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26 July 2026

Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ) NSW

Sent via email: policy@dcj.nsw.gov.au

Submission: Statutory Review of the **Crimes Legislation Amendment (Coercive Control) Act 2022** (NSW) / Division 6A of the Crimes Act 1900 (NSW)

For over two decades, Sapience Financial has served as a secure foundatio working exclusively in the risk protection and small business advisory space. We protect our clients through specialised life insurance services, risk advisory, and estate planning documentation. It is from this front-line position, that we submit our response to the 2026 Statutory Review of Division 6A of the **Crimes Act 1900 (NSW)**.

We witness the devastating impact of non-physical domestic coercion long before it reaches the courts. Current legislative frameworks correctly criminalise coercive control between current or former intimate partners, yet a severe structural defect remains in plain sight: the 'Vertical Void'. By restricting the standalone offence to romantic dynamics, the law grants statutory immunity to biological parents who inflict identical patterns of financial extraction, credential confiscation, and isolation on adult children.

Our enclosed submission outlines a necessary shift from relational restriction to universal human sovereignty.

Within this document, we call for an immediate legislative expansion of Division 6A to encompass vertical parental-adult child relationships, adopting the proven model of the ACT Crimes (Coercive Control) Amendment framework. Furthermore, we advocate for introducing a statutory rebuttable presumption of criminal recklessness, expanding behavioural lists under Section 54F(2) to include 'The Identity Lock', and closing the **Succession Act 2006** Loophole that allows abusive parents to claim an adult child's estate post-mortem.

Coercive control is a structural engineering failure of power, not an acceptable domestic tradition. We invite the opportunity to collaborate with your department to audit the architecture of these proposed statutory amendments and share the operational Sovereignty Fiduciary Standard (SFS) protocols we have developed for the private sector.

Thank you for your time, consideration, and commitment to building a safer, more resilient legal framework for all citizens in New South Wales.

Yours sincerely,

Drew Browne

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