

Recognizing and Understanding Domestic Violence

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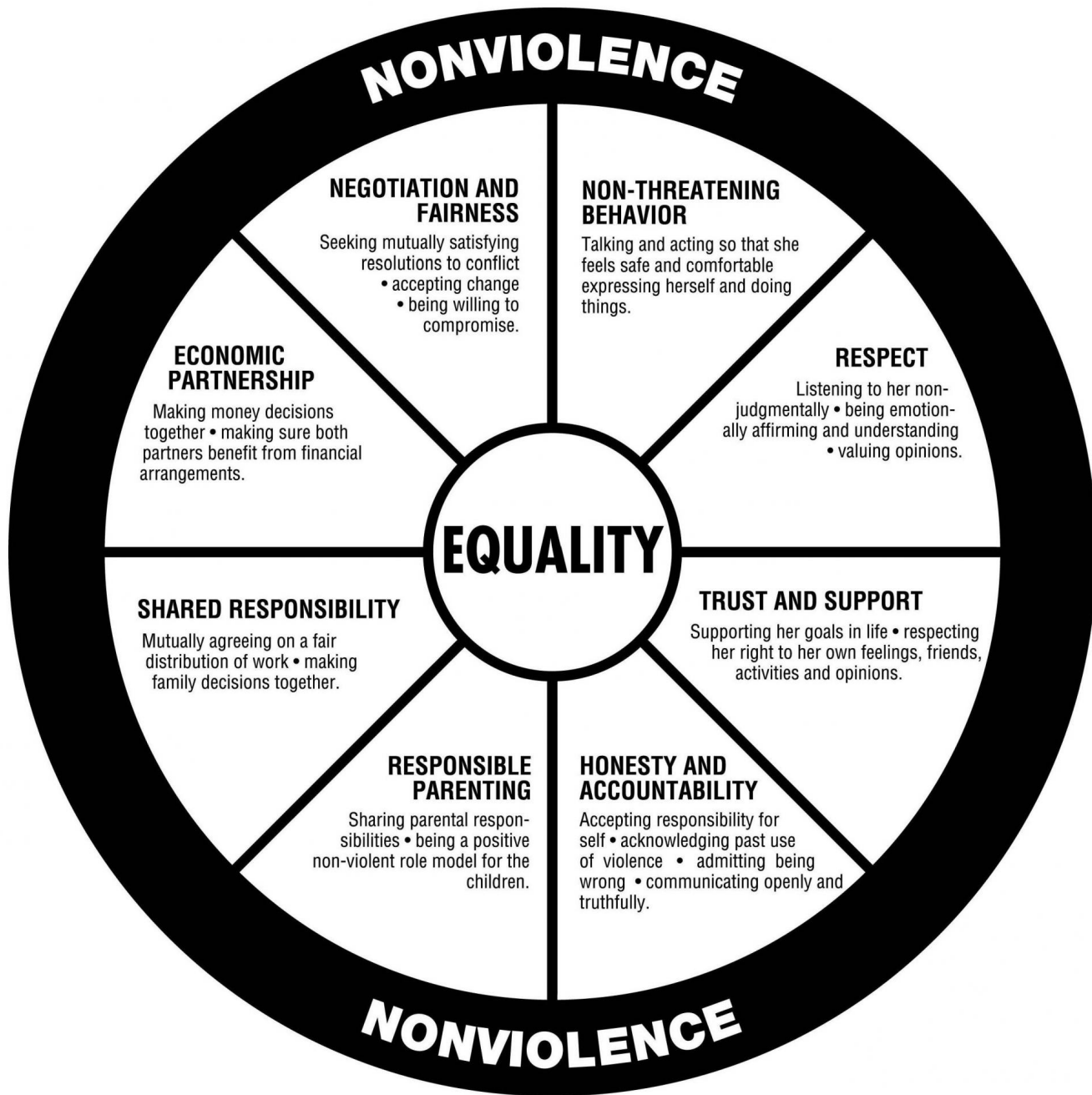
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Domestic violence or abuse can sometimes be difficult to admit or even understand. Here are some visuals that might help.

If one of the situations within either of these "Power and Control" wheels exists in your situation, please be sure to let us know.

Regardless of what specific legal issue you're contacting us about, understanding this part of your situation could prove vital in our help to you.

For more free and confidential guidance about abuse, you may also contact an advocacy office near you, (in Kansas: <https://www.kcsdv.org/find-help/in-kansas/dv-sa-services-map-2>).





Sex Trafficking

POWER & CONTROL

COERCION and THREATS

Threatens to harm victim or family • Threatens to expose or shame victim • Threatens to report to police or immigration

INTIMIDATION

Harms other victims, children or pets • Displays or uses weapons • Destroys property • Lies about police involvement in trafficking situation

EMOTIONAL ABUSE

Humiliates in front of others • Calls names • Plays mind games • Makes victim feel guilt/blame for situation • Convinces victim they're the only one that cares about them

ISOLATION

Keeps confined • Accompanies to public places • Creates distrust of police/others • Moves victims to different locations • Doesn't allow victim to learn English or to go to school • Denies access to children, family and friends

DENYING, BLAMING, MINIMIZING,

Makes light of abuse or exploitation • Denies that anything illegal or exploitative is occurring • Places blame on the victim for the trafficking situation

SEXUAL ABUSE

Uses sexual assault as punishment or means of control • Forces victim to have sex multiple times a day with strangers • Treats victim as an object for monetary gain • Normalizes sexual violence and selling sex

PHYSICAL ABUSE

Shoves, slaps, hits, punches, kicks, strangles • Burns, brands, tattoos • Denies food/water • Exposes to harmful chemicals • Forces pregnancy termination • Induces drug addiction as means of control

USING PRIVILEGE

Treats victim like a servant • Uses gender, age or nationality to suggest superiority • Uses certain victims to control others • Hides or destroys important documents

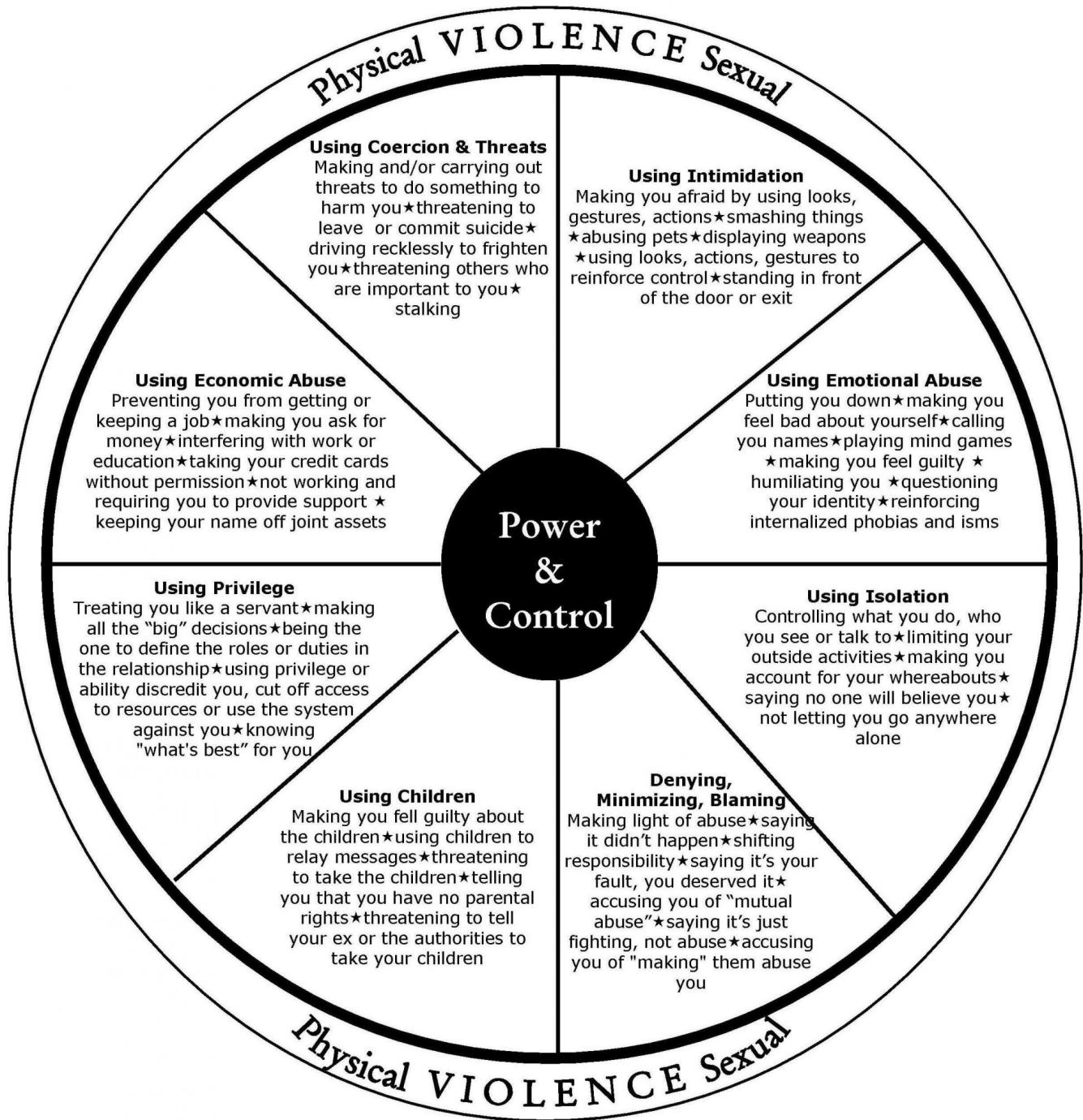
ECONOMIC ABUSE

Creates debt that can never be repaid • Takes money earned • Prohibits access to finances • Limits resources to a small allowance

street online prostitution, residential commercial-front brothels, truck stops

businesses, farms, domestic work, begging/peddling, stripping

Labor Trafficking



Last updated on September 10, 2025.

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 - How to apply
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