“Screening to Safety”

a Children by Choice initiative responding to the intersection of domestic violence, reproductive coercion, unplanned pregnancy and abortion

Funded by the Samuel and Eileen Gluyas Charitable Trust managed by Perpetual
Aim of the “Screening to Safety” Project

Build the capacity of abortion providers in Queensland to identify and respond to domestic violence with a particular focus on reproductive coercion.
Setting the scene

• The legal status of abortion in Queensland

• The context for abortion provision in Queensland

• Project Rationale: the intersection of domestic violence and abortion

• Why a focus on reproductive coercion
Initiatives of the project so far

• Developing domestic and sexual violence screening tools tailored to abortion provision settings
• Needs analysis tool and consultations with abortion providers involved in the project
• Development of key reproductive coercion resources
• Development and delivery of training modules to support implementation
• Promoting an understanding of the flags for domestic and sexual violence in women attending for abortion care
Broader recommendations

Inclusion of reproductive coercion screening in other pregnancy and abortion care settings

Introduction of a Medicare item number for DV screening within health care settings.

Reproductive coercion to be specifically included in relevant sections of domestic and family violence legislation in Australia.

Decriminalisation of abortion in all remaining states and territories.
“If you care about Intimate Partner Violence, you should care about Reproductive Justice because a woman’s reproductive capacity can be used by her abuser to assert further control as a component of all possible forms of abuse—sexual, physical, emotional and economic.”

- Jill C. Morrison, National Women’s Law Center, USA. [2009].
References

References cont.

References for Indicators of domestic violence in women presenting for termination of pregnancy

Thank You

For more information and resources
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