Supporting Survivors Through Access to Reproductive Care



Nick Beard Policy Coordinator DCADV

Our time together

Understanding reproductive coercion

Feel comfortable listening and offering non judgmental support on pregnancy outcomes

Able to refer to resources for crisis pregnancies

Why do heed

Reproductive Coercion

An abuser may try to control their partner's reproductive health.

W SAL OW

Reproductive coercion is

behavior intended to maintain

power and control in a

relationship related to

reproductive health.

What does reproductive coercion look like?

Birth control sabotage

Controlling access to care

Pregnancy pressure

Sexual pressure

Manipulation and deception

Interfering with Contraception Methods -holding, hiding, destroying birth control -removing vaginal rings, patches, or intrauterine devices (IUDs) -poking holes in condoms -removing condom when agreed to it' s use -flushing birth control pills

<u>Controlling Access to</u> <u>Reproductive Care</u> -difficulties negotiating contraceptive use -refusing to assist with transportation to the clinic to obtain birth control -refusing to provide you with the financial means to pay for birth control or clinical procedures

Adapted by K. Mitchell and R. Fleury-Steiner

ennall

Distributed by:

Coerce into Having Unprotected Sex -repeatedly pressuring you to have unprotected sex -insisting you not to use birth control -not allowing other prophylaxis -fearing the reaction if your partner discovers that you've been using birth control -threatening to end relationship if you don't have unprotected sex, to leave if you don't get pregnant, to have a baby with someone else

> Reproductive Coercion Power & Control Wheel

<u>Attempts to Impregnate Against Will</u>
-pregnancy pressure on you to get pregnant
when you don't want to be

-inconsistent condom use

-limited ability or compromised decision making regarding contraceptive use with partner

-intentionally exposing you to STIs or HIV -threatening you if you're found STI or HIV positive <u>Control Outcomes</u> -threatening you to carry out the pregnancy to full term -forcing you to terminate the pregnancy -injuring you so that a miscarriage may occur

WINNSPCEI,

Misleading & Deception -providing false information to you about birth control or prophylaxis -misleading you into doubting or distrusting birth control -scaring you with the side effects of birth control

Reproductive coercion can mean...







Unintended pregnancy

Higher chance of STIs

Worse birth outcomes

How can I help?



Positive engagement can lead to better outcomes.

Avoid judgmental attitudes

Be honest when you don't know something

Acknowledge conflict/difficulty of the situation

Become familiar with related services

Provide clear communication



302-491-9429

www.firststateabortion fund.org/

Other important resources

<u>All Options Talkline - 1-888-493-0092</u>

Planned Parenthood of Delaware - 1(800) 230-PLAN

Some things to think about

What are my biases around pregnancy?

What are my biases around parenthood?

How can I connect with services?



Contact me!

Nick Beard - nbeard@dcadv.org