



PAUL LAVELLE FOUNDATION
A CHARITY FOR OUR COMMUNITY

**DOMESTIC
ABUSE
NO EXCUSE.**

Paul Lavelle

aka
Lavey





DOMESTIC ABUSE ACT 2021

LEGAL DEFINITION

Domestic abuse is an 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**.

CRIMINAL OFFENSES LISTED UNDER THE DOMESTIC ABUSE ACT

- Physical Abuse
- Psychological Abuse
- Emotional Abuse
- Economical Abuse
- Sexual Abuse

Anyone can be a victim of domestic abuse, regardless of gender, age, ethnicity, religion, socio-economic status, sexuality or background.

Cultivating an Inclusive Response

Abuse is Abuse

It Does Not Discriminate

Marginalised Groups

- ▶ Males
- ▶ People with disabilities
- ▶ Black, Asian & Minority Ethnic communities
- ▶ LGBTQAI+ Community
- ▶ Transgender men and women
- ▶ Elderly



CONSCIOUS BIAS VERSUS UNCONSCIOUS BIAS

Visit www.PEDIAA.com

CONSCIOUS BIAS

Conscious bias refers to biased attitudes that you are aware of

We know we are being biased, and we are doing it intentionally

There can be malicious intent

Can be easily observed

UNCONSCIOUS BIAS

Unconscious bias refers to biased attitudes that operate outside your awareness and control

We may not be aware that we hold biased attitudes towards certain things

There is no malicious intent

Can't be easily observed

ARE YOU CONSCIOUS
OF YOUR
UNCONSCIOUS BIAS?



**BARRIERS AND REASONS
WHY MEN DO NOT
SPEAK OUT ABOUT
DOMESTIC ABUSE**

- **SHAME AND EMBARRASSEMENT – FEELING OF FAILURE AS A MAN**
- **STIGMA ATTACHED TO MALES REACHING OUT FOR HELP AND SUPPORT**
- **FEAR OF NOT BEING BELIEVED BY AUTHORITIES OR THAT THEIR ABUSE WILL BE MINIMISED DUE TO THEM BEING MALE**
- **LACK OF DEDICATED SERVICES AND RESOURCES FOR MALE DOMESTIC ABUSE**
- **TO PROTECT THEIR CHILDREN. WORRY THEIR PARTNER WILL HARM THE CHILDREN IF THEY LEAVE AND/OR PREVENT THEM FROM HAVING ACCESS**
- **THEY ARE IN DENIAL AND DO NOT RECOGNISE THE BEHAVIOUR AS ABUSE**

MALE SUICIDE STATISTICS

In 2020, 4,500 men in England, Wales⁴ and Scotland⁵ took their own lives. With 2019 figures from Northern Ireland (157)⁶, this is the equivalent of 13 per day. Men make up 75% of all death by suicide and it is the biggest cause of male death under 50;

The ManKind Initiative estimates that between 3-5 men every week die by suicide due to domestic abuse



England 2023

- The male suicide rate was 17.1 per 100,000**, compared to a female suicide rate of 5.6 per 100,000**.
- Males aged 45-49 years were found to have the highest suicide rate (25.3 per 100,000).
- There is regional variation in the suicide rates. The highest rate and biggest increase was in the North West (14.7 deaths per 100,000 people, compared with 12.5 deaths per 100,000 in 2022). The lowest rate was once again in London (7.3 per 100,000**).

Office for National Statistics 2024

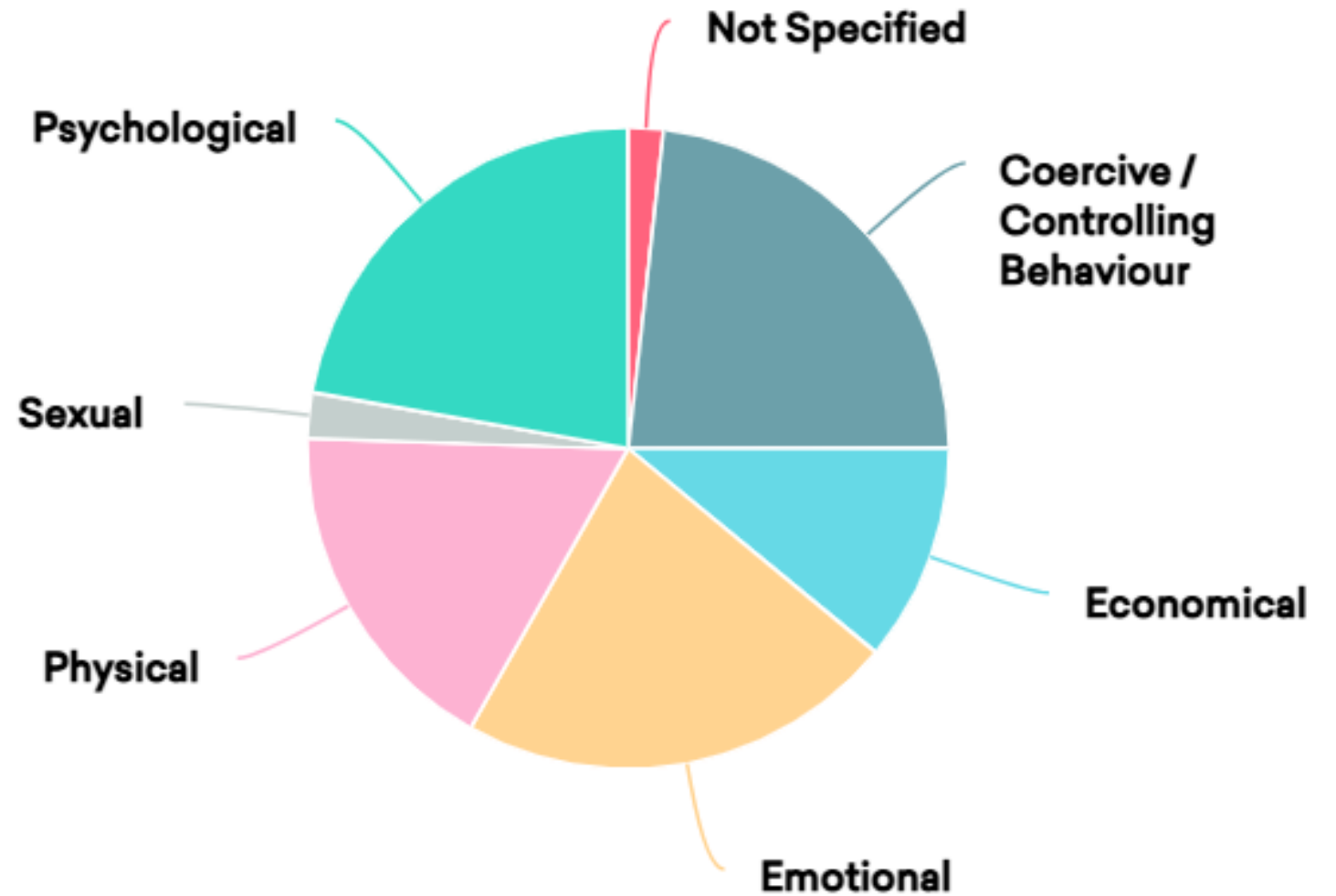
The latest Office for National Statistics figures for 2023/24 show that in that year one in three victims of domestic abuse are male equating to 712,000 men (3.0%) and 1.61 million women (6.6%). (ONS 2023/24)

1 in 7 men (13.7%) and 1 in 4 women (27.4%) will be a victim of domestic abuse in their lifetime. This is 2.95 million men and 6.4 million women. (ONS figures 2023/24)

Only 4.8% of victims of domestic abuse being supported by local domestic services are men according to SafeLives data. This highlights how few men are being supported by local domestic abuse services (ONS 2022/23)

Of the 40 men killed in domestic homicides involving a partner or ex-partner between April 2020 and March 2023, 33 were by women and 7 by men.

PLF Client Base 2024



Merseyside Police Vulnerable Persons Unit

Male Domestic Abuse Victim Referral Data



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION Ref: 2024-FOI-0470

RESPONSE TABLE

REQUEST	RESPONSE						
1. The number of VPRFs submitted to the vulnerable persons unit for the last 2 year period, where it was a domestic abuse incident and the victim was a male.	<p>Force searches were commenced using crime type domestic abuse for the time period 01.01.2022-31.12.2023, filtered by the victim gender to male provided the following results:-</p> <table><tr><th>Year</th><th>Number of crimes</th></tr><tr><td>2022</td><td>8473</td></tr><tr><td>2023</td><td>7119</td></tr></table>	Year	Number of crimes	2022	8473	2023	7119
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How do boys and girls experience violence?

Youth Endowment Foundation: Report 3 (Dec 2024)

Based on a survey of 10,000 children aged 13 to 17 across England and Wales, the report examines how boys and girls experience violence.

- **57% of boys in relationships say they've experienced at least one violent or controlling behaviour from their partner, compared to 41% of girls. This is equivalent to 16% and 11% of all 13-17-year-old boys and girls.**
- **37% of boys report that a partner has gone through their phone or social media, compared to 23% of girls.**
- **31% of boys say they've been afraid to break up with their partner, compared to 20% of girls.**
- **25% cent of boys report experiencing sexual coercion, compared to 15% of girls.**
- **27% of boys report being hit, kicked or shoved, compared to 12% of girls.**



WHAT CAN WE DO
BETTER?!



“I didn’t take it as domestic abuse, you know, and as a man, you’re supposed to be able to just, you know, take these little things, even though some of them could be quite painful”

“I did start reading up on domestic abuse and everything at the time was that we refer to the perpetrator as he and the victim as her... so I felt really ashamed. I didn’t think I was going to be believed”

“After all, I’ve done a lot of martial arts and boxing, but I could never bring myself to hurt her”

Survivor’s Voices

She went to hospital, and she’d broke both hands. She said that she was defending herself and the doctor said no you weren’t their ‘boxers’ breaks’. You were punching someone, yeah. She was laying into me you know”

SURVIVORS SUMMARY OF THINGS TO CONSIDER

- To educate and change the thought process of front-line staff including Police, Family Courts, Health & Social Care Professionals, Schools etc. Consider that the man, regardless of his physical stature or status, may actually be the victim. Offer him the same advice and support that they would a female victim.
- To provide dedicated services to support male victim survivors of domestic abuse.
- Remove gendered language and imagery all together from press, government, police articles, campaigns and legislation when discussing the effects of domestic abuse and how victim survivors should be cared for.
- To combat negative public attitudes about male domestic abuse.
- Highlighting that ALL victim survivors of domestic abuse deserve to receive equal support.