

HIV/AIDS AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE: COERCIVE FACTORS



ECONOMIC ABUSE:

Abuser refuses to pay for medical, dietary or other health related needs. Not allowing access to resources to escape the violence or obtain needed HIV treatment. Using disability money for others things rather than the victim's health needs. Abuser uses HIV status as an excuse not to work or not allowing the victim to work.

ISOLATION:

Moving the victim away from friends and family; unnecessarily screening visitors; using HIV status as an excuse to keep visitors away; not allowing victim to attend support groups or doctor's appointments.

MANIPULATING CHILDREN:

Threatening to take the children. Threatening to tell the children about the victim's HIV status. Threatening to use the HIV status of the victim with the court or child protection agency to try and scare the victim that the children will be taken away. Using the children to keep tabs on the victim. Using high risk behavior around the children.

SEXUAL ABUSE:

Refusing to use protection during sex. Refusing to get tested for HIV or not allowing the victim to get tested or attend medical appointments. Lying or not telling the victim about their HIV status with the intention of infecting the victim. Exposing the victim to HIV or other STDs through forced or coerced sex with the abuser or others.

PHYSICAL ABUSE:

Kicking, hitting, shoving, pulling hair, spitting, using weapons, forcing the victim to engage in high risk behaviors, or using any type of physical force to obtain compliance or to punish the victim.

EMOTIONAL ABUSE:

Degrading the victim through name calling, using embarrassing references in public. Threatening to disclose the victim's HIV status. Telling the victim no one else will want them due to their HIV status. Attempting to shame the victim. Using his/her (the abuser's) HIV status to coerce the victim to remain in the relationship.

MEDICAL ABUSE:

Refusing to allow the victim to seek medical services related to the victim's HIV status. Destroying medicine or other medical supplies. Interfering with the victim's attempts to make positive health choices. Using the victim's disability funding for purposes other than the victim's health.