

Ashiana Network is:

A company limited by guarantee, Company Number 2972903
The company is also a registered charity, Charity Number 1042440

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For further information about Ashiana and/or referral to any of our services please contact us:

Tel: 020 8539 0427

Email: info@ashiana.org.uk

Website: www.ashiana.org.uk

Find us on Facebook

Ashiana Network

Stopping violence in our lives and in our communities.

Who We Are

Ashiana Network provides specialist services to girls and women at risk of domestic violence and harmful practices. We work with young women from South Asian, Turkish and Middle Eastern communities, and empower them to make their own decisions through providing specialist housing, advice and support services.

We also offer counselling services to women we support and carry out preventative work through awareness raising and training around harmful practices and domestic abuse.

Ashiana

Honour Based Violence



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Harmful Practices are forms of violence committed primarily against women and girls in certain communities for so long that they are considered acceptable cultural practice by the victim and the perpetrator. Victims and perpetrators are not confined to one ethnic/religious group or gender.

What is honour?

Harmful practices are dependent on an 'honour' based value system. Various communities place a premium on the concept of honour whereby one's reputation is dependent on their actions and the actions of their family. This 'honour' code is established to punish males or females who are accused of committing acts that bringing "shame" on the family.

These may include having a boyfriend/ girl-friend; pregnancy outside of marriage, refusing a forced marriage, interfaith relationships, relationships outside of class or caste, seeking divorce, and 'inappropriate' dress or make-up.

Honour crimes can include:

Domestic abuse, threats of violence, sexual or psychological abuse, forced marriage, kidnapping and assault. There are an estimated 2,500 honour crimes year in the UK.

Honour killing:

Is the murder of a person in order to defend a family's "honour". Estimated 12-15 honour killing every year in the UK.

Remember!

Honour based violence is a violation of human rights. There is no, honour in allowing the abuse of an individual for exercising their freedoms.

Notable cases from the UK-

Banaz Mahmood, 20, of Iraqi origin and Samia Shahid, 28, of Pakistani origin, killed by their families for leaving a forced marriage and remarrying of their own choice.

Shafiea Ahmed 17, was killed by her parents in front of her siblings for being too "Westernised." There is no specific offence of "honour based crime", rather this is an umbrella term to encompass various offences already covered by existing legislation around domestic and sexual violence etc.

If you or anyone you know is at risk of honour based violence, please seek help and support.

Useful Numbers: National Domestic Violence Helpline **0808 2000 247**
IKWRO **0207 920 6460**
Southall Black Sisters 0207 **920 6460**