



## 2021 CHAPTER 2

### PART 1

#### Domestic abuse: offence and aggravation

##### CHAPTER 1

##### Offence of domestic abuse

##### *Course of abusive behaviour*

#### **Impact of behaviour on victim**

**3.—(1)** The domestic abuse offence can be committed whether or not A's behaviour actually causes B to suffer harm of the sort referred to in section 1(2).

(2) A's behaviour can be abusive of B by virtue of section 2(2)(c) whether or not A's behaviour actually has one or more of the relevant effects set out in section 2(3).

(3) Nothing in this Chapter prevents evidence from being led in proceedings for the domestic abuse offence about—

- (a) harm actually suffered by B as a result of A's behaviour,
- (b) effects which A's behaviour actually had on B.

(4) In this section, “A” and “B” are as referred to in section 1 or (as the case may be) 2.

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#### **Commencement Information**

**II** S. 3 in operation at 21.2.2022 by [S.R. 2022/57](#), [art. 2\(c\)](#)

**Changes to legislation:**

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Domestic Abuse and Civil Proceedings Act (Northern Ireland) 2021, Section 3.