

Worcestershire Safeguarding Adults Board

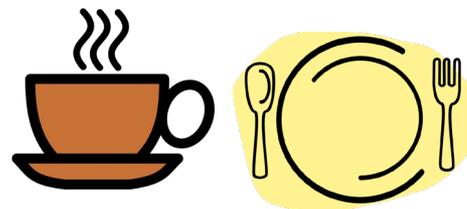
Annual Learning Event

Housekeeping

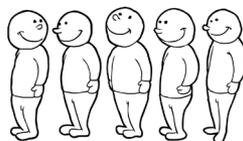
- Fire Alarms



- Breaks and Lunch



- Toilets



Timetable

- 9.30 Introductions and Presentations
- 10.50 Comfort Break
- 11.10 Workshops
- 12.10 Presentation
- 12.45 Lunch
- 1.30 Video and Debrief
- 2.45 Break
- 3.00 Signposting and Support
- 4.10 Pledge and closing
- 4.30 Finish

Welcome and Introduction

Derek Benson

Independent Chair

**Worcestershire Safeguarding
Adults Board**

Purpose of Learning Event

- Disseminate learning from Safeguarding Adults Reviews (SARs);
- Explore key areas of practice which have been identified as ‘sticking points’ through the work of the Board;
- Not about pointing fingers, rather an opportunity to share and reflect;
- ‘What could I do differently’

Why Domestic abuse and Coercive Control



- 2 joint Domestic Homicide Reviews/Safeguarding Adult Reviews
- 1 SAR – Person still living
- These will be focus of case studies today
- Not always reported/recorded as domestic abuse

Objectives of this learning event

By the end of the event participants will

- Be aware of the signs of domestic abuse and coercive control, particularly in relation to people with care and support needs;
- Identify opportunities to create conversations with people who may be experiencing domestic abuse;
- Identify organisations that they can go to for support or signpost people to.

Format

Morning

- What is Coercive Control /Domestic Abuse
- Case Studies – SARs
- Added dimension of coercive control and domestic abuse for people with care and support needs

Afternoon

- Why people stay
- Signposting and Support
- Pledges

Martin Lakeman

Coercive Control and Domestic Abuse

Domestic Abuse

“Making a Difference”

*You only know what you
know!*



WORCESTERSHIRE FORUM
AGAINST DOMESTIC ABUSE
& SEXUAL VIOLENCE

Stronger Together

Martin Lakeman

Worcestershire Context

- 10,949 domestic abuse reports (2017-18)
- 4,952 Children Exposed
- Domestic abuse identified as the highest risk factor for children
- Increased calls to the domestic abuse helpline
- 12 Domestic Homicides since 2012
- **Tip of the Iceberg – People suffering in silence**
- **Lets do something different**

Definition

• Any incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive or threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between those **aged 16 or over** who are or have been intimate partners or family members regardless of gender or sexuality. This can encompass, but is not limited to, the following types of abuse:

- **psychological**
- physical
- sexual
- financial
- **Emotional**

• “Controlling behaviour is: a range of acts designed to make a person subordinate and/or dependent by isolating them from sources of support, exploiting their resources and capacities for personal gain, depriving them of the means needed for independence, resistance and escape and regulating their everyday behaviour.

• “Coercive behaviour is: an act or a pattern of acts of assault, threats, humiliation and intimidation or other abuse that is used to harm, punish, or frighten their victim.”

Coercive and Controlling behaviour became a criminal offence on 29th December 2015.

Types of behaviour (1)

- The types of behaviour associated with **coercion and control** may or may not constitute a criminal offence in their own right. Such behaviours might include:
 - isolating a person from their friends and family;
 - depriving them of their basic needs;
 - monitoring their time;
 - monitoring a person via online communication tools or using spyware;
 - taking control over aspects of their everyday life, such as where they can go, who they can see, what to wear and when they can sleep;
 - depriving them of access to support services, such as specialist support or medical services;
 - repeatedly putting them down such as telling them they are worthless;
 - enforcing rules and activity which humiliate, degrade or dehumanise the victim;
 - financial abuse including control of finances, such as only allowing a person a punitive allowance; .

Types of behaviour (2)

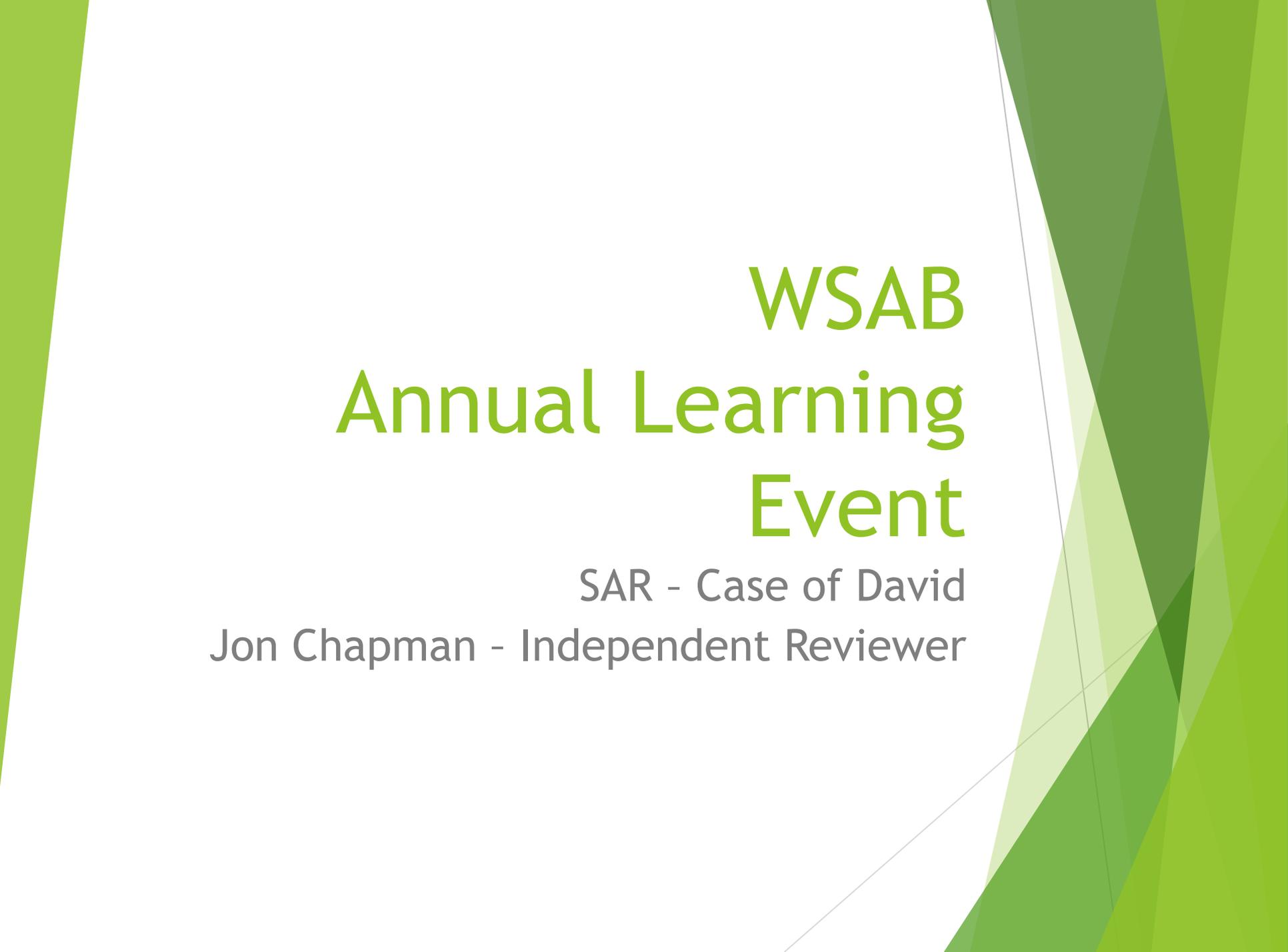
- threats to hurt or kill;
 - threats to a child;
 - threats to reveal or publish private information (e.g. threatening to 'out' someone).
 - assault;
 - criminal damage (such as destruction of household goods);
 - rape; (22%)
 - preventing a person from having access to transport or from working
-
- **Risk Factors**
 - 30% of domestic abuse starts in pregnancy
 - Strangulation
 - Separation
 - Always accompanied
 - Child contact
 - Drugs, Alcohol, Mental Health

Asking the Question!

A Life saver

Jon Chapman

Safeguarding Adult Review



WSAB Annual Learning Event

SAR - Case of David

Jon Chapman - Independent Reviewer

About David

- ▶ Single male
- ▶ 52 years at the time of the review
- ▶ Learning disability and suffered from a medical condition which could bring about fits.
- ▶ Fits were exacerbated by anxiety
- ▶ One of David's main causes of anxiety was relationships.



What lead to the review

- ▶ On 29th March 2017 David was the subject of a serious assault whilst at his home address.
- ▶ The assault was perpetrated by an associate of David
- ▶ Offender sentenced to a term of imprisonment

Challenges

- ▶ Period of the review (1993 to march 2017)
- ▶ Milestones in legislation, policy and practice
 - ▶ **No Secrets** Guidance issued in March 2000
 - ▶ **The Mental Capacity Act (MCA) 2005** - introduced to protect and restore power to those people who lack capacity.
 - ▶ **Making Safeguarding Personal (MSP) 2012/13** - sector led improvement to develop outcome focused, person centred Safeguarding practice.
 - ▶ **Care Act 2014**
 - ▶ **Hate Crime**
 - ▶ **Domestic Abuse**
 - ▶ **Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme (Clare's Law) 2013**

Agencies involved in David's life

- ▶ Adult Services
- ▶ Worcestershire Health and Care NHS Trust
- ▶ Worcester Acute Hospitals NHS Trust
- ▶ Advocacy
- ▶ Primary Health Care/GP
- ▶ Housing
- ▶ Ambulance Service
- ▶ Police



Snapshot of involvement

- ▶ 51 reported crimes (assault, theft, robbery burglary, sexual assault, harassment)
- ▶ Repeat offenders (1 person - 8 offences)
- ▶ Over 100 contacts with police (non crime)
- ▶ 5 safeguarding or professionals meetings

Identified issues

- ▶ Mental Capacity Assessment
- ▶ Dealing with risk
- ▶ Access to services
- ▶ Domestic Abuse

Domestic Abuse

- ▶ Lack of recognition
- ▶ Same sex abuse
- ▶ Domestic abuse of persons with learning disability/difficulty
- ▶ Identified as a same sex relationship as early as 2009

Therefore no access to DA services

- ▶ MARAC - 1 referral
- ▶ IDVA
- ▶ DVDS - Clare's Law

Recommendations

- ▶ MCA
- ▶ Repeat victimisation.
- ▶ DA services
- ▶ MSP
- ▶ Coercive control training
- ▶ Clare's Law
- ▶ Information sharing

Good Practice

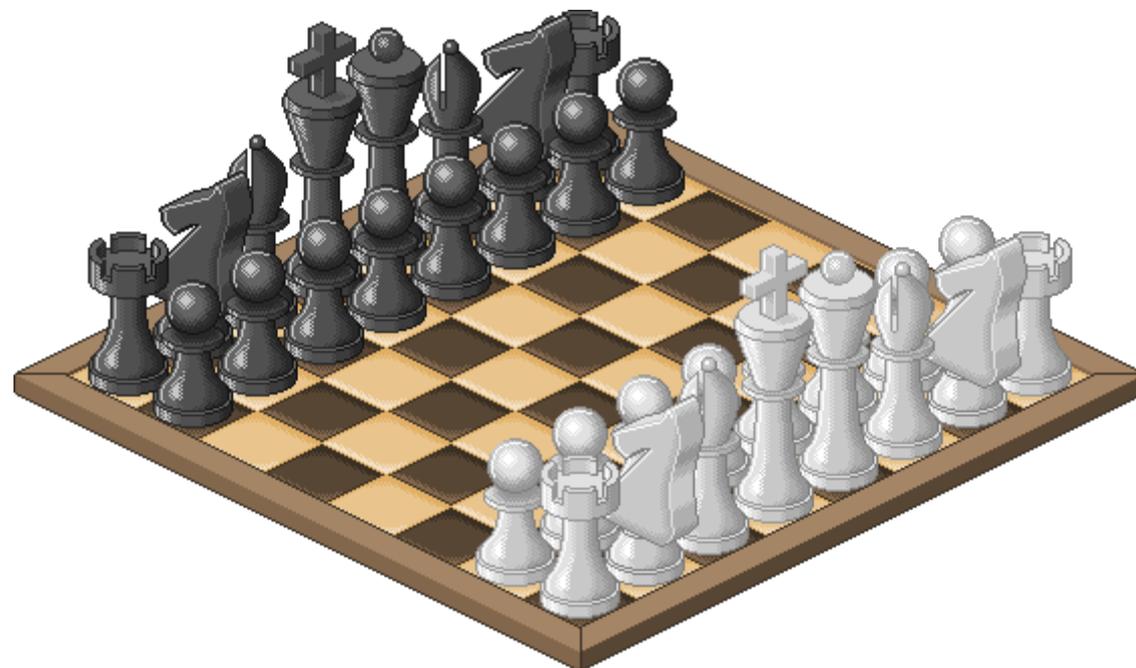
- ▶ Advocacy
- ▶ Learning Disability Nurse
- ▶ Housing
- ▶ GP
- ▶ Police Risk Assessment Plan

Questions

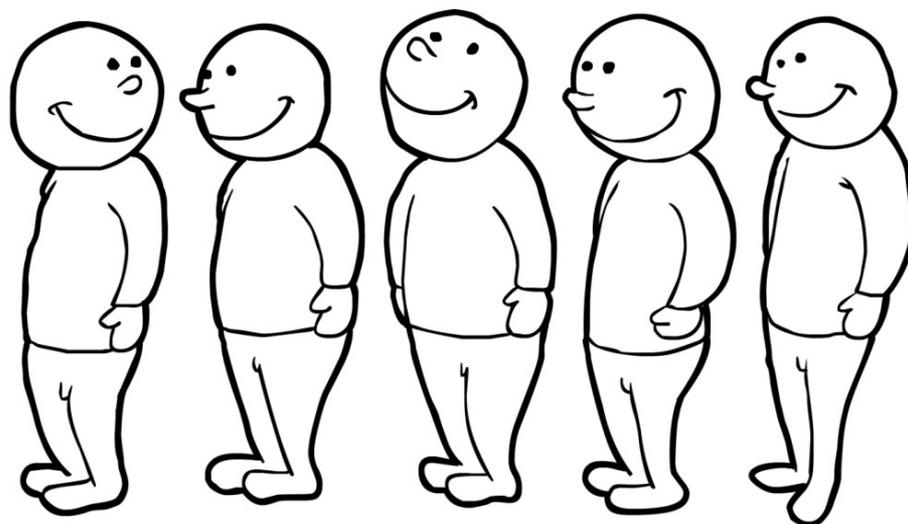
Jon.chapman@ps3reviews.co.uk



Personal Statement



Comfort Break



Why are we here

RESPECT

REFLECT

and

LEARN

Workshops/Case Studies

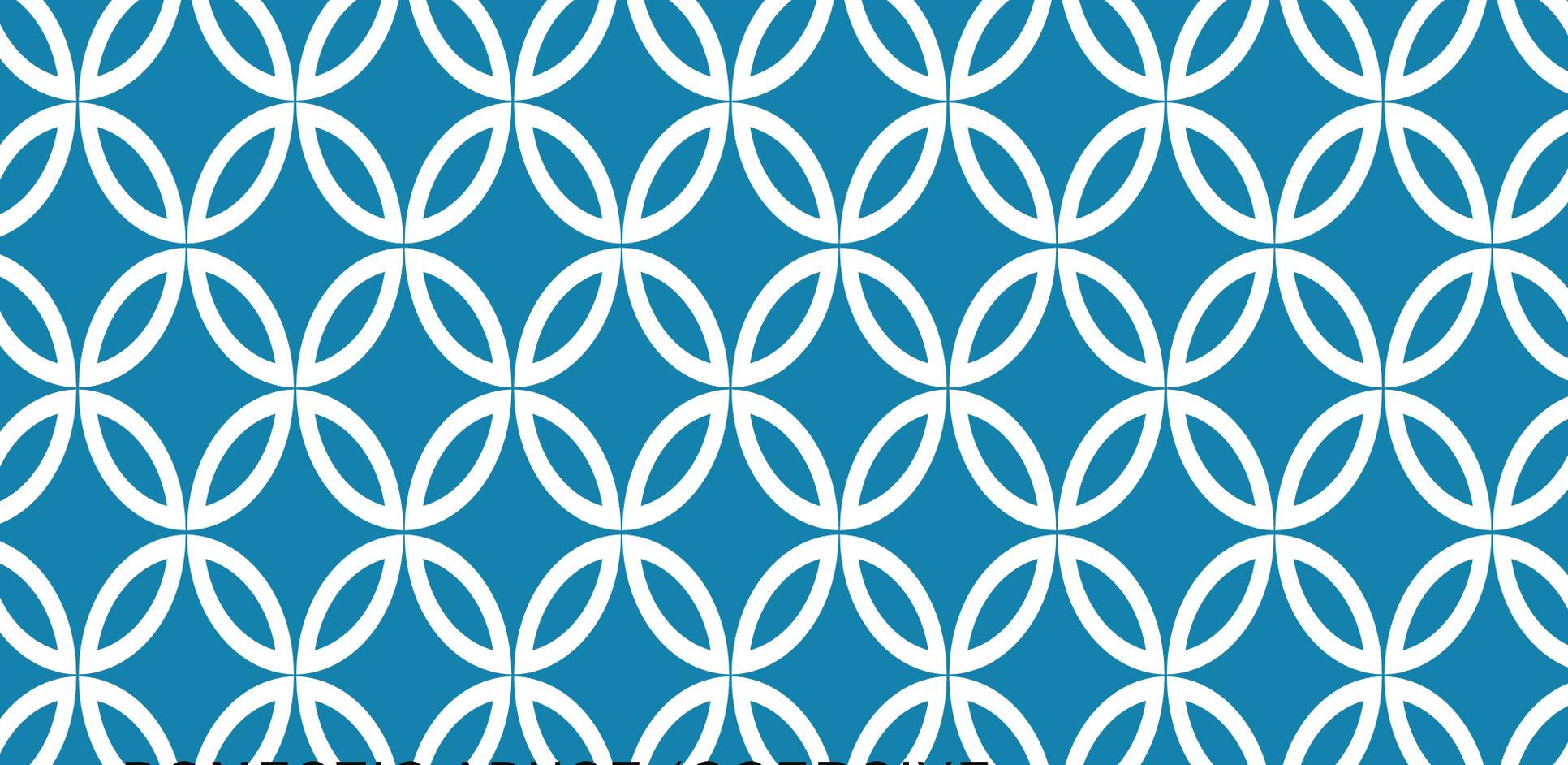


Workshop Consider

- **What factors are being played out here?**
- **How did the victims/survivor normalise this**
- **What could professionals have spotted and done**

Dr Ruth Jones

Added dimension of coercive control and
Domestic Abuse for people with Care and
support needs



DOMESTIC ABUSE (COERCIVE
CONTROL) &
PEOPLE WITH CARE AND
SUPPORT NEEDS

(PHYSICAL & LEARNING
DISABILITIES & MENTAL HEALTH)

**DR. Ruth
Jones OBE**



DOMESTIC ABUSE

- Domestic Abuse is recognised at a local, national and international level, as a serious human rights and public health issue, that has a significant cost the health and wellbeing of those who experience it, their families, and society. BUT....
- We know relatively little about the experiences of people with physical and learning disabilities, and mental health issues, in relation to domestic violence in comparison to the general population of known 'victims / survivors'.
- The Domestic Abuse of people (particularly women) with physical and sensory impairments is relatively well researched in countries such as Canada and the US (McNamara and Brooker 2000, Yoshida et al 2009), but less so in the UK, though some data does exist.

DOMESTIC ABUSE CAN CREATE CARE & SUPPORT NEEDS

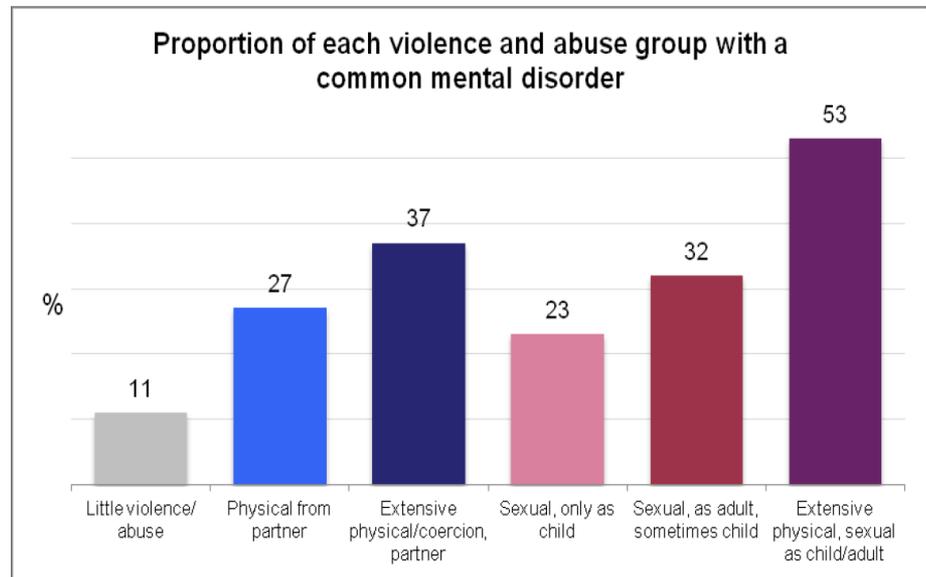
Domestic Abuse can result in physical injury (including physical disabilities) and mental health issues (low self-esteem, depression, anxiety, suicidal ideation etc.) (Campbell, 2002; McGarry & Simpson 2011, NICE 2014)

Quotes from McGarry and Simpson research (2011)

He was extremely abusive and he put me into the hospital quite few times. The consequences on my health now [. . .] I have had a major bone problems, and I had to have an operation on my spine, and I am questioning whether that was to do with the beatings. I've got arthritis and I had a lots of broken bones when he was doing this, so whether that impacted [. . .] I'm sure that this possibly did impact up on me now [. . .] Like now I can hardly walk, and I have to go in a wheel chair to go about (Participant 1: 63 years).

I' m waiting for a hearing aid and now [. . .] I got severely bashed on my ear, and I'm told that I can't hear at all in this ear, and I've been told that it is perforated eardrum (Participant 8: 76 years).

People who experience poor mental health are more likely to have experienced domestic abuse (Trevillion et al. 2012)



Men and women with mental health problems are at an increased risk of experiencing domestic abuse - and

exposure to domestic abuse increases the onset, duration and reoccurrence of mental health issues

PEOPLE WITH CARE & SUPPORT NEEDS EXPERIENCE DOMESTIC ABUSE

Women with a long-term illness or disability (self-declared) are more likely to be victims of domestic abuse compared with those without a long-term illness or disability according to the Crime Survey England and Wales (ONS, 2018). This is supported by academic evidence (Rich, 2014)

More than 50% of disabled women in the UK may have experienced domestic abuse (Magowan, 2004)

More disabled men experience domestic abuse than non-disabled men, with the risk to a disabled man being similar to that to women in general (PHE, 2015) (male and female perpetrators)

Disabled people (physical, learning and MH) who are experiencing domestic abuse are twice as likely to have planned or attempted suicide (22% vs 11%) (Safe Lives, 2017)

Two small scale studies of women with learning disabilities and domestic abuse found that the levels of physical violence they had experienced were particularly high and of high risk (e.g. use of weapons, threats to kill)

Disabled people are twice as likely to experience domestic abuse than non-disabled people. (Magowan, 2003; Women’s Aid, 2007; Human Rights Watch, 2012; Thiara 2016)

**'Losing out on both counts',
Disabled women and domestic violence (2016)**

Dr. Ravi K. Thiara
Centre for the study of safety and well-being,
University of Warwick

	Disabled women	Non-disabled women	Disabled men	Non-disabled men
Experienced any domestic abuse in last year	15.7%	7.1%	8.4%	4%
Experienced non-sexual partner abuse in last year	11.3%	4.9%	4.5%	2.5%
Experienced non-sexual family abuse in last year	4.6%	1.7%	4.3%	1.4%
Experienced sexual assault in last year	2.6%	2.2%	0.9%	0.7%
Experienced stalking in last year	7.6%	3.8%	5.3%	2.1%

INTERSECTIONALITY

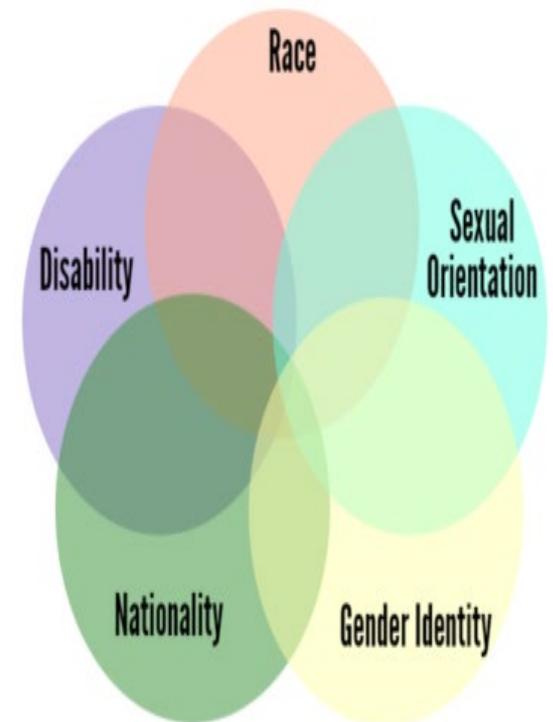
Intersectionality is the interconnected / overlapping nature of social categories such as race, sexual orientation, religious affiliation, disability and gender etc. (culture) as they apply to a given individual

Intersectionality creates layers of vulnerabilities

Intersectionality can make a person more vulnerable to domestic abuse & less likely to have access to services and protection

Example - Disabled people - Forced marriage

- 12% (141 cases) of cases reported to the Forced Marriage Unit in 2015 involved people who had a physical or learning disability
- 62% of were men and 48% women
- For non-disabled people only 20% of referrals are for male victims.



PERPETRATORS

Research indicates that the majority of abusive partners of people with physical, learning and MH conditions, generally do not have physical or learning disabilities. Research suggests though, that they tend to:

- Have mental health issues and/ or drug and alcohol dependency
- make threats of self-harm/suicide/ threats to murder
- a history of abusing previous partners/children
- Are known to be cruel to animals
- Are controlling

It should be noted however that research is limited.

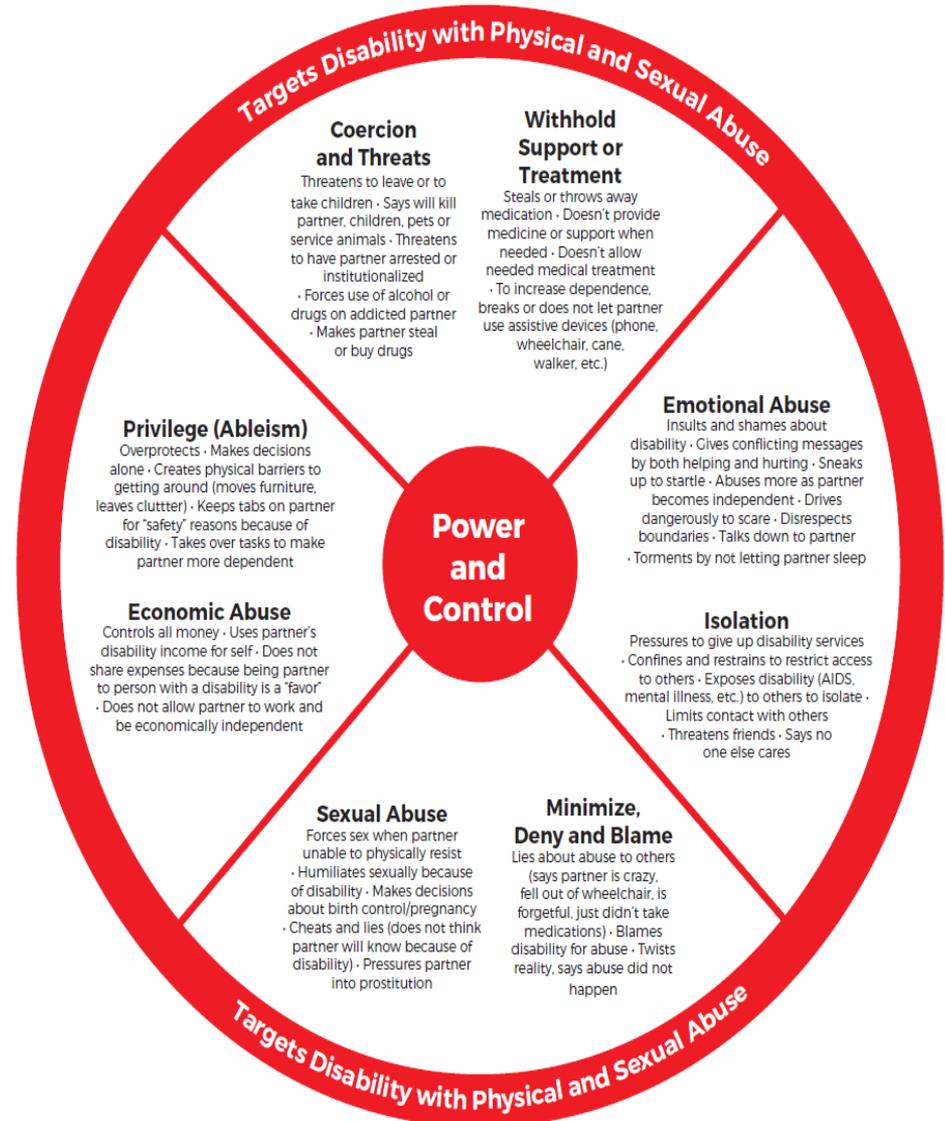
COERCIVE CONTROL

How might coercive control be experienced by people with care and support needs?

“Abusive intimate partners exploit the challenges presented by the disability, knowing that this will seriously limit a their ability to take action” (Ballin and Freyer 2012:1085)

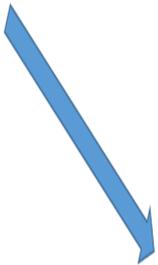
domestic violence and disability

People with Disabilities in Partner Relationships

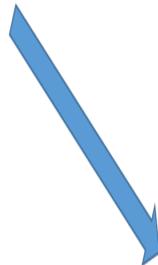


Coercive and Controlling Behaviour The Process

Conditioning



Dependence



Entrapment

- It is difficult to seek help if you can't walk, talk, hear, understand etc. but also..
- Abuser may threaten that leaving the relationship will result in institutionalisation - An effective way of preventing them from seeking help?
- Who has the power and control?
- Dr Michelle McCarthy (2015) highlighted how victims with all kinds of disabilities and needs, are subjected to the same forms of domestic abuse as non-disabled victims, but with an intensification of **coercive control**, which plays on the victims' impairments
- It is vital then for professionals to understand coercive control, look for it and evidence it

PROFESSIONAL RESPONSES

- Domestic Abuse services that cater for those with needs related to disability are few and far between - resource issues (Thiara, 2011)
- Disabled victims typically experience abuse for a longer period of time before accessing support (3.3 years' average length of abuse vs 2.3 years) (Safe Lives, 2017)

We do not know very much at all about the attitudes and practices of those whose role it is to support those with care and support needs who experience Domestic Abuse, but research suggests:

- There is a lack of training & information about Domestic Abuse in relation to those with care and support needs, amongst professionals is common. (Thiara, 2011)
- Of an estimated 16,000 disabled people experiencing high risk domestic abuse, an estimated 13,600 either are not supported by a MARAC, or their disability is not identified by the MARAC process (Safe Lives, 2017) (18% of MARACs do not record disability).
- In 2015-2016 - None of the 925 referrals of disabled victims to domestic abuse services were from adult safeguarding (Safe Lives, 2017)
- Only 9% of known disabled victims were engaging or accessing adult safeguarding services in 2015-16 (Safe Lives, 2017).

SAFEGUARDING ADULTS

Statutory guidance in relation to the offence of **controlling or coercive behaviour** states that **it should be dealt with as part of adult and/or child safeguarding and public protection procedures.**

Both the March 2016 statutory guidance in relation to sections 42-46 of the Care Act 2014 (DH, 2016) and the April 2016 guidance in relation to section 7 of the Social Services and Well-being Act Wales 2014 (Welsh Government, 2016) include coercive control.

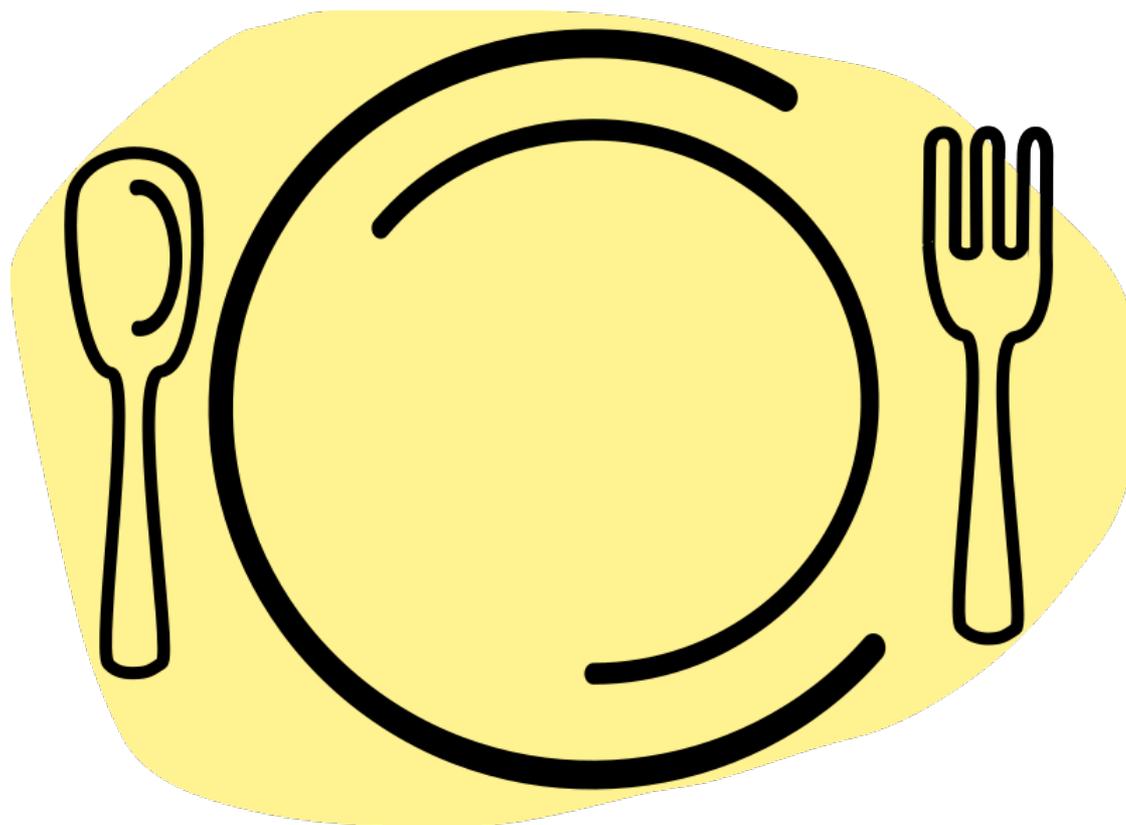
This means that a local authority's duty to make (or ask others to make) safeguarding enquiries and determine what action is needed to protect 'an adult at risk' are triggered by 'reasonable cause to suspect' that an adult with health and social care needs is experiencing coercive control (where their needs prevent them from protecting themselves).

WHAT YOU CAN DO

Understand and be aware of signs of coercive controlling behaviour (wheel)

- Follow safeguarding policy / protocols
- Safe Enquiry – In a way that ensures the potential perpetrator will not easily become aware of the enquiry – never discuss concerns in front of potential perpetrator
- Don't be afraid to ask direct questions & listen to what is being said – and what is not said
- Use advocates as necessary (IDVA, ISVA, IMCA)
- Risk assessment and safety planning (DASH and refer to MARAC if appropriate),
- Keep 'victim / survivor' wishes central to the safeguarding if possible (make safeguarding personal)
- Record information accurately and **SHARE INFORMATION**
- Support 'victim / survivor' including supporting engagement with the criminal justice process (if wanted)

Lunch Break



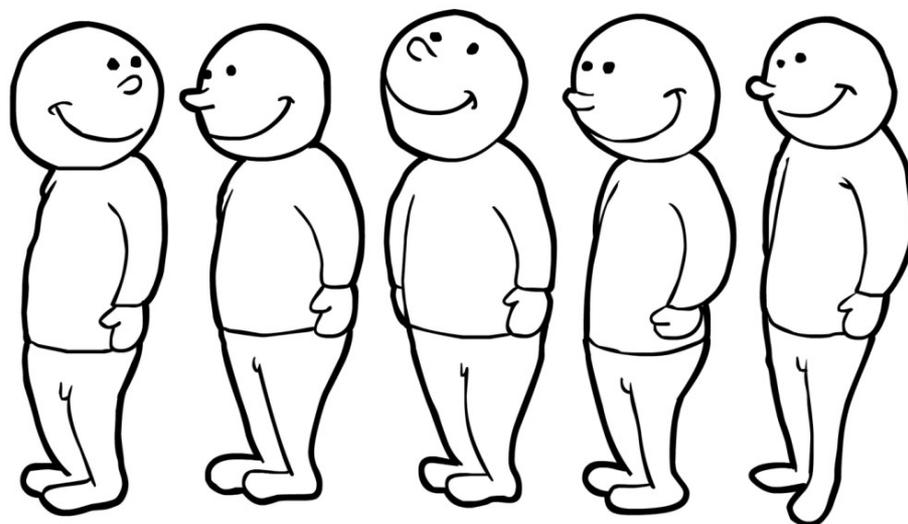
Martin Lakeman

Video
And
Power and Control Wheel

Debrief



Comfort Break



Sign Posting and Support

Pledges

Closing Remarks



