

### **Coercive Control**

Coercive Control is a form of emotional abuse which has been included in the Domestic Violence Act 2018 as a criminal offence. Types of Coercive Control can include, but not limited to;

- Isolating a person from family and friends.
- Controlling, stalking and monitoring a person's time, movements, phone and finances.

### **Helping us to Help You**

The Daughters of Charity Child and Family Service is committed to research and evaluation. We are evaluated by Trinity Research in Childhood Centre (TRiCC) for service outcomes.

### **Appointments**

Appointment will be arranged in consultation with family members and referrers. If you are unable to attend an appointment we ask that you contact the Service to cancel and rearrange for another time/date.

### **Contact Us**

Dublin Safer Families Service,  
Claidhe Mór,  
Swords Road,  
Santry,  
Dublin 9,  
D09 NY65

Tel: (01) 862 7700

**For more information about our service please visit:**

[www.docchildandfamily.ie](http://www.docchildandfamily.ie)

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**'WORKING TOGETHER TO STOP  
ABUSE AND VIOLENCE IN  
FAMILIES'.**

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# **Dublin Safer Families Service**



**For Families Experiencing  
Domestic Abuse, Violence  
and/or Coercive Control**

## Who Are We?

**Dublin Safer Families Service** is a Gender, Sexual, Domestic Abuse/Violence and Coercive Control Service within the Daughters of Charity Child and Family Service. We work with parents and children to increase family safety, and also prevent and stop violence.

Initially we meet both parents separately and then possibly together once safety has been discussed. We are based in Santry and work in partnership with the **Child & Family Agency (TUSLA)**.

As a professional organisation we work under legislation which strives to protect the rights, safety and welfare of children. We are particularly attentive to the **impact on children (up to the age of 18) who experience abuse and violence**

## Working with Children?

This work will include talking about past/current domestic abuse, safety planning, and psychoeducation about abusive behavior/ gender roles.

Sessions with children are flexible and can take place individually, jointly with parents and/or family sessions. The work is always focused on the safety of the child.

## Referral

Families are referred to Dublin Safer Families Service by the Social Work Department.

Dublin Safer Families Service work specifically with families where **abuse and violence** has created difficulties or is currently a concern.

Abuse and Violence can include:

‘The use of physical or emotional force or the threat of physical force including sexual violence in close adult relationships. It can also involve emotional abuse, the destruction of property, isolation from friends, family and other potential sources of support; threats to others including children; stalking; and control over access to money, personal items, food, transportation and the telephone’  
(Children First Guidance, 2011).



## The Work

The Family Worker/s allocated to your family will initially meet separately with the parents for a **‘Welcome Information’ Meeting**.

At this meeting, you will be introduced to your Family Worker/s. Your referral to our service will be discussed and our forms and policies will be explained. A **No-Violence Contract** will need to be signed before work can begin.

The initial sessions are focused on gathering information identifying, assessing, and managing risk. This will allow the Family Worker/s to gain a clearer understanding of the needs/risks in your family and your experiences of abuse/violence. We will explore individual roles, strategies and personal responsibilities to ensure safety in your family.

We will work together to develop a **‘Safety Plan’** and to promote positive change.



Meeting the needs of families in a constantly changing world