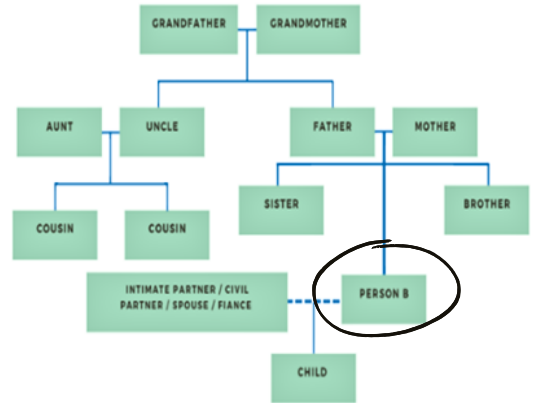


ADULT FAMILY VIOLENCE (AFV)

A LESS RECOGNISED FORM OF DOMESTIC ABUSE

In the Domestic Abuse Act 2021, domestic abuse is defined as any incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive or threatening behavior, violence or abuse between those aged 16 or over who are or personally connected to each other. **Everyone in this diagram is personally connected to person B.**



However, often domestic abuse is thought about in intimate relationships and not between family members.

It can be...

What do we know?

MISSED

CASES OF ADULT FAMILY VIOLENCE MAY BE MISSED DUE TO LACK OF AWARENESS OR PROFESSIONAL CURIOSITY.

Do you need to learn about more?

[Sign up to an IDAS course](#)

WHO IS IMPACTED?

- Victims are more likely to be over 60.
- The most common victim-perpetrator relationship was parental.
- Most perpetrators were men.
- An analysis of Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHRs) found that 27% were cases of adult family violence.

DISMISSED

ABUSIVE BEHAVIOURS MIGHT BE DISMISSED AS PART OF THE FAMILY DYNAMIC

Have you asked about what the relationship looks like on a daily basis?

[Be professionally curious in your approach](#)

FACTORS TO CONSIDER

- A victim may not relate to the terms ‘victim’ or recognize or call the behavior as ‘abuse’
- A victim may have a sense of duty, protectiveness or responsibility
- Complex interpersonal and socio-cultural factors may be at play
- There could be a sense of dependence

UNDERESTIMATED RISK

THE RISK MIGHT BE UNDERESTIMATED BY THE VICTIM AND PROFESSIONALS

Have you considered the risk to everyone in the family?

[Consider all members: known triggers, history, vulnerabilities and protective characteristics](#)

THE 5 MAIN RISK INDICATORS

- Substance misuse and/or mental health issues (**victim and/or perpetrator**)
- Past or current criminal behaviour- including domestic abuse to a partner (**perpetrator**)
- Childhood trauma (**perpetrator**)
- Financial issues and dependency (**perpetrator**)
- The victim-perpetrator relationship involving a care dynamic (**victim and/or perpetrator**)