

## Topic

Understanding coercive control in 2SLGBTQQIA+ communities

## Key question

What is the state of the current research on coercive control among 2SLGBTQQIA+ communities?

## Project aims

Intimate partner violence is especially prevalent in the lives of 2SLGBTQQIA+ people. Coercive control is often understood in terms of using “male privilege” against women, but this theory may be inappropriate to apply to 2SLGBTQQIA+ relationships. A law adding coercive control to the Criminal Code of Canada has been proposed. But it isn’t clear how police assess coercive control and how they can support 2SLGBTQQIA+ people who report it. Furthermore, existing measures largely assess men’s use of coercive control with women.

Thus, 2SLGBTQQIA+ communities’ experiences of coercive control deserve timely attention. This scoping review will set the stage for advancing research on coercive control in 2SLGBTQQIA+ relationships. It will also help set a research agenda to support evidence-based policing of coercive control in 2SLGBTQQIA+ communities.

## Activities

- Summarizing the existing research on coercive control in 2SLGBTQQIA+ relationships.
- Assessing how researchers currently measure and study coercive control, and whether those measures help us understand 2SLGBTQQIA+ experiences.
- Examining the research on how police view coercive control—and on 2SLGBTQQIA+ people’s experiences of reporting (or choosing not to report) coercive control to police.

## Helpful terms

- **2SLGBTQQIA+:** Two-Spirit, lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, queer, questioning, intersex, asexual, and other gender nonconforming/sexually diverse people.
- **Coercive control:** A pattern of abusive behaviour used to exert control over the partner.

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