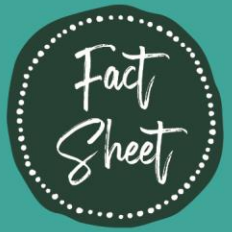


Warning Signs

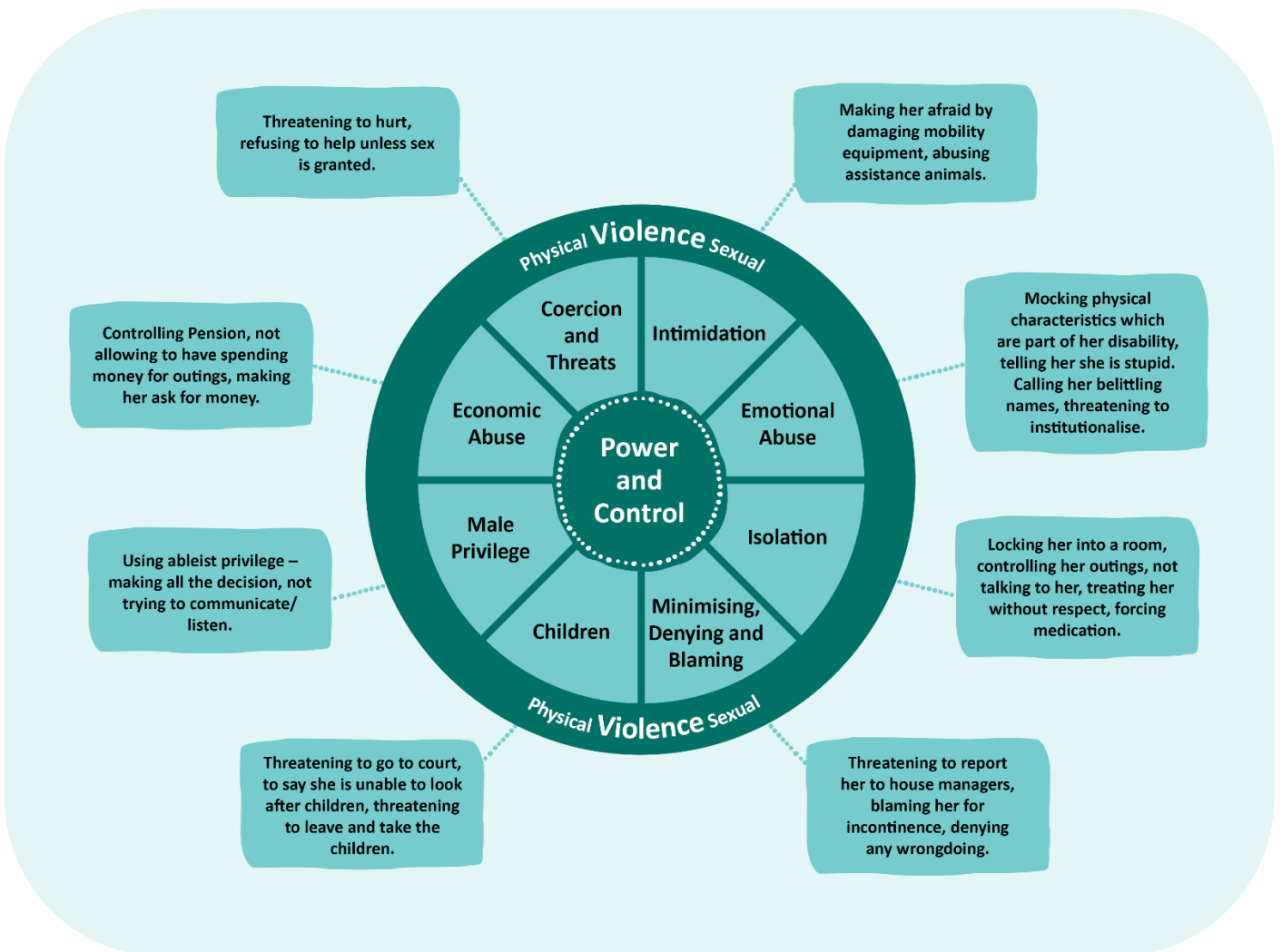


What you need to look out for

This fact sheet provides a snapshot of what to look out for that may indicate that women with disability may be experiencing DFV. While some signs are obvious others can be harder to identify.



DFV is about Power and Control



Warning Signs

Fact Sheet

Common Warning Signs

- Suddenly being unable to meet essential day-to-day living needs.
- Lack of contact with friends or family.
- Handprints or bruising on the face, neck, arms or wrists.
- Unexplained sprains, fractures, or dislocations.



- Signs of injuries to internal organs such as vomiting.
- Wearing torn, stained, soiled, or bloody clothing.
- Appearing hungry, malnourished, disoriented or confused.
- Anxiety, loss of confidence, constant apologising



Look out also for exploitation of vulnerabilities – these may be more difficult to identify

- Damaged or missing disability aids or equipment.
- Frequently flat disability aids that make it difficult to communicate or leave the house.
- Denying access to parts of the house.
- Fear of decision making – having to check in for permission.
- Injured pets or assistance animals or excessive concern about them.
- Fears about being placed into an institution or aged care.
- Lack of access to required medications.
- Asking you to retrieve things for her that should be accessible .
- Lack of access to money for small expenses.



Be aware of signs or fears that may indicate threats or manipulation against particular population groups

- Fears of having children removed.
- Fears of homelessness or exclusion from community.
- Fears of outing of sexuality.
- Fears of deportation.



TIP

Gaslighting is a form of psychological abuse and manipulation.