics of abuse over time. Coercive control encompasses the use of threats, intimidation, stalking, degradation, manipulation, isolation, humiliation, exploitation, and the micro-regulation of daily activities (Stark, 2007). The range of individual, societal, cultural, and economic factors represent the multidimensionality of victim oppression (Dutton & Goodman, 2005). As a result, coercive control produces obedience, diminishes a victim's autonomy, sense of individuality and self-esteem, and their sense of personal freedom and safety (Arnold, 2009; Stark, 2007; Stark & Hester, 2019). The intention is to remove the victim's sense of individuality and prevent them from believing they can make their own decisions (Arnold, 2009).

B. Key Indicators of Coercive Control

There are three pillars of coercive control:



the **denial of resources and rights;**



the **micro-regulation of daily life,**



and **manifestations of violence.**

Perpetrators may make implicit or explicit threats, use physical or sexual violence, destroy the victim's personal property, and isolate or intimidate the victim by closely monitoring their behaviours and interactions with other people (Crossman & Hardesty, 2017; Hamberger et al., 2017). It is a pattern that is established by the abusive partner in the relationship and involves a combination of diverse tactics to control the other partner. Therefore, it is important to take into consideration the context in which controlling behaviours are occurring.

Coercive control behaviours take many forms and vary from relationship to relationship. Examples described here are not exhaustive² but are a sample of tactics to control a partner in an intimate relationship:

Tactics of Coercive Control

- Physical/sexual violence (and threats of)
- Emotional abuse (faith/beliefs, verbal...)
- Monitoring and control of daily behaviour
- Denying access to household utilities
- Denying access to transportation
- Reproductive coercion
- Restrictions to health care and medications
- Damaging phones/disconnecting phone lines
- Destruction of property
- Embarrassing/belittling/criticizing
- Preventing attendance at work/school
- Controlling income/expenditures
- Incurring debt in the victim's name
- Social media/technological harassment
- Tracking GPS/installing spyware
- Threats to "out" the victim
- Manipulating immigration status
- Abuser threats of suicide
- Using children to control/coerce the victim
- Using courts to continue abuse

(Arnold, 2009; Home Office, 2023; Dragiewicz et al., 2008; Sharp-Jeffs, 2017; Stark, 2007)

² The Bill C-332, An Act to amend the Criminal Code (coercive control of intimate partner) offers some examples of coercive controlling behaviours as well.

A perpetrator may stalk or closely monitor the victim's whereabouts, embarrassing her in front of family, friends, or colleagues (Arnold 2009).

Abuse may be inflicted through



put-downs,



name-calling,



and constant criticism,



as well as by **removing the victim's access to support networks** by **isolating her** (Wiener 2017).

More specific tactics may be exhibited through



denying or limiting access to transportation,



denying access to household utilities
such as heat or water,



controlling food consumption,



removing or breaking telephones so the victim is
unable to speak to anyone or
call for assistance,



preventing attendance at work or
school,



and making her **request or beg for money**
(Sharp-Jeffs 2017).

Stark's (2007) interviews with female victims of coercive control resulted in descriptions and experiences like those suffered by prisoners, hostages, and kidnap victims. The women reported humiliating physical examinations, interrogations, lockdowns, denial of access to hygiene routines, being kept on strict eating or sleeping schedules, being talked about in the third person as if they did not exist and forced silences (Stark 2007).

C. Impacts on the victim

Coercive control also affects all aspects of a victim's life, including their daily lives/activities, personal appearance, physical and mental health (depression, anxiety, post-traumatic stress disorder), relationships with others, ability to attend places of employment or education, access to economic resources, and access to reliable legal information, to name just a few (Dutton & Goodman, 2005; Hamberger et al., 2017). Victims may also report constant feelings of fear or unease, even after the relationship has ended. They may continue to self-check, monitor their behaviours, and/or lack confidence in their ability to make their own decisions (Weiner, 2017).

Let's highlight a few relevant examples of serious effects on the victim:



Changes to their daily activities, including those associated with mealtimes or household work



Changes in personal appearance: Being told what they can and cannot wear



Access to economic resources: Having their financial independence restricted *e.g. the perpetrator denying access to money, preventing the victim from working, sabotaging employment or welfare benefits, denying access to joint bank accounts, or coerced debt*



Deteriorating relationships with family and friends (Stopping or changing the way someone socializes)



Opportunities (or lack of) for continued education or employment



Understandings of legal rights (immigration, child custody, etc.)



Changes to physical or mental health



Depression



Low self-esteem



Post-traumatic stress disorder



Continuous feeling of fear: being afraid of breaking rules

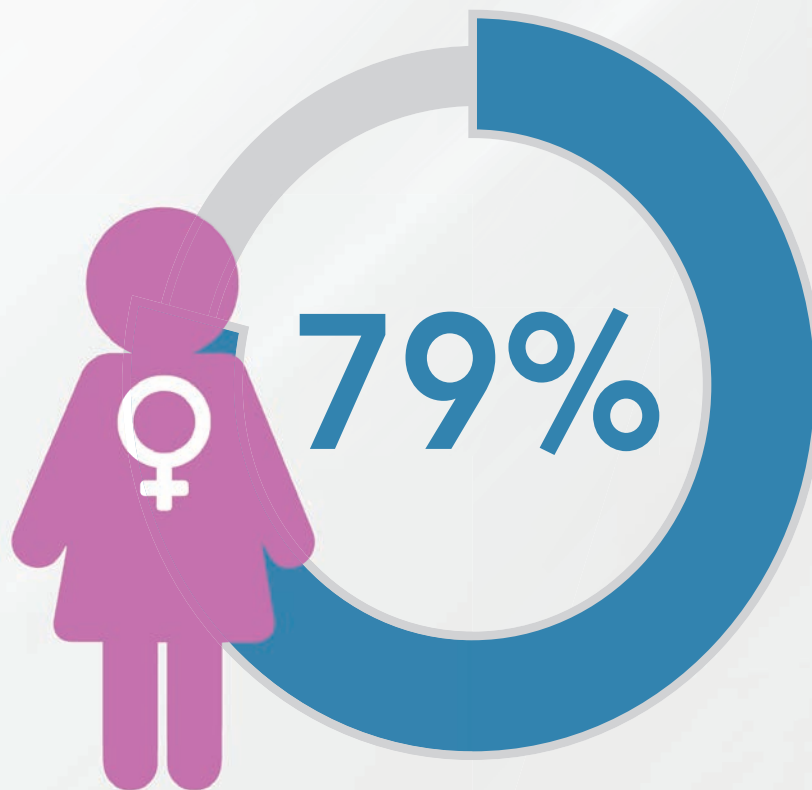


Constantly monitoring their own behaviours and needing to report back to the perpetrator.

3 Research also demonstrates violence against men (Tsui, 2014).

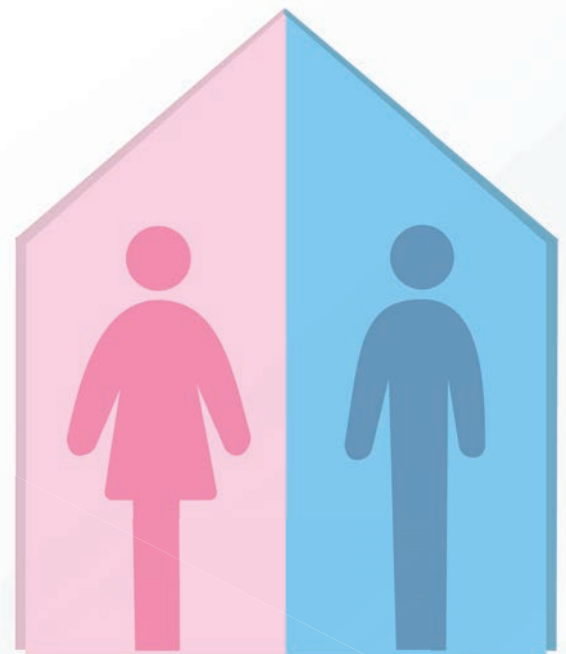
D. Who are the victims of Coercive Control?

Coercive control affects everyone, people of all genders, racial background, ages³, etc. However, evidence continues to show that women are disproportionately at high risks of IPV (Women and Gender Equality Canada 2020). In 2019, 79% of victims of IPV were women (Conroy,2021: 29). Therefore, the rationale provided in this section draws on a conceptualization of coercive control as gendered. Coercive control is an issue of gender equality and coercive controlling behaviour is often used to enforce compliance with traditional gender roles. Although women have gained increased autonomy and freedoms in many societies in recent decades, men continue to hold positions of dominance (Scott, 2021), and women's subordination persists in both the public and private spheres (Boyd, 2016). Due to the increase of women's autonomy, male perpetrated physical violence alone is becoming a less effective means of control; therefore, strategies to supplement the use of violence with other more discrete tactics are used by men to maintain their dominance and protect their societal privileges (Anderson, 2009; Stark, 2007).



In 2019, 79% of victims of IPV were women (Conroy,2021: 29).

Heterosexual relationships, in which coercive control predominantly manifests, tend to adhere more closely to stereotypical understandings of masculinity and femininity, and coercive control is sometimes employed to enforce such roles within relationships. Traditional gender roles encourage women to be – or to be viewed as – submissive and dependent, whereas men are expected to be dominant and assertive (Anderson 2009; Myhill 2015). Within the context of a relationship, this can translate to expectations that the male will pursue a female partner, make decisions, and take control, resulting in many instances of coercive control going unrecognized, as they are masked by normal gender performances (Anderson 2009). Gender norms also relegate women to household tasks such as cooking and cleaning, as well as raising children (Arnold 2009). The micro-regulation of daily activities, a form of coercive control highlighted above, centers around these traditional roles of what it means to be feminine and masculine (Anderson 2009). It reflects historical gender norms, resulting in women being at greater risks of victimization. It also explains why it is an exceptional circumstance when coercive control is successfully inflicted by a woman against her male partner (Myhill 2015; Stark 2007).



E. Diversity in IPV experiences

As a result of persistent inequalities in society (Beckwith et al., 2023),



women,



**and especially those
who identify as
Indigenous or racialized,**



**who live with
disabilities,**



2SLGBTQ+

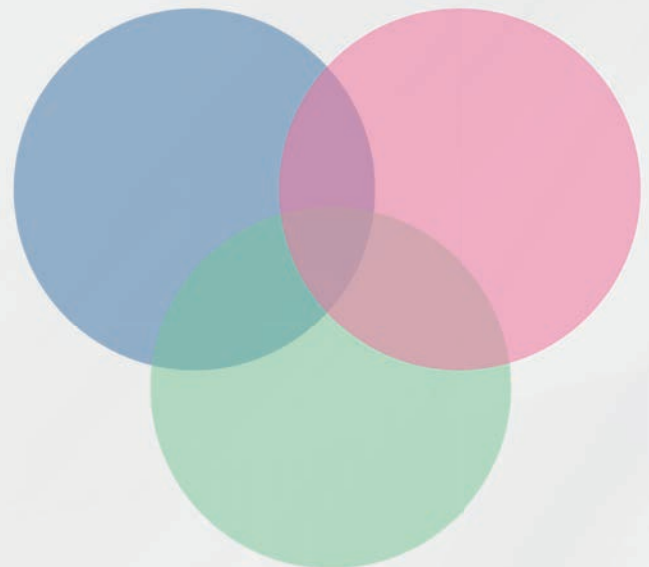


**and/or reside in rural or
remote locations**

are at much higher risk of experiencing gender-based violence

(Cotter & Savage 2019; Douglas et al., 2019).

Responding to IPV situations requires taking into consideration the social context of those involved as victims and perpetrators (Tolmie et al. 2024). Not everyone comes from the same background or has similar experiences with, or access to, professionals from various institutions. Therefore, it is important to keep in mind that societal and/or systemic inequalities may hinder someone's ability to report to, or place trust in, a frontline responder such as the police.



SECTION TWO

POLICE DEFINITION OF COERCIVE CONTROL

Summary

- C This section offers an understanding of the complexity of IPV from a police force perspective, including sections of Bill C-332 An Act to amend the Criminal Code (coercive control of intimate partner).
- C It also provides further information on how victims are perceiving coercive control.

Understanding coercive control from a policing perspective can be challenging. To date, coercive control is not defined as a criminal act⁴ and there is no consensus of the definition. Considering that coercive control can lead to an escalation of violence and potentially homicide (Monckton Smith, 2021), it is imperative to be prepared to recognize the signs and be able to document situations when called to a scene.

The lack of consensus on the definition of coercive control has led police agencies to elaborate on their own understanding of the issue. Some police agencies are making a clear distinction between coercive control and intimate partner violence in their definition while other agencies have integrated coercive control within the definition of intimate partner violence. Some police agencies have defined coercive control and intimate partner violence as two different issues. However, it is important to keep in mind that coercive control is the root of intimate partner violence and is in fact the same issue.

⁴ The criminalization of coercive control would help define the issue from a criminal justice perspective.



The Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police (CACP) also considers that

“

Coercive control is pivotal in understanding the complex nature of intimate partner violence.

(CACP Resolution 2021)

”

In fact, both are rooted in the same pattern of power and control exercised by the abuser against his partner. Coercive control encompasses a mix of behaviours that are sometimes subtle and difficult to detect to behaviours that are clearly violent in the eye of the criminal justice system. It is important to review the key indicators of coercive control as they are part of a strategy to control and instill fear in the victim. It is important to keep in mind that coercive controlling behaviours do not necessarily involve physical violence or a single incident. Instead, it consists of repeated and continuous patterns of behaviour that occur over lengthy periods of time. Coercive controlling behaviour may lead to an escalation of violence upon separation when the abuser perceives that they are losing, or have lost, their control over their partner. When the victim is totally isolated, has no network, no financial means and cannot move freely without the abuser, control is a constant reality.

Bill C-332 An Act to amend the Criminal Code

(coercive control of intimate partner) defines coercive control as follow:

Offence

264.01 (1) Everyone commits an offence who engages in a pattern of conduct referred to in subsection (2)

(a) with intent to cause their intimate partner to believe that the intimate partner's safety is threatened; or

(b) being reckless as to whether that pattern could cause their intimate partner to believe that the intimate partner's safety is threatened.

Pattern of conduct

(2) A pattern of conduct consists of any combination, or any repeated instances, of any of the following acts:

(a) using, attempting to use or threatening to use violence against

(i) the intimate partner,

(ii) any person under the age of 18 who is the intimate


partner's child or who is in the intimate partner's lawful care or charge,

(iii) any other person known to the intimate partner, or

(iv) any animal that is in the care or is the property of the intimate partner;

(b) coercing or attempting to coerce the intimate partner to engage in sexual activity;

This Bill is no longer active.



(c) engaging in any other conduct — including conduct listed in any of the following subparagraphs — if, in all the circumstances, the conduct could reasonably be expected to cause the intimate partner to believe that the intimate partner's safety, or the safety of a person known to them, is threatened.

(i) controlling, attempting to control or monitoring the intimate partner's actions, movements or social interactions, including by a means of telecommunication,

(ii) controlling or attempting to control the manner in which the intimate partner cares for any person under the age of 18 referred to in subparagraph (a)(ii) or any animal referred to in subparagraph (a)(iv),

(iii) controlling or attempting to control any matter related to the intimate partner's employment or education,

(iv) controlling or attempting to control the intimate partner's finances or other property or monitoring their finances,

(v) controlling or attempting to control the intimate partner's expression of gender, physical appearance, manner of dress, diet, taking of medication or access to health services or to medication,

(vi) controlling or attempting to control the intimate partner's expression of their thoughts, their opinions, their religious, spiritual or other beliefs, or their culture, including the intimate partner's use of their language or their access to their linguistic, religious, spiritual or cultural community,

(vii) threatening to die by suicide or to self-harm.

A. What is coercive control from the victim's perspective? What do they want from the police?

Victims who are under the influence of their partner go through a long process before they realize that they are victims of coercive control, especially if physical violence does not occur. They have difficulty recognizing that what is happening in their personal lives is coercive control. Victims will initially believe that this control is normal. It is certain events⁵ that will trigger the victim to realize that what they are experiencing is not normal. Victims may feel uncertainty or fear in their relationships yet have difficulty explaining concretely why.

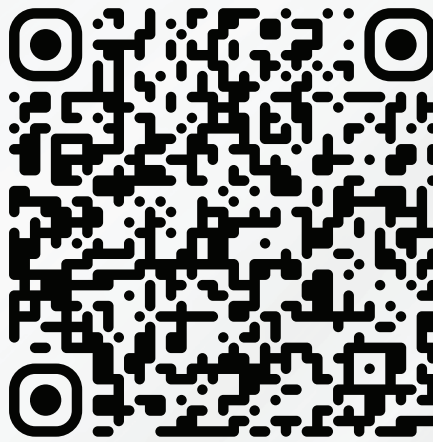
They expect the police to listen to the situation they are experiencing and to understand the problem, which is why it is important for police officers to understand the issue of coercive control. Police officers must be aware of the risk factors. Police officers must evaluate the situation in its entirety, not solely based on the presence of physical aggression, but based on all the elements presented by the victim (constellation of facts in coercive control). Therefore, it is important to understand what led to a call to the police. Victims will expect to get some help (referral to help organizations). It implies that police officers must take their time when responding to IPV situation.



B. What is the impact of coercive control on the community?

As police officers become more aware of coercive control, community/professional partners must also understand coercive control, ensure the safety of victims, and be able to provide services. They need to be able to provide the necessary support for the victims but also support and enhance the work of the police. The understanding of coercive control must be the same for all partners and all links in the chain must be solid.

⁵ See examples in Section 1.



Scan the QR Code to view Bill
C-332 An Act to amend the
Criminal Code.

SECTION THREE

POLICE RESPONSE TO COERCIVE CONTROL IN IPV SITUATIONS

Summary

- This section offers an understanding of the signs of coercive control.
- Propose suggestions to think outside the box in gathering evidence allowing identification of coercive controlling behaviour.
- Provides a list of behaviours to help identify coercive control situations.
- Highlights police response with victims and abusers.
- Suggest strategies for effective intervention.

Police officers have an important role to play when responding to calls classified as “domestic”.

They must assess whether a situation is considered as intimate partner violence and potentially criminalized. At the same time, they are responsible for recognizing the signs of coercive control.



The assessment is twofold:



on one hand police officers are to determine if it is an isolated incident that is situational, caused by tensions that led to a conflict escalation;



on the other hand, they must assess if the situation involves a controlling pattern from the abuser which would not be an isolated incident.

A situational incident is a conflict that escalates to physical violence. What will distinguish such an incident is the absence of control from one partner over the other. This could be a onetime incident and does not repeat itself, or a chronic situation where violence is used to express anger, frustration or “It may well be an attempt to get the attention of a partner who doesn’t seem to be listening” (Johnson, 2008: 11).

Current police policies or protocols on intimate partner violence restrain police conduct, i.e., police cannot arrest someone where there are no reasonable and probable grounds to believe an offence has been committed (i.e., without evidence). Coercive control often contains non-physical tactics of violence that are not (yet) criminalized and have **historically not been considered**.

A. Understanding the signs of coercive control

Even when police officers are not able to make an arrest or lay charges due to lack of evidence, it remains important for them to understand the signs of coercive control and the potential escalation of risk. Failing to do so results in missed opportunities to follow up with the victim and/or abuser as well as to make appropriate referrals to community and social services.

In other words, a lack of understanding of a pattern of coercive control during the initial police response may set the tone for intervention availability and the victim’s subsequent decisions to report abuse. If physical violence is the central focal point of intervention and there is no evidence of such violence, police officers can make the wrong call: not offering resources or sending the wrong resources, or not identifying the risk to the victim and/or to children.

Coercive controlling behaviours are not always visible to outsiders and demand a deeper conversation with the victim to detect the patterns of behaviour in place. These patterns are built-up over time and are characterized by the combination of different tactics to control an intimate partner. For police officers, identifying coercive controlling behaviours in an IPV situation is almost like putting together a puzzle. Each “puzzle piece” may represent an event or a tactic of abuse, and coercive control only makes sense once the pieces of the puzzle relate to one another as individually they may not demonstrate overtly problematic behaviour. Therefore, police officers are in a delicate position to go beyond what they see at scene to ensure they have a broad understanding of the context of a situation.



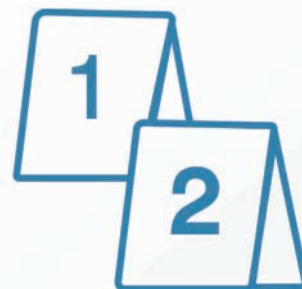
How to read a situation without visible physical violence?

To optimize their response, police officers need to have a clear understanding of coercive controlling behaviours and what that looks like. They must work in collaboration with other agencies (social services, probation, transition houses, etc.) to ensure appropriate response, support and assistance is provided. These areas can offer individualized safety plans including housing, lease breaking, counselling, court assistance, or financial aid. The police response may not always lead to charges but there are reasonable grounds to investigate an IPV call as police officers are in a unique position to gather information from the victim regarding the situation and behaviours occurring.

B. Identification of coercive controlling behaviours by police officers

The usual evidence police officers are looking for at scene are generally physical violence, injuries, or some form of damage to property resulting from an incident. This evidence will help decide whether to arrest and/or lay charges. However, it is important to take into consideration other forms of evidence that can change the response police officers may offer. First, police need to examine whether the victim may have used justifiable force against the suspect in response to violence, if there is presence of coercive controlling behaviour, and to be aware of a manipulative abuser who may try to draw the police into their story by making a false incident report against the victim.

Police officers need to understand the signs of coercive control to provide an efficient response even when they are unable to make an arrest or lay charges. It is an opportunity to monitor the victim and abuser and refer them to the appropriate services. It is important to remember that the immediate incidents that police officers are generally called upon to respond to can be preceded by a history of power and control perpetrated against the victims and are not often presented in the same manner as other crimes committed against a person.



THINKING OUTSIDE OF THE BOX

Thinking outside the box means to gather evidence that would not be looked for and it starts by allowing identification of coercive controlling behaviour. Documenting a situation can be done while speaking with the victim and abuser, such as: is the victim isolated from family and friends or there is lack of contact, are there emails and/or text messages showing persistent request or threats of committing suicide from the abuser, is there GPS tracking involved or any use of technology such as camera surveillance or paying attention to body language. The use of body worn cameras can also help in gathering evidence.

The Home Office (2023: 15-16) has developed an exhaustive list of controlling and coercive behaviour encompassing physical and sexual violence/abuse and violent behaviour; emotional and psychological abuse; controlling behaviours; restrictive behaviours and threatening behaviours. They reflect the three pillars mentioned in the previous section: denial of rights and resources; monitoring and micro-regulation; and control and manifestation of violence. The point of separation is the most dangerous for the victim – most frequently the intensity of controlling behavior escalates during that time as the perpetrator tries to maintain control. This is often followed by threats of harm/to kill themselves or loved ones.

Physical and sexual violence/abuse and violent behaviour



- Physical violence, and threats of physical violence;
- Physical intimidation e.g. blocking doors, clenching or shaking fists, slamming doors, hitting walls, pretending to hit or swing, throwing objects at or around the victim, displaying weapons or harmful objects, driving dangerously or erratically with the victim in the car; and
- Sexual assault, coercion or abuse, and threats of sexual assault.



Controlling Behaviours

- Controlling or monitoring the victim's daily activities and behaviour, for example making them account for their time, dictating what they can wear, what and when they can eat, when and where they may sleep, who they meet or talk to, where they may work, restricting access to training/development etc.;
- Using digital systems, such as smart devices or social media, to coerce, control, upset and monitor the victim (e.g. restricting and checking phone use, needing to know passwords for accounts, using location tracking on devices, posting of a possibly triggering image);
- Controlling and monitoring the victim's access to their mail;
- Acts of coercion or force to persuade the victim to do something that they are unwilling to do;
- Economic abuse (e.g. coerced debt, controlling spending/bank accounts/investments/mortgages/benefit payments);
- Using a victim's workplace to control them, e.g. denying access to work, dictating where they work, turning up at work;
- Making and enforcing rules and regulations that the victim is expected to follow and using punishments to make them comply e.g. making accusations or humiliating a person in public or private for deviating from the rules;
- Coercing the victim into carrying out criminal behaviour;
- Following the victim and/or appearing unexpectedly, e.g. at their place of work or at places where they are meeting friends;
- Reproductive coercion, including restricting a victim's access to birth control; refusing to use a birth control method; forced pregnancy; forcing a victim to get an abortion, to undergo in vitro fertilization (IVF) or other procedure; or denying access to such a procedure;
- Using substances such as alcohol or drugs to control a victim through dependency, or controlling their access to substances;
- Using child arrangements and child maintenance to control the victim.



Emotional and psychological abuse

- ☐ Abuse relating to faith or beliefs;
- ☐ Verbal abuse;
- ☐ Constant criticism of the victim's role as a partner, spouse or parent;
- ☐ Criticizing the victim's choice of friends and associates;
- ☐ Intentionally undermining and/or manipulating the victim; and
- ☐ Posting unwanted messages on the victim's social media.



Restrictive Behaviours

- ☐ Withholding and/or destroying the victim's immigration documents, e.g. passports and visas;
- ☐ Preventing normal leisure activities such as volunteering, joining local clubs and groups, sports teams, civil/charitable activity, etc.;
- ☐ Preventing the victim from learning a language, improving their existing language skills, such as English if this is not their first language, or making friends outside of their ethnic/ or cultural background;
- ☐ Refusing to interpret (including sign Language, , for deaf victims) on behalf of the victim;
- ☐ Hindering access to communication, e.g. refusing to make information accessible, denying access to communication support tools, augmentative and alternative communication (AAC), and/or professionals who support communication;
- ☐ Restricting access to health and social care appointments, or preventing the victim from accessing health or social care, including refusing to allow the victim to attend appointments alone (especially relevant for victims with disabilities or long-term health conditions);
- ☐ Preventing the victim from taking medication, or accessing medical equipment, or over-medicating them; and
- ☐ Isolating the victim from family, friends, colleagues and professionals who may be trying to support them, intercepting messages or phone calls.



Threatening Behaviours

- Threats of being placed in an institution against the victim's will, e.g. care home, supported living facility, mental health facility, etc. (particularly for disabled or elderly victims);
- Threats to expose/exposure of sensitive information (e.g. sexual activity, private sexual photos or films, sexual orientation and/or transgender identity), or making false allegations to family members, friends, work colleagues, community or others, including via photos or the internet;
- Making false allegations to statutory agencies (e.g. Police, Social Services);
- Using children to control the victim, e.g. threatening to take the children away, threatening to harm the children; Intimidation and threats of disclosure of health status or an impairment to family, friends, work colleagues and the wider community, particularly where this may carry a stigma in the community;
- Threats to the victim, including to their family, friends and pets, that make them feel afraid;
- Threats to report a victim to immigration enforcement and/or the police, or threaten to remove the victim to their country of origin; and
- Intimidation or threats to go to the police to report alleged offending.

C. The importance of community collaboration

Working collaboratively offers a model to ensure victim safety, and that the offender is being held accountable. It provides designated specialized staff who understand IPV, and the roles of stakeholders involved. Better collaboration maximizes information sharing and breaks down silos for better prevention and intervention. Both victims and abusers can benefit from collaboration among professionals from different agencies. For the victim it provides safety and support with an appropriate and comprehensive safety planning with specific attention to court safety; access to relevant support and information and providing appropriate resources and referrals regarding frontline services to victims. Working collaboratively not only assists the victim but children who are involved in the process by involving areas to intervene and provide protection. For the abuser, collaboration with partnering agencies provides access to treatment and rehabilitation.

D. Improving police response to victims and abusers

Focus needs to be not only on the victims but also the abuser. Working with the family unit is just as important as the abuser is often left behind in the equation and will continue to re-offend if there is no intervention. This could be due to their own previous trauma, education, drug/alcohol addiction or mental health issues. It is prevalent that most IPV couples get back together an average of 7 times before the victim decides, or is successfully able, to permanently leave. Most of the time the victim is looking for the abuser to get help as opposed to having charges laid.

7x

On average IPV victims leave and return 7 times before they are able to successfully leave.

These are things that need to be further explored as working with the family to become healthy can change the cycle of abuse.

1

Working further upstream.

Put in place procedures and strategies to move away from the historically reactive police response and be able to offer a more “proactive” intervention.

For example: Developing and implementing a comprehensive and collaborative response strategy for dealing with coercive control; Training/education of all partners; Support for victims and families; Protection and support for children; Ensuring sanctions and conditions are met by the offender; Provision of offender management and treatment; Prevention and public education of coercive control.

2

By extending the analysis of the violent situation to non-criminal acts, including those involving coercion and control.

- That during any intervention, the police officer takes cognizance of the context in which the victim finds themselves, paying particular attention to the history of violence, whether criminal or not. See violence, rather than as a specific act over time.

3

By paying particular attention to elements associated with an increased risk of homicide.

- Be aware of clues associated with an increased risk of homicide (e.g. strangulation, coercive control), being alert to them during any IPV intervention, and when clues are present, recording them in detail in the report.

4

By improving and multiplying exchange links with specialized IPV resources.

- Specialized resources include Women's shelters for victims of intimate partner violence and their children, provincial hotline, organizations working with abusers of violence (with a specific component for abusers of intimate partner violence and not just for men in difficulty).
- Create privileged links with these resources and exchange information on our different realities and issues.
- Take part in working committees and round tables in the region.
- Develop a common definition and understanding of IPV to optimize partnership work.
- Create common strategies to reduce intimate partner violence.
- Automatically refer victims and abusers to these organizations and be able to explain what services are offered (among other things, to break down the fears and barriers that lead victims and abusers to refuse referral)

5 **By relaxing laws on information sharing between organizations.**




It has been shown that it is easier and more effective when it is the organization itself that contacts the person to explain its services. This removes the roadblocks in the help trajectory. However, this type of referral requires the victim or abuser to give his or her consent to obtain help, which ultimately makes the process more complex.

6 **By equipping police officers to intervene in IPV so that it reflects a better understanding of victims' experiences and the dynamics of IPV, and of the consequences of violence in their lives, and so that it is better adapted to this reality.**


- C Promote a trauma-informed approach to policing.
- C Focus on interpersonal skills to create a climate of trust with the victim. The aim is to create the best possible conditions for victims to confide in us.
- C Change the criterion for successful police intervention: By focusing more on the relationship created with the victim than on "obtaining a complaint". The police officer should act in support of the victim, rather than trying to "convince" her to lodge a complaint. The victim is already in an unequal relationship, where another person decides for her, imposes things on her. The police officer's intervention must not reproduce this dynamic.
- C Respect the victim's pace as much as possible, listen to his or her fears, take the time to explain the role of the police officer, the stages of the legal process, the services offered by the resources, etc. In addition to being attentive to the victim's needs, the police officer can also help him or her to understand the situation.
- C In addition to being alert to the presence of criminal offences, you should also be on the lookout for signs of risk related to intimate partner homicide or coercive control.

7 **Revising police training to focus more on interpersonal skills and the importance of creating a strong bond with the victim, and on concepts that have historically received little attention in police services, such as: post-separation violence; coercive control; situational violence; parental alienation; children exposed to IPV; the stakes of the break-up and the evolving break-up; reasons why victims are sometimes afraid to file a complaint; the differences between marital conflict and IPV; trauma approach; identification of the primary aggressor; Etc.**

8 **Attempting to provide a better safety net around the victim and their children.**

-  Ensure transportation to a safe place;
-  Improving follow-up measures with victims (criminal violence or not) after the event (preventing the victim from falling back into ambivalence, recording additional elements to their statement, creating a bond of trust, gathering their fears, being informed of breaches of conditions, etc.);
-  Refer them to specialized IPV resources (not only by informing them that they exist, but also by telling them that there's no obligation, that it's free and that they don't have to live in a shelter to talk to a counsellor).

9 **By developing intervention strategies that consider the cultural dimensions and vulnerabilities of certain populations, e.g. First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples, immigrant people, people with disabilities, LGBTQ+ community members, etc.**

-  Enhance and multiply exchanges with organizations, groups (or other) working specifically with these populations to better understand their reality and adapt police actions to these specificities.

10 By developing exchange networks between police organizations and educational institutions for future police officers, to be inspired by innovative practices implemented elsewhere and promising police intervention strategies.

11 Create specialized intimate partner violence teams within police departments, including specialized investigators or identify one or more responsible police officers (champions). The scale and complexity of the problem of intimate partner violence means that those who work with victims must have the special expertise and knowledge to offer services adapted to this reality.

SECTION FOUR

SPECIFIC ASPECTS OF THE POLICE RESPONSE

Summary

- This section dives into elements to look for when responding to an IPV situation involving coercive control.
- Illustrates a number of coercive control tactics, including the examples set out in Bill C-332.
- Suggest a tool to assess a pattern of violence beyond an incident.

In this section we emphasize specific aspects of police response to IPV calls. Therefore, the intent is not to replicate the investigation guidelines provided in the National Framework for Collaborative Police Action on Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) (2016), which are to be followed in all cases, but to elaborate on gathering evidence, the opening of a case file, and discuss the importance of assessing situations that may not present physical violence. This is an attempt to recognize patterns of coercive controlling behaviour when at scene.



As we have mentioned before, coercive control is a pattern of behaviour that repeats itself over time and is understood when the context is taken into consideration. While attending a call it is important to keep in mind that the broader context may involve behaviours displayed in the past. Even when police officers are unable to make an arrest or lay charges due to the lack of evidence, it is important to identify the signs of coercive control and the potential escalation of risk.

The focus in gathering evidence of violence from intimate relationships has traditionally been to look for an incident of physical violence, injuries, or some form of damage to the property to establish that violence occurred in a residence. Such evidence would then lead police officers to be able to arrest and/or lay charges against the perceived primary aggressor. However, to capture a pattern of coercive control other forms of evidence need to be considered.

A. Where to start?

Police officers must first establish a good rapport with the victim to be able to gather as much information as possible. This interaction is crucial as a victim can share experiences and clues can emerge during the conversation. Police officers should be attentive to details provided by the victim about the perpetrator's behaviour as there may be disclosure of tactics used to manipulate the victim and may not be visible on scene.

Several tactics to control, minimize the situation, normalize the behaviour or compromise victim's credibility can be perceived during interactions with the victim and perpetrator.

The following list taken from the Home Office (2023) can help recognize the signs of controlling behaviour:



**Threats and
intimidation**



Manipulation









Exploitation



Sabotage






Threats and intimidation

-  Threats of violence or threats to kill;
-  Threats to breach court orders;
-  Using threats in order to manipulate the victim e.g. by telling the victim that they will not be believed by the police or other agencies, that they will inform social services, and/or that their children will be taken away;
-  Threatening to remove care or not undertake caring responsibilities where the victim is reliant on this, threatening the victim around the withdrawal of medicines;
-  Using others (e.g. family, friends, peers) to communicate threats from the perpetrator and/or report back to the perpetrator; and
-  Telling the victim that they will not be believed because they have mental health issues, learning difficulties or disabilities, or issues with substance abuse.








Manipulation

-  Making false or vexatious allegations against victims and/or convincing professionals that their controlling tactics are for the victim's own safety and/or for the safety of their children. The police should examine whether this has been a feature in the perpetrator's previous relationships by discussing with the victim or accessing police callouts or relevant criminal records held on the perpetrator;
-  Threatening to 'out' the victim as a form of control or coercion, telling the victim that they will not be believed because they identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual and/or trans, or manipulating the victim's knowledge of what support is available for LGBT people and using myths and stereotypes around LGBT domestic abuse to make professionals believe that abuse between same-sex couples does not exist;
-  Disguising compliance e.g. interpreting the conditions of a court order that enables them to continue to abuse rather than comply with the terms set out in the order;






Manipulation Continued

-  Playing different professionals off against one another;
-  Exaggerating their abilities and network e.g. the perpetrator claims to be able to hack into the victim's phone or accounts, or claims to have criminal friends who could harm the victim;
-  Manipulating the victim's immigration status as a form of control or coercion, including withholding ID, passports and visas from the victim, lying about their status, purposely letting a victim's visa lapse, or failing to act on sponsorship duties for immigration purposes;
-  Making threats of suicide as a method of controlling the victim, especially to prevent them from leaving. Research indicates an association between domestic homicide and perpetrator suicidal ideation, self-harm, and threats of suicide.
-  Using children to control or coerce the victim e.g. frustrating child contact and/or child arrangements, telling the children to call the victim derogatory names or to hit the victim, expecting the children to monitor the victim and report back, repeatedly failing to collect the children when they previously agreed to do so to cause the victim problems at work, threatening to abduct the children, weaponizing children in family law proceedings.









Exploitation








-  Exploiting the communication support needs of the victim or manipulating the victim's knowledge of what support is available and making professionals believe that the victim does not have capacity to report accurately, or that reports are not credible due to communication difficulties;
-  Exploiting interpretations of religion or faith to maintain control of a victim and perpetuate harm; and
-  Targeting people who might be vulnerable (there may be evidence of this from previous relationships).



Sabotage

-  Attempting to frustrate or interfere with a police investigation, including attempting to undermine the victim's statements by, for example, claiming that they are mentally ill;
-  Seeking to control the victim's finances, or their ability to access funds or obtain an income;
-  Interfering with the victims personal or professional opportunities, e.g. threatening to call their employer and turn up at their place of work;
-  Breaking or adjusting devices or account settings to confuse, upset and intimidate the victim e.g. remotely adjusting the heating temperature through an internet-connected thermostat;
-  Using the courts to continue to abuse the victim, for example by not turning up to court dates, sending unnecessary legal letters and making threats around contact; and
-  Missing or cancelling appointments

It is important to assess the situation, especially the risk a perpetrator may pose to the victim and others present. In Canada, different tools are in use whether it is a risk assessment, a check list or a guideline of questions. Contrary to physical violence that would be easier to assess whether it has occurred or not, coercive control behaviours will necessitate police officers to capture its intensity and frequency over time. **Bill C-332 (Appendix A)** provides helpful examples illustrating the pattern of conduct of coercive controlling behaviour:

-  controlling, attempting to control or monitoring the intimate partner's actions, movements or social interactions, including by a means of telecommunication,
-  controlling or attempting to control the manner in which the intimate partner cares for any person under the age of 18 referred to in subparagraph (a)(ii) or any animal referred to in subparagraph (a)(iv),
-  controlling or attempting to control any matter related to the intimate partner's employment or education,
-  controlling or attempting to control the intimate partner's finances or other property or monitoring their finances,
-  controlling or attempting to control the intimate partner's expression of gender, physical appearance, manner of dress, diet, taking of medication or access to health services or to medication,
-  controlling or attempting to control the intimate partner's expression of their thoughts, their opinions, their religious, spiritual or other beliefs, or their culture, including the intimate partner's use of their language or their access to their linguistic, religious, spiritual or cultural community,
-  threatening to die by suicide or to self-harm.

It is important to pay attention to body language; whether either party has made threats to another party, child or another family or household member; whether either party has a history of abuse or violence; whether either party has made previous counter-allegations; whether either party acted defensively to protect him or herself or a third person from injury; and what any third-party witnesses say (College of Policing, 2022). If body worn cameras are used by the agency, these can help gather information.

B. Assessing a situation

An assessment gives police information on an investigation of evidence of current and increasing risk. Risks are always changing and must be reevaluated and updated regularly. Currently, police agencies in Canada do not use assessment tools to recognize the signs of coercive control, instead use them to assess a single incident of violence, like the case of the Ontario Domestic Assault Risk Assessment ODARA (Waypoint Centre for Mental Health Care, 2022).

As we mentioned throughout this document, coercive control behaviour is not related to a single incident but a repeated pattern of behaviours. It can involve a single incident of physical violence, but physical violence may not always be present in a situation. Police officers need to think differently about violence in relationships, so they can recognize different signs of coercive controlling behaviours that are part of a pattern (Aspinall et al. 2024).

THINK OUTSIDE OF THE BOX

Recognizing the signs of coercive control would give the police an indication of any patterns of behaviour occurring over a period of time. An increase in risk can lead to serious physical violence if the pattern is disturbed, interrupted or challenged.

It is possible to collect information regarding a pattern of behaviours by asking appropriate questions. Keeping an open mind to information that may have occurred prior to police arrival; this means gathering evidence from before the call, sometimes previous days or weeks. Allow the victim to answer open ended questions. A good example is provided by the **Domestic Abuse Risk Assessment (DARA)** included below. Seventeen questions are suggested, most of which ask how often abusive behaviours happen, on a scale from 'never', 'occasionally', 'often' to 'all the time'.

Domestic Abuse Risk Assessment (DARA)

- ☐ **How often does** (...) make threats to harm you or things you care about such as people, pets or property?
- ☐ **How often does** (...) call you names, humiliate or degrade you?
- ☐ **How often does** (...) control your daily activities, such as who you can see or how you perform household tasks?
- ☐ **How often does** (...) deny you access to money, or control what you can spend it on?
- ☐ **How often does** (...) follow or stalk you, or try to contact you when you do not want them to?
- ☐ **How often do you** feel isolated or like you have no one to turn to for support?
- ☐ **How often does** (...) use physical violence towards you such as pushing, slapping, punching or kicking?
- ☐ **How often does** (...) make you account for where you have been or monitor your phone, email or social media to check up on you?
- ☐ **How often does** (...) strangle you or attempt to choke, suffocate, or drown you?
- ☐ **How often does** (...) use or threaten to use weapons such as household items, knives or guns to hurt you?
- ☐ **How often does** (...) threaten or attempt suicide?
- ☐ **Have you recently separated from** (...) or do you plan to separate from them?
- ☐ **If yes** - Has this/will this put you in danger?

The DARA also suggest asking the following questions:

- ☐ **Is the abuse you are experiencing from** (...) getting worse?
- ☐ **Has** (...) ever threatened to kill you and you believed they were capable of doing it?
- ☐ **Has** (...) ever hurt the children?
- ☐ **Does** (...) use child contact arrangements to control you or continue to abuse you?
- ☐ **Are you** pregnant or have you recently had a baby?
- ☐ **On a scale of 0-10**, how likely do you think it is that (...) will seriously injure you in the future?

It is also important to complete a rationale after asking questions as details may offer more evidence of coercive control. All this information helps build a case. Be aware of all offences from the **Criminal Code of Canada (Appendix B)** that are related to intimate partner violence that you can already use while gathering information.



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APPENDICES

APPENDIX A

BILL C-332 AN ACT TO AMEND THE CRIMINAL CODE (COERCIVE CONTROL OF INTIMATE PARTNER)

First Session, Forty-fourth Parliament,
70-71 Elizabeth II – 1-2 Charles III, 2021-2022-2023-2024

HOUSE OF COMMONS OF CANADA

BILL C-332

An Act to amend the Criminal Code
(coercive control of intimate partner)

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COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE AND HUMAN RIGHTS AS
A WORKING COPY FOR THE USE OF THE HOUSE OF
COMMONS AT REPORT STAGE AND AS REPORTED TO
THE HOUSE ON MARCH 22, 2024

Ms. COLLINS

SUMMARY

This enactment amends the Criminal Code to create an offence of exercising coercive control of an intimate partner by engaging in a pattern of conduct that consists of any combination, or any repeated instances, of any of the following acts: using, attempting to use or threatening to use violence against certain persons, coercing or attempting to coerce the intimate partner to engage in sexual activity or engaging in other conduct that could reasonably be expected to cause the intimate partner to believe that their safety, or the safety of a person known to them, is threatened.

It also makes consequential amendments to other Acts.

Available on the House of Commons website at the following address:
www.ourcommons.ca

APPENDIX A

BILL C-332 AN ACT TO AMEND THE CRIMINAL CODE (COERCIVE CONTROL OF INTIMATE PARTNER)

1st Session, 44th Parliament,
70-71 Elizabeth II – 1-2 Charles III, 2021-2022-2023-2024

HOUSE OF COMMONS OF CANADA

BILL C-332

An Act to amend the Criminal Code
(coercive control of intimate partner)

His Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the
Senate and House of Commons of Canada, enacts as
follows:

R.S., c. 46

Criminal Code

**0.1 Paragraph 109(1)(b) of the Criminal Code is
replaced by the following:**

(b) an offence under subsection 85(1) (using firearm
in commission of offence), 85(2) (using imitation
firearm in commission of offence), 95(1) (possession
of prohibited or restricted firearm with ammunition),
99(1) (weapons trafficking), 100(1) (possession for
10 purpose of weapons trafficking), 102(1) (making
automatic firearm), 102.1(1) (possession of computer
data), 102.1(2) (distribution of computer data), 103(1)
(importing or exporting knowing it is unauthorized) or
104.1(1) (altering cartridge magazine) or section 264
15 (criminal harassment) or 264.01 (coercive control of
intimate partner),

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1 The Act is amended by adding the following after section 264:

Offence

264.01 (1) Everyone commits an offence who engages in a pattern of conduct referred to in subsection (2) 20

(a) with intent to cause their intimate partner to believe that the intimate partner's safety is threatened;

or

(b) being reckless as to whether that pattern could cause their intimate partner to believe that the intimate partner's safety is threatened. 25

Pattern of conduct

(2) A pattern of conduct consists of any combination, or any repeated instances, of any of the following acts:

(a) using, attempting to use or threatening to use violence against

(i) the intimate partner, 5

(ii) any person under the age of 18 who is the intimate partner's child or who is in the intimate partner's lawful care or charge,

(iii) any other person known to the intimate partner, or 10

(iv) any animal that is in the care or is the property of the intimate partner;

(b) coercing or attempting to coerce the intimate partner to engage in sexual activity;

BILL C-332 AN ACT TO AMEND THE CRIMINAL CODE (COERCIVE CONTROL OF INTIMATE PARTNER)

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Circumstances

(3) The circumstances referred to in paragraph (2)(c) include the nature of the relationship between the accused and the intimate partner, in particular whether the intimate partner is in a position of vulnerability in relation to the accused.

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Punishment

(4) Everyone who commits an offence under this section is 10

(a) guilty of an indictable offence and liable to imprisonment for a term of not more than 10 years; or

(b) guilty of an offence punishable on summary conviction.

For greater certainty

(5) For the purposes of this section, and for greater certainty, a person's safety includes their psychological safety.

15

2 Subsection 486.3(2) of the Act is replaced by the following:

Accused not to cross-examine complainant — certain offences

(2) In any proceedings against an accused in respect of an offence under any of sections 264, 264.01, 271, 272 and 273, the judge or justice shall, on application of the prosecutor in respect of a witness who is a victim, or on application of such a witness, order that the accused not personally cross-examine the witness, unless the judge or justice is of the opinion that the proper administration of justice requires the accused to personally conduct the cross-examination. If such an order is made, the judge or justice shall appoint counsel to conduct the cross-examination.

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APPENDIX A

BILL C-332 AN ACT TO AMEND THE CRIMINAL CODE (COERCIVE CONTROL OF INTIMATE PARTNER)

3 Paragraph (c) of the definition secondary designated offence in section 487.04 of the Act is amended by adding the following after subparagraph (v):

(v.1) section 264.01 (coercive control of intimate partner),

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4 Paragraph (a) of the definition secondary offence in subsection 490.011(1) of the Act is amended by adding the following after subparagraph (ix):

(ix.1) section 264.01 (coercive control of intimate partner),

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5 (1) Subsection 515(4.1) of the Act is amended by adding the following after paragraph (b):

(b.01) an offence under section 264.01 (coercive control of intimate partner),

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(2) Paragraph 515(4.3)(b) of the Act is replaced by the following:

(b) an offence described in section 264, 264.01 or 423.1 or subsection 423.2(1);

Consequential Amendments

R.S., c. E-15

Excise Tax Act

6 Clause 295(5.04)(a)(i)(D) of the Excise Tax Act is replaced by the following: 15

(D) sections 144, 264, 264.01, 271, 279, 279.02, 281 and 333.1, paragraphs 334(a) and 348(1)(e) and sections 349, 435 and 462.31 of the Criminal Code, *An Act to amend the*

Criminal Code (coercive control of intimate partner)

Consequential Amendments Excise Tax Act **Sections 6-10**

R.S., c. N-5

National Defence Act

7 Subsection 183.3(2) of the National Defence Act is replaced by the following:

Accused not to cross-examine complainant — certain offences

(2) In proceedings against an accused person in respect of an offence punishable under section 130 that is an offence under section 264, 264.01, 271, 272 or 273 of the Criminal Code, a military judge shall, on application of the prosecutor in respect of a witness who is a victim, or on application of such a witness, order that the accused person not personally cross-examine the witness, unless the military judge is of the opinion that the proper administration of military justice requires the accused person to personally conduct the cross-examination. If such an order is made, the military judge shall direct the Director of Defence Counsel Services to provide counsel to conduct the cross-examination. 5 10 15

R.S., c. 1 (5th Supp.)

Income Tax Act

7 Subsection 183.3(2) of the National Defence Act is replaced by the following: 20

(D) sections 144, 264, 264.01, 271, 279, 279.02, 281 and 333.1, paragraphs 334(a) and 348(1)(e) and sections 349, 435 and 462.31 of the *Criminal Code*,

APPENDIX A

BILL C-332 AN ACT TO AMEND THE CRIMINAL CODE (COERCIVE CONTROL OF INTIMATE PARTNER)

1995, c. 39

Firearms Act

9 Subparagraph 5(2)(a)(iii) of the Firearms Act is replaced by the following:

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(iii) an offence under section 264 (criminal harassment) or 264.01 (coercive control of intimate partner) of the *Criminal Code*,

2002, c. 22

Excise Act, 2001

10 Clause 211(6.4)(a)(i)(D) of the Excise Act, 2001 is replaced by the following:

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(D) sections 144, 264, 264.01, 271, 279, 279.02, 281 and 333.1, paragraphs 334(a) and 348(1)(e) and sections 349, 435 and 462.31 of the *Criminal Code*,

*An Act to amend the Criminal Code
(coercive control of intimate partner)*

Consequential Amendments

Excise Act, 2001 **Sections 10-12**

Coordinating Amendment

2023, c. 32

11 On the first day on which both subsection 13.3(1) of An Act to amend certain Acts and to make certain consequential amendments (firearms), chapter 32 of the Statutes of Canada, 2023, and subsection 5(1) of this Act are in force, subsection 515(4.1) of the French version of the *Criminal Code* is replaced by the following:

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Condition additionnelle

(4.1) Lorsqu'il rend une ordonnance en vertu du paragraphe (2) dans le cas d'une infraction perpétrée avec usage, tentative ou menace de violence contre autrui, d'une infraction de terrorisme, de l'infraction visée aux articles 264 (harcèlement criminel), 264.01 (contrôle coercitif d'un partenaire intime) ou 423.1 (intimidation d'une personne associée au système judiciaire) ou au paragraphe 423.2(1) (intimidation — services de santé), d'une infraction à l'un des articles 9 à 14 de la Loi sur le cannabis, d'une infraction à l'un des articles 5 à 7 de la *Loi réglementant certaines drogues et autres substances*, d'une infraction relative à une arme à feu, une arbalète, une arme prohibée, une arme à autorisation restreinte, un dispositif prohibé, une pièce d'arme à feu, des munitions, des munitions prohibées ou des substances explosives, d'une infraction visée au paragraphe 20(1) de la Loi sur la protection de l'information, ou d'une infraction visée aux paragraphes 21(1) ou 22(1) ou à l'article 23 de cette loi commise à l'égard d'une infraction visée au paragraphe 20(1) de cette loi, le juge de paix doit, s'il en arrive à la conclusion qu'il est souhaitable de le faire pour la sécurité du prévenu, de la victime ou de toute autre personne, assortir l'ordonnance d'une condition lui interdisant, jusqu'à ce qu'il soit jugé conformément à la loi, d'avoir en sa possession de tels objets ou l'un ou plusieurs de ceux-ci.

Coming into Force

Order in council

12 Sections 0.1 to 10 come into force on a day to be fixed by order of the Governor in Council.

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APPENDIX B

EXISTING OFFENCES THAT CAN RELATE TO INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE

1. First degree murder (CCC. 231 (2))
2. Second degree murder (CCC. 231 (7))
3. Attempt to commit murder (CCC. 239 (1))
4. Manslaughter (CCC. 236)
5. Assault with a weapon or causing bodily harm (CCC.267)
6. Aggravated assault (CCC. 268 (1))
7. Sexual assault (CCC. 271)
8. Sexual assault threats/bodily harm/weapon (CCC. 272 (1))
9. Aggravated sexual assault (CCC. 273(1))
10. Overcoming resistance to commission of offence (CCC. 246)
11. Traps likely to cause bodily harm (CCC. 247 (1))
12. Criminal harassment (CCC. 264 (1))
13. Assault (CCC. 266)
14. Assaulting a peace officer (CCC. 270 (1))
15. Aggravated assault of a peace officer (CCC. 270.02)
16. Uttering threats (CCC. 264.1 (1))
17. Fear of domestic violence (CCC. 810.03 (1))
18. Kidnapping (CCC. 279 (1))
19. Forcible confinement (CCC. 279 (2))
20. Possession of weapon for dangerous purpose (CCC.88 (1))

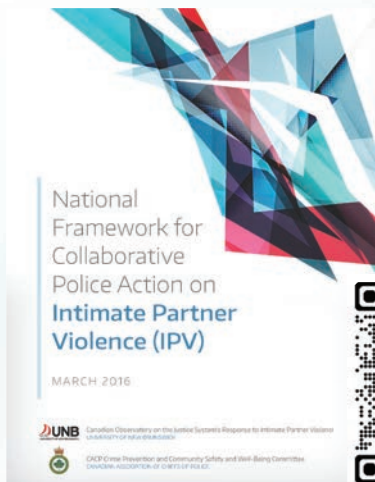
21. Carrying concealed weapon (CCC. 90 (1))
22. Unauthorized possession of firearm (CCC. 91 (1))
23. Unauthorized possession of prohibited weapon or restricted weapon (CCC. 91 (2))
24. Pointing a firearm (CCC. 87(1))
25. Public mischief (CCC. 140(1))
26. Failure to comply with undertaking (CCC. 145 (4))
27. Failure to comply with order (CCC. 145 (5))
28. Breach of probation (CCC. 733.1)
29. Breach of recognizance (CCC. 811)
30. Disobeying order of court (CCC. 127)
31. Break and enter with intent, committing offence or breaking out (CCC. 348)
32. Forcible entry (CCC. 72 (1))
33. Being unlawfully in a dwelling-house (CCC. 349 (1))
34. Theft (CCC. 322 (1))
35. Theft, forgery, etc., of credit card (CCC. 342 (1))
36. Robbery (CCC. 343)
37. Mischief (CCC. 430)
38. Causing disturbance, indecent exhibition, loitering, etc. (CCC. 175 (1))
39. Trespassing at night (CCC. 177)
40. Harassing communications (CCC. 372 (3))

APPENDIX B

EXISTING OFFENCES THAT CAN RELATE TO INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE

41. Sexual interference (CCC. 151)
42. Invitation to sexual touching (CCC. 152)
43. Sexual exploitation (CCC. 153 (1))
44. Voyeurism (CCC. 162 (1))
45. Publication, etc., of an intimate image without consent (CCC. 162.1 (1))
46. Indecent acts (CCC. 173 (1))
47. Incest (CCC. 155 (1))
48. Obstructing justice (CCC. 139 (1))
49. Careless use of a firearm, etc. (CCC. 86 (1))
50. Administer noxious substance (CCC. 245 (1))
51. Criminal negligence (CCC. 219 (1))
52. Causing death by criminal negligence (CCC. 220)
53. Causing bodily harm by criminal negligence (CCC. 221)
54. Abduction in contravention of custody or parenting order (CCC. 282 (1))
55. Abduction (CCC. 283 (1))
56. Counselling or aiding suicide (CCC. 241 (1))
57. Discharging firearm with intent (CCC. 244 (1))
58. Causing bodily harm with intent - air gun or pistol (CCC. 244.1)

LEARN MORE



National Framework for Collaborative Police Action on Intimate Partner Violence (2016)



Canadian Framework for Collaborative Police Response on Sexual Violence (2019)



Canadian Framework for Trauma-Informed Response in Policing (2024)



