Keywords
Intimate partner violence; 2SLGBTQQIA+; scoping review

Helpful Terms
2SLGBTQQIA+: Two-Spirit, lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, queer, questioning, intersex, asexual and other gender nonconforming or sexually diverse people.

Coercive control: A form of intimate partner violence. Involves exerting control over the partner. Includes emotional abuse, economic abuse, intimidation, isolation, blaming, and limiting access to friends, family, money, movement and information.

Intimate partner violence: Domestic violence by a current or former partner in an intimate relationship against the other partner. It can take a number of forms, including physical, verbal, emotional, economic and sexual abuse.

Project Title: A scoping review of the lived experience, measurement, and policing of coercive control in 2SLGBTQQIA+ relationships

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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. The study will guide ways to improve current research methods. 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.

Want to learn more? Email WaypointResearchInstitute@waypointcentre.ca

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