



Information update re: domestic and sexual abuse and other support services #42 22-10-20

Hello all – hope you are all keeping safe and well. Please find latest information below and attached. If you have any information or updates you would like us to share, please send them in.

Content Note: *some of the articles and information in this newsletter may include detailed discussion of physical, emotional and sexual abuse, please be mindful of your own triggers, safety and feelings – take care.*

Economic abuse – 8.7 million people report experiencing economic abuse – and 1.6 million saw this begin as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Co-operative Bank and Refuge, the UK's largest national domestic abuse charity release “Know Economic Abuse” report – five years on from launching landmark campaign to tackle economic abuse. Report available at link here

https://www.refuge.org.uk/8-7million-economic-abuse-covid/?utm_source=Twitter&utm_medium=Social%20Media&utm_campaign=Know%20Economic%20Abuse%20Report

“I had not consciously realised that economic abuse was taking place ... I was so focused on trying to protect myself from physical harm and keep my family safe that I only became aware of the economic abuse and the extent of it once I had left.” – Survivor of economic abuse - **Surviving Economic Abuse website** here
<https://survivingeconomicabuse.org/>

Latest news articles about economic abuse

1. “He stole from me and left me in £30k of debt”: what you need to know about economic abuse - <https://www.stylist.co.uk/news/women-and-economic-abuse/437859>
2. My abusive partner racked up £23,000 of debt. Sixteen years later, I’m still paying it off - <https://inews.co.uk/news/real-life/financial-abuse-partner-debt-years-pay-off-refuge-co-operative-bank-717344>
3. 'The bank sent my safe house address to my abusive ex' - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-49281219>
4. My Ex’s Economic Abuse Left Me Paying His Debts For A Decade - https://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/entry/economic-abuse-coronavirus_uk_5f8f5042c5b62333b23fee52

Other recent news articles

1. Only one in seven UK rape victims think reporting will bring justice - <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-britain-women-crime/only-one-in-seven-uk-rape-victims-think-reporting-will-bring-justice-idUSKBN2752BL>
2. The criminal justice system needs to regain rape victims’ trust - <https://www.independent.co.uk//independentpremium/news-analysis/criminal-justice-system-rape-victims-trust-prosecutions-b1156145.html>
3. Lockdown Was Fatal For Women And Girls. We Cannot Let This Happen Again - https://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/entry/domestic-violence-lockdown_uk_5f86e7f9c5b681f7da1d95ce

UCL/Gender and IoT: Tech Abuse Survey

We – the “Gender and IoT” ([GloT](#)) research team at UCL – are running an online questionnaire on the topic of technology-facilitated abuse (“tech abuse”) in collaboration with Australian partners at the University of Queensland ([Professor Heather Douglas](#)) and Queensland University of Technology ([Dr Bridget Harris](#)).

The [purpose of this survey](#) is **to collect the support sector’s experiences of the emerging tech abuse landscape** in the context of domestic and sexual violence. We are specifically reaching out to representatives working in the following fields: **Domestic Violence, Social Work, Counselling, Policing, Child Protection, Legal, Justice, Health, and Housing.**

The survey allows us to **compare insights on the current state of tech abuse in the UK and Australia** and will inform our research and academic outputs. To ensure that this research has the **impact on research, policy, and practice** we aspire (e.g., UK Domestic Abuse Bill, Online Harms White Paper), we hope to get as many people as possible to participate in our study. We would be ever so thankful if you could take **10 minutes** out of your busy schedule to respond to our questionnaire, and **circulate this email/survey amongst other colleagues.**

The UK survey link can be found here: <https://opinio.ucl.ac.uk/s?s=66851> Thank you for your time, and please do not hesitate to get in touch should you have any questions or would like further information on this study. Leonie, Tel.: +44 (0)20 3108 6135 | Twitter: [@leotanczt](#) | Website: www.leonietanczer.net

Victim Support – Experiencing crime or a traumatic event can leave you feeling overwhelmed or distressed. ‘My Support Space’ can help you to deal with these difficult emotions, and move forward from crime. www.mysupportspace.org.uk/moj

Cumbria Domestic Abuse Champions’ Network social media – you can follow Cumbria Domestic Abuse Champions’ Network on social media for regular posts/updates. On Twitter [@AbuseCumbria](#) and on [Facebook](#) [@CumbriaDomesticAbuseChampionsNetwork](#)

Champions’ Network newsletters - You can find all the previous copies of these newsletters in PDF format at <http://www.womenscommunitymatters.org/cumbria-domestic-champions/> just in case you lose/misplace any info.

Take care, Steve