

## Presentation from the Italian team in Boden Sweden Let's Focus on gender

### SEXUAL ABUSES ( power point sulla legge)

In our country (Italy), violence's phenomena against women is very common.

According to official statistics data by ISTAT (Statistics National Institute), about 7 millions Italians women between 16 and 70 y/o suffered physical and sexual violence during their life, both inside or outside family "contest".

Overtime, sexual violence crime, changed a lot.

In the past it was considered a crime against morality and honour and light punishment was supposed.

Nowadays, it represents a crime against fundamental people's rights and it's punished heavier.

Although, it's not easy to get the raper's punished.

Usually women prefer not to denounce them because of shame or to not being subdued to long painful trial.

Anyway, compared to the past, complains increased.

Sexual violence, nowadays, is considered gender's violence that usually happens between domestics walls by those who should love and protect the victim.

To stop this kind of violence, we should help women to be aware and to keep out from dangerous situations.

In Italy, there are a lot of anti-violence centres and associations which help women in danger.

### VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

#### **DEFINITION**

“Any act of violence based on sex or threat of violence which might cause injuries or phisycal, sexual or psychological sufferings, lack or loss of freedom in women's both public and private lives”

### DIFFERENT KINDS OF OFFENCE

- Physical abuse
- Sexual abuse
- Psychological / emotional abuse
- Economical abuse

## **FROM HONOR KILLING AND REPAIRING (SHOTGUN) WEDDING, TO CRIME OF STALKING AND CRIME OF WOMEN KILLING**

### **IN THE PAST**

#### **HONOUR KILLING**

□□“Anyone who kills his wife, daughter or sister when he discovers her inappropriate sexual behaviour, in a fit of rage due to the offence so caused to his own or his family’s honour is punished with a detention from 3 to 7 years. The same sentence is committed to whom, in the above stated circumstances, kills the person who is having a sexual intercourse with his wife, daughter or sister”.

□□“If the culprit causes, in the same circumstances, to the above mentioned people, an injury, the detention will be a third shorter; if the injury proves to be fatal, the detention will be from 2 to 5 years.”

This law article was definitively abolished on August 5 1981 when the law n.442 was introduced; this new law does not recognize “honour” as a relevant justification

#### **REPAIRING ( SHOTGUN) MARRIAGE**

□□“ If the culprit of these kinds of crimes marries the offended person, he will no longer be prosecuted for his crimes and if he has already been sentenced, his detention will immediately be stopped”

This law article was definitively abolished on August 5 1981 when the law n.442 was introduced; this new law does not recognize “honour” as a relevant justification

### **TODAY**

#### **STALKING:**

□□Unless what committed is not a more serious crime, stalking is punished with detention from 6 months to 4 years; a stalker is someone who repeatedly, threatens or harasses someone else so as to cause a prolonged feeling of anxiety or fear or to cause a reasonable fear for one’s incolumity o one’s close relatives or one’s partner or so as to force someone to change his / her own habits.

□□The detention is made longer il the stalker is a legally separated or divorced o a person who has been a partner of the victim .

□□The detention is made longer ( until half of the whole sentenced period) if the victim is under 18 of age, or is a pregnant woman or is a disabled person, or if the stalker has been using arms or has been wearing a mask.

□□The crime is punished if the victim denouces it. The deadline is within 6 months. The procedure starts automatically if the victim is under 18 of age or is a disabled person, or when the crime is connected with another crime for which the procedure starts automatically

#### **RAPE:**

□□Rape is a crime against a person.;

a rapist is someone who, through violence or threat or abusive authority, forces someone to have a sexual intercourse or gets someone else to have sexual intercourses, exploiting even temporarily phisycal or psychological inferiority of the abused person, or cheating the abused person, disguising himself as another person.

He shall be punished with detention from five to ten years. ( art. 609bis c.p.)

### **ABUSES AGAINST RELATIVES AND PARTNERS :**

□□ Anyone who, apart from the above discussed cases, abuses a person of the family or a live –in partner, or a person under his paternal power or under his ward for upbringing, educational, care, safekeeping or under his supervision for professional or job reasons, is punished with detention from 2 to 6 years.

□□ If the abuse causes a severe personal injury, the detention is from 4 to 9 years long; if the injury is really severe, from 7 to 15 years; if it causes the victim’s death, from 12 to 24 years.

### Femicide

The term femicide, referring to misogynist violence against women, is used in the international news to describe the hundreds of women raped and murdered in every part of the world every year. Femicide is a leading cause of premature death for women globally, distinct from homicide and other forms of gender violence.

In Italy already this year, almost a hundred women have died in cases of intimate partner violence, and a United Nations' report labelled domestic abuse in Italy as the “most pervasive form of violence” in the country, affecting over 30 percent of Italian women. The report also stipulated out that the majority of Italian women who were abused, almost 90% did not report the incidents to the police.

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