

**Submission
No 98**

COERCIVE CONTROL IN DOMESTIC RELATIONSHIPS

Name: Name suppressed

Date Received: 30 January 2021

Partially
Confidential

Dear Inquiry,

I'm hoping I have been able to get this in in time. I have really struggled with my health and what this time of year brings up over the christmas/January period and this has been my first opportunity to write this.

I am writing to explain my experience of Coercive Control. It is insidious and it is everywhere: real estate agents, businesses, churches, politicians, leaders, CEOs etc use it as a way to coerce people into doing what they want (we also know perpetrators are often awarded with high positions in companies etc). I mention that only to aide in the understanding of how insidious it is. There are many that do not engage with this form at all and it's to those that I'm appealing to understand just how damaging and all prevailing it can be. Also to highlight as someone who experienced coercive control in my family of origin and also in my marriage, experiencing it in the broader mainstream community it becomes even more intolerable as it creates an incredibly unsafe world for people.

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[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Really there are so many I can't list them all and as you can see the pattern of abuse is clear. It is not one incident. It is compounded over time and we could criminalise, establish a way of reporting the patterns, educate across the board, break the patterns of manipulation, coercion, control, gaslighting, physical, financial, spiritual abuse etc. These are insidious and lead to such detrimental effects on people experiencing them and really the whole of society. Allow for reforms that will change culture and affect the way we view these forms of abuse. Women/victims will feel less isolated, more listened to, more empowered and able to rebuild their lives. Government systems work from this premise and continue the abuse that women/victims face. I have been totally

traumatised by the system that was supposed to help me to the point where I was almost completely broken.

We have to make sure Trauma Informed training is across the board and that no one is able to operate from a coercive control position. Please seriously consider criminalising so that we don't have to suffer anymore and that the system can be reformed to actually protect women.

Thank you so much for your consideration of my submission.

I'm not sure if I want it public so could you please check first.

Kindest Regards

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[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]