

Control Tactics Used by Abusive

- Playing the ‘real victim’ in the family
- Appearing to be the one trying to keep the family together
- Acknowledging family problems but denying violence/abuse
- Responding by saying ‘partner bruises easily’ or ‘partner was hysterical’ or ‘partner was high or drunk’ or ‘I had to restrain partner’
- Complaining to the police to counter survivor’s complaints (uses the system)
- Making multiple children’s protective service reports alleging that their partner is neglecting or abusing the children
- Changing lawyers and asking for continuances to delay court hearing therefore increasing their partner’s financial hardship
- Prosecuting survivor when the survivor has acted in self-defense, or will use the threat of prosecution to get the survivor to return
- Asserting that they know people in the system and there is no way their partner will get justice
- Giving erroneous information about the criminal justice system to their partner to confuse them or prevent partner from acting on their own behalf
- Calling partner before they are going to testify to tell them it has been postponed or that their attorney says survivor doesn’t have to testify