



Facing conjugal violence: allies, resources, and rights for immigrant women



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To find out more about the Regroupement des maisons pour femmes victimes de violence conjugale:

maisons-femmes.qc.ca

What are conjugal violence and coercive control?



Are you afraid of your partner and his reactions?

Does your relationship regularly make you feel stressed or anxious?

Does your partner threaten to make you lose your immigration status or have you deported?

Do you fear for your safety and that of your children and loved ones, whether here or in another country?

Whether you have decided to take action or simply want more information, this brochure is here to help you. You are not alone!

If you, your children, or a loved one are in danger, dial 911 immediately.

Conjugal violence isn't always physical. It can take the form of rules imposed or actions taken by a partner or an ex-partner in daily life. These strategies are used to assert and maintain domination over the partner by continually depriving her of her rights and freedoms. The resulting situation is called coercive control.

Coercive control is a new way of understanding conjugal violence. It highlights how a violent partner can use strategies to isolate and terrorize his partner,¹ deprive her of her independence, and control her life by means of subtle and changing rules. These rules take the form of constraints about routine aspects of life, such as how she dresses, prepares meals, does housework, carries on social relations, or takes care of the children.² Such control goes beyond physical violence, insidiously working its way into the whole relationship.

Surveillance, interrogation, isolation, harassment, economic violence, blame, humiliation, threats, sexual violence, and control of technologies are examples of what coercive control can look like.

Such abuses are often subtle, and sometimes invisible to others. For the woman victimized by them, they may cause a feeling of being caught in a trap, an invisible cage.

¹ In situations of conjugal violence occurring in heterosexual couples, it has been clearly shown that the man is the abuser in the great majority of cases. For this reason, we have opted to use language indicating that the victim is female and that the abuser is male.

² Regroupement des maisons pour femmes victimes de violence conjugale (RMFVVC), *Le contrôle coercitif, un levier pour mieux repérer et intervenir en contexte de violence conjugale* (Montreal: RMFVVC, 2022).

Coercive control has significant impacts. It can cause physical health problems and have major psychological consequences, such as being fearful, anxious, or hypervigilant. A victim may lose confidence in herself and her decisions.³

The consequences of coercive control are also felt by the children, even if they do not directly witness it. Their well-being is affected by these restrictive rules, and by the climate of tension and fear in the family. Children may fear the violent partner's reactions, and feel their mother's stress, anxiety, and concern. They may also be directly targeted by control and restrictions: for example, on what they eat, how they dress, what they do, or under what conditions they are allowed to leave the house. The abuser may prevent them from seeing their friends and family or tell them to keep the house quiet and tidy at all times.

A violent partner may also intensify his violence against his partner by exploiting vulnerabilities related to her immigration status. He may:

- Threaten to report her to the immigration authorities or the police
- Withdraw her sponsorship application if it hasn't been accepted yet
- Lie about her rights and the helpful resources available to her
- Forbid contact with people from other cultures
- Refuse to accept a divorce or separation

³ Regroupement des maisons pour femmes victimes de violence conjugale (RMFVVC), *Toolbox – Understanding, detection and intervention in cases of coercive control* (Montreal: RMFVVC, 2022).

Questions to detect coercive control in your relationship:⁴

Do you feel isolated from your friends or family and have no one to talk to?

Do you feel like you are constantly being watched and controlled by your partner?

Are you being physically abused or do you live in fear of abuse?

Is your partner preventing you from learning the language of your host country?

Does he prevent you from going to work?

Does he control your immigration documents, such as your passport or visa?

Does he control your spending?

Are you afraid of leaving your partner because he threatens to kill you or himself?

Are you afraid of leaving your partner because he threatens to have your children taken away?

You will find other examples in **Appendix A — Main manifestations of coercive control.**



If you answered yes to any of these questions, do not hesitate to call a shelter for women who are victims of conjugal violence. These facilities have trained workers who can help you recognize violence and understand its consequences for you and your children. They will listen to you, answer all your questions, and help you meet your needs, even if you are not ready to leave the relationship. The services are free of charge, confidential, and offered 24/7. You will find more information in **Appendix C — Resources.**

⁴ Regroupement des maisons pour femmes victimes de violence conjugale (RMFVVC), *This isn't love... this is control*, translated by Nicole Kennedy (Montreal: RMFVVC, 2023).

What forms does post-separation violence take in an immigration context?

After a separation, a violent partner may continue to try to control you by using different strategies. He may take revenge, try to get you to come back, or prevent you from asserting your rights. He may step up his harassment and surveillance, and try to maintain his hold over you through legal action or economic tactics.⁵

The violent partner may also use the difficulties of the immigration process to complicate the separation. He may threaten you with withdrawing his financial support, reporting you to the immigration authorities, or sending you back to your country of origin. He may also try to humiliate you by denigrating you in front of your family, your community, your colleagues, or resource people.

⁵ Claudine Thibaudeau and Jocelyne Jolin, *SOS-info: everything you need to know about intimate partner violence... or almost* (Montreal: SOS violence conjugale, 2024).

Questions to ask yourself if you think you are experiencing coercive control after a separation:⁶

- Do you feel in danger since the beginning of the separation process?
- Does your partner make you fear for your children's safety?
- Does he threaten you with losing custody?
- Does he tell your children that you are the cause of the family's breakup?
- Did he hide or refuse to give you your immigration papers?
- Did he drag out the legal proceedings related to the separation in order to wear you down or cause you financial hardship?
- Does he accuse you of parental alienation or of being a bad mother?
- Is he refusing to get a divorce in your country of origin?
- Is he violating a no-contact order?
- Is he withholding support payments or monetary contributions?
- Has he stepped up surveillance (stalking or spying on you, etc.) since the separation?

⁶ These questions are taken in part from the La Méridienne, "Post-separation violence," website viewed July 2024.

How does conjugal violence continue in the workplace?

Conjugal violence often goes beyond the private sphere or the home, and may have repercussions on the professional lives of victims, or on their colleagues or employer. Such violence may affect the health and safety of the entire staff.

The violent partner may continue his abuse even when the victim is at work, regardless of where the workplace is located (home, office, client's office). Such behaviour may cause delays, absences, lowered performance, and even loss of employment.

If you are a victim of conjugal violence, your colleagues and employer may be worried about your safety. If your violent partner or ex-partner comes to the workplace to threaten you, that can create a dangerous situation. In such cases, it is the employer's responsibility to take measures to protect the entire staff.

Questions to ask yourself if you think that conjugal violence is affecting your workplace:

- Are you receiving threats from your partner by text or telephone during working hours?
- Does he demand that you call him on every break?
- Does he come to your workplace without notice?
- Does he go with you whenever you travel for work?
- Does he hide or destroy your work documents?
- Does he ask you to quit your job?
- Does he prevent you from going to the office or make you late?
- Does he ask you to refuse promotions?
- Does he criticize your work or your professional achievements?
- Does he track you with geolocation applications or devices?
- Does he call your employer or colleagues to talk about you?

If you can relate to some of these situations, find out if your organization has a conjugal violence resource person or if your employer has made commitments on this subject, since resources may be available.

For more information on protective measures to be considered in cases of conjugal violence, post-separation violence, or conjugal violence in the workplace, see **Appendix B – Protective measures.**

What are the employer's obligations with respect to conjugal violence?

The *Act Respecting Occupational Health and Safety* requires employers to protect the health and safety of their employees. This includes taking measures to protect people exposed to situations of physical or psychological violence, such as conjugal violence in the workplace.⁷ This law applies to all the employees of an organization or business, regardless of a person's immigration status.

⁷ Section 51 (16) of the *Act Respecting Occupational Health and Safety*.

Here are some examples of measures that an employer can offer if you are experiencing conjugal violence:

- Allowing you to work remotely or, on the contrary, to work on-site
- Giving you an emergency button or choosing a code word in case of danger
- Moving your workstation away from areas visible to the public, to guarantee your safety
- Modifying or not publicly displaying your professional information
- Guiding you towards resources specializing in conjugal violence, health, or immigration
- When there is a no-contact order, notifying the police if the abuser shows up on or near the premises, or if he contacts your workplace
- Changing your work schedule to let you attend legal or medical appointments or look for other housing
- Deciding on how to proceed if your partner or ex-partner works in the same place as you
- Letting you leave an emergency suitcase in the workplace, in an inconspicuous location

The employer has these obligations, but they also have to respect your rights. The employer is not an investigator or a conjugal violence expert.

Privacy: You have the right not to confide in your employer or the designated resource person.

Confidentiality: Information that you share or situations that your employer observes are confidential and may only be disclosed to other people with your consent or in cases of imminent danger to another person.

Respect for your choices and pace: You have the right to refuse the help or measures offered by the employer.

Consent: Measures concerning you must be taken with your consent, which you can revoke at any time.

If you don't want to talk about your situation with your employer, or if the help offered doesn't suit you, that doesn't mean you have to go through it alone. Talk to other trusted resources that can help you meet your needs.

What are your rights, and what resources are available, in cases of conjugal violence?

You have the right to:

- Live in an intimate relationship without violence
- Go to the police without your partner to report his violence
- Get a no-contact order against your partner
- Contact or seek professional help without your partner
- Take refuge in a women's shelter, with your children and without your partner's knowledge
- Apply for immigration status independently, if your status depends on a violent partner
- Cancel your lease if conjugal violence threatens you or your children's safety

If you find yourself in a situation of conjugal violence and you are looking for help, know that there are **many resources available to support you**.

For example, you can **call the police**, who play a crucial role by responding rapidly to guarantee your safety and that of your children and loved ones. Police officers have specific powers with respect to conjugal violence-related crimes. They can arrest a suspect if they have reasonable grounds to believe that an offence has been committed. Depending on the situation, the police may decide to keep the suspect in custody, or to release him under certain conditions, until he appears before a judge.⁸

You can also seek help from **resources specializing in conjugal violence**, legal support, or immigration. For example, workers at shelters for women who are victims of conjugal violence can help you navigate the legal system by explaining the judicial process, helping you report the situation to the police, or accompanying you to court.

They can also **assist you every step of the way**, whether you are looking for housing, working on your immigration status, or needing a referral to other resources. Furthermore, all women's shelters have workers who specialize in helping children. These workers can help the children understand what they have been through, overcome the consequences of violence, and rebuild. Shelters offer not only safe accommodation for women and their children, but also personalized support, regardless of your history or the obstacles you are facing.

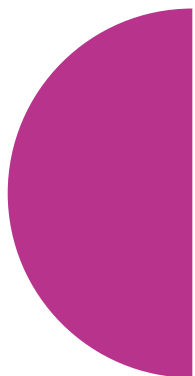
You will find more information on our shelters, the services they offer, and other resources available to support you in **Appendix C – Resources**.

To find out about the services you are entitled to, depending on your immigration status, **see Appendix D – Eligibility for government services by status**.

⁸ Éducaloi, "Making a domestic violence complaint: the steps explained," website viewed July 2024.

A society against conjugal violence and allied with immigrant women

Conjugal violence is unacceptable. Living a life without violence is a fundamental right in Québec society.⁹ The police, the justice system, employers, trade unions, and civil society all work together to protect and support women who are victims of violence and to hold abusers responsible for their acts of aggression.



**Every woman
has a right to feel
free, respected,
and safe!**

⁹ Gouvernement du Québec, Ministère de l'Immigration, de la Francisation et de l'Intégration, *Democratic values and Québec values as expressed in the Charter of Human Rights and Freedoms*, 2024.

Appendices

Appendix A

Main manifestations of coercive control¹⁰

Here are some examples of what coercive control imposed by a violent partner can look like:

Threats

- Threatening to leave with the children, harm them, or take away the victim's custody rights
- Threatening to kill her or to harm her children or loved ones
- Threatening to call the authorities (child and youth protection (DPJ), immigration, mental health-related social services, etc.)

Monitoring and interrogation

- Asking her to text where she is, with whom, and why
- Calling loved ones or professionals with fake concerns about her
- Asking the extended family or community to watch her

Isolation

- Preventing contact with loved ones, colleagues, or support resources
- Forbidding her from working or studying
- Forbidding her from learning the language of the host country

Harassment

- Repeatedly texting or calling
- Stalking, following, or having her followed by friends or family
- Lurking or showing up at her home or workplace to make sure she is there

Humiliation

- Embarrassing or humiliating her in public
- Treating her like a child
- Criticizing her work, appearance, values, etc.

Gaslighting

- Throwing tantrums, insulting and assaulting her, then accusing her of making up stories when she confronts him about it
- Repeatedly telling her that it's all in her mind
- Hitting her, then asking her how she got hurt

Blaming

- Saying that if she leaves, he'll kill himself and it will be her fault
- Blaming her if he loses his job, then refusing to look for another job
- Telling her that he wouldn't get angry if she could keep the kids quiet and under control

¹⁰ Regroupement des maisons pour femmes victimes de violence conjugale (RMFVVC), *Main manifestations, and examples, of coercive control*, 2022.

Physical violence

- Pushing or hitting her, pulling her hair, grabbing her by the throat or face, strangling her
- Hurting the children
- Throwing things

Financial abuse

- Controlling access to bank accounts
- Controlling the budget or keeping her unaware of the family's financial situation
- Taking control over her salary

Sexual violence

- Pressuring her for sex
- Forcing her to watch pornography or asking her to do things she finds humiliating or degrading
- Controlling her contraception and pregnancies (keeping the baby or having an abortion)

Spiritual violence

- Using her beliefs to tighten his control over her
- Preventing her from practising her spirituality
- Forcing her to adopt practices and rituals that are not her own

[Manifestations and examples of coercive control:
[Web version](#)]

Appendix B

Protective measures

Protective measures help you plan what you will do in different situations to keep you and your children safe.¹¹ They can help you prepare for an episode of violence or an imminent separation.¹²

Ideally, these measures should be worked out with the help of a support worker specializing in conjugal violence, who can guide you in adopting personalized safety strategies. Protective measures can also be planned for conjugal violence that may occur in the workplace. The employer may take various steps to protect staff against conjugal violence, with your consent and according to your needs.

¹¹ SOS violence conjugale, "Les scénarios de protection: reprendre du pouvoir sur sa sécurité," website viewed July 2024.

¹² Gouvernement du Québec, "Protective measures," website viewed July 2024.

Here are some things to consider when planning protective measures:

Before an episode of conjugal violence or a separation¹³

- Prepare a suitcase or an emergency bag containing copies of keys, money, credit cards, your and your children's identity documents, other important documents (lease, rent receipts, bank books, health insurance cards, registrations, immigration documents), and your and your children's prescription drugs. You can leave this bag with a trusted person, a family member, or at your workplace.
- Plan a means of transportation for emergency situations demanding a quick exit. Hide a copy of your car key, memorize the phone number of a taxi company, or arrange for transportation with a trusted person.
- Identify allies with whom you can discuss your situation and who can help you in case of danger. Choose a code word to be used only in an emergency, so they will know to contact the police immediately.
- Show your children how to dial 911 in case of emergency or to contact an ally who can support you.
- Plan a safe place where you can go in case of emergency or separation, such as the home of a friend, loved one, or colleague, or a shelter for women who are victims of conjugal violence.
- Contact a women's shelter to receive personalized support at your own pace.

During an episode of violence

- Don't hesitate to call 911 immediately.
- Leave the premises with your children when you are able to do so.
- Always have your cell phone handy and put an emergency number in your contacts, for quick access.
- Avoid rooms with no exits (bathroom, basement) and places where firearms or knives are stored. Locate the best emergency exits.

After separation

- Avoid meeting your ex-partner alone. If a meeting is necessary, hold it in a public place and have someone go with you. Don't meet in parking lots or deserted places.
- Travel along busy streets and through public places.
- Secure your home by changing the locks, keeping your new address private, and installing an alarm system.
- Always have a cell phone with you.
- Change the dates of appointments for you or your children that the abuser may know about.
- Contact a legal advisor to formalize child custody arrangements and know your rights.

¹³ La Méridienne, "Protection," website viewed July 2024.

At work

- Tell your employer, or the resource person of your organization, about your situation. This will help them put personalized protective measures in place.
- Check with your employer about possible accommodations to keep you safe, such as:
 - Changing your work schedule.
 - Being transferred to another workplace if you are being stalked.
 - Authorization to contact specialized resources, the police, or other experts during working hours, without lost wages.
 - Letting you file a complaint during working hours.
- If a no-contact order has been issued, give your employer a photo of the abuser so that he can be denied access to the workplace.
- Ask that a trusted colleague be informed of your situation so that they can accompany you if necessary (for example, to go to your car).
- Decide on a code with your colleagues so that they can discreetly call for help in case of emergency.
- Keep a copy of your important documents and your emergency bag in a safe place at work, if possible.

Refer your employer or your union to the guide “Creating a Safe and Supportive Workplace for Immigrant Employees Who Are Victims of Conjugal Violence – Practical Guide for Employers and Unions” for further ideas on safety measures and accommodations to be put in place.

If you are targeted by harassment, threats, assault, or harassing phone calls, you can call the police and file a complaint.

In case of separation, if your ex-partner continues to be violent, threatening, or intimidating, you have the right to request a no-contact order. Such an order can include provisions banning your ex-partner from coming near you, your home, your workplace, or your children¹⁴. For more information about no-contact orders, you can call the police or the “Rebâtir” free legal information line (see the list of resources in **Appendix C**).

Feel free to ask for guidance from a shelter for women who are victims of conjugal violence to help you navigate the legal system or get other support related to conjugal violence.

¹⁴ About section 810 of the *Criminal Code*: “The ‘810’ (Peace Bond) is a preventive justice tool. It can be ordered by a judge even if no crime has been committed”: Gouvernement du Québec, “The commitment of a Section 810 Peace Bond in context of domestic violence, website viewed July 2024.

Appendix C

Resources

Police

For any emergency, call 911

Conjugal Violence

Member shelters of the Regroupement maisons-femmes.qc.ca

In addition to safe accommodation, the services offered by our shelters are **free and confidential**. The staff let women and children proceed at their own pace, and support them in meeting their needs. They are also equipped to offer services tailored to immigrant women, women facing various difficulties (mental health, addiction, etc.), and women with functional limitations. Find a shelter in your area: maisons-femmes.qc.ca/maisons-membres

Services provided:

- 24/7 phone counselling
- External counselling
- Safe shelter
- Individual, group and youth counselling
- Information, referral, support, and guidance (housing, social assistance, legal procedures, etc.)
- Post-shelter follow-up
- Community prevention and awareness
- Help for loved ones, workplaces, and socio-legal stakeholders

SOS violence conjugale sosviolenceconjugale.ca

Free, bilingual telephone hotline operating 24/7, for victims of conjugal violence and their families. SOS violence conjugale offers support and refers victims to specialized conjugal violence resources.

- Telephone (free): 1 800 363-9010 – 24/7
- Email: sos@sosviolenceconjugale.ca
- **Chat** or text (when available): 1 438 601-1211

Fédération des maisons d'hébergement pour femmes fmhf.ca

The Federation brings together, supports, and represents shelters for women and children who are victims of violence. It operates from a feminist perspective of fighting violence against women. The Federation's member shelters welcome women who are victims of conjugal and family violence, "honour"-based violence, trafficking, sexual exploitation, sexual assault, and homelessness.

Alliance des maisons d'hébergement 2^e étape alliancemh2.org

The Alliance brings together more than 30 facilities offering safe transitional housing and specialized follow-up for post-separation violence, all across Quebec.

L'R des centres des femmes rcentres.qc.ca

This grouping includes 80 women's centres located across Québec. It is an information, education, and action network offering a range of services and activities. Women's centres are spaces that are open to all women, regardless of their situation.

Advocacy and legal Support

Legal aid specializing in immigration law csj.qc.ca

Legal aid is a public legal service in Québec that is offered free of charge, or for a reduced fee, to financially eligible persons who apply for it. The legal aid offices in Québec City and Montréal offer immigration law services.

- Québec City office:
418 801-8562
bajimmigration@ccjq.qc.ca
- Montreal office:
514 864-2111, ext. 6099
baj.immigration@ccjm.qc.ca

Association québécoise des avocats et avocates en droit de l'immigration (AQAADI) aqaadi.com

AQAADI is an association of lawyers practising immigration law throughout Québec.

Barreau du Québec barreau.qc.ca

Certain regional bar offices offer referrals to lawyers who will advise you at a lower cost for the first meeting. You can also find immigration lawyers by searching in the directory of lawyers with the "immigration" field of law and the desired region selected: barreau.qc.ca/fr/trouver-un-avocat

CAVAC (Centre d'aide aux victimes d'actes criminels / victim's support centre) cavac.qc.ca

The CAVACs offer free and confidential services to crime victims in all regions of Québec, even if no complaint has been filed. They offer information on legal rights and recourses, technical assistance (IVAC claims), psychosocial counseling, and referral to specialized resources.

1 866 532-2822
(1 866 LE CAVAC)

La boussole juridique boussolejuridique.ca

A directory of free or low-cost legal resources, listed by region and legal field.

Info DPCP

A free and confidential help line focusing on conjugal and sexual violence and offered by the Direction des poursuites criminelles et pénales (DPCP). Information DPCP will give you information about the criminal justice process, from complaint to trial and everything in between.

1 877 547-3727
(1 877 547-DPCP)
Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to noon and 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Rebâtir rebatir.ca

A free and confidential phone line for victims of conjugal or sexual violence, providing up to four hours of free legal advice from lawyers in all fields of law (family, criminal, immigration, etc.).

1 833 732-2847

Services for immigrants

General

Directory of Québec government partner organizations offering integration support services for immigrants: quebec.ca/immigration/partenaires

Directory of member organizations of the Table de concertation des organismes au service des personnes réfugiées et immigrantes (TCRI, community coordinating committee of immigrant and refugee organizations): tcri.qc.ca/membres/

Health

Doctors of the World, medical services for persons with precarious immigration status (for non-insured persons): doctorsoftheworld.ca

La Maison bleue, a Montreal-based network of facilities offering services for pregnant women in vulnerable situations: maisonbleue.info

Work

The Carrefours jeunesse emploi (CJE) can help young adults (ages 15–35), including immigrants, meet their job search and social and economic integration needs. To find a CJE: trouvetoncje.rcjeq.org

Appendix D

Eligibility for government services by status

The table below gives an overview of rights and services offered to people of different immigration statuses in Québec. It is a handy way to quickly determine your eligibility for existing programs, such as health insurance, social assistance, child allowances, and other forms of support. Other criteria besides status may be required in order to receive these services. For more details, contact these programs directly.

Program	Status								
	Permanent residence (PR)	Closed work permit	Open work permit	Study permit	Temporary resident permit (TRP) for victims of family violence	Visitor	Refugee claimant	Accepted refugee claimant	Non-status
Régime de l'assurance maladie du Québec (RAMQ) ^[1]	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> ^[2]	<input type="radio"/> ^[3]	<input type="radio"/> ^[4]				<input type="radio"/> ^[5]	
Interim Federal Health Program (IFHP)					<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		
Social Assistance Program (Québec)	<input type="radio"/> ^[6]						<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
Employment Insurance (Canada)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
Québec Parental Insurance Plan (QPIP)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
Compensation for victims of crime (IVAC) (Québec)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Legal Aid (Québec)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
MIFI French course (Québec)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>			<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
Filing a complaint with the Commission des normes, de l'équité, de la santé et de la sécurité au travail (CNESST) (Québec)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
Financial compensation after a work accident (CNESST) (Québec)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
Canada Child Benefit (CCB)	<input type="radio"/>					<input type="radio"/> ^[7]		<input type="radio"/>	
Family Allowance (Québec)	<input type="radio"/>							<input type="radio"/>	
Primary- and secondary-school education for children up to the age of 18 (Québec)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> ^[8]	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> ^[8]

- [1] RAMQ: All minors present in Québec for over six months are eligible, regardless of their or their parents' status. Most eligible statuses entitle you to health insurance but not to prescription drug insurance. There is a three-month qualifying period (*waiting period*) before most eligible persons can be covered by the RAMQ.
- [2] The permit must be valid for a period of at least six months.
- [3] Certain open work permits are eligible: post-degree work permit; open work permit for spouse accompanying an eligible person; certain people who are in the permanent residence process.
- [4] Certain students are eligible: if they have a scholarship or if they are doing an internship as part of an official program of the Ministère de l'Éducation, or if they come from countries with which Québec has signed a social security agreement.
- [5] Eligible if the person has a Certificat de sélection du Québec (CSQ).
- [6] Available to the sponsored person if the sponsor refuses to meet their needs or it is intolerable to live with him, such as in cases of conjugal violence. People who have obtained permanent residence before arriving in Canada must wait 90 days before they are eligible to apply for this.
- [7] Eligible as of the 19th month of residence in Québec.
- [8] This right is acquired under the *Education Act* (Québec) and not the immigration laws (Canada and Québec).



REGROUPEMENT DES MAISONS
POUR FEMMES VICTIMES
DE VIOLENCE CONJUGALE



Milieux de travail
alliés contre la
violence conjugale