

Coerced Debt Screening Tool

For interested survivors, ask the following screening questions to determine if the survivor is eligible for the Coerced Debt Legal Representation Pilot Program. If the survivor answers “yes” to a question, please ask if they feel comfortable sharing more information about their experience. They are not required to provide additional information at this point if they don’t feel comfortable. (see the first question for an example of an open-ended question you *could* ask).

1. Do you have financial problems related to debt because of something your abusive partner did?

Yes

No

Follow-Up: Can you talk about the kinds of financial problems you have had?

2. Has your abusive partner ever kept financial information from you, such as information about bills or loans?

Yes

No

3. Has your abusive partner ever pressured, threatened, or forced you to borrow money or buy something on credit (such as taking out a car loan or credit card) when you didn’t want to?

Yes

No

If "Yes": What do you think might have happened if your said "no" to your abusive partner?

4. Have you ever found out about debt or bills that your abusive partner put in your name without you knowing?

Yes

No

5. Have you been or are you getting contacted about a debt that you don't recognize or that was taken out by your abusive partner?

Yes

No

6. Have you been denied credit, housing, or a job because of financial problems caused by your abusive partner?

Yes

No

If the survivor answered "yes" to any of the screening questions, please ask this final question:

7. Are you interested in getting free legal help to address these debt-related financial problems?

Yes

No

8. Check at least one box indicating the credit report included with the client referral:

Equifax

Experian

TransUnion