

Has a partner or family member used money to control you?

This could be financial abuse.



**Financial Independence Hub
is here to help.**

What is financial abuse?

Financial abuse is when a partner, family member or another person uses money to hurt, control or manipulate you.

Financial abuse is a form of family and domestic violence. It is also a type of coercive control.

Financial abuse can take many forms. Here are a few things that aren't ok...

- You're forced to take out debt in your name
- Your partner makes it difficult for you to work
- Your partner or family member uses your money for gambling
- Your partner or family member decides how your money is spent



Shannon's story

Shannon* made more money than their partner. Over time Shannon paid for all the household bills. At some point, Shannon's partner pressured Shannon to sign a number of documents but refused to explain what they were for.

After the relationship ended, Shannon found out these documents were loan applications in Shannon's name. Shannon was left with a pile of debt.

Shannon came to the Financial Independence Hub to talk about money and figure out what to do next. Working one-to-one with a dedicated coach, Shannon came to understand how to manage money better. Shannon's coach took the time to listen and didn't judge them. Shannon's coach also helped them talk to the credit card providers to sort out the debt.

Shannon is moving forward and feels more confident handling finances.

Financial abuse is about power and control. The Financial Independence Hub has given me the tools to take back my financial power and control.”

SHANNON

**Some details have been changed to protect privacy*

What is the Financial Independence Hub (FIH)?

Good Shepherd's FIH is a free, confidential and personalised service designed to take back control of your finances.

At the FIH, we tailor support to your circumstances.

We're here to help you to:



Have a judgment free conversation about money



Take control of your money, sort out your bills and debt



Access Interest-free Loans



Connect to support services such as legal advice



“My partner controlled all the money and made all the financial decisions.”

...this could be financial abuse.

**Ready for
change.**



You do not need to share your story and no evidence is required. The Financial Independence Hub (FIH) will tailor support to meet your needs.

The FIH is a confidential and non-judgemental and free service. If someone has tried to control you with money we're here for you.

Contact us now:

 **1300 050 150**

Monday - Friday, 7am-7pm (Sydney/Melbourne time)
Interpreter services available.

 **fih@goodshep.org.au**

 **www.goodshep.org.au/fih**



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