



Domestic Abuse (Scotland) Act 2018

2018 asp 5

PART 1

OFFENCE AS TO DOMESTIC ABUSE

Engaging in course of abusive behaviour

2 What constitutes abusive behaviour

- (1) Subsections (2) to (4) elaborate on section 1(1) as to A's behaviour.
- (2) Behaviour which is abusive of B includes (in particular)—
 - (a) behaviour directed at B that is violent, threatening or intimidating,
 - (b) behaviour directed at B, at a child of B or at another person that either—
 - (i) has as its purpose (or among its purposes) one or more of the relevant effects set out in subsection (3), or
 - (ii) would be considered by a reasonable person to be likely to have one or more of the relevant effects set out in subsection (3).
- (3) The relevant effects are of—
 - (a) making B dependent on, or subordinate to, A,
 - (b) isolating B from friends, relatives or other sources of support,
 - (c) controlling, regulating or monitoring B's day-to-day activities,
 - (d) depriving B of, or restricting B's, freedom of action,
 - (e) frightening, humiliating, degrading or punishing B.
- (4) In subsection (2)—
 - (a) in paragraph (a), the reference to violent behaviour includes sexual violence as well as physical violence,
 - (b) in paragraph (b), the reference to a child is to a person who is under 18 years of age.

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the
Domestic Abuse (Scotland) Act 2018, Section 2. (See end of Document for details)

Commencement Information

II [S. 2](#) in force at 1.4.2019 by [S.S.I. 2018/387](#), **reg. 2** (with [reg. 4](#))

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There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Domestic Abuse (Scotland) Act 2018, Section 2.