

HONOUR BASED VIOLENCE (HBV) FACT SHEET

What is Honour Based Violence HBV?

Honour based violence (HBV) is a crime which has been committed to protect or defend the honour of the family and/or community.

HBV is a form of domestic abuse and is recognised as a violation of human rights.

The Iranian and Kurdish Women's Rights Organisation reports **3000 cases of HBV** a year in Britain and it is Estimated that there are **12 honour killings** a year in Britain.

Risk Aggravating Factors

- ✓ School informing the family of poor performance or attendance.
- ✓ Being the source of community / family gossip.
- ✓ Having a boyfriend, loss of virginity, pre/extra marital sex, intimacy in public place, pregnancy or Disclosure of rape or sexual abuse.
- ✓ Make up, clothes or behaviour perceived as inappropriate.
- ✓ Sexual orientation or behaviour indicating the young person is not heterosexual.

HBV Support

IKWRO helpline **0207 920 6460**
Out of hours **07862 733511**

Karma Nirvana **0800 5999 247**

If at immediate risk. call the police on 999

HBV and the Law

Although there is no criminal offence of honour based violence, the following crimes are committed in the name of honour:

- Abduction
- Rape
- Forced abortion
- Forced marriage
- Harassment
- Honour killings
- Surveillance
- Forced suicide
- Blackmail
- Acid attacks
- Emotional abuse
- Mutilation
- Death threats
- Imprisonment
- Beatings

All of which are criminal offences in themselves. Honour must be said to be an aggravating circumstance **NOT** and mitigating one.

What to do if you suspect HBV is about to take place?

HBV is child abuse and domestic abuse and should immediately trigger safeguarding processes.

Take individuals coming forward seriously, as you could be saving their lives.

DO NOT attempt to mediate as this could place the victim at further risk!

If necessary seek the appropriate support from other agencies.

If there is immediate risk, contact the police and remove from the situation to a place of safety.