Battering is a system of tactics aimed at maintaining power and control over another person (these are examples for victims who have a hearing loss)

PHYSICAL VIOLENCE

SEXUAL
Joking with other people about sexuality. Grabbing her body from behind w/out warning, raping deaf because they won’t be able to tell what happened.

THREATS
Threatens to tell Deaf community lies about him/her, threatens to cut all ties to deaf community or interpreters, threatens to take her to court.

USING CHILDREN
Telling children mom is unfit because she is deaf, making children believe because she can’t hear, she can’t do anything right, making fun of mom who can’t speak well in front of children, telling her that because she is Deaf and he is hearing there is no way the courts would award her custody.

ECONOMIC
Trying to keep him/her from getting or keeping a job. Making him/her ask for money, taking his/her paycheck, withholding money for needed treatments, appliances, batteries or devices.

EMOTIONAL
Putting victim down or making victim feel bad about themselves because they are Deaf, making hurtful remarks about being Deaf or about their speech, playing mind games especially when it comes to things victim thinks they hear or doesn’t hear.

INTIMIDATION
Breaking or preventing victims from using his/her assistive devices, hitting the victim’s ears, forcing a victim’s assistive device in his/her ear, increasing or decreasing the volume in hearing aid, shouting into victim’s hearing aid, injuring victim’s hands so they cannot communicate via sign language, forcing a victim to use speech.

MALE OR HEARING PRIVILEGE
Uses deafness to prove abuser arguments- that abuser is always right, etc. (hearing husband), head of the household because abuser is hearing and victim is deaf so victim can’t do anything right, telling victim how lucky he/she is to have him/her and that he/she brings home the money and so on, refusing to sign or to learn sign language, using hearing to manipulate victim (not share with him/her what is being said, etc.), communicating with police officers because they are hearing.

ISOLATION
Breaking visual contact in order to cease communication- ie, refusing to look at victim while signing, if the abuser knows sign language- refusing to communicate in sign, preventing a victim from signing, controlling/denying access to information such as captioned tv shows/news, telephone/TTY calls, preventing victims from making contact with Deaf community and/or interpreters.

UNNATURAL POWER & CONTROL

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