

Union of Saints, Two Different Forms of Relationship Betrayals, Siding with Abusers, Provoking Jealousy or Insecurity

1. When people side with abusers or exes, even unprompted

This can be understood as:

- **Secondary abuse / Collusion** – when bystanders or mutual connections align with the abuser, whether consciously or unconsciously, they reinforce the abuse and invalidate the victim.
 - **Gaslighting by proxy** – when others echo or defend the abuser's narrative, it confuses the victim and deepens the sense of isolation.
 - **Betrayal trauma** – because support systems are supposed to provide safety, siding with the abuser (without prompt) becomes a form of relational abuse itself.
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2. When a current partner intentionally provokes jealousy or insecurity

This behavior falls into:

- **Psychological abuse / emotional manipulation** – deliberately causing jealousy is a form of control and destabilization.
 - **Triangulation** – a classic tactic where the abuser brings in a “third party” (real or imagined) to create competition, insecurity, or rivalry.
 - **Coercive control** – by undermining your self-worth, the partner maintains power in the relationship.
 - **Sexual/emotional infidelity threats** – even without physical cheating, the *suggestion* of attraction to someone else can function as intimidation or humiliation.
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✓ Summary:

- People siding with abusers or exes → **collusion, betrayal trauma, gaslighting by proxy.**
- Partners provoking jealousy with others → **triangulation, psychological abuse, coercive control.**