

know your choices, be informed

What is Reproductive Coercion?

Reproductive coercion and abuse is a behaviour aimed at establishing power and control by interfering with a pregnant person's reproductive autonomy, controlling and /or interfering with the person's decision making and access to options regarding their reproductive health and reproductive choices.

Reproductive coercion and abuse can show up through:

Pregnancy pressure

This can sound like:

"If you have my baby, I will know you really love me"

"If we have a baby together, I promise things will get better"

"We are married, why aren't you becoming pregnant?"

"If we have a baby, it will bring joy to my family"

Controlling your decision about continuing or terminating a pregnancy

This can sound like:

"If you love me, you will have my baby"

"I want a son/daughter, we will continue to have children until we have a son/daughter"

"If you have this baby, you will bring shame to me and my family"

Hiding, removing or throwing away contraception

The physical removal of contraception from your body.

Not paying for or stopping payment for contraception.

Making holes in a condom or removing the condom during sex.

"I don't want you to use the pill or any form of contraception"

"If you use contraception I will leave you"

"Condoms are uncomfortable, I will not use them"

"We are married, we do not need to use condoms or contraception"



Reproductive coercion is a form of abuse, for help and support you can talk to Children by Choice on 1800 177 725 www.childrenbychoice.org.au

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