

# Sexual jealousy

## Behaviours consistent with IPSV

**Sexual jealousy** occurs when one partner suspects and/or accuses the other partner of sexual infidelity, where in many cases, there is presence of an indication of obsessive jealousy and possessiveness by the perpetrator towards his partner or ex-partner, either during the relationship and/or in the lead up to the death.

**Sexual jealousy** often leads to an **escalation of violence** and use of **tools of control**.

**Sexual jealousy** has been found to **intensify** during **actual** or **pending separation**.

**Violence may escalate** when a person using violence (PUV)'s perceived **sense of 'ownership'** of the primary victim (PV) **is threatened**.

Evidence suggests **threats to kill** or **suicide** (by the PUV or PV) were **not recognised** by service providers as high-risk indicators and responded to accordingly.

### Identified reporting barriers for IPSV

#### Community norms and myths

Prevailing community understandings of what constitutes 'real rape' significantly influences how victims, PUVs, and bystanders perceive experiences of sexual assault.

#### Recognition challenges

IPSV victims/survivors may struggle to recognise what is happening to them as IPSV.

#### Mistrust in systems and system responses

Limited access to services, negative experiences with police and legal systems and concerns about giving evidence against a PUV create challenges for disclosing IPSV.

**Frontline responders and service providers who work in a trauma-informed and sensitive ways will provide the best support to people experiencing IPSV. Asking open-ended, behaviour-focused questions will also help people identify if it is happening to them.**

**DFV** Domestic and Family Violence

**PUV** Person Using Violence

**PV** Primary Victim

**IPSV** Intimate Partner Sexual Violence

For further information refer to: **Domestic and Family Violence Death Review and Advisory Board (2024). Intimate partner sexual violence case review: System issue report.** [www.coronerscourt.qld.gov.au/dfvdrab/reports-research-and-data](http://www.coronerscourt.qld.gov.au/dfvdrab/reports-research-and-data)

***If you are in immediate danger, phone the police on Triple Zero (000)***



## Ways you can access support

- Reporting via Policelink ..... **131 444**
- DVConnect Womensline..... **1800 811 811**
- DVConnect Mensline..... **1800 600 636**
- 1800 RESPECT ..... **1800 737 732**
- Rainbow Sexual, Domestic and Family Violence Helpline ..... **1800 497 212**

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- Access the Queensland Police Service domestic violence portal at: **[www.police.qld.gov.au/domestic-violence](http://www.police.qld.gov.au/domestic-violence)**
  - Smartphone users can access the **Be There** app, a bystander empowerment tool which provides information and resources at: **<https://bethereapp.com.au>**

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