

Status of Women Scale Validation Study

Complete Report

Submitted to
Status of Women Canada
SWC@canada.gc.ca

Prepared By
Léger

Ce rapport est aussi disponible en français.

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THE RESEARCH INTELLIGENCE GROUP

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1. Summary

Leger is pleased to present Status of Women Canada this report on the findings from a series of focus groups organized to assess the measurement scale of intimate partner violence (IPV). This report was prepared by Leger, which was contracted by Status of Women Canada (contract number: 1W001-180035/001/CY, awarded May 15, 2017).

1.1 Context and objectives

Status of Women Canada (SWC) asked Leger to organize a series of focus groups with IPV victims/survivors belonging to groups who are at higher risk of GBV to assess the performance of a new scale to measure intimate partner violence (IPV). The objective of this study is to examine in greater depth, through discussion, the target participants' reactions to and concerns about the measurement scale as well as their suggestions for improvement. Three different versions of the scale were developed for this assessment. An additional objective is to obtain the participants' opinion on a series of questions to measure GBV and gender equality.

The questions being tested were to be included as part of a larger survey on gender-based violence being conducted by Statistics Canada (STC) and funded by SWC. This survey is being undertaken as part of *It's Time: Canada's Strategy to Prevent and Address Gender-Based Violence*.

One of the new tools developed by SWC is the Composite Abuse Scale Revised—Short Form (CASr-SF), a simplified scale on intimate partner violence (IPV). The CASr-SF was developed from the longer Composite Abuse Scale which has been used in several international studies with women on IPV, but the short form has not yet been employed, nor has the scale been used with a men on IPV. In particular it was important for Statistics Canada (STC) to ensure that the short form scale fully captured the experiences of groups who are at higher risk of GBV, including women with disabilities, women belonging to a visible minority or women in the LGBTQ+ community. Additionally, this scale has never been tested with male IPV victims, so it was important to ensure that the CASr-SF captured men's experiences of IPV as well.

Focus groups are a relatively cost effective and reliable means of testing new questions to be included in surveys. This focus group was part of a larger process of developing a national gender-based violence survey which included engagement with stakeholders, including services providers and academics, as well as further testing of the survey instrument conducted by Statistics Canada. It is important to note that the questions that are being tested are only one component of the full questionnaire and testing of the full instrument was conducted by STC.

A copy of the moderator's guide, screening guides, the three IPV measurement scales and the questions about attitudes towards violence and gender equality are available in the Appendix of this document.

1.2 Methodology

A total of eight (8) focus groups were organized at two (2) different locations: Montréal and Toronto. A total of four (4) groups were organized in each city. In both locations, the groups gathered in specialized facilities equipped with observation rooms.

The groups were composed of Canadians aged 18 and over who had been victims of intimate partner violence and who met other selection criteria for participation in the groups. Each session lasted approximately one-and-a-half hours (1.5 hours).

City	Composition	Language	Recruited	Present
Toronto	Women – Disabled	English	4	4
Toronto	Women – Visible minorities	English	4	4
Toronto	Women – LGBTQ+	English	4	3
Toronto	Men – Heterosexual	English	4	4
Montréal	Women – Disabled	French	4	2
Montréal	Women – Visible minorities	French	4	2
Montréal	Women – LGBTQ+	French	4	2
Montréal	Men – Heterosexual	French	4	4
Total			32	25

At the start of each session, Leger described how the groups would function. The participants were told that the discussion would be recorded (audio and video), that there was a one-way mirror and why it was there, the basic confidentiality and privacy rules (including the fact that the recordings would be destroyed one year after project completion), and that participation was entirely voluntary. During the screening process as well as at the start of each session, the participants were informed that the groups were organized on behalf of the Government of Canada. Discussions were held in English in Toronto and in French in Montréal. A participation incentive of \$145 cash was given to each participant.

During the groups, participants had to evaluate three versions of the composite scale on intimate partner violence (CASr-SF). For each version, a different introduction was tested. Option 1 was the shortest, comprising 16 questions. Option 2 was the longest, with 7-8 questions added to the initial 16. It comprised 23 questions (24 in the case of the LGBTQ+ group of women). These first two versions of the scale used the same frequency measure for violent behaviours. Option 3 had the same 16 questions as Option 1, but with a different frequency measure.

1.3 Overview of qualitative conclusions

Introduction of the CASr-SF measurement scale

- The group participants found that both introductions worked rather well. There were no major problems with either of the introductions. The terms used in the text of the introduction were clear, precise and easy to understand. The participants also felt that the introductions (for all options) effectively prepared them for the questionnaire to follow.
- However, the Option 1 introduction proved the better of the two for the majority of the respondents and in the majority of the groups. The term "adult intimate relationships" is clear and does not cause any confusion. It is much more precise than the term "relationships" in Option 2, which does not address the notion of intimacy, which the participants felt was important. Several participants also mentioned that, even if Introduction 1 is longer, it is important to present the different types of possible relationships. The Option 2 introduction does not offer as clear an explanation as Option 1. A few participants mentioned that the term "adult" might discriminate against adolescents between 15 and 18 years of age. They therefore suggested removing the word "adult" from "intimate adult relationship." Some participants, though not the majority, noted that relationships between partners can be significant even if they lasted less than one month. These participants wondered if it is necessary to exclude these relationships from the study.
- There was no preference for the position of questions on fear of current or past partners at the beginning or at the end of the scale. Some participants preferred them at the beginning to introduce the questions that follow, while others felt they would be better at the end, since answering all the questions in the scale would help respondents to adequately answer these questions. Some individuals stated that they did not currently have a partner and that these answer choices did not allow them to adequately answer this question.
- When creating the final questionnaire to be administered to the population, particular attention should be paid to how temporal references are presented, namely "since you were 15" and "in the past 12 months". Some participants misunderstood what was being asked while others overlooked the instruction, so they answered based on an incorrect time period. This might be a result of the workbook that was used in the groups which necessarily differed from the final online version of the questionnaire. However, this confusion

demonstrates that it is important to ensure that all participants answer according to the correct period by making this instruction very apparent and clear when administering the survey.

- None of the participants had any problem referring to the period "since you were 15" during the exercise.

Option 1 – short scale

- Most comments on Option 1 were positive. The participants found all the elements clear and simple. All the questions in the scale are deemed relevant and each of them covers in its own way an aspect of the relationship. The focus group participants, including the men, found that the scale adequately captured their experience. Some individuals indicated that the list of questions was "comprehensive."
- Here as well, the temporal element "in the past 12 months," should be emphasized. A minority of the participants requested clarification to be sure that the questions did not mean the last 12 months of the relationship.
- The majority of the participants were not in an abusive relationship at the time of the focus groups. Despite this, the vast majority stated that completing the questionnaire brought back unpleasant memories and reminded them of delicate situations. Some participants were upset by the questions. However, all the participants indicated that this would not prevent them from answering the survey, but speculated that this might not be the case for individuals who are currently in an abusive situation. However, the majority felt that it is important to talk about it. They did not recommend the removal of any questions.
- There was no consensus as to the idea of grouping questions by behaviour type or by violence/abuse type (physical, psychological, financial, etc.). There was also no consensus with regard to the idea of filtering respondents based on the types of behaviour that they experienced. Some individuals would have preferred to answer only the questions on the types of violence they experienced, while others felt it important to read all the statements so they would not forget anything.
- The frequency scale in Option 1 seemed adequate for the majority of the respondents and globally well adapted to allow participants to answer the questions.
- A large majority of participants would prefer to answer these types of questions in an online questionnaire or a mailed survey. Several participants would also be willing to answer by phone, although some of them mentioned that they might be less comfortable replying if the interviewer were of the opposite sex.
- Some participants mentioned that they would agree to a survey of this type provided that it lasted no longer than 10 to 15 minutes.

Option 2 – short scale with additional questions

- Most of the participants felt the new questions added to the measurement scale are important. These new statements offer for a more in-depth picture of domestic violence and help better capture the different situations experienced.
- All the new elements were clear and worded in a comprehensible manner for the participants. None of the participants had any difficulty answering these new questions in their current wording.
- The items referring to jealousy were deemed important by the vast majority of the participants. However, some of the added items, such as "slapped you", "thrown anything at you that could have hurt you" and "subjected you to a sexual activity to which you were not able to consent ...," could very well be included in the initial list.
- The question specific to the LGBTQ+ community was considered highly relevant and important to the participants in these focus groups.

Option 3 – short scale with number-based measurement scale

- A minority of participants preferred answering the questionnaire using this scale. In fact, the vast majority of respondents did not like Option 3's number-based frequency scale at all. In all the groups, the vast majority of participants preferred by far the frequency scale used in Options 1 and 2.
- Some participants felt that this frequency scale minimizes the importance and frequency of acts that can occur in an abusive relationship. On the other hand, several participants mentioned that the exact number of times that a violent or abusive behaviour occurred is not important. Others also pointed out that this scale does not do a good job of reflecting chronology: 10 times can occur in a single week or over several years. There is no way of knowing.
- Some participants also suggested that they would have to answer with an approximate number of occurrences because they were unable to remember the exact number of times that a given behaviour had occurred. Some of the participants also said that this scale requires much more thinking than the other scale and that they would have considerable difficulty answering while considering events that have occurred over the course of their entire life.
- A minority of participants preferred this means of measuring frequency, saying that this approach is probably more accurate for measuring recurrent violent and abusive behaviours.

Measurement scale of gender-based perception of violence

- Generally speaking, the women's groups reacted very negatively to the measurement of gender-based perception of violence. Several women were shocked and outraged to read the statements. Some of the women would have probably stopped answering the survey if this section had been included in its current form. At first glance, some women did not see the relevance of this section.
- A number of men also expressed reserves regarding this section of the questionnaire, though their reactions were much less pronounced than in the women's groups.
- The statements are clear, simple and precise. There were no issues with regard to comprehension of the statements.
- Some participants mentioned that some statements are targeted toward men or toward women and that this should not be the case. They would like to see gender-neutral statements.
- The measurement used in this section (degree of agreement) is not optimal for many of the participants. A large number of participants affirmed that they neither agree nor disagree with a number of statements in the list and would like to have the opportunity to say so. Also, some individuals said that the extreme positions ("strongly disagree" and "strongly agree") should be removed from the measurement scale. In their view, the options "agree" and "disagree" would suffice.

Main conclusions – Leger's recommendations

- Leger recommends using Introduction 1, which seems to be the clearest and most precise introduction for participants. It also seems to be the best one for preparing respondents for the questionnaire that follows.
- Leger recommends using Options 1 and 2, which could be used in a survey in their current form.
- Leger recommends against using the frequency scale in Option 3.
- Leger also does not recommend keeping the questions on gender-based perception of violence in their current form.

1.4 Note on interpretation of research findings

This report was compiled by Leger based on the research conducted specifically for this project. The analysis presents what Leger believes were the most salient points to arise during the focus group sessions. All words or sentences in quotation marks are actual verbatim comments from the participants.

The findings from this qualitative research (i.e. focus groups) cannot be generalized to the Canadian population at large. This research is intended to provide deeper insight into the underlying reasons for opinions or lack thereof.

1.5 Political neutrality statement and contact information

Leger certifies that the final deliverables fully comply with the Government of Canada's political neutrality requirements outlined in the *Communications Policy* of the Government of Canada and in the *Procedures for Planning and Contracting Public Opinion Research*.

Additional information

Supplier name: Leger
PWGSC Contract Number: 1W001-180035/001/CY
Contract award date: May 15, 2017

The contract value of this project is \$43,567.15 (including HST).

For further information on this study, please send an email to the following address: SWC@canada.gc.

2. Detailed qualitative results

2.1 Methodology

A total of eight (8) discussion groups were organized at two (2) different locations: Montréal and Toronto. A total of four (4) groups were organized in each city. In both locations, the groups gathered in specialized facilities equipped with observation rooms.

The groups were composed of Canadians aged 18 and over who had been victims of intimate partner violence and who met other selection criteria for participation in the groups. The reader may consult the Appendix for a copy of the screening questionnaire. Each session lasted approximately one-and-a-half hours (1.5 hours).

City	Composition	Language	Recruited	Present
Toronto	Women – Handicapped	English	4	4
Toronto	Women – Visible minorities	English	4	4
Toronto	Women – LGBTQ+	English	4	3
Toronto	Men – Heterosexual	English	4	4
Montréal	Women – Handicapped	French	4	2
Montréal	Women – Visible minorities	French	4	2
Montréal	Women – LGBTQ+	French	4	2
Montréal	Men – Heterosexual	French	4	4
Total			32	25

At the start of each session, Leger described how the groups would function. The participants were told that the discussion would be recorded (audio and video), that there was a one-way mirror and why it was there, the basic confidentiality and privacy rules (including the fact that the recordings would be destroyed one year after project completion), and that participation was entirely voluntary. During the screening process as well as at the start of each session, the participants were informed that the groups were organized on behalf of the Government of Canada. Discussions were held in English in Toronto and in French in Montréal. A participation incentive of \$145 cash was given to each participant.

2.2 Interest in participating in discussion groups

Recruitment for these discussion groups went well and did not present any particular difficulties. Although this is a sensitive topic, most of the people we met in the groups were pleased to participate in the discussions, which they considered important. The majority of the participants were willing to speak openly about their experience.

2.3 Scale evaluation method

During the groups, the participants assessed three versions of the composite scale on domestic violence (CASr-SF). A different introduction was tested for each of these versions. The Option 1 scale was shorter and consisted of 16 questions. Option 2 was longer, with an additional 7–8 questions, comprising 23 questions (24 for LGBTQ+ women) in all. These first two versions of the scale used the same measure of violent behaviour frequency. Option 3 included the same 16 questions as Option 1, but used a different measure of frequency. A copy of each document used in the groups is presented in the Appendix to this report.

2.4 Scale evaluation objectives

The exercise primarily aimed to determine whether the proposed violence measurement scales were clear and easy to understand, whether the terms used were appropriate, whether the questions allowed the respondents to capture their personal experience with intimate partner violence, whether the frequency measurement scale is appropriate, and to identify areas for improvement. Ideally, the sessions would help determine whether one scale measures domestic violence better than the others.

2.5 Emotional distress

None of the participants showed clear signs of emotional distress during the discussion groups. For each city, Leger had planned to distribute a list of helpline phone numbers as necessary. To avoid targeting any one individual, the lists were given to all the participants in the groups. In some of the Toronto groups, moderators distributed the phone numbers at the end of the discussion sessions. In Montréal, all the participants mentioned that they were no longer in an abusive situation, so the lists were not distributed there.

During the discussions, when the IPV measurement scales were being assessed, many of the participants mentioned that having to answer the questionnaire brought back bad memories. However, they all said that this was normal and that it did not prevent them from answering a questionnaire such as this one. They all continued to answer the questions. Some respondents pointed out that these types of questions would probably be difficult to answer or objectionable for individuals who were still in an abusive situation or for those with certain backgrounds.

2.6 Scale assessment

Introduction

The majority of the participants preferred the first introduction over the second and third options. The terms used were clear and the expression "adult intimate relationships" was easily understood and did not cause any problems. The participants particularly appreciated the fact that this introduction gave examples of different types of relationships. They found that this approach is inclusive and encourages respondents to consider all the types of relationship that they have had since the age of 15. The participants also appreciated the reminder that the information gathered would remain confidential.

Options 2 and 3 were also considered acceptable by participants, but felt that they did not explain the study context as clearly or prepare respondents for the coming questions as well as the Option 1 introduction. More specifically, the last two versions of the introduction do not define intimate relationships in enough detail.

Areas for improvement: Introduction

It was suggested not to use the word "adult," as it might lead to confusion given the request to consider all relationships since the age of 15.

Some participants considered that a relationship could be abusive even if it lasted less than one month. They did not see the relevance of limiting relationships to those that lasted more than one month.

Questions on fear of partner

We asked the discussion group participants about the best placement of the two questions on fearing one's partner: "Are you currently afraid of your partner?" and "Have you ever been afraid of any partner?" They were asked to evaluate if these questions were best placed in the introduction at the beginning of the questionnaire or at the end of the questionnaire.

We were unable to find a consensus on this question. Most of the respondents who had the questions in the beginning preferred this placement, while those who had them at the end generally preferred that option. The individuals who preferred seeing these questions at the beginning felt that they would enable respondents to start thinking about the upcoming questions on violence. Consequently, they preferred them at the beginning.

Conversely, the others preferred having the questions at the end of the questionnaire. These individuals considered that placing the questions at the end would allow respondents to have the full context of the study in mind when answering. For these respondents, it was as if these two questions allowed them to reach a conclusion while their abuse experiences were fresh in their mind. In this regard, these respondents found it advantageous to have these two questions at the end of the questionnaire.

Areas for improvement

The respondents who were not in a relationship when they were filling out the questionnaire were not sure how to answer. There should be an option for these individuals.

Feelings other than fear, such as helplessness, anxiety and being controlled, were also suggested as emotions to include along with fear. .

2.7 Scale evaluation: General comments on the three options

In their final form, the instructions for the scale regarding the timeframe must be very clear. During the sessions, there was some confusion over the expression "past 12 months." Some of the respondents understood that they were meant to consider the last 12 months of the abusive relationship and not the last 12 months of the calendar year. It is imperative that these instructions are very clear. The respondents also preferred thinking of all their relationships together rather than having to think of a specific relationship.

Some of the participants felt that the grid presentation and the instructions for filling it out were complicated. Once the procedure was explained, the participants did not have any other problems completing the questionnaire. Even though the problem relates to the presentation of the workbook that was used in the groups which necessarily differed from the final online version of the questionnaire, the instructions for the questionnaire and its manner of completion should be as simple and straight-forward as possible.

The great majority of respondents found that the scales were written with clear, simple and precise wording. Hardly any of the participants experienced comprehension problems for any items in the questionnaire list.

2.8 CASr-SF – Option 1

Overall, the participants found that the Option 1 questionnaire adequately covers most of the different forms of violence, as the statements relate to different situations in an abusive relationship. Several individuals affirmed that all of the items in the list are relevant for this type of study. They also appreciated the examples for some of the items in that they facilitate comprehension.

However, some of the participants mentioned that the questionnaire does not cover certain important elements. For example, the participants mentioned the following: Did they seek help or receive support for the violence? Were they ever hospitalized due to a partner's violence? Did the partner threaten to divorce or leave them? Did the partner ever threaten to take their pay cheque? There were also certain comments on the lack of items relating to psychological stress. One woman mentioned that there are not enough items pertaining to children, who are also witnesses and victims of domestic violence.

Areas for improvement: Option 1

Sexual past and current sexual behaviours should be two separate items, as they are two different things.

Several of the participants agreed that the items "forced or tried to force you to have sex" and "made you perform sex acts that you did not want to perform" are very similar and seem to measure the same thing. Unless additional explanations are given to distinguish these two items, the women participants felt that only one of these items should appear in the list.

A discussion around the statement "used or threatened to use a knife or gun..." took place because it excludes other objects that could be used against someone.

Some of the participants found "shook, pushed, grabbed or threw you" and "hit you with a fist or object, kicked or bit you" very similar and felt they should be combined, while other women participants opined that "shook, pushed, grabbed or threw you" all have different values and should be treated separately.

In English, rather than "kept you from...," the more accurate wording "prevented you from..." should be used. Likewise, the phrase "sexual actions" should be used rather than "sex acts."

Use of the term "control" was appreciated; the notion of control was helpful for capturing the participants' experience.

The item "made comments about your sexual past or your sexual performance that made you feel ashamed, inadequate, or humiliated" is too long and too wordy. Some of the women participants suggested that this item should be simplified.

The respondents felt that using the phrase "called you names..." would be better than "told you that you were crazy, stupid or not good enough," as the former expression encompasses all of these elements and more.

2.9 CASr-SF – Option 2

Additional items in Option 2

Most of the participants found the additional items important. The new items provide a more in-depth picture and helped obtain greater detail about the abusive relationship. The individuals who identified as LGBTQ particularly appreciated the question addressed to members of the LGBTQ+ community. They considered it very important, but felt that it could be reworded, as it is quite long. In English, the term "outing" was suggested to express the same idea.

Although a clear majority of the participants appreciated the new items in the list, a few of them pointed out that several of the new items are different in nature from the other items in the Option 1 list. The new elements have to do with destroying or throwing objects as well as jealousy and control. The participants questioned their relevance in the questionnaire.

Areas for improvement: Option 2

The item "subjected you to a sexual activity to which you were not able to consent. By this I mean were you drugged, intoxicated, manipulated or forced in other ways than physically" was considered too long and may be difficult to answer. The statement could be shortened. Certain participants also mentioned that it is too similar to other statements on sexual actions. It was suggested that this item was not necessary.

The usefulness of providing examples for the question "made you perform sex acts that you did not want to perform" was discussed.

The item "slapped you" could be included in the list "it you with a fist..." or "shook, pushed..." as they are quite similar. Keeping it as a separate question did not make sense and diminished its importance.

The respondents noted that the questions on jealousy are very important, and that any question pertaining to jealousy should appear at the beginning of the list of statements. The item "expressed jealousy in a way that made you feel controlled" sparked a discussion on control and jealousy. Certain women considered jealousy and control two very different notions and felt that jealousy should be better defined in the statement of items.

2.10 CASr-SF – Option 3

Frequency measurement scale of Options 1 and 2 compared to that of Option 3

The women and the men were all able to report their experiences with the frequency measurement scale used in Option 1 and Option 2. Several respondents affirmed that they were unable to indicate the exact number of times numerous events had occurred. The great majority therefore considered the frequency scale used for Options 1 and 2 the better one.

Most of the participants did not like the frequency measurement scale used in Option 3. Several of them were unable to recall the exact number of times that certain items in the list had occurred. Additionally, this scale does not offer a good sense of chronology: for example, 10 times could occur in a single week or over the course of several years.

Some of the participants also felt that the frequency scale for Option 3 is too complex and requires mental calculations. With the other scale (Options 1 and 2), it was easier for them to quantify behaviours. Some people would be incapable of answering with this scale, which requires them to consider events that have occurred over the course of their entire life.

2.11 Measuring intention is also important for respondents

Certain questions in the list pertain to the intention to commit an act or to harm, rather than the result itself. We asked the respondents their opinion, "Is it important to measure intention?" For a clear majority of the participants, it was just as important to measure intention as it is to measure action. In fact, both the action (or the result thereof) and the intention to take action are problematic in an abusive situation. As a number of the participants pointed out, the intention can be just as harmful as the action itself. Even if the partner did not manage to execute their plan, the intention was there.

2.12 Online completion mode advised for the short questionnaire

The great majority of participants in the discussion groups stated that they would prefer to answer these questions as an online survey rather than a phone survey. Most of the participants prefer the anonymity that the Internet provides compared to other means of completion. Although some of the participants indicated that they were comfortable answering questions over the telephone, others emphasized their discomfort with this approach. Additionally, the gender of the interviewer could make some individuals uncomfortable. Administering the survey online in the form of a questionnaire requiring no more than 15 minutes should definitely be considered.

2.13 Similarity of results from women's groups

The six discussion groups consisting of women produced rather similar results. It appears that being a handicapped woman, a female member of a visible minority or a woman in the LGBTQ+ community does not create significant differences with regard to domestic violence experience. Their opinions regarding the different violence measurement scales were also very similar. We heard numerous comparable comments between the women's groups and between the women's groups in the two cities visited. However, remember that this discussion group-based study is limited in terms of inference. In no way can the results be inferred to the entire population of women who are in a minority situation. However, these groups allow for a better understanding of their opinion and their situation.

2.14 Results from men's groups

For the most part, the men were very generous in terms of their participation. Despite the preconceived idea that men would not participate, most of them were very willing to candidly discuss their experience with violence. Overall, the men in Toronto were perhaps slightly less open than their counterparts in Montréal in discussing the violence they had experienced. On the whole, both men's groups provided interesting and useful results in light of the objectives of the study.

Notably, all the men felt that the measurement scales represented their experiences. None of the men said that the questions did not apply to their experiences. The elements evaluated in the lists are thus appropriate and capture the domestic violence experience of men as well. The main critique expressed in the two men's groups was the lack of items referring to

psychological violence and control, a form of violence that seems to be experienced frequently by men in abusive situations.

Additionally, the men differed from the women in their reaction to the scale of gender-based perceptions of violence. Unlike the women, who reacted rather negatively to this scale, the men did not have any strongly negative comments on the content and form of the scale as currently presented.

2.15 Measurement scale for gender-based perception of violence

The questions of perception of gender-based violence and attitudes of gender equality triggered very negative reactions in several groups, particularly the women's groups. A number of women considered this scale offensive and backwards. Some respondents used the term "stupid" to describe the scale, while others suggested that the scale could have a negative effect on some victims of abuse who might blame themselves for what has happened to them. If the questions are to be used as is, it must be accompanied by an introduction explaining very clearly how to respond as well as the purpose of this measurement scale. Reactions were much less pronounced among men, although they also indicated that they were uncomfortable answering the questions as presented.

Areas for improvement: Perception questions

It would be preferable to create an agree-disagree scale. In this case, it would not be necessary to include the answers "completely agree" and "completely disagree."

Statements should be gender-neutral. Currently, certain items in the list target men or women. This aspect of the scale should be eliminated.

Many of the respondents would have preferred to have a neutral option in order to answer that they neither agree nor disagree.

Despite the reticence of several participants and the issues described above, a few of the group participants affirmed that these questions could be used to properly measure and understand gender-based perceptions of violence within the population.

2.16 Recommendations

Leger advises that the scale presented in Option 3 is not used due to the measure of frequency, which participants deemed imperfect.

If you must use a scale in its current form, we recommend using Option 1 or Option 2. Although Option 1 contains fewer questions than Option 2, the participants informed us that this option adequately captured their domestic violence experience.

Leger unequivocally recommends using the introduction presented in Option 1. Although it is slightly longer than the others, this introduction best prepared the participants for the questions to come.

The male participants considered that the violence measurement scale allowed them to adequately capture their domestic violence experience. There is no reason to believe that the violence measurement scale would not be applicable to men.

Leger recommends not using the measurement scale of gender-based perception of violence. Reactions in the groups were too negative for it to be used in its current form. In the event this measurement scale must be used in its current form, we recommend to include an adequate explanation of the scale, how it is used and the objectives of the study.

APPENDICES

Discussion Guide

Introduction

- Introduce moderator and welcome participants to the focus group.
- As we indicated during the recruiting process, we are conducting focus group discussions on behalf of the Government of Canada (Status of Women Canada).
- The purpose of today session is to get your thoughts and reactions on several different ways of measuring intimate partner violence, also known as spousal abuse or domestic violence
- The discussion will last approximately 60-90 minutes.

Explanation

- **Audio-taping** – The session is being audio-taped for research purposes, in case we need to double-check the discussion against our notes. These audio-tapes remain in our possession and will not be released to anyone without written consent from all participants.
- Another thing that I would like to point out is one aspect of the room design – **the mirror**. This aspect of the room has been developed to allow those who have worked on a project or advertising to hear what participants have to say, in a way that won't disrupt a group discussion. So, behind this mirror there are some people who have worked on the project. They are very interested in what you have to say.
- It is also important for you to know that your responses today will in no way affect your dealings with the Government of Canada.
- **Confidentiality** – Please note that anything you say during these groups will be held in the strictest confidence. We do not attribute comments to specific people. Our report summarizes the findings from the groups but does not mention anyone by name. The report will be available through Library and Archives Canada.
- Please see the hostess at the end of the focus group for your incentive.

Describe how a discussion group functions:

- Discussion groups are designed to encourage an **open and honest discussion**. My role as a **moderator is to guide the discussion** and encourage everyone to participate. Another function of the moderator is to ensure that the discussion stays on topic and on time.
- Your **role is to answer questions and voice your opinions**. We are looking for all opinions in a focus group, so don't hold back if you have a comment even if you feel your opinion may be different from others in the group. There may or may not be others who share your point of view. **Everyone's opinion is important** and should be respected.
- I would also like to stress that **there are no wrong answers**. We are simply looking for your opinions and attitudes. This is not a test of your knowledge. We did not expect you to do anything in preparation for this group.

- It is also important that you talk loud enough for everyone to hear and that you **talk one at a time** so I can follow the discussion.

Please note that **I am not an employee of the Government of Canada** and may not be able to answer all of your questions.

- Moderator introduces herself/himself. Participants should introduce themselves, using their first names only.
- What is your main occupation?

The purpose of today session is to get your thoughts and reactions on several different ways of measuring intimate partner violence, also known as spousal abuse or domestic violence. These questions are designed to measure common types of behaviors that people have experienced. These questions could be asked as part of larger national survey on gender-based violence.

Gender based-violence is defined as violence against someone based on their gender expression, gender identity or perceived gender.

The survey could also include questions on attitudes towards violence and gender equality, non-partner violence, workplace and public space harassment, and cyberviolence.

Please answer the questions to the best of your knowledge. Your answers may be used to refine or modify these questions.

Your responses will be kept strictly confidential and will be used for statistical purposes only.

Thank you for your participation in this session.

Scale assessment

To begin, I will distribute a document to you. I would like you to take the time to read and complete section 1.

Please read the introduction carefully and then answer the questions.

Please stop before section 2.

OPTION 1 – 15 MINUTES

PARTICIPANTS READ AND COMPLETE THE OPTION 1.

1. Was the introduction clear?
 - a) Did you easily understand what was meant by “adult intimate relationship”?
 - b) Do you understand what is meant by dating?
 - c) Do you feel like you need more information?
2. Any questions/ wording unclear?
3. Any questions that you don't know how to answer or your answer does not fit into the categories offered?
4. The questions deal with sensitive subject matter; did any of the questions cause you distress, make you feel uncomfortable, or offend you?
 - a. Are there any questions that you would not answer on-line or on the telephone?
5. What about the frequency measure? Would you be able to answer a frequency question about how often these behaviours happened over your lifetime?
7. Did you find it difficult to answer these questions when thinking about any partners you have had? Would it have been easier for you to respond if you had been thinking about specific partners or relationships (i.e., thinking about any ex-partners, thinking about your current partner, thinking about anyone you have dated, etc.)
 - a) Would you have easily been able to differentiate between these, had you been asked?
8. Are there questions we do not ask about this topic that you feel that we should?
 - a) Any items where you felt your experiences were not reflected? (i.e. issue with wording, items included as examples, etc.)
9. Are there any questions that you feel are not relevant to partner abuse/violence, and why?
10. Are there any questions that you feel are too similar?

11. If you were asked:
 - a. Since you were 15, has any partner used to threatened to use force on you in any way? Include any current or former spouses, common-law partners, or dating partners.
 - b. Use or threats of force could include behaviours such as threats, slapping, pushing, beating, choking, using or threatening to use a weapon, or forcing you into unwanted sexual activity, for example.
 - c. Would you have continued on to the specific questions on sexual and physical assault?

12. Would it influence your answer if you were asked if you feared any partner and if you feared your current partner at the end/beginning [depending on where the question was asked]?
 - a. Would other emotional responses have been more representative of your experience (i.e., has a partner ever made you feel powerless, anxious, controlled, etc.)

13. If you did not say yes to any of the items measuring physical or sexual violence, do you think this question would still be relevant to your experience?

OPTION 2 – 25 MINUTES

MAKE PARTICIPANTS READ SECTION 2.

THERE IS NO NEED TO COMPLETE IN FULL THE QUESTIONNAIRE BUT DO POINT OUT THE NEW INTRODUCTION AND THE NEW QUESTION / ITEMS IN THE SCALE

1. Was the introduction clear? What about the difference form option 1?
 - a. Did you easily understand what was meant by “adult intimate relationship”?
 - b. Do you understand what is meant by dating?
 - c. Do you feel like you need more information?

2. Did you feel that the additional questions asked in option 2 were important? Which one were or were not?

3. Any questions/ wording unclear?

4. Any questions that you don’t know how to answer or your answer does not fit into the categories offered?

5. The questions deal with sensitive subject matter; did any of the questions cause you distress, make you feel uncomfortable, or offend you?
 - a. Are there any questions that you would not answer on-line or on the telephone?

6. Are there questions we do not ask about this topic that you feel that we should?
 - a. Any items where you felt your experiences (if a victim) were not reflected? (i.e. issue with wording, items included as examples, etc.)

7. Are there any questions that you feel are not relevant to partner abuse/violence, and why?

8. Are there any questions that you feel are too similar?

9. Would it influence your answer if you were asked if you feared any partner and if you feared your current partner at the end/beginning [depending on where the question was asked]?
 - a. Would other emotional responses have been more representative of your experience (i.e., has a partner ever made you feel powerless, anxious, controlled, etc.)

10. If you did not say yes to any of the items measuring physical or sexual violence, do you think this question would still be relevant to your experience?

NOW, IF YOU THINK ABOUT WHAT YOU JUST READ. WE WILL DISCUSS CERTAIN ITEMS IN THE LIST.

Follow-up on specific questions (if time allows or these questions are being discussed)

1. ITEM: Told you that you were crazy, stupid or not good enough –
 - a. If you said yes to this measure, would you have also said yes to a general measure (i.e., Called you names or put you down to make you feel bad)
 - b. If you said no to this measure, would you have said yes to a general measure (i.e., Called you names or put you down to make you feel bad)

2. ITEM: Made comments about your sexual past or your sexual performance that made you feel ashamed, inadequate, or humiliated
 - c. Do you feel as though the wording may be limiting?
 - d. Do you understand what the question is trying to ask?

- e. Is this relevant to your experience? Would you consider comments such as these to be an element of emotional abuse?

3. In option 2: Were the questions on jealousy and demanding to know where you were at all times clear?

- a. Did you understand what was meant by controlled?
- b. Would you have answered the same if the word controlled was not included?

4. ITEM: Some items (i.e., Kept you from seeing or talking to family or friends) imply that a partner had to actually be able to do the behaviour, others (i.e., tried to convince your family, children, or friends that you are crazy or tried to turn them against you) only require that your partner tried to do these behaviours.

- a) What would be more relevant to your experiences?
- b) In your opinion, should we be measuring the outcome of the behaviour or the behaviour?
- c) Do you think measuring the outcome will get at more serious instances of these behaviours?

OPTION 3 – 15 MINUTES

NOW MAKE PARTICIPANT READ THE OPTION 3. AND MAKE THEM ANSWER ITEMS OF THE SCALE.

Follow-up questions

1. Was the introduction clear?
 - a. Did you easily understand what was meant by “adult intimate relationship”?
 - b. Do you understand what is meant by dating?
 - c. Do you feel like you need more information?
 - d. Which one did you prefer between option 1 and option 2 and option 3?

Have they noticed the different frequency scale?

2. Any preference for the frequency measure? What did you like and not like about the two options?
3. Would you be able to answer a frequency question about how often these behaviours happened over your lifetime?
4. Do you have any other comments on the scale?
5. Which of these three scales was the best way to report your experiences?

GBV – PERCEPTION SCALE 15 MINUTES

NOW MAKE THEM READ THE FINAL SCALE - PERCEPTION OF GENDER BASED VIOLENCE

MAKE THEM ANSWER THE SCALE

The next questions deal with your perceptions about gender-based violence. Please indicate to what extent you agree or disagree with each of these statements.

1. Any questions/ wording unclear?
2. Any questions that you don't know how to answer or your answer does not fit into the categories offered?
3. Do you feel as though these questions are able to adequately capture your feelings on gender-based violence?
4. The questions deal with sensitive subject matter; did any of the questions cause you distress, make you feel uncomfortable, or offend you?
 - a. Are there any questions that you would not answer on-line or on the telephone?
5. Are there questions we do not ask about this topic that you feel that we should?
6. Are there any questions that you feel are too similar?

Conclusion (5 minutes)

Once all three concepts and video have been covered, ask the concluding question below.

We are basically done. Now that you have seen the three video concepts, do you have any further comments or suggestions for the CAF as to how they could inform you better?

Thank you very much for your time and comments.

Exercices – Group 1

Option 1 - A

INSTRUCTIONS

These next questions ask about your experiences in adult intimate relationships. By adult intimate relationship we mean a current or former spouse, current or former common-law spouse, or current or former boyfriend/girlfriend for longer than one month.

Your answers are very important, regardless of whether or not you have experienced this situation. Remember that all the information you provide is strictly confidential.

Are you currently afraid of your partner?

- a. Yes
- b. No

Have you ever been afraid of any partner?

- a. Yes
- b. No

We would like to know if you experienced any of the actions listed below from any current or former partner or partners. If it ever happened to you, please tell us how often it usually happened in the past 12 months.

Since you were 15, has any partner:

Item	Yes	No	Frequency scale	Frequency scale	Frequency scale	Frequency scale	Frequency scale	Frequency scale
Kept you from seeing or talking to my family or friends	Yes	No	Not in the past 12 months	Once	A few times	Monthly	Weekly	Daily / almost daily
Threatened to harm or kill you or someone close to you	Yes	No	Not in the past 12 months	Once	A few times	Monthly	Weekly	Daily / almost daily
Told you that you were crazy, stupid or not good enough	Yes	No	Not in the past 12 months	Once	A few times	Monthly	Weekly	Daily / almost daily
Kept you from having access to a job, money or financial resources.	Yes	No	Not in the past 12 months	Once	A few times	Monthly	Weekly	Daily / almost daily
Used or threatened to use a knife or gun or other weapon to harm you	Yes	No	Not in the past 12 months	Once	A few times	Monthly	Weekly	Daily / almost daily
Confined or locked you in a room or other space	Yes	No	Not in the past 12 months	Once	A few times	Monthly	Weekly	Daily / almost daily
Harassed you by phone, text, email or using social media	Yes	No	Not in the past 12 months	Once	A few times	Monthly	Weekly	Daily / almost daily
Followed you or hung around outside your home or work	Yes	No	Not in the past 12 months	Once	A few times	Monthly	Weekly	Daily / almost daily
Shook, pushed, grabbed or threw you	Yes	No	Not in the past 12 months	Once	A few times	Monthly	Weekly	Daily / almost daily
Hit you with a fist or	Yes	No	Not in the	Once	A few times	Monthly	Weekly	Daily /

object, kicked or bit you			past 12 months					almost daily
Tried to convince your family, children, or friends that you are crazy or tried to turn them against you.	Yes	No	Not in the past 12 months	Once	A few times	Monthly	Weekly	Daily / almost daily
Forced or tried to force you to have sex	Yes	No	Not in the past 12 months	Once	A few times	Monthly	Weekly	Daily / almost daily
Made you perform sex acts that you did not want to perform	Yes	No	Not in the past 12 months	Once	A few times	Monthly	Weekly	Daily / almost daily
Choked you	Yes	No	Not in the past 12 months	Once	A few times	Monthly	Weekly	Daily / almost daily
Made comments about your sexual past or your sexual performance that made you feel ashamed, inadequate, or humiliated	Yes	No	Not in the past 12 months	Once	A few times	Monthly	Weekly	Daily / almost daily
Blamed you for causing their violent behavior	Yes	No	Not in the past 12 months	Once	A few times	Monthly	Weekly	Daily / almost daily

Option 2 - A

INSTRUCTIONS

The following questions concern the serious problem of violence and abuse in relationships. Your answers are very important, regardless of whether or not you have experienced this situation. Remember that all the information you provide is strictly confidential.

Are you currently afraid of your partner?

- a. Yes
- b. No

Have you ever been afraid of any partner?

- a. Yes
- b. No

Next is a list of statements that some people have used to describe their spouses or partners. Please indicate whether or not each statement describes any partners you have had since age 15. Remember that all information provided is strictly confidential.

Since you were 15, has any partner:

Item	Yes	No	Frequency scale	Frequency scale	Frequency scale	Frequency scale	Frequency scale	Frequency scale
Kept you from seeing or talking to my family or friends	Yes	No	Not in the past 12 months	Once	A few times	Monthly	Weekly	Daily / almost daily
Threatened to harm or kill you or someone close to you	Yes	No	Not in the past 12 months	Once	A few times	Monthly	Weekly	Daily / almost daily
Told you that you were crazy, stupid or not good enough	Yes	No	Not in the past 12 months	Once	A few times	Monthly	Weekly	Daily / almost daily
Kept you from having access to a job, money or financial resources.	Yes	No	Not in the past 12 months	Once	A few times	Monthly	Weekly	Daily / almost daily
Used or threatened to use a knife or gun or other weapon to harm you	Yes	No	Not in the past 12 months	Once	A few times	Monthly	Weekly	Daily / almost daily
Confined or locked you in a room or other space	Yes	No	Not in the past 12 months	Once	A few times	Monthly	Weekly	Daily / almost daily
Harassed you by phone, text, email or using social media	Yes	No	Not in the past 12 months	Once	A few times	Monthly	Weekly	Daily / almost daily
Followed you or hung around outside your home or work	Yes	No	Not in the past 12 months	Once	A few times	Monthly	Weekly	Daily / almost daily
Shook, pushed, grabbed or threw you	Yes	No	Not in the past 12 months	Once	A few times	Monthly	Weekly	Daily / almost daily
Hit you with a fist or object, kicked or bit you	Yes	No	Not in the past 12 months	Once	A few times	Monthly	Weekly	Daily / almost daily
Tried to convince your family, children, or friends that you are crazy or tried to turn them against you.	Yes	No	Not in the past 12 months	Once	A few times	Monthly	Weekly	Daily / almost daily

Forced or tried to force you to have sex	Yes	No	Not in the past 12 months	Once	A few times	Monthly	Weekly	Daily / almost daily
Made you perform sex acts that you did not want to perform	Yes	No	Not in the past 12 months	Once	A few times	Monthly	Weekly	Daily / almost daily
Choked you	Yes	No	Not in the past 12 months	Once	A few times	Monthly	Weekly	Daily / almost daily
Made comments about your sexual past or your sexual performance that made you feel ashamed, inadequate, or humiliated	Yes	No	Not in the past 12 months	Once	A few times	Monthly	Weekly	Daily / almost daily
Blamed you for causing their violent behavior	Yes	No	Not in the past 12 months	Once	A few times	Monthly	Weekly	Daily / almost daily
Intentionally damaged or destroyed your possessions or property.	Yes	No	Not in the past 12 months	Once	A few times	Monthly	Weekly	Daily / almost daily
Expressed jealousy in a way that made you feel controlled.	Yes	No	Not in the past 12 months	Once	A few times	Monthly	Weekly	Daily / almost daily
They prevented you from getting personal care or healthcare support	Yes	No	Not in the past 12 months	Once	A few times	Monthly	Weekly	Daily / almost daily
Demands to know who you were with or where you are going at all times in a way that made you feel controlled	Yes	No	Not in the past 12 months	Once	A few times	Monthly	Weekly	Daily / almost daily
Slapped you	Yes	No	Not in the past 12 months	Once	A few times	Monthly	Weekly	Daily / almost daily
Subjected you to a sexual activity to which you were not able to consent. By this I mean were you drugged, intoxicated, manipulated or forced in other ways than physically	Yes	No	Not in the past 12 months	Once	A few times	Monthly	Weekly	Daily / almost daily
Thrown anything at you that could have hurt you	Yes	No	Not in the past 12 months	Once	A few times	Monthly	Weekly	Daily / almost daily

Option 3 - A

INSTRUCTIONS

These questions ask about your experiences in adult intimate relationships. By adult intimate relationship we mean a current or former spouse, current or former common-law spouse, or current or former boyfriend/girlfriend for longer than one month.

Are you currently afraid of your partner?

- a. Yes
- b. No

Have you ever been afraid of any partner?

- a. Yes
- b. No

Item	Yes	No	Frequency scale	Frequency scale	Frequency scale	Frequency scale	Frequency scale	Frequency scale
Kept you from seeing or talking to my family or friends	Yes	No	Not in the past 12 months	1 or 2 times	3 to 5 times	6 to 10 times	More than 10 times	Not in the past 12 months
Threatened to harm or kill you or someone close to you	Yes	No	Not in the past 12 months	1 or 2 times	3 to 5 times	6 to 10 times	More than 10 times	Not in the past 12 months
Told you that you were crazy, stupid or not good enough	Yes	No	Not in the past 12 months	1 or 2 times	3 to 5 times	6 to 10 times	More than 10 times	Not in the past 12 months
Kept you from having access to a job, money or financial resources.	Yes	No	Not in the past 12 months	1 or 2 times	3 to 5 times	6 to 10 times	More than 10 times	Not in the past 12 months
Used or threatened to use a knife or gun or other weapon to harm you	Yes	No	Not in the past 12 months	1 or 2 times	3 to 5 times	6 to 10 times	More than 10 times	Not in the past 12 months
Confined or locked you in a room or other space	Yes	No	Not in the past 12 months	1 or 2 times	3 to 5 times	6 to 10 times	More than 10 times	Not in the past 12 months
Harassed you by phone, text, email or using social media	Yes	No	Not in the past 12 months	1 or 2 times	3 to 5 times	6 to 10 times	More than 10 times	Not in the past 12 months
Followed you or hung around outside your home or work	Yes	No	Not in the past 12 months	1 or 2 times	3 to 5 times	6 to 10 times	More than 10 times	Not in the past 12 months
Shook, pushed, grabbed or threw you	Yes	No	Not in the past 12 months	1 or 2 times	3 to 5 times	6 to 10 times	More than 10 times	Not in the past 12 months
Hit you with a fist or object, kicked or bit you	Yes	No	Not in the past 12 months	1 or 2 times	3 to 5 times	6 to 10 times	More than 10 times	Not in the past 12 months
Tried to convince your family, children, or friends that you are crazy or tried to turn them against you.	Yes	No	Not in the past 12 months	1 or 2 times	3 to 5 times	6 to 10 times	More than 10 times	Not in the past 12 months
Forced or tried to force you to have sex	Yes	No	Not in the past 12 months	1 or 2 times	3 to 5 times	6 to 10 times	More than 10 times	Not in the past 12 months
Made you perform sex acts that you did not want to perform	Yes	No	Not in the past 12 months	1 or 2 times	3 to 5 times	6 to 10 times	More than 10 times	Not in the past 12 months
Choked you	Yes	No	Not in the past 12	1 or 2 times	3 to 5 times	6 to 10 times	More than 10 times	Not in the past 12

			months					months
Made comments about your sexual past or your sexual performance that made you feel ashamed, inadequate, or humiliated	Yes	No	Not in the past 12 months	1 or 2 times	3 to 5 times	6 to 10 times	More than 10 times	Not in the past 12 months
Blamed you for causing their violent behavior	Yes	No	Not in the past 12 months	1 or 2 times	3 to 5 times	6 to 10 times	More than 10 times	Not in the past 12 months

Option Perception GBV

The next questions deal with your perceptions about gender-based violence. Please indicate to what extent you agree or disagree with each of these statements.

Item	Scale of agreement level	Scale of agreement level	Scale of agreement level	Scale of agreement level
People who are sexually assaulted while drunk or high on drugs are at least partly responsible.	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
People are less responsible for sexual assault if they are drunk or high on drugs at the time.	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
Most of what is called sexual assault is just miscommunication.	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
Sexual assault results from men not able to control their need for sex.	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
Victims who report sexual assault are almost always telling the truth.	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
Partner violence can be excused if people get so angry they lose control.	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
It is understandable that someone would react violently if they suspect their partner of having an affair.	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
Men who do not physically fight back when confronted or pushed around will not be respected.	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
A lot of women lead a man on and then they claim they were sexually assaulted.	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
People have the right to control where their partner is and who they're with at all times.	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
People have the right to check who their partner has been calling or texting at all times.	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly agree

Focus group screener - Group 1

SWC - FOCUS GROUP SCREENER

WOMEN WITH DISABILITIES

Date	Ville	GR	Langue	Heure	Endroit

INTRODUCTION

Hello,

My name is _____ from Consumer Vision, a division of Léger, a marketing research firm. We are organizing a research project on behalf of the Government of Canada. The government commissioned the Léger research firm to conduct a study on the sensitive issue of spousal violence or intimate partner violence (IPV includes physical violence, emotional or psychological abuse, financial abuse, and violence in the context of intimacy). In this study, we want to hear the views of victims of intimate partner violence in different groups of the population.

We will organize small discussion groups (3 or 4 people) in the next few weeks with people who match the profiles they are looking for. Those who attend will receive **\$145** for their time. Please note that participation in these studies is voluntary and that all information collected, used and / or disclosed will be used for research purposes only. This research is entirely confidential, the names of participants will not be provided to the government or to a third party. We guarantee the anonymity of the participants.

Would you be interested in participating? **IF YES, CONTINUE.**

A. Can I ask you some questions to see if you are eligible to participate in the group discussion?

Yes 1
No 2 → **Thank and Terminate**

Note to the recruiter: When you finish a call, say: Thank you for your cooperation. Thank you very much.

As I said earlier, this research project will focus on Intimate Partner Violence (IPV), which includes physical abuse, emotional or psychological abuse, financial abuse, and violence in the context of intimacy).

For the focus group, we would like to hear the views of **women who have a disability and who have previously been the victim of Intimate Partner Violence (IPV).**

NOTE: PARTICIPANTS MAY HAVE BEEN VICTIMS OF IPV IN THE PAST (NO TIME LIMIT) AND IPV MAY HAVE BEEN PERPETRATED BY ANOTHER INTIMATE PARTNER THAN THE CURRENT PARTNER.

B. Do you fit this description profile?

Yes 1
No 2 → **Thank and Terminate**

Okay, I would like to have a bit more information on you before you finalize your registration.

1. Sometimes participants are asked to watch videos, read a document and/or write out their answers to a questionnaire during the discussion. Is there any reason why you could not participate?

Yes 1 **THANK & TERMINATE**
No 2

TERMINATE IF RESPONDENT OFFERS ANY REASON SUCH AS SIGHT OR HEARING PROBLEM, A WRITTEN OR VERBAL LANGUAGE PROBLEM, A CONCERN WITH NOT BEING ABLE TO COMMUNICATE EFFECTIVELY OR IF YOU HAVE A CONCERN.

2. What type of disability do you have?

PLEASE NOTE THE DISABILITY: _____

3. In which age group are you? Is it ...

Under 18	0	TERMINATE
Between 18 and 24	1	
Between 25 and 34	2	
Between 35 and 44	3	
Between 45 and 54	4	
Between 55 and 64	5	
Between 65 and 74	6	
75 or older	7	

4. Do you, or does anyone in your household (Including your parents, siblings, spouse or children) currently work or have worked for the **Federal government or the Provincial government?**

IF YES – Thank and terminate

5. Are you currently...

Working full time	1
Working part time	2
Self-employed / freelance work	3
Student	4
Homemaker	5
Unemployed	6
Retired	7
I prefer not to answer	9

6. Among the following categories, which one best reflects the total INCOME, before taxes, of all the members of your household in 2016?

Less than \$ 30,000	1
From \$ 30,000 to \$ 49,999	2
From \$ 50,000 to \$ 74,999	3
From \$ 75,000 to \$ 99,999	4
\$ 100,000 or more	5
Refusal	9

7. What is the highest level of education you have completed?

Primary (Grade 1-6 in Quebec / Grades 1-8 in ROC)	1
Part of high school / Secondary school / vocational	2

Secondary Completed	3
Part of CEGEP / Technical / College	4
College / Technical / College Completed	5
Part of the university	6
Completed university degree	7

INVITATION SECTION

Date	Ville	GR	Langue	Heure	Endroit

Group specifications:
TORONTO, MONTRÉAL, 3 ou 4 participants maximum per groups

“Contact” Section

Someone from our office will be calling you back to confirm these arrangements. Could I please have your phone number where we can reach you during the evening and during the day?

Name: _____

Evening phone: _____ **Work phone:** _____

Thank you very much!

Recruited by: _____

Confirmed by: _____

As we are only inviting a small number of people to take part, your participation is very important to us. If for some reason you are unable to participate, please call so that we can get someone to replace you. You can reach us at ____ at our office. Please ask for ____.

To ensure that the focus groups run smoothly, we remind you:

- To turn off your cellular phones – to avoid disruptions during the group;
- To arrive 15 minutes earlier – to have sufficient time to park/sign in;
- To bring reading glasses, if necessary to be able to go over the test material;
- To bring a photo ID to collect your incentive;
- That the session will be recorded for analysis purposes only.

Focus group screener - Group 2

SWC - FOCUS GROUP SCREENER

WOMEN VISIBLE MINORITIES

Date	Ville	GR	Langue	Heure	Endroit

INTRODUCTION

Hello,

My name is _____ from Consumer Vision, a division of Léger, a marketing research firm. We are organizing a research project on behalf of the Government of Canada. The government commissioned the Léger research firm to conduct a study on the sensitive issue of spousal violence or intimate partner violence (IPV includes physical violence, emotional or psychological abuse, financial abuse, and violence in the context of intimacy). In this study, we want to hear the views of victims of intimate partner violence in different groups of the population.

We will organize small discussion groups (3 or 4 people) in the next few weeks with people who match the profiles they are looking for. Those who attend will receive **\$145** for their time. Please note that participation in these studies is voluntary and that all information collected, used and / or disclosed will be used for research purposes only. This research is entirely confidential, the names of participants will not be provided to the government or to a third party. We guarantee the anonymity of the participants.

Would you be interested in participating? **IF YES, CONTINUE.**

A. Can I ask you some questions to see if you are eligible to participate in the group discussion?

Yes	1	
No	2	→ Thank and Terminate

Note to the recruiter: When you finish a call, say: Thank you for your cooperation. Thank you very much.

As I said earlier, this research project will focus on Intimate Partner Violence (IPV), which includes physical abuse, emotional or psychological abuse, financial abuse, and violence in the context of intimacy).

For the focus group, we would like to hear the views of **women who have recently immigrated to Canada (in the past year) who have been the victim of Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) or women who are members of a visible minority who have been the victim of Intimate Partner Violence (IPV).**

NOTE: PARTICIPANTS MAY HAVE BEEN VICTIMS OF IPV IN THE PAST (NO TIME LIMIT) AND IPV MAY HAVE BEEN PERPETRATED BY ANOTHER INTIMATE PARTNER THAN THE CURRENT PARTNER.

B. Do you fit this description profile?

Yes	1	
No	2	→ Thank and Terminate

Okay, I would like to have a bit more information on you before you finalize your registration.

C. Have you recently immigrated or are you a visible minority?

Recently immigrated	1	GO TO 1
Visible minority	2	GO TO 2

1. For how long have you been in Canada?

INSERT THE NUMBER OF MONTHS (12 AND LESS):

2. Which of the following ethnic groups do you consider yourself to be a part of?

- White..... 1 **Thank and terminate**
- Chinese 2
- South Asian (e.g. East Indian, Pakistani, Sri Lankan, etc.) 3
- Black 4
- Filipino..... 5
- Latin American 6
- Southeast Asian (e.g. Cambodian, Indonesian, Laotian, Vietnamese, etc) 7
- Arab..... 8
- West Asian (e.g. Afghan, Iranian, etc.) 9
- Japanese..... 10
- Korean..... 11
- Other (Specify:) 96
- (DO NOT READ) I prefer not to answer **99 Thank and terminate**

3. In which age group are you? Is it ...

- Under 18 0 TERMINATE
- Between 18 and 24 1
- Between 25 and 34 2
- Between 35 and 44 3
- Between 45 and 54 4
- Between 55 and 64 5
- Between 65 and 74 6
- 75 or older 7

4. Do you, or does anyone in your household (Including your parents, siblings, spouse or children) currently work or have worked for the **Federal government or the Provincial government?**

IF YES – Thank and terminate

5. Sometimes participants are asked to watch videos, read a document and/or write out their answers to a questionnaire during the discussion. Is there any reason why you could not participate?

- Yes 1 **THANK & TERMINATE**
- No 2

TERMINATE IF RESPONDENT OFFERS ANY REASON SUCH AS SIGHT OR HEARING PROBLEM, A WRITTEN OR VERBAL LANGUAGE PROBLEM, A CONCERN WITH NOT BEING ABLE TO COMMUNICATE EFFECTIVELY OR IF YOU HAVE A CONCERN.

6. Are you currently...

Working full time	1
Working part time	2
Self-employed / freelance work	3
Student	4
Homemaker	5
Unemployed	6
Retired	7
I prefer not to answer	9

7. Among the following categories, which one best reflects the total INCOME, before taxes, of all the members of your household in 2016?

Less than \$ 30,000	1
From \$ 30,000 to \$ 49,999	2
From \$ 50,000 to \$ 74,999	3
From \$ 75,000 to \$ 99,999	4
\$ 100,000 or more	5
Refusal	9

8. What is the highest level of education you have completed?

Primary (Grade 1-6 in Quebec / Grades 1-8 in ROC)	1
Part of high school / Secondary school / vocational	2
Secondary Completed	3
Part of CEGEP / Technical / College	4
College / Technical / College Completed	5
Part of the university	6
Completed university degree	7

INVITATION SECTION

Date	Ville	GR	Langue	Heure	Endroit

Group specifications:
TORONTO, MONTRÉAL - <u>4 participants per group maximum</u>

“Contact” Section

Someone from our office will be calling you back to confirm these arrangements. Could I please have your phone number where we can reach you during the evening and during the day?

Name: _____

Evening phone: _____ Work phone: _____

Thank you very much!

Recruited by: _____

Confirmed by: _____

As we are only inviting a small number of people to take part, your participation is very important to us. If for some reason you are unable to participate, please call so that we can get someone to replace you. You can reach us at _____ at our office. Please ask for _____.

To ensure that the focus groups run smoothly, we remind you:

- To turn off your cellular phones – to avoid disruptions during the group;
- To arrive 15 minutes earlier – to have sufficient time to park/sign in;
- To bring reading glasses, if necessary to be able to go over the test material;
- To bring a photo ID to collect your incentive;
- That the session will be recorded for analysis purposes only.

Focus group screener - Group 3

SWC - FOCUS GROUP SCREENER

WOMEN LGBTQ2

Date	Ville	GR	Langue	Heure	Endroit

INTRODUCTION

Hello,

My name is _____ from Consumer Vision, a division of Léger, a marketing research firm. We are organizing a research project on behalf of the Government of Canada. The government commissioned the Léger research firm to conduct a study on the sensitive issue of spousal violence or intimate partner violence (IPV includes physical violence, emotional or psychological abuse, financial abuse, and violence in the context of intimacy). In this study, we want to hear the views of victims of intimate partner violence in different groups of the population.

We will organize small discussion groups (3 or 4 people) in the next few weeks with people who match the profiles they are looking for. Those who attend will receive **\$145** for their time. Please note that participation in these studies is voluntary and that all information collected, used and / or disclosed will be used for research purposes only. This research is entirely confidential, the names of participants will not be provided to the government or to a third party. We guarantee the anonymity of the participants.

Would you be interested in participating? **IF YES, CONTINUE.**

A. Can I ask you some questions to see if you are eligible to participate in the group discussion?

Yes	1	
No	2	→ Thank and Terminate

Note to the recruiter: When you finish a call, say: Thank you for your cooperation. Thank you very much.

As I said earlier, this research project will focus on Intimate Partner Violence (IPV), which includes physical abuse, emotional or psychological abuse, financial abuse, and violence in the context of intimacy).

For the discussion group, we would like to hear the views of **women who belong to the LGBTQ2 group (Lesbian-gay-bisexual-trans-queer-bi-spirited) community and who have been the victim of Intimate Partner Violence (IPV).**

NOTE: PARTICIPANTS MAY HAVE BEEN VICTIMS OF IPV IN THE PAST (NO TIME LIMIT) AND IPV MAY HAVE BEEN PERPETRATED BY ANOTHER INTIMATE PARTNER THAN THE CURRENT PARTNER.

B. Do you fit this description profile?

Yes	1	
No	2	→ Thank and Terminate

Okay, I would like to have a bit more information on you before you finalize your registration.

1. In which age group are you? Is it ...

Under 18	0	TERMINATE
Between 18 and 24	1	
Between 25 and 34	2	
Between 35 and 44	3	
Between 45 and 54	4	
Between 55 and 64	5	
Between 65 and 74	6	
75 or older	7	

2. Do you, or does anyone in your household (Including your parents, siblings, spouse or children) currently work or have worked for the **Federal government or the Provincial government?**

IF YES – Thank and terminate

3. Sometimes participants are asked to watch videos, read a document and/or write out their answers to a questionnaire during the discussion. Is there any reason why you could not participate?

Yes	1	THANK & TERMINATE
No	2	

TERMINATE IF RESPONDENT OFFERS ANY REASON SUCH AS SIGHT OR HEARING PROBLEM, A WRITTEN OR VERBAL LANGUAGE PROBLEM, A CONCERN WITH NOT BEING ABLE TO COMMUNICATE EFFECTIVELY OR IF YOU HAVE A CONCERN.

4. Are you currently...

Working full time	1
Working part time	2
Self-employed / freelance work	3
Student	4
Homemaker	5
Unemployed	6
Retired	7
I prefer not to answer	9

5. Among the following categories, which one best reflects the total INCOME, before taxes, of all the members of your household in 2016?

Less than \$ 30,000	1
From \$ 30,000 to \$ 49,999	2
From \$ 50,000 to \$ 74,999	3
From \$ 75,000 to \$ 99,999	4
\$ 100,000 or more	5
Refusal	9

6. What is the highest level of education you have completed?

Primary (Grade 1-6 in Quebec / Grades 1-8 in ROC)	1
Part of high school / Secondary school / vocational	2
Secondary Completed	3
Part of CEGEP / Technical / College	4
College / Technical / College Completed	5
Part of the university	6

INVITATION SECTION

Date	Ville	GR	Langue	Heure	Endroit

Group specifications:
TORONTO, MONTRÉAL - <u>4 participants per group maximum</u>

“Contact” Section

Someone from our office will be calling you back to confirm these arrangements. Could I please have your phone number where we can reach you during the evening and during the day?

Name: _____

Evening phone: _____ Work phone: _____

Thank you very much!

Recruited by: _____

Confirmed by: _____

As we are only inviting a small number of people to take part, your participation is very important to us. If for some reason you are unable to participate, please call so that we can get someone to replace you. You can reach us at _____ at our office. Please ask for _____.

To ensure that the focus groups run smoothly, we remind you:

- To turn off your cellular phones – to avoid disruptions during the group;
- To arrive 15 minutes earlier – to have sufficient time to park/sign in;
- To bring reading glasses, if necessary to be able to go over the test material;
- To bring a photo ID to collect your incentive;
- That the session will be recorded for analysis purposes only.

Focus group screener - Group 4

SWC - FOCUS GROUP SCREENER

MEN HETEROSEXUAL

Date	Ville	GR	Langue	Heure	Endroit

INTRODUCTION

Hello,

My name is _____ from Consumer Vision, a division of Léger, a marketing research firm. We are organizing a research project on behalf of the Government of Canada. The government commissioned the Léger research firm to conduct a study on the sensitive issue of spousal violence or intimate partner violence (IPV includes physical violence, emotional or psychological abuse, financial abuse, and violence in the context of intimacy). In this study, we want to hear the views of victims of intimate partner violence in different groups of the population.

We will organize small discussion groups (3 or 4 people) in the next few weeks with people who match the profiles they are looking for. Those who attend will receive **\$145** for their time. Please note that participation in these studies is voluntary and that all information collected, used and / or disclosed will be used for research purposes only. This research is entirely confidential, the names of participants will not be provided to the government or to a third party. We guarantee the anonymity of the participants.

Would you be interested in participating? **IF YES, CONTINUE.**

A. Can I ask you some questions to see if you are eligible to participate in the group discussion?

Yes	1	
No	2	→ Thank and Terminate

Note to the recruiter: When you finish a call, say: Thank you for your cooperation. Thank you very much.

As I said earlier, this research project will focus on Intimate Partner Violence (IPV), which includes physical abuse, emotional or psychological abuse, financial abuse, and violence in the context of intimacy).

For the focus group, we would like to hear the views of **heterosexual men who have experienced Intimate Partner Violence (IPV).**

NOTE: PARTICIPANTS MAY HAVE BEEN VICTIMS OF IPV IN THE PAST (NO TIME LIMIT) AND IPV MAY HAVE BEEN PERPETRATED BY ANOTHER INTIMATE PARTNER THAN THE CURRENT PARTNER.

B. Do you fit this description profile?

Yes	1	
No	2	→ Thank and Terminate

Okay, I would like to have a bit more information on you before you finalize your registration.

7. In which age group are you? Is it ...

Under 18	0	TERMINATE
Between 18 and 24	1	
Between 25 and 34	2	
Between 35 and 44	3	
Between 45 and 54	4	
Between 55 and 64	5	
Between 65 and 74	6	
75 or older	7	

8. Do you, or does anyone in your household (Including your parents, siblings, spouse or children) currently work or have worked for the **Federal government or the Provincial government?**

IF YES – Thank and terminate

9. Sometimes participants are asked to watch videos, read a document and/or write out their answers to a questionnaire during the discussion. Is there any reason why you could not participate?

Yes	1	THANK & TERMINATE
No	2	

TERMINATE IF RESPONDENT OFFERS ANY REASON SUCH AS SIGHT OR HEARING PROBLEM, A WRITTEN OR VERBAL LANGUAGE PROBLEM, A CONCERN WITH NOT BEING ABLE TO COMMUNICATE EFFECTIVELY OR IF YOU HAVE A CONCERN.

10. Are you currently...

Working full time	1
Working part time	2
Self-employed / freelance work	3
Student	4
Homemaker	5
Unemployed	6
Retired	7
I prefer not to answer	9

11. Among the following categories, which one best reflects the total INCOME, before taxes, of all the members of your household in 2016?

Less than \$ 30,000	1
From \$ 30,000 to \$ 49,999	2
From \$ 50,000 to \$ 74,999	3
From \$ 75,000 to \$ 99,999	4
\$ 100,000 or more	5
Refusal	9

12. What is the highest level of education you have completed?

Primary (Grade 1-6 in Quebec / Grades 1-8 in ROC)	1
Part of high school / Secondary school / vocational	2
Secondary Completed	3
Part of CEGEP / Technical / College	4

College / Technical / College Completed	5
Part of the university	6
Completed university degree	7

INVITATION SECTION

Date	Ville	GR	Langue	Heure	Endroit

Group specifications:
TORONTO, MONTRÉAL
- <u>4 men per groups maximum</u>

“Contact” Section

Someone from our office will be calling you back to confirm these arrangements. Could I please have your phone number where we can reach you during the evening and during the day?

Name: _____

Evening phone: _____ Work phone: _____

Thank you very much!

Recruited by: _____

Confirmed by: _____

As we are only inviting a small number of people to take part, your participation is very important to us. If for some reason you are unable to participate, please call so that we can get someone to replace you. You can reach us at ____ at our office. Please ask for ____.

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- To bring a photo ID to collect your incentive;
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