

**Submission
No 41**

COERCIVE CONTROL IN DOMESTIC RELATIONSHIPS

Name: Name suppressed

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Partially
Confidential

Submissions To Coercive Control Inquiry

1- Crimes (Domestic and Personal Violence) Amendment (Coercive Control - Preethis Law) Bill 2020
Member with carriage - Anna Watson - Legislative Assembly.

2- Crimes (Domestic and Personal Violence) Amendment (Coercive and Controlling Bbehaviour) Bill
2020
Member with Carriage Abigail Boyd - Legislative Council .

The type of Laws being proposed mimics Laws which were introduced by the UK in 2015. These Laws are supposed to be gender neutral , acknowledging their can be both female and male perpetrators of the type of behaviour in question, namely , psychological , emotional and finance abuse.

In fact , these Laws are almost entirely used to punish men . Their were 24,845 Coercive Control incidents recorded in England and Wales in year ending March 2020 . But that resulted in only 305 convictions , 301 were men and 4 were woman . The reason so few men attempt to use these Laws is that most men are reluctant to see themselves as victims and know if they complain they are unlikely to be taken seriously by the Police and Legal system .

International research shows men are just as likely as woman to be victims of Coercive Control in their relationships. UK researchers Deborah Powney and Professor Nicola Graham are currently analysing the results of recent survey on male victims of violence , which attracted 2083 participants , including 687 Australian men.who had experienced Coercive Control from abusive female partners which I personally have experienced and had my children removed through these biased and unfair laws .

Initial findings from the Australian participants included the following results,

- 45% said they were always / often threatened with false allegations.
- 69 % said female partners controlled who they were allowed to see .
- 60 % had phones / and their social media accounts monitored by female partners.
- 52% said partners refused to work.
- 49% of men said ex female partners withheld contact with children unless demands for money were met.
- 60% had sex withheld as punishment always/ often.

It is inappropriate for government to introduce more and new Laws which will further unfairly be used to punish only one gender , that gender being men , when it has been proven that both woman and men are victims of this type of Controlling Behaviour .

Regards

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