



Government of **Western Australia**
Department of **Justice**

Coercive control and the law

We want to know what you think

Easy Read information for you



How to use this document



The Office of the Commissioner for Victims of Crime wrote this document. When you see the word 'we', it means the Office of the Commissioner for Victims of Crime.



We wrote this document in an easy to read way. We use pictures to explain some ideas.

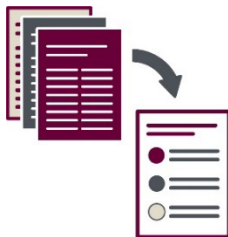
Bold

We wrote some important words in **bold**.

Not bold

This means the letters are thicker and darker.

We explain what these bold words mean.



This Easy Read document is a summary of another document. This means it only includes the most important ideas.



You can find the other document on our website.

justice.wa.gov.au/coercive-control



You can ask for help to read this document.

A friend, family member or support person may be able to help you.

What is coercive control?

Family violence is when you are hurt by someone close to you, such as:



- your partner or ex-partner



- your spouse



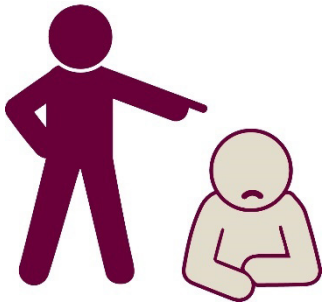
- a member of your family



- someone who takes care of you



- someone you live with.



Coercive control is a type of family violence.

Coercive control is when someone controls parts of your life to:

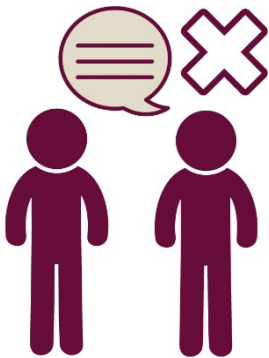
- scare you
- hurt you.

What does coercive control look like?



There are many types of coercive control. It can be different for each person.

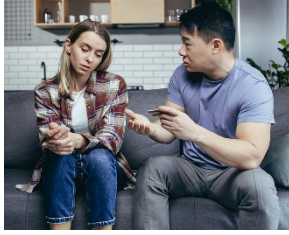
The person might control:



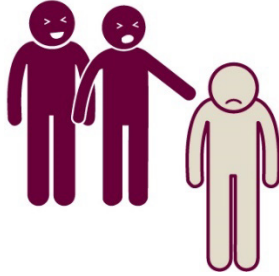
- who you talk to



- where you go.



They might also control your money.
This includes taking it away from you.



The person might say:

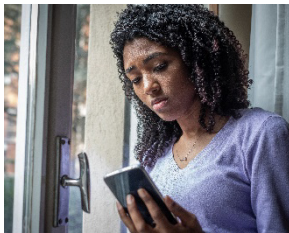
- they will hurt you
- everything is your fault.

They also might say mean things about you.



They might also:

- stalk or follow you
- hurt you.



The person might send you lots of mean:

- messages
- emails.

And they might go through your phone.



They might also:

- keep you away from a doctor
- take away your medicine.



The person might make you have sex with them.

What do we want to know?



Coercive control hurts people.
It's hard to get help sometimes.



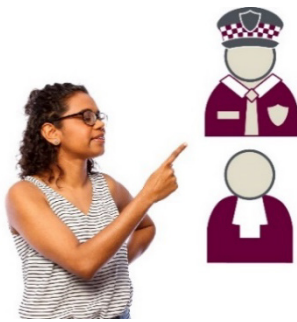
We want to know what you think about
coercive control and the law.



For example, do we need to change laws to
support people who experience coercive
control?



Or do we need new laws against
coercive control?



We want to know if you got help from the police or courts.



And we also want to know how the police or courts can stop someone using coercive control.



We also want to know if you had a **Family Violence Restraining Order (FVRO)** to stop someone using coercive control against you.



A FVRO is how the law helps protect you from family violence.

It makes the person who hurts you stay away from you.

How to tell us what you think



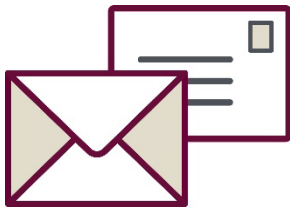
You can tell us what you think on our website.

[justice.wa.gov.au/coercive-control](https://www.justice.wa.gov.au/coercive-control)



You can send us an email.

coercivecontrol@justice.wa.gov.au



You can also send us a letter.

Coercive control consultation

Office of the Commissioner for Victims of Crime

GPO Box F317

Perth WA 6000



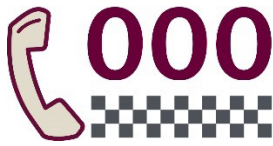
You can call us.

(08) 9264 9877



If you need to share what you think in a different way, please tell us.

Where can you get help?



If you're in danger now, call Triple Zero.

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There are services you can call if you experience:

- coercive control
- family violence.



You can call 1800RESPECT.

1800 737 732



You can call the Family Violence Helpline.

1800 007 339



You can call Crisis Care.

1800 199 008



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