

Mary Lou Smith  
SCARBOROUGH  
LD 670

My name is Mary Lou Smith. I am 85 years old and left my abusive marriage at the age of 65. My ex was a "respected" college professor on the outside. Inside our house my children and I lived hell on earth. No One Knew! I lived with coercive control the entire 43 years of my marriage. My ex's abuse was physical, verbal, emotional, psychological, and financial. He would put me down with ridicule, offensive and crude language. He would say, "Wait until everyone finds out you are a fake and a fraud." I walked on eggshells 24/7 never knowing when his anger would explode on me and my children. It is imperative that "LD 670 "An act to address Coercive Control in Domestic Abuse Cases" is passed to give victim of domestic abuse the legal rights to address their verbal, emotional, psychological, and financial abuse along with physical abuse.