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The objective of this study is to analyse the sense of control in women who are victims of gender-based violence and adapt the Shapiro Control Inventory-SCI (Shapiro, 1994) into Spanish and to validate it. A sample of 116 women was used, 51 of them (43.9%) victims of gender-based violence, and confirmatory factorial analysis is used to validate the structure of the SCI as well as its ability to discriminate between the perception of control, the desire for control and agents of control among women who are victims of violence compared with women who do not present this condition. There was an adequate internal consistency of scales: sense of positive control (Alpha = .86), sense of negative control (.70) and desire for control (.71) and an adjustment of the structural model of scales of sense of positive control (GFI = .97; CFI = .99; RMSEA = .035), sense of negative control (GFI = .99; CFI = .99; RMSEA = .009) and sense of overall control (GFI = .92; CFI = .94; RMSEA = .064). It was also noted how women who are victims of gender-based violence have a greater sense of negative control and less self-control. On the other hand, women not exposed to the situation of abuse, presented higher levels of overall sense of control. In conclusion, the version of the SCI adapted into Spanish presented metrical characteristics of consistency, structure and discriminating capacity which makes it an appropriate instrument for the assessment of the construct of control both in the general population and in groups affected by emotional disturbance.

Keywords: Sense of Control, Desire for control, Gender-based violence, SCI, Psychometric properties.