

Homicide Timeline

Prof Jane Monckton Smith
www.homicidetimeline.co.uk



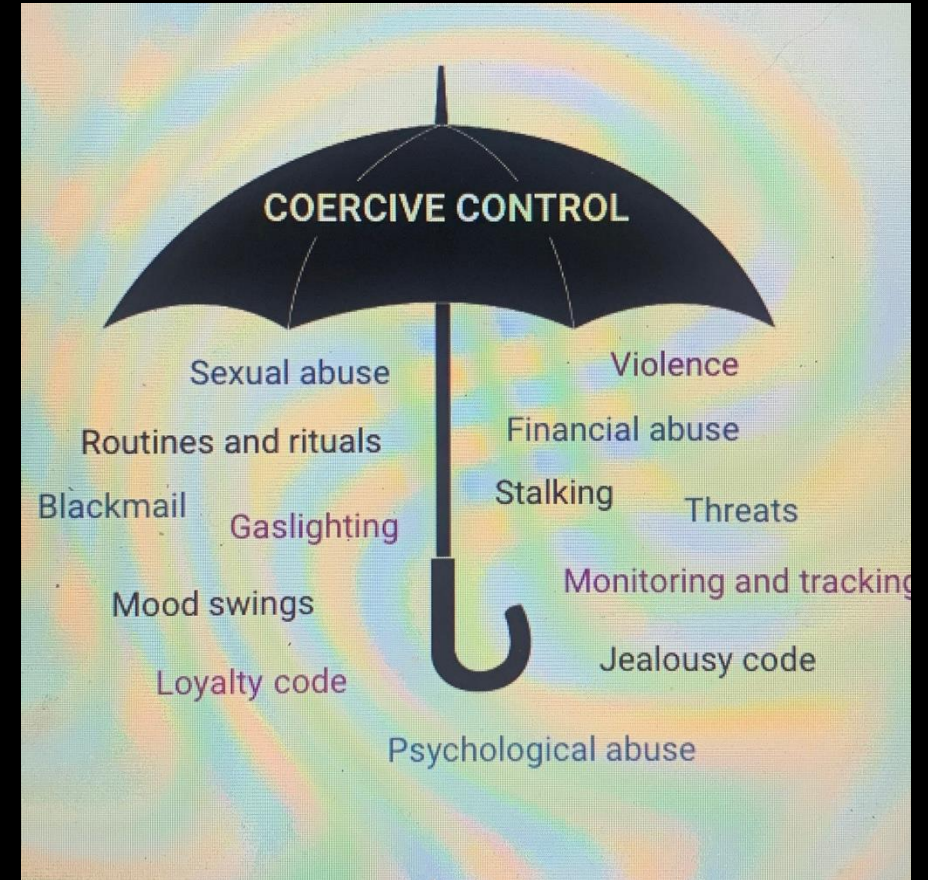
What is Coercive Control?

- A pattern of behaviour designed to trap someone in a relationship
- Coercive Control is the framework not a tactic
- In many cases if you identify domestic abuse, you have probably identified CCB



Coercive control umbrella

- Coercive control is a pattern of behaviour and a motivation or aim
- All abuse tactics work together to create the compliance, subjugation, and entrapment
- There are consequences for any challenge – the most dangerous challenge is separation



Intimate Partner Homicide Timeline:



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Stage 8: Homicide, staged suicide, missing person, suspicious death, could involve suicide or deaths of children or others.

Stage 7: Planning: could involve web searches about homicide, gathering weapons, talk about plans, threats, attempts to gain access to victim/s.

Stage 6: Homicidal Ideation: talking about death, behavioural change, stalking, acting on any threats.

Stage 5: Escalation: stalking, attempts to reinstate relationship, grand gestures, threats, suicide threats, breach of orders or conditions.

Stage 4: Trigger: usually separation: actual, threatened or imagined. Life change event.

Stage 3: Relationship: dominated by controlling patterns, jealousy or possessiveness, could be violence.

Stage 2: Early relationship: Things tend to happen quickly, early or intensely. Declare love early, move in quickly.

Stage 1: History: A history of control, stalking, criminality or violence. Previous accusations from ex partners.

- Stages 1 and 2 predict coercive control
- Stage 3 -5 predict high risk CCB and stalking
- Stages 6-7 predict potential fatality
- Stage 8 suggests questions should be asked about the fatality

Stage One: History

- The person has a world view or belief system that supports traditional gendered roles
- The person may have personality traits linked to entitlement, lacking empathy and self - centred approach (potential PD)
- The person has a history of stalking
- The person has a history of controlling patterns
- The person has previous arrests for violence, stalking, or domestic abuse
- Criminal history
- Patterns of jealousy and possessiveness
- Inability to accept challenge
- Thin skinned & confrontational

Stage Two: Early Relationship

- Pushes for early commitment
- Early cohabitation
- Early pregnancy
- Early declarations of love using possessive language (you're mine, together forever etc)
- Possessive at early stage
- Jealous at early stage
- Resist attempts to slow down or end the relationship

Stage Three: Relationship

- **Controlling patterns**
- NFS
- Monitoring and tracking
- Violence (even low level pushing and shoving)
- Sexual aggression
- Possessiveness
- Jealousy
- Threats to suicide or kill
- Isolation of victim from family and friends
- Enforces routines on victim or family
- Threats to pets or children
- Quick temper and thin skin
- Drug or alcohol problems (not causal but can exacerbate)
- Depression (not causal but can exacerbate)

Stage Four: Trigger

- Separation
- Threat of separation
- Imagines a separation (constant accusations of an affair for example)
- Bankruptcy or financial ruin
- Physical health deteriorates in offender or victim
- Mental health deteriorates in offender or victim
- Redundancy, retirement
- Event which prompts retaliation or revenge on victim

Stage Five: Escalation

- **Stalking**
 - **Harassment**
 - **Post Separation Abuse**
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- Concerning behaviours become more frequent
 - Concerning behaviours become more serious or severe
 - Threats to kill or suicide
 - Exerts more control
 - Anger or desperation evident
 - Uses language like 'I won't let you leave', 'I cant live without you', 'if I can't have you no-one can'

Stage Six: Homicidal Ideation

- **Situation is irreversible or irretrievable**
- **Last chance thinking**
- Last attempts at reconciliation
- Stalking – intelligence gathering
- **Victim may be concerned about a change in behaviour or approach**
- Talking about death
- Threats may become more specific
- Time investment levels
- Boldness and recklessness
- Things may calm very suddenly

Stage Seven: Planning

- **More common than people realise. Levels of planning found in over 80% of cases, here and internationally. Much planning hidden.**
- Stalking and recon
- Change in usual behaviour
- Opportunity creation
- Increased menace
- May tell people of plans, or may continue to make threats
- **Internet searches**
- Gathering of weapons or other tools to incapacitate the victim, or dispose of them
- Suicide threats
- Isolate children

Stage Eight: Homicide

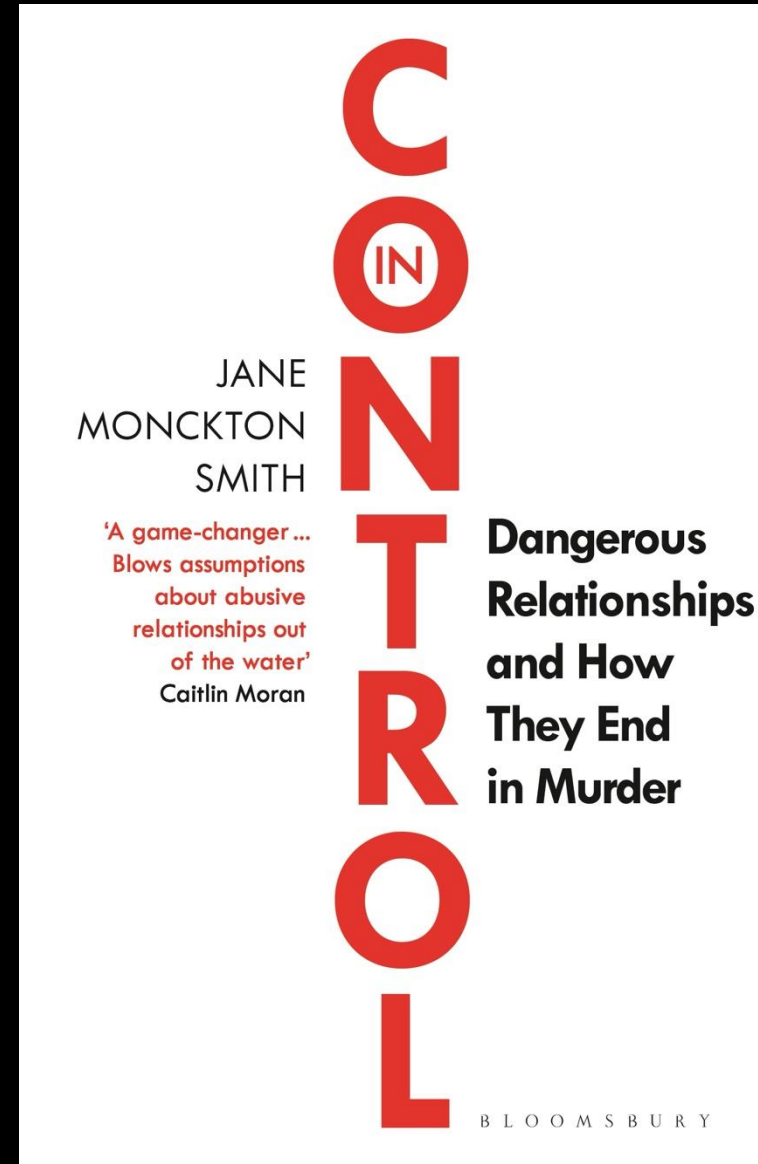
- Clear homicide with confession
- Homicide with suicide of offender
- Homicide made to look like suicide
- Homicide made to look like 'mercy killing' or accident
- Staged missing person
- Suicide of victim
- VR homicide
- Homicide of children or others
- Victim blaming – claiming self-defence or provocation
- CP controls the narrative

Final Comments

- Travel through all of the stages is not inevitable – the pattern can be disrupted
- Coercive control is a pattern that is constantly operating
- Breaches should be responded to irrespective of the nature of the breach
- Stalking motivation can develop (control-revenge-reconnaissance)
- Most Perpetrators do not reach stage 8 but this is a possibility if they are escalating



In Control: Bloomsbury

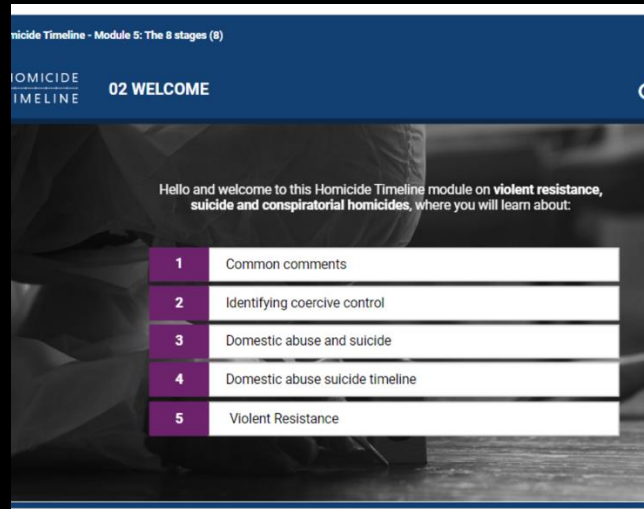


JANE
MONCKTON
SMITH

'A game-changer ...
Blows assumptions
about abusive
relationships out
of the water'
Caitlin Moran

CONTROL

**Dangerous
Relationships
and How
They End
in Murder**



Resources

- Online training
- Book
- Homicide Timeline App
- In person training
- Webinar training
- Advanced training in pattern analysis
- Violent Resistance Training

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