Power and Control Wheel

Physical and sexual assaults, or threats to commit them, are the most obvious forms of domestic violence and are usually the actions that allow others to become aware of the problem. However, a larger system of abuse includes regular use of other abusive behaviors by the batterer. Although physical and sexual abuse may occur occassionally or not at all, the threat of future attacks allow the abuser to take and maintain control over his/her partner. The tactics listed here are by no means an all-inclusive list, and individuals will experience these tactics differently depending on who they are.



