

CEWP 20-09

# **Determinants of Family Stress and Domestic Violence: Lessons from the COVID-19 Outbreak**

Louis-Philippe  
Beland  
Carleton University

Abel Brodeur  
University of Ottawa

Joanne Haddad  
University of  
Ottawa

Derek Mikola  
Carleton University

June 2020; revised April 2021

**CARLETON ECONOMICS WORKING PAPERS**



**Carleton**  
UNIVERSITY

**Department of Economics**

1125 Colonel By Drive  
Ottawa, Ontario, Canada  
K1S 5B6

# Determinants of Family Stress and Domestic Violence: Lessons from the COVID-19 Outbreak\*

Louis-Philippe Beland      Abel Brodeur      Joanne Haddad      Derek Mikola

April 2021

## Abstract

We study Canadians' concerns regarding the impact of COVID-19 on domestic violence and family stress. Our empirical analysis relies on a unique survey conducted online, the Canadian Perspective Survey Series, which allows us to investigate the determinants of concerns of family stress and domestic violence during the first COVID-19 lockdown. We find no evidence that changes in work arrangements are related to concerns of family stress and violence in the home due to confinement. In contrast, we find that the inability to meet financial obligations and concerns about maintaining social ties are significantly related to concerns of family stress and domestic violence.

KEYWORDS: COVID-19, lockdown, domestic violence, family stress, isolation and remote work.

JEL CODES: D03, I18, J12.

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\*Beland: Carleton University; [louisphilippe.beland@carleton.ca](mailto:louisphilippe.beland@carleton.ca). Brodeur: University of Ottawa; [abrodeur@uottawa.ca](mailto:abrodeur@uottawa.ca). Haddad: University of Ottawa; [jhadd086@uottawa.ca](mailto:jhadd086@uottawa.ca). Mikola: Carleton University; [derekmikola@cmail.carleton.ca](mailto:derekmikola@cmail.carleton.ca). We would like to thank Harold Kim from the Centre for Social Data Integration and Development, Social, Health and Labour Statistics Field (CSDID) at Statistics Canada for clarifying information on the data used. We would also like to thank Stephanie Armbruster and Frances Woolley for helpful comments on the draft.

# 1 Introduction

The surge in domestic violence incidents due to COVID-19 has been discussed widely in the media in several countries. The alleged causes of increasing domestic violence range from lockdowns, remote work, social isolation, and economic distress (Peterman et al. (2020)). For instance, the New York Times recently cited the founder of a foundation helping victims of domestic violence:

“We’ve been getting some very distressing calls, showing us clearly just how intense psychological as well as physical mistreatment can get when people are kept 24 hours a day together within a reduced space.”<sup>1</sup>

Isolation may only be a contributing part of the increase in domestic violence. Economic factors such as being laid-off or working from home are thought to increase the domestic violence rates as stress and interactions within families increase.<sup>2</sup>

“As the worldwide pandemic spawns mass quarantines, dire income loss and uncertainty, experts cautioned that all these conditions can intensify stress and abuse in homes where violence already existed or was imminent.”<sup>3</sup>

In this paper, we rely on a unique survey conducted online, the Canadian Perspective Survey Series (CPSS), to study Canadians’ concerns regarding the impact of COVID-19 on domestic violence and family stress. This survey was conducted from March 29, 2020 to April 3, 2020 using a random sample of households from Statistics Canada’s Labour Force Survey (LFS) and includes questions about the effects of COVID-19 and confinement on family stress, all types of violence inside the home (henceforth domestic violence), worries about financial obligations, remote work and other relevant socioeconomic variables. Respondents did not know that the survey would include questions about family stress or violence in the home prior to their participation. Our study and findings may therefore be more representative of the entire population than surveys specifically targeting victims of domestic violence. Of note, the CPSS survey’s questions do not allow us to disentangle whether Canadians who responded

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<sup>1</sup><https://www.nytimes.com/2020/04/06/world/coronavirus-domestic-violence.html>

<sup>2</sup>The impacts of COVID-19 on the labour market has been documented in Canada, Europe, and the U.S. (e.g., Beland, Brodeur, Mikola and Wright (2020); Lewandowski (2020); Beland, Brodeur and Wright (2020); Gupta et al. (2020)), with large increases in unemployment.

<sup>3</sup><https://www.theglobeandmail.com/canada/article-self-isolation-directives-increase-risk-for-women-facing-domestic-violence>

to the survey believed these questions to reflect social concerns rather than personal risk. Our study thus investigates the relationship between confinement, socioeconomic characteristics and social and individual concerns for domestic violence and family stress.

Our results suggest that employment status and work arrangements such as working from home are not related to concerns about COVID-19’s impacts on family stress and domestic violence.<sup>4</sup> This result provides suggestive evidence that the large increase in remote work is not related to the rise in concerns about the impact of COVID-19 on domestic violence. In contrast, our results suggest that an individual’s inability to meet financial obligations is significantly related to concerns of family stress and domestic violence. We find that both men and women see an increase in concerns of family stress, but the relationship appears larger in magnitude for women.

We further offer a new perspective on the impact of social isolation on family violence. For this analysis, we rely on a question about the concerns regarding COVID-19 impact on respondent’s ability to maintain social ties. We find that an increase in concerns about maintaining social ties is positively associated with concerns regarding domestic violence and family stress from confinement. These results are consistent with prior research which shows that women’s social isolation decreases the perpetrator’s costs of domestic violence and increases the incidence (e.g., [Gelles \(1983\)](#); [Gelles and Straus \(1979\)](#); [Usher et al. \(2020\)](#)).

We contribute to a growing literature on the effects of COVID-19 on mental health, well-being and domestic violence ([Boserup et al. \(2020\)](#); [Brodeur, Clark, Fleche and Powdthavee \(2021\)](#); [Hamermesh \(2020\)](#); [Payne et al. \(2020\)](#); [Tubadji et al. \(2020\)](#)). Three relevant papers using police calls and helpline contacts are [Leslie and Wilson \(2020\)](#), [Armbruster and Klotzbucher \(2020\)](#), and [Bullinger et al. \(2021\)](#) respectively. [Leslie and Wilson \(2020\)](#) provide evidence that COVID-19 and lockdowns in the U.S. had led to a large increase in domestic violence calls. [Armbruster and Klotzbucher \(2020\)](#) provide evidence that helpline contacts increased in Germany by around 20% in the week following the implementation of the lockdown reflecting heightened loneliness, anxiety, and suicidal ideation. [Bullinger et al. \(2021\)](#) examine the impacts of the shelter-in-place order in Chicago. They use a differences-in-

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<sup>4</sup>We use domestic violence and family violence interchangeably in the text. Our question refers to family violence and can refer to any act committed by a family member or intimate partner against another member of the family.

differences approach and document an increase in domestic violence related 911 calls by 7.5% over the first 12 weeks but a decrease by 13% in reported domestic violence crimes and police arrests.<sup>5</sup> We contribute to this growing literature by providing evidence from Canada that the pandemic affects concerns about domestic violence and family stress through increased financial worries and concerns about maintaining social ties.<sup>6</sup>

Last, we contribute to a growing literature on the impacts of COVID-19 on gender equality (e.g., Alon et al. (2020)), the supply of, and demand for child care (e.g., Ali et al. (2020); Sevilla and Smith (2020)) and fertility (Schwandt (2020)).

The rest of the paper is structured as follow. Section 2 briefly discusses the COVID-19 pandemic in Canada. Section 3 describes the data set and our empirical model. Section 4 presents our findings. The last section concludes.

## 2 COVID-19 and Domestic Violence in Canada

Canada has been no exception to the global pandemic caused by COVID-19.<sup>7</sup> Provincial governments closed public schools and ordered a shutdown of businesses which were not deemed essential by mid-March 2020. Additional policies such as restricting the size of public and private gatherings and enforcing social and physical distancing laws were simultaneously rolled out.

On March 18th 2020, the Federal government provided the first announcement for Canada’s COVID-19 Economic Response Plan: Support for Canadians and Businesses. This includes support directly to individuals and businesses primarily aimed at reducing the negative short-run effects anticipated by all due to COVID-19. Additional major policies subsequently added to the Economic Response Plan by the Federal government include the Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB), Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy (CEWS) and the Canada Emer-

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<sup>5</sup>Hoehn-Velasco et al. (2021) find an increase in crime against women in Mexico. Similarly, Bullinger et al. (2020) document the effect of Covid-19 lockdown on child maltreatment.

<sup>6</sup>We also contribute to the literature documenting the effect of COVID-19 on several outcomes in Canada such as Beland, Brodeur, Mikola and Wright (2020), Beland, Fakorede and Mikola (2020), Lemieux et al. (2020), Qian and Fuller (2020), and Leach et al. (2020). See Brodeur, Gray, Islam and Bhuiyan (2021) for a literature review.

<sup>7</sup>As of January 15th, 2021, has caused over 19,500 deaths and 17,000,000 confirmed cases. See <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/coronavirus-disease-covid-19.html> for updated information.

agency Student Benefit (CESB).<sup>8</sup> Still, these policies were met with severe increases in the unemployment rate of Canadians, which rose to 13% in April 2020, a further increase from 7.8% in March 2020 and 5.6% in February 2020 (Beland, Brodeur, Mikola and Wright (2020)).

According to Statistics Canada, during 2018, there were 99,000 reported incidents of intimate partner violence offences in Canada and 60,651 reported incidents for child and youth victims (aged 17 and younger) of police-reported family violence in Canada.<sup>9</sup> Reports in the media document a significant increase in domestic violence incidents due to COVID-19 (e.g., Patel (2020)).

### 3 Data and Methodology

#### 3.1 Study Selection and Summary Statistics

We rely on the Canadian Perspective Survey Series to investigate how COVID-19 might affect Canadians' social and individual concerns for domestic violence and family stress.<sup>10</sup> The CPSS surveyed Canadians between March 29, 2020 and April 3, 2020 using randomly sampled households from the Labour Force Survey's (LFS) out-going rotation group. The survey sampled 7,242 individuals who had a valid email address on file at Statistics Canada, from the 31,896. The final number of respondents available in the CPSS data set is 4,627 individuals which has been weighted to be a representative sample of the Canadian population.<sup>11</sup>

The website for the CPSS states that the "surveys will cover a variety of social topics, such as education, health, and justice."<sup>12</sup> Respondents were thus not aware that they would

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<sup>8</sup>The CERB provides short-term income support for those individuals displaced in the labour market due to COVID-19. CEWS provides businesses with temporary wage subsidies in hopes to retain workers. The CESB provides income support to those in, finishing, or beginning, post-Secondary education since many of these individuals may not qualify for CERB.

<sup>9</sup>For additional statistics, see Shana Conroy and Savage (2019).

<sup>10</sup>The CPSS 1 - Impacts of COVID-19 is the first of six surveys being asked approximately every two months as parts of the Canadian Perspectives Survey Series. The second survey does not include questions about domestic violence or family stress.

<sup>11</sup>The CPSS invited valid individuals from the LFS to participate in this survey through the mail. The mail invitations provided individuals a Secure Access Code and invited them to complete an online Sign-Up form. Participants could choose not to participate online after filling out "basic demographic information" and providing a valid email address. Attempts were made to follow-up with those who did not access the online Sign-Up which included additional mail, email and telephone. CPSS might not be fully representative of the Canadian population. The cumulative response rate (14.6%) is lower than other survey by Statistics Canada. Moreover, the sample also underrepresents people with less than high school education and not in the labour force and overrepresents those who are Canadian born.

<sup>12</sup>See <https://www.statcan.gc.ca/eng/survey/household/5311>.

be asked questions about domestic violence and family stress. The collection method gives respondents flexibility in answering the survey and possibly the privacy needed to answer these questions if they believed those relate to their personal risk. Unfortunately, the survey questions from CPSS do not allow us to determine whether respondents believed they were asked about their social concerns or their personal risk of domestic violence and family stress.

Data on domestic violence, family stress, and maintaining social ties are taken from answers to the question “How concerned are you about each of the following impacts of COVID-19: (Violence in the Home)? (Family stress from Confinement?) (Maintaining social ties)?” We provide summary statistics for the concerns regarding the impact of COVID-19 on family stress due to confinement and violence in the home.

Figure 1 displays respondents’ answers by sex to the question about family stress and domestic violence separately. About 28% (27%), 41% (39%), 20% (20%) and 11% (13%) male (female) respondents report being “Not at all”, “Somewhat”, “Very” and “Extremely” concerned about family stress, respectively. Both sexes are most likely to report being somewhat concerned. We now turn to domestic violence. Figure 1 documents that the largest proportion of respondents (both male and female) report being “Not at all” concerned about violence in the home. Female respondents are more likely to report being “Very” and “Extremely” concerned than male respondents (5.5% and 4.6% versus 3.6% and 2.5%, respectively).

We rely on answers about COVID-19’s impacts on respondents’ ability to meet financial obligations. Possible answers include “Major impact”, “Moderate impact”, “Minor impact”, “No impact” and “Too soon to tell”. Furthermore, we include in our analysis respondents’ answers about concerns about maintaining social ties due to COVID-19. Respondents are offered four answers ranging from “Not at all” to “Extremely.” Lastly, we use a question that asks employed respondents whether they think they might lose their main job or their main self-employment income sources over the next four weeks. Throughout our analysis, we refer to this as job security.

We present summary statistics for these variables as well as respondents’ employment status and work arrangements by gender for our entire sample and only those who report being employed. Table 1 shows that for our entire sample of respondents, male and female respondents are most likely to report “No impact” for the ability to meet financial obligations.

The second largest proportion of male and female respondents report that it is too soon to tell. Male (female) respondents who report a moderate impact of COVID-19 on their ability to meet financial obligations constitute 15.6% (15.2%). Unlike male respondents, women are more likely to report a “Minor impact” than a “Moderate impact”. This is also similar for our sample of employed individuals.

With respect to concerns about maintaining social ties, both sexes across the entire sample of respondents and employed only, individuals are most likely to report being somewhat concerned. The proportion of female respondents, irrespective of their employment status, that report being very and extremely concerned is larger than that of male respondents. Lastly, statistics for the question related to job security reported in Table 1 show that male respondents, all and employed, are more likely to agree that they might lose their job as a result of COVID-19 than female respondents.

In Table 2, we tabulate individuals’ characteristics by their answers to the question related to concerns about family stress due to confinement. We do so for our entire sample of respondents, i.e., for both sexes. We find that, regardless of respondents’ age category, respondents are most likely to report being somewhat concerned about family stress. We also document that, except for respondents who report living in common-law, individuals are most likely to report being somewhat concerned about family stress.

Next, we display demographic characteristics of male and female respondents in our sample. Recall that our data is weighted to be a representative sample of the Canadian population. Table 3 shows that the largest proportion of respondents, across both sexes, are aged 55 and above. About 55% of male respondents and 48% of female respondents are married, respectively. The majority of respondents report not having a child under 18 present in their dwelling.

### 3.2 Model

The dependent variables are answers to questions about (social and individual) concerns regarding COVID-19’s impact on family stress and domestic violence. Specifically, we estimate:



$$Y_i = \alpha + \beta EmploymentStatus_i + \theta WorkArrangement_i + \phi JobSecurity_i + \zeta FinancialPressure_i + X_i' \gamma + \varepsilon_i \quad (1)$$

where  $Y_i$  is individual  $i$ 's response to the question related to the concerns about family stress/violence in the home. *Employment Status<sub>i</sub>* are dummy variables capturing individual  $i$ 's employment status: employed, employed and absent due to COVID, employed and absent not due to COVID or not employed. *Work Arrangement<sub>i</sub>* are dummy variables indicating whether individual  $i$ 's work location has changed from outside the home to at home, or it remains at home, or whether individual  $i$ 's work location remains outside the home and finally whether individual  $i$  is absent from work. *Job Security<sub>i</sub>* captures whether respondent  $i$  thinks that they might lose their main job or self-employment income sources over the next four weeks. *Financial Pressure<sub>i</sub>* captures COVID-19's impacts on individual  $i$ 's ability to meet financial obligations or essential needs. We rely throughout on ordered probit models. We additionally estimate OLS models in which the dependent variables are standardized to have a mean of zero and a standard deviation of one. The estimates are not shown for space consideration.  $X_i'$  is a set of demographic controls at the individual-level including age group dummies, marital status of respondent, dummies for having a child under 18 on the reference week residing in the dwelling, and highest level of education ever completed. Of note, each independent variable of interest also contains a "Not stated" category which was controlled for but not shown for space consideration when displaying our results. The base category for each variable is indicated in the footnote of each table.

We also rely on an alternative specification in which we omit *Financial Pressure<sub>i</sub>* and instead include dummy variables for answers to the question on concerns about maintaining social ties.

## 4 Results

In this section, we first present the results for the relationship between confinement, socioeconomic characteristics and social and individual concerns for domestic violence and family stress. We then investigate the social isolation mechanism and provide a heterogeneity anal-

ysis by respondents’ marital status.

#### 4.1 Employment, Work Arrangements and Financial Pressures

We present estimates of Equation 1 for our two outcome variables of interest: family stress from confinement and domestic violence. We first test whether employment status, work arrangements (work location), job security (worries about losing one’s job) and financial pressure (respondents’ answers to the question regarding COVID-19’s impacts on their ability to meet financial obligations or essential needs) are related to concerns about family stress and domestic violence. The dependent variable is respondents’ concerns regarding the impact of COVID-19 on family stress due to confinement in Tables 4 and 5 for female and male respondents, respectively. We rely on concerns about domestic violence answers as the dependent variable in Tables 6 and 7 for female and male respondents, respectively. All columns include our set of individual controls.

We first describe Table 4 for concerns for family stress for women and Table 6 for concerns for domestic violence for women. Both tables are structured identically. Column 1 of Tables 4 and 6 shows the relationship between employment status and family stress and domestic violence. We find that females who are not employed, employed but absent from work due to COVID-19 and employed but absent for other reasons were not significantly more likely to report higher concerns regarding the impact of COVID-19 on family stress due to confinement or concerns of domestic violence than women who are employed.

As women work increasingly from home because of social distancing, they may be more concerned about losing access to support from co-workers. We test whether work arrangements are related to concerns of family stress and domestic violence in column 2 of Tables 4 and 6. We find no evidence that females who are now working from home because of COVID-19 report different concerns regarding the impact of COVID-19 on family stress and domestic violence than women working outside of home and those already working from home prior to the pandemic.

So far, our findings suggest that employment status and work arrangements are not related to women’s concerns of COVID-19’s impacts on family stress and domestic violence. This is against the prior that increased concerns of domestic violence might be related to work-at-

home conditions and employment status linked to lockdowns and isolation.

To understand the mechanisms through which COVID-19 might impact family’s well-being, we examine in columns 3 and 5 whether COVID-19’s impacts on respondents’ ability to meet financial obligations or essential needs and job security are key determinants of concerns of family stress and domestic violence. In column 3 of Tables 4 and 6, we include dummies in our model for answers to questions about COVID-19’s impacts on abilities to meet financial obligations. We find that women answering “Major impact” are significantly more likely to report higher concerns regarding the impact of COVID-19 on family stress and violence in the home than those answering “No impact.”

In column 4 of Tables 4 and 6, we include in the model our work arrangements dummies as in column 2 and answers for COVID-19’s impacts about abilities to meet financial obligations. Our results from column 3 remain robust. In column 5 of Tables 4 and 6, we restrict the sample to employed female respondents and include our dummy variables for concerns about losing one’s job. Our findings suggest that employed women who strongly agree that they will lose their main job or main self-employment income in the next four weeks are also more likely to report higher concerns about COVID-19 impacts’ on family stress in comparison to those who strongly disagree. However, we find no evidence in support of higher concerns about violence in the home.

Lastly, the estimates in column 6 of Tables 4 and 6 suggest that our findings for the relationship between women’s worries about job security and concerns regarding the impact of COVID-19 on family stress and domestic violence are robust to the inclusion of work arrangements dummies.

In Tables 5 and 7, we repeat the analysis presented above for male respondents. The tables have a similar structure. In many respects, we find similar results. The ability to meet financial obligations is a main factor associated with concerns about family stress. We also find that employment status is weakly related to concerns about family stress and not significantly related to concerns about domestic violence.

While our previous findings for female respondents document that concerns about family stress and domestic violence are not related to work arrangements, we find that men who are now working from home because of COVID-19 are significantly *less* likely to report higher

concerns regarding the impact of COVID-19 on family stress and domestic violence. This is robust to controlling for respondents' ability to meet financial obligations and risks of losing jobs. This is suggestive that work arrangements for men affect their social and individual concerns of family stress and domestic violence due to COVID-19 through non-economic channels.<sup>13</sup>

Overall, our findings provide suggestive evidence that remote work is not one of the key determinants driving men and women's increased concerns about family stress and domestic violence.<sup>14</sup>

Another interesting difference between men and women is the relationship between losing one's job and concerns about domestic violence. Both men and women who believe that they will lose their main job within the next few weeks are also more likely to report higher social and individual concerns regarding the impact of COVID-19 on family stress, but only men report higher concerns about domestic violence. This may be related to intra-household bargaining as the relative labour market outcomes (wage or employment) of women increase in the couple. [Anderberg et al. \(2016\)](#)'s intra-household bargaining model predicts that women's unemployment probability and expected future earnings affect the risk of domestic violence through changes in women's bargaining power relative to their male partner. Many previous papers document a negative link between women's employment and domestic violence against them (e.g., [Aizer \(2010\)](#); [Bowlus and Seitz \(2006\)](#); [Heise and Kotsadam \(2015\)](#)).<sup>15</sup>

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<sup>13</sup>Another plausible mechanism is increased alcohol and drug consumption. Self-reported data from CPSS suggest that COVID-19 led to an increase in consumption. More precisely, 14% and 7% of men report increased weekly alcohol and cannabis consumption, respectively.

<sup>14</sup>A related mechanism is that a decrease in employment and increase in work-from-home due to COVID-19 may induce intimate partner violence by increasing the time partners spend together. This is related to the theory of exposure reduction developed by criminologists (see [Dugan et al. \(1999\)](#), for instance). We do not find empirical evidence supporting this mechanism.

<sup>15</sup>We repeat this analysis and estimate a linear model using OLS in which the dependent variables are standardized to have a mean of zero and a standard deviation of one. We do not report these results for space consideration. Our conclusions however remain the same. As an additional sensitivity analysis, we code our dependent variable of interest (violence in the home) as a binary indicator that takes on a value of zero if an individual responded "Not at all" and one if an individual responded "Somewhat", "Very", or "Extremely". We estimate a probit model as well as OLS estimations for women and men. The results are qualitatively similar in these alternative specifications. Results are available upon request.

## 4.2 Social Isolation

To investigate the social isolation mechanism, we rely on questions from the CPSS that asks respondents about concerns regarding the impact of COVID-19 on the ability to maintain social ties. Results using ordered probit estimation are reported in Table 8 for our outcomes of interest: family stress and violence in the home. Our estimates show that women who report higher concerns about maintaining social ties are significantly more likely to report higher concerns about family stress from confinement and domestic violence. Conditional on work arrangement dummies, and controlling for individual level demographic controls, we find that women who report being extremely concerned about COVID-19’s impacts on the ability to maintain social ties are also more likely to report higher concerns regarding the impact of COVID-19 on family stress and domestic violence, respectively, than women who report not being concerned at all.<sup>16</sup>

We repeat this analysis for male respondents. Results using ordered probit models are reported in Appendix Table A1. Our outcome of interest is family stress in columns (1) and (2) and violence in the home in columns (3) and (4). We document evidence in support of a positive relationship between being concerned about COVID-19’s impacts on the ability of maintaining social ties and concerns about family stress and domestic violence for men.

We show the estimates for our control variables in Appendix Table A2 for concerns about family stress (in columns (1) and (2)) and violence in the home (in columns (3) and (4)) for male and female respondents, respectively. The list of individual-level characteristics includes age group dummies, marital status of respondent, dummies for having a child under 18 on the reference week residing in the dwelling, and highest level of education ever completed. We find that male and female respondents who report living in common-law relationships are less (more) likely to report concerns about the impact of COVID-19 about domestic violence (family stress). We document that older women are more concerned with domestic violence whereas age does not correlate with their social and individual concerns about domestic violence. We also show that women respondents with a child under 19 present in dwelling are more likely to be concerned about family stress. Lastly, education does not seem to correlate

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<sup>16</sup>Results using OLS and an alternative specification using probit models with a binary dummy indicator for violence in the home confirm the validity of our findings. We do not show these results for space consideration.

with concerns about family stress for both men and women.

Our findings suggest that financial pressures due to COVID-19 are positively related to concerns (both societal and individual) about the impact of COVID-19 on family stress due to confinement irrespective of gender. We also document key socioeconomic determinants of respondents’ concerns of domestic violence as a result of COVID-19. Lastly, we provide evidence that concerns about social isolation (through concerns about COVID-19’s impacts on the ability to maintain social ties) positively correlates with concerns of family stress and domestic violence for both men and women.

### 4.3 Heterogeneity by Marital Status

This subsection investigates how the relationship between concerns about domestic violence and financial pressures due to COVID-19 and social isolation differ depending on respondents’ marital status, as marital status might affect concerns for violence in the home.

First, we examine the relationship with financial pressure and employment status for our sample of female respondents in Table 9. Second, we check whether concerns about social isolation due to COVID-19 relates to respondents’ societal and individual concerns of domestic violence by marital status. We report this analysis in Table 10 for women.

In these tables, the first columns represent the sample composed of individuals who are either single, widowed, separated or divorced, followed by the sample of individuals who are either married or in common-law relationships. We first test whether employment status relate to concerns about domestic violence. Then, we introduce the information about respondents’ ability to meet financial obligations and work arrangements.

Results for female respondents from Table 9 show no evidence in support of a relationship between financial pressures due to COVID-19 and concerns about domestic violence for our sample of single, widowed, separated or divorced women. For married or common-law female respondents, we document that those who report a “Major impact” for financial pressure are significantly more likely to report higher concerns about domestic violence. We generally do not document a relationship between job security and concerns about domestic violence for female respondents irrespective of their marital status.

When we carry this analysis for male respondents by their marital status in Appendix

Table A3, we find some evidence that male individuals who are single, widowed, separated or divorced that report an impact of COVID-19 on their ability to meet financial obligations are more likely to report higher concerns regarding the impact of COVID-19 on domestic violence. In contrast, we do not find evidence in support of a link between financial pressure and concerns of domestic violence for male respondents who are married or in common-law relationships. Overall, we find no evidence for a relationship between employment status and concerns of domestic violence for both married and non-married male respondents.

Next, we investigate the social isolation mechanism by marital status for women respondents in Table 10. We document a positive association between concerns about maintaining social ties and concerns about domestic violence for respondents answering "Extremely" for both married and non-married female respondents. The relationship appears somewhat stronger for married or common-law female respondents in comparison to single, widowed, separated or divorced women. For males, we find that for both single, widowed, separated or divorced and married and common-law respondents, there is a strong positive association between concerns about maintaining social ties and concerns for domestic violence (Appendix Table A4).

To sum up, our findings document that concerns for domestic violence for both genders vary by marital status. Interestingly, for female respondents, our results suggest that concerns about maintaining social ties is positively associated with concerns about domestic violence and that the relationship is stronger for married or common-law female respondents in comparison to single, widowed, separated or divorced women.

## 5 Discussion

This paper documents the determinants of Canadians' concerns (social and individual) regarding the impact of COVID-19 on family stress and domestic violence. Our paper thus contributes to the growing literature documenting an increase in domestic violence incidents following COVID-19 in other jurisdictions such as [Leslie and Wilson \(2020\)](#), [Armbruster and Klotzbucher \(2020\)](#), and [Bullinger et al. \(2021\)](#). We rely on a unique survey, the Canadian Perspective Survey, which includes questions on the concerns about the effect of COVID-19

on family stress, domestic violence and social isolation and the impacts of COVID-19 on respondents' ability to meet financial obligations, their work arrangements as well as their demographic characteristics. Our results provide suggestive evidence that work arrangements such as remote work are not related to Canadians' concerns regarding the impact of COVID-19 on family stress and domestic violence. These results are important given the large and widespread increase in remote work and the potential for long lasting increase in work from home arrangements (e.g. [Sachedina and Cousins \(2020\)](#)). Rather, our results suggest that the inability to meet financial obligations due to COVID-19 are significantly (positively) related to (societal and individual) concerns regarding COVID-19's impacts on family stress and domestic violence.

The Canadian government has pledged up to \$50 million (CAD) in their COVID-19 Economic Response Plan towards women's shelters and sexual assault centres, with \$40 million being given out by May 16, 2020.<sup>17</sup> Our analysis suggest that this is a step in the right direction to help mitigate the negative effect of COVID-19 on family stress and violence.

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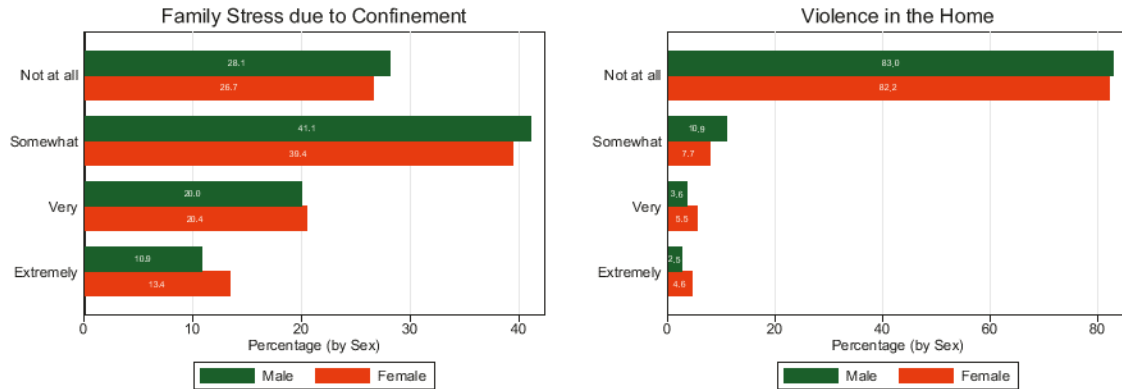
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Figure 1: Concerns about family stress due to confinement and violence in the home.



Notes: Authors' calculations. Data from the Canadian Perspectives Survey Series 1 with final weights applied to all subgraphs.

Table 1: Summary Statistics for Dependent Variables and Main Independent Variables

| <i>Independent variables</i>                  | Family stress from confinement |        |       |              |        |       |
|---|--------------------------------|--------|-------|--------------|--------|-------|
|   | All Observations (N)           |        |       | Employed (N) |        |       |
|   | Male                           | Female | Total | Male         | Female | Total |
| <b>Employment Status</b>                      |                                |        |       |              |        |       |
| Employed                                      | 52.4                           | 37.1   | 44.5  | 83.3         | 70.3   | 77.2  |
| Employed, Absent, not COVID                   | 2.8                            | 4.2    | 3.5   | 4.5          | 7.9    | 6.1   |
| Employed, absent due to COVID                 | 6.7                            | 10.6   | 8.7   | 10.7         | 20.0   | 15.1  |
| Not Employed                                  | 36.9                           | 46.5   | 41.8  |              |        |       |
| Not Stated                                    | 1.2                            | 1.7    | 1.5   | 1.5          | 1.7    | 1.6   |
| Total   | 100.0                          | 100.0  | 100.0 | 100.0        | 100.0  | 100.0 |
| <b>Telework Status</b>                        |                                |        |       |              |        |       |
| Work location changed to home                 | 17.4                           | 13.0   | 15.1  | 27.6         | 24.7   | 26.2  |
| Work location remains at home                 | 6.7                            | 6.7    | 6.7   | 10.7         | 12.8   | 11.7  |
| work remains outside home                     | 27.5                           | 16.0   | 21.6  | 43.7         | 30.4   | 37.4  |
| Absent from work                              | 9.6                            | 14.8   | 12.3  | 15.3         | 28.0   | 21.3  |
| Not Stated                                    | 38.8                           | 49.5   | 44.3  | 2.7          | 4.2    | 3.4   |
| Total   | 100.0                          | 100.0  | 100.0 | 100.0        | 100.0  | 100.0 |
| <b>Concerned with maintaining social ties</b> |                                |        |       |              |        |       |
| Not at all                                    | 23.2                           | 21.8   | 22.5  | 23.5         | 22.2   | 22.9  |
| Somewhat                                      | 43.8                           | 42.0   | 42.9  | 43.7         | 42.3   | 43.0  |
| Very  | 22.6                           | 23.9   | 23.3  | 22.2         | 22.8   | 22.5  |
| Extremely                                     | 9.1                            | 11.1   | 10.1  | 10.0         | 12.1   | 11.0  |
| Not stated                                    | 1.3                            | 1.3    | 1.3   | 0.7          | 0.5    | 0.6   |
| Total   | 100.0                          | 100.0  | 100.0 | 100.0        | 100.0  | 100.0 |
| <b>Might lose job</b>                         |                                |        |       |              |        |       |
| Strongly agree                                | 12.4                           | 10.9   | 11.6  | 19.7         | 20.7   | 20.2  |
| Agree   | 9.9                            | 6.5    | 8.1   | 15.7         | 12.4   | 14.1  |
| Neither agree nor disagree                    | 12.3                           | 9.0    | 10.6  | 19.5         | 17.2   | 18.4  |
| Disagree                                      | 13.9                           | 12.8   | 13.3  | 22.1         | 24.4   | 23.2  |
| Strongly disagree                             | 14.4                           | 12.9   | 13.6  | 22.8         | 24.4   | 23.6  |
| Valid skip                                    | 37.1                           | 47.3   | 42.4  |              |        |       |
| Not stated                                    | 0.1                            | 0.5    | 0.3   | 0.2          | 1.0    | 0.6   |
| Total   | 100.0                          | 100.0  | 100.0 | 100.0        | 100.0  | 100.0 |
| <b>Ability to meet financial obligations</b>  |                                |        |       |              |        |       |
| Major impact                                  | 14.7                           | 12.5   | 13.6  | 16.3         | 16.2   | 16.3  |
| Moderate impact                               | 15.6                           | 15.2   | 15.4  | 16.4         | 16.3   | 16.4  |
| Minor impact                                  | 15.2                           | 16.1   | 15.7  | 16.7         | 15.4   | 16.1  |
| No impact                                     | 30.9                           | 32.0   | 31.5  | 28.5         | 28.5   | 28.5  |
| Too soon to tell                              | 23.5                           | 24.0   | 23.8  | 22.0         | 23.5   | 22.7  |
| Not stated                                    | 0.1                            | 0.2    | 0.1   | 0.1          | 0.0    | 0.1   |
| Total   | 100.0                          | 100.0  | 100.0 | 100.0        | 100.0  | 100.0 |

Notes: Authors' calculations. Data from the CPSS. All statistics are constructed using weights. The independent variables are calculated on the "Family stress from confinement" sample. The columns under "All Observations (%)" represent the whole sample while the "Employed (%)" columns takes the sample of only those who are employed.

Table 2: Demographic Characteristics for Both Sexes by Responses to Family Stress due to Confinement

| <i>Control Variables</i>                                     | Family stress from confinement, all observations (%) |          |      |           |       |
|--|--|----------|------|-----------|-------|
|  | Not at all   | Somewhat | Very | Extremely | Total |
| <b>Sex</b>   |  |          |      |           |       |
| Male   | 28.1   | 41.1     | 20.0 | 10.9      | 100   |
| Female   | 26.7   | 39.4     | 20.4 | 13.4      | 100   |
| Total  | 27.4   | 40.2     | 20.2 | 12.2      | 100   |
| <b>Age categories</b>  |  |          |      |           |       |
| 15 to 34   | 26.1   | 37.1     | 21.0 | 15.8      | 100   |
| 35 to 54   | 23.5   | 38.8     | 23.8 | 13.8      | 100   |
| 55+  | 31.7   | 44.1     | 16.5 | 7.7       | 100   |
| <b>Marital status</b>  |  |          |      |           |       |
| Married  | 24.8   | 43.9     | 20.6 | 10.6      | 100   |
| Living common-law  | 37.2   | 35.3     | 20.4 | 7.0       | 100   |
| Widowed/separated/divorced                                   | 32.8   | 36.5     | 20.5 | 10.1      | 100   |
| Single, never married  | 26.2   | 36.5     | 19.2 | 18.1      | 100   |
| <b>Child under 18 present in dwelling</b>                    |  |          |      |           |       |
| No child under 18  | 30.5   | 40.9     | 17.4 | 11.2      | 100   |
| Child under 18   | 21.5   | 38.9     | 25.6 | 14.1      | 100   |
| <b>Highest level of education ever attained</b>              |  |          |      |           |       |
| Less than high school  | 26.2   | 31.5     | 21.0 | 21.2      | 100   |
| High school diploma or a high school equivalency certificate | 26.7   | 41.4     | 19.7 | 12.2      | 100   |
| Trade certificate or diploma                                 | 31.2   | 39.8     | 20.6 | 8.4       | 100   |
| College/CEGEP/other non-university certificate or diploma    | 28.4   | 39.1     | 20.7 | 11.7      | 100   |
| University certificate or diploma below the bachelor's level | 26.3   | 30.9     | 32.9 | 9.8       | 100   |
| Bachelor's degree (e.g. B.A., B.Sc., LL.B.)                  | 25.2   | 45.4     | 19.5 | 10.0      | 100   |
| University certificate, diploma, degree above the B.A. level | 30.0   | 44.1     | 16.9 | 9.0       | 100   |

Notes: Authors' calculations. Data from the CPSS. All statistics are constructed using weights. The control variables are calculated on the "Family stress from confinement" sample that includes employed or unemployed respondents.

Table 3: Demographic Characteristics by Sex

|  | Family Stress due to Confinement |        |       |
|--|----------------------------------|--------|-------|
|  | Male                             | Female | Total |
| <b>Age Categories</b>  |                                  |        |       |
| 15 to 34   | 30.9                             | 32.0   | 31.4  |
| 35 to 54   | 32.6                             | 30.6   | 31.5  |
| 55+  | 36.6                             | 37.4   | 37.0  |
| Total  | 100.0                            | 100.0  | 100.0 |
| <b>Marital Status</b>  |                                  |        |       |
| Married  | 55.3                             | 48.4   | 51.7  |
| Living common-law  | 10.8                             | 11.9   | 11.3  |
| Widowed/Separated/Divorced                                   | 6.7                              | 12.0   | 9.5   |
| Single, never married  | 27.3                             | 27.7   | 27.5  |
| Total  | 100.0                            | 100.0  | 100.0 |
| <b>Child under 18 present in dwelling</b>                    |                                  |        |       |
| No child under 18  | 67.1                             | 63.3   | 65.2  |
| Child under 18   | 32.9                             | 36.7   | 34.8  |
| Total  | 100.0                            | 100.0  | 100.0 |
| <b>Highest level of education ever completed</b>             |                                  |        |       |
| Less than high school diploma or its equivalent              | 12.3                             | 14.5   | 13.5  |
| High school diploma or a high school equivalent              | 25.8                             | 28.0   | 26.9  |
| Trade certificate or diploma                                 | 12.4                             | 6.7    | 9.5   |
| College/CEGEP/other non-university certificate or diploma    | 18.0                             | 20.5   | 19.3  |
| University certificate or diploma below the bachelor's level | 2.3                              | 2.6    | 2.5   |
| Bachelor's degree (e.g. B.A., B.Sc., LL.B.)                  | 20.0                             | 19.1   | 19.5  |
| University certificate, diploma, degree above the BA level   | 9.1                              | 8.5    | 8.8   |
| Total  | 100.0                            | 100.0  | 100.0 |

Notes: Authors' calculations. Data from the CPSS. All statistics are constructed using weights. The control variables are calculated on the "Family stress from confinement" sample that includes employed or unemployed respondents.

Table 4: Concerns about Family Stress: Employment, Work Arrangements and Financial Worries, *Ordered Probit*

| <i>Dependent Variable:</i>                   | Females             |       |                      |                       |                     |                     |
|--|---------------------|-------|----------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
|  | All Observations    |       |                      |                       | Employed            |                     |
|  | (1)                 | (2)   | (3)                  | (4)                   | (5)                 | (6)                 |
| <i>Family stress from confinement</i>        |                     |       |                      |                       |                     |                     |
| <b>Employment status</b>                     |                     |       |                      |                       |                     |                     |
| Employed, absent, not COVID                  | 0.289<br>(0.1955)   |       |                      |                       |                     |                     |
| Employed, absent due to COVID                | 0.0995<br>(0.1123)  |       |                      |                       |                     |                     |
| Not employed                                 | 0.0906<br>(0.0846)  |       |                      |                       |                     |                     |
| <b>Work from home</b>                        |                     |       |                      |                       |                     |                     |
| Work location changed to home                | 0.00608<br>(0.1131) |       |                      | -0.00908<br>(0.1145)  |                     | 0.0379<br>(0.1093)  |
| Work location remains at home                | -0.0411<br>(0.1426) |       |                      | -0.117<br>(0.1424)    |                     | -0.102<br>(0.1422)  |
| Absent from work                             | 0.141<br>(0.1213)   |       |                      | -0.000877<br>(0.1273) |                     | 0.131<br>(0.1203)   |
| <b>Ability to meet financial obligations</b> |                     |       |                      |                       |                     |                     |
| Major impact                                 |                     |       | 0.555***<br>(0.1206) | 0.564***<br>(0.1253)  |                     |                     |
| Moderate impact                              |                     |       | 0.452***<br>(0.1088) | 0.453***<br>(0.1110)  |                     |                     |
| Minor impact                                 |                     |       | 0.234**<br>(0.1099)  | 0.239**<br>(0.1112)   |                     |                     |
| Too soon to tell                             |                     |       | 0.300***<br>(0.0954) | 0.303***<br>(0.0967)  |                     |                     |
| <b>Might lose job</b>                        |                     |       |                      |                       |                     |                     |
| Strongly agree                               |                     |       |                      |                       | 0.264*<br>(0.1358)  | 0.230*<br>(0.1354)  |
| Agree  |                     |       |                      |                       | 0.215<br>(0.1441)   | 0.209<br>(0.1446)   |
| Neither agree nor disagree                   |                     |       |                      |                       | 0.300**<br>(0.1411) | 0.308**<br>(0.1406) |
| Disagree                                     |                     |       |                      |                       | 0.146<br>(0.1221)   | 0.165<br>(0.1227)   |
| Observations                                 | 2433                | 2433  | 2433                 | 2433                  | 1448                | 1448                |
| Pseudo $R^2$                                 | 0.025               | 0.025 | 0.036                | 0.037                 | 0.020               | 0.021               |
| Individual Controls                          | ✓                   | ✓     | ✓                    | ✓                     | ✓                   | ✓                   |

Notes: Authors' calculations. Data from the CPSS. All regressions are estimated using an ordered probit with robust standard errors and weights applied. All observations are females. Columns 1 through 4 are all of our observations while columns 5 through 6 are only the subsample who are employed. The dependent variable asks individuals their concern about the impact of COVID-19 on family stress due to confinement. The dependent variable takes on the values 1 (Not at all), 2 (Somewhat), 3 (Very), 4 (Extremely). All columns include dummies for age, marital status, whether the dwelling has a child under the age of 18 residing in it, and highest education level attained by the respondent. Each independent variable of interest also contains a "Not stated" category which was controlled for (not shown). Column 1 appends the controls with a categorical variable describing the employment status of the respondent. The base category is "Employed". Column 2 appends the controls with a categorical variable describing if the location of where the respondent worked has changed. The base category is "Work location remains outside the home". Column 3 appends the controls with a categorical variable describing if COVID-19 impacted the respondent's ability to meet financial obligations or essential needs. The base category is "No impact". Column 4 appends the controls with the work from home and ability to meet financial obligations variables. Column 5 appends the controls with a categorical variable describing if respondents feel they will lose their main job or main self-employment income in the next 4 weeks. The base category is "Strongly disagree". Observations are fewer because we omit those who are not valid. Column 6 appends the controls with the work from home and might lose job variables.

Table 5: Concerns about Family Stress: Employment, Work Arrangements and Financial Worries, *Ordered Probit*

| <i>Dependent Variable:</i>                   | Males            |       |          |           |          |           |
|--|------------------|-------|----------|-----------|----------|-----------|
|  | All Observations |       |          |           | Employed |           |
|  | (1)              | (2)   | (3)      | (4)       | (5)      | (6)       |
| <i>Family stress from confinement</i>        |                  |       |          |           |          |           |
| <b>Employment status</b>                     |                  |       |          |           |          |           |
| Employed, absent, not COVID                  | 0.293*           |       |          |           |          |           |
|  | (0.1611)         |       |          |           |          |           |
| Employed, absent due to COVID                | -0.260           |       |          |           |          |           |
|  | (0.1923)         |       |          |           |          |           |
| Not employed                                 | -0.0399          |       |          |           |          |           |
|  | (0.1077)         |       |          |           |          |           |
| <b>Work from home</b>                        |                  |       |          |           |          |           |
| Work location changed to home                | -0.244**         |       |          | -0.202*   |          | -0.200*   |
|  | (0.1198)         |       |          | (0.1203)  |          | (0.1153)  |
| Work location remains at home                | -0.392***        |       |          | -0.408*** |          | -0.405*** |
|  | (0.1456)         |       |          | (0.1520)  |          | (0.1391)  |
| Absent from work                             | -0.202           |       |          | -0.359**  |          | -0.232    |
|  | (0.1626)         |       |          | (0.1663)  |          | (0.1664)  |
| <b>Ability to meet financial obligations</b> |                  |       |          |           |          |           |
| Major impact                                 |                  |       | 0.658*** | 0.709***  |          |           |
|  |                  |       | (0.1252) | (0.1302)  |          |           |
| Moderate impact                              |                  |       | 0.447*** | 0.484***  |          |           |
|  |                  |       | (0.1224) | (0.1212)  |          |           |
| Minor impact                                 |                  |       | 0.287**  | 0.283**   |          |           |
|  |                  |       | (0.1291) | (0.1267)  |          |           |
| Too soon to tell                             |                  |       | 0.575*** | 0.579***  |          |           |
|  |                  |       | (0.1181) | (0.1178)  |          |           |
| <b>Might lose job</b>                        |                  |       |          |           |          |           |
| Strongly agree                               |                  |       |          |           | 0.156    | 0.199     |
|  |                  |       |          |           | (0.1468) | (0.1518)  |
| Agree  |                  |       |          |           | 0.422*** | 0.438***  |
|  |                  |       |          |           | (0.1537) | (0.1512)  |
| Neither agree nor disagree                   |                  |       |          |           | 0.102    | 0.0917    |
|  |                  |       |          |           | (0.1684) | (0.1653)  |
| Disagree                                     |                  |       |          |           | -0.0703  | -0.0724   |
|  |                  |       |          |           | (0.1185) | (0.1173)  |
| Observations                                 | 2128             | 2128  | 2128     | 2128      | 1322     | 1322      |
| Pseudo $R^2$                                 | 0.018            | 0.020 | 0.036    | 0.041     | 0.032    | 0.039     |
| Individual Controls                          | ✓                | ✓     | ✓        | ✓         | ✓        | ✓         |

Notes: Authors' calculations. Data from the CPSS. All regressions are estimated using an ordered probit with robust standard errors and weights applied. All observations are males. Columns 1 through 4 are all of our observations while columns 5 through 6 are only the subsample who are employed. The dependent variable asks individuals their concern about the impact of COVID-19 on family stress due to confinement. The dependent variable takes on the values 1 (Not at all), 2 (Somewhat), 3 (Very), 4 (Extremely). All columns include dummies for age, marital status, whether the dwelling has a child under the age of 18 residing in it, and highest education level attained by the respondent. Each independent variable of interest also contains a "Not stated" category which was controlled for (not shown). Column 1 appends the controls with a categorical variable describing the employment status of the respondent. The base category is "Employed". Column 2 appends the controls with a categorical variable describing if the location of where the respondent worked has changed. The base category is "Work location remains outside the home". Column 3 appends the controls with a categorical variable describing if COVID-19 impacted the respondent's ability to meet financial obligations or essential needs. The base category is "No impact". Column 4 appends the controls with the work from home and ability to meet financial obligations variables. Column 5 appends the controls with a categorical variable describing if respondents feel they will lose their main job or main self-employment income in the next 4 weeks. The base category is "Strongly disagree". Observations are fewer because we omit those who are not valid. Column 6 appends the controls with the work from home and might lose job variables.



Table 6: Concerns about Violence in the Home: Employment, Work Arrangements and Financial Worries, *Ordered Probit*

| <i>Dependent Variable:</i>                   | Females          |       |          |          |          |          |
|--|------------------|-------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
|  | All Observations |       |          |          | Employed |          |
|  | (1)              | (2)   | (3)      | (4)      | (5)      | (6)      |
| <i>Violence in the home</i>                  |                  |       |          |          |          |          |
| <b>Employment status</b>                     |                  |       |          |          |          |          |
| Employed, absent, not COVID                  | -0.148           |       |          |          |          |          |
|  | (0.1936)         |       |          |          |          |          |
| Employed, absent due to COVID                | 0.0706           |       |          |          |          |          |
|  | (0.1704)         |       |          |          |          |          |
| Not employed                                 | -0.0410          |       |          |          |          |          |
|  | (0.1123)         |       |          |          |          |          |
| <b>Work from home</b>                        |                  |       |          |          |          |          |
| Work location changed to home                | -0.0570          |       |          | -0.0518  |          | -0.0434  |
|  | (0.1481)         |       |          | (0.1515) |          | (0.1468) |
| Work location remains at home                | -0.0349          |       |          | -0.0818  |          | -0.0365  |
|  | (0.1976)         |       |          | (0.2012) |          | (0.1907) |
| Absent from work                             | 0.0105           |       |          | -0.0813  |          | 0.0359   |
|  | (0.1642)         |       |          | (0.1605) |          | (0.1699) |
| <b>Ability to meet financial obligations</b> |                  |       |          |          |          |          |
| Major impact                                 |                  |       | 0.331**  | 0.348**  |          |          |
|  |                  |       | (0.1614) | (0.1628) |          |          |
| Moderate impact                              |                  |       | 0.189    | 0.198    |          |          |
|  |                  |       | (0.1458) | (0.1472) |          |          |
| Minor impact                                 |                  |       | 0.0486   | 0.0550   |          |          |
|  |                  |       | (0.1455) | (0.1432) |          |          |
| Too soon to tell                             |                  |       | 0.0451   | 0.0514   |          |          |
|  |                  |       | (0.1252) | (0.1262) |          |          |
| <b>Might lose job</b>                        |                  |       |          |          |          |          |
| Strongly agree                               |                  |       |          |          | -0.122   | -0.208   |
|  |                  |       |          |          | (0.1545) | (0.1598) |
| Agree  |                  |       |          |          | 0.0676   | 0.0569   |
|  |                  |       |          |          | (0.1679) | (0.1677) |
| Neither agree nor disagree                   |                  |       |          |          | -0.0155  | -0.00166 |
|  |                  |       |          |          | (0.2187) | (0.2180) |
| Disagree                                     |                  |       |          |          | -0.240   | -0.218   |
|  |                  |       |          |          | (0.1599) | (0.1577) |
| Observations                                 | 2429             | 2429  | 2429     | 2429     | 1446     | 1446     |
| Pseudo $R^2$                                 | 0.011            | 0.010 | 0.015    | 0.015    | 0.018    | 0.025    |
| Individual Controls                          | ✓                | ✓     | ✓        | ✓        | ✓        | ✓        |

Notes: Authors' calculations. Data from the CPSS. All regressions are estimated using an ordered probit with robust standard errors and weights applied. All observations are females. Columns 1 through 4 are all of our observations while columns 5 through 6 are only the subsample who are employed. The dependent variable asks individuals their concern about the impact of COVID-19 on violence in the home. The dependent variable takes on the values 1 (Not at all), 2 (Somewhat), 3 (Very), 4 (Extremely). All columns include dummies for age, marital status, whether the dwelling has a child under the age of 18 residing in it, and highest education level attained by the respondent. Each independent variable of interest also contains a "Not stated" category which was controlled for (not shown). Column 1 appends the controls with a categorical variable describing the employment status of the respondent. The base category is "Employed". Column 2 appends the controls with a categorical variable describing if the location of where the respondent worked has changed. The base category is "Work location remains outside the home". Column 3 appends the controls with a categorical variable describing if COVID-19 impacted the respondent's ability to meet financial obligations or essential needs. The base category is "No impact". Column 4 appends the controls with the work from home and ability to meet financial obligations variables. Column 5 appends the controls with a categorical variable describing if respondents feel they will lose their main job or main self-employment income in the next 4 weeks. The base category is "Strongly disagree". Observations are fewer because we omit those who are not valid. Column 6 appends the controls with the work from home and might lose job variables.

Table 7: Concerns about Violence in the Home: Employment, Work Arrangements and Financial Worries, *Ordered Probit*

| <i>Dependent Variable:</i>                   | Males               |       |                     |                     |                     |                     |
|--|---------------------|-------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
|  | All Observations    |       |                     |                     | Employed            |                     |
|  | (1)                 | (2)   | (3)                 | (4)                 | (5)                 | (6)                 |
| <i>Violence in the home</i>                  |                     |       |                     |                     |                     |                     |
| <b>Employment status</b>                     |                     |       |                     |                     |                     |                     |
| Employed, absent, not COVID                  | 0.183<br>(0.3227)   |       |                     |                     |                     |                     |
| Employed, absent due to COVID                | -0.0877<br>(0.1916) |       |                     |                     |                     |                     |
| Not employed                                 | 0.0895<br>(0.1352)  |       |                     |                     |                     |                     |
| <b>Work from home</b>                        |                     |       |                     |                     |                     |                     |
| Work location changed to home                | -0.276*<br>(0.1500) |       | -0.260*<br>(0.1521) |                     | -0.256*<br>(0.1507) |                     |
| Work location remains at home                | -0.226<br>(0.1865)  |       | -0.186<br>(0.1910)  |                     | -0.208<br>(0.1869)  |                     |
| Absent from work                             | -0.121<br>(0.1856)  |       | -0.140<br>(0.1877)  |                     | -0.204<br>(0.1955)  |                     |
| <b>Ability to meet financial obligations</b> |                     |       |                     |                     |                     |                     |
| Major impact                                 |                     |       | 0.138<br>(0.1520)   | 0.134<br>(0.1537)   |                     |                     |
| Moderate impact                              |                     |       | 0.143<br>(0.1550)   | 0.139<br>(0.1566)   |                     |                     |
| Minor impact                                 |                     |       | 0.228<br>(0.1596)   | 0.222<br>(0.1565)   |                     |                     |
| Too soon to tell                             |                     |       | 0.398**<br>(0.1553) | 0.388**<br>(0.1551) |                     |                     |
| <b>Might lose job</b>                        |                     |       |                     |                     |                     |                     |
| Strongly agree                               |                     |       |                     |                     | 0.277<br>(0.1868)   | 0.339*<br>(0.1941)  |
| Agree  |                     |       |                     |                     | -0.180<br>(0.1931)  | -0.175<br>(0.1948)  |
| Neither agree nor disagree                   |                     |       |                     |                     | 0.155<br>(0.1988)   | 0.153<br>(0.1995)   |
| Disagree                                     |                     |       |                     |                     | -0.0434<br>(0.1911) | -0.0512<br>(0.1893) |
| Observations                                 | 2121                | 2121  | 2121                | 2121                | 1320                | 1320                |
| Pseudo $R^2$                                 | 0.020               | 0.022 | 0.028               | 0.030               | 0.033               | 0.046               |
| Individual Controls                          | ✓                   | ✓     | ✓                   | ✓                   | ✓                   | ✓                   |

Notes: Authors' calculations. Data from the CPSS. All regressions are estimated using an ordered probit with robust standard errors and weights applied. All observations are males. Columns 1 through 4 are all of our observations while columns 5 through 6 are only the subsample who are employed. The dependent variable asks individuals their concern about the impact of COVID-19 on violence in the home. The dependent variable takes on the values 1 (Not at all), 2 (Somewhat), 3 (Very), 4 (Extremely). All columns include dummies for age, marital status, whether the dwelling has a child under the age of 18 residing in it, and highest education level attained by the respondent. Each independent variable of interest also contains a "Not stated" category which was controlled for (not shown). Column 1 appends the controls with a categorical variable describing the employment status of the respondent. The base category is "Employed". Column 2 appends the controls with a categorical variable describing if the location of where the respondent worked has changed. The base category is "Work location remains outside the home". Column 3 appends the controls with a categorical variable describing if COVID-19 impacted the respondent's ability to meet financial obligations or essential needs. The base category is "No impact". Column 4 appends the controls with the work from home and ability to meet financial obligations variables. Column 5 appends the controls with a categorical variable describing if respondents feel they will lose their main job or main self-employment income in the next 4 weeks. The base category is "Strongly disagree". Observations are fewer because we omit those who are not valid. Column 6 appends the controls with the work from home and might lose job variables.

Table 8: Concerns about Family Stress and Violence in the Home: Social Isolation, *Ordered Probit*

| <i>Sample</i>                                 | Females                          |                      |                      |                      |
|---|----------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
|   | Family Stress due to Confinement |                      | Violence in the Home |                      |
| <i>Dependent Variable</i>                     | (1)                              | (2)                  | (3)                  | (4)                  |
| <b>Concerned with maintaining social ties</b> |                                  |                      |                      |                      |
| Somewhat                                      | 0.437***<br>(0.0937)             | 0.438***<br>(0.0932) | 0.381***<br>(0.1292) | 0.381***<br>(0.1287) |
| Very  | 0.822***<br>(0.1111)             | 0.822***<br>(0.1108) | 0.518***<br>(0.1358) | 0.520***<br>(0.1360) |
| Extremely                                     | 1.396***<br>(0.1801)             | 1.393***<br>(0.1794) | 0.883***<br>(0.1884) | 0.889***<br>(0.1899) |
| <b>Work from home</b>                         |                                  |                      |                      |                      |
| Work location changed to home                 |                                  | 0.00164<br>(0.1190)  |                      | -0.0830<br>(0.1457)  |
| Work location remains at home                 |                                  | -0.0622<br>(0.1483)  |                      | -0.0390<br>(0.2041)  |
| Absent from work                              |                                  | 0.0284<br>(0.1289)   |                      | -0.0634<br>(0.1743)  |
| Observations                                  | 2433                             | 2433                 | 2429                 | 2429                 |
| Pseudo $R^2$                                  | 0.073                            | 0.074                | 0.033                | 0.033                |
| Individual Controls                           | ✓                                | ✓                    | ✓                    | ✓                    |

Notes: Authors' calculations. Data from the CPSS. All regressions are estimated using an ordered probit with robust standard errors and weights applied. All observations are females. The dependent variable in columns 1 and 2 asks individuals their concern about the impact of COVID-19 on family stress due to confinement. The dependent variable takes on the values 1 (Not at all), 2 (Somewhat), 3 (Very), 4 (Extremely). The dependent variable in columns 3 and 4 asks individuals their concern about the impact of COVID-19 on violence in the home. The dependent variable takes on the values 1 (Not at all), 2 (Somewhat), 3 (Very), 4 (Extremely). Column 1 and 3 appends the controls with a categorical variable describing how concerned the respondents are for maintaining social ties following the impacts of COVID-19. The base category is "Not at all". Column 2 and 4 appends the controls with the work from home and the concerned with maintaining social ties variable.

Table 9: Concerns about Violence in the Home: Employment, Work from Home, and Financial Worries for Females by Marital Status

| <i>Dependent Variable: Violence in the home</i> | Females                              |                    |                    |                       |                     |                     |
|---|--------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
|   | Single, widowed, separated, divorced |                    |                    | Married or common law |                     |                     |
|   | All Observations                     |                    | Employed           | All Observations      |                     | Employed            |
|   | (1)                                  | (2)                | (3)                | (4)                   | (5)                 | (6)                 |
| <b>Employment status</b>                        |                                      |                    |                    |                       |                     |                     |
| Employed, Absent, not COVID                     | -0.297<br>(0.2901)                   |                    |                    | -0.005<br>(0.2593)    |                     |                     |
| Employed, absent due to COVID                   | -0.153<br>(0.2192)                   |                    |                    | 0.271<br>(0.2361)     |                     |                     |
| Not Employed                                    | -0.161<br>(0.1749)                   |                    |                    | -0.001<br>(0.1402)    |                     |                     |
| <b>Work from home</b>                           |                                      |                    |                    |                       |                     |                     |
| Work location changed to home                   |                                      | -0.245<br>(0.2465) | -0.256<br>(0.2257) |                       | 0.061<br>(0.1849)   | 0.031<br>(0.1750)   |
| Work location remains at home                   |                                      | 0.304<br>(0.3238)  | 0.225<br>(0.2934)  |                       | -0.322<br>(0.2521)  | -0.316<br>(0.2574)  |
| Absent from work                                |                                      | -0.285<br>(0.2232) | -0.108<br>(0.2215) |                       | 0.112<br>(0.2150)   | 0.176<br>(0.2231)   |
| <b>Ability to meet financial obligations</b>    |                                      |                    |                    |                       |                     |                     |
| Major impact                                    |                                      | 0.205<br>(0.2530)  |                    |                       | 0.422**<br>(0.2107) |                     |
| Moderate impact                                 |                                      | 0.348<br>(0.2264)  |                    |                       | 0.034<br>(0.1684)   |                     |
| Minor impact                                    |                                      | -0.101<br>(0.2243) |                    |                       | 0.106<br>(0.1791)   |                     |
| Too soon to tell                                |                                      | 0.002<br>(0.1956)  |                    |                       | 0.092<br>(0.1588)   |                     |
| <b>Might lose job</b>                           |                                      |                    |                    |                       |                     |                     |
| Strongly agree                                  |                                      |                    | -0.161<br>(0.2502) |                       |                     | -0.182<br>(0.2122)  |
| Agree   |                                      |                    | 0.088<br>(0.2819)  |                       |                     | -0.018<br>(0.2167)  |
| Neither agree nor disagree                      |                                      |                    | -0.282<br>(0.2697) |                       |                     | 0.255<br>(0.2819)   |
| Disagree  |                                      |                    | -0.113<br>(0.2586) |                       |                     | -0.296*<br>(0.1735) |
| Observations                                    | 1022                                 | 1022               | 627                | 1407                  | 1407                | 819                 |
| Pseudo $R^2$                                    | 0.027                                | 0.036              | 0.065              | 0.008                 | 0.014               | 0.031               |
| Individual Controls                             | ✓                                    | ✓                  | ✓                  | ✓                     | ✓                   | ✓                   |

Notes: Authors' calculations. Data from the CPSS. All regressions are estimated using an ordered probit with robust standard errors and weights applied. Observations are only females. Columns 1 through 3 is the sample who are single, widowed, separated or divorced. Columns 4 through 6 is the sample of women who are married or common-law. Columns 1, 2, 4, and 5, are all of the observations while those in columns 3 and 6 are only those who are employed. The dependent variable asks individuals their concern about the impact of COVID-19 on violence in the home. The dependent variable takes on the values 1 (Not at all), 2 (Somewhat), 3 (Very), 4 (Extremely). All columns include dummies for age, marital status, whether the dwelling has a child under the age of 18 residing in it, and highest education level attained by the respondent. Each independent variable of interest also contains a "Not stated" category which was controlled for (not shown). Columns 1 and 4 append the controls with a categorical variable describing the employment status of the respondent. The base category is "Employed". Columns 2 and 5 append the controls with the work from home and ability to meet financial obligations variables. Columns 3 and 6 append the controls with the work from home and might lose job variables.

Table 10: Concerns about Violence in the Home: Social Isolation for Females by Marital Status

| <i>Dependent Variable: Violence in the home</i> | Females                                 |                      |                          |                      |
|---|---|----------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|
|   | Single, widowed,<br>separated, divorced |                      | Married or<br>common law |                      |
|   | (1)                                     | (2)                  | (3)                      | (4)                  |
| <b>Concerned with maintaining social ties</b>   |   |                      |                          |                      |
| Somewhat  | 0.326<br>(0.2083)                       | 0.289<br>(0.2101)    | 0.378**<br>(0.1634)      | 0.380**<br>(0.1614)  |
| Very  | 0.043<br>(0.2289)                       | 0.043<br>(0.2316)    | 0.696***<br>(0.1717)     | 0.696***<br>(0.1727) |
| Extremely                                       | 0.711***<br>(0.2700)                    | 0.728***<br>(0.2747) | 0.920***<br>(0.2526)     | 0.903***<br>(0.2552) |
| <b>Work from home</b>                           |   |                      |                          |                      |
| Work location changed to home                   |   | -0.274<br>(0.2325)   |                          | 0.054<br>(0.1828)    |
| Work location remains at home                   |   | 0.324<br>(0.3192)    |                          | -0.291<br>(0.2489)   |
| Absent from work                                |   | -0.232<br>(0.2341)   |                          | 0.140<br>(0.2313)    |
| Observations                                    | 1018                                    | 1018                 | 1400                     | 1400                 |
| Pseudo $R^2$                                    | 0.041                                   | 0.048                | 0.033                    | 0.036                |
| Individual Controls                             | ✓                                       | ✓                    | ✓                        | ✓                    |

Notes: Authors' calculations. Data from the CPSS. All regressions are estimated using an ordered probit with robust standard errors and weights applied. Observations are only females. Columns 1 and 2 is the sample of women who are single, widowed, separated or divorced. Columns 3 and 4 is the sample of women who are married or common-law. The dependent variable asks individuals their concern about the impact of COVID-19 on violence in the home. The dependent variable takes on the values 1 (Not at all), 2 (Somewhat), 3 (Very), 4 (Extremely). All columns include dummies for age, marital status, whether the dwelling has a child under the age of 18 residing in it, and highest education level attained by the respondent. Each independent variable of interest also contains a "Not stated" category which was controlled for (not shown). Columns 1 through 4 append the controls with a categorical variable describing how concerned the respondents are for maintaining social ties following the impacts of COVID-19. The base category is "Not at all". Columns 2 and 4 append the controls with the work from home and the concerned with maintaining social ties variable.

# Appendix A

Table A1: Concerns about Family Stress and Violence in the Home: Social Isolation, *Ordered Probit*

| <i>Sample</i>                                 | Males                            |                      |                      |                      |
|---|----------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
|   | Family Stress due to Confinement |                      | Violence in the Home |                      |
|   | (1)                              | (2)                  | (3)                  | (4)                  |
| <b>Concerned with maintaining social ties</b> |                                  |                      |                      |                      |
| Somewhat                                      | 0.479***<br>(0.1067)             | 0.481***<br>(0.1064) | 0.343**<br>(0.1491)  | 0.353**<br>(0.1477)  |
| Very  | 1.015***<br>(0.1209)             | 1.020***<br>(0.1207) | 0.694***<br>(0.1711) | 0.702***<br>(0.1694) |
| Extremely                                     | 1.676***<br>(0.2312)             | 1.664***<br>(0.2299) | 0.953***<br>(0.2035) | 0.949***<br>(0.2035) |
| <b>Work from home</b>                         |                                  |                      |                      |                      |
| Work location changed to home                 |                                  | -0.215*<br>(0.1204)  |                      | -0.260*<br>(0.1540)  |
| Work location remains at home                 |                                  | -0.258<br>(0.1604)   |                      | -0.134<br>(0.1828)   |
| Absent from work                              |                                  | -0.258*<br>(0.1502)  |                      | -0.161<br>(0.1869)   |
| Observations                                  | 2128                             | 2128                 | 2121                 | 2121                 |
| Pseudo $R^2$                                  | 0.085                            | 0.088                | 0.050                | 0.053                |
| Individual Controls                           | ✓                                | ✓                    | ✓                    | ✓                    |

Notes: Authors' calculations. Data from the CPSS. All regressions are estimated using an ordered probit with robust standard errors and weights applied. All observations are males. The dependent variable in columns 1 and 2 asks individuals their concern about the impact of COVID-19 on family stress due to confinement. The dependent variable takes on the values 1 (Not at all), 2 (Somewhat), 3 (Very), 4 (Extremely). The dependent variable in columns 3 and 4 asks individuals their concern about the impact of COVID-19 on violence in the home. The dependent variable takes on the values 1 (Not at all), 2 (Somewhat), 3 (Very), 4 (Extremely). Columns 1 and 3 append the controls with a categorical variable describing how concerned the respondents are for maintaining social ties following the impacts of COVID-19. The base category is "Not at all". Columns 2 and 4 append the controls with the work from home and the concerned with maintaining social ties variable.

Table A2: Controls by Outcome and Sex, *Ordered Probit*

| <i>Dependent variable:</i>                                   | Family Stress due<br>to Confinement |                      | Violence in<br>the Home |                    |
|--|-------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|
|  | Female<br>(1)                       | Male<br>(2)          | Female<br>(3)           | Male<br>(4)        |
| <i>Subsample:</i>  |                                     |                      |                         |                    |
| <b>Age Categories</b>  |                                     |                      |                         |                    |
| 35 to 54   | -0.030<br>(0.099)                   | 0.214*<br>(0.129)    | 0.221*<br>(0.126)       | 0.033<br>(0.143)   |
| 55+  | -0.102<br>(0.107)                   | -0.267*<br>(0.143)   | 0.293**<br>(0.137)      | 0.035<br>(0.170)   |
| <b>Marital Status</b>  |                                     |                      |                         |                    |
| Living common-law  | -0.199*<br>(0.103)                  | -0.390***<br>(0.128) | 0.386***<br>(0.125)     | 0.296**<br>(0.146) |
| Widowed/Separated/Divorced                                   | -0.001<br>(0.099)                   | -0.133<br>(0.118)    | 0.183<br>(0.142)        | 0.176<br>(0.149)   |
| Single, never married  | 0.156<br>(0.102)                    | -0.123<br>(0.140)    | 0.345***<br>(0.127)     | 0.275**<br>(0.138) |
| <b>Child under 18 present in dwelling</b>                    | 0.370***<br>(0.094)                 | -0.142<br>(0.121)    | 0.104<br>(0.129)        | 0.015<br>(0.157)   |
| <b>Highest level of education ever completed</b>             |                                     |                      |                         |                    |
| High school diploma or a high school equivalency certificate | -0.096<br>(0.159)                   | -0.136<br>(0.236)    | -0.135<br>(0.205)       | -0.061<br>(0.278)  |
| Trade certificate or diploma                                 | -0.345*<br>(0.180)                  | -0.139<br>(0.235)    | 0.002<br>(0.220)        | 0.024<br>(0.294)   |
| College/CEGEP/other non-university certificate or diploma    | -0.116<br>(0.159)                   | -0.177<br>(0.236)    | -0.148<br>(0.199)       | -0.325<br>(0.271)  |
| University certificate or diploma below the bachelor's level | -0.092<br>(0.211)                   | 0.032<br>(0.272)     | 0.042<br>(0.306)        | 0.476<br>(0.464)   |
| Bachelor's degree (e.g. B.A., B.Sc., LL.B.)                  | -0.286*<br>(0.156)                  | -0.067<br>(0.232)    | -0.091<br>(0.196)       | 0.125<br>(0.276)   |
| University certificate, diploma, degree above the BA level   | -0.257<br>(0.169)                   | -0.280<br>(0.235)    | -0.049<br>(0.208)       | 0.328<br>(0.274)   |
| Observations   | 2433                                | 2128                 | 2429                    | 2121               |
| Pseudo $R^2$   | 0.024                               | 0.016                | 0.010                   | 0.019              |

Notes: Authors' calculations. Data from the CPSS. All regressions are estimated using an ordered probit with robust standard errors and weights applied. Columns 1 and 3 use the sample of only females; columns 2 and 4 use the sample of only males. The dependent variable in columns 1 and 2 asks individuals their concern about the impact of COVID-19 on family stress due to confinement. The dependent variable takes on the values 1 (Not at all), 2 (Somewhat), 3 (Very), 4 (Extremely). The dependent variable in columns 3 and 4 asks individuals their concern about the impact of COVID-19 on violence in the home. The dependent variable takes on the values 1 (Not at all), 2 (Somewhat), 3 (Very), 4 (Extremely).

Table A3: Concerns about Violence in the Home: Employment, Work from Home, and Financial Worries for Males by Marital Status

| <i>Dependent Variable: Violence in the home</i> | Males                                |          |          |                       |          |          |
|---|--------------------------------------|----------|----------|-----------------------|----------|----------|
|   | Single, widowed, separated, divorced |          |          | Married or common law |          |          |
|   | All Observations                     |          | Employed | All Observations      |          | Employed |
|   | (1)                                  | (2)      | (3)      | (4)                   | (5)      | (6)      |
| <b>Employment status</b>                        |                                      |          |          |                       |          |          |
| Employed, Absent, not COVID                     | -0.707                               |          |          | 0.468                 |          |          |
|   | (0.4532)                             |          |          | (0.3589)              |          |          |
| Employed, absent due to COVID                   | -0.139                               |          |          | 0.056                 |          |          |
|   | (0.2805)                             |          |          | (0.2354)              |          |          |
| Not Employed                                    | 0.132                                |          |          | 0.091                 |          |          |
|   | (0.2314)                             |          |          | (0.1547)              |          |          |
| <b>Work from home</b>                           |                                      |          |          |                       |          |          |
| Work location changed to home                   |                                      | 0.246    | 0.143    |                       | -0.388** | -0.379** |
|   |                                      | (0.2730) | (0.2668) |                       | (0.1824) | (0.1824) |
| Work location remains at home                   |                                      | 0.162    | 0.226    |                       | -0.406*  | -0.436*  |
|   |                                      | (0.3068) | (0.2886) |                       | (0.2363) | (0.2310) |
| Absent from work                                |                                      | -0.291   | -0.367   |                       | 0.029    | -0.005   |
|   |                                      | (0.3004) | (0.2947) |                       | (0.2243) | (0.2211) |
| <b>Ability to meet financial obligations</b>    |                                      |          |          |                       |          |          |
| Major impact                                    |                                      | 0.408*   |          |                       | 0.021    |          |
|   |                                      | (0.2467) |          |                       | (0.1831) |          |
| Moderate impact                                 |                                      | 0.306    |          |                       | 0.090    |          |
|   |                                      | (0.2702) |          |                       | (0.1873) |          |
| Minor impact                                    |                                      | 0.678*** |          |                       | -0.013   |          |
|   |                                      | (0.2605) |          |                       | (0.1909) |          |
| Too soon to tell                                |                                      | 0.794*** |          |                       | 0.192    |          |
|   |                                      | (0.2590) |          |                       | (0.1733) |          |
| <b>Might lose job</b>                           |                                      |          |          |                       |          |          |
| Strongly agree                                  |                                      |          | 0.550*   |                       |          | 0.150    |
|   |                                      |          | (0.3203) |                       |          | (0.2250) |
| Agree   |                                      |          | -0.457   |                       |          | -0.145   |
|   |                                      |          | (0.3540) |                       |          | (0.2193) |
| Neither agree nor disagree                      |                                      |          | 0.214    |                       |          | 0.113    |
|   |                                      |          | (0.3548) |                       |          | (0.2288) |
| Disagree  |                                      |          | 0.072    |                       |          | -0.148   |
|   |                                      |          | (0.3288) |                       |          | (0.2282) |
| Observations                                    | 717                                  | 717      | 439      | 1404                  | 1404     | 881      |
| Pseudo $R^2$                                    | 0.040                                | 0.069    | 0.092    | 0.033                 | 0.042    | 0.056    |
| Individual Controls                             | ✓                                    | ✓        | ✓        | ✓                     | ✓        | ✓        |

Notes: Authors' calculations. Data from the CPSS. All regressions are estimated using an ordered probit with robust standard errors and weights applied. Observations are only males. Columns 1 through 3 is the sample who are single, widowed, separated or divorced. Columns 4 through 6 is the sample of men who are married or common-law. Columns 1, 2, 4, and 5, are all of the observations while those in columns 3 and 6 are only those who are employed. The dependent variable asks individuals their concern about the impact of COVID-19 on violence in the home. The dependent variable takes on the values 1 (Not at all), 2 (Somewhat), 3 (Very), 4 (Extremely). All columns include dummies for age, marital status, whether the dwelling has a child under the age of 18 residing in it, and highest education level attained by the respondent. Each independent variable of interest also contains a "Not stated" category which was controlled for (not shown). Columns 1 and 4 append the controls with a categorical variable describing the employment status of the respondent. The base category is "Employed". Columns 2 and 5 append the controls with the work from home and ability to meet financial obligations variables. Columns 3 and 6 append the controls with the work from home and might lose job variables.



Table A4: Concerns about Violence in the Home: Social Isolation for Males by Marital Status

| <i>Dependent Variable: Violence in the home</i> | Males                                   |                      |                          |                      |
|---|---|----------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|
|   | Single, widowed,<br>separated, divorced |                      | Married or<br>common law |                      |
|   | (1)                                     | (2)                  | (3)                      | (4)                  |
| <b>Concerned with maintaining social ties</b>   |   |                      |                          |                      |
| Somewhat  | 0.732***<br>(0.2690)                    | 0.758***<br>(0.2660) | 0.148<br>(0.1684)        | 0.148<br>(0.1668)    |
| Very  | 1.425***<br>(0.3154)                    | 1.455***<br>(0.3174) | 0.312*<br>(0.1827)       | 0.312*<br>(0.1809)   |
| Extremely                                       | 1.121***<br>(0.3834)                    | 1.203***<br>(0.3491) | 0.886***<br>(0.2340)     | 0.862***<br>(0.2301) |
| <b>Work from home</b>                           |   |                      |                          |                      |
| Work location changed to home                   |   | 0.201<br>(0.2650)    |                          | -0.386**<br>(0.1878) |
| Work location remains at home                   |   | 0.299<br>(0.2969)    |                          | -0.351<br>(0.2367)   |
| Absent from work                                |   | -0.129<br>(0.2968)   |                          | -0.004<br>(0.2242)   |
| Observations                                    | 711                                     | 711                  | 1383                     | 1383                 |
| Pseudo $R^2$                                    | 0.111                                   | 0.117                | 0.052                    | 0.059                |
| Individual Controls                             | ✓                                       | ✓                    | ✓                        | ✓                    |

Notes: Authors' calculations. Data from the CPSS. All regressions are estimated using an ordered probit with robust standard errors and weights applied. Observations are only males. Columns 1 and 2 is the sample of men who are single, widowed, separated or divorced. Columns 3 and 4 is the sample of men who are married or common-law. The dependent variable asks individuals their concern about the impact of COVID-19 on violence in the home. The dependent variable takes on the values 1 (Not at all), 2 (Somewhat), 3 (Very), 4 (Extremely). All columns include dummies for age, marital status, whether the dwelling has a child under the age of 18 residing in it, and highest education level attained by the respondent. Each independent variable of interest also contains a "Not stated" category which was controlled for (not shown). Columns 1 through 4 append the controls with a categorical variable describing how concerned the respondents are for maintaining social ties following the impacts of COVID-19. The base category is "Not at all". Columns 2 and 4 append the controls with the work from home and the concerned with maintaining social ties variable.