

CRIMES SAID TO BE COMMITTED IN THE NAME OF 'HONOUR' FACT SHEET

Definition

- Crimes said to be committed in the name of 'honour' are those which are claimed to have been committed to protect or defend the 'honour' of the family or community, in the context of their traditional or cultural beliefs. These crimes might include:
 - Personal attacks of any kind, including physical and sexual violence.
 - Forced marriage.
 - Forced repatriation (sending someone back to a country from which they originate without their consent).
 - Written or verbal threats or insults.
 - Threatening or abusive phone calls, emails and instant messages.
 - Holding someone against their will.

Key Drivers and Risk Factors

- Women aged 25 and under are more likely to be victims. Those from families of a South-Asian origin, particularly Pakistan, are thought to be most at risk.
- These crimes are often linked to family, including extended family, or acquaintances who mistakenly believe someone has brought shame to their family or community by doing something that is not in keeping with the traditional beliefs of their culture. For example, victims:
 - Having a relationship outside of marriage, particularly with someone from a different culture or religion.
 - Refusing an arranged marriage.
 - Wearing clothes or taking part in activities that might not be considered traditional within a particular culture.
 - Running away, coming home late.
 - Having ideological differences from their parents / westernisation.
 - Reporting/fleeing domestic abuse/ forced marriage.
 - Being homosexual.
- Sometimes, a rumour about a family member doing one or more of the above is enough to elicit an abusive reaction.
- The majority of 'honour' killings are related to the issue of marriage or the victim's choice of partner.

Local and National Picture

National

- Home office data suggests that there are approximately twelve reported 'honour' killings per year in the United Kingdom.
- In 2014/15 there were 308 'honour'-based violence offences reported to the Metropolitan Police Service.
- Research by Iranian and Kurdish Women's Rights Organisation showed that between 2010 and 2014 the Metropolitan Police recorded 2,188 incidents and crimes.

Local

- Over the four year period 1st October 2010 to 30th September 2014, there were 20 recorded offences, with 18 individual victims and 26 individual suspects.
- Of the 18 victims:

- 13 were female (72%) and 5 were male (28%).
- 1 was aged 9 and under (6%), 1 was aged 10-19 (6%), 10 were aged 20-29 (56%) and 6 were aged 30-39 (33%).
- 8 were IC4 Asian (44%), 7 were IC2 Dark European (39%), 1 was IC5 Oriental (6%), 1 was IC3 Afro-Caribbean (6%) and 1 was IC6 Arabian/Egyptian (6%).
- Of the 26 suspects, details of 23 were known:
 - 10 suspects were recorded for one crime (against 2 victims).
 - 19 were male (79%) and 4 were female (17%).
 - 5 were aged 10- 19 (22%), 5 were aged 20-29 (22%), 4 were aged 30-39 (17%), 4 were aged 40-49 (17%) and 2 were aged 50-59 (9%), 2 were aged 60 and over (9%) and 1 did not have an age recorded (4%).
 - 12 were IC2 Dark European (52%), 6 were IC4 Asian (26%), 2 were IC3 Afro-Caribbean (9%), 1 was IC6 Arabian/Egyptian (4%) and 2 did not have an ethnicity recorded (9%).
- The relationship with the victim is recorded against 21 of the suspects (91%):
 - 8 were the brother-in-law of the victim (38%).
 - 3 were in a current relationship with the victim (14%).
 - 3 were known to the victim but they were not a family member or somebody they were/had been in an intimate relationship with (14%).
 - 2 were the father-in-law of the victim (10%).
 - 1 was the brother of the victim (5%).
 - 1 was in a previous relationship with the victim (5%).
 - 1 was the mother of the victim (5%).
 - 1 was the cousin of the victim (5%).
 - 1 was the mother-in-law of the victim (5%).
- From January 2013 to December 2015, the Her Centre has provided assistance to 1,815 women, 18 of which were victims of crimes said to be committed in the name of 'honour'.

Resources for Professionals

- National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (NSPCC) Helpline: 24 hour helpline offering advice and support for anybody with concerns about a child. 0800 5000 or www.nspcc.org.uk

Services for Victims

- Albert Kennedy Trust: Supports young Lesbian Gay Bisexual & Transsexual (LGBT) 16-25 year olds who are made homeless or living in a hostile environment. www.akt.org.uk
- Iranian and Kurdish Women's Rights Organisation: Provides direct services for women and girls, including advocacy, training and counselling. www.ikwro.org.uk
- Karma Nirvana: National support helpline for victims of honour crimes and forced marriages. www.karmanirvana.org.uk/
- Safe: Metropolitan Police website offering advice on a range of crimes. Information is available [here](#).
- Southall Black Sisters: Provides general and specialist advice on gender-related issues, including a helpline. www.southallblacksisters.org.uk/
- Childline (National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children): 24 hour helpline for young people. 0800 1111 or www.childline.org.uk
- Greenwich Domestic Violence and Abuse Services: Provides a specialist Information Line, outreach and accommodation services for women and children experiencing domestic

abuse. www.gdva.org.uk

- Her Centre: Provides support and advocacy for victims residing in Royal Greenwich. 0203 260 7772 or www.hercentre.org
- Metropolitan Police Community Safety Unit: Every London borough has a team of specially trained officers whose task is to investigate crimes of domestic abuse. Information is available [here](#).
- Victim Support: Provides emotional support and practical information for all victims of crime. 0808 1689 111 or www.victimsupport.org.uk

Further Information

This information has been taken from the Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy 2015-18. For more information contact the Safer Communities Team on 020 8921 8396 or community-safety@royalgreenwich.gov.uk