

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AFFECTS PETS



There is a recognised connection between animal cruelty and domestic violence. It is estimated that 1 in 3 women in this country experience physical violence from a man.

It was found that in over half of reported family violence incidents, the perpetrator had also abused the family pets. Many women said they had delayed leaving a violent relationship out of concern for the welfare of their pets.





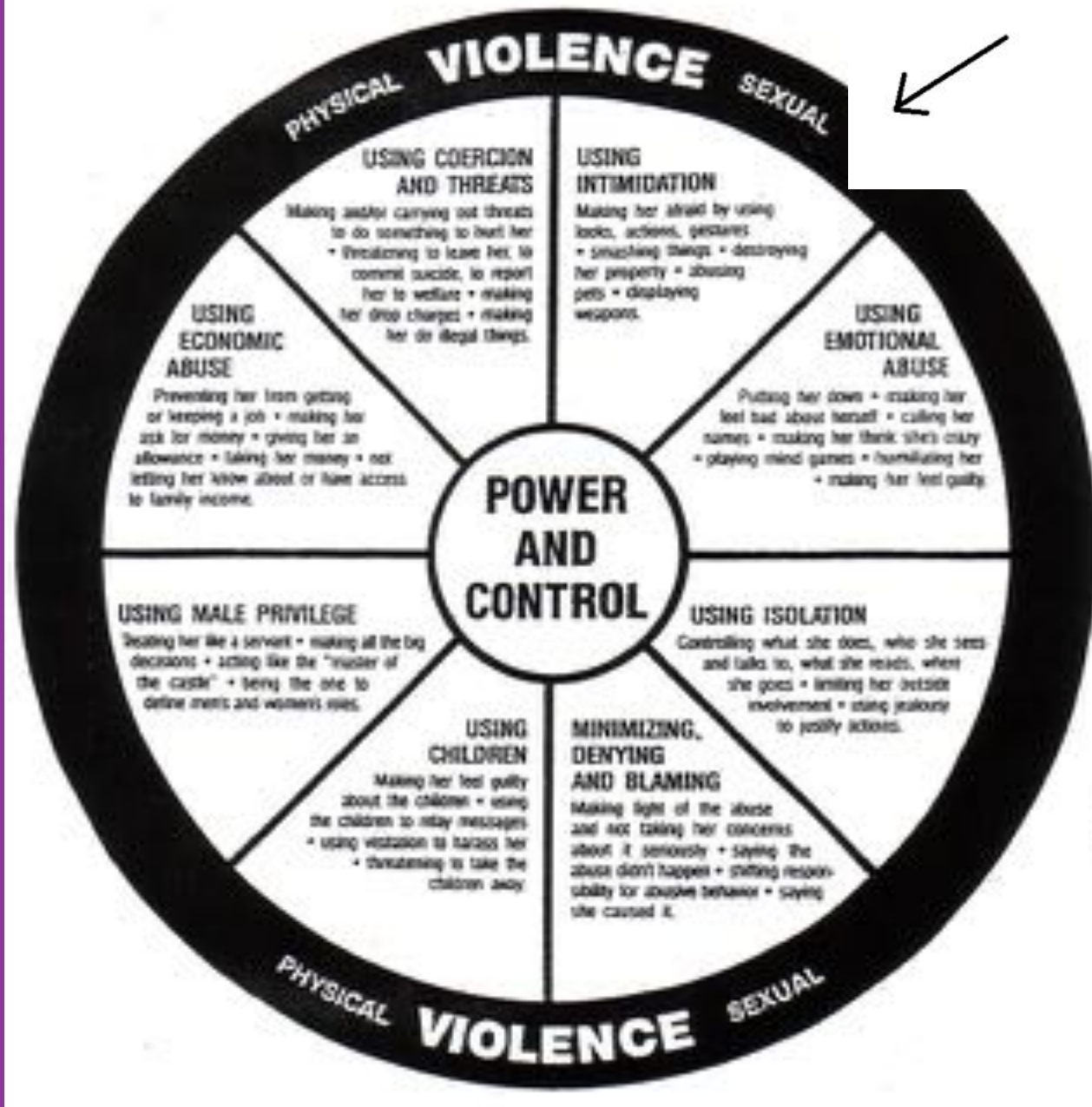


Pets are often the easiest target for perpetrators of Domestic Violence.

The abuser can instill fear in the victim by either threatening to harm the pet or following through with threats to injure or kill.

This act shows the victim that if the abuser is willing to kill an animal then they may also be willing to harm or kill the victim.





USING INTIMIDATION:

Making her afraid by using looks, actions, gestures * Smashing things * Destroying her property * **Abusing pets** * Displaying weapons.





RSPCA Australia recognises the link between domestic violence and cruelty to animals, and that cruelty to animals may be a precursor to other forms of violence.



Moving without their special companions increases the stress and sense of loss for children and makes the trauma they are facing in their family life that much more intense.



RSPCA in conjunction with DV Connect have set up the PETS IN CRISIS program to assist in the caring of animals when women need to flee the residence they live in.

For women who need to stay in a refuge but are unable to find alternative care for their pets, DV Connect can support them with a referral to Pets In Crisis.

DV Connect counsellors will manage all arrangements and the animals may be fostered or cared for, for up to 28 days.

**Domestic Violence and Family Violence
Effects on Wildlife Friends**

THE QUT ANIMAL CARE CENTRE
 provides advice, support and resources for
 people who are experiencing domestic violence
 and the impact on their animals.

QUT ANIMAL CARE CENTRE
 provides a range of services for people who
 are experiencing domestic violence and the
 impact on their animals. This includes:
 • Advice and support
 • Referrals to specialist services
 • Referrals to legal services
 • Referrals to financial services

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Help Available



North Queensland Domestic Violence Resource Service

Ph: 47212 888

390 Flinders Street Townsville, Metway Arcade

DV Connect Womensline (Pets in Crisis)

Ph: 1800 811 811 (24 hrs, 7 days a week)

Mensline

Ph: 1800 600 636 (9am-Midnight)

RSPCA

General Enquiries

Ph: (07) 3426 9999





animals can't
protect
themselves.



The ASPCA needs money to continue their great work protecting, treating and finding animals. Help our adoption staff here and we'll put the fun into fundraising. www.aspcanet.org

Animal Care REPEAL