Post-Separation Economic Power and Control

Coercion & threats
- Coercing children to live with him to obtain child support from her; Threatening to stop agreed payments; Forcing her to borrow money from family/friends; Refusing to pay child support & threatening her if reported; Threatening to take her to court.

Using economic abuse
- Withholding her personal documents i.e. visas, passports, diplomas; Making her pay rent/mortgage for joint residence in which he resides; Refusing to assist with coerced debt; Blocking access to joint economic resources; Interfering with her ability to work/study.

Using children
- Making her pay for activities/needs of child(ren) during his child contact; Spoiling children with expensive gifts to make her feel inferior; Encouraging children to shame her for finances; Refusing to share basic resources for children; Refusing to contribute to additional expenses linked to the children.

Banking
- Refusing to negotiate terms of joint financial products; Using others’ bank accounts to conceal financial resources; Removing all money from joint accounts/savings/children’s savings; Continuing to build debt in her name/joint products; Absconding and leaving her responsible for shared financial products.

Manipulating institutions
- Using ‘loopholes’ in legislation to protect his assets; Becoming un/self-employed to avoid spousal support/child support; Refusing to pay child support despite having financial resources; Concealing/refusing to disclose actual income; Tax fraud to avoid financial obligations; Falsely reporting her for benefit fraud.

Using harassment & intimidation
- Damaging joint property incurring costs; Intimidating & harassing family and friends who are financially supporting her; Using or threatening physical force to get money from her; Stalking her forcing her to change location/name/employment/education.

Using emotional abuse
- Criticising every purchase she makes for their children; Blaming her for children’s financial hardship/shortcomings; Shaming her for her reduced finances; Causing emotional distress/dread over finances.

(Ab)Using court processes
- Purposely using court processes and procedures to exhaust her savings/income, i.e. through child contact, divorce, property, settlement disputes; Not appearing in court resulting in adjournment; Withholding required documents; Making her pay his legal fees.

Consequences of economic abuse
- Ongoing fear of abuse from (ex)partner

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This resource is based on research findings of University of Glasgow PhD candidate Jenn Glinski, who is currently completing her thesis.
Illustration design by Tony Mamo

Adaptation of the original Power and Control Wheel approved by The Domestic Abuse Intervention Programs
TheDuluthModel.org