

	INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF CHILD SERVICES CHILD WELFARE POLICY	
	Tool: Types of Domestic Violence	Effective Date: July 1, 2019
	Reference: 3.C (3.2 – Creating a Child Abuse and/or Neglect Intake Report)	Version: 2

Domestic violence typically involves a pattern of assaultive and coercive behaviors that people use against their family or household members with the intent to degrade, humiliate or instill fear in them. These behaviors typically fall into five (5) general categories: physical assaults, sexual assaults, psychological assaults, economic coercion, and/or the use of children to control the adult victim.

Physical assaults may include, but are not limited to:

1. Pushing and shoving;
2. Restraining;
3. Slapping;
4. Punching;
5. Biting;
6. Kicking;
7. Suffocating or Strangling;
8. Using a weapon;
9. Kidnapping; and
10. Murder.

Sexual Assaults may include, but are not limited to:

1. Rape;
2. Forcing unwanted sex or sexual acts;
3. Forcing the victim to have an abortion or sabotaging birth control methods;
4. Sexual mutilation;
5. Objectifying or treating the victim like a sexual object; and
6. Forcing the victim to watch pornography, have sex with others, or participate in prostitution.

Psychological assaults may include, but are not limited to:

1. Destroying cherished objects;
2. Killing or harming family pets;
3. Humiliating the victim privately or in front of others;
4. Harassing the victim;
5. Isolating the victim;
6. Making accusations of infidelity;
7. Stalking;
8. Refusing to talk to the victim; giving him or her the “silent treatment”;
9. Blaming the victim for the abusive behavior; and
10. Controlling where the victim goes, who he or she talks to, and what he or she does.

Economic coercion may include, but is not limited to:

1. Withholding money from the victim;
2. Controlling how much money he or she has access to;

3. Stealing the victim's money;
4. Withholding all information about finances;
5. Ruining his or her credit;
6. Preventing the victim from obtaining employment or an education; and
7. Making the victim beg or ask for money.

Using the children to control the adult victim may include, but is not limited to:

1. Forcing the children to spy on the victim;
2. Assaulting or threatening to assault the children;
3. Sabotaging the other's parenting and discipline with the children;
4. Forcing or encouraging the children to assault the victim;
5. Taking the children; and
6. Calling or threatening to report the victim to DCS for poor parenting.

ARCHIVED 7/1/2019-6/30/2022