

FEBRUARY 11TH 2016

MILESTONE/ACTIVITY REPORT

ONE DAY SESSION WITH GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS (FEMALE)



VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN



VENUE: GOVT. GIRLS DEGREE COLLEGE LARKANA

Name of Activity	:	One Day Session with Government Officials (Females)
Topic	:	Violence Against Women
Date	:	February 11th 2016
Location of Activity	:	Govt. Girls Degree College Larkana
Total Participants	:	Males and Females 40 Participants

Context and Purpose of Event:

Women in Pakistan live in a world, which is structured by strict religious, family and tribal customs. They are subjected to discrimination and violence on a daily basis. In Pakistan's rural areas instances of "**violence against women**" in the form of so-called "**honor**" killings, child marriages, acid attacks, and domestic and sexual abuse are frequent.

These crimes are grossly under-reported, and seeking justice is difficult due to structural factors such as the lack of independence of women, a weak criminal justice system and a lack of societal support for women. In this environment, progressive laws enacted to protect women against violence have been largely ineffective.

Women are becoming more vocal and active in demanding their rights, given by constitution and religion. Although the government of Pakistan is trying to enact legislation that would guarantee the protection of women's rights to some extent but still much more needs to be done.

As such incidents highlight, there is a clear gap between the law and reality. This is due to a lack of law enforcement, a weak criminal justice system, lack of political will and lack of public pressure. The parliament in Pakistan largely consists of landed aristocrats and rightist religious forces that propagate the conception of women as personal property and objects of control. Civil Society lobbies for women's rights, however due to the power of religious forces in Pakistan they are unable to make mass progress. Ultimately, attitudes towards women, inside and outside of parliament need to change for violence against women to decrease. Awareness needs to be created about the recent progressive legal changes that protect women from violence, and all violent practices against women must be loudly denounced in order to shift attitudes. Without these efforts, the law remains largely irrelevant despite its potential to create positive change.

Purpose:

The purpose of this event we want “equal rights to give females”. Main focus has been given to the subject of “**Violence against women**”.

The discussion was held the government officials in whom we told them about the rights about women in today’s era and different points were discussed and points are generally discussed as under.

Violence against women takes many forms – physical, sexual, psychological and economic. These forms of violence are interrelated and affect women from before birth to old age. Some types of violence, such as trafficking, cross national boundaries. Women who experience violence suffer a range of health problems and their ability to participate in public life is diminished. Violence against women harms families and communities across generations and reinforces other violence prevalent in society. Violence against women also impoverishes women, their families, communities and nations. Violence against women is not confined to a specific culture, region or country, or to particular groups of women within a society. The roots of violence against women lie in persistent discrimination against women.

Silence around violence against women should be broken; women should be encouraged to speak about their experience and to highlight the issue.

Both preventive and curative measures should be taken i.e. awareness raising, gender sensitization, challenging the gender norms which lead to objectification of women and gender base violence. Curative measures such as making shelter home, legal aid, medical aid, and counseling available and accessible to women.

Legal systems of protection and shelter homes should be established to protect women who are either victim of domestic abuse or at the risk of domestic abuse.

Help lines should be established and referral networks should be developed by the civil society to make information, counseling and referral services such as medical aid, and shelter homes accessible to women in despair.

Proceedings of event:

A one-day awareness session on “**violence against women**” has been awarded to ERADA (Education Research and Development Association). ERADA has planned to implement the awareness activities on the mentioned topic of “**Violence against women**”.

The session on violence against with official males from 25-52 years of district Larkana was held on Govt. Girls Degree College Larkana. The session initiated with recitation of pay by one of Official male from the participants. The session was hosted by Mr. Mohram Mirani (DIG Office) by providing the necessary information on purpose of violence against the women and women rights. Welcome note was addressed by Mr. Yasir Arafat (Executive Director, ERADA). Mrs. Farzana Mahesar (Advocate) formally headed the session by providing core knowledge on the legal rights. He informed the participants about the importance of legal rights as per constitution of Pakistan.

Achievements:

One consecutive day of interaction with official's Females for violence against females and rights of females.

Results and Feedback

After this event we get the feedback about violence against the women that official Female said we try to reduce fear of safety or security of females. They said provide space of rights to female for working days. Females can do the job easily, we give freedom to female of their life. After this event they also said females cannot be bounded more we give freedom to female. Officials involved in the implementation of the study have increased their knowledge and strengthened their capacity.

Picture Gallery

One Day Session with Government Officials (Female) at Govt. Girls Degree College Larkana





One Day Session with Government Officials (Female) at Govt. Girls Degree College Larkana