

Informed Consent for Participation in the Covert Coercive Control Risk Assessment Project

You are being invited to participate in a research-informed, non-clinical trial of a lived-experience-driven risk assessment tool designed to identify covert coercive control. Your participation will contribute to refining a survivor-led model intended to fill critical gaps in existing family violence frameworks.

Voluntary Participation

Your participation is completely voluntary. You may withdraw at any time without explanation or consequence. You are under no obligation to complete the full assessment.

What Participation Involves

You will be asked to complete 158 paired questions designed to capture a wide range of coercive control tactics and psychological impacts. These questions may provoke reflection or emotional discomfort, particularly if your experiences align with themes of control, gaslighting, or psychological abuse.

Confidentiality and Use of Your Data

All responses will be de-identified and stored securely in accordance with the Privacy Act 1988 (Cth) and the Australian Privacy Principles. No personally identifying information will be collected unless you choose to submit feedback or follow-up communication via email or contact form. Your anonymised responses will be used to inform development, refinement, and statistical validation of the assessment tool. No identifying data will be shared with any external organisation or third party without your explicit written consent. You can get more information here: <https://www.oaic.gov.au/privacy/australian-privacy-principles/read-the-australian-privacy-principles>

Storage and Security of Information

All data will be stored in encrypted, access-controlled digital environments managed solely by the project lead, Lisa Testart. Data will be retained for a period of five (5) years, after which it will be securely deleted.

Emotional Safety Disclaimer

Some of the material may bring up distressing emotions or memories. If you are currently in crisis or require support, please contact 1800 RESPECT (1800 737 732) or Lifeline (13 11 14) for professional assistance.

Consent Statement

By accessing and completing the Covert Coercive Control Risk Assessment tool, you acknowledge that you have read and understood this informed consent document, and that you have voluntarily agreed to participate.

Questions?

Contact Lisa Testart at cagfire@mac.com