

LGBTQ+ Switchboard DA Service

Astrid Palmer (She/Her)

Raf Galdeano (They/Them)

Switchboard



Connecting you to LGBTQ support



Group Agreement

- No question is a silly one
- Don't be afraid to make mistakes
- Be curious, be kind.
- Take care of yourself- this session comes with trigger warnings



Today's Agenda

1

What is domestic abuse?

2

What could DA look like?

3

Handling a DA call

4

Support and Signposting

Aims:

- To understand what domestic abuse is
- To know what forms domestic abuse can take and feel confident in identifying DA
- To know how DA can impact the LGBTQ+ Community and how to respond to a DA call

Temperature Check!



Where would you rank your knowledge of DA out of 5?

This could include:

- Casework examples
- Lived experience
- News and media stories

**LGBTQ+
DOMESTIC
ABUSE
SERVICE**

What is domestic abuse?

A persons behaviour is classed as domestic abuse if:

- They are aged 16 or over
- They are 'personally connected'
- The behaviour is abusive



What is domestic abuse?

Behaviour is abusive if it consists of any of the following:

- Physical or sexual abuse
- Violent or threatening behaviour
- Coercive or controlling behaviour
- Economic abuse
- Psychological, emotional, or other abuse



Types of Abuse

- Physical – Punching, kicking, use of weapons, throwing objects, etc.
- Emotional/Psychological – Being belittled or insulted, intimidation, sleep deprivation, saying your sexuality/gender identity is 'a phase'
- Sexual – Sexual harassment/assault, rape, using sexually degrading language
- Economic – Totally controlling all income, not allowing you to spend money unless 'permitted', making you account for every pound spent



What is domestic abuse?

Economic abuse means any behaviour that impacts a persons ability to:

- Acquire, use or maintain money, or other property
- Obtain goods and services



What is domestic abuse?

Two people are 'personally connected' to each other if any of the following apply:

- Married or civil partners
- Engaged
- Current or Ex-Partners
- Parent or Guardian
- Family Members



Jargon Busting

Trigger Warnings: Videos depicting abuse



Gaslighting

Examples:

'It's not that bad, it's probably all in your head'

'You're crazy'

'It's not that bad'

'You're overreacting'

'People have it worse than you'

'You're so lucky to have me'

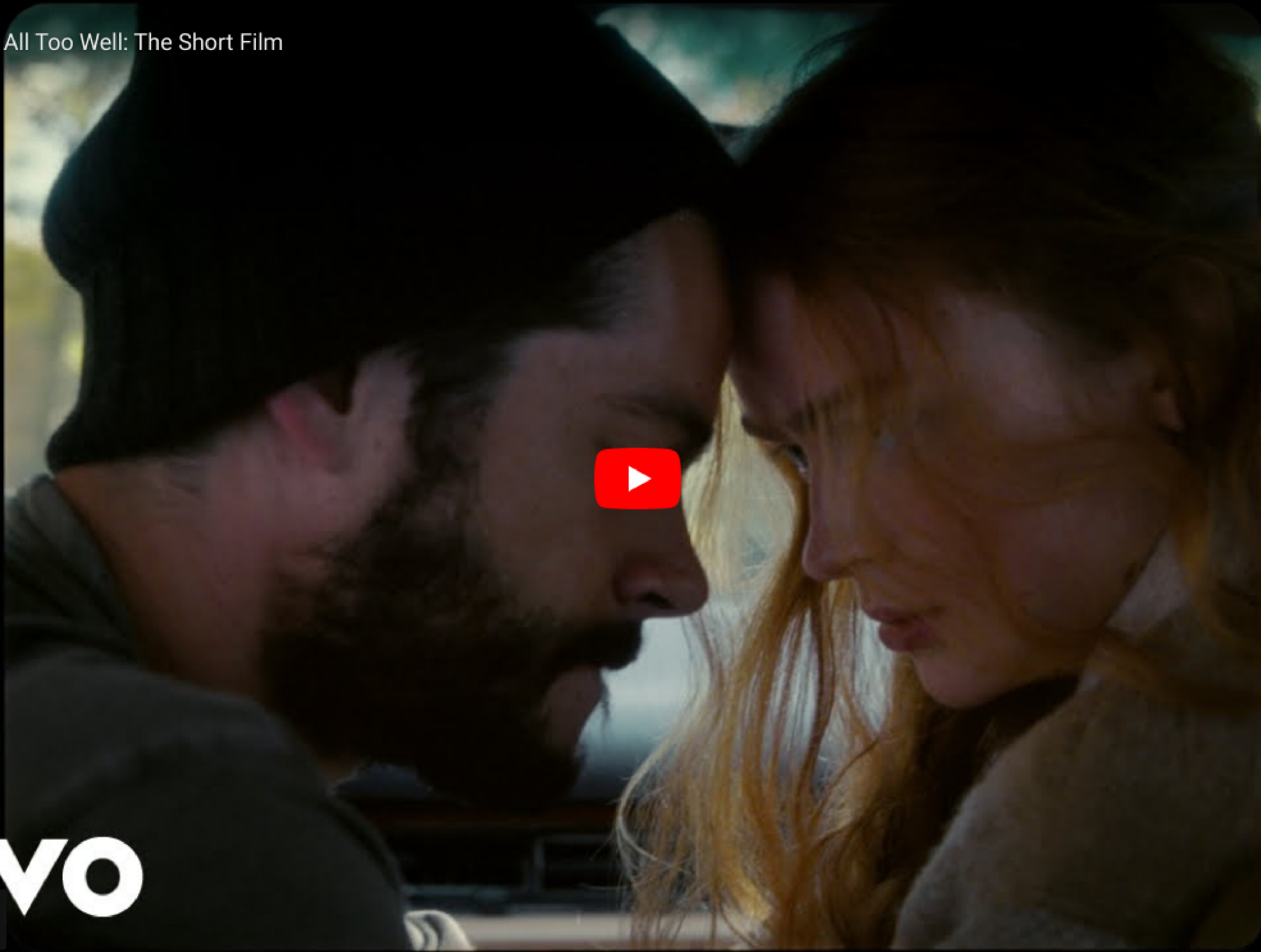
'I don't know what you're talking about'

'You're overreacting'




Taylor Swift - All Too Well: The Short Film

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vevo

Watch on  YouTube

Coercive Control

Coercive control describes a range or pattern of behaviours that enable a perpetrator to maintain or regain control of a partner, ex-partner or family member

E.g. Isolating them from friends, family, or their community






"I'm So Stupid" | Maid | Netflix



Share

NETFLIX



Watch on  YouTube

HBV and Familial Abuse

Honour Based Violence (HBV) is a term used to describe violence committed within the context of the extended family which are motivated by a perceived need to restore standing within the community, which is presumed to have been lost through the behaviour of the victim

E.g. Forced marriage, outing to the community, conversion 'therapy'

Naz and Matt Foundation - Be The Person You Were Born
To Be



What to listen for



A person is afraid to go home

Their partner/family won't let them present or identify how they want

They mention feeling frightened

Receiving constant texts/calls from the partner or family member

They may minimise what is happening or go back on what they've said

Feeling isolated from friends and/or family

Do's and Don'ts



Believe them

Let them know there is no pressure
to decide anything

Validate their experience

Ensure their immediate safety



Ask for 'evidence'

Tell them they should/have to
report to the police

Be shocked or surprised

Tell them they should leave

Accessing Support and Signposting

- You **do not** need to report to the police to access support (E.g. From IDVA services, housing, etc.)
- Other actions can be undertaken to address risk and support the survivor



The Switchboard DA Service

We offer:

- 1-1 casework support
- DASH + MARAC support
- Safety and support planning
- Advocacy and signposting
- Emergency funding
- Care packages



Any Questions?





Thanks so much for taking the time to reflect on LGBTQ inclusion.

We'd love to hear how you found the session
This shouldn't take more than a few minutes.

Give feedback

press **Enter** ↵

🕒 Takes 2 minutes



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www.switchboard.org.uk



[@LGBTSwitchboard](https://www.facebook.com/LGBTSwitchboard)



domestic.abuse@switchboard.org.uk

info@switchboard.org.uk



helpline@switchboard.org.uk

01273 204050