

What is Domestic Violence?

it's PHYSICAL VIOLENCE

- Kicking
- Slapping
- Pulling Hair
- Punching
- Throwing Objects

it's EMOTIONAL ABUSE

Control & coercion – fear and lack of equality in a relationship.

For example:

- The abusing partner wants it all his/her way.
- The abusing partner does not let the other partner speak; they speak for the other partner.
- The abusing partner throws objects around.
- The victim is frightened of his/her partner.
- Children are afraid of the abusing partner.
- The victim cannot go out of the house alone.
- The abusing partner controls what the other partner wears, where they go and with whom.

The victim is blamed for everything.

For example:

- Blame for losing his/her job.
- Blame for not finding a job.

Daily criticism and humiliation.

For example:

- Calling names, abusive words like 'useless', 'stupid' or any swear words.
- Demeaning, humiliating, making someone feel inferior.

Social control – isolating the victim from their family or friends

For example:

- The abusing partner does not let the other partner go out of the house.
- The abusing partner does not allow the other partner to communicate with anybody.
- The abusing partner takes the other partner's mobile phone away.
- The abusing partner locks the other partner inside the house.

Verbal threats of visa cancellation and deportation.

For example:

- Confiscating the victim's passport.

Sexual jealousy.

- Sexual jealousy leads to violence.
- Jealousy does not validate verbal abuse or physical violence. Criminal charges can be laid.

it's ECONOMICAL ABUSE

For example:

- Victim may be beaten, abused or humiliated if he/she does not have a job.
- Abusing partner controls other partner's income when he/she earns.
- Victim cannot spend his/her own income.
- Victim is denied access to money.
- Abusing partner has demands for money or gifts

it's SEXUAL ABUSE

- Regardless of marriage, the law expects both partners to respect each other and ask permission for sex.
- Forced sex in marriage or sex without consent is against the law; called rape within marriage.
- Criminal charges can be laid for sexual abuse.

it's RELIGIOUS OR SPIRITUAL ABUSE

For example:

- Not letting a partner go to their place of worship.
- Not letting a partner pray.

it's ELDER ABUSE

For example:

- Victim is pressurised to hand over the title of their property, money or their pension. This is also domestic violence and is against the law.

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