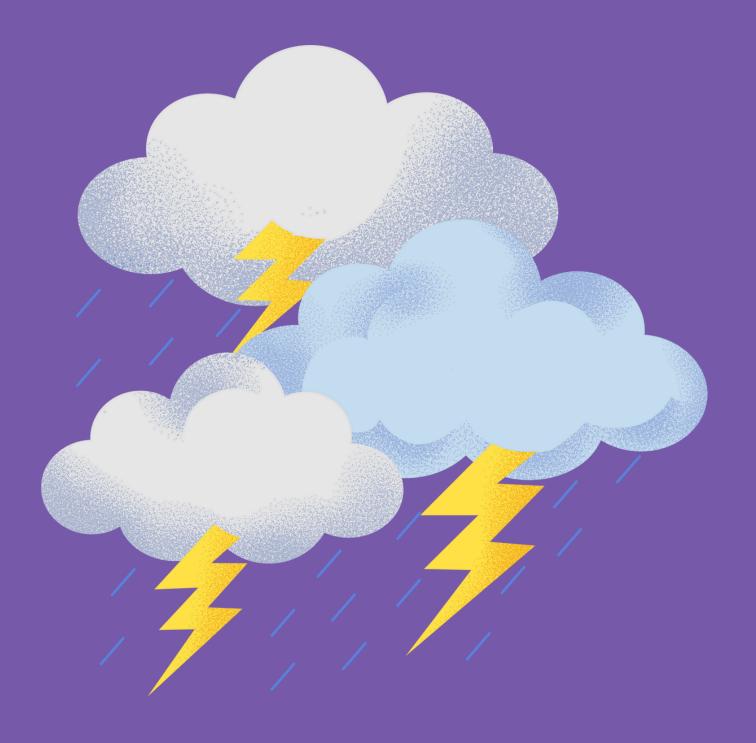


New protections for people experiencing domestic and family violence come into effect 26th of May



Most romantic relationships are loving, respectful, and safe- but some can be violent, controlling, or abusive





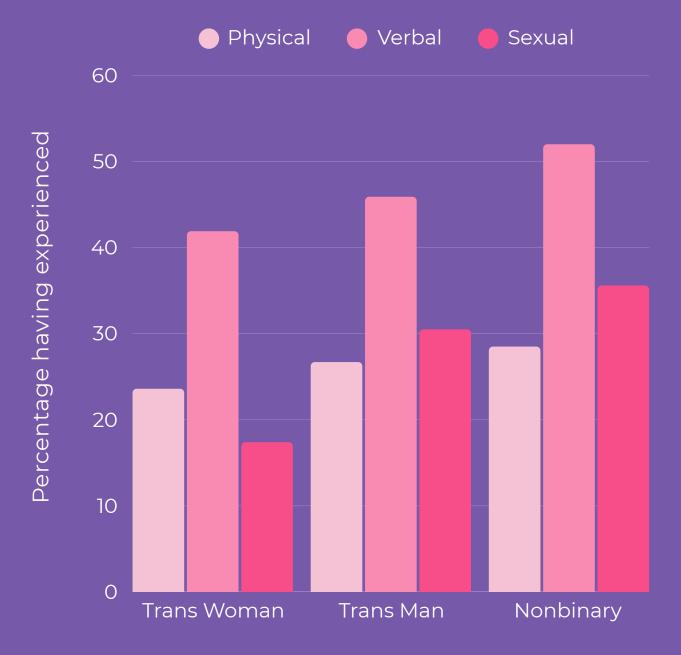
Intimate partner violence is anything that causes physical, psychological or sexual harm to those in the relationship. It is used to gain or maintain power and control over an intimate partner.

Intimate partner violence isn't just a heterosexual or cisgender issue, it happens in LGBTQIA+ relationships about as much as it does in other relationships



LGBTIQA+ people in relationships with people outside the community are especially vulnerable

Transgender people experience intimate partner violence at very high rates



*Source: Private Lives 3

Intimate partner violence includes nonphysical forms of abuse.

Sometimes these behaviours are subtle and can be difficult to identify on their own, but when they are repeated, they start to form a pattern of coercive control



Coercive control includes abusive behaviours that over time create fear, and takes away the person's freedom and independence. It includes abuse used to hurt, humiliate, isolate, frighten, or threaten

Coercive control will become a criminal offence in QLD on 26 May 2025



Coercive control can look like:

- Isolating from friends and family
 - Making all the decisions
- Stalking and monitoring activity
- Controlling money and employment
 - Threats and intimidation
 - Insults, putdowns and bullying
 - Controlling health and body

There are some unique kinds of coercive control that can be used against LGBTIQA+ people

Threatening to out someone, or pressuring them to hide their identity





Using homophobic, biphobic or transphobic slurs and insults

Dismissing or challenging bisexuality or past previous relationships





Telling them their religion or culture cannot align with their LGBTIQA+ identity

Isolating them from the LGBTIQA+ community



threatening to share pre-transition or private images that could out them





pressuring them to look/act more masculine or feminine, or less gay

controlling gender affirming healthcare eg withholding medication







pressuring intersex people to undergo medical "sex-normalisation"

deadnaming and using the wrong pronouns



If you or someone you know is experiencing intimate partner violence, there is help available.





Contact the LGBTI Legal Service for free legal advice and connections to other support services