

Home Takeovers: Research into Prevention, Identification, and Intervention

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What is a Home Takeover?

- A situation in which a legitimate tenant or home owner finds themselves unsafe, physically, financially, or psychologically because of the presence of people in their home that they may or may not be able to remove.

Victim Characteristics

- Primarily single tenants
- Individuals with drug addictions
- Individuals with mental health issues
- Individuals with developmental disabilities
- Individuals with disabilities
- Elderly tenants



Consequences

Most often



- Illegal activity taking place in the home
- Psychological abuse
- Emotional abuse
- Substance abuse
- Physical violence
- Theft of tenant's belongings
- Financial exploitation
- Destruction of tenant's unit
- Destruction of tenant's property
- Physical abuse
- Substance abuse relapse
- Eviction
- Being forced out by those taking over
- Sexual abuse
- Sexual violence

Least often



How Frontline Workers Find Out Resolution

Most often



- By the tenant themselves
- Personal observation
- Notification by another tenant or neighbour
- Landlord or superintendent
- Security
- Police
- Service provider
- By a friend or family member of the tenant whose home was being taken over

Least often

Most often



- Resolved by police intervention
- Landlord intervention
- Service provider
- The tenant
- Still ongoing

- * Series of interventions/support

Least often

