

PR1 A3 TOOLKIT



360

REWIND

INTEGRATION OF THE FIGHT AGAINST VIOLENCE AND GENDER INEQUALITY SPECIAL REFERENCE TO MIGRANT WOMEN

BUILDING BRIDGES TO BUILD NEW
SCHEMES, OBJECTIVELY AND FROM A
GENDER PERSPECTIVE

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1. The migratory phenomenon and the role of women

1.1 *First, people.*

The record of migratory movements throughout history is inherent to the history of humanity. The phylogenetic development of the human being is closely linked to its migratory possibilities throughout history around the globe, which has triggered a genetic variability that facilitates adaptation to the environment (Dingle & Drake, 2007). The transformation of the human being is explained from its migratory capacity, whether it has been forced or voluntary, motivated by nature or situations typical of the human being. In a certain sense (and from a historical perspective), migration has been one of the first rights of the human being (García, 2019). Before migrants, we are people with this ability to move.

*Dingle, H., & Drake, V. A. (2007). What is migration?. *Bioscience*, 57(2), 113-121.*
<https://doi.org/10.1641/B570206>

*García, G. (2019). Los derechos de los migrantes en el Siglo XXI. En E. Jiménez (dir.). *Migración*, (pp. 17-27). Ciudad de México: Tirant lo Blanch.*

1.2 *The right to migrate*

*The right to migrate is collected as an exercise of freedom of the human being, both from a classical perspective and simultaneously current. The *ius migrandi*, as a right, implies dimensions that contextualize the human migratory cycle: the right to migrate (consequently entry and exit -immigration and emigration, respectively-) and not to migrate, to settle peacefully and to return (Chueca & Anguelo, 2013). The Declaration of Luarca (Asturias) on the Human Right to Peace explicitly establishes, in its article 8, the Right to emigrate, to settle peacefully and to participate (AEDIDH, 2008).*

However, this fundamental right is diluted in current societies if it is not accompanied by the right to enter another state (Araya, 2021). In short, migration can be within the same state or it can involve displacement to another state, so the fundamental right is affected by the regulation of entry to the states.

*Araya, V. (2021). El derecho a migrar o *ius migrandi* como derecho fundamental implícito. *Revista Justicia & Derecho*, 4(1), 1-20.*
<https://doi.org/10.32457/rjyd.v4i1.501>

Chueca, Á. G., & Anguelo, P. (2013). *Contenido y Limites del “Ius Migrandi”*. *Revista Electrónica Iberoamericana*, 7(2), 1-10.

Asociación Española para el Desarrollo y la Aplicación del Derecho Internacional de los Derechos Humanos (2008). *Declaración de Luarca sobre el Derecho Humano a la Paz*, 1, 109-119.

1.3 International migration

It is estimated that in 2020, 281 million migrants resided in a country other than their native one, which represents 3.6% of the world population, that is, one in 30 people is a migrant. It is estimated that migration within their countries can triple international migration. Globally the amount of migration continues to increase in the last five decades. The population of international migrants is not homogeneous in the world, where Europe stands out compared to other regions of the world as the one that has increased the most (International Organization for Migration -IOM-, 2021).

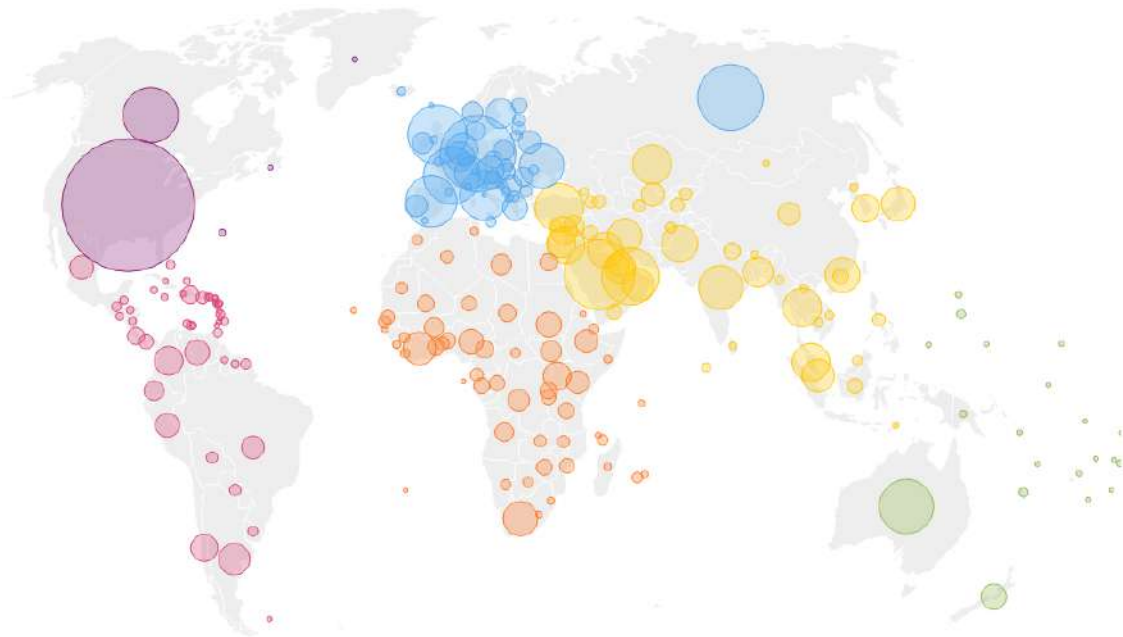


Figure 1. Representation of the volume of international migration within each country.
Source: <https://worldmigrationreport.iom.int/wmr-2022-interactive/>

International Organization for Migration (2021). *World Migration Report 2022*. IOM UN Migration. <https://publications.iom.int/books/world-migration-report-2022>

1.4 Voluntary and forced migration

International Organization for Migration (<https://www.iom.int/>) contemplates the contradictions between international policies and the violation of the rights of people today. Likewise, one of the main considerations in migration from the point

of view and relevance for the person is voluntary migration with respect to forced migration. Voluntary migration involves a deliberate crossing of cultural, geographic or political borders with the intention of a temporary or permanent stay (Lasseccatter & Callister, 2009). In forced migration, displacement is not justified simply by voluntariness in decision-making, but circumstances motivate the abandonment of the home, generally due to conflicts or environmental and/or natural circumstances (Ruiz & Vargas-Silva, 2013). Usually, it can also be linked to a temporary or permanent migration. Concurrent situations such as climate change also affect and motivate planning of the potential flow that will trigger a mobilization of people. In this sense (and as an example), the case of Tuvalu may be paradigmatic. The forecast is that they could lose their homes due to the rise in sea level, a consequence of the warming of the polar caps and that the islands do not exceed 5 meters above sea level. This anticipation contrasts with the civil desire not to leave their home (Mortreux & Barnett, 2009).

Paradoxically, the process of human globalization, in which services, information and merchandise flow freely, immigration laws have not made people's migratory possibilities more flexible. Rather the other way around, especially if we consider the circumstances of a large number of -so-called- developing countries and the dichotomy of a migration classified as legal and another as illegal (Juste, 2019).

Juste, J. (2019). *El Derecho internacional de las migraciones: entre la crisis y la renovación. Anuario español de derecho internacional, 35, 535-551.* <https://doi.org/10.15581/010.35.535-551>

Lassetter, J. H., & Callister, L. C. (2009). *The impact of migration on the health of voluntary migrants in western societies: a review of the literature. Journal of transcultural nursing, 20(1), 93-104.*

Mortreux, C., & Barnett, J. (2009). *Climate change, migration and adaptation in Funafuti, Tuvalu. Global Environmental Change, 19(1), 105-112.* <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.gloenvcha.2008.09.006>

Ruiz, I., & Vargas-Silva, C. (2013). *The economics of forced migration. The Journal of Development Studies, 49(6), 772-784.* <https://doi.org/10.1080/00220388.2013.777707>

1.5 Factors and displacements

According to United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees -UNHCR- (2022), 89.3 million people developed forced displacements at the end of 2021. This category includes refugees, asylum seekers, internally displaced persons and Venezuelans displaced abroad. In percentage terms, women represent close to 48% of the displaced population. In this framework, the lack of economic and subsistence resources and the lack of security regarding integrity suppose, in essence and, above all, psychologically, a forced migration (Davidson & Carr, 2010). In this way,

economic aspirations can be considered both from voluntary migration and from forced migration and is protected from the right to migration.

Therefore, one of the most classic approaches is the one attributed to the differences in the quality and remuneration in wages, that is, the usual reasons that explain a spatiotemporal mobilization in the life project have been attributed to issues of economic eminence. This would imply a highly relevant extrinsic motivation to justify the trip (Massey et al., 1993). However, this reductionism has been defined as a superficial conclusion, which does not explain the complexity and multireferentiality of the phenomenon. In a classical way, the decision to migrate has already been defined as a multifactorial circumstance in which various factors intervene that were underconsidered with respect to economic issues (Alberts, 1974):

- *Existence of alternatives*
- *Satisfaction with the place of residence*
- *Possibilities in other areas*
- *Psychological factors: expectations, projects, illusions, etc.*
- *Cultural framework: norms, guidelines, values and hopes.*

To know more:

Short film 'Todos Somos Migrantes', Haka Honu Chile (2021):
<https://youtu.be/1KG8jTHtL-Q>

El viaje de Said (Goya award 2007 for Best Animated Short Film, Director: Coke Rioboo): https://youtu.be/mF_ZSCxIAIU

Martín, E., Martínez, M.F., & Martínez, J. (2014). Materiales didácticos, Migraciones, Interculturalidad y Servicios Sanitarios. Junta de Andalucía.
https://www.juntadeandalucia.es/export/drupaljda/Migraciones%20interculturalidadyserviciosanitarios_US.pdf

Alberts, J. (1974). Hacia un mejor entendimiento de los motivos para migrar. Revista Latinoamericana de Demografía, -serie Notas de Población- 2(4), 7-15.

Davidson, G., & Carr, S. (2010). Forced Migration, Social Exclusion and Poverty: Introduction. Journal of Pacific Rim Psychology, 4(1), 1-6.
<https://doi.org/10.1375/prp.4.1.1>

Massey, D. S., Arango, J., Hugo, G., Kouaouci, A., Pellegrino, A., & Taylor, J. E. (1993). Theories of international migration: A review and appraisal. Population and development review, 19(3), 431-466. <https://doi.org/10.2307/2938462>

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (2022). *Global trends. Forced displacement in 2021*. UNHCR. <https://www.unhcr.org/62a9d1494/global-trends-report-2021>

1.6 Migration in a globalized context

In today's globalized world there are psycho-social factors that act as triggers for migration in origin: poverty, exclusion, unemployment, hunger, violence, etc. While other contingencies and expectations in the destination are usually linked: opportunities, rights, economy, etc. (Groenewold et al., 2012).

In a demographic and positive sense, the incorporation of migration to Europe supposes a rejuvenation of the population, something that may be desirable to harmonize a population pyramid that in many states is inverted -the adult and aged population predominates- (Coomans, 2018). However, today, the systemic overflow to attend to migratory flows is manifest. Through the media it is evident that it has not been foreseen either qualitatively or quantitatively. In Europe, as in other regions of the world, critical points (hotspots) have been created, which have been reified as centers of control, containment, selection of migration and forced channeling of mobility, through policies of repatriation or distribution between states. (Tazzioli & Garelli, 2020).

From Europe, we assume as daily the incorporation into our states from developing countries; however, migratory movements also occur between developing countries, accounting for a third of world migrations and equally affecting the life trajectories of people (Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development / International Labor Organization -OECD/ILO-, 2018). Likewise, migrations between rural and modern urban environments stand out, with a paradigmatic example in the flows between rural and urban Southeast Asia (Démurger et al., 2009).

*Coomans, F. (2018). Education for migrants: an inalienable human right. *The UNESCO Courier*, 80(4), 47-49. https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000265904_eng*

*Démurger, S., Gurgand, M., Li, S., & Yue, X. (2009). Migrants as second-class workers in urban China? A decomposition analysis. *Journal of Comparative Economics*, 37(4), 610-628. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jce.2009.04.008>*

*Groenewold, G., de Bruijn, B., & Bilsborrow, R. (2012). Psychosocial factors of migration: Adaptation and application of the health belief model. *International Migration*, 50(6), 211-231. <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1468-2435.2012.00781.x>*

*OECD/ILO. (2018). *How immigrants contribute to developing countries' economies*. Paris: OECD Publishing. <https://doi.org/10.1787/9789264288737-en>*

Tazzioli, M., & Garelli, G. (2020). *Containment beyond detention: The hotspot system and disrupted migration movements across Europe. Environment and planning D-society & Space, 38(6)*, 1009-1027. <http://doi.org/10.1177/0263775818759335>

1.7 Inequalities in the world

Inequalities between the countries of the world are one of the main triggers of global migration. Europe, a regular source of emigrants during the colonial era, has become a society that receives people. Especially Western Europe and after 1945 began to receive a growing volume of foreign workers, highlighting developing countries in Africa, Asia, Central and South America and the Middle East (Massey et al., 1993).

The intervention on inequalities is evident insofar as the Sustainable Development Goals privilege it as SDG 10, of the 17 goals set out in the 2030 Agenda of the United Nations Organization. After the pandemic, inequalities have intensified and it is specified that refugees and migrants are at risk of being excluded (United Nations - UN-, 2022).



Figure 2. Sustainable development goal 10: reduce inequalities.

The Human Development Index (HDI) y the HDI-Adjusted for inequality (IHDI) are prepared annually by the United Nations Organization and consider the dimensions of Life expectancy and health, Knowledge and Quality of Life. The adjusted index includes inequalities in the distribution of each dimension in the population. The standards considered account for nuclear aspects in the lives of people and their families, which inexorably can play a decisive role in the decisions to migrate looking for a brighter future.

United Nations (2022). Goal 10: Reduce inequality within and among countries. <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/inequality/>

1.8 Women in the migration process

And, naturally, women have been subject to migration throughout history on the same terms as humanity; although migration has been considered an eminently masculine issue. Most of the studies simply did not include the perspective of women in the migration process, assuming a circumstance of gender blindness (Boyd & Grieco, 2003; Martínez, 2003).

In this sense, as has been presented, an effort has been made to emphasize the causes and economics of international migration, above the questions of who migrates and their migration experiences (Boyd & Grieco, 2003; Antman, 2018). In fact, this is where the incipient interest in migrant women stems from, since it derives from their participation in the labor market in an urban context and was approached from the application of push and pull factors, inexorably assuming a masculinized analysis (Potthast, 2006).

Antman, F. (2018). Women and migration. Institute for the Study of Labor Discussion, paper n°11282. <http://dx.doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.3111155>

Boyd, M., & Grieco, E. (2003). Women and migration: Incorporating gender into international migration theory. The online journal of the migration policy institute, march 1, 2003. <https://www.migrationpolicy.org/article/women-and-migration-incorporating-gender-international-migration-theory>

Martínez, J. (2003). El mapa migratorio de América Latina y el Caribe, las mujeres y el género. ONU. <https://repositorio.cepal.org/handle/11362/7182>

Potthast, B. (2006). Mujeres en América Latina: una perspectiva histórica. En I. Werh (ed.). Un continente en movimiento: migraciones en América Latina (pp.111-130). Iberoamericana-Vervuert.

1.9 Role assumed, perceived and stereotyped

The patriarchal system has led to a stereotyping of roles in migrating family systems: women tend to assume family care responsibilities, while men try to provide material resources through paid jobs (Scraboni et al., 2014).

The male bias is evident in a historical and scientific literature that privileges the leadership of men in decision-making that triggers migratory routes (Nuño & Álvarez, 2017). However, women have actively participated in family decision-making about migration, even when they stayed at home and assumed the tradition of care and domestic tasks, from the very sense of family communication (Potthast, 2006). In addition, currently, in the professional sense, a contemporary trend of feminization of migration has been defined, while there is an increase in women

who migrate independently in search of new opportunities and a better life (Boyd & Grieco, 2003).

To know more:

Eso no se pregunta: Migrantes (Telemadrid, 2022): <https://youtu.be/1dWENvZsDJE>

Nuño, L., & Álvarez, E. (2017). *Androcentrismo académico: la ficción de un conocimiento neutral*. En M.J. Iglesias e I. Lozano (coords.). *La (in)visibilidad de las mujeres en la Educación Superior: retos y desafíos en la Academia. Feminismo/s*. (pp.279-297). <http://dx.doi.org/10.14198/fem.2017.29.11>

Scraboni, E., Malapit, H.J., Quisumbing, A.R., & Ahmed, A.U. (2014). *Women's Empowerment in Agriculture: What Role for Food Security in Bangladesh?* *World development*, 61, 11-52. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.worlddev.2014.03.025>

1.10 Personal career development potential

Roles, gender relations and inequality affect the fact of who emigrates and why, how the decision to do so is made, the consequences on the migrants themselves, as well as the impacts on the communities of origin and destination. destiny (Jolly & Reeves, 2005). However, the effort and interest in incorporating the gender perspective into research on migratory movements is rather recent (Morokvasic, 1984) and is usually encompassed within family migration.

However, there are forms of migration that derive from this canon, such as qualified migration that, on the contrary, is subject to new coordinates of discrimination. Qualified migration is growing and contrasts with the daily life of a migration that yearns for vital opportunities in a social context that they have evaluated as an opportunity with respect to their origin. On the routes of the so-called 'southern' countries, postcolonial trends and gender borders are described to us, which continue to be culturally hegemonic and limit the potential of migrant women in their development (Martínez, 2016).

Likewise, there is a clearly unequal treatment between the migrations of people based on socioeconomic status. High-income migrants encounter fewer problems when it comes to obtaining visas or in their adaptation. While low-income migrants are exposed to situations of xenophobia, reduced chances of obtaining a visa, lack of protection against gender violence, etc. (Chauvin et al., 2021).

Prior information about migration can generate a higher degree of self-confidence in women (Pocock et al., 2020); however, it is known that a significant number of women are not directly responsible for the decision to migrate and, even, there continues to be migration of women without family consent. In addition, the "degree of voluntariness in population movements" is low (Celis & Aierdi, 2015, p.51), so migration can sometimes be explicitly understood as forced displacement.

Celis, R., & Aierdi, X. (2015). *¿Migración o desplazamiento forzado? Las causas de los movimientos de población a debate*. Bilbao: Universidad de Deusto.

Chauvin, S., Salcedo, M., Koren, T., & Illidge, J. (2021). Class, mobility and inequality in the lives of same-sex couples with mixed legal statuses. *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*, 47(2), 430-446. <https://doi-org.ubues.idm.oclc.org/10.1080/1369183X.2019.1625137>

Jolly, S., & Reeves, H. (2005). *Gender and migration*. Overview Report. Bridge.
Martínez, I. (2016). Construcción de una pedagogía feminista para una ciudadanía transformadora y contra-hegemónica. *Foro de educación*, 20, 129-151. <http://dx.doi.org/10.14516/fde.2016.014.020.008>

Morokvašić, M. (1984). Birds of passage are also women... *International migration review*, 18(4), 886-907. <https://doi.org/10.1177/019791838401800402>

Pocock, N. S., Kiss, L., Dash, M., Mak, J., & Zimmerman, C. (2020). Challenges to pre-migration interventions to prevent human trafficking: Results from a before-and-after learning assessment of training for prospective female migrants in Odisha, India. *PLoS one*, 15(9), e0238778. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0238778>

1.11 360 REWIN Approach

This project aims to deepen a comprehensive analysis from the needs of today's migrant women.

At this point and as a first reflection, feminist epistemology does not merely demand adding women to the hegemonic discourse, which also, since it supposes giving a voice to the oppressed person (Martínez, 2015). Valuing and making visible the work of women in patriarchal structures and migratory movements makes women's work visible, of course, but this reductionism implies accepting the starting rules of the game, in which the female aspiration would be to comply and add within the framework structural.

A second previous reflection on this project, which emerges from the role of women in a stereotypically marital or family migration, involves focusing on the woman subject to the system of domination, which reinforces the emphasis on a passive and defenseless woman, who dilutes her desire of self-determination and subordinates them to their function of family support (Zirion, 2014). From the coordinates of this project, freedom requires the recognition of complexity, multi-referentiality and personal capacity for decision-making.

*Martínez, I. (2015). Descolonizar los feminismos para la construcción de una pedagogía crítica con enfoque de género: caso de Mozambique. *Journal of suprnational policies of education*, 3, 202-218.*



Zirion, I. (2014). *Algunas reflexiones sobre investigación feminista y conocimiento desde una posición paradigmática de dominación. Athenea Digital, 14(4), 329-337.* <http://dx.doi.org/10.5565/rev/athenea.1484>

Activities module 1.1

Activity 1

According to the data exposed on the web <https://worldmigrationreport.iom.int/wmr-2022-interactive/>

Indicates which are the five countries in the world that send remittances in 2020:

1. *United States*
2. *United Arab Emirates*
3. *Saudi Arabia*
4. *Switzerland*
5. *Germany*

And what are the five main recipients of remittances?

1. *Indian*
2. *Chinese*
3. *Mexico*
4. *Philippines*
5. *Egypt*

Explore migration corridors between countries and answer.

- a) *From which two countries do the migration of France come from in the 2021 Report?*
 - *Algeria and Morocco*
- b) *And the first three in Spain?*
 - *Morocco, Romania and Colombia.*

Activity 2

Links the historical circumstance with the motivation of a forced mass migration

Leak at Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant (1986) human environmental

Haitian earthquake (2010) natural environmental

Syrian civil war (2011) *war conflict*

Activity 3

Check the HID of the different countries in <https://hdr.undp.org/data-center/human-development-index#/indicies/HDI> and write the HID of the different countries for the year 2021:

Includes IHID available at <https://hdr.undp.org/inequality-adjusted-human-development-index#/indicies/IHDI>

Italy	0.895	0.791
Portugal	0.866	0.773
France	0.903	0.825
Ecuador	0.740	0.604
Angola	0.586	0.407
Syria	0.577	No data
China	0.768	0.651
Senegal	0.511	0.354

Activity 4

Indicate if the following statements are true or false.

According to Boyd & Grieco (2003), the academic tradition in migration has focused on understanding who migrates and their migration experiences. *False.*

According to Nuño & Álvarez (2017), the male bias is evident in a historical and scientific literature that favors the leadership of men in decision-making that triggers migratory routes. *True.*

Skilled migration is not subject to gender-related borders. *False.*

According to Chauvin et al. (2021), xenophobia and discriminatory attitudes have a greater incidence in the population with fewer socioeconomic resources. *True.*

Assuming the passive and submissive role of women in the migratory processes dilutes her potential in her self-determination. *True.*

2. Structural factors system, capitalism and patriarchy

2.1. Neoliberalism concept

The neoliberal system is a hegemonic strategy that aims to build an economic globality (Contreras, 2016). Globalization is defined as the intensification of political, social and economic relationship between nations. In this way, local events are shaped by conditions that occurs kilometers away (Fair, 2008).

*Contreras, M.A. (2016). *Crítica a la razón neoliberal: del neoliberalismo al posliberalismo*. Ediciones Akal.*

*Fair, H. (2008). The global neoliberal system. *Polis: Revista de la Universidad Bolivariana*, 7(21), 229-263. <http://doi.org/10.4067/S0718-65682008000200012>*

2.2. Application of Neoliberalism

The current and practical implementation of Neoliberalism is located in the eighties of the 20th century. In Great Britain was implemented by Margaret Thatcher and in the United States was implemented by Ronald Reagan. The ideary's objective was create an ideological reorganization founded on: the destruction of statal involvement , privatization of public companies, the opening to transnational capital and a drastic reduction of the trade unions (Fair, 2008). Mainly, neoliberalism is a political and economic theory with the pourpose of promoting the well-being trough the free development of the market and restrict the state intervention (Harvey, 2007).

The world wide expansion of neoliberal globalization could be carried out by institutions like the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank (WB). One of the interventions that it promoted was foreign debt; loans were awarded to poor countries by economic elits or dictatorial governments which they never invested in creating economic development, nor they payed the bank interest rate of the loan. All of this led to the contraction of public spending, promoting an increase of unemployment, poverty and inequality. (Contreras, 2016).

*Contreras, M. A. (2016). *Crítica a la razón neoliberal: del neoliberalismo al posliberalismo*. Ediciones Akal.*

*Fair, H. (2008). *El sistema global neoliberal*. *Polis: Revista de la Universidad Bolivariana*, 7(21), 229-263. <http://doi.org/10.4067/S0718-65682008000200012>*

*Harvey, D. (2007). *Breve historia del neoliberalismo*. Akal.*

2.3. Single model of social order

In spite of the questionable results question of neoliberalism and globalization, it was established as the single model of world order (Mejía, 2011). The ruling class promotes its interests and dictates the political, intellectual and moral direction on over the common will (Gramsci, 1971). These domination systems are legitimized by the ideological machines of the nation as religious institutions, educational institution, the family institutions, juridical institutions, political institutions, media or labor unions (Althusser, 2005).

*Althusser, L. (1988). **Ideología y aparatos ideológicos de Estado: Freud y Lacán.** Nueva Visión.*

*Gramsci, A. (1971). **El materialismo histórico y la filosofía de Benedetto Croce.** Nueva visión.*

*Mejía, M. R. (2011). **Educación (es) en la (s) globalización (es): entre el pensamiento único y la nueva crítica.** Universidad de Ciencias y Humanidades, Fondo Editorial.*

2.4. The axioms of neoliberalism

According to Bauman (2013), even if we want to change the ideological direction, we can't modify our social environment when it is shaped of axioms, imposed and reproduced, with the "nature of things". Due to this, he wrote four ideas presented as universal truths:

- a) **Economic growth** is the only way to overcome all problems: actually, the movements of capital and the deregulation of the market, it allows to rich people find new niches in order to increase profits, nevertheless, it doesn't result in improvements for the working class, it doesn't produce a distribution of wealth, rather inequality increases.*
- b) **Consumerism** is the most effective way to look for human happiness: a world relied on desires and immediate gratification, which divides society between haves and have-nots, a system that constantly needs to buy, but never attends to long-term needs, such as climate change.*
- c) **Inequality** between humans is natural: it is considered that nature has arranged unequal capacities, therefore, some of them go further than others, without taking into account the privileges according to social class. This idea allows to accept inequality and reduces resistance to social change.*
- d) **Competitiveness** is the way to keep social order: social relations, each time are more similar to consume relationships whose main aim is satisfy*

momentary needs, which generates utilitarian relationships and eliminates human solidarity.

Bauman, Z. (2013). Does the richness of the few benefit us all? Polity.

2.5. Expulsions of the system

In the end, the mechanisms for accumulation of earnings are no longer controlled by the Nation, to belong to big corporations, which means a concentration of wealth in the hands of a few. The neoliberal model prevailed over Keynesianism, which planned to incorporate people into the system by the way of work, compared to the current system which throw out people of the system.

These expulsions go beyond inequality, it is a wild selection process, due to the gradual increase in the extreme conditions of poverty, linked to wars, diseases and famines, which generates millions of displaced people and migrants (Saskia, 2015).

Saskia, S. (2015). Expulsiones: brutalidad y complejidad en la economía global. Katz.

2.6. Patriarchy

As Millet (2016) declare, patriarchy is a social, political, and economic institution that divides humanity into two groups and allocate to men dominance over the women, based on prerogatives of a natural order, in addition to conditioning all aspects of thought and action.

The process of figure out relationships of domination and subordination is complex because it arises from a previous interior colonization, more resistant than any segregation, including class stratification, male domination is the most deeply rooted ideology in the culture.

Millett, K. (2016). Sexual politics. Columbia University Press.

2.7. Origin of Patriarchy

For De Beauvoir (2014) the first sexual division arose in primitive societies; women remained sedentary in the settlements, focused on tasks such as reproduction, while men were hunters and warriors, men dominated the environment, that is, they created culture, while women were reduced to their body, to their nature.

Another decisive moment was the emergence of private property, as Engels (2013) recounts, men needed to leave their heritage to their heirs, to ensure the descendants of their lineage they controlled the sexuality of women, it is founded, in

this way, the nuclear and monogamous family as an economic unit, the wife and children are part of the man's property (Lerner, 2017).

Modernity is another key moment, it gave rise to the principles of equality and freedom, materialized in universal laws (Camps, 2000). However, women are defined as sentimental and reproductive sexual beings, suitable for procreation and caring for others in the domestic-private ambit, away from the public-political sphere (Wollstonecraft, 2014). On the other hand, Pateman (2016) maintains this separation of the public space and the private space based on sex, as well as the absolute exclusion of women's rights, could only be carried out because a sexual contract was previously made in which men distributed access to women's bodies; a wife for each one who guarantees offspring from her and a few public women who satisfy her sexual needs.

Camps, V. (2000). [El siglo de las mujeres](#). Ediciones Cátedra.

De Beauvoir, S. (2014). [The second sex. Classic and Contemporary Readings in Sociology](#). Routledge.

Engels, F. (2013). [El origen de la familia, la propiedad privada y el Estado](#). XHGLC.

Lerner, G. (2017). [La creación del patriarcado](#). Katakrack.

Pateman, C. (2016). [Sexual contract. The wiley blackwell encyclopedia of gender and sexuality studies](#).

Wollstonecraft, M. (2016). [A Vindication of the Rights of Woman](#). Yale University Press.

2.8. Women in the patriarchy

Lagarde (2005) defines the status of women in the patriarchal society as a cautery; deprived of freedom, autonomy, independence, self-government, since they are the institutions and individuals who make the decisions, based on totally stereotyped lives, without alternatives and dependent on the other.

Society and culture force each woman to occupy a particular space or more than one, which they transferred to women, and thus generates their own captivity (Lagarde, 2005, p.153):

- *Captive mother-wives in conjugality and motherhood, dedicated to family, love and home.*
- *Nuns' captive to the consecrated life of religion.*
- *Prostitutes' captive of giving pleasure to others.*
- *Captive prey of crime and evil.*
- *Mad captives of generic madness.*

Lagarde, M. (2005). *Los cautiverios de las mujeres: Madresposas, monjas, putas, presas y loca*. Siglo XXI Editores México.

2.9. Patriarchy of consent

The 20th century represented a great advance in the rights of women, thanks to the feminist struggle that achieved universal suffrage, the incorporation of women into the public sphere or the visibility of the violence suffered by women within the private sphere (family, affective relationships, sexuality...) All these achievements are reflected in current laws that do not discriminate based on sex, even seeking equality. However, this does not mean that equality has really been achieved, since as Puleo (1995) argues, patriarchy is no longer coercive, but the subordination of women is transmitted through the patriarchy of consent.

De Miguel (2015) follows this line and affirms that the media and the cultural industry transmit gender mandates, for them the motor world, soccer, sex and pornography, for them the world of the image, the hypersexuality and romantic love, under false discourses of freedom of choice or consent, men continue to be a creative, conscious, cultural part (Bauman, 2014) and women are again reduced to their bodies, and a state of dependence on the other.

Bauman, Z. (2014). ¿La riqueza de unos pocos nos beneficia a todos? Paidós.

De Miguel, A. (2015). Neoliberalismo sexual. Ediciones Cátedra.

Puleo, Alicia. H. (1995). Patriarcado. En C.A. Puente (Dir.), 10 palabras clave sobre mujer (pp. 21-54). Verbo Divino.

2.10. The alliance of patriarchy and neoliberalism

Patriarchy has benefited the capitalist system since it is sustained thanks to the reproductive and unpaid work that women carry out as part of the ontology of femininity and expression of love, which has historically left them in a situation of dependence on man, and that currently forces them to have double or even triple working hours.

The alliance of patriarchy and neoliberalism generates mechanisms within the social structure that make it increasingly complex to reveal the inequality and structural violence that women suffer for being women. In addition to an increase in the precariousness of life that continues to impoverish women further, forcing migration, but which, in turn, offers as a strategy for social ascent the reification and commodification of the only possession that many women have; his own body,



through industries such as pornography, prostitution or rent bellies, and that encourages crimes such as trafficking and trafficking in women.

Activities module 1.2.

As an activity, it is proposed to read a series of testimonies collected from the research carried out by Arteaga (2010) *Andean migrant women* (p. 61-65), the student will have to choose the cause that motivated the migratory process:

Obviously, we are leaving because we need money, due to financial commitments and because I want to make capital. Because I am already 51 years old, and thinking about my old age. I don't want to be 70 or 80 and still out there struggling (Edith, Ecuador)

- a. ***Precariousness*** (correcta)
- b. Patriarchy
- c. Both

He's made me suffer a lot, he doesn't give me any money, that's why I also want to leave, I want him to leave my house, since I'm not here he's going to leave [...] since we live where my mom no longer hits me, sometimes when he arrives drunk, he makes problems (Marina, 40 años).

- b. Precariousness
- c. ***Patriarchy*** (correcta)
- c. Both

I would like to improve myself more, get ahead, be a good citizen, learn more about the world, have good aspects, study a profession that allows me to be an important person (Johana, Ecuador)

- a. ***Precariousness*** (correcta)
- b. Patriarchy
- c. Both

I want to be able to manage my things, decide what I'm going to do, not let you drive, I want to do my things by myself (Magda, Bolivia).

- b. Precariousness
- c. ***Patriarchy*** (correcta)
- c. Both

There are times when I wanted to leave because we do not live well with my husband, it is not only economic (Cristina, Bolivia)

- b. Precariousness
- c. Patriarchy
- c. ***Both*** (correcta)

Arteaga, A.M. (2010). *Mujeres migrantes andinas: Contexto, políticas y gestión migratoria. Informe Global. Oxfam.*

Read the following statements and answer if they are true or false:

- a) *Women throughout history have been deprived of the ability to make decisions about their own lives. **True***
- b) *The neoliberal system promotes social policies such as public education or universal health. **False***
- c) *For neoliberalism, economic growth is the only path to human development. **True***
- d) *Women have achieved real equality and inequality by sex is part of the past. **False***

3. General concepts on women's migration

3.1. Causes of migration

The causes of migratory movements are multiple and usually interrelated. The search for a better quality of life and better working conditions in the countries of destination, as well as overcoming poverty in the countries of origin, seem to be the main factors. Let us take a look at all the possible causes of migration:

- **Social and economic:** *search for better salaries, fulfilment of expectations of self-realisation and access to basic public services such as education, health, security, housing or transport. This is also favoured by the demand for employment in developed countries, especially in services. The socio-economic causes also include reunions between family descendants and family regrouping. In some cases, especially among pensioners and retirees, there is mobility from countries with higher per capita income to those with lower per capita income (e.g. from northern Europe to southern Europe), in search of a lower cost of living.*
- **Political:** *corruption, totalitarian regimes, wars, ideological and political persecution, systematic violation of human rights, ethnic cleansing and genocide, lead to forced or semi-forced migration.*
- **Environmental:** *widespread natural disasters due to major earthquakes, floods, prolonged droughts, cyclones or tsunamis. Environmental degradation, loss of farmland, forests and grasslands also generate migration, although in this case it tends to be from the countryside to the cities, rather than internationally. A recent study on displacement between 1980 and 2015 concludes that rising temperatures and increasing numbers of climate-related natural disasters in countries of origin are key factors in increasing migration flows of so-called "climate migrants" (Wesselbaum & Aburn, 2019).*
- **Cultural, educational, scientific and technological:** *movement for training, qualification and performance. This includes the so-called "brain drain", which refers to the migration of all types of skilled professionals.*
- **Gender-related factors:** *high rates of sexual or intimate partner violence, practices such as child and forced marriage, as well as inequality in the effective recognition of their rights and access to resources and education, are critical reasons why women migrate (United Nations, 2019). In these cases, women may decide to migrate as a mechanism to escape*

family/partner control and avoid entrenched discrimination in their countries of origin.

Abu-warda N. (2008). Las migraciones internacionales. Revista de Ciencias de las Religiones, 33-50.

<https://revistas.ucm.es/index.php/ILUR/article/view/ILUR0707550033A>

Naciones Unidas (2019). Los efectos de la migración en las mujeres y las niñas migrantes: una perspectiva de género. Informe del Relator Especial sobre los derechos humanos de los migrantes.

<https://www.ohchr.org/es/documents/thematic-reports/impact-migration-migrant-women-and-girls-gender-perspective-report>

3.2. Consequences

Migration can have a negative or positive impact, decreasing or increasing inequalities between the areas involved (Gutiérrez et al., 2020). We are going to learn about some of the main consequences it can have at the national level for the countries involved and also at the individual level for the person who migrates:

3.2.1. For countries of origin

Negative consequences:

- *A decrease in the total size of the population, coupled with an ageing process, as those who emigrate are mainly young people.*
- *This is accompanied by a decline in the productive level, as the working population is lost in the area affected by emigration.*
- *Demographic desertification of some regions and its negative impact on many levels for the economic life of the area (loss of trade, industry, services, etc.).*
- *Loss of tax revenue for the country.*
- *Brain drain: a double loss for the country of origin, as it loses the professionals and also the resources used in their education.*

Positive consequences:

- *Relief of population density in certain areas and reduction of unemployment.*
- *Receipt of remittances sent by migrants to their relatives in the country of origin, which favors the country's balance of payments and facilitates an increase in the standard of living and trade.*
- *Increased internal socio-political stability as opponents of the established system in the country of origin emigrate.*

- *Migrants can foster political and cultural understanding between the countries of origin and destination.*
- *Return of emigrants enriched by the experiences and skills acquired.*

3.2.2. In host countries

Negative consequences:

- *Lack of cultural integration of immigrants, creation of marginalised groups and ghettos where serious social conflicts arise.*
- *Rejection of immigrants by national citizens. Increase in xenophobic attitudes.*
- *Increased expenditure on public services and support systems.*

Positive consequences:

- *Increase in the young population and arrival of new workforces, without having to bear the costs of training.*
- *Migrant workers may initially demand more social services than natives because they are settling in and are poorer, but over time they become net contributors.*
- *Increased tax collection.*
- *Resurgence of certain productive sectors that are being lost.*
- *Cultural enrichment (music, dance, theatre, arts, sports, food, etc.).*
- *Attraction of talent.*

3.2.3. For the migrant person

- *Deep social and cultural changes.*
- *Economic difficulties.*
- *Lack of knowledge or command of the language.*
- *Administrative difficulties.*
- *Loss of family ties or emotional (as well as physical) distancing from the family, which places them in a situation of lack or limitation of their support network.*
- *Facing social rejection and even xenophobic behaviour from citizens originating from the country of destination.*
- *Psychological consequences: homesickness, insecurity, depressive feelings and sense of loss of familiarity. Many develop "migration grief", which may take a generation to resolve. Migration is a psychopathological risk factor, especially if there is a certain vulnerability in the personality structure of the*

migrant. The psychological consequences of migration differ according to age, capacity to cope with the environment, language of the new environment...

3.2.4. Special groups of migrants

- **Irregular migration:** they are usually deprived of the most basic rights and are frequently subjected to labour exploitation. This is compounded by insecurity and fear of expulsion that these people live with on a constant basis.
- **Forced migration** (resulting from coercion, violence, political pressure): often places migrants at a great disadvantage, not least because it is often sudden and without time to plan and organise the move and the conditions of arrival in the destination country. This group includes refugees, one of the most vulnerable and marginalised type of migrants, people fleeing countries ravaged by war, violence and chaos, who are either unable or unwilling to return to their countries of origin because they would lack effective protection (Abu-Warda, 2008).
- **Women:** Migration does not have the same impact on men as on women. This can be seen in the number and type of jobs they are offered, their working conditions and the abuse and mistreatment to which they are subjected.

Many women migrate as a "family decision", without having much choice to make, as in their places of origin there is often a persistent patriarchal structure and high gender inequality. This is reflected in less control by women over resources and decision-making processes within the household (Woo, 2007). This itself has a different set of psychological consequences, as these women have been motivated to migrate, without necessarily agreeing to do so.

For many women who are also mothers, migration means separation from their children. This is not only a tragedy in itself for both sides, but it is also often seen by those around them as abandoning their children for personal economic gain, so the pain they face is twofold. However, the data show that it is women who, in proportion to their wages, send more remittances to the countries of origin than men.

For those who migrate with their children, or have them in the country of destination, their role as caregivers further complicates their access to the labour market, as they have no family and/or social support network and reconciliation measures are generally insufficient or non-existent.

For some women in abusive relationships, migration becomes the only acceptable way out, which allows for a de facto separation from the partner, but at the same

time manages to "keep up appearances" and avoid the social condemnation that divorce still entails in many cultures. Of course, this is only possible in places where independent migration of married women is considered acceptable. However, when the woman migrates with her abusive partner, the situation of vulnerability is tremendous, as the dependency on her partner after migration is enormous at all levels. In many cases they have migrate thanks to family reunification, they have no documentation of their own, no income of their own, no social or family support network beyond their partner, etc. Reunification can grant a work and residence permit of their own; however, it is linked to the other person. In addition, distrust towards public institutions and law enforcement agencies is very high, precisely because of the fear of expulsion of themselves or their partner from the country, or separation from their children.

In terms of health, migrant women report more mental health problems than men, regardless of age.

The dynamic intersection of gender, ethnic, religious and socio-economic elements magnify the stigmatization of migrant women and hinders their insertion into local networks in the destination country.

Abu-warda N. (2008). Las migraciones internacionales. Revista de Ciencias de las Religiones, 33-50.
<https://revistas.ucm.es/index.php/ILUR/article/view/ILUR0707550033A>

Gutiérrez, J.M., Romero, J., Arias, S. R. y Briones, X. F. (2020). Migración: Contexto, impacto y desafío. Una reflexión teórica. Revista de Ciencias Sociales (RCS). 26 (2), 299-313

Ortega, F. and Peri, G. (2009). The Causes and Effects of International Migrations: Evidence from OECD Countries 1980-2005. NBER Working Paper, 14833.
<http://www.nber.org/papers/w14833>

Woo, O. (2007). La migración de las mujeres ¿un proyecto individual o familiar? Revista Interdisciplinar da Mobilidade Humana, 15(29), 23- 45.

3.3. *Diverse needs and characteristics*

- **Work with conditions** that respect legality, appropriate to their level of training. Access to skilled jobs requires accreditation of training, but this is beyond the reach of a large part of the migrant population due to lack of financial means or lack of knowledge of how to obtain such accreditation. In addition, the accreditation process can take several years.
- **Training that allows them to move up the social ladder.** The problem is that this type of training is often inaccessible because it requires a commitment

that they cannot afford due to their precarious economic conditions or lack of technological means.

- **Stable residence**, enabling migrants to create a life project and access community services and resources.
- **Housing in decent conditions**. The high cost of rents, to which must be added requirements such as guarantees, deposits, agency fees, etc. makes it very difficult for the migrant population to access adequate housing.
- **Access to health services**. In general, the migrant population is young and with few health problems, so the main difficulties in this point are associated with language, complexity in understanding the diversity of cultures and motivations on the part of health personnel, and some complications in managing administrative health procedures, such as health cards.
- **Language learning**. Lack of language skills is an added obstacle to accessing and using the resources and services to which they are entitled.
- **Effective social support**. Often, especially at the beginning, they lack networks of friends and family to help reduce the impact of acculturative stress. Migrants require social spaces of acceptance and recognition of their cultural and spiritual needs.
- **To receive specialised mental health care**, that the migration issue is taken into consideration as a cause and effect of various physical and psychological conditions.
- **Equal and non-discriminatory treatment**. The native population must become aware of the multicultural reality of society, and thus minimise behaviour and attitudes that undervalue the migrant population, even in the case of more "benevolent" discriminatory attitudes (paternalism). It is also necessary for institutions to develop tools to make effective the equality of all citizens that the law postulates, as well as the promotion of the empowerment of migrants so that they can claim their rights in situations of discrimination.

Garrido, J. (2020). Estudio sobre las necesidades de la población inmigrante en España: tendencias y retos para la inclusión social. Informe ejecutivo. ACCEM.

Consejo General de la Psicología de España (2007). Los efectos psicológicos de la migración – entrevista con el psicólogo coordinador de AIPC-PANDORA. Infocop Online. https://www.infocop.es/view_article.asp?id=1557

3.4 Inter- and intra-cultural keys: women's exploitation

3.4.1. Discrimination

Women now account for about half of all migrants, although they are largely invisible.

As we have already mentioned, migration exposes women to greater vulnerability. On the one hand, they are discriminated against as migrants compared to women who are natives of the country they are arriving in. This discrimination is compounded by the fact that they are women, which puts them at a disadvantage compared to male migrants. Many women suffer triple discrimination when factors of race, ethnicity or religion are added, and this can be exacerbated in cases where migration is irregular and the woman lacks documentation.

Women suffer high levels of gender discrimination across the globe and often to a greater extent in developing countries, from which much of the world's migration originates. This is reflected in the lower level of formal education that women tend to have and in the labour market in these countries, where women are more likely to be employed in jobs and professions that are assigned very little social and economic value.

3.4.2. Feminized, low-skilled jobs with poor working conditions

In destination countries, they encounter the same situation. The type of jobs they access are classified as "low-skilled", linked to temporary migration permits, with few rights and/or complicated for family reunification or obtaining citizenship, and poorly paid.

Due to the ageing of the population in destination countries, together with the widespread incorporation of women into the labour market, the need to fill jobs related to care and domestic work, traditionally "women's jobs", continues to grow. Migrant women often access these jobs through submerged and less legal means, which puts them at greater risk of being exploited. In many cases, the work they do takes place in the privacy of a home, without any kind of labour regulation and in a situation of total subordination to the employer.

3.4.3. Smuggling

Smuggling involves the facilitation of entry into a country where the person is not a national or resident, in exchange for financial or other material gain. Criminal smuggling networks may violate people's human rights along the way, from physical abuse to withholding food. Given the difficulties in accessing safety, persons seeking international protection are often forced to turn to traffickers as the only means of escape from their countries of origin (ACNUR, 2021).

Thus, in principle, trafficking takes place once payment is made for an agreed border crossing: the moment they arrive in their country of destination, the link is extinguished.

ACNUR (2021). [Tráfico de personas](https://www.acnur.org/trafico-de-personas.html). ACNUR. <https://www.acnur.org/trafico-de-personas.html>

3.4.4. Trafficking in persons

The Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, established by the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organised Crime (2000) defines trafficking in persons as the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force, or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability, or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation.

Forms of exploitation include: exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labour or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs. Women, as a matter of gender, are mostly victims of trafficking for sexual exploitation or servitude.

Instrumento de Ratificación del Protocolo para prevenir, reprimir y sancionar la trata de personas, especialmente mujeres y niños, que complementa la Convención de las Naciones Unidas contra la delincuencia organizada transnacional, hecho en Nueva York el 15 de noviembre de 2000. Publicado en BOE núm. 296, 11 de diciembre de 2003, pp. 44083 a 44089. Jefatura del Estado.

3.4.5. Prostitution

De Miguel (2015) defines prostitution as access to women's bodies in exchange for a variable amount of money. For Lagarde (2005), prostitution is a way of life, generalised and obligatory for many women (erotic objects) and an institution formed by a set of norms and relations (erotic, economic, social) of practices (erotic and political), in a cultural space for the realisation of men's virility (subjects).

Cobo (2017) states that prostitution can currently only be explained under three axes of domination: a) Patriarchal, as it reinforces the conception of women as pieces of meat available for money. b) Neoliberal, as it is one of the most lucrative sectors within the underground economy. c) Colonial, as impoverished countries export women for consumption in rich countries. The bodies of girls and women of other races and cultures, who have only their own bodies to survive, are imported.

Patriarchal society sends the message that women, because they are women, can find prostitution an ideal place to be (Cobo, 2017), which means that migrant

women in vulnerable situations may be tempted by the promise of quick money, but prostitution is still an institution that is very easy to enter but very difficult to leave unscathed (Gallego, 2018).

The prostitution system cannot keep up with the growing demand for women, so it needs to constantly renew women, which is why they organise networks and circuits through which they circulate. There is no clear boundary between prostitution and trafficking in women for the purpose of sexual exploitation. Both are social phenomena that need and feed off each other, in such a way that the supply increases the demand, and this in turn conditions and stimulates the supply (Cobo, 2017).

Trafficking networks hold their victims by threatening and blackmailing their families, isolating them from their environment and thus making them very vulnerable, which facilitates emotional and material dependence, while making it difficult for them to leave this world (Cobo, 2017). Both prostitution and trafficking are mechanisms for the generic control of women to satisfy the needs of hegemonic masculinity, and it overlooks all traits of women's humanity.

Cobo, R. (2017). La prostitución en el corazón del capitalismo. Los libros de la Catarata.

De Miguel, A. (2015). Neoliberalismo sexual. Ediciones Cátedra.

Gallego, J. (2021). Women are no longer what they used to be. New feminine models in the audiovisual narrative. Cuestiones de género, 16, 323-347. <https://doi.org/10.18002/cg.v0i16.6915>

Lagarde, M. (2005). Los cautiverios de las mujeres: Madresposas, monjas, putas, presas y locas. Siglo XXI.

3.5. Socio-cultural barriers

The arrival of migrants in destination countries is full of cultural shocks that place them in a situation of social, economic and personal vulnerability, and are a source of inequalities:

- **Language.** Not mastering the language in the country of destination is an important limiting factor for the social integration of migrants, which has an impact on the overall social well-being of the community.
- **Religion.** Although many European countries do not officially recognise a religion, most of their population adhere to one or other strand of Christianity to a greater or lesser extent. This may be a common ground that favours the integration of immigrants of the same faith in some cases, but complicates it in the case of migrants of other religions.

- **Lack of a supportive social/familiar network.** Some people migrate with their partner or other family members, but many migrate alone. The bulk of their biological family and social environment often remains in their countries of origin. Many migrants find it difficult to establish support networks in the host society, which fosters situations of social exclusion.
- **Deep-rooted beliefs, distant and incomprehensible to white Western culture,** hinder understanding and integration between nationals and migrants. For example, in terms of health and healthcare, cultural differences involve different perceptions of illness and its causes, beliefs about healing, health-related behaviours, and attitudes towards the health care system, with a direct impact on the care relationship and doctor-patient communication.
- **Xenophobia and racism.** Immigrants are often seen by their environment as foreigners, different in a negative sense, which undoubtedly hinders their integration.
- **Lack of information** about their rights and lack of knowledge about assistance resources in the country of destination.
- **Irregular situation,** leading to difficulties in accessing all basic services, decent employment and social integration.
- **National regulations** governing different aspects, that discriminate against the immigrant population, such as those relating to training, which in many cases mean that studies completed in other countries are not recognised or homologated. This is a major obstacle for these people to get a job appropriate to their skills, training and personal expectations.

Wang, Z., de Graa, T. y Nijkamp, P. (2018). *Barriers of Culture, Networks, and Language in International Migration: A Review. The Journal of ERSA, European Regional Science Association. 5(1), 73- 89.*

Garrido, J. (2020). *Estudio sobre las necesidades de la población inmigrante en España: tendencias y retos para la inclusión social. Informe ejecutivo. ACCEM.*

3.5.1. Myths and stereotypes

The media often convey the impression that migration is out of control and a phenomenon to be feared. It is therefore not surprising that many opinion polls show that one of the major public concerns in Europe is migration. Immigration has been linked in popular discourse to terrorism, rising crime and unemployment, demographic domination and Islamisation, as well as epidemiological threats. Let us look at what the data says about these issues:

- **Terrorism:** there is no data to support the link between migration and terrorism. We know that, of the major terrorist attacks around the world in

recent years, the vast majority have been perpetrated by nationals born in the countries involved, recruited by terrorist networks from abroad.

- **Criminality:** Although this is a very popular idea, there is no data to support it. In fact, in countries such as Spain, where in recent years there has been an increase in the immigrant population, this has not been accompanied by an increase in crime, which is, in fact, one of the lowest in Europe. It should be taken into consideration that some statistics that have helped to spread this belief refer to crime data in which crimes are mixed with simple administrative offences such as lack of documentation or irregular entry into the country.
- **Unemployment:** There is a misperception that migration flows are dominated by people fleeing poverty and coming to "steal jobs". According to a World Bank report (2018), migration is the most effective way to reduce poverty and share prosperity, and can support economic growth by helping to address labour shortages in destination countries. With rising educational attainment, lower-skilled jobs are becoming less attractive to EU citizens, so lower-skilled foreign workers are needed.
- Moreover, international migration has evolved in recent decades and, contrary to what is often perceived, is not only from poorer countries to richer countries. Europe needs to attract more multi-skilled migrants to address labour and skills shortages in specific areas as well as to ensure its competitiveness vis-à-vis other economies. A highly skilled immigrant population provides a boost to research and innovation, stimulating economic growth in destination countries. The presence of internationally mobile researchers increases the quality and scope of research networks. Even for these highly skilled individuals, entry routes through employment opportunities in the EU are very limited.
- **Demographic dominance and Islamisation:** with the arrival of large immigrant populations from Islamic countries, concern has been popularized about the demographic pressure that these immigrants may constitute, imposing their own culture and religion on the European environment. However, neither the number of immigrants from these countries is so large, nor is Islam alien to the EU, where Muslims have been living for centuries. Muslims are also a heterogeneous group, with cultural differences among its members, and religion is not necessarily at the core of their identity.
- **Epidemiological threats:** Although the mobility of people from one country and continent to another increases the risk of disease spread, this risk associated with migration is no greater than that posed by tourist traffic. In addition, many migrants/refugees are screened at border crossings.



Rabiej, S. (2019). *Migration crisis in Europe – myths and reality. Studia Oecumenica, 19*, 413-426. <https://doi.org/10.25167/so.1513>

Activities module 1.3

Activity 1

Identify which group of causes corresponds to each of the factors indicated:

- a) Climate change - *Environmental cause*
- b) Ethnic cleansing - *Political cause*
- c) Specialised training - *Cultural/educational causes*
- d) Family reunification - *Social causes*
- e) War - *Political causes*
- f) Reduction of citizen insecurity - *Social causes*
- g) Overcoming poverty - *Economic causes*

Activity 2

Indicate whether the following statements are true or false:

Migrant men and women suffer in similar proportions from mental health problems. **FALSE**

Women have more difficulty than men in accessing stable jobs with fair working conditions. **TRUE**

Migrants represent a constant and lasting economic cost for the host country. **FALSE**
Immigration can contribute to reducing unemployment in migrants' countries of origin. **TRUE**

Migrant grief is often resolved within a few months of leaving the migrant's country of origin. **FALSE**

Migration can be an advantage for women in abusive relationships. **TRUE**

The lack of integration of migrants upon arrival in the country of destination is a myth. **FALSE**

Migration is always from poorer to richer countries. **FALSE**

Activity 3

Check the data on the website <https://www.unwomen.org/en/digital-library/multimedia/2016/9/infographic-migrant-domestic-workers> and answer the following questions:

Migrant domestic workers face a higher risk of exploitation than nationals. Indicate 3 aspects in which they are more vulnerable:

- *Lack of coverage of labour legislation and absence of protection mechanisms.*
- *Absence of rights to rest, leave or sick leave*
- *Limited or no access to health care*
- *Physical abuse, sexual abuse and psychological abuse*
- *Physical, social and cultural isolation*
- *Trafficking and bonded labour*

*What is the percentage of migrant women employed in domestic work compared to migrant men? **73.4%***

*The International Labour Organisation's Domestic Workers Convention that came into force in 2013, expands the basic labour rights of domestic workers and established protection mechanisms for migrant girls and women. However, it has been signed by a very small number of countries. In 2022, was Spain among them?
NO*

4. Inclusion, social adaptation and access to resources

Migrant integration has gained relevance in the global landscape with the advent of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development which calls for "leaving no one behind" (UN, 2022). Integration affects both different policies and various aspects of migrants' lives and thus integration encompasses information from economic, social etc. spheres (OECD, 2015).

Research of OECD countries show that, in most countries, migrants have, on average, lower rates of educational attainment and labor market participation than the native population. This is a symptom that remains an obstacle to effective integration. Integration-related outcomes depend on many factors, such as the country of origin, the context of the host community and the immigrants' skill level (OECD, 2015). For a more detailed analysis of the migration phenomenon in women, we must analyse each of these factors under the perspective of women, as this is a factor that has a differential influence on inclusion.

United Nations (2022). Goal 10: Reduce inequality within and among countries.

<https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/inequality/>

OECD/European Union (2015), Indicators of Immigrant Integration 2015: Settling In, OECD Publishing, Paris/European Union, Brussels.

<https://doi.org/10.1787/9789264234024-en>

4.1. Integration through the three pathways: countries of origin

A major change in the policy framework occurred in 2011 with the renewed European Agenda for the Integration of Third-Country Nationals, which added countries of origin as a third key actor in the immigrant integration process, thus introducing the three-way process; until then spoken of as two; immigrants and receiving society (Garcés-Mascreñas & Penninx, 2016). Countries of origin can and do have a role to play in supporting the integration process. They can do so through several ways:

- *preparing integration already before the migrants' departure.*
- *providing support to migrants while they are in the EU, e.g., by arranging support through embassies*
- *preparing the temporary or permanent return of the migrant with the experience and knowledge acquired*

*Garcés-Mascareñas, B., & Penninx, R. (2016). Introduction: Integration as a Three-Way Process Approach? In B. Garcés-Mascareñas & R. Penninx (Eds.), *Integration Processes and Policies in Europe* (pp. 1-10).*

4.2. *New motives, new opportunities?*

The increase in professional opportunities is one of the most significant motivations for undertaking a migration process. In recent years, there has been a trend of women migrating independently in search of new opportunities and a better future (Boyd & Grieco, 2003).

In addition to the traditional incorporation of women from developing to developed countries, it is necessary to consider migration between developing countries, which account for one third of global migration (OECD/ILO, 2018).

Some countries, including Spain, have agreements on labor migration flows with third countries (Secretaría de estado de migraciones, 2022). States' immigrant admission policies demonstrate a strong preference for "highly skilled" migrants, which can have a disproportionate impact on the admission of potential female migrants (Lim, 2018). "Skilled" migrants are predominantly male, while migration in the "family reunification" category is seen to apply more heavily to women (Dodson & Crush, 2004).

*Dodson, B., & Crush, J. (2004). A report on gender discrimination in South Africa's 2002 Immigration Act: masculinizing the migrant. *Feminist Review*, 77(1), 96-119. <https://doi.org/10.1057/palgrave.fr.9400158>*

*Lim, D. (2018). The indirect gender discrimination of skill-selective immigration policies. *Critical Review of International Social and Political Philosophy*, 22(7), 906-928. <https://doi.org/10.1080/13698230.2018.1479812>*

*Secretaría de estado de migraciones (2022). *Convenios de flujos migratorios laborales. Ministerio de inclusión, seguridad social y migraciones.* https://extranjeros.inclusion.gob.es/es/normativa/internacional/flujos_migratorios/index.html*

4.3. *Language, a first step.*

Spain hosts immigrants from a variety of ethnic origins. However, following Bosch et al. (2015), most of the migratory flow comes from Latin America (30%), Eastern Europe (20%) and North Africa (13%). There is no doubt that the shared language is a facilitating factor for the integration of immigrants and their social and labor inclusion.

Discrimination resulting from not knowing the language of the host country is twofold, because one does not know the code in which the host culture is framed, and one does not know the language of the host society. Hence, one of the main resources available to immigrants who do not know the language of the host country are literacy courses. In this sense, some language courses are being carried out with a gender perspective, with the dual objective of providing tools for socio-cultural inclusion in the reception process, and to create support networks among migrant women.

Bosch, M., Carnero, M. A., & Farré, L. (2015). Rental housing discrimination and the persistence of ethnic enclaves. *SERIEs*, 6(2), 129-152. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s13209-015-0122-5>

4.4. (Over)qualified professionals

Immigrant women are more likely to have higher qualifications than those required for their jobs. In Europe, over-qualification of migrant women is present in all countries to varying degrees, with very pronounced differences in over-qualification between native and immigrant women. In addition, many skilled women put their own careers behind them to migrate with their families in response to the emerging opportunities of their husbands (Rubin et al, 2008), which also leads to a loss of training potential.

Comparing EU-born immigrant women, third-country immigrant women and indigenous women with different educational levels, higher levels of education improve the situation in terms of labor market participation, employment and unemployment rates (Rubin et al, 2008).

Western host countries receive skilled human resources and new job perspectives and ideas. However, the difficulty in recognising previous qualifications from their countries of origin and bureaucratic hurdles make it difficult in many cases for women to participate in jobs for which they are qualified.

It is necessary for states to coordinate and facilitate the recognition of the professional qualifications of migrant women, as this will enhance their access to the range of professions in line with their training or experience. In this regard, there is a European database of regulated professions, REGPROF (European Commission, 2022a), to try to equalize the professions in the EU states. In addition, each EU state has a national assistance centre for the recognition of professional qualifications (European Commission, 2022b). In Latin America and the Caribbean, initiatives for the recognition and certification of labour competencies are underway (ILO/Cinterfor, 2022).

The importance of lifelong learning and digital literacy can eliminate barriers to the incorporation of women into traditionally male-dominated professional niches.

European Commission (2022a). Regulated Professions Database. EC. <https://ec.europa.eu/growth/tools-databases/regprof/>

European Commission (2022b). Free movement of professional. Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs. EC. https://single-market-economy.ec.europa.eu/single-market/single-market-services/free-movement-professionals_en#contacts

Organización Internacional del Trabajo, OIT/ Cinterfor (2022). Red de certificación de competencias. OIT/Cinterfor https://www.oitcinterfor.org/red_certificacion

Rubin J., Rendall MS, Rabinovich L., Tsang F., van Oranje-Nassau C., Janta B. (2008) Migrant women in the European labour force: Current situation and future prospects. RAND Corporation. https://www.rand.org/pubs/technical_reports/TR591.html

4.5. Employment niches

States' immigrant admission policies demonstrate a preference for "high-skilled" immigrants. However, despite the fact that skilled migration continues to grow (Martínez, 2016), in Spain, 31.4% of the employment available to immigrant women is in the domestic work sector (Briones et al., 2020). This kind of work which, due to its uncertain nature natives do not usually want to perform, are jobs that in many cases belong to the underground economy.

Women are more likely to be present in temporary and casual professions than in more stable ones due to barriers to entry: not meeting educational requirements, lack of experience, insufficient social network or discrimination (Michiels et al., 2021).

It should be noted that employment in the home, which has a minimal participation of men, is a resource for the regularisation of many immigrant women, although these employees are in a very vulnerable employment situation. Most of the migrant women who applied for permits through the regularisation program were employed in the domestic sector (Rubin et al, 2008).

In any case, there are a wage gap that is not attributable to productivity (Chen et al., 2017). This opens up the possibility of enhancing at the training level some competencies such as leadership and negotiation, which have been found to be relevant for women's self-determination.

Briones-Vozmediano, E., Rivas-Quarneti, N., Gea-Sánchez, M., Bover-Bover, A., Carbonero, M. A., & Gastaldo, D. (2020). The Health Consequences of Neocolonialism for Latin American Immigrant Women Working as Caregivers in Spain: A Multisite Qualitative Analysis. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, 17(21), 8278. <https://doi.org/10.3390/ijerph17218278>

Martínez, I. (2016). Construcción de una pedagogía feminista para una ciudadanía transformadora y contra-hegemónica. *Foro de educación*, 20, 129-151. <http://dx.doi.org/10.14516/fde.2016.014.020.008>

Chen, H., Chen, J., & Yu, W. (2017). Influence factors on gender wage gap: Evidences from chinese household income project survey. *In Forum for Social Economics*, 46(4), 371-395. <https://doi.org/10.1080/07360932.2017.1356346>

Michiels, S., Nordman, C. J., & Seetahul, S. (2021). Many Rivers to Cross: Social Identity, Cognition, and Labor Mobility in Rural India. *The ANNALS of the American Academy of Political and Social Science*, 697(1), 66-80. <https://doi-org.ubues.idm.oclc.org/10.1177/00027162211055990>

4.6. Applicants for international protection

There is clearly unequal treatment between migrants migrating on the basis of socioeconomic status, or those migrating for family reunification or as asylum seekers. Economic migrants show less income disadvantage in destination countries than those migrating for family reunification, or as asylum seekers or refugees (Rubin et al, 2008).

According to Article 1.A.2 of the 1951 Geneva Convention relating to the Status of Refugees, a refugee is a person who:

"owing to well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion, is outside the country of his nationality and is unable or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to avail himself of the protection of that country; or who, not having a nationality and being outside the country of his former habitual residence as a result of such events, is unable or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to return to it" (UN, 2022).

Due to the principle of "non-refoulement", a person who has filed an application for international protection (also called an asylum application) but has not received a final response (decision) on his or her case from the Spanish authorities, has in abeyance, until there is a final decision, any return, expulsion or extradition process that could affect him or her (UNHCR, UNHCR, 2022).

Although in many cases this asylum application is resolved negatively, it provides a margin of time during which migrants see their status protected, which is why it is a resource used by migrants, in many cases advised by the host entities, as a way to regularize their situation at the initial moment of arrival in the country and thus begin their inclusion process.

The UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR, UNHCR, 2022), on its website proposes guidance on how to access assistance as an immigrant person through various organisations that provide free legal assistance and advice on the Spanish asylum procedure, as well as social assistance services, job search, housing ... Among these organizations are professional associations of lawyers and some NGOs (ACCEM, Red Cross etc.).

UN (2022). *Convención sobre el Estatuto de los Refugiados. Naciones Unidas.* <https://www.ohchr.org/es/instruments-mechanisms/instruments/convention-relating-status-refugees>

UNHCR, ACNUR, (2022). *El asilo en España. United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.* <https://www.acnur.org/es-es/el-asilo-en-espana.html>

4.7. Gender-based asylum

Prior information about migration can generate a higher degree of self-confidence in women (Pocock et al., 2020); however, it is known that a significant number of women are not directly responsible for the decision to migrate, and in many cases in which they are, they are largely unaware of the legislation applicable to their cases. This usually occurs in the case of women fleeing their countries of origin due to gender violence.

According to the Spanish Government Delegation against Gender Violence (2022), if a woman has suffered persecution, by the authorities of her country or by a third party agent without having received protection from those authorities, for gender-based reasons, she could be a beneficiary of refugee status. These grounds may include, among others: physical or psychological violence by a partner or former partner; sexual assault or abuse; forced sterilization or abortion; female genital mutilation or risk of female genital mutilation; forced marriage; trafficking of women and girls.

The support of social agents in the country of destination to help women exercise this right is of great importance, since, in many cases, migrant women are unaware of the legislation and are not even aware of their status as victims.

Pocock, N. S., Kiss, L., Dash, M., Mak, J., & Zimmerman, C. (2020). *Challenges to pre-migration interventions to prevent human trafficking: Results from a before-and-after learning assessment of training for prospective female migrants in Odisha, India.* *PLoS one*, 15(9), e0238778. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0238778>

Delegación del Gobierno de España contra la Violencia de Género (2022). [Derecho a la protección internacional](https://violenciagenero.igualdad.gob.es/informacionUtil/extranjeras/derechoProteccion/home.htm). Ministerio de igualdad. Gobierno de España.

<https://violenciagenero.igualdad.gob.es/informacionUtil/extranjeras/derechoProteccion/home.htm>

4.8. Access to housing

Although discrimination in access to housing is prohibited by national legislation in Europe and other international laws, there is evidence of discriminatory treatment of ethnic minorities in access to housing (Gusciute et al., 2020). Socially, this type of discrimination can lead to residential segregation and lower levels of integration.

It is difficult for the person who is discriminated against because of his or her foreign status to detect that he or she is being discriminated against without outside help. Even when they are able to detect it, it is often difficult to report it, due to, among other factors, the difficulty of proving it. This often leads to situations of substandard housing or overcrowding (Provivienda, 2022).

In Spain, the vast majority of those living in illegal settlements belong to the ethnic and population groups most exposed to racial discrimination, facing a situation of extreme vulnerability and insecurity. Within the settlements, in addition to the insecurity faced by all the people who live there, there is also physical insecurity due to the macho violence to which women may be subjected, such as sexual harassment or economic control by their partners. (Provivienda, 2022).

Proposals to prevent discrimination in the housing sector focus on improving regulations, increasing information and awareness, intermediation in the rental market, and investigation and punishment of discriminatory acts. Experiences of intermediation programs, such as the Affordable Rental Housing Exchanges (implemented by entities and social organizations), have already demonstrated their effectiveness in facilitating access to decent and affordable housing for victims of racial discrimination (Provivienda, 2022). Guaranteeing rights such as registration is a measure to promote decent residential solutions, also in the case of settlements.

*Gusciute, E., Mühlau, P., & Layte, R. (2020). [Discrimination in the rental housing market: a field experiment in Ireland](https://doi.org/10.1080/1369183X.2020.1813017). *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*, 1-22. <https://doi.org/10.1080/1369183X.2020.1813017>*

Provivienda (2022). [Discriminación Racial en el ámbito de la vivienda y los asentamientos informales](https://www.igualdad.gob.es/ministerio/dgigualdadtrato/Documents/Informe_Discriminacion_racial_2022.pdf). Ministerio de Igualdad. https://www.igualdad.gob.es/ministerio/dgigualdadtrato/Documents/Informe_Discriminacion_racial_2022.pdf

Activities module 1.4

Activity 1

According to Garcés-Mascreñas & Penninx (2016), the three key actors in the immigrant integration process are:

Immigrants, receiving society and countries of origin.

Activity 2

Indicate, relying on the website of the immigration portal of the Ministry of Inclusion, Social Security and Migration for 2022, https://extranjeros.inclusion.gob.es/es/normativa/internacional/flujos_migratorios/index.html, which are the countries that have an agreement with Spain for labour migration flow:

Ukraine, Mauritania, Dominican Republic, Morocco, Ecuador and Colombia.

Activity 3

Indicate if the following statements are true or false:

*Until there is a definitive response to the request for asylum or international protection on a person, he/she cannot be returned or expelled. **True***

*Skilled migration is decreasing. **False***

*According to the Racial Discrimination in Housing and Informal Settlements report, proposals to prevent discrimination focus on improving regulations, increasing information and awareness, intermediation in the rental market, and investigation and punishment of discriminatory acts. **True***

5. Keys to intervention with migrant women

Throughout the previous modules, an overview of the situation of migrant women has been presented. Based on this global vision, a series of general keys are proposed to be taken into account in the professional intervention with this group. The explanation of each key is accompanied by textual accounts verbalised by migrant women who have participated in the project, in order to incorporate their voice and mediate in the deep understanding of the complexity and particularity of personal circumstances: women and migration.

5.1. Promoting human rights

We must work bearing in mind that migrants have the right to be treated in a dignified manner, with respect and autonomy (Colegio Oficial de Psicólogos de Madrid, 2016).

One of the participants in the focus group of professionals working with migrant women, interviewed in 2022, points out:

"It is fundamental the fact of not judging others, what you encounter, the situations and the world of the women you work with". In this regard, within the focus group of migrant women interviewed, she commented: "We have been treated as people, like people, you come here shattered, and little by little you build your life".

Colegio Oficial de Psicólogos de Madrid (2016). *Guía para la intervención psicológica con inmigrantes y refugiados*. Colegio Oficial de Psicólogos de Madrid.

https://www.ucm.es/data/cont/docs/315-2016-06-02-g.refugiados_PDF.pdf

5.2. Taking a position on cultural differences

Migrant women are surrounded by norms, values and customs that are often totally different from those of their culture of origin. These cultural codes are transmitted implicitly and condition the way they act in certain situations. Members of other cultures have to discover and understand cultural codes in a trial-and-error manner, which generates feelings of frustration, insecurity or conflict (Barañano et al., 2004).

"The educator asked me for the tickets, and I put them down thinking that maybe I needed to change some tickets, and she said to me, 'You already bought the tickets?' and I said, 'What do you mean, buy the tickets, ah you mean the bus tickets'" (participant in the focus group migrant women, 2022).

Barañano, N. B., Zlobina, A., & Rovira, D. P. (2004). Adaptación de los inmigrantes extranjeros en España: superando el choque cultural. *Migraciones*, 15, 43-84.
<https://revistas.comillas.edu/index.php/revistamigraciones/article/view/4259/4081>

5.3. Respecting the uniqueness of each migratory process

Not all people have the same integration skills. They are conditioned by cultural, economic, social and gender aspects, as well as a variety of previous situations; fleeing a war, being in an irregular situation (which leads to living in certain clandestinity) or the experiences they have had during the process, such as sexual violence during the journey. All this determines that each person experiences social integration in the destination country in a totally different way.

"The first thing I wanted to do was to sleep, especially talking about people from Ukraine, people fleeing from war have lived through very difficult situations, a lot of nerves, a lot of stress. When you arrive in a calm country, the body relaxes and what you need is to rest, to be left in peace a little bit" (migrant women focus group, 2022).

5.4 Providing information

Professionals should be trained to provide information in a clear and useful way, resolving all doubts. Refer to centres and services where they can get help (Colegio Oficial de Psicólogos de Madrid, 2016).

"We arrived in Madrid, it was like water in the desert, it was beautiful, NGOs if they can help people, they told me let's go to the police so you can ask for your International Protection, wow!" (focus group participant migrant women, 2022).

5.5 Promoting empowerment

When intervening with migrant women, professionals may focus only on following the procedures of what to do, without paying much attention to the needs or objectives of each woman. It is the woman herself who must determine the

intervention, the woman who must decide the steps to follow and make her own decisions.

5.6. Maintaining a gender perspective

The migration process is not the same for men and women. As a matter of gender, women always carry external obligations, they have greater responsibility for the care of their children:

“The woman who migrates, always comes with the children, brings them to bed, even if she does not have them physically” (focus group of professionals, 2022).

The obligation of care can extend beyond the children, to parents, siblings, nieces and nephews... remittances become the main source of income. Romantic love is another of the roles they have internalized and conditions their affective relationships, which revolve around dependence on their partner.

5.7. Assistance coordination

It is important to have a person or group coordinating all the interventions, providing reference elements and assessing the extent to which the objectives are being achieved (Inter-Agency Standing Committee, 2007). However, this is not incompatible with networking, which makes it possible to intervene among various actors to provide a comprehensive response to their needs. According to one of the professionals interviewed in the focus group:

“We are all here to favour the process, if we have been in the process for six months with this woman, in an interview she is not going to tell you what I can tell you, she trusts the professionals a little”.

Comisión Permanente entre Organismos (2007). [Guía del IASC sobre salud mental y apoyo psicosocial en situaciones de emergencia](https://www.acnur.org/publications/pub_sal/5b50c7b82cd/guia-del-iasc-sobre-apoyo-psicosocial-en-situaciones-de-emergencia). IASC

https://www.acnur.org/publications/pub_sal/5b50c7b82cd/guia-del-iasc-sobre-salud-mental-y-apoyo-psicosocial-en-emergencias-humanitarias.html

5.8. Avoiding revictimization

We must try to prevent the person from reliving traumatic episodes and reassuming his or her role as a victim. Secondary victimization means that the person, in addition to having been a victim of an event that has affected his or her coping capacity, is also a victim of the incomprehension of the system.

Activities module 1.5

Activity 1

After watching the video of the Women's Institute (2022), <https://youtu.be/ZhUCjTkjlb0> in which several women victims of trafficking recount their experiences in specialized institutions, students are asked to identify whether the following statements are true or false (minutes 19:00 - 29:00).

- It is important to provide information and resources. *True*
- Women have to tell their testimony as many times as necessary to be believed. *False*
- Respect the uniqueness of each process, each woman requires individual attention. *True*
- Respect individuals, recognize the right of women and girls. *False*

Instituto de las Mujeres (2022, 20 de septiembre). Actos presentación "plan camino" [Video]. <https://youtu.be/ZhUCjTkjlb0>

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Course objectives

- *Analyze the importance of equality between women and men to prevent discrimination and violence.*
- *Sensitize students and professionals with their daily work with victims of the different forms of violence they suffer*
- *Learn basic concepts related to inequality and violence against women.*
- *Promote pondering on the different forms of violence perpetrated against women and girls.*
- *Recognize the importance of the gender perspective in the intervention with vulnerable victims.*
- *Acquire skills to work with victims and perpetrators.*
- *Know tools that allow the design of effective programs in the fight against gender violence at the three levels of prevention: primary, secondary and tertiary.*
- *Analyze the concept of rape culture and its implications nowadays.*
- *Reflect on ponder about other widespread forms of violence exercised on women and girls such as human trafficking for sexual exploitation and female genital mutilation.*



CHAPTER 1

INEQUALITY AS A CAUSE OF VIOLENCE

To begin with... What do you know about violence against women?

SELF_EVALUATION

Read carefully the statement of the questions and answer if it is TRUE or FALSE

1. *The violence that is exercised against women is exercised by the simple fact of being women*

True

False

2. *Violence against women only occurs in some countries*

True

False

3. *To prevent migrant women from suffering gender-based violence, they should only try to culturally adapt to the host country*

True

False

4. *Violence against women generates serious consequences for their health*

True

False

5. *Education is an essential tool to prevent violence against women*

True

False

6. *The concepts of sex and gender have the same meaning*

True

False

7. *Stereotypes are preconceived ideas about the characteristics or roles that women and men should play.*

True

False

8. *The salary gap refers to the difference between the average gross remuneration per hour between male and female workers.*

True

False

9. *Horizontal segregation is related to the sexual division of labor, but vertical segregation is not.*

True

False

10. *The term “real equality” means the same as the term “legal equality”*

True

False

Lesson 1

Introduction

This training is proposed in order to provide students with a theoretical and practical approach based on awareness as an engine of change, because we are aware that professionals have not always acquired the necessary skills to carry out successful interventions with battered women, their children and daughters, and with the aggressors. Intervention with victims and perpetrators requires specialized knowledge, but also a review of one's own beliefs about the root of violence and the difficulties that this entails in professional practice.

We provide students with a space for learning, but also for personal growth through interaction with teachers who have extensive practical experience in the subject, being able to work from real cases through a theoretical-practical and active-participatory methodology.

It is about arousing your interest in the area, starting from the understanding of the current mental schemes to invite you to analyze and ponder through feedback on the concerns that arise and betting on the necessary change that will lead us to a fairer and society, trying to make you feel part of that change.

Violence against women is considered a violation of human rights that generates irreparable damage to the victims due to its physical, psychological, sexual, social, economic al consequences... This violence arises as a consequence of the existing inequality between women and men and the abuse of power from historically unequal relationships that have placed women in a situation of subordination towards men, a form of asymmetric relationship that is reinforced by gender socialization and patriarchy.

Its high prevalence worldwide warns us about the need to work on awareness sensitization and prevention, but also on the training of professionals to develop an effective intervention that eliminates, or at least minimizes, the damage that we sometimes inevitably generate in women, as a consequence of secondary victimization; Let's remember that according to the WHO, 35% of women will be assaulted (by their partners or outside the scope of couple relationships) at some point in their lives, with intimate partner violence being the most frequent, affecting 30% of women in the world. On the other hand, the European Agency for Human Rights indicates that 33% of women have been subjected to physical and/or sexual

violence since the age of 15, and 43% of them have suffered psychological violence from their partners or ex-partners

These data, without a doubt, show that gender violence is suffered by women and girls, for the mere fact of being so, without there being specific variables that increase the possibility of suffering it due to race, religion, age, cultural level, social class, etc.; However, it is necessary to consider other variables that imply greater vulnerability, such as the situation of migrant women or women belonging to cultures in which the possibility of being the object not only of physical violence, but also of suffering other forms of violence such as female genital mutilation, child marriage or human trafficking.

For all these reasons, it is necessary to address the violence exerted on women and girls in all its extension, taking into account the different forms of expression indicated and their consequences, from a gender perspective because this "way of seeing" allows us to analyze and understand the way in which society has distributed gender mandates, to how certain social systems are created and maintained depending on whether you are born a man or a woman.

Including the gender perspective in the university environment, in the education and training of students, means including a new and necessary perspective, a point of view through which we can recognize the inequality that still exists today, because despite the achievements, we must continue to emphasize the need to eliminate the existing differences and apply an adequate approach in their treatment.

We are facing a serious social problem that is not decreasing ... and this despite the will of public policies; without a doubt, the effort invested is not enough, the results are not as desired, although it is obvious that we are making progress, we are doing it very slowly.

In addition, we believe that it is necessary to understand that we are not facing a problem that only affects women, and we are committed to mobilize the awareness and position of men, who, being part of the problem, will also be part of the solution.

Even though international organizations combine criteria when it comes to recognizing the different manifestations of violence against women, not all countries approach it in the same way.

Spain is a leading country in the fight against gender violence. Proof of this its legislative journey. Since 2003, data began to be recorded in order to know the number of women who are murdered by their partner or former partner.

Although no data is collected on other manifestations of violence, Spain's adherence to the Istanbul Convention implies the recognition of all violent conduct against women as gender violence.

The origin of the concern about gender violence begins with the murder of a woman named Ana Orantes, who was 60 years old. In 1997 she was burned alive by her husband after appearing on a television show recounting the terrible experience of violence she had suffered from her husband for 40 years. The inefficiency of the police and judicial system at that time only allowed him to divorce her, having to share her home (a two-floor house) with the aggressor.

This murder marked a before and after in the fight against gender violence. It took 7 years for the approval of what is colloquially known as the Comprehensive Law¹, approved unanimously in 2004. A Law that involves all public powers and that included important legislative innovations such as the creation of courts specialized in violence against women and other institutions involved in this matter. It was about forming a comprehensive system focused on the prevention, protection and recovery of the victim and the prosecution of this crime. A law that launched different actions that would respond to the needs of the victims and their sons and daughters, and also improve professional actions in this area and provide comprehensive care.

Undoubtedly, the progress has been significant, achieving great awareness and social rejection of this type of behavior, as well as an important involvement of the professionals who work in this field in areas such as social, legal, health, educational, police, etc.

Spain's concern about migrant women was also reflected in the legislative changes. The circumstances that many foreign women went through when they found themselves in an irregular administrative situation, that is to say, lacking legal documentation to reside in the country, forced them to suffer violence in silence because if they decided to request help and fill a complaint, the regulations of that time forced the institutions to initiate a sanctioning file that could imply the expulsion to their country of origin.

¹ Organic Law 1/2004, on Comprehensive Protection Measures against Gender Violence.

Through the SEM Instruction 2/2021 on temporary residence and work authorization due to exceptional circumstances of foreign women victims of gender-based violence, protection is provided to migrant women, thus guaranteeing the rights recognized in the Comprehensive Law, thus prevailing the condition of victim of gender violence compared to her situation as a foreigner.

The commitment of the public powers in the fight against violence is reflected in the increase in social awareness and the legislative modifications that were necessary, making Spain a benchmark in comparative law (Ruíz, 2021)

Another notable fact in this area has been the approval in the Parliament of the State Pact (2017) that includes a total of 292 measures distributed in 10 lines of action.

However, despite the fact that our legislation has been recognized internationally as one of the most effective regulations in the fight against this type of violence, there is still much to be done and training in dealing directly with victims of violence is the starting point to eradicate it; specialized training becomes one of the most important tools we can count on to intervene with certain guarantees, avoiding secondary victimization and being able to respond to the most urgent needs at the time of intervention. Knowing the most appropriate way of approaching, procedures and resources is essential so that the first contact between the survivor and the professional represents the beginning of their recovery.

Throughout this training we will make a brief historical overview of the violence perpetrated against women for the mere fact of being women. We will analyze the different manifestations of this violence to understand how it develops and is maintained, what are its consequences or how to intervene with victims and perpetrators.

When we talk about violence against women, we are talking about an old problem that today we look at with different eyes. The process of visibility and awareness developed in recent decades has managed to address this violence as a social problem, leaving behind the perception of privacy that was associated with it (Bosch and Ferrer, 2000; Ferrer and Bosch, 2006).

Gender violence affects all women equally, however, migrant women suffer double discrimination, for being a woman and for being outside the country of origin. The Government of Spain, through the Government Delegation against Gender Violence, has been carrying out a Macro-survey since 1999 that is repeated every 4 years; It is considered the only official statistic that collects the prevalence of this type of

violence. The last macro-survey was carried out in 2019 with a sample of 9,568 women over 15 years of age.

According to the results obtained in the last Macro-survey (2019), the number of women who were born abroad and who have suffered physical, sexual, emotional violence or have perceived fear is higher than that of women born in Spain:

	WOMEN BORN ABROAD	WOMEN BORN IN SPAIN
Denounced	28%	20%
Sexual violence outside the couple	9,8%	6%
Rape victims outside the couple	5,2%	1,8%
Sexual violence from male relatives	37%	17%
Sexual violence suffered in Spain	28,9%	97%
Sexual violence suffered abroad	60,2%	

Source: Own elaboration based on the 2019 Gender Violence Macro-survey

As stated by Abril (2015), migrant women are much more vulnerable due to sociocultural, psychological and personal variables that lead to greater socioeconomic and institutional isolation.

In the fight against violence against women in general, it is essential to work, from a gender perspective, on the variables that influence the socialization process (family, school, media, etc.) and the violence suffered by women, migrant women in particular. In addition, we must know the migratory course and the particular characteristics of migrant women, as well as the factors that can influence decision-making. Special reference deserves education as a socializing agent and responsible for the transmission of attitudes towards women and towards migration; To end violence, it is necessary to prevent it, and prevention entails acquiring values such as tolerance, respect, equality, solidarity...

This training has a dynamic character whose base is the interaction between theory and practice, which will facilitate the integration of knowledge for students to obtain a general vision of violence against women, especially migrant women, and a specialization that it will have a great impact on comprehensive care for women survivors.

At the end of each lesson, you will have the opportunity to expand information.

REMEMBER

- Including the gender perspective in the university environment, in the education and training of students, this means including a new and necessary perspective, a point of view through which we can recognize the inequality that still exists today, because despite the achievements made, we still have to continue stressing the need to eliminate the existing differences and apply an adequate approach in their treatment.
- Gender-based violence affects all women equally, however, migrant women suffer double discrimination, for being a woman and for being outside their country of origin.
- In the fight opposing to violence against women in general, it is essential to work, from a gender perspective, on the variables that influence the socialization process (family, school, media, etc.) and the violence they suffer, migrant women in particular. In addition, we must know the migratory course and the characteristics of migrant women, as well as the factors that can influence decision-making.

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Ruiz J, (2021). La Lucha contra la Violencia de Género en España: De la Constitución al Pacto de Estado a la luz del informe GREVIO. Derecho Global, Estudios sobre Derecho y Justicia, VI (18) [https://DOI.org/ 10.32870/dgedj.v6i18.235](https://doi.org/10.32870/dgedj.v6i18.235) pp. 17-41



"To free herself, women must feel free, not to compete with men, but free in their abilities and personality".

Indira Gandhi (1917-1984)

LESSON 2

BASIC CONCEPTS

To begin with... What do you know about violence against women?

SELF APPRAISAL

Read carefully the wording of the questions and answer if it is TRUE or FALSE

1. *The concepts gender and sex are synonymous*

True
False

2. *The term gender refers to the cultural and social construction that is made from biological differences*

True
False

3. *Gender is expressed through cultural symbols*

True
False

4. *Stereotypes do not limit the capacities, nor do they impede professional development or limit the decision-making of both women and men.*

True
False

5. *During the socialization process and through interpersonal relationships, men and women assume certain cultural guidelines as their own, incorporating norms and values that society itself imposes.*

True
False

LESSON 2

Basic concepts

Sex, gender and gender identity

*Although the concepts of **sex and gender** have different meanings, not all people are clear about the differences. It is necessary to clarify both terms and to know what we mean by sex and what we mean by gender.*

*When we speak of “**sex**”, we refer to the biological differences between women and men, that is, the anatomical and physiological differences determined at birth. The person is born female or male. That we should not confuse with the concepts woman / man.*

*Organic condition, masculine or feminine, of animals and plants.
Group of beings belonging to the same sex. Male, female gender.*

*The term “**gender**” refers to the cultural and social construction that is made from biological differences. Society assigns attitudes, aptitudes, roles, etc. different depending on biological sex, depending on whether you are born male or female. We can say that gender is learned. Gender assigns behaviors and emotional, affective, intellectual characteristics... to women and men. Gender, therefore, is a cultural and historical interpretation that each society builds in relation to sexual differentiation, and through the attribution that each society defines as feminine or masculine, gender identity is thus formed.*

*Group to which human beings of each sex belong,
understood from a sociocultural point of view instead
of exclusively biological.*

(<https://dle.rae.es>)

It is customary and absolutely accepted to talk about the natural and natural characteristics of women and men: they are more talkative, affectionate... while they are stronger or more active.

According to the International Labor Organization (ILO), gender is a variable of hierarchy and categorization of people that regulates relationships between women

and men, attributing greater value to traits and characteristics defined as masculine. The construction of gender supposes a set of agreements elaborated by a determined community in a determined historical moment. It is an active and subtle process, more tacit than explicit, that is developed daily and leads each person to do what is expected of them and, when this does not happen, it puts their belonging to the group or their own identity at risk.

Gender is expressed by:

- Cultural symbols: they visualize the social representations of both sexes, normative concepts: they polarize and repress behaviors and tasks
- Institutions and policies: they reproduce and value the assignment of roles and capacities, subjective identity: it positions and determines the life project of one and the other

Gender refers to the societally defined roles, characteristics, and opportunities that are considered appropriate for men, women, boys, girls, and people with non-binary identities. Gender is also a product of relationships between people and can reflect the distribution of power between them. It is not a static concept, but changes with time and place. When individuals or groups do not conform to norms (including concepts of masculinity or femininity), gender-related roles, responsibilities or relationships, they are often subject to stigma, social exclusion and discrimination, all of which can negatively affect health. Gender interacts with biological sex, but it is a different concept.

OMS (<https://www.who.int/es/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/gender>)

REMEMBER

Sex: biological, natural and permanent characteristic. Difference between women and men. The concept of sex makes a classification of people based on anatomical and physiological characteristics (males and females).

Gender: it is a cultural construction imposed by society to differentiate the masculine from the feminine; It is learned through the process of socialization. They are the characteristics that society attributes to men and women.

The "feminine" and the "masculine" are not natural or biological facts, but cultural constructions. We are talking about functions, tasks to be carried out,

responsibilities to be assumed and, all of this even leads to the fact that women and men do not have the same opportunities when it comes to exercising the rights that correspond to them as citizens.

The socialization process

The socialization process is a development process that we go through from the moment of our birth (men and women). Through this process we build our gender identity, adapting and accepting certain patterns of behavior classified as masculine or feminine and assuming the roles assigned to one or the other sex, that is, accepting the distribution of tasks based on specific roles: the tasks assigned to men are related to the public sphere, while women have been assigned tasks related to the private sphere

Men and women are born equal, therefore we cannot contemplate that inequalities between one and the other is something natural... it will be the education they receive through the different agents of socialization and in the different contexts in which they develop that favors learning of behaviors and behaviors "typical" of men and women, which will generate unequal scenarios for women over time.

During the socialization process, gender identity is constructed through the assignment of attitudes and roles based on sex, depending on whether one was born male or female. As the person is born, whether boy or girl, they will learn to put into practice socially accepted behaviors as feminine or masculine, which will help them maintain their social position...

From the moment of birth, depending on whether a boy or a girl was born, the tasks will be distributed, with the assignment of specific roles, for example, the tasks assigned to men are more related to the public while those assigned to women are linked to the private or domestic and care.

"The socialization process is a process through which the person learns and internalizes, in the course of his life, the sociocultural elements of his environment, integrates them into the structure of his personality, under the influence of experiences and social agents. significant, and thus adapts to the social environment in which it must live" (Rocher, 1990)

During the socialization process and through interpersonal relationships, men and women assume certain cultural guidelines as their own, incorporating norms and values that society itself imposes. Social agents have a great influence on this process throughout development, both cognitively and socially, in boys and girls from birth. That is to say, through this process the person acquires values and norms, assumes behaviors and adapts to predetermined schemes and all of this is influenced by the agents of socialization: family, school, peer group and the media.

The family: *It is in charge of selecting the culture and values that it wishes to transmit. From an early age, children reproduce the behaviors they observe in the environment. This is how roles and stereotypes are transmitted. Its influence is very effective since it is the first of the socialization agents.*

The school: *It is a socialization space in which knowledge is transmitted, but also values and culture are transmitted through relationships with other people such as the peer group and the teaching staff.*

The peer group: *The person is linked to a group with which they feel identified and in which they share emotions, hobbies... the person usually belongs to different groups: school, friends, work, associations, etc.*

The media: *They are a less traditional socializing agent than the previous ones, since they can be more changeable. Although they allow people to actively participate in social changes, they also favor the perpetuation of certain behaviors.*

Gender roles and stereotypes

Gender stereotypes are a series of simple and imposed ideas about what women and men are like that become indisputable truths by repeating themselves. (Varela, 2005).

They are social constructions that encompass behaviors, activities, expectations and opportunities for people. They materialize in female or male skills and tasks, with different values that determine and condition people's lives. Although they evolve over time, the process is slow because the cultural guidelines of the traditional model are still deeply rooted. Gender influences interpersonal relationships and the distribution of power in them. The "feminine" and the "masculine" are not natural or biological facts, but cultural constructions. We talk about functions, tasks to be carried out, responsibilities to be assumed and, all of this, even determines that women and men do not have the same opportunities when it comes to exercising the rights that correspond to them as citizens.

Patriarchal societies, in order to maintain the hegemony of men in the organs of power and preserve situations of dependency of women with respect to men, have taken it upon themselves to assign different roles to one and the other depending on their sex. For example, if we think of times of economic crisis, the increase in unemployment with the incorporation of women into the labor market was explained by alleging that women were the ones who took jobs away from men. This is nothing more than a form of discrimination based on sex, since work is a universal right.

Gender roles put stereotypes into practice in society. They are a set of behaviors, thoughts, emotions, feelings... everything that we are expected to do according to our gender. Roles can also mark traits of our personality.

Both gender roles and stereotypes are learned and internalized through the process of socialization at the individual and collective level. People adapt to the expectations that are expected of them. In addition, individually, each person perpetuates roles and stereotypes through the acts of daily life and reproducing from generation to generation.

Stereotypes are social and cultural beliefs that establish a set of characteristics for men and women. What they do is assign behaviors, attitudes, ways of being and feeling... They influence our tastes towards sports, movies, activities, etc.

"It is a generalized opinion or prejudice about attributes or characteristics that men and women have or should have or about the social functions that both perform or should perform." Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)

REMEMBER

Stereotypes limit capabilities, impede professional development, and limit decision-making for both women and men.

Examples:

GENDER STEREOTYPES	
MENS	WOMEN
<i>Men are stronger and don't cry</i>	<i>The girls are shorter and weaker</i>
<i>Men are better at sports</i>	<i>Women do not control their emotions</i>
<i>Men don't like to dance ballet</i>	<i>Women are good at listening to other people's problems</i>
<i>Men are braver</i>	<i>Women like to go shopping</i>
<i>Men always want to flirt</i>	<i>If a woman has a lot of sex, she is an "easy" girl</i>
<i>If a man has a lot of sex, he is a winner</i>	<i>Women who dress in short skirts are more "easy"</i>

Some stereotypes that men and women maintain are still valid today. Sometimes we do not openly recognize them or do not think about them. When a conscious question is asked about men and women, those ideas that we thought were outdated come to the fore. We still have behaviors, values or personality traits assigned to a certain gender.

GENDER ROLES	
MASCULINE	FEMININE
<i>Good leader</i>	<i>Emotional and sentimental</i>
<i>Brave</i>	<i>Fearful</i>
<i>Rude and insistent</i>	<i>Doesn't usually raise his voice</i>
<i>He has things clear, he never doubts</i>	<i>She knows how to take care of others</i>
<i>Winner</i>	<i>Responsible</i>
<i>He knows how to deal with any situation</i>	<i>knows how to follow orders</i>
<i>Dominate the public sphere</i>	<i>Dominate the private sphere</i>
<i>Knows how to take care of himself</i>	<i>She is pretty or she has to be</i>

When someone behaves like this	If it is a girl, it is said to be	If it is a boy, it is said to be
<i>Active</i>	<i>Nervous</i>	<i>Restless</i>
<i>Insistent</i>	<i>Stubborn</i>	<i>Stubborn</i>
<i>Sensitive</i>	<i>Delicate</i>	<i>Effeminate</i>
<i>Unwrapped</i>	<i>Rude</i>	<i>Self-confident</i>
<i>Uninhibited</i>	<i>Sassy Girl</i>	<i>Sympathetic</i>
<i>Obedient</i>	<i>Docile</i>	<i>Weak</i>
<i>Moody</i>	<i>Hysterical</i>	<i>Passionate</i>
<i>Bold</i>	<i>Impulsive</i>	<i>Brave</i>
<i>Introvert</i>	<i>Shy</i>	<i>Think things through</i>
<i>Curious</i>	<i>Question, gossip</i>	<i>Intelligent</i>
<i>Prudent</i>	<i>Judicious</i>	<i>Coward</i>
<i>If you don't share</i>	<i>Selfish</i>	<i>Defend what is yours</i>
<i>If you don't submit</i>	<i>Aggressive</i>	<i>Strong</i>
<i>If you change your mind</i>	<i>Capricious, fickle</i>	<i>Able to admit their mistakes</i>

Fuente: Varela, 2015

The results of the investigations carried out by Castillo et. al (2014) point out that variables such as sex, religiosity or marital status influence the perception of men and women and produce a greater global effect when women are defined, which could be due to the different ways of defining women in relation to men. The study concludes that currently the roles associated with femininity continue to be developed by women and the masculine ones mostly by men.

Proposals for change

*Let's identify the stereotypes that we find in our day to day.
Let's point out discrimination, jokes or sexist comments.*

ACTIVITY:

- *Which aspects are related to sex and which to gender?*
- *Origin of inequalities?*
- *How can they be eliminated among all the people that make up society?*

ACTIVITY *Reflect on the following questions*

1. *What do you think women are like?
As a couple, as a family, at work, with friends, in free time, how do they behave? What do they do? What roles do you think they are assigned?*
2. *How do you think men are? As a couple, as a family, at work, with friends, in free time, how do they behave? What do they do? What roles do you think they are assigned?*

ACTIVITY

HEAR – SEE – THINK

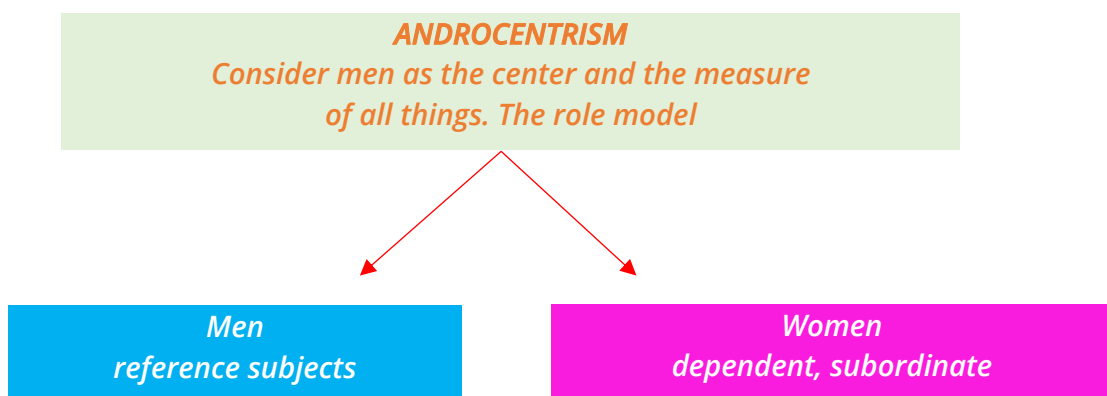
Make a brief reflection on the influence of advertising as an agent of socialization and the image of women, select the ad you want and answer

- *Who is the ad for?*
- *If it is clear what is advertised.*
- *If something especially caught your attention.*

Other related concepts

Androcentrism

From the Greek Andros (man). When we talk about androcentrism we refer to the masculine as the point of reference for everything. The man is the measure of all things, so the woman is relegated to the background, invisible. The androcentric perception assumes that the male vision is universal and is the main reference of humanity. In short, androcentism has a vision of the world and of social relations centered on the male point of view.



Micromachisms

Macho behaviors of lesser importance that go unnoticed, everyday and accepted. These are small behaviors that seem unimportant because they do not have bad faith. But they PERPETUATE machismo. Micro-abuses, micro-violences, that the man uses to maintain his position of power. Males learn them through gender socialization. They catch the woman in a subtle way and it can be years before she realizes it.

In addition, micromachismos have an ally: the social order that gives man superiority for the fact of being one. It is the breeding ground for gender violence. (Luis Bonino)

Postmachism

Term coined by Miguel Lorente. The premise of this movement is that things continue as they are, maintain the same traditional references, generating confusion that at the same time generates doubts and in Lorente's words "these doubts make people not take a position (for example, against the violence of gender) the distance becomes passivity and this in that things continue as they are, under the umbrella of inequality.

According to the author, postmachism does not offer alternatives. His position is to question everything, in the face of gender-based violence, post-machismo focuses on the fact that there are many false accusations and that women obtain benefits with the accusations and harm men; thus they do not deny the violence but generate doubts about reality.

He expects things to continue as they have always been. That there is no change and that the man continues to be the reference and can continue correcting and controlling the woman.

Video: micromachismos

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Co_z_GbjbHY

Gender blindness:

This term refers to the little or no awareness of how the assignment of roles to women and men affects them differently in areas such as social, cultural, economic and political.

Gender blindness is present in programs, projects and policies by not taking into account the different needs that women have based on the roles that have been assigned to them, which hinders the path towards equality and only benefits the dominant group.

Gender perspective

“It is a way of seeing or analyzing that consists of observing the impact of gender on the opportunities, roles and social interactions of people. This way of seeing is what allows us to carry out a gender analysis and then mainstream a gender perspective in a proposed program or policy, or in an organization”.

Both the international community and the United Nations have incorporated the gender perspective as a strategy to achieve equality and advance the rights of women and girls. (UN Women, 2020)

We recently came across this headline on the occasion of the La Toja Forum, an international discussion forum to promote intellectual and academic debate, which left this headline in the press and caused outrage on social media

The photocall that smells of brandy and cigars: the La Toja Forum lines up thirteen 'gentlemen' and the networks light up



Image of the one held in La Toja on 09/30/2022. Source: publico.es

Unfortunately, this is not an isolated event. Last June/22 at the NATO summit leaders' meeting leaves us with an image of 27 men and only four women.

These situations are very common and women must continue to demand greater visibility; the First Vice President and Minister of Foreign Affairs and Digital Transformation of Spain, Nadia Calviño, spoke saying:

"I am not going to take a picture of myself in which I am the only woman again. I am not going to participate in a debate in which I am the only woman again"

We have another example such as the controversial image of the women of the G20 leaders, with this headline: "They decide the future of the planet while they feed little animals"

The image is harshly criticized since the role of women continues to be perpetuated, as the headline "the ideal of the vase woman" assures. A fact that went viral on social networks, forcing women to raise their voices to end this type of situation of inequality.



To know more...

<https://www.publico.es/tremending/2022/09/30/el-photocall-que-huele-a-brandy-y-puraco-el-foro-la-toja-alinea-a-trece-senoras-y-las-redes-se-encienden/>

<https://www.lavanguardia.com/economia/20220203/8032034/calvino-plan-recuperacion-economia-genero.amp.html>

<https://content.jwplatform.com/previews/A7edRVF3>

<https://www.publico.es/tremending/2019/07/01/la-polemica-imagen-de-las-mujeres-de-los-lideres-del-g20-ellos-deciden-el-futuro-del-planeta-mientras-ellas-alimentan-animallitos/>

https://twitter.com/EFEnoticias/status/1144583728557166603?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw%7Ctwcamp%5Etweetembed%7Ctwterm%5E1144583728557166603%7Ctwgr%5Ea40521b90b0f87d2a724e05293050a881e784d9b%7Ctwcon%5Es1_c10&ref_url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.publico.es%2Ftremending%2F2019%2F07%2F01%2Fla-polemica-imagen-de-las-mujeres-de-los-lideres-del-g20-ellos-deciden-el-futuro-del-planeta-mientras-ellas-alimentan-animallitos%2F

ACTIVITY

Make a reflection on the content of the video and think on a similar situation in which you have found yourself on some occasion.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WVRKdakh6fw>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MB-ySGEYF10>

<https://marieclaire.perfil.com/noticias/sociedad/machismo-y-moda-cuando-las-marcas-se-olvidan-que-la-mujer-no-es-un-objeto.phtml>

<https://www.instagram.com/reel/Cg13BaMApb5/?igshid=YmMyMTA2M2Y=>

To know more...

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C1bI0UkhmQA>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sQKafq96Hss>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pJvJo1mxVAE>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wGc1J64PFo0>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fXBxOaLcMZg>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xH-9nWaqpws>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bj0fTHMXyok>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WKJhXg2JFcg>

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DOI: https://doi.org/10.26754/ojs_filanderas/fil.202055014

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TEST

Read carefully the wording of the questions and answer if it is TRUE or FALSE

1. The term gender refers to the cultural and social construction that is made from biological differences, therefore it is a cultural and historical

interpretation that each society builds in relation to sexual differentiation, with the attribution of the feminine or the masculine conforming the identity of genre.

True

False

2. *The socialization process is a development process that we go through from the moment of our birth, but it does not influence gender identity*

True

False

3. *During the socialization process and through interpersonal relationships, men and women assume certain cultural guidelines as their own, incorporating norms and values that society itself imposes*

True

False

4. *The media, as a less traditional and more changing socialization agent, do not favor the perpetuation of stereotypes.*

True

False

5. *The social constructions that encompass behaviors, activities, expectations and opportunities for people and materialize in female or male skills and tasks, with different values that determine and condition people's lives are called gender roles.*

True

False



*"I'm not accepting the things I can't change, I'm changing the things I can't accept."
Angela Davis (Philosopher)*

LESSON 3

FORMAL/REAL EQUALITY DISCRIMINATION FOR REASON OF SEX

To begin with... What do you know about the inequality of gender?

SELF-EVALUATION

Read carefully the wording of the questions and answer if it is TRUE or FALSE

1. Equality is a fundamental right

True

False

2. We can ensure that there is equality when governments have legislation that regulates it

True

False

3. Legal equality is the same as real equality

True

False

4. Women and men are born equal, but we receive different education

True

False

5. All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights

True

False

LESSON 3

Formal equality/real equality

Equality is one of our fundamental rights, as established in art. 1 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Talking about equality implies that all people, men and women, can enjoy the same rights and this does not mean saying that women and men are necessarily equal, we are different, but we should have the same rights and the same opportunities.

Equality as a right is included in the basis of the international system for the protection of human rights.

Equality means that both skills and knowledge are valued regardless of whether they belong to men or women; Despite equality being considered a fundamental human right, there are many situations of discrimination based on gender, with the majority of people affected being women.

"All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights and, gifted as they are with reason and conscience, they must behave fraternally towards one another"

Art. 1 Declaration of Human Rights

Equality as a right is included in the basis of the international system for the protection of human rights. Equality means that both skills and knowledge are valued regardless of whether they belong to men or women; Despite equality being considered a fundamental human right, there are many situations of discrimination based on gender, with the majority of people affected being women. Without making a great effort, we will find many examples of discrimination in our daily lives: in politics, in sports, in companies... as we saw in the socialization process, women and men are born equal, but education is not the same for everyone. Society "typecasts" women and men into certain roles that favor them, giving rise to gender inequality: women do not have the same opportunities as men, just because they are women,

and cannot participate in social life , culturally and politically in the same way that men do.

International instruments in favor of equality between women and men

- *Since the founding of the UN, discrimination based on the sex of people was prohibited; the principle of equal rights between men and women was enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations in June 1945.*
- *The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948) also mentions the principle of equality and the prohibition of all forms of discrimination based on sex, and establishes the right of people to participate, under conditions of equality, in political decision-making and access to the functions of public affairs.*
- *The Convention on the Political Rights of Women (1954) proposes to put into practice the principle of equal rights for men and women, stated in the Charter of the United Nations.*
- *The International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (1965) proposes a policy aimed at eliminating racial discrimination in all its forms and promoting understanding among all races.*
- *In the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (1966) and in the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (1966), the States Parties undertake to respect and guarantee all individuals in their territory and subject to their jurisdiction the rights recognized in said instruments, without any distinction of race, language or sex, nationality, religion, language, political opinion, among others.*

*The term **legal equality** refers to "the rules" that regulate equality between women and men, that is, the set of legal instruments that regulate it.*

*The term **real equality** is the materialization, the implementation of that legal equality. Having legal rules that treat men and women equally, that is, that this equality is legally recognized, does not mean that it is put into practice.*

The recognition of equality at a legal level is included in many of the European regulations; most countries take into account the principle of equality, but it does not mean that equality between women and men is real and effective. In practice, there are many obstacles to overcome and that can only be overcome if there is a change in thoughts, ideas and values that fuel inequality. Society in general, and each person in particular, must be an active part of the change.

Equal opportunities

Equal opportunities suppose that both men and women participate equally in those spaces in which they interact, share information, discuss public issues that affect us, which means, that they can participate in the public sphere equally in areas such as the economy, politics, social... and can participate in decision-making.

*Related to equal opportunities is the term **equal treatment**. Currently there is discrimination in certain groups for gender, religious, ethnic, migratory reasons... The women who make up these groups are doubly discriminated against, for example, being a woman and a migrant.*

Discrimination means treating someone differently because of ethnic, religious, racial, political or gender reasons.

Legislation on equality is the first step to ensure that women and men are EQUAL, but it is not enough to change the structure that sustains inequality.

Discrimination based on sex

According to the definition elaborated by the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women of the United Nations Assembly (1979), we speak of discrimination based on sex when we refer to “Any distinction, exclusion or restriction based on sex that has the purpose or result of undermining or nullifying the recognition, enjoyment or exercise by women, regardless of their marital status, on the basis of equality between men and women, of human rights and fundamental freedoms in the political, economic, social, cultural and civil spheres or in any other sphere.”

Although we can find discrimination based on gender in different areas of everyday life, it appears especially in the workplace, and we will find two types of discrimination based on gender: direct and indirect.

Direct discrimination²

This discrimination refers to the unequal treatment of a person based on their gender, being treated less favorably compared to another person of a different gender.

At present, situations of discrimination continue to occur, affecting mostly women, for example:

- *Being fired for being pregnant.*
- *Charge less for a similar position for the fact of being a woman.*
- *Not having the same advancement or promotion opportunities as their male colleagues.*
- *Not recognizing the merits in the same way.*
- *Sexual harassment or harassment based on gender.*

² Art. 6 of the Organic Law 3/2007 of the Effective Equality between women and men.

Related to discrimination we have the term of **positive discrimination** (neither direct nor indirect discrimination is considered); also called **positive actions**; refers to the measures that must be adopted when starting from unfavorable situations for a specific group, in this case women. It is about starting certain actions that are aimed at reducing other discriminatory actions in excluded groups that modify the inequality that they have generated, which means, those are measures that are provisional in nature to achieve the equality.

Positive actions are temporary measures that are put in place with the aim of guaranteeing real and effective equality.

Indirect discrimination³

In this case, it refers to the situation in which criteria, provision or practice that may initially seem objective puts people of one gender at a disadvantage compared to people of the other, for example:

- *Adopt a measure that involves increasing the hours in order to promote themselves. Although initially it may be accessible to men and women, men would have a better chance of being promoted by not having to deal with daily tasks (due to established roles).*
- *The different treatment to carry out the reconciliation of family and work life.*
- *Establish a requirement that it is predominantly male (physical strength)*

The European Union⁴ has included many legislative measures to support Spanish policies within its actions, which allow a practical development of rights, for example: reserving a percentage of jobs in the public sector for people at risk of exclusion or promoting advantages for companies to hire disadvantaged groups, etc.

³ Art. 6 of the Organic Law 3/2007 of the Effective Equality between women and men.

⁴ https://european-union.europa.eu/index_es

Wage gap

Consider and include specific measures for women and girls in their national sustainable development strategies in accordance with SDG 5 of the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and monitor the implementation of all relevant provisions, also using data based on the indicators established in the framework of the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action.

The wage gap between men and women in Europe has been decreasing; the difference in gross hourly income between male and female workers was 17.1% (2010) and 15.7% (2018).⁵

In the conclusions of the Council of the European Union (2019), to eliminate the wage gap between men and women, a series of measures are adopted, among others:

- *Take stock of all available measures with a view to ensuring the effective implementation at national level of the legal principle of equal pay for equal work or work of equal value.*
- *Take effective measures to promote equality in education and employment in order to address labor market segregation and close the wage gap between men and women.*
- *Take measures aimed at facilitating the reconciliation of work, family and private life for both women and men, thus encouraging the equitable sharing of caregiving and domestic responsibilities between women and men.*
- *Consider and include specific measures for women and girls in their national sustainable development strategies in accordance with SDG 5 of the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and monitor the implementation of all provisions also using data based on the indicators established in the framework of the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action.*

⁵ <https://www.epdata.es/datos/brecha-salarial-hombres-mujeres-espana-datos-graficos/320>

"In order to guarantee the practice of full equality between men and women in working life, the principle of equal treatment shall not prevent any Member State from maintaining or adopting measures offering specific advantages aimed at facilitating the exercise of employment by the underrepresented sex of professional activities or to avoid or compensate for disadvantage in their professional careers."
(Art.141.4 of the Treaty of Amsterdam)

"Discrimination against women, insofar as it denies or limits their equal rights with men, is fundamentally unjust and constitutes an offense against human dignity."
Declaration on the elimination of discrimination against women, proclaimed by the UN General Assembly (1967)

Activity

Make a brief reflection on equality between women and men that includes a proposal for change and achieve real equality.

To know more...

<https://colectivajusticiamujer.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/foll-igua>
https://www.ohchr.org/sites/default/files/Documents/ProfessionalInterest/cedaw_SP.pdf
<https://dialnet.unirioja.es/servlet/articulo?codigo=3212120>
<https://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-10349-2019-INIT/es/pdf>

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<https://www.epdata.es/datos/brecha-salarial-hombres-mujeres-espana-datos-graficos/320>

Activity

*Sexism: Detect it. Name it. For the.
#parasexismo #MeToo*

The Council of Europe has decided to act through the Recommendation to prevent and combat sexism. We suggest you read it and answer whether the following statements are true or false.

<https://human-rights-channel.coe.int/stop-sexism-en.html>

- 1. It's in the way we speak, the words we write, the images we create, and the way we act. (V)*
- 2. Sexism only affects women (F)*
- 3. Sexism itself may seem harmless, but it contributes to the acceptance of violence (V)*
- 4. The impact of sexism can aggravate the situation of some women, but it does not affect variables such as age or disability. (F)*
- 5. Young women are more vulnerable to sexism. (V)*

TEST

Read carefully the wording of the questions and answer if it is TRUE or FALSE

- 1. Positive actions are temporary measures that are put in place with the aim of guaranteeing real and effective equality.*

True

False

- 2. Speaking of equality implies that all people, men and women, can enjoy the same rights and this does not mean affirming that women and men are necessarily equal.*

True

False

3. *Positive actions are somehow direct discrimination.*

True

False

4. *Direct discrimination refers to the unequal treatment of a person based on their gender, being treated less favorably compared to another person of a different gender.*

True

False

5. *The wage gap between men and women in Europe has been narrowing.*

True

False

CHAPTER 2

Regulatory framework, employment and training



"The truth never harms a cause that is just"
Mahatma Gandhi (1869-1948)

LESSON 1

European regulations

To begin with... What do you know about the legislation that regulates women's rights?

SELF APPRAISAL

Read carefully the wording of the questions and answer if it is TRUE or FALSE

1. Gender violence is a violation of Human Rights

True
False

2. In the European framework, legislation contemplates gender equality and violence

True
False

3. Equality plans in companies are mandatory in Spain.

True
False

4. The Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women has been proclaimed by the UN General Assembly

True
False

5. Forced marriages constitute a violation of human rights.

True
False

LESSON 1

EUROPEAN REGULATIONS

In this lesson we will take a tour of history to see the evolution of European regulations. Inequality and gender violence have aroused the interest of most countries, as we will see.

It is convenient to take into account the legislative evolution to know that we are facing a problem that began to be addressed more than three decades ago. We believe it is essential to begin with a brief overview of the most significant milestones, especially those recommendations that call for combating violence through the approval by governments of various action plans:

- *1946: Declaration of Human Rights. Document that serves as the basis for international treaties. The Human Rights Convention has been ratified by 196 countries. All UN Member States have ratified.*
- *1979: Convention on the Elimination of all forms of discrimination against Women, adopted by the UN General Assembly and ratified by Spain in 1984.*
- *1993: Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women, proclaimed by the UN General Assembly (Resolution 48/104).*
- *1995: Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action.*
- *1997: Resolution 52/86 of the UN General Assembly on Crime Prevention Measures and Criminal Justice for the elimination of violence against women.*
- *1997: Resolution of the European Parliament on the European Campaign on Zero Tolerance for Violence against Women. 2000: Resolution 1325 of the United Nations Security Council that highlights the need for women participate in maintaining peace and security.*
- *2002: European Parliament Resolution on Women and Fundamentalism.*
- *2006: Resolution 61/143 of the United Nations General Assembly that urges States to establish specific action plans to eliminate violence against women.*
- *2008: Resolution 63/155, through which States are asked to create an integrated national plan that includes prevention, protection and campaigns.*

- 2004: *Pacific Platform for Action for the Advancement of Women and Gender Equality (2005-2015).*
- 2009: *United Nations Security Council Resolution 1888 requiring all parties to armed conflict to take the necessary measures for the protection of all civilians, and especially women and children, in any form, from violence.*
- 2011: *Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence.*

Equality between men and women in the labor market

- The Treaty of Amsterdam

The Amsterdam Treaty (1999) is a benchmark in the fight against discrimination because from that moment the European institutions were able to legislate on equal treatment in access to employment, professional training or working conditions.

- Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union (2000)

This charter includes the fundamental rights of people in the European Union, in short, it protects and promotes the rights and freedoms of people adapting to society, progress and scientific and technological advances.

- Directives 2000/43 and 2000/78

Directive 2000/43/EC, of June 29, on the application of the principle of equal treatment of people regardless of their racial or ethnic origin, prohibits discrimination for racial or ethnic reasons in different areas such as employment, education, social security, health, etc.

Council Directive 2000/78/EC, of November 27, 2000, on the establishment of a general framework for equal treatment in employment and occupation that regulates discrimination in employment for religious reasons or beliefs, disability, age and sexual orientation.

***Directive 2006/54/CE** of the European Parliament and of the Council of July 5, regarding Equal Opportunities and Equal Treatment between Men and Women in Employment and Occupation Matters.*

This Directive recasts all the previous regulations on labor equality between women and men. This is not a new legislation but the unification of the rules of recent years in terms of equal pay, social security, pensions and working conditions. The Directives it includes are 75/117/CEE, 76/207/CEE, 86/378/CEE and 97/80/CEE; The subjects they deal with are:

- *Application of equal treatment between men and women with regard to access to employment, professional training and promotion, and working conditions.*
- *Equal treatment between men and women in special social security schemes.*
- *Equal pay for male and female workers.*
- *The burden of proof in cases of discrimination based on sex.*

- Decision 1672/2006/CE of the European Parliament and of the Council of October 24, establishing a Community Program for Employment and Solidarity

Its objective is to favor the inclusion in the labor market of all those people with special difficulties in accessing it.

- The Lisbon Treaty (2009)

This treaty comes to strengthen the powers of the European Union in terms of equal treatment and non-discrimination and refers to the concept of equality as "one of the central values on which the Union is based" (Art. 2)

- The Charter of Fundamental Rights (2009)

This Charter of Fundamental Rights (with the character of a Treaty of the European Union) regulates any type of discrimination and especially if it is based on sex, race, color, ethnicity, language, disability, religion, opinions, minorities, age and sexual orientation. (Article 21).

In the area of Criminal Law:

- Framework Decision 2008/913

Decisión Marco 2008/913/JAI de 28 de noviembre de 2008, relativa a la lucha contra determinadas formas y manifestaciones de racismo y xenofobia.

- Directive 2012/29/EU

Directive 2012/29/EU of October 25, regulates assistance to crime victims, establishing the rules on the rights, support and protection of crime victims.

In the area of gender equality

- Directive 2010/41

The Directive of July 7, 2010, on the application of the principle of equal treatment between men and women who carry out an autonomous activity.

- Directive 2006/54/EC

Directive 2006/54/EC of July 5, 2006, on the application of the principle of equal opportunities and equal treatment between men and women.

Its objective is to achieve the consolidation of other directives on gender equality for the improvement of the European Union legislation in relation to equal treatment between men and women in employment.

Let us remember that equality between women and men is a fundamental principle of European Union law. This document refers to equality and working conditions, social protection, maternity/paternity leave and contemplates the prohibition of direct or indirect discrimination between men and women (hiring, working conditions, training, etc.) among others.

- Directive 2004/113/EC

The Directive of December 13, 2004, which applies the principle of equal treatment between men and women to access to goods and services and their supply.

- Directive 2011/99/EU

Directive 2011/99/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council, of December 13, on the European Protection Order.

- Regulation (EU) No. 606/2013

Regulation (EU) No. 606/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council, of June 12, on the mutual recognition of protection measures in civil matters

- Directive 2011/36/EU

Directive 2011/36/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council, of April 5, on the prevention and fight against trafficking in human beings and the protection of victims (replaces Framework Decision 2002/629/JHA of the Council.

- Council of Europe Convention to prevent and combat violence against women and domestic violence. (Istanbul Convention, 2011)

The Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union prohibits discrimination based on sex in terms of remuneration for the same job or work of equal value (Art. 157)

Women and migration

In this section, we will address legislation related to migrant women that seems especially relevant to us because it can affect different areas of her life.

We will highlight the Spanish legislation for being a benchmark in the fight against inequality and violence against women.

Although the Spanish Constitution (1978) already contemplated equality as one of the fundamental rights, it will not be until 2007 when it is specifically legislated.

"Spaniards are equal before the law, without any discrimination based on birth, race, sex, religion, opinion or any other personal or social condition or circumstance prevailing." (Article 14 of the Spanish Constitution)

"It corresponds to the public powers to promote the conditions so that the freedom and equality of the individual and of the groups in which he is integrated are real and

effective; remove the obstacles that prevent or hinder its fullness and facilitate the participation of all citizens in political, economic, cultural and social life.

(Section 2. Art. 9 of the Spanish Constitution)

It also specifically contemplates that foreigners who are in Spain will enjoy the same rights:

1. Foreigners in Spain shall enjoy the public freedoms guaranteed by this Title in the terms established by treaties and by law.

2. Only Spaniards shall be holders of the rights recognized in article 23, except for what, based on criteria of reciprocity, may be established by treaty or law for the right to active and passive suffrage in municipal elections.

3. Extradition will only be granted in compliance with a treaty or the law, in accordance with the principle of reciprocity. Political crimes are excluded from extradition, and acts of terrorism are not considered as such.

4. The law will establish the terms under which citizens of other countries and stateless persons may enjoy the right of asylum in Spain.

(Article 13 of the Constitution)

On equality and employment

- Organic Law 3/2007, of March 22, for the effective equality of women and men.

This Law was based on Article 14 of the Spanish Constitution (mentioned above) for its development, in order to combat the existing inequality between women and men and give legal coverage to the actions and measures that should be put in place to eliminate the barriers that women encountered, for example in the workplace; In addition, it must be taken into account that Article 9 of the Spanish Constitution obliges the State to promote all the actions that are necessary to achieve equality and to this is added all the European regulations to which Spain adheres through its commitment.

Its objective is to put an end to all manifestations of discrimination against women, and to guarantee real equality between women and men, establishing, through public policies, measures that eliminate social stereotypes.

This Law encouraged the Autonomous Communities to develop their own legislation on equality in those matters that have been transferred to them (health, employment, education...).

It is a transversal law that addresses different aspects such as parity in public and private administration and in positions of responsibility, non-discrimination based on sex, equal opportunities in the workplace, the fight against gender-based violence and reconciliation of personal, family and work life. It is noteworthy that based on this law and in order to combat the wage gap, companies with more than 50 workers are required to draw up an Equality Plan.

"1. Women and men are equal in human dignity, and equal in rights and duties. The purpose of this Law is to make effective the right to equal treatment and opportunities between women and men, in particular by eliminating discrimination against women, whatever their circumstance or condition, in any of the areas of life and , singularly, in the political, civil, labor, economic, social and cultural spheres in order, in the development of articles 9.2 and 14 of the Constitution, to achieve a more democratic, fairer and more supportive society.

2. For these purposes, the Law establishes principles of action of the Public Powers, regulates the rights and duties of natural and legal persons, both public and private, and provides measures aimed at eliminating and correcting in the public and private sectors, all forms of of discrimination on the grounds of sex.

(Article 1 of Organic Law 3/2007)

"The principle of equal treatment between women and men supposes the absence of any discrimination, direct or indirect, on the basis of sex, and, especially, those derived from maternity, the assumption of family obligations and marital status".

(Article 3 of Organic Law 3/2007)

Related to Law 3/2007, we have Royal Decree-Law 6/2019 on urgent measures to guarantee equal treatment and opportunities between women and men in employment and occupation.

What this rule intends is a development of the law in the labor field and adapt other regulations: the Workers' Statute, the Public Employee Statute, the Autonomous Work Statute and the General Social Security Law.

Through this legal instrument, paternity leave was extended, the right to negotiate the working day for work needs (including teleworking) is regulated, and the legal framework for the preparation of Equality Plans in companies is also regulated.

Royal Decree 901/2020, which regulates equality plans and their registration, and modifies Royal Decree 713/2010 on the registration and deposit of agreements and collective labor agreements).

This decree expands the number of companies required to have an equality plan, (previously only companies with more than 250 workers had this obligation).

In addition, it refers to what the new equality plans should be like since they must include a diagnosis of the situation, the objectives that must be achieved to correct the inequalities detected, as well as measures, deadlines, evaluation and duration of each plan (maximum 4 years).

Subsequently, Royal Decree 902/2020 on Equal Remuneration between men and women emerged, which obliges all (of any size) companies to incorporate a wage record (with average data and broken down between men and women of the salaries of the workers and positions of responsibility or senior positions)

Regarding violence against women

Forced marriage

According to the United Nations Organization, more than 650 million girls and women have been married before the age of 18 and if we do not adopt measures in the year 2030 another 150 million more girls will be married before the age of 18.

This practice is a violation of human rights and situations of vulnerability are the breeding ground for it (pregnancies, poverty, etc.)

In Spain, it is a crime included in art. 172 of the Penal Code:

"1. Whoever with serious intimidation or violence compels another person to marry shall be punished with a prison sentence of six months to three years and six months or a fine of twelve to twenty-four months, depending on the severity of the coercion or the means used. .

2. The same penalty will be imposed on whoever, with the purpose of committing the acts referred to in the previous section, uses violence, serious intimidation or deceit to force another to leave Spanish territory or not return to it.

3. The penalties will be imposed in their upper half when the victim is a minor.

4. In the convictions for the crime of forced marriage, in addition to the pronouncement corresponding to civil responsibility, those that proceed in order to declare the nullity or dissolution of the marriage thus contracted and to the affiliation and establishment of foods."

Section 4 is a novelty introduced with the entry into force of Organic Law 10/2022, of September 6, on the comprehensive guarantee of sexual freedom, which we will return to later.

Forced marriage is included in the regulations in order to be faithful to the international commitments signed by Spain and as it appears in the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of all forms of discrimination against women:

1. The States Parties shall take all appropriate measures to eliminate discrimination against women in all matters related to marriage and family relations and, in particular, shall ensure, under conditions of equality between men and women: a) The same right to To get married; b) The same right to freely choose a spouse and marry only by their free will and her full consent; c) The same rights and responsibilities during the marriage and on the occasion of its dissolution; d) The same rights and responsibilities as parents, regardless of their marital status, in matters related to their children; in all cases, the interests of the children will be the primary consideration; e) The same rights to decide freely and responsibly the number of their children and the interval between births and to have access to information, education and the means that allow them to exercise these rights; f) The same rights and responsibilities regarding

guardianship, curatorship, custody and adoption of children, or analogous institutions whenever these concepts exist in national legislation; in all cases, the interests of the children will be the primary consideration; g) The same personal rights as husband and wife, including the right to choose a surname, profession and occupation; h) The same rights to each of the spouses in terms of property, purchases, management, administration, enjoyment and disposal of assets, both free of charge and onerous. 2. Betrothal and child marriage shall have no legal effect and all necessary measures, including legislation, shall be taken to set a minimum age for the celebration of marriage and to make the registration of the marriage in an official registry compulsory.

Fortunately, there are many countries that recognize this practice as a violation of human rights and one more way of exercising violence against women, and it is included in international treaties, declarations and conventions (some already mentioned). We highlight some of them:

- *The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948)*
- *Geneva Convention on the Status of Refugees (1951)*
- *Supplementary Convention on the Abolition of Slavery, the Slave Trade and Institutions and Practices Similar to Slavery (1956)*
- *Convention on Consent to Marriage, Minimum Age of Marriage and Registration of Marriages (1962)*
- *International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (1966)*
- *International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (1966)*
- *Protocol on the Status of Refugees (1967)*
- *Convention for the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women (1979)*
- *Istanbul Convention. Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (2011)*

Law 12/2009, of October 30, regulating the right to asylum and subsidiary protection

This Law introduces a series of provisions (and within the framework of European regulations) aims to be an effective instrument to guarantee the international protection of the people to whom it is applicable and to strengthen its institutions: the right of asylum and subsidiary protection , in a framework of transparency of the decisions that are adopted: on the one hand, a prominent place is given to the intervention of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and on

the other, it introduces a legal framework for the adoption of programs resettlement, in solidarity with the international community in the search for durable solutions for refugees. In this sense, we have to take into account that if the woman is the victim of a forced marriage, either because it is already consummated, or because she is at risk of it, she would be protected in Spain, and this situation could be a cause for asylum. The threats and harassment suffered by her victims to force her to marry they can be understood as a form of persecution and therefore require protection at the international level.

Organic Law 4/2000, of January 11, on the rights and freedoms of foreigners in Spain and their social integration.

This Law, which has been subject to different modifications, regulates the entry and stay of foreigners (non-community) in Spain and the rights and freedoms that assist them.

We will mention some of the most striking novelties:

- *The authorization processes of people who are in an irregular administrative situation are adjusted as well as people who can be hired in their country of origin.*
- *Figures for labor and social roots and family reunification are updated (to facilitate access to employment).*
- *Foreigners with authorization for studies are allowed to work.*
- *The concept of "rooting by training" is created, which allows migrants who have been in Spain for 2 years and want to acquire training in professions that are not in high demand.*

In relation to the field of gender violence, we highlight the following article:

Article 31 bis. Temporary residence and work of foreign women victims of gender violence or sexual violence.

1. Foreign women, whatever their administrative situation, are guaranteed the rights recognized in Organic Law 1/2004, of December 28, on Comprehensive Protection Measures against Gender Violence, in the event that they are victims of violence of genre; and the rights recognized in the Organic Law of integral guarantee of sexual freedom, in case they are victims of sexual violence; as well as, in both cases, to the protection and security measures established in current legislation. 2. If, when reporting a situation of gender-based violence or sexual violence against a foreign woman, her irregular situation is revealed, the administrative sanctioning file will not be initiated for violation of article 53.1.a), and the administrative sanctioning file

will be suspended. that had been initiated by the commission of said infraction prior to the complaint or, where appropriate, the execution of the expulsion or return orders eventually agreed.

3. The foreign woman who is in the situation described in the previous section may request a residence and work authorization due to exceptional circumstances from the moment in which a protection order had been issued in her favor or, failing that, a report of the Public Prosecutor indicating the existence of indications of gender or sexual violence. Said authorization will not be resolved until the conclusion of the criminal procedure. At the time of filing the application, or at any later time throughout the criminal process, the foreign woman, by herself or through a representative, may also request a residence permit due to exceptional circumstances in favor of her children under the age of age or who have a disability and are not objectively capable of providing for their own needs, or a residence and work permit if they are over sixteen years of age and are in Spain at the time of the complaint. Without Notwithstanding the foregoing, the competent authority to grant the authorization for exceptional circumstances will grant a provisional residence and work authorization in favor of the foreign woman and, where appropriate, the provisional residence authorizations in favor of her minor children or with disability, or residence and work if they are over sixteen years of age, provided for in the previous paragraph, who are in Spain at the time of the complaint. The provisional authorizations eventually granted will end at the time the authorizations are definitively granted or denied due to exceptional circumstances.

4. When the criminal procedure concludes with a conviction or with a judicial resolution from which it is deduced that the woman has been a victim of gender violence or sexual violence, including the filing of the case because the investigated person is unaccounted for or the provisional dismissal due to expulsion of the defendant, the interested party will be notified of the granting of the requested authorizations. In the event that they have not been requested, you will be informed of the possibility of granting them, granting you a deadline for requesting it. If the situation of gender or sexual violence cannot be deduced from the concluded criminal procedure, the sanctioning administrative file will be initiated for violation of article 53.1.a) or will be continued, in the event that it had been initially suspended.

Organic Law 1/2004, of December 28, on Comprehensive Protection Measures against Gender Violence.

The objective of the law is to act against violence against women that is a consequence of discrimination and the situation of inequality and power relations of men over women. This violence is exerted on them by those who are or have been their spouses or by those who are or have been linked to them by similar affective relationships, even without living together.

It is emphasized that this law establishes protection measures in order to prevent, punish and eradicate violence and provide assistance to women, their minor sons and daughters and minors subject to their guardianship, or guardianship and custody.

The law defines gender-based violence as:

“Any act of physical and psychological violence, including assaults on sexual freedom, threats, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty. The gender-based violence referred to in this Law also includes violence that, with the aim of causing injury or harm to women, is exercised on their relatives or minor relatives by the persons indicated in the first section. (Article 1)

Awareness, prevention and detection measures (included in Title I):

- Awareness plans*
- Educational area*
- Advertising area*
- Sanitary area*

In addition, the law provides for institutional and judicial protection through the creation of the following institutions:

- Special Government Delegation against Violence against Women.*
- State Observatory of Violence against Women.*
- Specialized units in the Security Forces and Bodies.*
- Collaboration plans between the different spheres of action: health, justice, security, social services.*
- Forensic action protocols (second additional provision)*
- Courts of Violence against Women.*
- Prosecutors against Violence against Women.*

It also includes the rights of victims, universal rights for all women who have been subjected to violence, regardless of their origin, religion or any other personal or social condition or circumstance. The condition of victim of gender violence that gives rise to the recognition of rights, will be accredited by means of a conviction against the aggressor, a protection order, or any judicial resolution that agrees on a precautionary measure towards the victim, by report of the Public Prosecutor in The one that indicates indications that the woman is a victim of this type of violence or by means of a report from social services, specialized or shelter services for battered women. The rights to which they can benefit are the following:

- *Right to information: by telephone 016 for information and legal advice.*
- *Right to comprehensive social assistance (includes social care services, emergency services, support and shelter, and comprehensive recovery).*
- *Right to free, immediate and specialized legal assistance (free legal assistance, regardless of the existence of resources to litigate, which will be provided immediately, in those judicial processes and administrative procedures that have a direct or indirect cause in the violence suffered).*
- *Labor rights (the purpose of which is to prevent them from leaving the labor market as a result of violence and rights are recognized for reconciling work with the situation, for their protection if they are forced to leave their job and seek their insertion employment if they were not employed).*
- *Rights in matters of Social Security (in terms of contributions, benefits).*
- *Rights in terms of employment and labor insertion.*
- *Rights of public officials.*
- *Economic rights (specific economic aid for women victims of gender violence with special difficulties in obtaining a job, active insertion income, advance payment for non-payment of alimony, minimum vital income, priority access to protected housing and residences for the elderly).*
- *Right to immediate schooling (the sons and daughters of the victims who are forced to change their address have the right to immediate schooling in their new place of residence).*
- *Right to scholarships and study aid.*
- *Right to register for security reasons (victims who are under the protection of the care network: foster homes, supervised apartments, etc. when it is not possible to register at the real address, it will be carried out where the services determine social).*

Regarding the rights of foreign women

1. The residence situation in Spain of foreign women victims of gender violence The residence situation in Spain of foreign women victims of gender violence includes the following possibilities:

- Foreign women who have the status of relatives of citizens of a Member State of the European Union or of a State party to the Agreement on the European Economic Area.*

- Non-EU foreign women: they may be holders of one of the two types of specific residence and work permits for reasons of gender-based violence:*
 - Residence authorization and independent work of foreign women reunited with their spouse or partner*

 - Temporary residence and work authorization due to exceptional circumstances for foreign women in an irregular situation:*
 - The authorization of temporary residence and work for others owned by a foreign woman, will be renewed upon expiration in the event of termination of the employment contract or suspension of the employment relationship because of being a victim of gender-based violence.*

1. Protection of foreign women in an irregular situation who are victims of gender-based violence

2. Right to international protection.

- Right of asylum*
- Subsidiary protection*

Rights of Spanish women victims of gender-based violence outside the national territory: The Embassies and Consulates of Spain and the Ministries of Labour, Migration and Social Security will provide Spanish women with information to contact specialized resources for victims of gender-based violence. available in the country in which they reside, as well as guidance on the medical, educational and legal resources that local authorities make available to them in situations of gender

violence. The Government Delegation against Gender Violence, in the event of the woman's return, will carry out coordination tasks with the Autonomous Communities in order to guarantee women the rights recognized by Spanish law and to facilitate their social integration.

Special reference to migrant women

As we have seen, migrant women have the right to judicial and police protection in a situation of gender violence. Organic Law 1/2004, in its article 17, states that the rights recognized in it are applicable to all women without exception, although in order for the protection mechanisms established by the Law to be put into operation, a complaint must be filed, and a Protection Order must be requested.

Migration is another variable of vulnerability that seriously affects the situation of battered women and requires special attention, given the unique circumstances in which immigrant women find themselves, including the difficulty they have in ending the relationship. If for any woman it is difficult to break up, migration makes decision-making enormously difficult.

Migrant women do not have an environment capable of showing them support. When they decide to leave their country of origin, they are forced to break up with family and friends, in addition to dragging other added problems, such as economic difficulties, the language problem or their administrative situation.

Many immigrant women who settle in our country through "family reunification" are not aware of their rights. The intervention with these women also shows us another face of abuse in which the aggressor will use all the means at his disposal to harm him, such as deceiving his wife or partner regarding his administrative situation.

There are cases in which the woman is unaware of her reality. Her partner hides the information about the granting of a residence permit from her. In this situation, her dependency is aggravated because they don't see any kind of way out: she thinks she can't do anything because she doesn't "have papers"; In addition, we must add the distrust in institutions, and especially the lack of information on what to do and where to go.

On the other hand, sometimes women live with other families in the same circumstances, without having the minimum conditions to live with dignity, and they are the ones who bear the family burden, doing low-skilled jobs while their partners

do sporadic jobs. and habitually consume alcohol and other substances. Subjects who, when they get home, can discharge all their anger towards their partner with brutality: punches, kicks in the abdomen while pregnant or a broken nasal septum, to highlight some real examples.

The woman who is in an irregular administrative situation, not having a residence permit, is afraid of being expelled from the country because she is unaware that the law contemplates her situation and provides a mechanism to protect her. She can and must denounce what is happening to her, although it will not be easy for her either. If she has been assaulted by her partner, regardless of her administrative situation, and she decides to go to the Police, like any woman in her circumstances, she can request a Protection Order. If it is verified that your administrative situation is irregular (that is, that you do not have documentation that allows you to be in the country legally), a sanctioning file is opened that will be suspended if you request the Protection Order, while the Authority Judicial resolves whether to grant said order. It may happen that the Protection Order is denied, and in this case the file would be continued, with the probability that the expulsion.

Only a minority goes to the Police and they do not always report; only when the situation worsens do they consider denouncing, but they will not always accept the help that can be offered to them; they are not willing to stay in a foster home, even temporarily, and they are reluctant to change their lives, a resistance that, on the other hand, is understandable because, as they say, this type of change not only affects them but also their children and daughters; they have their life, their job... and a change of this type supposes great losses, going back the path traveled. The attacks and threats by the aggressors will continue to be a constant in their day to day, preventing their personal development. Submitted to them and to the decisions imposed on them, they will even withdraw the complaint, if they had filed a complaint.

It is important that you ask for help. For this it is essential that they know their rights and the resources that assist them.

Often these women will endure aggression alone, finding themselves and feeling very lonely. Some of them will be forced to prostitute themselves as the only alternative to their situation, and in many cases, they will escape from a violent relationship to end up in other similar relationships, where the common denominator will always be the same: continued abuse in which humiliation, harassment and aggression are permanently in their lives.

Resolution 1997/44, of the United Nations Human Rights Commission, points out its concern for certain groups of women, such as migrant women, for being particularly vulnerable to violence.

Immigrant women who are victims of partner violence find themselves in very unfavorable situations and have greater difficulties in escaping their situation:

- *Insulation.*
- *Dependence.*
- *Lack of family support and her closest environment.*
- *Ignorance of resources.*
- *Ignorance of their rights.*
- *Difficulty with the language.*
- *Cultural influence.*
- *Irregular administrative situation.*
- *Low socioeconomic level.*

Law 27/2003, of July 31, regulating the Protection Order for victims of domestic violence.

It is a legal instrument designed to provide comprehensive protection to the victim of domestic and/or gender violence, immediately.

Through a judicial order, criminal and civil measures are adopted, activating at the same time social protection mechanisms established by the State, the Autonomous Communities, and the Local Corporations. Its scope of application are illicit criminal acts that fall within the assumptions of family violence in the Spanish Penal Code. This law is inspired by the Recommendation (2002) of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe on the protection of women against violence, which urged States to introduce and improve all those policies and instruments that guarantee maximum security and protection of women. victims.

It is a simple and quick procedure that takes place before the Duty Court to implement the provisional measures of protection that ensure the victim and their relatives:

measures to restrict the freedom of movement of the aggressor, to prevent him from approaching the victim (provisional imprisonment, prohibition of visits, residence, approach or communication), measures

of a civil nature, that guarantee the stability and legal protection of the woman and her family (attribution of the family home, guardianship, and visitation regime with respect to sons and daughters, provision of food...)

The Order of Protection can be requested

- *Ex officio*
- *At the request of a party*
- *Fiscal Ministry*
- *Victim*
- *Court - Public Prosecutor*
- *FFCCS - FTAOs*
- *Social Services or Welfare Institutions*

Once the Protection Order has been requested, if it is granted, launch criminal, social, and civil measures.

CRIMINAL MEASURES

- *Deprivation of liberty.*
- *Restraining order.*
- *Prohibition of Communication.*
- *Prohibition to return to the place of the crime or residence of the victim.*
- *Removal of weapons or other dangerous objects.*

CIVIL MEASURES

The civil measures are valid for 30 days, so within that period, the victim or her legal representative must have initiated a family proceeding before the civil jurisdiction:

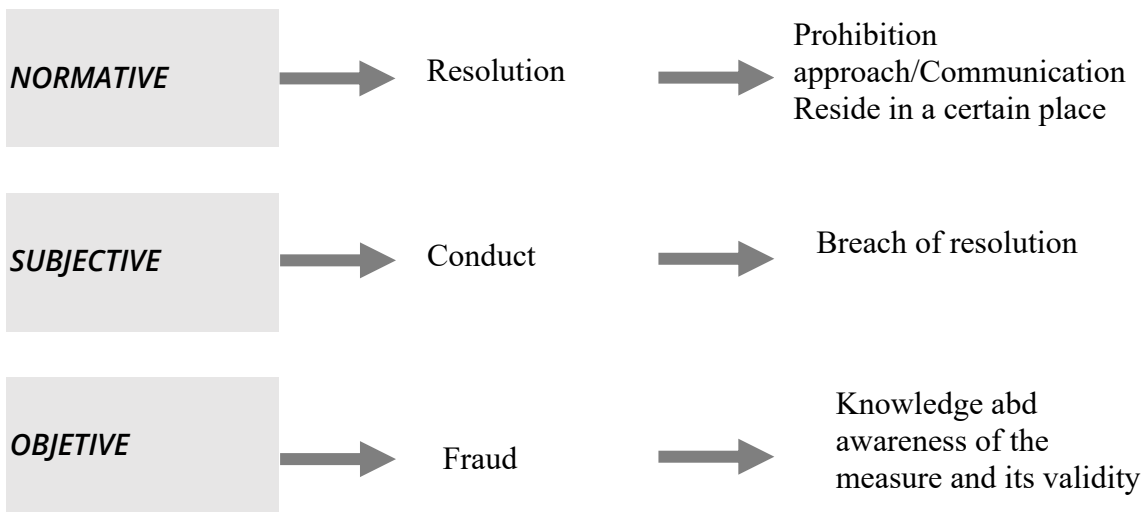
- *Attribution of the use and enjoyment of the dwelling.*
- *Custody system, visits, and communication with the children.*
- *Benefit for food.*
- *Protection measures for minors to avoid danger or*
- *Damages (can be requested by the victim or her legal representative, by the Prosecutor when there is minor or incapable children).*

SOCIAL MEASURES

- *Set up by the State, the Autonomous Communities, and the Local Corporations*

- Active Insertion Income.
- Economic aid.
- Access to protected housing and residences for the elderly.
- Labor and Social Security rights.
- Application for residence authorization due to special circumstances (when there is a conviction).
- Request for authorization of independent residence of regrouped relatives.

For us to refer to the commission of this crime, these three elements must be present: normative, objective, and subjective.



Fuente: Velasco (2021)

Organic Law 2/2010, of March 3, on sexual and reproductive health and the voluntary interruption of pregnancy.

The objective of this Law is to guarantee fundamental rights in the field of sexual and reproductive health, to regulate the conditions of the voluntary interruption of pregnancy and to establish the corresponding obligations of public authorities. It is worth highlighting in the matter at hand, the content of article 3 in its Principles and scope of application section:

3. No one will be discriminated against in access to the benefits and services provided for in this Law for reasons of racial or ethnic origin, religion, conviction or

opinion, sex, disability, sexual orientation, age, marital status, or any other condition or personal circumstance or social.

Organic Law 10/2022, of September 6, on the comprehensive guarantee of sexual freedom.

This Law aims to guarantee and comprehensive protection of the right to sexual freedom and the eradication of all sexual violence through the adoption and implementation of effective, global and coordinated policies between the different competent public administrations, at the state level. and regional, that guarantee awareness, prevention, detection, and punishment of sexual violence, and include all pertinent comprehensive protection measures that guarantee specialized comprehensive response to all forms of sexual violence, immediate comprehensive care and recovery in all areas in which the lives of women, children and adolescents take place, as the main victims of all forms of sexual violence.

In accordance with the provisions of this law, the protection and prevention measures will be aimed, among other actions, at:

- *Improving the investigation, collection, compilation, and production of data on all forms of sexual violence.*
- *Strengthen citizen awareness and prevention measures (at the educational, labor, digital, advertising and media levels, among others).*
- *Guarantee the rights of victims of sexual violence.*
- *Guarantee the economic autonomy of the victims to facilitate their empowerment and comprehensive recovery through aid and measures in the workplace.*
- *Guarantee comprehensive reparation for victims of sexual violence.*
- *Establish a comprehensive institutional guardianship system.*
- *Strengthen the current legal framework to ensure comprehensive protection for victims of sexual violence.*
- *Promote the collaboration and participation of the entities, associations, and organizations that, from the feminist movement and civil society act against sexual violence.*
- *Guarantee adequate education and training of professionals involved in the process of information, care, detection, protection, and treatment of victims.*
- *Ensure the principle of transversality of the measures, so that in their application the specific needs and demands of the victims of sexual violence are considered.*

In the workplace, companies will prevent criminal conduct against sexual freedom and moral integrity at work (sexual harassment and harassment based on sex) by implementing preventive procedures and responding to complaints or claims from victims. The labor rights recognized for workers who have suffered sexual violence are the following:

- *Reduction of working hours or rearrangement of their working time.*
- *Geographical mobility.*
- *Change of workplace.*
- *Adaptation of the position and necessary support due to disability for reinstatement.*
- *Suspension of the employment relationship with job reservation and termination of the employment contract.*

The law also provides that accredited victims of sexual violence have the legal status of victims of gender violence for the purposes of active insertion income.

Regarding the scope of application, it is included in article 3:

1. The objective scope of application of this organic law includes sexual violence, understood as any non-consensual act of a sexual nature or that conditions the free development of sexual life in any public or private sphere, including the digital sphere. It is considered included in the scope of application, for statistical and reparation purposes, sexual femicide, understood as homicide or murder of women and girls linked to behaviors defined in the following paragraph as sexual violence.

In any case, the crimes provided for in Title VIII of Book II of Organic Law 10/1995, of November 23, of the Penal Code, female genital mutilation, forced marriage, harassment with sexual connotation and trafficking for the purpose of sexual exploitation. Special attention will be paid to sexual violence committed in the digital sphere, which includes the dissemination of acts of sexual violence, non-consensual and child pornography in any case, and sexual extortion through technological means.

- 1. This organic law is applicable to women, girls and boys who have been victims of sexual violence in Spain, regardless of their nationality and their administrative status; or abroad, as long as they are of Spanish nationality, being able to request the assistance of embassies and consular offices provided for in article 51 for this purpose, all without prejudice to the*

provisions of Organic Law 6/1985, of July 1, of the Judiciary, regarding the competence of the Spanish courts.

- 2. In the case of violence against children and adolescents, the provisions contained in this organic law must be aligned with the provisions of Organic Law 8/2021, of June 4, on the Comprehensive Protection of Children and Adolescence against Violence.*
- 3. Within the framework of current legislation, it will be necessary to take into consideration, together with sexual freedom, protection against sexual violence committed against minors or against persons with modified legal capacity, as a manifestation of the dignity of the human person and the right that every human being has to a free development of his personality, without traumatic interventions in his intimate sphere by third parties.*

Other related behaviors of interest

Crimes against the rights of foreign citizens (Article 318 bis)

- 1. Whoever intentionally helps a person who is not a national of a Member State of the European Union to enter Spanish territory or to transit through it in a way that violates the legislation on the entry or transit of foreigners, will be punished with a penalty of a fine of three to twelve months or imprisonment of three months to one year.*

The acts will not be punishable when the objective pursued by the perpetrator was solely to provide humanitarian aid to the person in question.

If the acts had been committed for profit, the penalty will be imposed in its upper half.

- 2. Whoever intentionally helps, for profit, a person who is not a national of a Member State of the European Union to stay in Spain, violating the legislation on the stay of foreigners, will be punished with a fine of three to twelve months or imprisonment from three months to one year.*
- 3. The acts referred to in section 1 of this article shall be punished with a prison sentence of four to eight years when any of the following circumstances occur:*

a) When the acts were committed within an organization dedicated to carrying out such activities. In the case of the heads, administrators or managers of said

organizations or associations, the penalty will be applied to them in its upper half, which may rise to the immediately higher degree.

b) When the lives of the persons who are the object of the infraction have been endangered, or the danger of causing serious injuries has been created.

4. Those who carry out the acts taking advantage of their status as an authority, agent or public official will incur the same penalties as in the preceding paragraph and also absolute disqualification from six to twelve years.

5. When, in accordance with the provisions of article 31 bis, a legal person is responsible for the crimes included in this Title, the penalty of a fine of two to five years, or three to five times the benefit obtained, will be imposed if the resulting amount was higher.

Following the rules established in article 66 bis, the judges and courts may also impose the penalties set out in letters b) to g) of section 7 of article 33.

6. The courts, considering the seriousness of the act and its circumstances, the conditions of the culprit and the purpose pursued by him, may impose the sentence one degree lower than that respectively indicated.

Child pornography (Art.189 C.P.)

1. Shall be punished with a prison sentence of one to five years:

a) Anyone who recruits or uses minors or people with disabilities in need of special protection for exhibitionist or pornographic purposes or shows, both public and private, or to produce any kind of pornographic material, whatever its support, or finance any of these activities or profit from them.

b) Anyone who produces, sells, distributes, exhibits, offers or facilitates the production, sale, dissemination or exhibition by any means of child pornography or in whose preparation persons with disabilities in need of special protection have been used, or possesses it for these purposes, even if the material originated abroad or was unknown.

For the purposes of this Title, the following are considered child pornography or in the preparation of which persons with disabilities in need of special protection have been used:

- a) *Any material that visually depicts a minor or person with a disability in need of special protection engaging in real or simulated sexually explicit conduct.*
- b) *Any representation of the sexual organs of a minor or person with a disability in need of special protection for primarily sexual purposes.*
- c) *Any material that visually depicts a person who appears to be a minor engaging in actual or simulated sexually explicit conduct, or any depiction of the sexual organs of a person who appears to be a minor, for primarily sexual purposes, except that the person who appears to be a minor turns out to be eighteen years of age or older at the time the images are obtained.*

1. Those who carry out the acts provided for in section 1 of this article when any of the following circumstances occur will be punished with a prison sentence of five to nine years:

a) When using children under sixteen.

b) When the facts are of a particularly degrading or humiliating nature, physical or sexual violence is used to obtain pornographic material or scenes of physical or sexual violence are represented.

c) When using minors who are in a situation of special vulnerability due to illness, disability, or any other circumstance.

d) When the culprit has endangered, intentionally or due to gross negligence, the life or health of the victim.

e) When the pornographic material is of notorious importance.

f) When the culprit belongs to an organization or association, even of a transitory nature, that is dedicated to carrying out such activities.

g) When the person in charge is an ascendant, guardian, curator, caretaker, teacher, or any other person in charge, in fact, even if provisionally, or by law, of the minor or person with a disability in need of special protection, or in the case of from anyone who lives with him or from another person who has acted in abuse of his recognized position of trust or authority.

h) When the aggravating circumstance of recidivism occurs.

3. If the acts referred to in letter a) of the first paragraph of section 1 had been committed with violence or intimidation, the penalty higher in degree than those provided for in the previous sections will be imposed.

4. Whoever knowingly attends exhibitionist or pornographic shows in which minors or persons with disabilities in need of special protection participate, will be punished with a sentence of six months to two years in prison

5. Anyone who, for their own use, acquires or possesses child pornography or in the production of which persons with disabilities in need of special protection have been used, shall be punished with a sentence of three months to one year in prison or a fine of six months to two years.

The same penalty will be imposed on anyone who knowingly accesses child pornography or in whose preparation people with disabilities in need of special protection would have been used, using technology of information and communication.

6. Anyone who has under their authority, guardianship, guardianship or foster care a minor or a person with a disability in need of special protection and who, knowing their state of prostitution or corruption, does not do everything possible to prevent their continuation in such state, or does not go to the competent authority for the same purpose if he lacks means for the custody of the minor or person with a disability in need of special protection, will be punished with a prison sentence of three to six months or a fine of six to twelve months.

7. The Public Prosecutor will promote the pertinent actions in order to deprive the person who incurs in any of the behaviors described in the previous section of parental authority, guardianship, guardianship or foster care, as the case may be.

8. The judges and courts will order the adoption of the necessary measures for the removal of web pages or Internet applications that contain or disseminate child pornography or in whose preparation persons with disabilities in need of special protection have been used or, where appropriate, to block access to them to Internet users who are in Spanish territory.

These measures may be agreed on a precautionary basis at the request of the Public Prosecutor.

Prostitution

(Art. 187 C.P.)

1. Whoever, using violence, intimidation, or deceit, or abusing a situation of superiority or need or vulnerability of the victim, determines a person of legal age to practice or remain in prostitution, will be punished with prison sentences. from two to five years and a fine of twelve to twenty-four months.

A prison sentence of two to four years and a fine of twelve to twenty-four months will be imposed on anyone who profits from exploiting the prostitution of another person, even with the consent of the same. In any case, it will be understood that there is exploitation when any of the following circumstances occur:

- a) That the victim is in a situation of personal or economic vulnerability.*
- b) That burdensome, disproportionate, or abusive conditions are imposed for its exercise.*

2. The penalties provided for in the preceding sections will be imposed in their upper half, in their respective cases, when any of the following circumstances occur:

- a) When the culprit has taken advantage of his authority status, agent of the latter or public official. In this case, the penalty of absolute disqualification from six to twelve years will also be applied.*
- b) When the culprit belongs to a criminal organization or group that is dedicated to carrying out such activities.*
- c) When the culprit has endangered, intentionally or due to gross negligence, the life or health of the victim.*

3. The indicated penalties will be imposed in their respective cases without prejudice to those that correspond for the sexual assaults or abuses committed on the prostituted person.

Human trafficking (Art. 177 bis)

1. Anyone who, whether in Spanish territory, from Spain, in transit or destined for it, using violence, intimidation or deception, or abusing of a situation of superiority or need or vulnerability of the national or foreign victim, or through the delivery or receipt of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of the person who had control over the victim, capture, transport, transfer, hosts, or receives, including the exchange or transfer of control over those persons, for any of the following purposes:

- a) The imposition of forced labor or services, slavery, or practices similar to slavery, servitude or begging.*
- b) Sexual exploitation, including pornography.*
- c) Exploitation to carry out criminal activities.*

- d) *The removal of their bodily organs.*
- e) *The celebration of forced marriages.*

A situation of need or vulnerability exists when the person in question has no alternative, real or acceptable, but to submit to abuse.

When the victim of trafficking in human beings is a minor, in any case, the penalty of special disqualification for any profession, trade or activities, whether paid or not, that involves regular and direct contact with minors will be imposed, for a period of between six and twenty years greater than the duration of the sentence of deprivation of liberty imposed.

2. Even when none of the means set forth in the previous section is used, any of the actions indicated in the previous section will be considered human trafficking when it is carried out with respect to minors for the purpose of exploitation.

3. The consent of a victim of trafficking in human beings will be irrelevant when any of the means indicated in the first section of this article has been used.

4. The penalty higher in degree than that provided for in the first section of this article will be imposed when:

a) the life or physical or mental integrity of the persons who are the object of the crime would have been endangered.

b) the victim is especially vulnerable due to illness, gestational status, disability, or personal situation, or is a minor.

If more than one circumstance concurs, the penalty will be imposed in its upper half.

5. The penalty higher in degree than that provided for in section 1 of this article and absolute disqualification from six to twelve years will be imposed on those who carry out the acts taking advantage of their status as an authority, agent, or public official. If any of the circumstances provided for in section 4 of this article also concurs, the penalties will be imposed in their upper half.

6. The penalty higher in degree than that provided for in section 1 of this article and special disqualification for profession, trade, industry, or commerce for the time of the sentence will be imposed, when the guilty belonged to an organization or association of more than two people, even of a transitory nature, who are dedicated

to carrying out such activities. If any of the circumstances provided for in section 4 of this article concurs, the penalties will be imposed in the upper half. If the circumstance foreseen in section 5 of this article concurs, the penalties indicated in this article will be imposed. in its upper half.

In the case of the heads, administrators, or managers of said organizations or associations, the penalty will be applied to them in its upper half, which may rise to the immediately higher degree.

In any case, the penalty will be increased to the one immediately higher in degree if any of the circumstances provided for in section 4 or the circumstance provided for in section 5 of this article concur.

7. When, in accordance with the provisions of article 31 bis, a legal person is responsible for the crimes included in this article, the penalty of a fine of three to five times the benefit obtained will be imposed. Following the rules established in article 66 bis, the judges and courts may also impose the penalties set out in letters b) to g) of section 7 of article 33.

8. Provocation, conspiracy, and proposition to commit the crime of trafficking in human beings will be punished with the penalty one or two degrees lower than that of the corresponding crime.

9. In any case, the penalties provided for in this article will be imposed without prejudice to those that correspond, where appropriate, for the crime of article 318 bis of this Code and other crimes committed, including those constituting the corresponding exploitation.

10. The convictions of foreign judges or courts for crimes of the same nature as those provided for in this article will produce the effects of recidivism, unless the criminal record has been canceled or may be according to Spanish law.

11. Without prejudice to the application of the general rules of this Code, the victim of trafficking in human beings will be exempt from punishment for the criminal offenses that they have committed in the situation of exploitation suffered, provided that their participation in them has been direct consequence of the situation of violence, intimidation, deceit or abuse to which they have been subjected and that there is an adequate proportionality between said situation and the criminal act carried out.

European and international organizations

- **European Commission:** *This is an executive body that is politically independent from the European Union. Its main mission is to prepare legislative proposals and carries out the decisions of the European Parliament and the Council of the European Union; in terms of equality, it focuses on the priorities established in the Strategic Commitment to Gender Equality (2016-2019); In addition, it is responsible for preparing an annual report on equality between women and men in the European Union.*

- **Committees and groups that collaborate with the European Commission on Gender Equality:**

- **High Level Group on Gender Mainstreaming:** *made up of representatives of the Member States. Its function is to support the presidencies in matters that are addressed in the European Council; it is the main forum for planning the follow-up strategy of the Beijing Platform for Action.*
- **Consultative Committee on Equal Opportunities for women and men:** *its function is to assist the European Commission in the formulation and execution of the activities of the European Union aimed at promoting equality between women and men. It is responsible for drafting Opinions for the Commission on issues related to the promotion of equality.*

- **European Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA)**

Its objective is to help and advice on fundamental rights to the Community institutions and the Member States of the European Union in the application of Community law.

<https://fra.europa.eu/en/about-fra>

- **European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE)**

The European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE) is an EU agency working to make gender equality a reality in the EU and beyond.

https://european-union.europa.eu/institutions-law-budget/institutions-and-bodies/institutions-and-bodies-profiles/eige_es#:~:text=El%20Instituto%20Europeo%20de%20la,de%20g%C3%A9nero%20en%20la%20UE

- UN WOMEN

It is the United Nations organization that develops programs, policies, and regulations to defend the human rights of women and ensure that all women and girls reach their full potential.

<https://www.unwomen.org/es>

- Committee for the Elimination of Discrimination against Women

The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) is the independent expert body that monitors the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. The CEDAW Committee is made up of 23 women's rights experts from around the world.

<https://www.ohchr.org/es/treaty-bodies/cedaw>

- Commission on Women's Rights and Gender Equality

Actions to eliminate gender violence in the EU, funding and support for awareness campaigns. Promoting gender equality and women's rights beyond the EU

<https://www.europarl.europa.eu/committees/es/femm/home/highlights>

- Commission on the Legal and Social Status of Women (CSW)

It is the main international intergovernmental body dedicated exclusively to the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women. It is an organic commission dependent on the Economic and Social Council

<https://www.unwomen.org/es/csw>

GREVIO

*Special mention to the **Group of Experts on Action against Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (GREVIO)**. It is an independent body that monitors compliance with human rights and monitors the implementation of the Council of Europe Convention on Prevention and Fight against Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (Istanbul Convention) by the parties to the agreement. GREVIO is made up of 15 independent and impartial experts of recognized prestige and experience in Human Rights, gender equality, violence against women and victim protection. Its mission is to monitor all the countries that have signed the Istanbul Convention in three phases: evaluation, investigation, and recommendations.*

The first report made to Spain proposed measures to promote the implementation of the agreement states that "The fully recognize the role that both the private sector and the media can play in preventing and combating all forms of violence against women. Specific measures were adopted in the workplace for victims of intimate partner violence, which allowed them to adapt their professional obligations to their personal situation, demonstrating the importance of flexible working conditions for working women who free themselves from abusive relationships. In addition, there are numerous laws and policies that require and encourage the participation of private companies in the economic empowerment of women victims of violence, but also in awareness campaigns. Regarding the media, several laws establish specific rules for the coverage of gender violence, and institutions have played an important role. in monitoring representations of women and content related to violence against women".

The report recognizes an important advance the modification of art. 156 of the Civil Code, which eliminates the need for consent from the father so that minors can attend psychological therapy and thus avoid the obstacles that mothers encountered when the abuser refused to give consent; Likewise, in this sense, it warns that the protection provided to victims continues to be insufficient when deciding on the visitation regime for minors and their custody.

In this line of evaluation, the report indicates that most of the states tend to be inclined not to break the paternal bond and maintain contact with the parent (abuser) regardless of the violence he has exercised, relating this situation to the Alignment Syndrome Parental⁶, which is not recognized by the scientific community but is still used in litigation for the custody of minors. This syndrome has been rejected by the World Health Organization and the American Psychological Association.

Regarding migration and asylum, the report encourages the Spanish authorities to:

- Review the evidentiary thresholds for the granting of temporary residence permits for all categories of migrant women in Spain (EU citizens, citizens of the European Economic Area, citizens of third countries and irregular migrant women) to eliminate those that are excessively high, such as the requirement of a criminal conviction of the abuser.

- Guarantee that all victims of forced marriages have the right to recover residence permits lost due to having been forced to marry abroad.

The report highlights the efforts made by all the signatory countries and the achievements made, but also recognizes that much remains to be done to put an end to this type of violence.

The state pact against the violence of gender

In 2017, the State Pact against Gender Violence was constituted; it is a pact between the different political parties and this, even if they are not of the same tendency. In other words, they are actions to be carried out that are agreed upon by consensus on matters of great relevance.

The objective of the 2017 State Pact is to eliminate any manifestation of violence against women and defend their fundamental rights and freedoms. It contains actions that affect different areas. For its preparation, a parliamentary Subcommittee was created in the Congress of Deputies and in the Equality Commission in the Senate, and the State Pact on Gender Violence was approved in the Congress of Deputies and the Senate Report.

⁶ Described by Psychiatrist Gadner (1985) as a set of symptoms that appear in the child in divorce proceedings and fights between the father and mother for custody. A process by which the minor discredits one of the parents (usually the father)

Its content covers 214 measures of the Congress and 267 of the Senate. The responsibility for controlling its execution falls on the Government Delegation for Gender Violence, preparing a single document that encompasses all the measures, collecting a total of 292 measures that revolve around 10 lines of action, among which the following stand out:

- Axis 1. Awareness and prevention to make visible the consequences caused by gender inequality and violence and how it affects their lives and that of their sons and daughters.*
- Axis 2. Improve the institutional response towards women and minors. Need for adequate coordination in assistance, resources, and measures.*
- Axis 3. Guarantee personalized attention, favoring access to resources for the most vulnerable groups such as migrant women, women with disabilities, older women and women residing in rural areas.*
- Axis 4. Recognize sons and daughters as direct victims of gender violence.*
- Axis 5. Promote the training of professionals to improve care for victims.*
- Axis 6. Collect data and perform statistical monitoring on violence to combat it.*
- Axis 7. Incorporation of the principles of the Istanbul Convention recognizing violent events for reasons of gender that affect women sexually, physically, psychologically, or economically.*

To know more...

<https://extranjeros.inclusion.gob.es/es/normativa/nacional/asilo/index.html>

<https://igualdadynodiscriminacion.igualdad.gob.es/tusDerechos/legislacion/europea/home.htm>

<https://igualdadynodiscriminacion.igualdad.gob.es/tusDerechos/legislacion/europea/home.htm>

<http://data.europa.eu/eli/dir/2006/54/oj>

[Tratado de la Unión Europea y Sobre el Funcionamiento de la Unión Europea](#)

[Carta de los Derechos Fundamentales de la Unión Europea \(2010/C 83/02\)](#)

[Decisión marco 2008/913/JAI del Consejo de 28 de noviembre de 2008](#) relativa a la lucha contra determinadas formas y manifestaciones de racismo y xenofobia mediante el Derecho Penal.

[Directiva 2012/29/UE, de 25 de octubre de 2012](#), por la que se establecen normas mínimas sobre los derechos, el apoyo y la protección de las víctimas de delitos.

[Directiva 2000/43/EC de 29 de junio de 2000](#), relativa a la aplicación del principio de igualdad de trato de las personas independientemente de su origen racial o étnico.

[Directiva 2000/78/EC de 27 de noviembre de 2000](#), relativa al establecimiento de un marco general para la igualdad de trato en el empleo y la ocupación.

[Directiva 2010/41/UE, de 7 de julio de 2010](#), sobre la aplicación del principio de igualdad de trato entre hombres y mujeres que ejercen una actividad autónoma.

[Directiva 2006/54/EC de 5 de julio de 2006](#), relativa a la aplicación del principio de igualdad de oportunidades e igualdad de trato entre hombres y mujeres en asuntos de empleo y ocupación (refundición).

[Directiva 2004/113/CE](#), por la que se aplica el principio de igualdad de trato entre hombres y mujeres al acceso a bienes y servicios y su suministro.

[Propuesta de Directiva por la que se aplica el principio de igualdad de trato](#) entre las personas independientemente de su religión o convicciones, discapacidad, edad u orientación sexual.

[Directiva 2011/99/UE del Parlamento Europeo y del Consejo, de 13 de diciembre de 2011, sobre la orden europea de protección](#)

[Reglamento \(UE\) n ° 606/2013 del Parlamento Europeo y del Consejo, de 12 de junio de 2013, relativo al reconocimiento mutuo de medidas de protección en materia civil](#)

[Directiva 2011/36/UE del Parlamento Europeo y del Consejo, de 5 abril de 2011, relativa a la prevención y lucha contra la trata de seres humanos y a la protección de las víctimas y por la que se sustituye la Decisión marco 2002/629/JAI del Consejo](#)

https://violenciagenero.igualdad.gob.es/va/violenciaEnCifras/observatorio/gruposTrabajo/docs/ALIENACIONPARENTAL_cap2_lib7.pdf

https://violenciagenero.igualdad.gob.es/pactoEstado/docs/Documento_Refundido_P_EVG_2.pdf

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https://ec.europa.eu/info/policies/justice-and-fundamental-rights/gender-equality_en

https://ec.europa.eu/info/policies/justice-and-fundamental-rights/gender-equality/who-we-work-gender-equality/high-level-group-gender-mainstreaming-and-advisory-committee-equal-opportunities-women-and-men_en

<https://ec.europa.eu/info/policies/justice-and-fundamental-rights/gender-equality>

<https://www.boe.es/buscar/act.php?id=BOE-A-2007-6115>

<https://www.boe.es/buscar/act.php?id=BOE-A-1978-31229>

<https://www.boe.es/buscar/doc.php?id=BOE-A-2020-12214>

<https://www.boe.es/buscar/act.php?id=BOE-A-1995-25444>

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<https://www.inmujeres.gob.es/elInstituto/normativa/normativa/docs/convencion.pdf>

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<https://www.boe.es/boe/dias/2014/06/06/pdfs/BOE-A-2014-5947.pdf>

<https://www.boe.es/buscar/act.php?id=BOE-A-2009-17242>

<https://mujeresrefugiadas.accem.es/matrimonio-forzado-y-proteccion-internacional/>

<https://www.boe.es/buscar/act.php?id=BOE-A-2022-14630#df-4>

<https://www.boe.es/buscar/doc.php?id=BOE-A-2003-15411>

<https://violenciagenero.igualdad.gob.es/informacionUtil/derechos/docs/guidaderechos.pdf>

[Resolución de la Comisión de Derechos Humanos 1997/44](https://violenciagenero.igualdad.gob.es/informacionUtil/derechos/docs/guidaderechos.pdf)

https://violenciagenero.igualdad.gob.es/pactoEstado/docs/Documento_Refundido_P_EVG_2.pdf

TEST

1. The Convention on the Elimination of all forms of discrimination against Women takes place in 1979

True
False

2. Gender violence is a violation of Human Rights

True
False

3. The Istanbul Convention (2011) is created to prevent and combat violence against women and domestic violence

True
False

4. Directive 2006/54/CE of the European Parliament and of the Council of July 5, regarding Equal Opportunities and Equal Treatment between Men and Women in Employment and Occupation Matters, consolidates all the previous regulations on labor equality between women and men.

True
False

5. The Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) is the main international intergovernmental body dedicated exclusively to the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women

True
False



"The empowerment and full participation of women under conditions of equality in all spheres of society, including participation in decision-making processes and access to power, are essential for the achievement of equality, development and peace."

(Beijing Declaration, September 1995)

LESSON 2

SEXUAL DIVISION OF LABOR

**Glass roof. Wage gap.
double shift**

**Reconciliation of work,
personal and family life**

To begin with... What do you know about inequality in the workplace?

SELF-EVALUATION

Read carefully the wording of the questions and answer if it is TRUE or FALSE

1. Roles and stereotypes are social constructions, simple ideas, related to behaviors, activities, expectations, and opportunities. Over time they have evolved, and we have overcome the differences between women and men.

True
False

2. The European Union recognizes the importance of conciliation policies so that responsibilities and domestic tasks, as well as the care of people, are shared in a balanced way between women and men.

True
False

3. The historical social discrimination of women and the power relations of men over them has led to an important legislative change in the last half of the 20th century at the international, European, and state levels that are aimed at establishing measures that put an end to the inequality that still exists today. today many women suffer

True
False

4. The sexual division of labor refers to the way in which society distributes work based on gender

True
False

5. The tasks related to productive work were carried out in the public space and were carried out by men, while reproductive work was carried out by women in the private space. Today we have already overcome that division.

True
False

LESSON 2

SEXUAL DIVISION OF LABOR

Glass roof. Wage gap. double shift

Reconciliation of work, personal and family life

As we have seen in previous lessons, the socialization process facilitates the construction of gender identity, which will allow us to adapt and accept certain behavior patterns imposed and classified as masculine and feminine, and therefore we assume the roles assigned to men and women; this inevitably entails accepting a distribution of tasks based on established roles: the tasks set for men are related to the public sphere and those stipulated to women are related to the private sphere. Roles and stereotypes are social constructions, simple ideas, related to behaviors, activities, expectations, and opportunities. Over time they evolve, but the differences between women and men have not yet been overcome.

This division of spaces and tasks generates differences between men and women and this differentiation translates into different values and social recognition. Thus, women develop their work in areas more related to family and care while men can develop professionally and obtain greater social recognition.

The sexual division of labor refers to the way in which society distributes work based on gender in accordance with the roles that men and women have been assigned as appropriate to each other. This task segmentation divides work into productive and reproductive.

The tasks related to productive work were carried out in the public space and were carried out by men, while reproductive work was carried out by women in the private space. This differentiation inevitably led to unequal power relations, because women have always dedicated themselves to unpaid work because they belong to that private or domestic space, which meant little or no recognition of their work (this fact remains unresolved today). However, productive work has always enjoyed social, legal and economic recognition. In those cases, in which women had the opportunity to work, they developed more precarious and lower-paid jobs. In addition, accessing the labor market meant a double effort because they had to combine their work with reproductive work. At present things have been changing

and women's access to the labor market has been increasing, but not without costs to her.

"All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights and, gifted as they are with reason and conscience, they must behave fraternally towards one another"

Art. 1 Declaration of Human Rights

Talking about conciliation means talking about sharing, harmonizing people or situations; In the area that concerns us, reconciling is accommodating a situation between two parties, between the company and the worker. Reconciling family life with work guarantees that there is harmony between the time we spend at work and with the family.

It is necessary for men and women to be able to reconcile their family life with their work life. Reconciliation must end the assignment of private and public spaces to women and men, respectively.

It is logical to insist that progress has been made in terms of equal opportunities, but not enough for gender-based discrimination to have disappeared and, as long as women and men do not equally enjoy the same rights and the same spaces, we can say that we have overcome inequality.

As Roa (2019) points out, *"... we are faced with a not very encouraging panorama, in which it is the working women who, with the intention of reconciling family and work responsibilities, have no other alternative than to be absent from the labor market, renouncing their professional projection and being deprived of the remuneration of a full-time job. All this evidence a manifest gender inequality, resulting in indirect pay discrimination towards women who make use of the conciliation measures provided for by the law.*

Undoubtedly, as Torns (2011) states, *"... it is necessary to take into account that the renewal of the social contract between men and women, branded as utopian not many years ago, is already a fact that reality has imposed. In fact, it may be one of the hidden motives behind the rise in violence against women. The greater presence of women in the labor market has undermined a reality where the father of the family was the main or only provider of income. And although the decline of this model is much slower in Spain, as in the countries of southern Europe, given the*

symbolic weight it still maintains, simple demographic issues are going to force, for example, social organization of dependent care”.

To conclude, it should be noted that in Europe since 2010, we have the European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE), a body created to reinforce and promote gender equality in the European Union; Every year it releases the results obtained and measured on a scale of 0 to 100, in which 100 means having achieved full equality between women and men.

The latest index (2021) yields result of 68 out of 100, although it represents only 0.6% compared to 2020. The scores obtained by countries of the European Union differ and range from 83.9 (Sweden) to 52.6 (Greece); Spain stands at almost 74 points, placing it above the European average.

The results obtained are based on the existing gaps between women and men in different areas (work, health, power, money, time and knowledge) and provide information on the possibilities for improvement both for the European Union and for each country.

Below are the detailed results⁷ on progress in gender equality in different indicators:

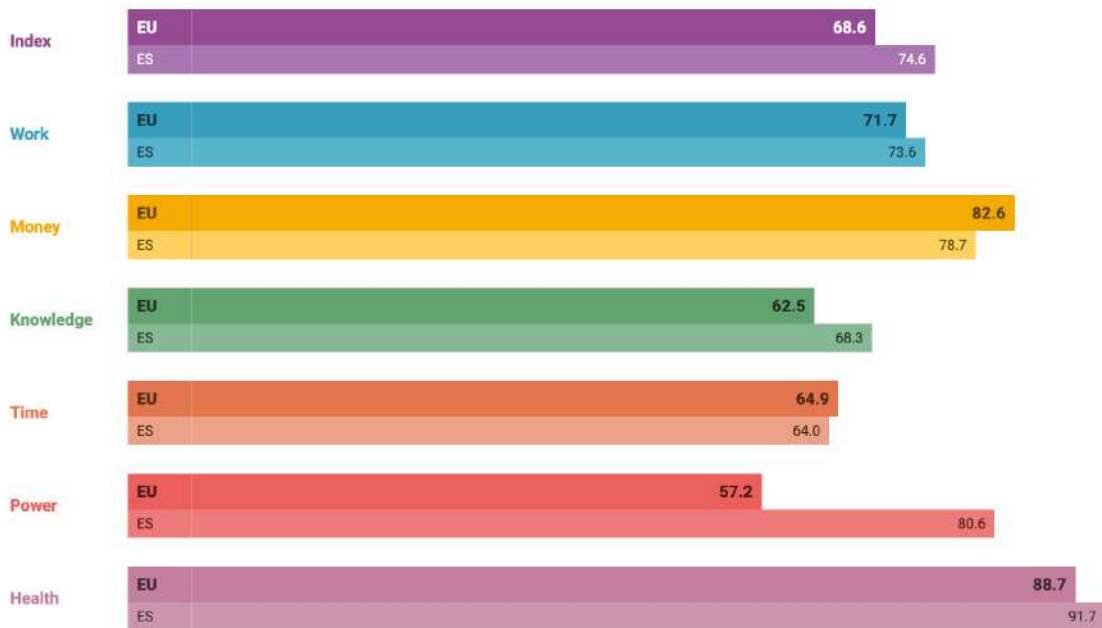
- Since 2010, the European Union has increased 5.5 points, the latest study reveals that it increased 0.6 points since 2019.*
- Progress in terms of equality is promoted to a greater extent by the “power” indicator, which presents the greatest gender inequalities. In this sense, the score would have fallen as a consequence of the negative impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on gender equality.*
- Gender inequalities are accentuated more in this indicator “power” with 57.2 points. Above all, in the field of economic decision-making (52.1 points); The second lowest score is in the “knowledge” indicator with 62.5 points with plenty of room for improvement in terms of gender segregation (54.1 points)*
- The European Union must still work to achieve gender equality, since the score obtained is 68.6 points out of 100*

⁷ Fuente: <https://eige.europa.eu/gender-equality-index/2021>

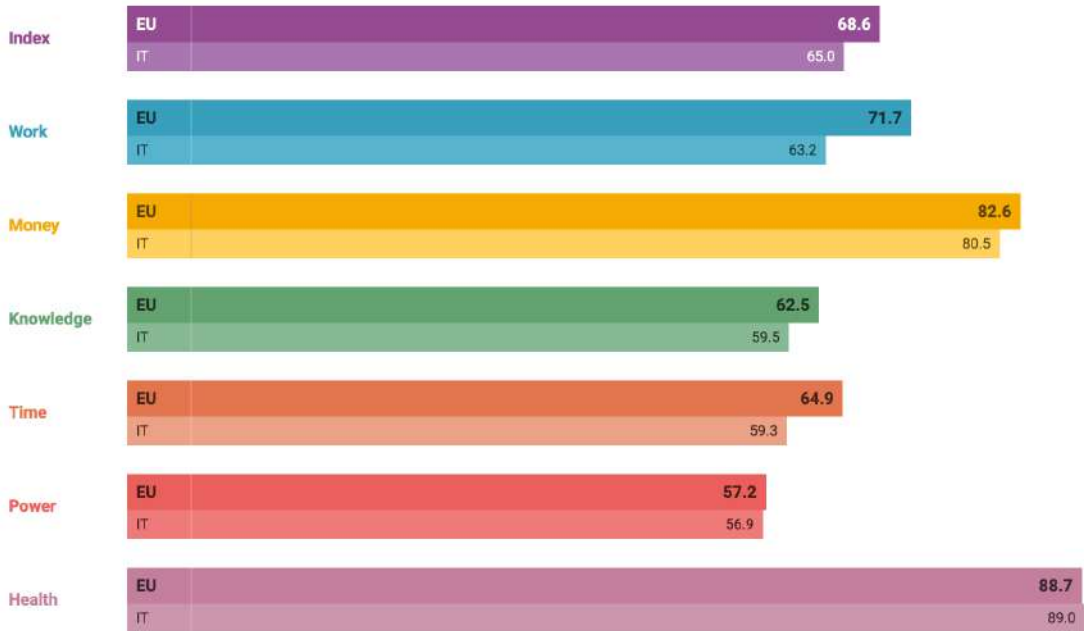
Compare to:  European Union



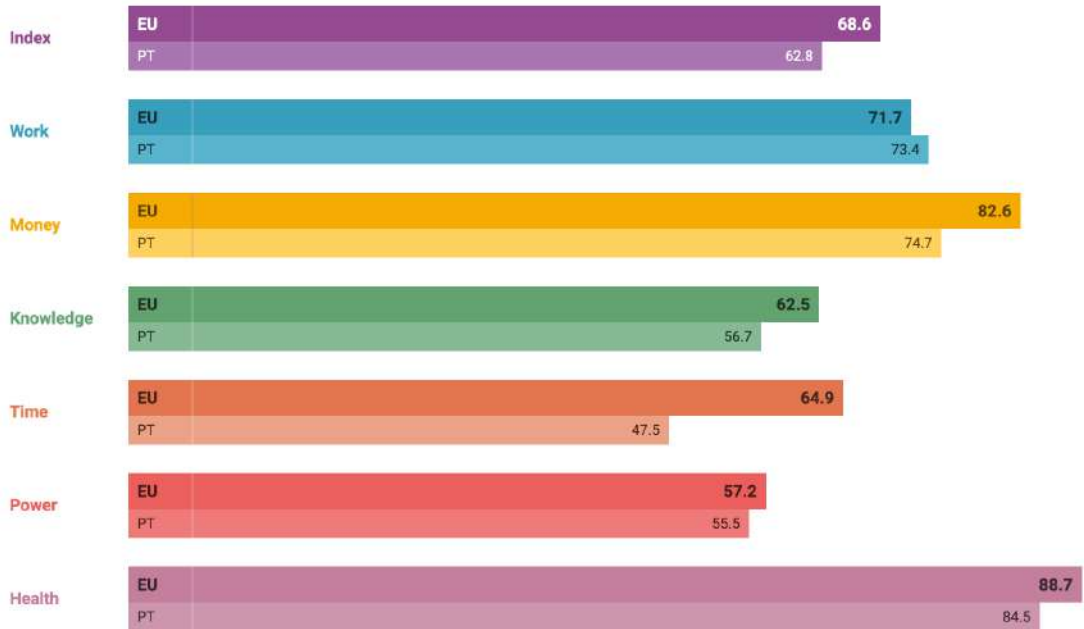
Compare to:  Spain



Compare to:  Italy



Compare to:  Portugal



As we indicated, there is still a long way to go to achieve equality, but we are making slow progress. In Spain there has recently been a significant change in one of the precarious jobs carried out by women: domestic workers. A working woman requested the right to unemployment benefit, a fact that came to the courts of the European Union as a clear circumstance of discrimination based on sex, obtaining a favorable sentence. This sentence motivated the Government to approve the right to unemployment benefit. unemployment of this vulnerable group of workers; in addition to recognition as a fundamental right, which undoubtedly improves the conditions of the group.

In this way, Spain signs the ILO Convention 189 that regulates the equal treatment of domestic employees with the rest of the workers; On the other hand, it represents an important advance not only in terms of equality, but also in terms of the rights of migrant women who face many difficulties as they find themselves in an irregular administrative situation and cannot access a job legally, many women They will be forced to work irregularly.

This legislative amendment⁸ recognizes that domestic work has always been undervalued; work that in most cases has been carried out by women maintaining certain stereotypes that reinforce the gender gap.

The norm does not forget another vulnerable group such as migrant women, highlighting that many of the women who access this job in our country are foreigners, with the consequent damage in relation to discrimination in working conditions or in matters of Social Security, and may be subject to discrimination based on ethnicity or race.

We maintain that both in terms of equality and gender violence, if men are part of the problem, they are also part of the solution and to achieve equality they have to understand that equality will be positive for the entire population; men should not be affected by the achievements made, the resources used by men should not be undermined by those assigned to women, as established by the Conclusions of the Employment, Social Policy, Health and Consumer Affairs Council, adopted at its session n° 2767, of 2006.

⁸Royal Decree-Law 16/2022, of September 6, for the improvement of working conditions and Social Security of workers in the service of the home.

REMEMBER

The European Union recognizes the importance of conciliation policies so that responsibilities and domestic tasks, as well as the care of people, are shared in a balanced way between women and men.

And encourages member states:

- To the development of educational practices that do away with stereotypes and that take men into account so that they increase their self-care and take care of other people.*
- To the promotion of gender equality involving men and especially young people.*

REMEMBER

The historical social discrimination of women and the power relations of men over them has led to an important legislative change in the last half of the 20th century at the international, European and state levels that are aimed at establishing measures that put an end to the inequality that still exists today. Today many women suffer.

Wage gap

Equal pay between women and men for doing the same work has been contemplated in the European Treaties since 1957, reiterating itself as a principle in 2017. Currently this principle is regulated in Directive 2006/54/EC (which has been the subject of different updates) but given that progress in closing the wage gap is slow, the European Parliament has asked the European Commission for proposals for improvement.

The wage gap between women and men refers to the difference between the wages received by male and female workers calculated based on the average difference between gross hourly earnings of working people.

In Europe, women earn on average 13% less per hour than men; in 2020, Luxembourg had the lowest gap (0.7%) while Latvia had the highest (22.3%); in our country the gap corresponds to 13.9%⁹.

The causes of the gender wage gap are related to various factors:

- 1. The time women spend on unpaid work, such as childcare or housework; women spend more hours on average, which means that they do not have enough time to carry out their paid workday. As indicated by Eurostar 2020 data, 30% of women in the European Union do their work part-time compared to 8% of men.*
- 2. Women, to a greater extent, are the ones who interrupt their professional careers, to care for their sons and daughters, for other people or for family responsibilities.*
- 3. The overrepresentation of women in lower paying jobs, such as care, sales or education.*
- 4. Little presence of women in executive positions. In the European Union they account for less than 50%*

⁹<https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/es/headlines/society/20200227STO73519/brecha-salarial-de-genero-en-europa-hechos-y-cifras-infografia>

¿Cuánta diferencia hay?

Brecha salarial de género por país de la UE *

[diferencia entre la media de ingresos brutos por hora de hombres y mujeres como porcentaje de los ingresos brutos masculinos**]



*Los datos son de 2020, excepto los de Grecia e Irlanda, que son de 2018

** Datos calculados para empresas con 10 o más empleados, excepto en el caso de República Checa: datos para empresas con 1 o más empleados.

<https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/es/headlines/society/20200227STO73519/brecha-salarial-de-genero-en-europa-hechos-y-cifras-infografia>

Glass roof

This concept refers to the invisible and impossible to overcome obstacles that make it difficult for women to move up in their professional career.

Cultural, business and political variables are what shape the glass ceiling and it is influenced by stereotypes, sexism, the sexual division of labor and family responsibilities.

The glass ceiling is difficult to overcome, it prevents women from advancing, the term "glass" is intended to show the lack of visibility of this situation; It is not an imposition that women put on, what happens is that there are other circumstances that are not detectable at first sight:

- *The business organization in which decision-making positions are assigned mostly to men.*
- *Family responsibilities, maternity, care of children and dependents.*
- *The prejudices of the companies*
- *In jobs that have been developed mostly by men, women are required more.*
- *Erroneous beliefs about the perception of the glass ceiling: thinking that women do not want to progress in their professional careers, that they cannot face complex situations of authority, of power.*
- *Difficulty coping with and reconciling a professional career with domestic chores.*
- *The small number of female role models with whom women can identify make them think that they may not be able to progress or if they do, they will not be effective.*

REMEMBER

The glass ceiling is also often called a "sticky floor" because it traps women and prevents them from progressing.

Double shift

The double shift refers to the double presence that women must maintain as a consequence of work and family burdens. The burden of women who choose a professional career is double as a result of the lack of conciliation and co-responsibility. They must combine productive work with domestic work.

Women who have entered the world of work, that is, productive work, are forced to double up with other unpaid tasks, which does not happen with the majority of men. We could say that, just as women have accessed the labor market, men have not done so to the same extent in domestic and family work.

In the case of migrant women workers, who are much more vulnerable, as we have repeated on different occasions, the double shift worsens their situation because they are subjected to long exhausting hours that they must reconcile with the domestic responsibilities of their home.

REMEMBER

To achieve equality, eliminate the gender gap and fully enjoy professional development, it is necessary to change the perception of family responsibilities; Both women and men must be part of this change through an equitable distribution of domestic tasks, care and everything that this entails.

In short, we have seen a growing evolution in relation to women's access to the world of work, however, this evolution has not been accompanied by responses to the needs that the situation requires, in other words, there has been no space for conciliation work, personal and family. It can be said that family tasks have not been distributed equally between men and women, which entails an extra burden for women that affects decision-making regarding her professional career. According to data from the Spanish Ministry of Inclusion, Social Security and Migration, in 2020, 90% of leave to care for children were requested by women, more than two million women work part-time and 20% have hourly contracts, which slows their professional development¹⁰.

Governments must maintain their commitment to end the gender gap in all areas, especially in the economic and labor spheres. In Spain, according to the INE, the gap stands at 21.4% and according to Eurofund data, the gender labor gap increased by 0.4% between April and September 2020.

¹⁰<https://www.lamoncloa.gob.es/consejodeministros/Paginas/enlaces/160221-enlace-igualdad.aspx>

To know more...

<https://www.observatorioigualdadyempleo.es/el-techo-de-cristal-en-la-union-europea/>

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TEST

Read carefully the wording of the questions and answer if it is TRUE or FALSE

1. To eliminate the gender gap, it is necessary to change the perception of family responsibilities, something that only affects men.

True

False

2. The expression "slippery ground" refers to the impossibility for women to progress.

True

False

3. The wage gap between men and women refers to the difference between the wages received by male and female workers calculated based on the average difference between gross earnings per hour of people

True

False

4. The presence of women in executive positions in the European Union exceeds 50%

True

False

5. Family tasks have not been distributed equally between men and women, which entails an extra burden for women that affected decision-making regarding their professional career. At present, this situation has been overcome.

True

False



LESSON 3 FORMATION, GENDER AND MIGRATION

1. MIGRATION, WOMEN AND TRAINING

1.1 Introduction

Migration phenomena are inherent to the human condition. They are at the base of evolution and development up to the present. Historical and prehistoric human migrations made it possible to colonize all habitable zones on earth.

Migration is part of the demographic processes that together with birth and mortality introduce changes in the size, composition and distribution of the population. This phenomenon is related to the movement or spatial displacement of people, which has been in force since the human species exists (OIM, 2018).

Rodicio and Sarceda (2019) state that "migrations are a constant phenomenon that brings benefits beyond the purely economic ones. Thanks to them, many countries have been able to modernize and open up to the social plurality that comes with receiving people from very different cultures" (p.12). Yanes, B.I. (2018) exposes the idea of human migrations as a source of new identities "because they are human beings who in the places where they settle contribute not only their labor skills, minor or major, qualified or not, they also carry their ideas, perceptions, beliefs, families, hopes and aspirations"

When talking about migration and women, it is essential to address the feminization of migrations. In the publication of the specific programs for migrants, the Women's Institute begins its presentation by saying: "one of the most important social changes that have occurred in Spain in recent decades is the transformation and feminization of migratory flows" It is a quantitatively feminized migration, and as we will see later due to its proactivity and resilience, also qualitatively.

1.2 Migration and women in figures

According to data from the INE (June 2022 - balance of the first semester), the population with foreign nationality residing in Spain represents 11.71%. If we talk about people of immigrant origin (foreign population and people born abroad who currently have Spanish nationality) the percentage rises to 16%.

In the INE annual report (January 2022) it is verified that the arrival of foreigners saves population growth, since the vegetative balance was negative due to the drop in birth rates and increased mortality. This has determining socioeconomic consequences for any country that are easy to intuit. In addition, in Spain, a simple

analysis of the INE data analyzing other sociodemographic variables shows that migrants are a positive contribution to population and economic development. The foreign population residing in Spain comes mainly from Morocco, Romania, the United Kingdom, Colombia, Italy and Venezuela.

The typical x-ray in Castilla y León is a young and hard-working woman. In order to specify the data in some items, the source is INE 2021, disaggregating the data by binary gender:

- *Women are 51% of the total Spanish population. Migrant women are 17.59% of the total number of women living in Spain and 51.12% of the total foreign population. If we count women born abroad, the figure rises to 53.43%.*
- *By age it is the active and young population, with an average age of 35.07 years compared to 48.03 for the Spanish women.*
- *Following the INE data for the first quarter of 2021: The current impact of the double status of women and migrants on employment is decisive. The unemployment rate for women in the region is 23.13, 11.18 points higher than that of Spanish women (in addition to the gap for all women, with higher growth in unemployment and greater gender difference). For non-EU foreign women, the unemployment rate continues to be, being more than double that of Spanish women. Compared to immigrant men, it is also 4 points higher, reaching seven points for non-EU women.*
- *Analyzing Membership to the SS (CYL / MAY 2022), 41.86% of foreign affiliation corresponds to women: 65% in the general regime and within this 28% as EH (99% are women) with 8 points of increase compared to 2021. 11% autonomous and only 5% in the agricultural sector.*

The feminization of migrations is not just a statistical issue, it is necessary to take into account the role of gender in migration processes, labor policies, the economic impact of remittances sent by migrant workers, changes in personal identity and in family structures associated with migration or the relevance of migrant women in sustaining care chains.

1.3 The feminization of migration qualitative aspects

As an example in first person, this analysis is based on the experience of fifteen years of professional experience accompanying migrant women in the NGO Procomar Valladolid Acoge. It is unfair and surely wrong to limit migration engines to a list that configures our mental map, making it seem that order and light are achieved to approach a very complex social phenomenon. In every trip there is a

story. Each woman has her own and many times she starts long before that journey. All these stories add up to a wide range of experiences.

So, WHY DO WOMEN MIGRATE? By way of explanation, an approximation is presented, emphasizing that they are interconnected realities and almost always multi-causal:

- *Quantitatively, economic reasons have an undeniable weight, in addition, migrant women become laborers in the host country and, in most cases, providers of remittances to their country of origin.*
- *These economic reasons are present and influence in other reasons that in recent years have been heard with more weight in social entities. It is the search for opportunities, improvement or well-being, for themselves, for their daughters and sons and/or for their family.*
- *Many migrations are a flight for fear of losing their lives or suffering physical and emotional damage in their communities of origin. The search for security is a very specific migratory engine that unravels life stories where traumatic experiences and resilience are amalgamated. It has specific characteristics compared to other migrations because during the time of settling in Spain, communication and the administrative relationship with the country of origin become at least complicated and many stories are trips in which the woman feels and knows that the possibilities of return are a threat and mean returning to the same or greater risks.*
- *The most current migration in this sense is the mobilization of people due to displacements associated with conflicts, both due to the war in Ukraine (number of displaced women) and other conflicts with less media impact due to which women arrive from Iran, Syria, Afghanistan, Mali or Sierra Leone.*
- *We hear many stories of migration that begin with experiences of gender violence when women see no other way to escape from their aggressors and/or in the country of origin there is not enough protection and support for them to get ahead. Gender inequality generates migration.*
- *The experiences of women who arrive in Spain with positive migratory projects, due to cultural concern, a new destination linked to their professional career, or following a study plan are no less important. Also the associated transfer to family or emotional factors.*

Another relevant analysis to understand the female migratory phenomenon are the SOCIAL EXCLUSION FACTORS that influence their OPPORTUNITIES, the success of their migratory projects and with it their possibilities of training and developing and contributing talent in the host society.

As in the previous statements, it is a didactic approach of multi-causal and interrelated aspects:

- ***Devaluation of people due to the fact of being migrants and doubly so in the case of foreign women.***

- *Prejudice and stigmatization of cultural traits*
- *Little recognition of professional skills acquired in the country of origin.*
- *“Glass ceiling” for immigrant women with few opportunities for professional advancement.*

These are aspects that they experience beyond the type of documentation or length of stay in Spain. Women who have been rooted for several years and/or who have acquired Spanish nationality continue to notice these difficulties.

Faced with this, in social intervention with migrants it is common to find resilient women with high soft skills in high demand by the labor market, highlighting: perseverance, adaptability and initiative.

- ***Increased incidence of unemployment and job insecurity.***

Medium and long-term unemployment questions the motor of the migration project, triggering complex multi-problematic situations (renewal of documents, unattended health problems and somatizations, migratory grief...) here and in the country of origin when they have left direct family, also when the Migration processes take longer than desired. It directly affects job search strategies, favoring the chronification of vulnerability and job insecurity.

The positive skills associated with the resilience process of these women are creativity, planning, conflict resolution and the ability to overcome.

- ***Aspects related to competences: Limitations in employability derived from the lack of time for oneself, scarcity of relational experiences and vital learning opportunities (language, cultural competences, participation...).*** - *Language and other determinants of communication - Cultural competences - Digital competences: In the exercise of citizenship, social relations and access to information increasingly require knowledge and technological resources. A digital divide is opening up that increases along with the risk of social vulnerability as there are situations of: digital illiteracy, fear of very fast and intangible resources and procedures, distrust of data protection in digital environments and its contrary ignorance of the risks and dangers of social networks, high cost of services and technological means. - Professional training, both if they need to be trained and because of the limitations to recognize experience or standardize their qualification. The ability to learn quickly or "educability" is very remarkable. Along the same lines, the multilingual competence of many migrants stands out.*

- ***Socioeconomic aspects:***

- Lack of resources in terms of indicators from the AROPE-Europe 2020 Strategy Report (low economic resources, severe material deprivation or belonging to households with low employment intensity)
- Scarce socio-family support network
- High incidence of single parenthood in family units headed by women. Especially migrant women stand out for their concern for participation and openness to link up with other migrant women and with the native population. It also highlights the ability to organize and manage time.

• **A “assimilating” and static host society in the face of the dynamics of migrants that makes invisible the reality of the migratory processes that occur beyond our autochthonous worldview, thereby posing a limiting perspective, especially towards family structures and educational processes. intercultural.**

In response to these barriers, many immigrant women report that they have further developed their cultural identity. In social intervention, programs that contemplate intercultural personal development support these processes of change in personal identity. In addition, incorporating the cultural diversity management approach in actions aimed at the general population and the business sector favors the incorporation of migrant talent.

• **Coping with vital crises that affect the identity and productivity of the migratory project: separation or divorce, health problems, retirement, disability, gender violence.**

These changes do not always and/or not only bring with them negative aspects, being able to favor a constructive confrontation in the vital process of migrant women. For example: better opportunities for development or social recognition for an independent life after a divorce, protection, rights and resources in the face of gender violence or opportunities for job integration for people with disabilities.

2. Training and overqualification

2.1 Real experiences

Carla, who could have many other female names, celebrates this week that she has started working in a warehouse. For the last three years she took care of a married couple as an intern, now she already worked as an external cleaner. She was looking forward to returning to her boss her uniform that she gave her the first day she arrived at that house and that for her symbolized accepting all the limitations she found when she arrived in Spain and hiding inside her, becoming a woman. invisible. Last year he completed the homologation of his Baccalaureate degree and he has already accepted that all the years he studied architecture remain only in his

baggage because they do not recognize all the subjects and he would have to return to the university to study (and pay) credits of what They tell you that you have to re-study. Part of her excitement has to do with the fact that her new boss is also an architect, she practiced for a few years and decided to start an innovative business based on ecommerce. In the interview, she has highly valued Carla's studies and if everything Going well has promised him the possibility of promotion to the administrative area. She has signed up for more than five job offers every day and sometimes waited a few minutes in front of the computer to write down the speed record of the applications in notifying her that she had not been selected.

***Berta** came to Spain very young, so much so that she was born in a small town in Castilla y León where her parents had settled with her brother a few years earlier. When she was six years old, when it became very difficult to work and take care of her, the family with a much improved economic situation returned to her country of origin. Five years later they decided to return to Spain, but this time to stay since the only reason was that they felt happier returning to the town from which they left. This means that one day in September Berta returned to her childhood school very excited, with her best dress and a pot full of flowers celebrating her return to school, as is customary when they start the course in their country, without remembering at all. the language, she left home very confident to be reunited with her friends. From the first day everything became silent, the flowers were laughter, the dress was mockery and her accent was insults that became routine. She finished her primary studies with the best record and started the high school in an institute in another area seeking to protect her. Everything got worse as her grades improved. Berta takes refuge in studying and has a special talent. She speaks several languages fluently a year and she freely expands the subjects because they are too simple for her. In the summer she suffered a racist assault and currently she receives psychiatric care, she studies at home on medical prescription and is terrified of any social interaction. Her story is a challenge for the educational system because Berta is probably hiding a decisive researcher for our future, at least surely a great professional. Accompaniment and adequate interdisciplinary action are going to be decisive for her future.*

***Sara** has four school-age children, her husband works in construction and is away from home all week. Before coming to Spain and before getting married, she worked cleaning and making food to sell, with her sisters. Her mother raised them alone and the four of them had to get by as best they could. When her husband told her that they would come to Spain, at first she was quite afraid, then they told her many wonders and she began to dream of a new life, with so many things that she always wanted to do and never could. When she arrived she felt cold, both because she was very cold and because she felt invisible, she didn't count for anything or anyone. She had a house, she always had food, her life with her husband was neither good nor bad, but she was alone for a long time. She met other women in the neighborhood who became almost like family to her in those early years. For them she got jobs for a few hours cleaning and they helped each other with the children. When they were older, she began to participate in some workshops to which he was invited, it was*

his first Spanish school. Learning to speak they no longer had to accompany him for everything and he began to look for a slightly more stable job. In a job orientation interview they realized that he could not write or read. He has been learning two afternoons a week for two months. He moves very fast. His daughters and his son are very happy to see him study, they help him with his homework and teach him his school things. He has also started a workshop to use the telephone and learn to send messages. He no longer feels invisible.

2.2 Education, rights and SDGs

The fourth of the Sustainable Development Goals is QUALITY EDUCATION. It means inclusive and equitable quality education and promoting lifelong learning opportunities for all.

Education empowers people around the world to lead healthier and more sustainable lives. Education is also essential to promote tolerance among people and contributes to creating more peaceful societies. Valladolid Welcomes (Execution Report 2021).

It also has to do with the Right to education included in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR art. 26) and in the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR art. 13), Equal rights for women and girls in the area of education included in the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW art. 10) and the Right to Work, including technical and vocational training (ICESCR art. 6).

Education is accessible in Spain for all girls and boys regardless of their origin, nationality or administrative situation, in the period of compulsory schooling between 6 and 16 years of age. Then, access to education for those over 16 years of age, including university, since it is not compulsory, is conditioned by the particular entry requirements established by each center, and cannot be denied due to the administrative situation of irregular stay, since The right to education is universal.

2.3 Reflections on overqualification and migrations

Overqualification refers to the mismatch between the position and the work performed. Fanjul and Gálvez-Iniesta (2020), in the report of the Por Causa Foundation, state that almost 40% of immigrants who have a work permit carry out activities in home and hospitality services and another 30% among agricultural activities, manufacturing industry and construction. Considering these data, it may seem that 60% of the people who arrive in Spain and regularize their administrative

situation do not have sufficient qualifications for other types of jobs, but this deduction is wrong.

Most of the migrants who enter the Spanish State and have secondary and higher education descend in the labor market and are forced to work in the care, cleaning and construction sectors. They have a residence permit or not. In the case of migrant women, overqualification could also be called “disqualification” due to the waste of skills by relegating them to supporting the care chain and collecting the crystals that fall when native women manage to break roofs. If they are non-European women, whose mother tongue is not Spanish-speaking and/or of racial origin, the discrimination has an even greater impact on disqualification.

Qualified people who do not have the homologation of studies appear in the SEPE and in employment contracts as “people without studies”. This data is thus transferred to the official statistics and if the homologation is not obtained, their degree and experience in addition to not being recognized in the market employment, literally do not exist.

In his 2021 report, the Ombudsman mentions the receipt of more than 500 complaints regarding the processing of files for recognition and declaration of equivalence of foreign university degrees. The maximum processing period established by the royal decree is nine months. However, files with more than five years of processing pending resolution have been detected. On November 8, 2022, the new Royal Decree 889/2022 has entered into force, aimed at regulating the approvals and recognition procedures of foreign university degrees. One of the objectives of this new regulation is to avoid delays and allow those who have submitted applications to withdraw from them and start new procedures based on the decree.

The recognition of foreign training and titles is a complex process. In social entities, when caring for newly arrived people, it is common to see their surprise when they learn that, in addition to providing their titles, they have to present grade certificates and apostilled documentation, apart from translations. Among the basic concepts, a distinction must be made between homologation, equivalence and validation:

- *HOMOLOGATION to a Spanish Bachelor's or Master's degree that gives access to a regulated profession in Spain. It has academic and professional effects and the competent authority is both the Ministry and the Universities.*
- *THE EQUIVALENCE, recognizes an official Spanish university academic level of Degree or Master. It has only academic effects and both the Ministry and the universities are also the competent authority.*
- *VALIDATION is the official recognition of higher official studies, whether or not they have ended with obtaining a degree, for university studies. partial*

Spanish. It has only academic effects, to continue studies and the competent authority is a Spanish university.

As an example of positive public initiatives, the Adeje City Council, a town in Tenerife, in its blog (Mujeres Migrantes, Feminización de la migración, 2022) directly addresses overqualification and the responsibility of public policies against discrimination. In her blog, she states that in the face of over-qualification, public and private institutions must promote strategies that make it possible to end the discrimination suffered by migrant women and fight jointly against the violation of the labor rights that assist them. Quote in his blog "Improvements can also be proposed in the international agreements of mutual recognition of qualifications to guide the evaluation of skills and the recognition of the training received, regardless of the country where said training is developed".

3. Brain drain

The term brain drain has to do with overqualification and migratory movements. Socioeconomic and political factors have a direct influence, both from the territories of origin and destination as well as those related to globalization and international agreements.

We also have to remember that overqualification is linked to employment, job performance and professional career. We say that a person is overqualified when they have more skills than are necessary to carry out their occupation, mainly due to training, experience and attitudes.

What the brain drain finally alludes to is highly qualified migration. In Spain it has to do with internal migratory movements, with the entry of migrants (from the EU and non-EU people) and with emigration.

Quoting A. González, J. R. Coca, J. A. Valero, J. Aguilar (2015): "Skilled migration is a widespread phenomenon. This is due to the globalization of economic processes and the internationalization of knowledge production processes. Migration is an unwanted effect for nations that lose their most qualified personnel. In addition, qualified migration is considered a way of progression and development of nations. It is, therefore, a diffuse phenomenon in terms of its complexity and ambivalence."

In June 2022, the Spanish government approved the Plan for the attraction and retention of scientific and innovative talent in Spain, promoted by the Ministry of Science and Innovation. The objective of said plan is "for the scientists who left to return, for those who are not to leave and to attract the best". It is developed based on three main axes and one transversal

- *Create more opportunities and better conditions for the development of a scientific career in universities and public research organizations.*
- *Eliminate barriers and create new incentives to attract international scientific talent to the Spanish public sector.*
- *Promote the incorporation of international scientific and innovative personnel in the private sector.*
- *Improve information, advice and international communication, to make opportunities visible and position Spain as a leading country in science, innovation and entrepreneurship. (Transverse axis).*

In the face of talent, one can see a utilitarianism of the most developed countries or territories that are attractive and the most advanced in technological development, research and innovation. The counterpart to this reflection has to do with the economic impulse of the remittances contributed by the migrant population and the impact on development and progress even if they do not return through other collaborations or actions.

Political measures to manage highly qualified migration are decisive in this impact. In Spain, in 2007, the Unit for Large Companies and Strategic Collectives (UGE-CE) was created. Its mission is to provide a quick response and expert advice to the needs raised by companies and organizations that need to bring non-EU personnel with special characteristics to Spain. They deal with the processing of residence permits for investors, entrepreneurs, highly qualified professionals and researchers mainly.

In Law 14/2013, of September 27, on support for entrepreneurs and their internationalization, in article 31 defines highly qualified professionals and the conditions: Foreign professionals with a job offer in Spain for the development of an employment relationship or professional in a managerial position or activity for which it is required to have a higher education qualification or, exceptionally, a minimum of three years of professional experience is accredited that can be considered comparable to said qualification, related to the activity for which the performance is granted authorization.

The documentation processed by the UGE-CE is called the European Blue Card, which allows you to reside and work in Spain with mobility in the European environment. It is previously processed in the country of origin. In addition to the usual migratory conditions such as not having a criminal record or that the national employment situation allows hiring, accreditation is included as highly qualified professional.

These strategies are developed in the other EU countries. At the European community level, the Global Skill Partner Ship Strategy of the OIL, International Labor Organization (2018) stands out. It is a two way model. The destination country

provides technology and funding to be able to train potential migrants with specific skills. The country of origin agrees to provide this training and non-migrants also receive it, which, instead of reducing it, increases human capital. It improves the capital and income of those who decide to stay and those who migrate contribute in the country of destination and, as it had been traditional, they contribute remittances. Under this approach, the country of destination agrees to increase the total number of qualified profiles, thus balancing the scales.

The debate on the brain drain is very extensive and has a special impact in Castilla y León, where it also influences depopulation. Based on Castilla y León census data As of January 1, it was the community that lost the most inhabitants in 2021. This regional problem is also double because the foreign population gain is 6.1% of the total number of registered people, compared to 11.6% over the national group.

Migration is a problem and an opportunity, an escape to be able to live or a way to succeed. Meanwhile, interests and barriers are defined in the form of borders and justifications in economic and political terms. We have not chosen the place where we were born, and it is from this place that we have one or the other freedoms, rights and opportunities.

One last thought: "Let's imagine a world without borders, in which people have the right to move freely from one country to another, to settle, live and work where they want". Pécoud, A. and Guchteneire, P. (2008)

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TEST

1. The Blue Card is a document that: (mark the correct answer)

- a) Refugees or asylum seekers who are qualified obtain upon arrival in Spain. It is processed in the UGE-CE.
- b) Accredits European people their qualification to work in other countries
- c) Allows people who have previously applied for a job offer visa in their country of origin and have accredited their qualification in the UGE-CE to work and reside in Spain.
- d) It includes the qualification of a non-EU foreign person but it is not an identification document

2. In these sentences indicate T/F

- a) Women make up 41% of the total Spanish population and more than 17% are migrants. **FALSE (51%)**
- b) Migrant women are 53.43% of foreign population, if we count women born abroad. **REAL**
- c) Currently conflict migration is the displacement of people from Ukraine. **FALSE, unfortunately there are many more areas with open conflicts.**
- d) Validation is the recognition of a degree to qualify it for a Spanish Degree or Master's degree that gives access to a regulated profession in Spain. **FAKE.**

3. The double discrimination suffered by immigrant women has to do with (T/F)

- a) They have lower qualifications and do not study in Spain. **FAKE**
- b) Limitations for not having Spanish nationality. **FAKE**
- c) Prejudice and stigmatization of cultural traits. **REAL**

d) They have fewer opportunities for professional advancement. **REAL**

4. The lack of time for themselves and for socializing affects the employability of immigrant women because (mark the correct answer)

a) It influences language learning and cultural competences.

b) Participation and relationships facilitate access to training and the acquisition of digital skills.

c) It does not directly affect while they are working because, although they do not have time, they contribute to social security.

d) It interferes with integration even if they have multilingual skills and the ability to learn quickly.

5. The brain drain (mark the correct answer)

a) It is not related to migratory movements. It's a waste of talent.

b) It is linked to employment, job performance and professional career

c) It is the migration of highly qualified people

d) It has a negative impact on the country of origin and brings talent to the receiver.

CHAPTER 3

UNDERSTANDING GENDER VIOLENCE



"Violence against women and girls remains being the most pervasive and urgent human rights issue globally"

*Anthony Guterres
(9th Secretary General of the United Nations since 2017)*

LESSON 1

Introduction

To begin with... Do you know the concept of gender violence?

SELF_EVALUATION

Read carefully the wording of the questions and answer if it is TRUE or FALSE

1. Gender-based violence is a global problem of great dimensions.

True

False

2. Gender violence affects certain social classes.

True

False

3. Getting out of gender violence is relatively easy.

True

False

4. Women who suffer gender violence are usually women who have children.

True

False

5. The aggressors who exercise violence against their partner or former partner do so under the influence of alcohol and other substances.

True

False

LESSON 1 INTRODUCTION

Gender violence has become a serious problem worldwide; a violence that despite the attempts of public policies does not diminish and of which we only know a minimal part. There are many women who do not have the necessary resources to start a new life without the aggressor and this is influenced by certain variables that make it difficult for the victim to make decisions:

- *Fear of the aggressor's threats.*
- *Shame.*
- *Isolation.*
- *Economic dependence.*
- *Psychological dependence.*
- *Lack of family and social support.*
- *Lack of resources.*
- *Ignorance of rights.*
- *Mistrust in the police and judicial systems.*

In 1980, the UN declared that violence against women is the most numerous covert crimes in the world, a violence that is widespread. It is estimated that this violence affects a third of women worldwide and that 30% of women have been killed in relationships (World Health Organization, 2013).

This violence has special characteristics:

- *It's absolutely silent.*
- *-She remains hidden in the relationship.*
- *It materializes exclusively in the relationship of a partner or ex-partner.*

Throughout this chapter we will see that the violence exerted on women has many edges; It is a violence that affects any woman, regardless of age, social class, race, religion, etc. It is a violence that women suffer for the mere fact of being.

In this first approximation, we will address violence in adult couples, since it is the majority that occurs. Lesson 5 will specifically address other age groups that are also affected by this violence, such as teenage couples and older couples, as they have other specific characteristics. Specifically, the studies carried out on equality and prevention of gender-based violence in adolescence reveal some issues, to say the least of concern, such as, for example, as Díaz-Aguado et al. (2011) concludes

that «despite the advances , the generational change detected among adolescents is not enough to eradicate gender violence, but it is necessary to increase efforts to prevent it, taking into account the peculiarity of the current situation» (p. 388). Regarding prevalence, in the study carried out on a sample of 421 Spanish women by Fontanil, Ezama, Fernández, Gil and Herrero (2005) it was concluded that 20.2% of the women had been assaulted by their partners and of these 6.2% had been during the last twelve months (continuing, at that time, living with the aggressor). More recent studies confirm that despite the efforts, the figures continue to be worrying: the percentage of women who consider themselves feminists is 67% and 32.8% is the percentage of men, encouraging data if we compare them with the results of the year 2017 (46% and 23%, respectively); however, we also have to take into account that one out of five boys (adolescents and young people) between 15 and 29 years old consider that gender violence does not exist and that it is an ideological invention, a percentage that has doubled in four years (2017-2021) according to this study. ¹¹

Therefore, we understand that his approach deserves a specific lesson.

The same happens with violence against older women, which is always taken into account, and the reality is that they exist, and not only do they exist but they also have different characteristics than those that occur in other stages of life (Celdrán, 2013)

¹¹ Study carried out by the FAD Youth Foundation <https://www.fad.es/notas-de-prensa/crece-el-porcentaje-de-chicos-jovenes-15-a-29-anos-que-niega-la-violencia-de-genero-o-le-resta-importancia/>

TEST

1. In 1980, the UN declared that violence against women is the most numerous covert crime in the world, a violence that is widespread. It is estimated that this violence affects a third of women worldwide and that 10% of women have been murdered in the context of intimate partner relationships (World Health Organization, 2013).

True
False

2. Any woman can be a victim of gender violence.

True
False

3. A woman who maintains a relationship with her aggressor is because she wants to. If she wanted out of the relationship, she could report it, she doesn't because she doesn't want to be separated from him.

True
False

4. Women do not always have the support they need, both family and social support, they may not be independent as they do not have their own income; sometimes she does not want to separate her children from her father.

True
False

5. Physical, sexual and psychological violence occurring in the family, including battering, sexual abuse of girls in the home, dowry-related violence, marital rape, female genital mutilation and other traditional practices harmful to women, acts perpetrated by other family members and violence related to exploitation, are considered violence against women.

True
False



"I always left a blanket in the bathroom; I slept in the bathtub with my son. It was the only place I could hide... until he took the lock off so I couldn't hide there when I was afraid"

Testimony of a woman in police offices

LESSON 2

APPROACH TO THE CONCEPT OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN OR GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

LESSON 2

APPROACH TO THE CONCEPT OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN OR GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

Interest in violence against women has increased in recent decades, forcing all governments to adopt measures to mitigate the effects it produces. This violence is considered gender-based violence and recognized as a human rights violation; We have already highlighted in previous lessons that this violence is a consequence of inequality, due to the subordination of women to men due to the roles that have been assigned to them. As Heyzer (2000) asserts, women are subjected to violence just because they are women.

At the end of the 1980s, in the US, there was an increase in cases of physical and sexual violence, a time when this problem began to be investigated within the family, which is why it was called domestic violence and affected many women. In this sense, studies carried out worldwide suggest that the number of women who have reported violence by their partner is between 20% and 50% at least once in their lives (World Health Organization, 1997).

According to the WHO, violence against women, especially that carried out by their partner, has become a public health problem and is considered a violation of human rights. Studies carried out by the UN (2018) in 161 countries allow us to estimate that almost one in three women (30%) has suffered physical and/or sexual violence by her partner or sexual violence by someone who was not her partner or both.¹²

It is a violence that, as we pointed out earlier, has remained hidden for many years because the aggressor always enjoyed impunity, being absolutely normalized and legitimized, both by the aggressor and by society.

In previous lessons we have seen how the socialization process has given space to patriarchy, promoting a society that has always been regulated and directed by men, who are the ones who have held power and made decisions, always leaving women to the private space, vetoing women to any space that was not the home. The woman has been subordinated to the man, especially if she was his partner, and

¹² *Violence against women Prevalence Estimates, 2018. Estimaciones mundiales, regionales y nacionales de la prevalencia de la violencia de pareja contra la mujer y estimaciones mundiales y regionales de la prevalencia de la violencia sexual sufrida por la mujer por alguien que no es su pareja. OMS, Ginebra, 2021*

everything that happened within the couple belonged to the private, which meant a certain legitimacy for the aggressor.

Currently, gender-based violence has become a social problem thanks to the feminist movement and its struggle to contextualize this type of violence, giving it visibility and forcing society in general, and governments in particular, to avoid what constitutes a violation of human rights by involving the different institutions involved: political, social, legal, etc.

The Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women (UN, 1993) is one of the most important instruments in this matter, it defines this violence as:

"Any act of gender-based violence that results in actual or possible physical, sexual or psychological harm, including threats, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or private life. private"

"Intimate partner violence refers to behavior by a partner or ex-partner that causes physical, sexual, or psychological harm, including physical aggression, sexual coercion, psychological abuse, and control behaviors."

According to this Declaration, violence against women includes the following behaviors:

- *Physical, sexual and psychological violence occurring in the family, including battering, sexual abuse of girls in the home, dowry-related violence, marital rape, female genital mutilation and other practices harmful to women, acts perpetrated by other family members and violence related to exploitation.*
- *Physical, sexual, and psychological violence perpetrated in the community at large, including rape, sexual abuse, harassment, and sexual intimacy at work, in educational institutions, and elsewhere, trafficking in women, and forced prostitution.*
- *Physical, sexual and psychological violence perpetrated by the State, wherever it occurs.*

As we can see, it also refers to other expressions of violence in the field of partner relationships such as sexual violence: "any sexual act, the attempt to consummate a sexual act or another act directed against the sexuality of a person through coercion by another person, regardless of their relationship with the victim, in any field. Includes rape, which is defined as the penetration, by physical or other coercion, of

the vagina or anus with a penis, other body part or object, attempted rape, unwanted sexual touching and other forms of non-contact sexual violence.

In the case of Spain, and taking into consideration the concern about this violence at the international level, it develops specific legislation (Law 1/2004) understanding the need to fight from diverse spheres such as social, political, economic and cultural, also collecting your own definition:

“Any act of violence (...) that, as a manifestation of discrimination, the situation of inequality and the power relations of men over women, is exercised on them by those who are or have been their spouses or who are or have been linked to them by similar affective relationships, even without living together. (...) that has or may result in physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering to women, as well as threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether they occur in life public and in private life”¹³ (Art. 1 of the Law on Comprehensive Protection Measures against Gender Violence)

According to Echeburúa, Fernández and Corral (2009), gender violence forms a pattern of violent and coercive behavior using:

- *Physical aggression*
- *Psychological aggression*
- *Sexual assault*
- *Isolation*
- *Control*
- *Coercion*
- *Intimidation*
- *Etc.*

*Gender-based violence is considered a manifestation of inequality and, as we have seen, its roots remain hidden and covered up by patriarchy: “it is violence that is directed at women for the very fact of being women, for being considered, for their aggressors, lacking the minimum rights of freedom, respect and decision-making capacity”.*¹⁴

¹³ Organic Law 1/2004, of December 28, on Comprehensive Protection Measures against Gender Violence.

¹⁴ Organic Law 1/2004 on Comprehensive Protection Measures against Gender Violence

In Spain, we had to wait until 1989, when this violence was considered "domestic violence", which represented an important advance, since until then the legislation did not contemplate denouncing an assault by a partner.

Gender-based violence has become a large-scale social problem, being a priority both for international organizations and for the majority of governments (at the local, regional, national and international levels), which is why we have extensive legislation: treaties, recommendations and regulations specific to each country. If we make a historical review of the beginning of the fight against violence against women, we must start from the creation of the Legal and Social Condition of Women celebrated in New York, (1947); From that moment on, it is proposed to start working through international standards and conventions in order to increase social awareness of women, worldwide.

- *Convention on the Political Rights of Women (1953)*
- *Convention on the Nationality of Married Women (1957)*
- *Convention concerning Equal Remuneration for Male and Female Laborers for Work of Equal Value (1951)*
- *Convention on Consent to Marriage, Minimum Age of Marriage and Registration of Marriages (1962)*
- *Convention on the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women, approved by the United Nations General Assembly (1979)*
- *United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace (1976-1985)*
- *Different UN conventions to which feminist movements joined: First World Conference (Mexico, 1976), Copenhagen (1980) and Nairobi (1985), to cite some of the most important.*
- *World Conference on Human Rights (UN, 1993)*
- *Fourth World Conference on Women (Beijing, 1995)*
- *UN Women is created (2011)*

As we can see, the journey for the defense of women and their rights is very long, but the progress has not been as desired, because despite the achievements that are gradually being achieved, there is still a long way to go.

We are not talking about a new phenomenon; it is an old problem that we now look at with different eyes. We know that the cause of this violence is inequality, it contributes to maintaining the differences between women and men, which is why a social change is needed to put an end to this scourge that ends the lives of so many women in the world.

A person's violent behavior cannot be explained by a single factor; gender violence is a complex problem mediated by many factors: biological, cultural, social, political... and to understand its particularity it is necessary to understand it as a whole, as indicated by the World Report on Violence and Health (WHO, 2002) ; This report indicates how using the Ecological Model will allow us to analyze the factors that influence violent behavior (we will see this theory in depth in chapter 5, which will address the different theories of violence).

We must make an effort to understand the network of violence exerted on women by their intimate partners... let us think about what our lives are like... with our family, our work, our leisure time, with our friends and especially with our partner... that couple you have chosen as your travel companion... as we progress through the content of the lessons we should ask ourselves, what would I do if I were her?

Understanding this violence is not easy, because:

- It occurs in people's most private space: couple relationships, as we have pointed out.*
- It is not difficult to submit to prejudice when we ask ourselves why they don't break the relationship, why they don't file a complaint, why they withdraw the complaint or why they return to the aggressor.*
- We think we know what is best for the victim and yet we don't.*
- Sometimes we are victims of our beliefs, myths, stereotypes... or the idea we have about love, relationships or motherhood, for example.*

If we try to explain violence in a simple way, without stopping to assess the variables that influence it, it will be impossible... in the same way that it will be very difficult to figure out the image of a puzzle with just one piece.

To understand gender violence, it is necessary to broaden our gaze "to the rest of the pieces that make up the puzzle"; The framework of violence is complicated by the number of variables involved:

- Existence of children.*
- Affective dependence.*
- Economic dependence.*
- Fear of an uncertain future.*
- Fear of the aggressor.*
- Etc.*

Only by having a global perception of violence can we understand it.

To conclude, highlight the importance of the signing in Istanbul of the Council of Europe Convention (2011) on prevention and gender violence, in order to prevent this violence and protect the victims, in addition to punishing the aggressors; Through awareness, it aims to raise awareness in society and change attitudes to end inequality and violence, highlighting coordination as another essential axis. Any form of manifestation of violence, such as physical, psychological and sexual violence, including rape; female genital mutilation, forced marriage, harassment, forced abortion and forced sterilization are considered crimes (concepts that we will address later as other manifestations of violence against women).

Regarding the commitments acquired by the governments are:

- *The training of the professionals who intervene with the victims.*
- *Awareness campaigns.*
- *Include equality and peaceful conflict resolution in education materials.*
- *Collaboration with NGOs.*
- *Involve the media in the fight against gender stereotypes.*

REMEMBER

It is called "gender violence" to that which is exerted on women for the mere fact of being and that is exerted by their partner or ex-partner in the framework of an asymmetric relationship. It is exercised over any woman, regardless of her economic, social or cultural situation. The violence that some men display against their partners or ex-partners is totally deliberate, it is not something specific or sporadic. It is a tool used to maintain power and control. (Velasco, 2015)

Gender-based violence is an instrument to maintain asymmetric power relations, discrimination and inequality through its different forms of expression: physical, psychological, sexual aggression in the sphere of the partner or ex-partner (Velasco, 2021)

Two important milestones.

- *Before the Beijing Conference*

- *1975: World Conference on Women (Mexico)*
- *1980: World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women (Copenhagen)*
- *1985: World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women (Nairobi).*

- *After the Beijing Conference*

- *2000: Political Declaration and New Measures and Initiatives for the Application of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (New York).*
- *2005: Ten-Year Review and Assessment (Beijing Platform for Action).*
- *2010: 15-year review (Beijing Platform).*
- *2015: 20-year Review and Assessment (Beijing Platform).*
- *2020: 25-year Review and Assessment (Beijing Platform).*

To Know more...

<https://www.unwomen.org/en/digital-library/publications/2019/02/a-short-history-of-the-commission-on-the-status-of-women>

https://violenciagenero.igualdad.gob.es/definicion/pdf/LEY_ORGANICA_1_2004contraviolencia.pdf

REMEMBER

The first time it was successfully proposed to suppress the concept of men as a universal synonym through inclusive language was in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Fourth World Conference on Women (Beijing, 1995), in which the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action is adopted, aimed at eliminating the obstacles that women encounter in both public and private life.

Myths and realities

There are numerous myths that maintain violent behaviors, strengthen them and dilute the responsibility of the aggressor; These are mistaken ideas and beliefs that some people defend, clinging strongly to them in order to minimize the consequences of abuse and justify the abuser, who will see his behavior legitimized. Let's see some of them:

LEGEND	REALITY
<p><i>A woman who maintains a relationship with her aggressor is because she wants to. If she wanted out of the relationship, she could report it, she doesn't because she doesn't want to be separated from him.</i></p>	<p><i>Separating from the aggressor is not easy. The woman does not always have the support she needs, both family and social support, she may not be independent as she does not have her own income; sometimes she does not want to separate her children from her father.</i></p> <p><i>She may be emotionally dependent on the aggressor.</i></p> <p><i>She may be afraid that the abuser will follow through on her threats.</i></p> <p><i>She thinks that she can change with her help.</i></p>
	<p><i>Abuse is humiliating for anyone, no one he likes to be attacked; if the woman does not break the relationship, she is her because she thinks that her situation is similar to that of other women, coming to normalize it.</i></p> <p><i>Supporting this belief means accepting that the woman is solely responsible for</i></p>

<p><i>The woman is the one to blame; it is that she provokes him, something must have been done...</i></p>	<p><i>the behavior of the aggressor. On the contrary, the woman usually maintains a passive behavior to avoid new aggressions, trying by all means to please the aggressor.</i></p>
<p><i>If they have sons or daughters, it is better that they endure.</i></p>	<p><i>One of the reasons why the woman remains in the relationship is the existence of minor sons and daughters. Women who have suffered ill-treatment do not want to report for fear that the father of their children will go to prison. They will endure and endure the aggressions, considering that it is the best for the minors, who will grow up learning violent behaviors and probably reproduce them.</i></p>
	<p><i>Not all men who use alcohol or drugs abuse their partners. It is true that this type of substance can enhance aggressiveness, but it is not true that the cause of abuse is the</i></p>

<p><i>The aggressors have problems with alcohol and drugs.</i></p>	<p><i>consumption of these substances. The abusers are aggressive with their partner or with their sons and daughters, and the vast majority do not usually have problems with their co-workers, bosses or friends.</i></p>
<p><i>The abusers are crazy, they suffer from a mental disorder.</i></p>	<p><i>Aggressors know exactly what they want and achieve their goal through their behavior.</i> <i>They are fully aware of reality and are not sick.</i></p>
<p><i>Violence in intimate relationships is a private matter.</i></p>	<p><i>It is a crime in which the victim is helpless as a result of isolation and has many difficulties to leave the relationship.</i> <i>It is not a private matter. Anyone who knows of such a serious situation should bring it to the attention of the authorities.</i></p>
	<p><i>Violence does not understand social class, cultural level, race, etc., what happens is that women with fewer</i></p>

<p><i>Violence only occurs in lower social classes.</i></p>	<p><i>resources are the ones who go to Social Services to request help. Many women with resources choose another route, such as divorce, without ever reporting the abuse. This does not mean that they do not report, women of high social class also report.</i></p>
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Fuente: Velasco (2015)

There is no excuse that justifies violence, even if the aggressor makes the victim believe that she is to blame, that she has asked for it, that she is a bad mother or that she deserves it.

The responsibility rests exclusively with the aggressor.

(Velasco, 2015)

To know more...

https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/67411/a77102_spa.pdf?sequence=1

Gender-Based Violence and Violence Against Women: a public health issue
https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=DzBjE_nvJ4w&fbclid=IwAR1H87R7dISxD1t3jys3TDcNNDDXT-GjIEI6gaGwJsvKJXWX5xHMaBykkTE

Femicide in Germany: a silent epidemic
https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=zQEGFE04Y24&fbclid=IwAR24CFZ0_sj9uh8MejbbP69tpt0MmhydZ5oPoNfVRyY0WL5lqt36JUKuG3o

Violence against women in Italy and the cases that shocked the country
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=liZ2z4iYius&fbclid=IwAR21cCWwVrJeyKK6EA8IMJIXJO7o-7yJlZkE7RW4GYUQ-ag677nFq7WWGQ4>

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Ferrer-Pérez, V. A. y Bosch-Fiol, E. (2019). *El género en el análisis de la violencia contra las mujeres en la pareja: de la "ceguera" de género a la investigación específica del mismo*. *Anuario de Psicología Jurídica*, 29, 69-76. <https://doi.org/10.5093/apj2019a3>

Informe Mundial sobre la Violencia y Salud (OMS, 2002)

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Naciones Unidas (1993) Declaración sobre la Eliminación de la Violencia contra la Mujer. Nueva York.

OMS (2018) Violence against women Prevalence Estimates. Global, regional and national estimates of the prevalence of intimate partner violence against women and global and regional estimates of the prevalence of sexual violence experienced by women by a non-partner. Ginebra.

Velasco Riego, L. (2015) *Violencia de género: rompe tu silencio*. Manual práctico para detectarla y afrontarla. Libertas Ediciones. Valladolid.

Velasco Riego, L. (2021) *Violencia de género y doméstica*. Guía práctica para Fuerzas y Cuerpos de Seguridad. 2ed. Libertas Ediciones. Valladolid.

TEST

1. The origin of gender violence is related to the socialization process and gender stereotypes.

True

False

2. *A person's violent behavior cannot be explained by a single factor; gender violence is a complex problem mediated by many factors: biological, cultural, social, political...*

True
False

3. *Gender-based violence is a serious social problem of great dimensions, but it has not managed to be a priority both for international organizations and for the majority of governments.*

True
False

4. *To understand the framework of gender violence, it is necessary to understand the variables that influence it: existence of sons and daughters, emotional and economic dependence, fear of the aggressor...*

True
False

5. *The Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women (UN, 1993) is one of the most important instruments in this matter, it defines this violence as:*

“Any act of gender-based violence that results in actual or possible physical, sexual or psychological harm, including threats, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or private life. private”

True
False



"When I go out on the street, I always remember what he told me: don't stop looking back, because I will always be there... behind you... without you seeing me".

(Anonymous testimony of a woman victim of violence)

LESSON 3

TYPES OF VIOLENCE

To begin with... What do you know about the different forms of expression of violence against women?

SELF_EVALUATION

Read carefully the wording of the questions and answer if it is TRUE or FALSE

1. Violence can manifest itself in the form of physical, psychological and sexual aggression.

True

False

2. Sexual abuse in the couple is not considered violence.

True

False

3. Women can leave the abusive relationship if they want

True

False

4. A woman can suffer physical violence or psychological violence, but the two types of violence will never occur together.

True

False

5. Psychological violence is difficult to prove

True

False

Lesson 3 Types of violence

The violence that is perpetrated on women has different forms of expression, worldwide the most frequent form found is that exercised by the couple; they are behaviors that are harmful to women, both adults and young, and include physical abuse, sexual assault and psychological abuse (ONU, 2006). The passage of time in the fight against this type of violence leaves us with other manifestations that we will address in this lesson, such as:

- *Economic violence*
- *vicarious violence*
- *Environmental violence*
- *Child-to-parent violence*

The content of this lesson will be focusing on violence against women by their partner or ex-partner, in general, as it is, as we indicated, the most frequent type of violence; In Chapter 6, other manifestations of violence will be addressed, such as:

- *Sexual violence*
- *Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)*
- *Prostitution*
- *Trafficking for the purpose of sexual exploitation*
- *Forced marriages*

As we have seen in previous lessons, partner abuse refers to the sum of the physical and psychological aggressions that the aggressor repeatedly perpetrates on his partner (Lorente, 1998).

The fact that the abuse occurs in a place as private as the domicile... the home, means that the aggressor can achieve the objectives he pursues and although this violence starts at the beginning of the relationship, it will not end with the end of it. Breaking up the relationship does not mean that the violence stops. Many women continue to suffer attacks and threats after the breakup.

Although the majority of the victims when they denounce, they only refer to the beatings, the violence goes beyond physical aggressions, since other manifestations of violence will always appear together. Physical aggressions are always accompanied by previous psychological aggressions. A partner's aggression will be demeaning for the woman; Among women's demonstrations at police headquarters, the expression "I prefer a slap, because that pain goes away" is often frequent; the damage caused by the constant signs of contempt, humiliation, insults, contempt...

leave an indelible mark and as they say "it is a pain that lodges in the soul and is difficult to cure"; let us remember that the violence practiced by the couple is a sign of power and authority and fulfills the objective of subordinating the woman, keeping her subordinate to him, this is achieved by exercising violence. But it is necessary to bear in mind that physical violence does not always have to exist, because the objective of the aggressor is not to cause an injury, but to subdue the woman. Alberdi (2005) assures that "each aggression must be seen as a knot, especially strong, within a continuous web of coercion. There are many ways in which psychological abuse, emotional abuse, and physical violence against women appear. All of them are conceptualized as violence as long as they are forms of coercion and imposition of behaviors that men exercise to subjugate their women.

The most frequent classification that we will find, as we commented previously and according to the literature, is that of physical, psychological and sexual violence (Corsi, 1994) (Amor, Echeburúa, Corral, Zubizarreta, & Sarasua, 2002) others also include economic violence (Alberdi & Matas, 2002; Torres Falcó, 2004).

We have chosen the classification that Velasco (2018) addresses because it does so from a practical perspective based on the findings found at the police headquarters:

Psychological violence

Psychological violence is one of the most common ways of exercising dominance and power. It is the most difficult to detect. Initially, this behavior is manifested in a veiled way as protection and as an "expression of love"; the woman does not perceive it for what it really is: control disguised in loving appearance. These are prohibitive behaviors for women, which will end up undermining her capacity and autonomy. Examples of behaviors of this type of violence are jealousy, control over schedules, going out of the house and the activities that she performs, the censorship of clothing or the prohibition of certain friends, among others.

In addition, there are other behaviors that harm the victim, such as ridiculing her, laughing at her, undervaluing her... These are situations that can be carried out both in public and in private. Psychological violence is the most difficult aggression to prove due to the difficulty of proving abuse. It produces terrible consequences on women's health; They tend to last for a long time, and since they are not perceived by the victim as "aggression", they pose an added problem to get out of the relationship, since she tends to minimize and justify the aggressor. Psychological abuse will be the prelude to physical violence, without a doubt; the aggressor will

lead her to social and family isolation, because little by little she will become dependent on the aggressor, she will minimize this type of behavior and she will feel increasingly vulnerable.

The victimizer exercises psychological abuse through hostile behavior, through repeated verbal and/or non-verbal communication. These behaviors cause in the victim perception of contempt, humiliation, guilt, fear, shame, confusion; It will be accompanied by harassment, devaluation, threats, jealousy, coercion:

<i>"I don't like your friends... they put wrong ideas in your head."</i>	<i>"He doesn't hit me, he just pushes me from time to time... what hurts me the most is that he tells me, - "I'm with another, I love her more than you, but we're going to stay together for the girl, she's beautiful and you... look at you... you disgust me"</i>
<i>"I prefer you to be at home and not work, so you can take care of the child."</i>	<i>If you leave and I meet someone I'm going to break your legs. I'll cut off your head and whoever's with you."</i>
<i>"You don't need to work, that's what I'm here for."</i>	<i>"I am going to kill you all; to you and to your family, shitty foreigner, go to your country".</i>
<i>"You at home, which is where you have to be."</i>	<i>"You're shit, you worth nothing." "Who is going to love you?"</i>
<i>"If you go to court I will go to jail, but the child will be left without a father and without a mother because he will enter a shelter."</i>	<i>"You don't even have a job, where are you going to go?"</i>
<i>"You're only good for cleaning and you don't even do it right." "You do not know how to cook".</i>	<i>"You worth nothing."</i>
<i>"Even the air that you breathe isn't yours."</i>	<i>"If you're not mine, you won't be anyone's."</i>
<i>"If I see you with a boy, I'll cut his neck."</i>	<i>"If I see her with someone, I'll beat her up."</i>
<i>"You disgust me". "Look at you, you're fat"</i>	

Extracted from Velasco, L. (2018)

As for the type of insults they receive, according to statements by women in police stations, they are bitch, useless, crazy, whore, slut, liar, fat, stupid, etc.

Psychological violence also manifests itself in the form of shouting, throwing the woman out of the house, expiating her, controlling her cell phone, locking her in the house and not letting her out, harassing her, etc.

Physical violence

It is a much more visible type of violence. The aggressor maintains abusive behaviors that generate physical damage to the victim. We are talking about any type of physical aggression: slapping, pushing, hair pulling, cigarette burns, kicking, punching, pinching, or more serious injuries such as attempted strangulation, bruising, trauma, stabbing, and even death. The aggressor can use his own fist or an object within reach of her, he can also throw the victim's body against the wall, against the furniture, down the stairs, etc.

We can find some behaviors in their milder forms: forcefully grabbing her arm or neck, shaking, covering her mouth with her hand forcing her not to be heard screaming, grabbing her hair, lifting her off the ground, throwing her to the ground or dragging her across the floor.

The aggressor usually breaks objects, such as doors, windows, furniture, crockery, pictures, etc.; There have been cases of mistreatment of pets, to make the victim suffer (related to environmental violence)

These violent behaviors are also accompanied by threats and coercion.

Sexual violence

Women who are victims of violence often do not take sexual violence into account. On numerous occasions, the aggressor will force the woman to have sexual relations, against her will, since she considers that she is within her rights as her partner. He thinks that the woman belongs to him, she is her property, he believes that he can abuse her to satisfy his desires, the woman is forced to accept for fear of

what might happen if she does not agree with his requests. When the victims decide to talk about it, they say that it is humiliating, and that the abuse is constant and varied. They state that it is better not to reject him to avoid a new aggression or that he assaults her sons and daughters.

Economic violence

Economic violence refers to the control or limitation of economic resources. It is the perpetrator who decides what is bought and when. It even has the victim's income (if any). Some women say in their statements to the police that they do not have access to bank accounts and that they do not know the income of their partners, that the aggressors do not allow them to buy what they need to meet their most basic needs (buy food, diapers, medications, etc).

We had observed that there are many ways to exercise violence, even though each one of them has its particularities, all of them have an objective in comun: subdue the woman and bend her before her aggressor.

Vicarious violence

The use of this term is relatively recent. It is seen as another form of violence against women and refers to the use of sons and daughters to harm the mother.

At first it was considered that boys and girls were indirect victims of the violence that the father exerted against the mother. They are currently considered direct victims, as contemplated by Organic Law 1/2004 since its modification in 2015.

The signs of vicarious violence against minors are the following:

- *Using children to harm women.*
- *Manifest through threats that they will take away their children.*
- *Threatening to kill them. The most common phrase is "I will hit you where it hurts the most".*
- *If the woman has broken up with the aggressor and there is no longer coexistence, she will take advantage of the moments in which the children are with the father (visitation regime) to suspend medical treatments.*

- *Insulting, threatening and humiliating the woman taking advantage of the moment of collection/delivery of the minors.*
- *Disqualifying the woman and her family in the presence of children.*

In Spain, as indicated above, there have been legislative changes in relation to this serious issue.

Until 2018, if the sons and daughters who were direct victims of the father's violence required psychological attention, the mother could not make the decision without parental authorization, which meant that the boys and girls were in a defenseless situation.

At present, if there is a conviction and while there is criminal responsibility or criminal proceedings have been initiated against the father, for attempting against the life, physical integrity, freedom, moral integrity or sexual freedom and indemnity of the children or minor daughters, or for attacking their partner or former partner, it will be enough with the consent of the mother to receive psychological assistance from the minors. The mother must previously inform the aggressor.¹⁵

If the woman has not filed a complaint, but receives assistance from the victim's assistance services, she may also seek psychological assistance for her sons and daughters with the victim accreditation from said services. If the sons and daughters have reached the age of 16, parental consent will not be required.

After the legislative changes, as a general rule, the visitation regime should be suspended, provided that the father of the minors is involved in criminal proceedings (for threatening life, physical integrity...) although the judicial authority may establish a visit, communication or stay in a motivated manner based on the interest of the minor or the minor after evaluating the parent-child relationship.¹⁶

A shocking example of this type of violence that took place in Spain was known as the "Breton Case" of which we make a brief review:

¹⁵Article 156 of the Civil Code after the modifications introduced by Royal Decree-Law 9/2018, of August 3, on urgent measures for the development of the State Pact against gender violence and Law 8/2021 of June 2 by which reforms civil and procedural legislation to support people with disabilities in the exercise of their legal capacity.

¹⁶Article 94 of the Civil Code and article 544 ter of the Law of Criminal Procedure after the modifications introduced with the approval of Law 8/2021 of June 2 and Organic Law 8/2021, of June 4, of integral protection to the childhood and adolescence against violence.

In September 2011, Ruth Ortiz, mother of Ruth and José (6 and 2 years old, respectively), informed her husband José Bretón that she wanted to request a divorce.

Shortly after, the father picks up his daughter and his son to spend the weekend with them, in accordance with the visiting regime.

Bretón communicates to the Police the disappearance of his daughter and son, alleging that they were in a park and had disappeared.

They never showed up. Bretón took them to the farm, supplying them with tranquilizers for later burning them.

Bretón killed his children to later incinerate their corpses, in order to leave no trace. In July 2013 he was sentenced to 40 years for two counts of murder and one count of simulating kidnapping. In March 2015, he reduced his sentence to 25 years

Without a doubt, this terrible crime, the murder of a boy and a girl by his father, marked a before and after in demonstrating that vicarious violence should be considered as gender violence.

Another recent example (2021): "the case of the girls of Tenerife"

Tomás Gimeno threatened his former partner indicating that she would not see the girls again (1 and 6 years old).

The father used his boat to get rid of the minors without leaving any trace. Of the three only the body of the older girl appeared.

The first study on vicarious violence in Spain has recently been published; This study intends to know the characteristics of this violence, which has undoubtedly been increasing, and to adopt the necessary measures for its elimination. Between 2000 and 2021, 50 minors have been murdered; the aggressor in most cases is the biological father (80%) and 60% of them had a criminal record for gender violence; Undoubtedly, the most striking fact is that the murders occur when the sons and daughters are in the care of the father, either because they have shared custody or during the days assigned by the visitation regime.¹⁷

It is necessary to continue advancing to prevent this type of violence as well as to improve the protection of the victims.

¹⁷ Vaccaro, S. (2021) Vicarious violence: An irreversible blow against mothers. Study on data analysis of cases of extreme vicarious violence. Board of Andalusia. Association of Women Feminist Psychology.

Environmental violence

The environmental violence refers to the psychological violence which goes against the women; it doesn't manifest in a direct way against women, but through those things she most cares about. As it was mentioned before, the victimizer, with the purpose of causing fear, suffering and submission on the victim, he will break objects, such as doors, windows, furniture, crockery, pictures, personal items, there has even been cases of abusing pets, to make the victim suffer, even to drive very fast in the vehicle when the victim and her children are there.

Child-to-parent violence

We include this type of violence, which arises in the field of family relationships, contemplated at the legislative level as domestic violence.

We make this brief review given that the studies carried out on child-to-parent violence contemplate women again as victims of violence.

The majority of the cases of this violence has women as victims. We are not referring to single-parent families because it has been shown that the aggressors, being able to choose between the father and the mother, choose the latter to exercise violence; This could be due to the fact that the children perceive the woman as weak and with less power compared to the father (Ortega 2015).

This vision of weakness would be influenced by the socialization process and the transmission of roles and stereotypes that give more power to the male figure.

Technological violence

Gender-based violence has also found a place in the virtual space: technological violence or cyberbullying is another form of violence that involves aggression against women sustained over time and causes serious psychological damage. The aggressor uses Information and Communication Technologies through mail, WhatsApp, social networks, forums or blogs, to harm the victim.

Although it is much more frequent among adolescent and young couples, the truth is that there are many women who, after managing to break up with the perpetrator,

start another battle: that the perpetrator forgets about her and leaves her alone, which does not happen in most of the cases, even if there is some measure of prohibition of communication and approximation. In professional practice we find that victims are subject to all kinds of threats, coercion, insults, control, identity theft, distribution of compromised images, dissemination of information (real and false), etc.; Younger women being the most exposed to being victims of these criminal acts and the ones that normalize them the most.

International research by the Association for Progressive Communications (APC) ¹⁸ indicates that offenders use new technologies to monitor phone text messages (SMS) or email accounts to blackmail partners or ex-partner with photos or videos. In a study carried out by this association in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Colombia, Kenya, Democratic Republic of Congo, Mexico, Pakistan and the Philippines, the following forms of technological violence were identified, among others (Malhorta, 2015, as cited in Velasco, 2015)

- *Taking and/or uploading and distributing intimate photos and/or videos without consent: the woman agreed to have the photos taken for private use but did not consent to their sharing online; the girl/woman was unaware that she was being filmed during a sexual act, then the video was posted and distributed online.*

- *Altering photos/videos and posting them on porn sites: a photo of the woman's face attached to another's naked body, then uploaded to porn sites and tagged with the woman's profession and city of residence.*

- *Harassment: the woman receives insulting text messages; specifically, she receives comments and messages online that use sexualized slurs.*

- *Stalking: online monitoring of activities.*

¹⁸ <https://www.apc.org/es>

- *Extortion/threats: a girl receives messages urging her to have sex or her family will be harmed; a woman receives threats that intimate photos of her will be published unless she gets back into a relationship with the perpetrator.*

- *Accessing and/or disclosing private information: e-mail account intrusion, social network account intrusion and sending messages to contacts without the woman's knowledge, leaking documents and private information to the public.*

- *Creation of false profiles/identity theft: a profile that contains the name and photo of the woman but with derogatory descriptions such as "stripper", "condom tester" and "professional prostitute".*

Examples of violent behavior in the couple relationship

<p>Threats</p> <p><i>The goal of threats is to block you. It is logical that you are afraid because you do not know if he can carry out his threats.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>"If you leave me, I'll kill you."</i> - <i>"If I see you with another, I'll kill him."</i> - <i>"If I leave you, who will love you?"</i> - <i>"If you leave me, I'll kill myself, without you I can't live."</i> - <i>"I will take away the children".</i> - <i>"I'll show you're crazy."</i> - <i>"If you do not remove the complaint, I will make your life impossible."</i> - <i>"You get out of jail, not from the cemetery."</i>
<p>Intimidation</p> <p><i>Only he has the power and control of the situation, and he wants you to learn it well and accept it, so he will use certain behaviors to make you fear him</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>He yells at you.</i> - <i>He breaks things.</i> - <i>He looks at you intimidatingly</i>
<p>Emotional abuse</p> <p><i>It has made you believe that you are inferior. You feel guilty about everything that happens</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>You make me do it."</i> - <i>"If you did what I tell you, this would not happen."</i> - <i>"You don't know how to do anything."</i>

<p>to you</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - "You are a worthless girl". - "You are crazy".
<p>Use of male privilege</p> <p><i>Take control of the house, of the education of the children.</i></p> <p>Use of sons and daughters</p> <p><i>It will make you feel guilty and responsible for any behavior of the children.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Treat you as if you were his servant.</i> - <i>Not allowing you to study or work.</i> - <i>"I rule here".</i> - <i>"You do what I say, period"</i> - <i>He will use them to threaten you: "I will take the children from you".</i> - <i>Through them he/she will send you aggressive messages.</i> - <i>He will take advantage of the visitation regime to manipulate them</i>
<p>Sexual abuse</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>He will force you to have sex, even if you don't want it.</i> - <i>He will demand sexual practices against your will</i>
<p>Economic abuse</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>It will not allow you to access the money, even if you work.</i> - <i>Sometimes you will lack the money to cover the most basic needs.</i> - <i>It will assign you a payment that you must manage properly for the expenses of the house and the children.</i> - <i>It will prohibit you from studying or working; if you work it will force you to leave your job.</i> - <i>You will not know family income, bank accounts, etc.</i>
<p>Isolation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>The objective is that you completely depend on him and lose all possible contact with your environment.</i> - <i>It will alienate you from your family and friends.</i> - <i>He'll lock you in the house.</i> - <i>It will control what you do, and who you go with</i>

Source: adapted from Velasco (2018)

REMEMBER

The message in this sense is very clear: A man who exercises violence against his partner can NEVER be a good father.

Vicarious violence IS gender violence.

It is a violence that is exercised against the couple and that extends to the sons and daughters; the aggressor can attack his children or be present when he attacks the mother.

The attacks can be physical or psychological.

The goal of the aggressor when exercising vicarious violence is to do more harm to the victim.

The perpetrator knows that the best way to do even more harm to the woman is through the harm he can cause to her sons and daughters.

To know more...

https://www.antena3.com/noticias/sociedad/estos-son-casos-violencia-vicaria-mas-conocidos-espana-2021-fueron-7_20220404624a9706de6e680001ede39d.html

<https://efeminista.com/crimenes-violencia-vicaria-denuncias-previas/>

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TEST

1. *Partner abuse refers to the sum of the physical and psychological aggressions that the aggressor repeatedly perpetrates on his partner*

True

False

2. *Physical aggressions are always accompanied by previous psychological aggressions.*

True

False

3. Insults are not psychological violence

True

False

4. When the relationship with the aggressor is broken, the violence stops

True

False

5. The fact that the abuse occurs in a place as private as the home means that the aggressor can achieve the objectives he pursues.

True

False



Lesson 4

Violence through new technologies

1. Violence through new technologies: concept

With the massive penetration of TRIC (Relationship, Information and Communication Technologies) in society, the ease of access to the Internet and to devices that connect us to it, there have been changes in our day to day in many of the habits and routines of people. From buying a ticket to go to the cinema, to making the purchase, being able to communicate with other people that would have been unthinkable a few decades ago, spending leisure time, training, being able to telework and a long etcetera.

However, access to these technologies is not always equal between men and women, and use is usually also qualitatively different. Already in 2008, Cecilia Castaño distinguishes between the first and second digital divide. This author points out that the first gap refers to the possibility of using new technologies and the quality of Internet access. But, in addition, she addresses that it is necessary to consider the intensity of use and the actual use of the Internet, which would be the second digital divide.

To understand that there are differences and also inequalities in the use of IRT between the sexes, it is necessary to understand the concept of gender as a construction at a social level, by which we grant and presuppose different behaviors and roles to each of the sexes.

Thus, this social construct will also influence the different responsibilities, obstacles and facilities of both sexes throughout life, in this way, the qualitative differences in the use of TRIC are not random and do not depend on the choice of both sexes, but are then determined by the expectations, prejudices and restrictions of society.

In the digital space it is reproduced, with certain differences caused by the peculiarities of the digital field, what men and women carry out in analog or physical life. For example, with the use of social networks, women connect more frequently and spend more time exploring their content, view profiles and use them above all to interact and maintain social relationships, and they are also more active in generating their own content. On the contrary, men are more solitary in their behavior on social networks and participate in a different way, for example, participating in advertising campaigns for brands and companies, viewing content rather than creating it, etc.

There are several fundamental factors that clearly influence the possibility of controlling, threatening and blackmailing with the use of the TRIC and that play in favor of those who exercise gender violence against women:

- Viralization, the TRIC represent a very large showcase today in day with which to threaten a victim in relation to the exposure of content that is harmful to the victim and the speed at which it can also be spread.

- Ease of access to that showcase that most people have and the damage that this can cause to the victim.

-Immediacy, with a click or by tapping on the screen, whoever exercises this sexist violence can fulfill its objectives in a matter of seconds or fractions of a second.

- Anonymity, the possibilities to hide the identity of who acts on the Internet are multiple, also making it more difficult for the security forces to prosecute crimes.

Like everything in this life, the problems do not arise from these technologies, but of the misuse that is made of them, and, today, the TRIC, are also used by those who exercise gender violence, as one more tool to be able to exercise such violence on women.

Let us now see some of the most frequent forms of violence against women related to technology:

- Deception to obtain compromising material from the victim with which to harass her, blackmail her and obtain more material or sexual abuse.

-The use of her services and/or devices to humiliate her in public, before her friends, workplace, etc.

- The use of its devices and services to exercise control and psychological violence over her.

-Forcing her to be geolocated or doing it through services or spy programs without her knowledge and consent.

- Online harassment and cyberbullying: aggressive comments, threats, harassment, emotional blackmail... that threaten the intimacy and privacy of women (https://www.lavozdegalicia.es/noticia/galicia/2013/11/11/envia-exnovia-2147-mensajes-traves-whatsapp-mes/0003_201311G11P11996.htm)

- *Violence by one's partner, when technology is used in acts of violence and abuse in intimate relationships.*
- *Sexual assault and rape when technology is used to locate and assault the victim.*
- *The recording and distribution of a rape or sexual abuse and humiliation.*
- *Fake ads or messages on the internet to lure women into situations where they may be victims of sexual assault.*
- *The violence directed at groups or communities of women because of their sexual or gender identity or because of their ideology.*
- *Disseminate, support or justify gender-based violence through the Internet and social networks: spread hate speech against women.*
- *Interference in the victim's relationships with other people via the Internet or censoring or deleting what the victim publishes on social networks and other Internet services.*
- *Recruit women through social networks and forums and chats for illegal human trafficking.*
- *Showing anger and threats when there is no immediate response from the victim to the aggressor through Internet services.*
- *Spy on conversations through Internet services with other people, force them to show said conversations, use programs to spy and manipulate said interactions with other people*
[\(\[https://elpais.com/politica/2016/01/17/actualidad/1453069620_328953.html\]\(https://elpais.com/politica/2016/01/17/actualidad/1453069620_328953.html\)\)](https://elpais.com/politica/2016/01/17/actualidad/1453069620_328953.html)
- *Blackmail to obtain access keys to your devices, to their services or screen locks on these devices.*

To show the importance of raising awareness about this new way of exercising gender-based violence against women through new technologies, which also occurs from an early age in the teenager population, an awareness campaign was launched in 2017 on digital gender violence by the Ministry of Health, Social Services and Equality under the name "Ten forms of digital gender violence".

Campaign link: [Diez formas de violencia de género digital](#)

ACTIVITY

“Exercising control over women through new technologies”

Video: *“Double Check”*

Link: [Double Check](#)

Make a reflection on the content of the video and on a similar situation that you know or in which you have been able to find yourself.

The TRIC and especially the social networks, provide digital spaces where people carry out an exhibition of their personal life without weighing the consequences, the time that this information will remain, how far it can go, who and how many can see it, what things can do with that information, etc. These digital spaces facilitate new forms of emotional and sexual relationships between people, but they also carry the risk of control and gender violence against women. At the same time the Internet offers possibilities for the fight for gender equality, it also offers a new field for stalkers and aggressors, where to spread gender violence and hate speech.

One of the most vulnerable groups in the face of this new practice of gender violence is the adolescent population, as reflected in the study carried out by the Government Delegation for Gender Violence, entitled Cyberbullying as a way of exercising gender violence in youth: a risk in the information and knowledge society¹⁹. In their fifth conclusion, they establish that in this study "Young women are more vulnerable to the damage of cyberbullying due to the inequality in the consideration and social value to which the behaviors and images of women in the couple relationship is subjected, therefore that her experience is very traumatic. The traditional stereotypes that continue to exist in social relations between men and women, with sexist values, continue to be projected in the gender violence exercised in the world of the internet and social networks."

And another of the groups vulnerable to this type of digital gender violence is the migrant population. According to data from the Continuous Register of the National

¹⁹ (Torres Albero, C., et al), extracted el 28/09/2022 from:
https://violenciagenero.igualdad.gob.es/violenciaEnCifras/estudios/colecciones/pdf/Libro_18_Ciberacoso.pdf

Institute of Statistics²⁰, as of January 1, 2021, 47,385,107 people live in Spain, of which 2,714,996 are foreign women, which represents 5.72% of the population total. And, obviously, only data on registered women are being included here, not including those who for various reasons are not registered or are in irregular administrative situations, so it is to be assumed that the total number of foreign women who have migrated to Spain in recent years is higher.

2. Dangerous practices: sexting

Sexting: is the sending of digital content (images, videos, audios, etc.) of a sexual nature through the TRIC, from one person to another, for different reasons.

Sexting is a very common practice today among young Internet users, but also the older population. It is practiced for different reasons, some of them being:

- *To have sexual relations when you cannot be physically close.*

- *To maintain the passion in the couple.*

- *For experiencing new sexual games.*

- *As a form of courtship to try to please another person.*

- *Because, practically, there is no culture of privacy and the importance of generating this material and the repercussions it can have if it is disseminated is not given.*

- *In the case of the adolescent population, they are in a stage of sexual awakening, of impulsiveness and of not anticipating consequences and, in addition, they already have technological means at this age without the necessary digital education on this type of risk and the consequences of this practice.*

- *Because it is mistakenly thought that this material sent to a person and through different services cannot end up published on the Internet.*

- *Because it is a fashionable and promoted behavior on the Internet, with blogs that tell us that we can practice it safely by following a series of recommendations or with profiles of many people on the majority social networks who show their naked or almost naked bodies and carry out behaviors clearly sexualized.*

²⁰ Data from the Continuous Register of the National Institute of Statistics have been selected from the following table, consulted on 28/09/2022: <https://www.ine.es/jaxi/Tabla.htm?path=/t20/e245/p08/i0/&file=02002.px&L=0>

- Because there are people who have practiced it and who are getting an economic return in one way or another, serving as a model for other people.

There are two types of sexting: active sexting, practiced by those who create that content with their own image or video and then send it to another person, and passive sexting, who receive said material and sometimes end up forwarding it to other people (Barrense-Dias et al., 2017). In this sense, some studies carried out with the adolescent population have found that girls are more likely to send sexual images than boys (Ybarra & Mitchell, 2014) or, on the other hand, that boys participate to a greater extent in sending, receiving and forwarding to third parties (Strassberg et al., 2017).

Already in 2010, in Spain, the *study on security and privacy in the use of mobile services by Spanish minors*²¹ (INTECO-Orange) collected the following data on the practice of sexting in the adolescent population:

- In Spain, 4% of minors between 10 and 16 years old say they have taken photos or videos of themselves in a sexy position (not necessarily naked or erotic) using the mobile phone.

- 8.1% of Spanish teenagers between the ages of 10 and 16 say they have received photos or videos of known boys or girls in a sexy position on their mobile phone

Sexting is a risky practice, as there are many ways that compromising material, of an erotic or sexual nature from the person who created it, ends up being disseminated and/or published on different Internet sites.

To show the risk involved, you can see this news: <https://www.elmundo.es/madrid/2019/05/28/5ced493efdddffb0758b48fb.html>

Basically, one could say that in order to practice sexting, three things are needed: Internet companies or services, devices with a camera and Internet connection and people. None of the three is 100% reliable or safe to ensure that this material will not spread and end up published on the Internet for a long time. Let's explain it:

- Internet companies or services: when people send messages, videos, images, emails, links or any other material to other people on the Internet, they are actually sending it to those people, but they are sending it to an Internet company that is later the that sends it to the recipients, but they send it to companies. Many times, there is no awareness of how the companies that we use on our smartphones work, nor of the permissions that we grant them, nor of the conditions that we accept when registering for their service. Here are several points:

²¹ Study on security and privacy in the use of mobile services by Spanish minors (INTECO-Orange), extracted on 28/09/2022 from: <https://www.sexting.es/wp-content/uploads/guia-adolescentes-y-sexting-que-es-y-como-prevenirlo-INTECO-PANTALLASAMIGAS.pdf>

o One, on many occasions, the material that we upload or share through these services ceases to be "ours" and becomes the property of said service.

o Two, we accept in your conditions that said material is shared with other Internet companies and services since they have commercial agreements.

o Three, Internet companies are also attacked by cybercriminals, who violate their security systems and steal all the data, images and material of their users (<https://hipertextual.com/2014/01/snapchat-ha-sido-pirated>)

As a result of these three points, the following reflection is in order: are Internet companies and services safe and reliable for sending images or videos of a sexual nature? The answer must be clear: NO.

- Devices with a camera and Internet connection: most of the time, sexting is done with the smartphone as a device. The smartphone is the most hacked device of all that we have today for several reasons:

o One, it is the one that all of us use the most to connect to the Internet during hours of use, then it is where we can most often fall into traps, computer viruses, scams, etc.

o Two, it is in the device that we have more issues that can make us vulnerable or put us at risk: images, videos, conversations, agendas, email, access to social networks and banking entities, it contains the GPS, several webcams and a microphone. It is with the smartphone, with the device that can do the most damage to us if it is hacked.

Later, taking compromised photos or recordings with a smartphone, even if we don't send it anywhere, just by having them on this device, already poses a risk to the person, since it is usually not well protected (<https://www.forbes.com.mx/50-de-smartphones-in-the-world-without-antivirus/>)

In addition to the fact that it can be hacked, the smartphone is often not well configured either, people do not usually spend time looking at all the settings, reading all the possibilities and the consequences of not configuring it well. One of the possibilities that is usually activated on smartphones is the automatic loading of images and videos, in such a way that if we do not deactivate it, every time we take a photograph or record a video, it is uploaded automatically and without the user finds out to some Internet storage service such as Google Photos, iCloud, Dropbox, Drive, OneDrive, etc. They are storage services that are located on the Internet, and whose security is never 100%, after that users' images and videos can also be stolen (<https://blogs.protegerse.com/2021/08/27/steal-620-000-photos-from-icloud-accounts-posing-as-a-apple-employee/>; https://cincodias.elpais.com/cincodias/2014/09/02/tecnologia/1409685127_337743.html)

Therefore, whichever way you look at it, the smartphone is not a safe device for practicing sexting.

- And the third and last question that is needed for the practice of sexting, are the people. Revenge porn and sextortion are two practices that are very much on the agenda. Let's define them:

o Revenge porn: is the non-consensual dissemination of images or videos of an erotic/sexual nature by the ex-partner when the relationship has broken down (https://cadenaser.com/programa/2021/10/23/hora_14_fin_de_semana/1634973522_626581.html)

o Sextortion: blackmail carried out on a victim who has digital content of a sexual nature, with the aim of controlling the victim, gender violence, committing sexual abuse, financial blackmail, etc. (<https://www.pandasecurity.com/en/mediacenter/security/sextorsion/>)

No matter how much trust and intimacy you have with a person, sending compromised digital material or allowing them to take it with their own device is a risk that is not worth taking. In addition, it is possible again that that person does not have their device well protected or configured and they end up stealing said material, or they make a mistake and end up sending it to some Internet site. Then people are not 100% reliable or safe either.

Sexting, through practices such as revenge porn and sextortion, is one of the preferred forms of subjugation, blackmail and gender violence by abusers. The woman victim of this form of digital gender violence may suffer:

- o The exposure of her privacy on the Internet and its viralization*
- o Public humiliation*
- o She may develop feelings of helplessness*
- o She may suffer from deep sadness and even depression*
- o Anxiety and social phobia, distrust in others and in relationships, fear of leaving the home*
- o Severe decrease in their self-esteem affecting this to the rest of the characteristics and abilities of their person*
- o Eating disorders and alterations in sleep patterns*
- o Suicidal ideas, suicide attempts and completed suicide*

ACTIVITY

“The risk for adolescents of practicing sexting”

Link: <https://www.laprovincia.es/sucesos/2019/06/02/jodete-enviaste-madre-canaria-denuncia-9309587.html>

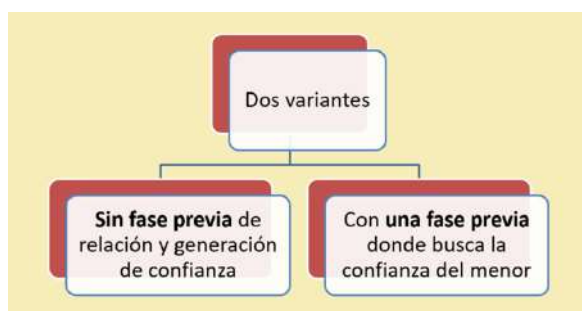
Once you read the news, reflect on what intervention measures you would propose in this case once the dissemination of the adolescent's image has already occurred and what prevention measures you would propose to have avoided it.

Sexting can be classified into two types, active sexting, which are those people who take photographs or record videos of a sexual nature and then send them over the Internet to other people, and passive sexting, which are those people who receive those photographs and videos and sometimes broadcast them. This differentiation between two types of sexting makes sense in the fact that, in almost all the studies and surveys on this practice, active sexting is practiced mostly by women and passive sexting by men. Then, the risk posed by the practice of sexting mainly affects women, who are the ones who expose their privacy and suffer the consequences of the use of this practice from gender violence.

3. Grooming and other risk behaviors

Grooming: is a concept that refers to the set of strategies and tricks that normally an adult person weaves through the TRIC to gain the trust of a minor, making him or her believe that he or she is another person, obtain compromised digital material (images, screenshots of the webcam and/or recordings) and then blackmail him/her to request more material such as recordings or images or even to stand in front of the webcam to do what you request, under the threat that the material obtained will be published and shared, finding out about it your family, friends, colleagues, etc.

Grooming can basically be carried out in two ways, as shown in the following table, directly or without previous phases or indirectly or with previous phases. The usual thing is the indirect one, which occurs in several phases that are detailed below.



Source: self made

The direct way basically consists of the harassing person contacting the victim through some Internet service and in the first contact they already ask them to provide that compromised digital material.

The indirect form occurs with a series of previous phases in which the harasser tries to gain the trust of the victim through different tricks. These phases are usually three:

- **Study and contact phase:** the stalker had spent some time collecting information from the victim on the Internet, from their social networks and other services where they leave personal information, photos, etc. This information is published by the victim herself, but sometimes also by her family and friends. Any data or image can be used by the harassing person so that later her tricks are more effective. When the harassing person considers that they have enough information and knowledge of the victim, they try to contact her, almost always through the multiple chat systems that we now have incorporated into many of the services that we use on the Internet: social networks, instant messaging, forums, blogs, videogames, etc. In those moments he will write to her that she is of an age similar, that they live in nearby areas, with similar tastes and preferences and that will even give data about the victim, such as some intermediate relationship between the two, etc. All so that the victim initiates a small conversation, which little by little will work so that she has greater confidence.
- **Relationship phase:** for a time, the stalker will tell you secrets, give you things, send you photos of "yours" (which are not) and other tricks, in order for the victim to feel greater trust and intimacy with that internet friend you've been communicating with for a while. There will come a time, one day, when, also using different tricks, I will try to ask him for that compromised digital material: "send me some full-body photos and I'll send you some of mine, better with less clothes than otherwise, I won't idea", "send me a recording of you in your underwear, it's for a casting for an advertisement where I'm going to see if they catch you too".
- **Harassment or blackmail phase:** if the victim has fallen for the deception and has provided him with the material, this new stage begins, in which the harasser will blackmail him with the material obtained and will threaten him that if he does not give him more or do what you ask, that material will be published and everyone around you will be able to see it. The victims sometimes do not know how to get out of it and continue to provide material. The more material they give, the greater the power of influence the harasser will have over the victim.

Grooming is a practice that is carried out mainly towards minors by adults, almost always middle-aged men. However, the false sensations of impunity and invisibility that the TRIC grant to its users, means that today the possibilities of harassment

have been opened up for many people who would not do it otherwise. This has made it easier to find stalkers, not just stalkers, elderly stalkers, very young people, who not only go for women, girls or girls, but also men, boys and children, although these are still the minority of the cases.

Today Internet users do not value the risk of knowingly or unknowingly providing a large amount of private and sensitive information on the Internet, easy to track and find out, which can expose them to risks such as grooming, identity theft, economic blackmail, sextorsion, and a long etcetera.

***Digital identity** is a concept that is clearly not taken care of today, due to ignorance in most cases or because it is not given the importance it really has. But what is digital identity? It could be defined as the image that we have of a person through the information that we can obtain from that person on the Internet, from their networks, blogs, services, photos, what others publish or share about that person, what they comment on, etc. All the enormous amount of information that we upload today to the Internet is very likely going to stay there for a long time, if not for the whole life of the person, and to which many more people can access than people think. Privacy, as much as Internet applications and services give us options to manage it, is very difficult to achieve when many of the Internet companies and services we use profit from our personal data, trading with this data because we we have given authorization to do so, through hacks of these companies by cybercriminals or simply by being public because we do not manage it properly.*

So, if we don't educate people on the importance of digital identity, of privacy care, starting with the underage population, we are going to make it relatively easy for people who want to harass and blackmail, almost always for sexual or economic purposes. The violation of privacy and the use of information to subjugate victims of gender violence is a common practice as we have seen previously, so awareness and education for the correct use of the TRIC and the information management.

Not taking care of privacy and digital identity, whether it is consciously because it is not given importance, or due to ignorance, the only thing it achieves is making the person vulnerable.

What can we do about this practice of grooming?

We are going to act at three levels:

- Prevention: we must try to prevent it with the following recommendations:

o Do not provide private or sensitive information on the Internet, nor share it on our services such as social networks. Think for a few seconds if what is going to be uploaded can compromise the person, how many people will be able to see it, how long it will be exposed on the Internet, how far it can go, so that it can be used against the person, etc. Take care of privacy and digital identity.

o Do not generate compromising material: that is, do not take photos or record videos or stand in front of a webcam naked, with little clothing, in underwear, performing sexual acts, since, although this material is not sent to anyone, usually it is usually contained in devices connected to the Internet that can be hacked or violated, putting us at risk as well.

o Try to have our children well protected. Internet devices and services applying cybersecurity guidelines for it (antivirus, updates, covered or disconnected webcam, strong passwords, deletion of compromising material, etc.)

- Coping: if we have already fallen for the deception, we must try to minimize the problems that they can cause us:

o Do not give in to blackmail, providing more material, because in this way we will be granting a greater power of influence over the victim. Not believing that if we do what it asks it will stop, because it never does.

o Asking for help, these are situations of great emotional stress and having the support of someone you trust to whom we inform about what is happening or even asking for help from a psychology professional to help us manage our emotions, is always a good idea. idea.

o You have to make sure that you really have the material you claim to have, because it could be a lie simply to try to extort money from the victim.

o And lastly, try to limit the harasser's ability to act: checking that there are no spyware programs on our computers with a good antivirus, changing passwords for our services, reviewing contact lists of our social networks and services and eliminate those profiles of which we are not totally sure, block and report if I am harassed in a service that gives these options, etc.

- Intervention: finally, we must see what material and electronic evidence we can obtain (screenshots, captures, profile names, dates and services, audios, images, comments, etc.) with which to file a complaint with the security forces to investigate the crimes that the stalker may have committed. It is also appropriate, if you have already disclosed it, to contact those responsible for the websites and Internet services where it has occurred to request its removal.

Activity

Link: <https://www.lagacetadesalamanca.es/hemeroteca/detienen-hombre-39-anos-secuestrar-ITGS253568>

Once you read the news, come up with 5 guidelines that you would advise the father and mother of the minor to try to ensure that what happened could have been prevented.

It is currently essential to raise awareness and educate about the need to take care of digital identity and privacy. The Internet is a very large showcase that many more people can look at than we think and for a longer time. Every time we post sensitive or private information about where we move, live, work, our tastes and preferences, hobbies, schedules, my and my family's customs and a long etcetera, the only thing we achieve is to be more vulnerable to the bad intentions of people who want to use all that information against us at any time.

4. Pornography as a model of gender violence

In a study conducted to analyze scenes of violence in pornographic videos, Bridges et al (2010) noted that 88.2% of the scenes contained physical aggression, and 48.7% contained verbal aggression. The victims were mostly women and showed pleasure or responded neutrally.

Pornography is the creation and dissemination of audiovisual material that includes sexual scenes, mainly with the aim of seeking sexual arousal for those who view it.

Pornography is a model of sexual relations that not only does not correspond to reality, but also has a series of clearly negative effects on those who view it:

- *It shows sexual relations only focused on the pleasure of the man, without paying attention in most cases to the pleasure of women.*
- *You show sexual relations without affection in most cases, only the physical relationship.*
- *Many scenes do not show respect towards women or that there is an explicit consent to allow the behaviors that are practiced on them.*
- *There is a male chauvinist and demeaning treatment of women in most of the scenes, which also show acceptance, normality or even pleasure in the face of such treatment, normalizing such behavior in those who view it. In this sense, the presentation video of the 2018 Barcelona Erotic Show is a good example of these behaviors in current pornography.*

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cOVBdZQZo1U&ab_channel=RosarioNuestro

- *These are scenes in which gender stereotypes are reproduced, contributing to their diffusion and maintenance.*

- *There are scenes in pornography that reproduce behaviors of physical, psychological and/or verbal violence towards women. Alario Gavilán (2018) concludes that current pornography eroticizes the mistreatment of women through practices such as*

o the presentation of desire as expendable (teaching women who feel pleasure when they are raped)

o physical pain (painful sexual practices)

o suffering (screaming, crying, escape attempts)

o humiliation (sexual practices intended to subdue them)

o sexual abuse of minors (categories "teen", "barely legal" and videos of minors)

o the consumption of prostitution (videos of women in a situation of prostitution, with a greater degree of humiliation).

(<https://www.heraldo.es/noticias/sociedad/2020/09/27/pornografia-erotiza-violencia-censayo-rosa-cobo-1397216.html>)

- *It influences the sexual education that it is receiving and also influences the minor population, which subsequently has repercussions on the practices that this minor population then carries out as something normalized (https://www.abc.es/familia/parents-children/abci-aepd-alert-age-average-access-pornography-among-minor-situa-8-years-202101311800_noticia.html)*

- *Some research strongly links the consumption of pornography with the consumption of prostitution (Torrado Martín-Palomino et al., 2021; Artazo and Bard Wigdor et al., 2019; Ballester Brage et al., 2019; Alario Gavilán, 2018)*

Obviously, we cannot blame pornography as a direct and causal factor of gender violence, but, on the other hand, the influence of mistreatment and violence against women in pornography is undeniable, in subsequent practices who reproduce or are forced to reproduce women by abusers. Just as the influence that this model of sexual relations is exerting on the underage population is undeniable. In 2020, Save the Children published a report on adolescent pornography consumption. To carry out the research, they had the participation of 1,753 young people between 13 and 17 years old. One of the main conclusions they obtained is that "the majority (93.9%) of the population that has participated in this survey sees pornography in privacy", with the mobile being the main means with which they access this content. In addition, 68.2% of adolescents have consumed it in the last 30 days.

<https://www.epe.es/es/igualdad/20220525/pornografia-educacion-sexual-digital-aumento-agresiones-sexuales-13706071>

*In Spain, according to the study *Sexual violence in Spain: an estimative study*, (Andrés Pueyo, Antonio et al., 2021), about 400,000 acts of sexual violence occur each year.*

Pornography is one of the largest and most money-moving markets in the world, so it is almost impossible to put an end to the current model of pornography or hegemonic pornography, since it is what currently “sells”. More should be invested in a comprehensive sexual affective education in the underage population and the young population for several generations to achieve a deeper change in the model and influence that this audiovisual material produces and that the change in its consumption influences the type of pornographic material that is created and disseminated.

Current pornography reproduces sexist and gender violence behaviors that serve as a model and normalize these practices to those abusers who then try them or carry them out with their victims. It even serves as a current model for affective-sexual education received by the minor population who access it from a very early age and who acquire, on many occasions, said information as the only model of affective-sexual education.

Activity

Link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uL3d4yWAtQ&ab_channel=M%C3%A1laga24hTVNews

Once you read the news, reflect and think about 3 actions aimed at solving or preventing the influence of pornography on gender violence.

5. Cybersecurity or how to prevent digital gender violence

Cybersecurity can be defined as the set of actions aimed at protecting devices with Internet access and Internet services used, in order to prevent external intrusions through computer programs or viruses, attempts to steal user accounts, information or data, money, etc.

Victims of digital gender violence must learn to protect their personal information and their devices, which the aggressor later uses to exercise said violence through blackmail, manipulation, public humiliation, control, geolocation of the victim, espionage, recording, etc.

We are going to see some of the main guidelines that should be carried out to prevent digital gender-based violence by women:

- Physical access to devices must be blocked, either with a password, pin code, fingerprint, recognition facial etc. What is on these devices belongs to that person and does not have to be seen by anyone else, they must protect it from attempts to intrude on their privacy.

- It is essential to install a good antivirus program on electronic devices, especially smartphones and tablets, it is the best way to add a layer of security to prevent hacking attempts and data theft that could compromise the person.

- It is necessary to disconnect and/or cover the webcams. In the case of the smartphone too, especially the front. They may have their smartphone hacked and they may be spying on them or recording and photographing them. Either putting a sticker on that camera, using a case that has a front cover or getting used to it to place something on top of the smartphone every time it is left somewhere.

- It is also important to have updated devices and operating systems. When there is a notice of a new update, they are usually security updates and it is convenient to install them, since they prevent computer viruses from being introduced into our devices.

- It is necessary to take care of privacy and digital identity. The more personal, sensitive information, images, videos, etc., we share and publish on the Internet, the more vulnerable we become to people who want to attack us and use that information to manipulate it, use it against us, deceive us, blackmail us and not be able to use it now. , but at any time since the information we publish on the Internet is not deleted, it can be downloaded, modified, stored, etc. You have to think about what is going to be uploaded to the Internet before doing it and see the possible negative consequences that said information can bring us before there is no solution.

- It is important to enter the settings and configuration options offered by both the devices with which we connect to the Internet and the Internet services that we use (browsers, social networks, messaging, apps, etc.). They must be configured well, change possible options that are configured of origin and adapt it to our needs and preferences. Sometimes devices and services come with configured base options that can be detrimental to our privacy. It may also happen that they offer many possibilities and/or that some of us do not know what they mean, but it is also true

that there are usually very good tutorials on the Internet that in a short time usually teach us how to configure the basics for our protection and privacy.

- In social networks, it is advisable to be proactive in terms of privacy with the following recommendations:

o Limit your contacts, not everyone should be admitted, only people close to you and with whom you truly have a relationship of trust. It is convenient from time to time to enter social networks and "clean" contacts, eliminating those who no longer make sense to be in our contact list.

o You have to use private accounts, not public ones. In those networks that allow it, it is better to use private accounts where the content is not shown to everyone and where the user decides who is allowed and who is not. Now, once someone is admitted, they already have access to the person's content and its download and manipulation, then you have to be quite selective and that is why regular cleaning of contact lists is also important.

o You have to think about the consequences of what is going to be published before doing it, then there is no going back.

o It is important to be up to date with cybersecurity issues, for that, at the end of the lesson, we offer you several pages and organizations that you should follow and read from time to time.

- In relation to sexting, not practicing it is the fundamental recommendation. Do not take photos or record videos that, as we have seen, even if they are not sent, they can be stolen, they can be uploaded to some Internet storage service and stolen from there, etc. In case you have done them, it is convenient to delete them from the device, from the image gallery, from possible backup copies and check if they are not stored in any Internet storage service and if they are also deleting them from that location. And, if we receive this material from another person, do not collaborate in its dissemination.

- Regarding passwords for devices and services, two recommendations:

o Do not share passwords, passwords are something personal and there is no reason to share them with anyone, and it does not have to mean mistrust, it is a privacy and cybersecurity measure. Sharing passwords is not proof of love or fidelity, it is recklessness that puts anyone at risk.

o Have good passwords that are cyber-secure, whose characteristics must be: 8 characters or more in terms of length, numbers and letters, upper- and lower-case letters, symbols or special characters and not use the same one for all services. Do not write them down anywhere, the best store is the brain. A good trick is the one explained in the following video and, to the password shown in the video, you can add two letters that identify the service for which the password is going to be used

so that they are all different ([https:// www.youtube.com/watch?v=-BaQ7FHo6aM&t=3s&ab_channel=CarlosCastillo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-BaQ7FHo6aM&t=3s&ab_channel=CarlosCastillo))

- If the relationship has ended, it is a good idea for prevention to change the passwords of the services to which the aggressor could have access.

- If they are exercising digital gender violence, it is always convenient to tell someone you trust, collect all the electronic evidence that can be recovered and report it to the security forces.

- The blocking and reporting options provided by some Internet services, such as social networks, should be used when a user annoys, attacks or harasses another, so that the Internet service evaluates such behavior and in case of be infringing the rules of use, close the user account of the person who attacks or harasses.

- In the case of digital gender violence, the victim must report:

o Save all possible electronic evidence (captures, audios, messages, profile names, images, dates, networks or services in which they occur)

o Block and report in those services that allow the user or profile that is attacking you.

o File a complaint with the security forces:

□ Telephone service: 016

□ Online service: 016-online@igualdad.gob.es

□ WhatsApp service: 600 000 016

□ 062 Civil Guard

□ 092 National Police

Web resources related to cybersecurity

www.osi.es

www.is4k.es

www.tudecideseninternet.es

[Guía informativa sobre ciberviolencias y delitos de odio por razón de género](#)

We are heading towards a more digitized world, in which we have more and more devices connected to the Internet, more Internet services that we enjoy on a daily basis, but in which we are also leaving more private and sensitive information about our lives at times.

without awareness of doing it and that, unfortunately, all this can also be used against us. Therefore, it is essential:

- *Take care of privacy and digital identity*
- *Learn and stay up to date on cybersecurity practices*
- *Do not carry out risky practices that make us vulnerable*
- *Know and configure the Internet services and the devices with which we connect*

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Test

Read carefully the wording of the questions and answer if it is TRUE or FALSE

1. *Among the advantages of those who carry out gender-based violence through the TRIC is the fact that the devices that connect us to the Internet are economically affordable and facilitate people's access*

True

False

2. *The fact that sharing information on different Internet services, related to our customs, habits, personal data, etc., makes victims more vulnerable to their abusers*

True

False

3. *Sexting is a safer practice in general than people think, since Internet services and companies are used for this purpose*

True

False

4. *Digital identity is the trace of information that a person leaves on the Internet when connecting through different services*

True

False

5. *Pornography current, practically only focuses on the pleasure of men, reproduces gender stereotypes, violent and denigrating behaviors for women, and it is a bad example for the sexual affective education of minors*

True

False



LESSON 5

GENDER VIOLENCE IN ADOLESCENT COUPLES

What happens in the offline space is really reflected in the online space.” “And just as we don't feel safe walking the streets, we no longer feel safe walking the digital streets.”

Marwa Azelmat. Expert in digital rights and activist for the rights of women in the world

To begin with... did you know that gender-based violence also affects couples of all ages, including adolescent and young couples?

SELF_EVALUATION

Read carefully the wording of the questions and answer if it is TRUE or FALSE

1. Gender violence also affects adolescent women

True
False

2. The interest in violence in adolescent and young couples is relatively recent

True
False

3. Gender violence in adolescent couples has decreased

True
False

4. Controlling the cell phone, calling at any time, not letting her dress as she wants, are indicators of abuse

True
False

5. 4% of women between the ages of 18 and 29 say they have been harassed through networks or text messages

True
False

LESSON 5

VIOLENCE IN ADOLESCENT AND YOUNG PARTNERS

Introduction

Gender violence affects all women equally; As we have seen, there is no difference between social classes, religions, ethnic groups, etc., and age will not be a reason that excludes adolescent and young women from being victims of this violence.

As we have advanced in previous lessons, the socialization process exerts a great influence in this regard. In the adolescent stage, social relations between boys and girls can be mediated by violence, if not initially, then by future violence because certain behaviors can be covered up in the form of love.

The messages sent by the media and especially in the virtual space through social networks maintain mistaken ideas of what are manifestations of love. Rooted ideas of the concept of "romantic love" and how relationships should be are related to stereotyped beliefs about inequality, authority, power, and also about relationships. Thus, boys and girls maintain a wrong idea of what love is and this will be the seed to allow violence in relationships (Caro Blanco, 2008 quoted in Velasco, 2016).

If we had to trace a profile of victim and aggressor in unequal relationships, in relationships in which violence is established, we would verify that the differences are barely appreciable because, we insist, we are all "victims" of the socialization process. As Toca y Carreta (2008) states, currently men are still concerned about complying with what society has imposed on them. This means that certain behaviors will continue to be reproduced in future generations (O'Keefe, 1998 quoted in Velasco, 2016).

Adolescence is understood by the WHO as a stage between 10 and 19 years of age and is accompanied by physical, psychological and sexual changes; stage in which it is essential to monitor the type of attitudes that we transmit since they can promote future violent behavior; in fact, research warns that exposure to violence during childhood and adolescence increases the possibility of justifying and exercising it (Díaz-Aguado, 2003).

The factors that will influence the possibility of violence appearing in the couple relationship must be taken into account with a view to prevention. The interest in

violence in adolescent and young couples is relatively recent and should receive the same attention as violence between adult couples (Graña Howar and Wang, 2003; O'Leary and González, 2007; Matud, 2007 quoted in Velasco, 2016).

In Spain, the studies carried out in this regard, which will be discussed in detail, indicate that, although violence has decreased, there is still much to be done; it is necessary to continue with the work of prevention and awareness and that precisely the implementation of public policies and training have achieved this decrease in violence in adolescent couples

Gender violence in adolescent and young couples

The results of the latest study carried out in Spain, which we mentioned in the introduction on the situation of violence against women in adolescence, carried out by the Government Delegation against Gender Violence, and carried out by the Preventive Psychology Unit of the Complutense University point out that gender violence in adolescent couples has decreased, but sexual violence has increased.

According to this study, 14% of the girls affirm that they have felt pressured for sexual activities, pressure carried out in almost all cases (97.4%) by a man, which usually comes from the boy with whom they go out 55.7 % of the cases.

48% of girls between the ages of 14 and 20 have been asked to show sexual photographs and 43.9% of girls have been asked to. 23% have received requests for cybersex online.

On the other hand, the boys admit that they have requested photographs online in 17.1% of the cases and in 7.4% they have requested cybersex online.

Adolescents state that they have suffered emotional abuse in 17.3%, general abusive control by 17.1% and control through mobile phones by 14.9%. 11.1% affirm that they have felt pressured into sexual situations in which they did not want to participate because of the boy they are currently dating (16.9%), or by the boy they were dating, wanted to date, or wanted to go out with her.

Studies indicate that between 2010 and 2013 there was an increase in gender violence in adolescent couples in Spain motivated by the increase in the use of new technologies through which violence was exercised and between 2013 and 2020 It

has seen a decrease in violence motivated by the awareness and prevention campaigns carried out.

The results also indicate that 28.1% of the girls say that feeling less attractive than before would cause them a lot or a lot of anxiety, which means that the stereotype of the object woman still has a lot of influence.

Regarding the macho ideas that produce the most anxiety in boys, there are those of subordination to women, talking to a feminist 13.9%, or needing the couple to work outside the home to support the family (9.5%).

In relation to sexist opinions and justification of violence, boys continue to be mostly above girls (triple), although with a significant decrease. 21.9% of the girls say they have heard often or many times that jealousy is an expression of love and 39.9% say they have received advice that to have a good relationship you must find your better half and becoming as one person, beliefs related to gender violence.

There are certain factors that influence the appearance of violence in young couples: social, psychological or family factors (Walker, 1984 as cited in Velasco, 2016) or sociodemographic, individual and environmental factors (Vezina & Hebert, 2007 as cited in Velasco, 2016).

Through professional experience with the adolescent population, there are elements that are present in all couples in which violence appears:

- *Need for control and dominance*
- *Lack of empathy*
- *Lack of impulse control*
- *Deficit in anger management skills*
- *Wrong beliefs about what is expected of the couple such as submission, dependence, protection*
- *Family violence in the family of origin*

Without fear of being mistaken, we can assure that another factor that exerts a great influence on this violence is the conception of romantic love, reinforced by the media (films, songs, etc.); both boys and girls imagine love as "something magical, irrational, involuntary and unpredictable. Nothing can be done to remedy it or to maintain it. True love is supposed to make people suffer and oppose reason" (Grande, 2007, as cited in Velasco, 2016).

REMEMBER

Some of the factors that influence the appearance of violence in adolescent couples are:

- Maintain a wrong idea of the concept of love, based on the idea of romantic love.*
- Having been exposed to violence or conflictive relationships.*
- Accept the stereotyped attitudes and behaviors transmitted by the media.*

Although boys and girls reject violence, adolescents maintain the idea of romantic love and their better half, while some young women affirm that they would be able to endure anything for love. Boys and girls continue to reproduce macho stereotypes and speak openly without qualms about the perception of jealousy as a manifestation of love, with phrases such as "the more jealous the more he loves me", without realizing that jealousy is more typical of insecurities; couples young people, especially girls, do not detect violence, identifying some of the abusive behaviors as relationship problems or difficulties. They do not recognize certain attitudes in the couple that could alert about the way in which they relate (Velasco, 2015):

- Let him check his mobile.*
- Call her at any time.*
- Do not allow her to dress as she wants.*
- That she forbids him to be with other boys.*
- That she has to give him an account of what she does at all times.*
- That he insults her, despises her.*
- That she pushes her.*
- That they allow any behavior for fear of losing him.*

Girls and boys (mistreated and abusers) repeat the pattern of violent behavior in couple relationships, just as it happens in adult couples; the violence is established gradually and will not manifest itself suddenly. The girls do not perceive it; and when they find out (if the environment points it out) they do not tell it out of shame and for fear of being forced to leave the aggressor. The relationship progresses and as the time in the relationship increases, tolerance increases; It is possible that abusive behaviors are perceived as normal by the young person without perceiving that it is psychological abuse and that it will be the prelude to physical abuse (Velasco, 2015).

Relationships are very important for adolescents and precisely because of that importance that is given to first relationships, it is necessary to know what they are

like and how they develop because positive and negative experiences will influence later relationships.

REMEMBER

Education is one of the basic tools in the prevention of gender violence.

Finally, let us remember that the World Health Organization and the United Nations Organization have warned that other forms of violence against women arise as a consequence of new technologies, emerging violence of a technological nature: violence that is expressed through the harassment of the victim through the internet, mobile phone or social networks (Garita, 2013 cited in Velasco, 2016).

Studies in this regard, such as the one carried out by the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (2014) carried out in a sample of 42,000 women from 28 countries of the European Union, points out that:

- *Young women are more exposed to gender violence than adults.*
- *4% of women between the ages of 18 and 29 say they have been harassed through networks or text messages.*
- *23% were forced to change their email address or phone number. 74% never denounced the Police.*
- *14% have repeatedly received threatening phone calls or messages.*
- *8% state that the harasser was hanging around the vicinity of her home or workplace.*
- *9% of women admit to having been harassed by their ex-partner.*

These data reflect a reality that is corroborated by other subsequent studies such as the Amnesty International Report carried out in 8 countries in 2017:

- *76% of those affected changed their behavior on the Internet as a result of the harassment.*
- *54% of women in Spain have suffered abuse on social networks.*

One of the practices to which young women are exposed is, for example, the non-consensual dissemination of sexting: when the partner or ex-partner sends images or videos of sexual content to third parties, in order to make them public and cause damage to the image and privacy of the young. Generally the girl has been able to share the image, but she never authorized its dissemination. In Spain, it is dissemination that is considered a crime. Or to give another example related to the previous one, sextortion: it is about blackmail, the extortion of the victim for the possible disclosure of private images and that may compromise her privacy.

The psychological impact of bullying on the Internet is devastating: more than half of those affected have lower self-esteem, stress, anxiety or panic attacks. The danger of abuse on the Internet is the speed with which an image or video spreads. They live in fear of sexual or private images being disseminated without their consent.

The aggressor relies on the networks in order to harass, threaten, pressure the woman, degrade her or expose data that may compromise her privacy or intimacy, has already violated her right to privacy, but despite the fact that it is ordered by of the Judicial Authority, or through the Police, the withdrawal of said images or content could have been downloaded, not once, but thousands of times, with the result of the consequences that it can cause in the mental health of the affected girl.

Necessary:

- *Educate about proper use of networks and devices.*
- *Promote values, reflect on this type of behavior.*
- *Maintain adequate communication with boys and girls.*
- *Raise awareness about privacy and risks.*
- *Learn to relate and have healthy communications based on respect and not on jealousy/possession/manipulation.*

REMEMBER

- *Information and communication technologies are the means that children use to communicate, relate, share emotions and love each other.*
- *It is necessary to know that violence has many sides and one that is especially harmful is bullying.*
- *Education as prevention is the path to its eradication.*

Tok now more...

https://www.lamoncloa.gob.es/serviciosdeprensa/notasprensa/igualdad/Documents/2021/120221-Estudio_ViolenciaEnLaAdolescencia.pdf

https://violenciagenero.igualdad.gob.es/violenciaEnCifras/estudios/investigaciones/2015/pdf/Libro20_Percepcion_Social_VG_.pdf

http://www.injuve.es/sites/default/files/adjuntos/2019/07/estudio_violencia_web_injuve.pdf

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TEST

1. *Boys and girls have an accurate idea of what love is*

True

False

2. *The interest in violence in adolescent and young couples is relatively recent and should receive the same attention as violence between adult couples*

True

False

3. *Gender violence in adolescent couples has decreased, but sexual violence has increased.*

True

False

4. *Young women are more exposed to gender-based violence than adults*

True

False

5. *Education is one of the basic tools in the prevention of gender violence.*

True

False

CHAPTER 4

MIGRANT WOMAN AND HEALTH

LESSON 1 HEALTH, MIGRATION AND GENDER APPROACH



Introduction

Migration is a complex phenomenon, marked by diversity and with multiple approaches. A thoughtful, planned and agreed migration project is different than having to flee with a suitcase of fear and uncertainties. Migration goes far beyond the displacement of people in different territories and between countries and cultures. It always implies an adaptive process in which the probability of situations of vulnerability occurring is very high. The first imbalance occurs between migrants and the host society, also being the role of this society fundamental against the risk of social exclusion, unemployment, more limited access to health services, or having less fabric and social network.

In this diversity, migrations and reasons, origin and starting socioeconomic situation are variables that also influence the process. The road itself is a risk factor, there are migratory routes that are not safe and affect directly to health (such as infectious diseases, traumatic injuries, risk of physical, sexual and psychological aggression). In terms of health, it is therefore important to incorporate the management variables of cultural diversity, especially in public health strategies and plans.

The World Health Organization systematically recalls the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948) which states that "the enjoyment of the highest level of health that can be achieved is one of the fundamental rights of every human being, regardless of race, religion, political ideology or economic or social condition."

Royal Decree Law 16/2012, of April 20, broke with the principle of universality of the National Health System, until then guaranteed in Spain. This regulation meant that thousands of people had great difficulties in accessing health care or that they were directly excluded. The social response to health exclusion that this norm represented pushed the approval of Royal Decree Law 7/2018, of July 27, on universal access to the National Health System, however, the recovery of universality has not been complete.

In 2021 the report "Immigration Challenges in Spain. Rights as a basis for inclusion" prepared by Red Acoge, analyzes the difficulties that migrants encounter in relation to the right to health, defining the most common situations reported by people accompanied by the federated organizations of their network. . The difficulty to receive health care for people in an irregular administrative situation stands out, who are the ones who have the most difficulties in reaching the requirements demanded such as registration and/or stays of more than three months. They are people who need medical attention, but they are outside the assumptions contemplated in the Royal Decree of 2018. About the impossibility of proving a registration a vicious circle is generated in which many migrants are trapped. Without a housing or services contract, you cannot process the registration, without a work contract and payroll you cannot get a rental contract or acquire a home and without work and residence authorization you cannot have a work contract.

There are people who say that the immigrant population saturates Health and abuses primary care and emergency services. There are also those who think that they come to Spain because healthcare is free and that they take advantage of the system. According to data from the INE, in the latest National Health Survey, 76.65% of foreign people are in the group of very good or good level of health in percentage, although similar, higher than that of autochthonous people 73.66% for the same variables.

Considering the variable "chronic or long-term problems or diseases in the last 12 months" in a condition that requires continuous monitoring in primary care such as high blood pressure, the incidence is 10% in foreigners and 21.62% in Spanish people. The incidence of malignant tumors, a variable that we highlight due to its impact on resources in the national public health system, the percentages are close, the incidence in the population being lower foreign, 1.03% and up to 1.8% among Spanish people. The health conditions that appear the most in the immigrant population are chronic back pain and a group of allergies (rhinitis, dermatitis and food allergies), with the same percentage of 16% for the foreign and Spanish population.

In all these figures there is a lack of attention to those in the field of health who are denied their existence and therefore one of their fundamental rights. They only reach the figures in exceptional situations and sometimes too late.

Failing to attend public health services to a part of the population is also a public health problem. The COVID 19 pandemic once again highlighted the fragility of a Spanish health system that has had to resort to third sector entities to identify and call for vaccination of people excluded from health care. In addition, the associations have been the only real interlocutor that has addressed them a once the process has started.

1. Migration mourning

At a psychological level, we understand grief as the process of adaptation and assimilation to a loss. That loss supposes the deprivation of something that was had. The repercussion of the loss will be influenced by the value that we give to the loss. To the same extent the duration of a duel is also uncertain. On the other hand, the experience of loss is inherent to the human being, which supposes certain adaptations and resilience capacity, for this reason it is frequent to face a duel without requiring therapeutic support or what is known as elaboration of an uncomplicated duel.

Worden (2013) describes the symptoms of mourning of normal evolution, after the loss of a loved one. Summarizing his exposure, he groups four types of symptoms:

- *Cognitive symptoms: Disbelief, confusion, difficulty concentrating and forgetfulness, worry, sense of presence, and visual or auditory hallucinations.*
- *Behavioral symptoms: Difficulties sleeping and waking up early, loss and/or increase in appetite, social isolation, avoiding situations that remind you of the deceased or visiting those places frequently, search behavior for the deceased, motor restlessness or crying.*
- *Emotional symptoms: Sadness, anger, guilt or self-reproach, anxiety, loneliness, fatigue, helplessness, emotional dullness.*
- *Physical symptoms: empty stomach, chest tightness, hypersensitivity to noise, feeling depersonalized, shortness of breath or muscle weakness.*

*The manifestations of the elaboration of mourning warn of complicated mourning, when they interfere excessively in people's lives, the level of suffering is too high or maladaptive coping is identified in the person or in family or relational dynamics. **Complicated grief** requires specialized therapeutic support.*

Why do you think it is important to start from the mourning when we talk about the health of migrants and especially immigrant women? It is an essential reflection. Even in the sought after and desired trips of a tourist, small alerts appear that can help you to see the immense loss that accompanies the migratory processes. Perhaps you have experienced the impact of a change on your own health.

Migration mourning is the process of elaboration of the losses associated with the migratory experience. It has five specific CHARACTERISTICS:

- *Partial, because there is no disappearance but spatiotemporal separation of the country of origin. In many cases, it is possible to return one day*
- *Recurring, migratory mourning can appear or reappear at different times of the migratory process.*
- *Of variable intensity, depending on the vital conditions and circumstances, from simple grief to complicated grief.*
- *Multiple, for all the losses associated with migration and has an impact on all spheres of life.*
- *Generator of changes in identity. Migration always modifies the identity of the person.*

The PHASES in the elaboration or confrontation of a duel are:

DENIAL, ANGER, NEGOTIATION, DEPRESSION, ACCEPTANCE AND LEARNING.

These are not temporary moments that follow a rigid or linear structure. They are interspersed and sequenced with forwards and backwards. As already mentioned, one of the characteristics is the variable intensity and factors such as memories, dates, weather, current difficulties will influence... This process is called the roller coaster in mourning. In addition, the return trip, as a return or temporarily opens the door to a new duel. Many migrant women with years of migratory experience

express that they are no longer from here or there and recognize themselves as women between two shores, with transcultural skills, vision and identity.

*Following the concept of **multiple mourning**, Achotegui, J. (2000), defines the 7 losses of migration, also recalling that there may be a different perception and intensity of mourning depending on sociodemographic factors, the situation of the migration process, etc.*

- *Grieving for family and loved ones. For daily life in the distance and the break of attachment.*
- *Duel for the language. The difficulties in learning a new language for any adult person are added with the loss of identity associated with the language even when it seems the same language.*
- *Mourning for culture. In relation to values, the way of understanding the world, habits in the use of time, in food, in the way of dressing... It has a lot to do with acculturative stress. As an example, the hourly distribution of the working day in Spain and the associated eating habits mean an overexertion for almost all other nationalities.*
- *Mourning for the land, the landscape, colors, smells, light, temperature... and in so far as it influences on an emotional level*
- *Mourning for social status. It has to do with opportunities and recognition upon arrival. Migration usually seeks a socioeconomic improvement or access to cultural opportunities, freedom... It is common to hear migrant women who feel invisible, even attend in social intervention to people who no longer talk about their experience or skills prior to migration. It is very determinant in migrant women, especially if they have some racialized trait or experience discrimination.*
- *Duel for the belonging group. Migration breaks down those identities, whether it be a religious group, an elite sports team, a neighborhood association, or a political group. In addition, to reconstruct the social participation that leads to a new belonging, attitudes of xenophobia or racism can also be found.*
- *Mourning for physical risks. The risks of the trip and the threats to health and physical integrity, which can intensify feelings of insecurity. When inadequate living conditions do not exist, it also has to do with the cold or not having sufficient resources to guarantee accommodation, adequate food or the purchase of medicines.*

The same author in 2018 delving into the concept of Migration Intelligence, highlights a very interesting idea. He stops at the word mourning, in its conceptual meaning and points out that in Spanish it can also be understood in its meaning of challenge, and a challenge is stimulus and opportunity.

In 2020, in a work on the Dehumanization of Immigration, he details how the denomination " Ulises Syndrome" was born to give a humanistic and heroic perspective to the migrant person. He makes visible other ideas such as that money

converts migration into mobility or that in today's migrations, Ulises would probably be a woman.

It also exposes that the conditions in which migration occurs have been polarized, identifying two types of immigrants in opposite situations, the rich who live a migration without difficulties, travel and can bring their families... and immigrants in an extreme situation, with limitations due to law to live with his family, with no possibility of return because they have passed a odyssey of fences and walls, those who are denied opportunities, those who are persecuted.

2. Sustained stress and its impact on the life of migrants

2.1. From normal mourning to sustained migratory stress

The ability to migrate is a very important adaptive resource of living beings. But the migratory process can involve levels of stress so intense that they exceed this adaptive capacity. There is then the risk of suffering from the immigrant syndrome with chronic or multiple stress.

When there is no possibility of mourning and the person enters into a permanent crisis, the Ulysses Syndrome becomes a reactive stress picture in situations of extreme migratory mourning. It is a critical moment in the accompaniment of the migrant from health. It cannot be said that the person is sick, because she is reacting with adequate mental health to some conditions that he has to face. At the same time there is a high risk of disease if the impact is prolonged without positive changes it can lead to other diagnoses.

The person presents symptoms of depression or anxiety that are expressed in sadness, crying, nervousness, irritability, insomnia, fatigue, palpitations, digestive problems, dermatitis, headaches, difficulty concentrating, recurring thoughts...

It is very important that these people receive specialized, interdisciplinary and coordinated care, from the first interventions in the social field, primary care in health and advice on legal or labor issues in order to achieve their objectives. The medicalization of these symptoms, without further intervention and without a transcultural perspective, only aggravates or increases the risks. As protection factors, having spaces for accompaniment, listening and relief, emotional containment and recognition. Also favor the link to routines of real and possible healthy habits. For example, eating and sleeping habits based on the resources of the person who may be in a complex moment sharing a home, a room, even residing

in a hostel or sheltered on the sofa of some compatriots. Active and close communication and listening to all of this can also compensate through access to resources that are unknown, the deficiencies or lack of opportunities. In any case, it is about analyzing the current context of stress in which the person lives and so that he or she is the one who can introduce positive changes.

The symptomatology of sustained migratory stress is the same as that of mourning. In a descriptive way, and based on the classification of Baños and Botella (2010), the symptoms of sustained migratory stress are grouped into:

- *Physical symptoms: empty stomach, tightness in the chest and throat, hypersensitivity to noise, shortness of breath, muscle weakness, fatigue, lack of energy, dry mouth, insomnia, palpitations, etc.*
- *Emotional symptoms: sadness, anger, helplessness, rage, frustration, guilt and self-reproach, anxiety, loneliness, indifference, relief, numbness, hopelessness.*
- *Cognitive manifestations: confusion, guilt, worry, intrusive thoughts, depersonalization, strangeness before the usual world.*
- *Manifestations in the area of conduct: difficulties in falling asleep and inter-bedroom insomnia, eating disorders, distraction, social isolation, recurring dreams, sighing, avoidance or denial of memories, hyperactivity, restlessness, crying. Other reckless or harmful behaviors such as substance use may also appear.*

In the impact and evolution for coping there are factors such as:

- *ORIGIN, both the place or country of origin and other sociocultural variables (whether the person lived or arrived in a rural or urban environment) and aspects associated with other characteristics of the place of origin. origin such as the level of security, or regulatory and political conditions (areas with religious domination, gender inequality or persecution of groups such as ethnic minorities or LGBTBI)*
- *AGE AND EVOLUTIONARY MOMENT, since it is not the same impact for a young person who has many projects to start than for a more adult person, even an elderly person, who has moved leaving behind a whole vital baggage and far from his evolutionary time of productivity.*
- *GENDER, due to global discrimination against women, due to all the risks associated with double discrimination, differences in the adaptation of gender roles, the increased risk of suffering or having suffered episodes of abuse or mistreatment.*
- *REASON OF MIGRATION, with a greater impact on forced migratory processes or even greater precipitated by a flight to safeguard physical integrity. In the case of refugees or displaced persons due to conflict situations, since they do not have the possibility (at least difficult in the medium term) of return. Stress multiplies when it*

intersects with the elaboration of post-traumatic stress from the experiences prior to the trip.

- *SOCIAL-FAMILY NETWORK, in an ambivalent way because although traveling with the family is a protective factor, it is also a stressor when conflicts occur when coping is elaborated in a different way. Also due to changes in the dynamics or family structure related to migration or when precarious situations affect minor daughters and sons, adding guilt. Crossed with gender, being a woman with dependent minors as a non-shared family burden is a risk factor.*
- *ADMINISTRATIVE CONDITIONS, it is not the same to arrive in Spain processing of entry a Spanish nationality by ancestors who migrated than to have only a passport, even expired, or to be waiting to get an appointment to request asylum.*
- *IMPACT OF THE TRIP, especially in migratory processes of people who have spent an entire odyssey crossing countries and difficulties of extreme risk until reaching their current destination.*
- *PREVIOUS HEALTH CONDITION, due to what is limiting in itself, due to the continuity of treatment, due to administrative limitations in the protection of disability, due to the cost to the elderly in self-care...*

2.2. Stress in migrants linked to experiences in the host country

Upon arrival, sustained stress is enhanced by experiences and circumstances such as:

- ***Loneliness, real and experienced** (even when many people surround them). Upon arrival, migrants, especially women, tend to focus on activities that can be successful for their objectives of finding a job, advancing in the administrative situation, and accessing basic services and resources. This results in the absence of time for themselves, social isolation and loss of social status. Explained from the narration of migrant women when they go to therapeutic care, it could be: "In my neighborhood everyone knew me, I had a small business and everyone greeted me on the street, when I talk to other people something makes me feel uncomfortable." "In my first job the lady explained to me how the washing machine and kitchen things worked in a way... I didn't tell her anything, but my house is bigger than hers, in my country I was a professional and I had an employee. She never talks to me if she's not for command, even if I spend the whole morning looking at what I do. I no longer have anything to tell." We cannot forget people with linguistic constraints that limit relationships.*

- **Hopelessness** when the days go by and the objectives do not advance. It is the reiteration of the word no. No work. There are no papers. You still can't do courses. You don't have the title they ask for. There are no appointments available for this procedure. You do not have data to connect. They don't look at you. They don't talk to you. Your phone doesn't work. They do not rent you that apartment, nor the room. You do not meet the aid requirements. You can't travel. You can't open an account at the bank. They don't answer your calls home. You can't sleep. What you expected does not arrive. You don't know how long you can take it. You don't know where to turn. You have no way to go to the doctor. Generally, this tension begins to be resolved by natural aid networks, almost always from some migrant women to others. Also, if luck crosses the vital process with native people who are sensitive and capable of listening. On the other hand, at a professional level, precisely because of this, it is very important to train people who work in social and health care, regardless of whether they are managers or staff at a window, to collect and understand demands, guarantee access to information, detect certain risk indicators and be able to initiate a referral to the appropriate resources.

- **Basic needs not covered** (food, housing, clothing, supplies). This is literally hunger, cold, fear, involuntary personal neglect... It affects physical health variables and can compromise the psychological stability of even the most resilient people. The street situation is an extreme risk to physical and psychological health, even for a day.

- **Lack of economic resources** that allow changing the situation. Not only referred to everything that has already been stated and has to do with the income. It alludes to the possibilities of changes and advances. Have sufficient income to demonstrate solvency and credibility, which allow you to send remittances and advance in the objectives or migratory demands. To access a rental contract, to have enough housing to allow the family to be regrouped, to pay for an approval or to be able to offer a license and vehicle when looking for a job.

- **Felt or real pressure** (calls, threats, problems in the country of origin) due to debts prior to or associated with the trip. Threats and extortions, direct or through family members, are maintained especially when seeking asylum when they arrive. Also, in cases of trafficking or close when money is owed to someone who organized the travel process for a price.

- **Social isolation due to fear of personal integrity** (especially in people who arrive fleeing), refusal to interact with compatriots or with all men, for example. For those fleeing armed groups from your country, compatriots are a threat. It is also common for them to distrust the security forces because of the experiences in their country.

- **Difficulties in environmental adaptation**, which directly affect health, for example, people who barely drink water because they don't feel hot or sweat or people who isolate themselves because they can't stand going outside on cold days. At the beginning of the first winter in the cold areas of Spain, there are people who only think about returning, it physically paralyzes them to move forward with daily life.

- **Communication difficulties**, both linguistic and due to other barriers. Alluding to both isolation and misunderstandings for answering yes without knowing what or misinterpretations due to cultural variables.
- **Stressful situations from the country of origin**. News about political events or traumatic events (the earthquake that occurred in Peru in 2007, the news of the guerrillas in Colombia or Honduras, the mobilizations in Iran, the events of the daily digital press of Ukraine or Russia ...).
- **Stressful situations from the nuclear and/or extended family**. Waking up with a sick child is much more impressive if they are thousands of kilometers away and all we can do is make a call, a video conference or send remittances for health care and medicines. If the sick person is ascendant or older, or it is an accident, the psychological impact is acute and falls on a person in a psychological situation that was already fragile.
- **When mourning for the loss of a loved one is added to the migratory mourning**, the entire migratory project is questioned. Depending on the economic and administrative situation, the person may or may not travel. Even if you travel, you may not arrive in time to join your loved ones at the funeral. Debts, the possible loss of employment, accommodation, even documentation make it one of the hardest experiences for a migrant. If the loss occurs in the host country, the transnational dimension is still present. There are many very quick and expensive decisions to be made. Insurance, permits, repatriation and/or travel, paperwork in two countries, redefining the process itself... and resuming life in greater solitude.

2.3. The double vulnerability and resilience of migrant women

Being a woman and a migrant is a condition of double discrimination and greater vulnerability. Social entities warn of this while highlighting the proactivity and participation of migrant women as promoters and creators of change. In the Activity Report of Procomar Valladolid Acoge (2021), one of the NGOs that specifically serves the migrant and refugee population, they identify that repeatedly with 35 years of carrying out their work, the participation of women exceeds 80%.

Citing the report by Red Acoge Migrant and refugee women: heroines of the 21st century Red Acoge (2018):

Once in the destination countries, migrant women continue to be exposed to a multitude of psychosocial risks. For example, social roots condemn foreigners to three years of legal irregularity until they obtain residence and work authorization, which throws them into situations of abuse, exploitation, insecurity and fear, causing a great impact. in their psycho-emotional health. Of the women attended,

35% declared feelings of sadness, 32% nervousness, 29% fatigue and 18% memory failures.

*In addition to all the aspects outlined for the migrant population in general, for women, **the invisibility** to which the host society often relegates them and hand in hand, **job segregation to the home and care sector** is decisive.*

There are also many success stories, led by women who in less than a year build themselves and begin to achieve their goals. Healthy, resilient and powerful women. In Procomar Valladolid Acoge since 2018, the Mujer Tenías Que Ser program has been continuously developed. It is a project that is enunciated with a phrase that symbolizes the multiple and historical discriminations by gender, which fall on women of all cultures. Effective inequality and the micro-machismo that it contains especially affect a more vulnerable group, immigrant women. If we turn it around, the phrase also hides daring, an entrepreneurial attitude and facing adversity without fear. The program is an example of interdisciplinary interventions that can act preventively and therapeutically against chronic stress and its impact on the health of migrant women. Individualized and group intervention is combined and actions aimed at improving employability and skills as well as social participation and empowerment are developed. And It is complemented by a specialized therapeutic care service.

Actions that influence positive and constructive thinking, the development of a sense of humor, social relationships, sports activity and relaxation techniques, artistic expression... We were talking about health and the best treatment is to generate opportunities and positive changes in the day to day

3. Culture shock and adaptation difficulties

Migration involves the encounter between at least two different cultures. It is a meeting process and full of challenges. For the host society, it means getting used to, accepting and managing the diversity that people from other countries bring. Somehow cultural homogeneity is broken, and cultural identity can feel threatened. In turn, migrants upon arrival are surrounded by new norms, values and customs. His definition of what is correct contrasts with a different reality that also requires learning and acquiring knowledge and skills to act competently in society.

The adaptation or adjustment process goes through several phases:

- *Initial euphoria, also called honeymoon. The host country is new and interesting. The migrant is positioned as a tourist who wants to experience and visit everything.*

- *Crises. When you begin to miss your own references, family habits. It's the time in which the psychological and physical symptoms of migratory mourning begin to appear.*
- *Recovery stage, as the crisis is overcome and differences begin to be accepted. The person begins to live with the environment and the challenges of daily life become sustainable and less stressful. Learning takes place and support networks play a very important role.*
- *Adaptation stage. He begins to feel and live a role within the new society. The person has built relational ties. There is beginning to be a balance.*

Acculturation is the process of change that occurs when two cultures come into contact and affect each other. From here, citing the Berry (1989) model, there are four possible strategies or attitudes:

- *Assimilation, (NO/YES) supposes that the migrant assumes the culture of the host society above their traditional culture*
- *Integration, (SI/SI) involvement and identification in equal parts of both the receiving company as with the culture of origin*
- *Marginalization, (NO/NO) due to rejection of the two cultures*
- *Segregation, (YES/NO) when migrants maintain their own traditions without having any relationship with the host society.*

Currently, any of these four strategies, including integration, are considered drivers of exclusion. In integration, the if/if assumes that all people are in the same society, but they are not necessarily related as equals. The concept that breaks with culture shock and adaptation difficulties is inclusion, in which all people count and which defines cultural pluralism as something inherent to society.

One of the incidence studies published by Red Acoge in 2018, "The self-perception of discrimination. The impact of the gaze of the other" begins with the statement: "Today's world is characterized by the diversity and plurality of cultures. Our neighborhoods, towns and cities are diverse. A diversity that is the engine of change, of social transformation and of human development."

The object of the study is to provide a look from the proximity to the analysis of the phenomenon of discrimination based on experiences and information of people who, due to their characteristics, may experience situations of potential discrimination. The aim is to broaden knowledge to better accompany these people and have tools for awareness and training actions to prevent and deal with discriminatory incidents.

In his conclusions, he highlights three ideas:

- *There is a great distance between the awareness of discrimination and his experience. Often the perception of having suffered discriminatory situations does not correspond (is less) with what they have actually suffered. These people either normalize situations of discrimination or are unaware that the situations that occur are discriminatory. In this sense, support for the processes of empowerment of people in a situation of special vulnerability to discrimination through information, critical analysis of reality, addressing psychosocial aspects, accompaniment in their complaints and claims It is fundamental in the fight against discrimination.*

- *It is necessary to increase the understanding of the phenomenon of discrimination by public and private institutions, services and the general public, with special attention to those groups that are potentially victims of discrimination. Discrimination is a complex phenomenon that has always existed, although it must be understood that in each context it has different causes and consequences. At present, in order to address these causes, a greater understanding is necessary on the part of all agents in order to be able to adopt measures aimed at their eradication.*

- *It is urgent that the Spanish State create an independent and solvent service that, in the event of discriminatory incidents, develops comprehensive support for the victims, up to the jurisdictional phase when necessary.*

It is necessary to create safe reporting mechanisms and generate spaces of trust for people who suffer discrimination with public institutions to move forward and break with the fear and mistrust of these people

4. Family breakdown linked to migration (lack of support figures outside the couple in many cases)

4.1. The transnational family

The family migrates to improve their standard of living and development, to maintain their stability and/or protect those who form it. With the migratory process, the family needs a new structure and organization in its daily life. Due to the bond with loved ones, the family is a permanent motor and motivation for migrants.

The new technologies facilitate communication and favor forms of social relationships that help families to continue acting as a family, in decision-making

and "presence" in important issues such as the education of children, purchases, management of income...

Transnational families are those in which their members live physically separated from each other for part or most of the time and are able to maintain ties that allow them to feel part of a unit and perceive well-being in the distance (Briceson and Vuorella 2002).

In these families there is a transformation in gender roles, in the way of living femininity and masculinity. When gender roles are traditional in origin, migration (especially feminized) challenges them. In maintaining links and relationships, remittances play a very important role. They have a special meaning because they are a commitment and a responsibility towards your family. With the sending of economic remittances, control over household decisions is also increased for the women who generate them. They are income that also act as compensation for physical absence.

Implications in the couple. When only one of the two migrates, the separation affects the relationship and feelings of lack of affective support, sadness and fear of infidelity can occur. The couple is not usually the only communication and if rumors arrive or expectations are out of step with reality, the links can be fragmented.

In mother-child relationships. The part more positive is usually the increase in economic possibilities. Mothers in the distance go through ambivalent feelings, of pride for what they manage to achieve and for the capacity for sacrifice and regret for not being able to be in the close care of their children. At a psychological level and in terms of health, it is common for symptoms of depression, anxiety, even sustained stress to occur. The constant promise of regrouping and all the obstacles that path has is a great generator of anxiety and exhaustion. Also on return trips or visits when they have to face things that are not being done correctly. If the regrouping is achieved, although initially it is a milestone achieved, a new readaptation process begins as it is a family with different times in the internalization of the migratory process and that has to recognize itself again and renegotiate its values, norms and way of relating. We remember that migration always affects identity.

For the family that remains in the country of origin, a restructuring process in the family system also begins. Roles are reconfigured and if there are older children, they can move to another level of the hierarchy, replacing the parents. In other families, the figure of the grandmothers and grandfathers replaces the parents. Due to the generation gap, this can also generate conflicts. These new figures, while stabilizing the structure, can also fragment, if the mother loses authority when delegating care or in the regrouping, since they are not usually included. The reunification of ancestors is even more complicated because it requires demonstrating that they are economically dependent people. This implies that it is demonstrated that in Spain they will be able to continue supporting them, apart

from the difficulties in accessing the health system. If they cannot travel, when the reunification of the children is achieved, they recover their biological mother paying the price of losing their true referents.

With this sketch, only a few brushstrokes of a very broad and diverse subject are given. Relevant ideas:

- *Understand and internalize that the transnational family model is the only valid one for the person. This simple thing on a day-to-day basis has more implications. The case histories of the social services are not prepared to cover all this impact and it is very frequent that in the host country people who live abroad are not contemplated in the perspective of the family.*
- *There are almost as many and as different families as there are people. Once the traditional model has been overcome, the fact that the structure is very complex or fragmented does not necessarily imply a lack of structure in the relationships, roles, or functioning of the family. There are very complex transnational systems with many cross-relationships and a positive functioning fueled by cultural diversity and resilience.*
- *The graphical representation of families through genograms helps a lot when approaching to the history of the migratory process, to identify risk factors, understand the migratory drivers, accompany the objectives of the person and encourage them to become the owner and protagonist of the entire process. A reference model for this is the one presented by McGoldrick, M. and Gerson, R. (1985).*

4.2. The MENAS in Spain

The arrival of unaccompanied minor girls and boys in Spain is an extreme example of the impact of migration on family breakdown. They are children and adolescents who are alone and exposed to a serious risk of exclusion and helplessness.

The term MENA is a symbol of the dehumanization and criminalization of this group.

Most of those who arrive in Spain come from the Maghreb countries, mainly Morocco and Algeria. Also from Sub-Saharan Africa, Eastern Europe and the Middle East.

Why do you come to Spain? It is a migratory phenomenon that began to be remarkable in the 90's. Among the reasons that lead them to leave their countries of origin are:

- *Poverty and the lack of future and expectations.*

- *Situations of family breakdown.*
- *Institutional lack of protection.*
- *Natural disasters.*
- *War, persecution, violence.*
- *Situations of generalized violation of human rights.*

In accordance with national and international legislation, a MENA has the right to the protection of the Spanish State under the same conditions as Spanish minors, regardless of the place of their birth, and therefore the Public Administrations have the obligation to ensure their well-being.

Upon arrival, if the child has documentation or clearly appears to be a minor, their guardianship is held by the Autonomous Community, which is the one who must guarantee their protection. If the child does not have documentation, or it is not considered valid, and there are doubts about her age, the system provides for tests to determine her age. And there we find the first barrier that is the identification system itself. Children are subjected to excessive use of medical evidence without sufficient legal guarantees. In addition, these are almost always radiological (radiation) tests that do not give reliable results or assess their psychological maturity. The second danger comes from an identification incorrect. If a child is incorrectly identified as being of legal age, either because of his appearance or because of an error in the tests, he is exposed to living on the street, being detained, expelled from the country, or admitted to a Foreign Internment Center (ICD).

In practice, the situation is occurring that there are unaccompanied children living temporarily or permanently on the street. The authorities that have guardianship have to maintain a positive attitude and provide the necessary means for the integration of these minors and guarantee their protection.

In 2020, the majority of these children were boys (3,288 boys; 97.61%) and only 79 girls (2.38%) were identified. Most of them came from Morocco (42.12%), followed by Mali, Algeria, Senegal, the Republic of Guinea and The Gambia (Government Report, 2020). In fact, in 2020, around 3,307 unaccompanied minors (15.10% more than the previous year) arrived on the Spanish coast in small boats and unstable ships (Government Report, 2020).

Although some may have lost parents or relatives to violence, in many cases the family continues in the country of origin. They usually come from large families with few resources. They leave their family and their country in search of an opportunity, of a better future. There are also known cases in which the family has been forced to send them allocating their only savings as a survival solution. Yes, there are minors

who maintain contact with their family of origin. It is very important to recognize these minors with their rights and specific needs and to understand their history also from the framework of belonging to a family.

5. The paradigmatic case of HIV

The global HIV situation continues to be a complex reality, both at the health and emotional level. In the NGO KIF-KIF, specialized in caring for the LGTBI collective of migrants and refugees, they indicate that most of their demands on HIV are from users, coming from Latin American countries, especially Colombia, Venezuela and Peru, where the panorama is critical with regard to antiretroviral therapy.

Among the reasons why HIV migrants are forced to flee their country, taking Spain as an option, to safeguard their lives and health, they identify:

- Lack or absence of supply.*
- Intermittent dispensing and/or charging for antiretroviral treatment or other reactive tests.*
- Irregularities in medical monitoring.*

It should be remembered that HIV weakens the immune system by destroying CD4 T lymphocytes, essential for our health, since they help coordinate the immune response by stimulating other cells of the immune system such as macrophages, B lymphocytes and CD8 T lymphocytes, to fight infection.

According to UNAIDS (2020), 37.7 million people are living with HIV worldwide, of which 1.5 million contracted it that same year. Among the profile of people living with HIV, 53% are women and girls, and 1.7 million boys and girls (up to 14 years of age).

According to a report from the Ministry of Health (2022), in 2020, 1,925 new HIV diagnoses were reported in Spain (a figure significantly lower than the 3,965 cases in 2018, the last consolidated figure and prior to the COVID-19 pandemic that anticipate explains this delay in notification, together with underdiagnosis and underreporting), of which 33.9% were people from other countries, mostly from Latin America. The percentage of new diagnoses in foreigners was even higher in the case of women, since 51.8% were born outside of Spain. Secondly, late diagnosis (defined as a CD4 value of less than 350 cells/ μ l in the first determination after diagnosis) is more common in people of foreign origin, the most affected being those from Central and Eastern Europe, with 66.7% of the cases compared to 44.2% of

people with HIV born in Spain. This data may reflect the differences in access to care between people of Spanish origin and migrants.

Currently, the Spanish health system has a protocol for access to the health system, but it requires a series of requirements and procedures that not all people can comply with due to their administrative situation, if they are not working or if they are in an irregular situation.

*One of the basic requirements is **registration**. The Municipal Register of Inhabitants is an administrative record where the people who habitually reside in the respective municipality are recorded. Registry in which "everyone who lives in Spain is obliged to register" (specifically, in the municipality in which they habitually reside).*

As has already appeared in previous sections, in Spain the current system generates health exclusion. The group "Yo Sí Sanidad Universal" includes several examples in its "Report on health exclusion one year from RDL 7/2018". The barriers to accessing the health system that are exposed in the report affect various groups, including people who they have been in Spain for less than 90 days, people in an uncertain administrative situation, vulnerable groups such as pregnant women and minors and people with a residence permit in Spain.

UNAIDS established the 95-95-95 target as a strategy to end the AIDS epidemic by 2030. This target translates into achieving:

- *95% of people with HIV are aware of the diagnosis.*
- *95% of people diagnosed are under antiretroviral treatment (ART).*
- *95% of people on treatment achieve viral suppression.*

There is currently sufficient evidence to affirm that sustained viral suppression, with complete adherence to antiretroviral treatment and follow-up in the clinic, reduces HIV transmission to negligible numbers and that, therefore, one of the best prevention strategies is to treat, being necessary to ensure access to antiretroviral drugs.

Early access to ART has shown important benefits both in relation to the appearance of complications of HIV infection¹⁶, and in terms of quality of life. In the Spanish context, ART has prevented 323,651 deaths from AIDS, 500,120 cases of AIDS and 161,417 cases of HIV infection over the course of 32 years. The cost-effectiveness analysis from the perspective of the National Health System shows that the economic cost of not having avoided these figures in deaths, AIDS cases and new HIV infections clearly exceeds the cost of ART.

Therefore, ensuring that all people with HIV, regardless of their origin and administrative status, have access to care and treatment must be considered a priority for public health in our country. All the obstacles in access to health care

complicate the entire migration process. In this group, it also puts their lives at risk and favors the chronification of anxiety and depression.

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TEST

1. Of these statements about grief, indicate T/F

a) Grief is a health problem that people experience when they experience the loss of a loved one. You usually need medication. **F**

b) The characteristics of migratory mourning are: partial, recurrent, multiple, of variable intensity and generator of changes in identity. **V**

c) The phases of mourning follow one another in order, varying in intensity from the moment of the loss until its elaboration. **F**

d) Multiple mourning is double because it has to do with two losses, the country of origin and a loved one. **F**

2. Sustained stress can generate symptoms:

a) Such as sadness, crying, fatigue, insomnia, muscle aches and visual disturbances

b) Such as sadness, crying and nervousness, being able to experience delusions and hallucinations.

c) Such as dermatitis, headaches, fatigue, palpitations, digestive problems and other somatizations.

d) That they do not remit only with the accompaniment and listening of an interdisciplinary intervention.

3. Faced with the factors that enhance sustained stress:

a) Facilitating aid for basic needs can be a protective action.

b) Advice for access to resources such as scholarships that cover the homologation, rental aid, improvement in employability is an opportunity to introduce changes that give stability and allow us to get out of the stressful situation.

c) It is essential to offer accompaniment and listening, even if we do not have a clear solution to the demands that are raised because the person cannot meet the requirements that are marked

d) The three answers are completely correct

4. Of these statements, in relation to the double vulnerability of women, mark V/F

a) Social roots mark a period of three years to obtain residence and work authorization. It is an administrative procedure that does not particularly influence health. **F**

b) Migrant women are in themselves an engine of change and stand out for their proactivity and participation. **V**

c) The social participation of immigrant women is directly and decisively related to health. **V**

d) Labor segregation to the care sector offers a labor niche while increasing the vulnerability of migrant women. **V**

5. Why are integration strategies considered to support exclusion?

a) Because, although with integration all people are in the same society, they are grouped and there are no relationships as equals. V

b) Because the language changes and currently that term is not used, we talk about inclusion. F

c) Because in Spain, integration is already marked by law and if it is not complied with, there is discrimination. F

d) Answers a and b are correct. F

6. In family models,

a) Transnational families are always unstructured, having to organize themselves into separate groups, although many manage to function well

b) Over time people adapt so much to life in Spain that they leave to be a family transnational

c) The Menas are not an example of a family since they are not accompanied and have to receive guardianship from the autonomous administrations

d) The three answers are totally false.



"Violence against women is endemic in all countries and cultures"

Tedros Adhnom Ghebreyesus. WHO Director General

LESSON 2

CONSEQUENCES

To begin with... What do you know about the consequences of violence against women?

SELF_EVALUATION

Read carefully the wording of the questions and answer if it is TRUE or FALSE

1. Violence against women has consequences for their physical and emotional health.

True

False

2. Sexual violence by the partner is not one of the consequences of gender violence.

True

False

3. One in three women will experience violence throughout her life.

True

False

4. The aggressor must be present so that the woman is in a constant state of alert

True

False

5. Forced sexual intercourse can cause loss of sexual desire, menstrual disorders and pelvic pain, among other things.

True

False

LESSON 2

As we have been saying, violence against women is considered a violation of human rights. This violence does not distinguish between social classes, countries, religions, races...

One in three women will suffer violence throughout her life (physical, sexual, psychological, etc.)

This violence threatens women, their dignity, their autonomy and their safety and generates serious consequences for their physical and emotional health.

The World Health Organization (WHO) in 1996 declared violence against women as a public health problem in the world. A violence whose consequences are devastating for the victims.

The woman who finds herself in a situation of abuse by her partner has the perception of having lost control of her life and has feelings of:

- *Helplessness*
- *Sadness*
- *Hopelessness*
- *Shame*
- *Fear*
- *Gonna*
- *Frustration*
- *Fault*
- *Etc.*

In addition, he has difficulties in decision-making and conflict resolution. Continuous exposure to violence in any of its manifestations generates anxiety and any stimulus can cause tension and anguish.

The aggressor does not have to be present for the woman to be in a constant state of alert; any stimulus can trigger tension. Fear is lodged in her life as she does not know when she will be insulted or attacked again, flashbacks appear frequently which leads her to permanently relive situations of abuse. This is due to continuous exposure to abuse.

The studies carried out by Echeburúa et al. (2002) point out that the consequences of abuse can be divided into two groups:

- *Post-traumatic stress (present in almost half of the sample studied); it was observed that there was an increase in this disorder in women who had experienced sexual assault by their partner and women who had recently experienced violence. Post-traumatic stress was mediated by the immediacy of the event and the humiliation received.*

- *Emotional discomfort: anxious-depressive symptomatology, low self-esteem, and maladjustment to daily life.*

Migrant women

Although the consequences of violence are equally terrible for all the women who suffer it, in the case of migrant women their situation worsens, they are much more vulnerable since the risk of being victims of gender violence is greater.

The findings found suggest that they are more likely to suffer psychological abuse, more sociocultural, language barriers, difficulty accessing the health system and regularizing their administrative situation and that it is necessary to include the post-migration context as another risk factor (Boira Nudelman and Tsomaia, 2018).

Psychological violence also has consequences for women's health because it tends to last for a long time, and the difficulty in perceiving it as aggression is an added problem to get out of the relationship.

Special reference to older women

As we have repeated in different lessons, violence does not understand age, and the consequences are similar whether the victim is a young, adult or older woman. Suffering violence from a partner causes great damage to mental health: suicidal ideation, post-traumatic stress disorder, anxiety, depression and substance abuse (Eslava, Lorena and Ausín, 2022).

In Spain, the National Health System has action protocols to care for victims of gender violence. It is an excellent tool for professionals in the health field that allows not only to carry out adequate care, but also to carry out prevention, diagnosis and follow-up, which means that women will receive comprehensive care in coordination with the rest of the resources.

Women victims of violence when attending the consultation may be part of a screening that allows the professional to detect indicators that alert to a possible situation of violence and apply the protocol.

In the health centers they have professionals with training in the field and with a willingness to offer them the help they need.

Consequences for women's health

Fatal consequences

- *Death (due to homicide, suicide, etc.)*

Physical health consequences

- *Miscellaneous injuries: bruises, injuries, wounds, burns... that can cause disability.*
- *Functional impairment.*
- *Non-specific physical symptoms (for example, headaches).*
- *Worse health.*

Consequences in chronic health conditions

- *Chronic pain*
- *Irritable bowel syndrome.*
- *Other gastrointestinal disorders.*
- *Sleep disorders.*
- *Disabilities.*

Consequences on sexual and reproductive health

- *Due to forced sexual intercourse: loss of sexual desire, menstrual disorders, sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV, vaginal bleeding and fibrosis, dyspareunia, chronic pelvic pain, urinary infection, cervical cancer, unwanted pregnancy.*
- *Due to abuse during pregnancy: high-risk pregnancy, increased maternal mortality, anemia, vaginal bleeding, threatened abortion, abortion, stillbirth, premature birth, low birth weight, increased perinatal mortality.*

Consequences on mental health

- *Depression.*
- *Anxiety.*
- *Post-traumatic stress disorder.*
- *Eating disorders (anorexia and bulimia).*
- *Psychopathological disorders.*

- *Attempted suicide, self-harm.*
- *Abuse of alcohol, drugs and psychopharmaceuticals.*
- *Psychological dependence on the aggressor (Stockholm Syndrome).*

Consequences for social health

- *Social isolation.*
- *Job's lose.*
- *Labor absenteeism.*
- *Decrease in the number of days of healthy life.*
- *Change of address and/or city forced by the need to protect oneself*

Text extracted from the Common Protocol for health action in the face of Gender Violence (2012). Women's Health Observatory. Ministry of Health, Social Services and Equality. Government of Spain

Sons and daughters in the face of gender violence

The impact of exposure to gender violence suffered by boys and girls has caused legal changes from being indirect victims to being direct victims of the violence that the father exerts on the mother. Organic Law 1/2004 (mentioned in previous lessons) includes in article 19.5:

"Minors who are under parental authority or custody of the person attacked will also have the right to comprehensive social assistance through these social services or live in family contexts in which acts of gender violence are committed. For these purposes, social services must have personnel specifically trained to care for minors, to effectively prevent and avoid situations that may lead to mental and physical harm to minors who live in family environments where there is domestic violence. gender. They must have child psychology professionals for the care of minor daughters and sons who are victims of gender-based violence, including vicarious violence"

Gender violence not only affects the emotional and physical health of women, but it also has consequences for the sons and daughters who are direct witnesses of the violence since they remain in constant direct exposure. It has taken the passage of time, and in some cases having reached the most serious consequences of gender violence (murder/parricide) as we have seen in previous lessons, to understand that

boys and girls suffer violence directly and without need to receive physical abuse, without receiving blows, it is not even necessary for the boy or girl to witness the aggression of the father towards the mother to suffer the consequences of this violence. There are many victims who claim that both girls and boys reproduce behaviors by imitation at very early ages. Continued exposure to abuse (even non-direct) is highly likely to promote the reproduction of learned behavior patterns.

Children exposed to violence suffer alterations in different areas of their physical, cognitive and social development, as well as in interpersonal relationships during childhood and adulthood. (Barudi, 2004)

A study carried out by Reyes (2015) found that most of the boys and girls had witnessed the violence that the father exerted on the mother, as well as heard insults, humiliations and threats, including breaking objects; a smaller percentage were direct witnesses of physical aggression (they saw how she was hit, kicked, pulled her hair, pushed); exposure to violence will also have long-term consequences since living with abuse means acquiring dominance and submission behavior patterns, thus perpetuating gender stereotypes and legitimizing violence as a method of resolving conflicts. In addition, it was found that the boys and girls were used by the father in the visitation regime to continue maintaining the violence.

As we can see, gender-based violence also implies a violation of the rights of children who are victims of violence against their mothers and therefore their protection and care must be approached from that perspective (Save the Children, 2011).

In addition, it is necessary to have prevention tools for their protection through awareness, early detection and the identification of risk and protection factors (Fernández-Montaña & Pérez, 2018).

Holden (2003) proposes different forms of exposure to violence that vary depending on whether the boy or girl is actively involved in the violent episode, observing the initial effects or not being aware of the incident.

- *Perinatal: violence exercised during pregnancy.*
- *Intervention of the boy or girl to protect the mother, for example, asking for the argument to stop.*
- *Victimization. It occurs when the minor is attacked, physically or psychologically, during the exercise of violence, is present during the aggression or without being present listening.*
- *Participation of the boy or girl in violence through behaviors of ridicule and aggression.*
- *Witness to the violence: the boy or girl hears, although he or she does not see, the aggression. Hears yelling, threats, or objects breaking.*

- *Observe the effects of violence: see the most immediate consequences such as bruises or injuries, police presence, broken furniture, etc.*
- *Experience the consequences: the boy or girl faces changes in her life because of aggression, separation, maternal depression. - Listen to others talk about aggression, through the mother, family, or other people.*
- *Ignores aggression, ignores it by not having happened in front of the boy or girl, because they were outside the house or because they were sleeping.*

Boys and girls who are exposed to violence can normalize it by growing up with the idea that it is something normal in relationships.

The consequences of violence will affect all areas of your life: from the deterioration of your health, academic performance and relationships with your peers.

To know more...

https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/203955/WHA49_R25_spa.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y

<https://apps.who.int/iris/handle/10665/80010>

https://violenciagenero.igualdad.gob.es/profesionalesInvestigacion/sanitario/docs/P_SanitarioVG2012.pdf

https://www.savethechildren.es/sites/default/files/imce/docs/violencia_genero_resumen.pdf

<https://observatorioviolencia.org/ninos-y-ninas-las-victimas-invisibles-de-la-violencia-de-genero/>

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Velasco Riego, L. (2015) Gender violence: break your silence. Practical manual to detect and deal with it. Libertas Ediciones.

TEST

Read carefully the wording of the questions and answer if it is TRUE or FALSE

1. Social isolation, loss of employment and work absenteeism are consequences for the social sphere.

True
False

2. Among the consequences on mental health are, among others, suicide attempts and self-harm.

True
False

3. *The non-specific physical symptoms are not a consequence of gender-based violence.*

True

False

4. *It is normal for women to experience flashbacks as a result of continuous exposure to abuse.*

True

False

5. *Boys and girls exposed to violence suffer alterations in different areas of their physical, cognitive and social development, as well as in interpersonal relationships during childhood and adulthood.*

True

False

CHAPTER 5

THEORIES ABOUT GENDER VIOLENCE



“Progress for women and girls is in dramatic reversal in many countries. The rights and freedoms that women and girls had experienced as normal – to work, to learn, to make decisions about their bodies – have been abruptly taken away. Some of those losses have been legislated or imposed by government authorities against courageous resistance. Others have come to light and have been exacerbated by unprecedented global crises, such as the Covid-19 pandemic.

Anne Hathaway

(Actress. UN Women Goodwill Ambassador, 2022)

LESSON

BASIC CONCEPTS

To begin with... Do you know how many theories have been developed to understand the violence that is exerted on women??

SELF_EVALUATION

Read carefully the wording of the questions and answer if it is TRUE or FALSE

1. The first theories that tried to explain gender violence were called multi-causal

True

False

2. The idea that violence was the cause of man's innate instinct corresponds to unicausal theories

True

False

3. . The cycle of violence was described by Walker (1989) as consisting of three phases: accumulation of tension, aggression and reconciliation.

True

False

4. To explain gender violence, we must take into account that it is a sustained situation over time in which interactions occur between the victim-aggressor and the environment.

True

False

5. The goal of feminism is to create an alternative social frame of reference

True

False

LESSON 1. INTRODUCTION

In this chapter, we will address the theories that explain gender violence; Attempts have been made to explain this type of violence from different perspectives that have attempted to respond to the problem. The first investigations focused on unicasual models, focusing on the characteristics of battered women and aggressors, focusing on mental disorder and masochism, theories that blamed women; Subsequent research pointed to their psychological reactions and not to guilt (Villavicencio and Sebastián, 1999).

To understand the complex situation that women victims of gender violence go through, it is necessary to contextualize it, understand the evolution and the progress that has been made.

It is also necessary to know how violence arises, why it is maintained and why it is so difficult to break the relationship. We cannot ignore the fact that in our society there are still certain beliefs that encourage and legitimize abuse. Thus, it is possible to answer the questions that are usually raised in different contexts regarding this violence. It will help us to know what aspects we should influence in the intervention with victims and aggressors and what are the obstacles we find ourselves in making decisions about the breakup or about requesting help.

The evolution of the theoretical framework offers us a vision of how violence affects all of society, men and women, it helps us to "realize" the need for change that we all must be part of to achieve a violence free society.

We will make special mention of the incidence of gender violence in other discriminatory variables such as: culture and religion, sexual orientation and socioeconomic status.

Without forgetting the situation of vulnerability, already commented, of migrant women and the influence of religion as the beliefs that underlie violence affect not only heterosexual women, but also homosexual men and women, and in the relationship between abuse and social strata.

It is important to know that gender violence is not something specific and isolated, it is not limited to a single social or cultural stratum and that we know only a small part of it.

LESSON 2

FROM THE FIRST UNICAUSAL THEORIES TO PSYCHOLOGICAL THEORIES

The first theories that wanted to explain the phenomenon of gender violence did so by focusing on the individual characteristics of the aggressor or the victim, that is, by focusing attention on isolated factors.

Within these theories, the idea of violence as an innate human instinct stands out. (Alsina and Borrás, 2000 cited in Tapia, 2011).

However, research has evolved to take into account the environment that surrounds the individual to explain gender violence from a more appropriate perspective. It is no longer conceptualized as a fact dependent on individual factors with a single cause, but rather as something multidimensional. (Domínguez, Vázquez-Portomeñe and Calvo, 2018).

Many studies have tried to dismantle these individual "risk factors", which are conceptualized as causes, (Posada, 2008), these factors are: the masochism of the victim, alcohol (it is really a disinhibitor and therefore it is used as justification), the socioeconomic level or the "pathological aggressor". There are more studies that conclude that abuse is determined by patterns of behavior that are transmitted in different generations.

If we do not take into account the context in which violence takes place, we run the risk of making it invisible and defining it as an isolated and private event. (Bosch, et al., 2006 cited in Tapia, 2011).

Currently, the causes of gender violence are sought in the social aspects of the environment, and not in the individual characteristics of the abuser or the victim (Pérez del Campo, 1995, cited in Posada 2008).

The WHO points out in its 2002 study on violence and health: "Violence is the result of the reciprocal and complex action between individual, relational, social, cultural and environmental factors". (quoted in Álvarez, 2016).

Violence is caused by cultural, social and psychological factors. To explain gender violence, we must consider that it is a sustained situation over time in which interactions occur between the victim-aggressor and the environment, these interactions are reciprocal and influence each other, and not only an isolated event. (Alcázar and Gómez-Jarabo, 2001).

Psychological theories focus attention on the context in which violence takes place. One of the theories that stands out the most in this sense is the feminist theory, which will be detailed later, and which considers the patriarchal society (to which we have referred in previous lessons) in which we find ourselves, and the relations of power and inequality to explain gender violence (Tapia, 2011). The woman is left in a situation of inferiority (Montaño and Alméras, 2007 cited in Tapia, 2011).

In this sense, from the ecological model, it is considered that gender violence is a sustained situation over time in which interactions occur between the victim-aggressor and the environment, these interactions are reciprocal and influence each other. mutually, and they are not just an isolated event (Alcázar and Gómez-Jarabo, 2001).

Therefore, we are talking about a complex problem that has repercussions in different areas: family, socio-health, economic and legal. (Domínguez, Vázquez-Portomeñe and Calvo, 2018).

Psychological theories

Theory of the cycle of violence

The theory of the cycle of violence explains how violence is produced and maintained, in turn, helps us understand why victims continue with their aggressor despite violent acts.

This theory was originally formulated by Walker (1989) who proposed three phases to explain the cycle of violence: accumulation of tension, episode of aggression, and honeymoon.

To understand these phases, it is important to note that 5 types of violence are distinguished (Cuervo and Martínez, 2013):

- Physical violence
- Psychological violence (which the victim justifies due to the character of the aggressor).
- Verbal violence.
- Economic violence.
- Sexual violence.

Walker (1998) describes the phases as follows:

- **Phase of accumulation of tension:** in this phase aggressive or hostile acts and behaviors appear. It is characterized because the woman is not aware or understands the situation of violence in which she finds herself, and also justifies these hostile acts. Therefore, she will try to calm her partner, please him, satisfy him and avoid confrontation. Added to this, it is common for her to believe that these acts are her fault.

- **Phase of explosion or aggression:** it is in this phase that physical, psychological and sexual aggressions occur. It is a short phase and in which the victim is most in danger. Typically, it is at this stage that the woman denounces or asks for help.

- **Phase of reconciliation or "honeymoon":** in this phase, repentance appears on the part of the aggressor and affective manipulations and guilt towards the victim. For her part, the woman believes in the change of her partner, and if she has asked for help, removes it. The beginning of this cycle is slow and is characterized by psychological abuse and control, the damage falls on the self-esteem of the woman. As the relationship progresses, verbal violence occurs, and finally physical aggression, which increases in intensity and frequency (Álvarez et al. 2016).

Along the same lines, Cuervo and Martínez (2013) propose 3 phases that are divided into different categories:

A **first phase** in which psychological, verbal and economic violence appears; and which is made up of: uncertainty, a trigger and acts of tension.

o **Uncertainty** revolves around the fear of ending the affective relationship due to threats from the aggressor (direct and indirect).

*o The **trigger**, these are acts, behaviors or words that the aggressor uses as justification at the beginning of the violence.*

*o **Acts of tension**, which are prior to physical violence and the following phase, also function as punishment if they cause emotional damage to the victim.*

*Cuervo and Martínez (2013), in the **second phase**, find physical and/or verbal violence. The authors distinguish here **violence**, which is characterized by direct acts by the aggressor to the victim (such as shoving, kicking or biting) that cause pain and are punishable; and the **defense or self-protection** in which the victim exercises violence towards the aggressor if she does not feel intimidated by the perpetrator, in which case she would do it in an imaginary way, this supposes an alternative solution or psychological protection.*

*Finally, these authors propose a third phase that they call **reconciled** and is characterized by promises in the aggressor and hope for change by the victim. In this phase are reconciliation, justification and acceptance.*

*Other definitions (Walker, Cuervo and Martínez, 2013) define **reconciliation** as the moment in which the perpetrator shows regret for her actions and promises not to repeat it. The violence would be repeated because the aggressor does not know what to change because there is no real cause of the abuse. In the absence of a real cause of abuse, the aggressor would not know what to change and therefore, the violence is repeated.*

*Due to the accusations of her aggressor, it is the victim who assumes the blame and responsibility for the acts, believing that she is the one who must change her behavior. This is known as **justification**. (Cuervo and Martinez, 2013). In **acceptance**, the victim perceives violence as a way to resolve conflicts in the couple and therefore accepts it.*

*As a central element of this cycle, there would be **dependency**, conceptualized by the fear of losing the other member of the couple, and which makes it impossible to break the cycle and continue in the relationship, and which would explain why the victim supports the violence.*

Added to this, the victims find themselves in situations of isolation, which contributes to sustaining the cycle. (Cuervo and Martinez, 2013).

On the other hand, these same authors suggest that the cycle could be broken when the victim is aware that the victimizer's promises of change are not real and are not going to be carried out or imply a change.

With the repetition of this cycle, they can undergo variations, the phases become shorter and the violence more intense. This agrees with what was proposed by Álvarez et al. (2016).

Learned helplessness theory

Learned helplessness is a theory postulated by (Seligman, 1975; Walker, 1979). Learned helplessness refers to the “psychological state that can occur when the individual cannot control or predict the events that shape her life; and as a consequence of which a series of motivational, cognitive and emotional disturbances originate that affect all of his behavior” (Díaz-Aguado et al. 2004, p. 124). That is, it is related to the lack of perception of control.

The learned helplessness theory is useful for understanding why in situations where the individual is deprived of control, they may develop mental disorders or illnesses. These situations can be: school failure, unemployment or victimization (Luchow, Crowl, Jeffrey & Kahn, 1985; Alloy, Abramson & Kossman, 1985 cited in Díaz-Aguado et al. 2004).

If the failure is attributed to internal, global and stable causes, the disorders will last longer.

Furthermore, if the individual believes that he cannot control the environment (personal helplessness), there is a loss of self-esteem. If, on the other hand, he believes that neither he nor anyone else can control the environment (universal defenselessness), this loss of self-esteem will not appear. (Díaz-Aguado et al. 2004).

Learned helplessness brings with it consequences such as: insecurity, anxious-depressive symptoms, low self-esteem and blockage, among others. (Alvarez et al. 2016).

Ferrándiz, (1996, as cited in Díaz-Aguado et al. 2004), explains that when there is a perception of loss of control over our actions, there are three aspects to take into account: motivational deficiency, cognitive deficiency and mental deficiency.
Emotional

- **Motivational deficiency** is characterized by decreased responses by the person who does not perceive that control. They learn that their actions are useless, and therefore do not make an effort to try.
- In **cognitive deficiency** appears a negative cognitive disposition, distortions and biased expectations. This also generates difficulties in memorizing, understanding and making decisions.
- With **emotional deficiency** there is an increase in emotionality, anxiety and negative affect. All this causes frustration, fear and dissatisfaction.

When analyzing these results, it is important to consider stereotypes about the role of women. These stereotypes encourage women to adjust without conflict to her social role (Ferrándiz, 1992; Díaz-Aguado and Martínez Arias, 2001 cited in Díaz-Aguado et al. 2004).

Alvarez et al. (2016), also explain that, when faced with an event in which the result is independent of the response given by the subject, the subject learns that it is beyond his control and, therefore, there is nothing he can do. In gender violence, this means that the woman remains immobile, unable to see other alternatives and has no hope that the violence will end, because she has learned that there is nothing she can do.

After having implemented personal defense skills against aggression, the victim will resort to passive strategies. (Walker, 1979 cited Álvarez et al. (2016). That is, the woman has learned that she is defenseless since whatever she does, the abuse is unpredictable and will continue.

Ecological theory (the Bronfenbrenner model)

Bronfenbrenner's Ecological Model (1979) proposes four levels of interaction: social, community, family and individual level. These four levels are not isolated or independent but have a reciprocal interaction and influence on each other.

- **The individual level (microsystem):** would be related to the individual characteristics of the victim and the aggressor. In the microsystem would be the environments closest to the person and that have a direct influence on it.

It also includes the activities, roles and interpersonal relationships that are developed in these contexts.

- *The mesosystem includes the interaction of several environments, that is, it includes several microsystems.*
- *In the macrosystem, the beliefs and attitudes of the culture in general are taken into account. (Monreal-Gimeno, Povedano-Diaz and Martínez-Ferrer, 2014). Bronfenbrenner's Ecological Model (1979) proposes four levels of interaction: social, community, family and individual level. These four levels are not isolated or independent but have a reciprocal interaction and influence on each other.*
- *The individual level (microsystem): would be related to the individual characteristics of the victim and the aggressor. In the microsystem would be the environments closest to the person and that have a direct influence on it. It also includes the activities, roles and interpersonal relationships that are developed in these contexts.*
- *The mesosystem includes the interaction of several environments, that is, it includes several microsystems.*
- *In the macrosystem, the beliefs and attitudes of the culture in general are taken into account. (Monreal-Gimeno, Povedano-Diaz and Martínez-Ferrer, 2014).*

De Alencar-Rodrigues and Cantera (2012) also take this perspective. Through the ecological model, abuse is understood as a product of the interaction of multiple factors related to the individual history of the victim and the abuser, with the macrosystem (myths about violence, macho culture), with the exosystem (stress, response institutions at the request of the victim, social networks) and with the microsystem (marital conflicts).

In this same line, Heise (1998) develops an integrated ecological model in which he explains gender violence as an interaction between personal, situational and sociocultural factors, and not as isolated factors. Therefore, we must pay attention to the social context and not to isolated factors. This author explains the 4 levels of Bronfenbrenner (personal history, microsystem, exosystem, macrosystem), applied to gender violence.

Vives (2011), taking Heise's ideas as a reference, delves into this ecological approach and describes the behaviors and beliefs that are present at each level of interaction that are associated with gender violence:

- *In personal history, we find aspects related to having witnessed violence within the family during childhood, being a victim of maltreatment in childhood or an absent or rejecting father.*
- *In the microsystem (immediate context), it appears: male domination in the family, as well as control of family assets, alcohol consumption and conflicts between the couple.*
- *In the exosystem, there is a low economic level or lack of employment, the isolation of women and family, and being in their peer group with criminals.*
- *In the macrosystem, we see aspects related to beliefs, attitudes, and norms of society such as: the right of men over women, stereotypes that associate masculinity with dominance and aggression, gender roles, and approval of violence to others and physical punishment. All this is essential when it comes to developing intervention programs.*

Feminist theory

Some authors raise the beginning of feminism in the French revolution (Lorente, 1999). However, the academic boom of this current arises in 1975, that is when its claim in the classroom begins.

Feminism frames gender violence as a social and political problem. (From Miguel, 2005; Posada, 2008). Gender conceptualizes the "feminine" or "masculine" not as something merely biological but as a cultural, political and social construction. This supposes an establishment of roles between men and women that give a position of power to one sex over the other.

To talk about feminism, we inevitably need to talk about patriarchy, since feminism emerges as a fight against the ideals that the heteropatriarchal society establishes. (From Miguel, 2005). The problem of gender violence is also a problem of the discourse in which this violence is introduced (Posada, 2008).

From the patriarchy, the figure of the woman is below the man and subordinated to him, from this perspective violence is implicitly accepted and seen as something normal (due to the nature of the sexes), De Miguel (2005). In other words, violence and abuse towards women is legitimized. (Posada, 2008).

Historically, violence against women has been legitimized by the mere fact of being women. This is due to their conceptualization as inferior and as a property of man, to which they owe respect, submission and obedience. A clear example of this we see in religion. (From Miguel, 2005; Posada, 2008). This justification comes from the norm, the values and forms of relationship of society.

Patriarchy is so established in our society that even women themselves may think that their behavior has been freely chosen. (From Miguel, 2005).

Martínez (2020) explains that the heteropatriarchal discourse conceptualizes gender violence as a deviation and punctual and isolated act. From the exclusion and rigidity in his speech and making a victimization of the attacked woman. On the other hand, the feminist discourse defines gender violence as a systemic, structural and instrumental phenomenon. From the inclusion and fluency in its definition. From this perspective, gender violence would be included within a scenario of resistance by women to the power of men.

The objective of feminism is to create an alternative social frame of reference, from which violence against women is intolerable for society. (From Miguel, 2005). That is, to create a new meaning, to correctly conceptualize actions, thoughts, and beliefs regarding this type of violence that have been considered normal from the patriarchy as conflicts and power relations.

Therefore, what is proposed is a cognitive liberation, which consists of questioning our principles, values and attitudes that have been learned from our childhood, to later give way to action, individually and collectively. (MacAdam, 1982 cited in De Miguel, 2005).

From the feminist approach, the need to focus attention on the inequality of power between men and women in collective knowledge is claimed (Martínez, 2020). To clarify, feminism seeks the empowerment of women understood as control of material and symbolic resources for development (physical, human, financial, intellectual), and not as domination or superior power of women over others. This process should be done collectively and considering the context in which we find ourselves. (Alvarez et al., 2016).

Some contributions of feminism have focused on demonstrating that there is nothing natural in gender violence. In this sense, we must differentiate between aggressiveness and violence. A person is aggressive regardless of the moment or

against whom, however, in gender violence, we find that the aggressor is a socially accepted and well-regarded person and the violence is only exercised against his wife, that is, in a very concrete. (Corsi, 2003 cited in De Miguel, 2005). Although there is currently greater sensitivity and knowledge, the stereotype of the abusive man is maintained (Martínez, 2020),

Other authors such as Miedzian, (1995, as cited in De Miguel, 2005) develop the idea that the use of violence is learned in society. The messages that reach children is that they must prove that they are not "a girl", and for this, they are taught to do so through violence. This author gives as an example any video game for children. We see here that there is a link between masculinity and violence that is learned and developed in the context.

The literature has focused on collecting direct testimonies from victims of abuse to complete the theoretical contribution and dismantle some myths. One of the myths that appears around this violence is the myth of female passivity (Filipovic, 2008 cited in Martínez, 2020). This myth assumes that women do not defend themselves and act passively. On the contrary, women who define themselves as feminists do confront, resist and politicize their experience. It is necessary to position women as resistant to the power of men, in order to put aside the conceptualization of women as "easily victimized objects" (Kelly and Radford, 1996; Molina Petit, 2015 cited in Martínez, 2020).

These studies conclude that what is common in these relationships is misogyny, therefore, those couples who perceive their partner as equal will not use violence against them (Bosch and Ferrer, 2002 cited in De Miguel, 2005).

Other myths that exist around gender violence are: the myth of romantic love or the myth of rape. The myth of romantic love speaks of the standards of love that women are taught and the influence that this has on gender violence (Álvarez et al. 2016), this myth will be explained later in more detail. The myth of rape shows that only those extreme attacks that involve the body, such as physical attacks, are identified as gender violence. What is intended from feminism is that other acts are identified as violence and not only the extremes (Martínez, 2020).

Therefore, we must take into account the context in which gender violence develops, that is, the heteropatriarchal social framework with masculine universals in which this type of violence is framed and legitimized. According to the Platform of the World March of Women in Euskal Herria (2013), currently, this discourse has evolved

and the behavior is no longer justified, but rather it is framed as acts deviating from the social norm and that must be punished for society (quoted in Martínez, 2020).

Other theories

Some theories, Dutton and Painter's traumatic union theory (1981); the paradoxical punishment of Long and McNamara, (1989); and Dutton and Painter's (1993) intermittency theory, focus on the fact that abuse is perpetuated and maintained because it involves intermittent reinforcement. Good moments are interspersed with bad ones in the relationship (Álvarez et al., 2016).

*Explanatory models have chosen to focus on explaining the myths that appear around gender violence. One of these myths is: **the myth of romantic love.***

Love is subject to learning. What we learn through literature or cinema is that, in love, a woman must give herself completely, her lover being the center of her life and therefore she must sacrifice herself for him. (Alvarez et al., 2016). Not having a partner means not meeting the objectives established in relation to starting a family, which brings a feeling of failure and incompleteness in women. Therefore, they go looking for a "prince charming" to save and protect them. (Nogueiras, 2005 cited in Álvarez et al., 2016). This also influences the difficulties in breaking the cycle of violence, since abandoning your abuser implies abandoning your vital project and creating a new life.

Having ideals of romantic love makes us more vulnerable to suffering gender violence. (Bosch, Ferrer, García, Ramis, Mas, Navarro, Torrens, 2007 cited in Álvarez et al., 2016). In this model, inequality and stereotypes associated with gender are perpetuated.

*Other myths related to gender violence are: **myth of the isolated mind**, which conceives psychological suffering is due to its genetic constitution; **myth of female masochism**, which postulates that women remain in these relationships because it is in their biology, they are masochists and in mistreatment they obtain benefits; **myth of sadism**, which speaks of the aggressive component of men justified by their biology; and **the myth of emotional dependence**, a concept that describes a consequence and not so much a cause; Furthermore, dependency causes the woman to be isolated. (Alvarez et al., 2016). As we mentioned at the beginning of the chapter, these myths are based on a reductionist vision of gender violence, taking*

taking into account individual and biological factors and without taking into account the context in which it develops.

*Another interesting perspective that we can take into account to frame this violence is to understand **gender identities**. Gender identity is acquired through the process of socialization. In this process, the norms associated with being a man or a woman are internalized, as well as the behaviors that are designated as masculine or feminine. As we have seen in previous lessons, socialization agents contribute to the acquisition of gender roles, behaviors, stereotypes and beliefs (“a good woman sacrifices herself, “it is better to keep quiet”, “biologically women know how to care”, “men always know what they want” ...). This generates cognitive schemes in the individual (Álvarez et al., 2016).*

In society, men are taught values such as: autonomy, strength or aggressiveness; and on the other hand, women are educated to be dependent, weak, and complement men (Altable, 1998 cited in Álvarez et al., 2016).

Incidences on other discriminations. Cultural and religious discrimination.

Gender violence in migrant couples is a problem in Spain because a third of the complaints are due to this population (Gracia, Herrero, Lila and Fuente, 2010, cited in Alencar-Rorigues and Cantera, 2016).

The mere fact of migrating puts people in a situation of vulnerability, which influences increased stress, adaptation difficulties or even puts them at risk of developing a mental disorder. (Fuente and Herrero, 2012; Ruiz, Torrente, Rodríguez, and Ramírez, 2011, cited in Alencar-Rorigues and Cantera, 2016), (Raj and Silverman, 2002; Vives-Cases et al., 2010 cited in (Fernández, Vázquez -Portomeñe and Calvo, 2018).

Migration supposes an interaction and mutual influence between two cultures. To talk about how this interaction influences gender violence, we need to take into account the previous culture of the couple or family that migrates (Tapia, 2011). In other words, it is necessary to explore what the context is like in the country of

origin, how couple relationships are considered, and the legal sanctions that are given around violence.

Normally, the reception context is more egalitarian and the other more traditional (Darvihspour, 2003; Hyman, et. al., 2008, Menjívar and Salcido, 2002 cited in Tapia, 2011). Violence is related to the previous conceptualization that exists about it in the country of migrants. Despite the need for more research in this field, there are several studies that analyze the migration of families from Latin America to Spain.

Specifically, Tapia (2011) explains the changes that occur in migrant families from Bolivia to Spain in relation to gender violence.

In Bolivia, violence against women is more accepted and therefore legitimized and justified in society, it is more common and less reported. This normalization, Tapia observed when surveying the migrant women, the majority initially stated that they had not suffered violence from their partner, however, when inquiring they found: shouting, denigration, little care of the children..., which also He was maintained by the family environment.

According to Tapia (2011), when migrating, changes occur in families. For example, that women assume economic provision and enter the labor market. This supposes a loss of control of the dominance of men over women, which brings with it compensatory behaviors to maintain the role or superior hierarchy, which translates into greater abuse.

Continuing with the analysis of this author, there are certain risk factors associated with migration: isolation of women, being in an irregular migrant position, ignorance of their rights, and fear of losing their children, whether real or due to threats. of her husband. Alencar-

Rodrigues and Cantera, (2016), add: precarious working conditions, legal problems and administrative difficulties. All this favors the dependency of the woman on her aggressor, increases inequality and the control of the couple is greater. When there is a complaint, they feel guilty for the consequences for their partner, such as possible deportation, and this may lead to an attempt to withdraw the complaint.

Sometimes migration can be an opportunity to break the cycle of violence and get out of the violent relationship. This is due to having in the country of destination, normally, a greater awareness of gender violence, and being less accepted in society, even though it exists, it is more condemned. It will depend on job opportunities and

being a legal migrant or not. (Tapia, 2011). Another factor that can be included in seeking help is having sons or daughters, in Latin American culture motherhood and family are reinforced (Sabina, Cuevas and Lannen, 2014, cited in Alencar-Rodrigues and Cantera, 2016).

All of the above highlights the need to increase knowledge about migrant women, both about their rights and existing resources (Alencar-Rorigues and Cantera, 2016).

It is also interesting to mention the differences that exist in the profile of the national abuser (Spain) compared to the migrant profile.

Abusive immigrant men are younger and have been with their partner for fewer years. Most have a low educational level, like the Spanish, although compared to them, there are some with more university studies. The unemployment rate is higher among migrants and they also have a greater number of children as a couple.

On the other hand, they have a lower rate of psychiatric history, the main one being addictions. Although both migrants and Spaniards have biased thoughts about women, it is common for migrants to have more distorted ideas about the inferiority of women and about violence as a conflict resolution mechanism. In all these differences, we cannot ignore the influence of culture (Fernández-Montalvo, 2011).

Finding literature that explains gender violence in Middle Eastern culture is complex. However, Braco (2022) explains how the traditional constructions of gender, family, religion and patriarchy influence this culture, translating the ideas of Al-Ali (2019).

In relation to this premise, Braco describes the family as a central element, which is greatly influenced by gender roles, which is not only observed in daily practice, but also in laws. In addition, religion is considered as a protector of family integrity and the values of fidelity and respect are extended; religious leaders are also politicians, therefore, they are the ones who distribute the resources “to the head of the family”, the man who must administer them.

In these countries women learn to suppress their desires, dedicate themselves and obey the men and older people in their family. On the other hand, men learn that they must protect and be responsible for women and older people. In the family, honor is linked to female sexuality (Descentrada, 2022, cited in Braco, 2022).

Another feature is that the line of descent is established through the father; the lineage is transmitted through the sons and the daughters remain linked to the

paternal lineage even after getting married (Braco, 2022). Women are in charge of having offspring and the transmission of culture. Honor is valued and losing the role status of man means losing honor and humiliation.

Therefore, in the Middle East, patriarchy extends to all spheres: family, civil society and state (Braco, 2022).

Finally, mention some ideas about the role of religion in gender abuse. There is a relationship between religion and gender violence (Ochoa, 2019). Compared to non-religious couples, those who practice religion or belong to a religious community, women have a 21% risk of being victims of gender-based violence. In less religious couples the probability is 0.26%. This would be explained because in religion the man is conceptualized as a figure of power, a boss located above the woman.

However, attending church is a protective factor against gender violence (Ochoa, 2019). Curandi et al. (2002 cited in Ochoa, 2019) mention that people who go to church regularly choose to receive help to manage violence.

Sexual orientation

Gender violence and the heteropatriarchal system go as far as discrimination on sexual orientation. From this system, a person's sexual orientation is not seen as another characteristic, but as something totally contrary to a heterosexual person (therefore, different from the established roles) and who performs disastrous behaviors. (Sanchez, 2017).

Sanchez (2017) states that, from here, each sex is associated with "adequate" beliefs and behaviors, being homosexual moves away from these stereotypes. In addition, due to double standards, people who deviate from that "norm", in this case homosexual people, are not allowed to carry out behaviors such as getting married or having sons and daughters.

All this is part of the process of socialization of the patriarchy, we have previously analyzed its influence on gender violence.

The woman's mission is to form a family, therefore, being homosexual distances her from the heterosexual family. Belonging to the LGTBIQ community endangers the heteropatriarchal system, and violence is exercised against its members to protect that system, just as it happens when women achieve independence. When the woman steps out of her established "femininity" as, for example, being homosexual,

she is punished. In some communities in South Africa, "therapeutic or corrective rape" is used to try to "convert the woman." Religion can support cultural frameworks that punish when women or non-heterosexual women stray from their "established role." (Sanchez, 2017).

Women and LGBTIQ people are potential victims of violence, including sexual violence (Sánchez, 2017). Being homosexual is another risk factor for women to suffer gender violence.

Class discrimination: perspective according to socioeconomic status

Stereotypes appear in terms of gender violence and social status. However, we have already verified in previous lessons that this type of violence is transversal and does not understand social class.

It is true that families with a low socioeconomic status resort more to the Security Forces or Social Services, but this does not imply that gender violence appears only in this social stratum. (Ramonet, 2004 cited in Yugueros, 2014).

All women can be victims of gender violence, regardless of their culture, social class, type of partner or marriage bond (Ochoa, 2019; Menjívar and Salcido, 2002 cited in Tapia, 2011).

Although it is true that being in a situation of economic vulnerability, that is, having a low income or being economically dependent on the aggressor, negatively influences the search for help or complaint (Ferreiro-Baamonde, 2005; Larrauri Pijoán, 2003; Medina, 2002; Quintero -Verdugo, 2011; Government Delegation for Gender Violence, 2015 cited in Fernández, Vázquez-Portomeñe and Rodríguez-Calvo, 2018).

Studies show that being unemployed, both the aggressor and/or the victim increases the risk of suffering gender violence. (Abramsky et al., 2011; Thompson et al., 2006; Vives-Cases et al., 2009, Sanz-Barbero et al., 2015, cited in Fernández, Vázquez-Portomeñe and Rodríguez-Calvo, 2018).

Fernández, Vázquez-Portomeñe and Rodríguez-Calvo (2018), analyze the sociodemographic characteristics, for this they examine the files of Santiago de Compostela in cases of gender violence that are in a judicial process. They find that almost 33% of women did not have a job or were on sick leave; in the case of abusive men, the percentage is similar, 32%.

In addition, almost 85% of women had an income of more than 900 euros, compared to 60% for men, and only 4% of women had an income of more than 1,500 euros. Despite the fact that these data show that many couples belong to a medium-low socioeconomic status, we cannot establish a causal relationship between both facts.

Studies conducted in shelters for battered women show similar results. The women who come to these centers are mostly unemployed and have few financial resources. (Emakunde, 2009, Patró, Corbalán and Liminana, 2007 cited in Fernández-González, Calvete and Orue, 2016); (Fernández-González, Calvete and Orue, 2016).

Redondo, Graña and González (2009), also study the sociodemographic characteristics of abusers who are in psychological treatment in Madrid. Along the same lines as the previous data, they find that 50.7% of them belonged to low social strata, 35% to middle strata, 10.9% to medium-high strata and 3.6% to high strata. Therefore, gender violence appears in all social strata.

By way of conclusion, as mentioned at the beginning, gender violence is present in all social classes. Even though in the case of abusers in legal proceedings, the data points to a relationship between lower-middle social classes and gender violence, we cannot affirm that it is a causal relationship.

In short, there are many theories that have tried to explain the causes of gender violence, but many of them have become obsolete while others evolve indicating inequality as the main cause of this violence and the need to prevent it in generations. future through education to change lifestyles, erroneous beliefs, stereotypes to achieve healthy and egalitarian relationships and a society free of violence.

Preventing violence requires considering everything that we have been commenting on in relation to cultural patterns. The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women explicitly recognizes that "women continue to be subjected to significant discrimination" and stresses that such discrimination violates the principles of equal rights and respect for human dignity. According to article 1, discrimination means "any distinction, exclusion or restriction based on sex

(...) in the political, economic, social, cultural and civil spheres or in any other sphere". The Convention positively affirms the principle of equality by requesting the States Parties to take "all appropriate measures, including legislation, to ensure the full development and advancement of women, in order to guarantee them the exercise and enjoyment of the rights human rights and fundamental freedoms on an equal basis with men" (article 3) and recommends, "to modify the sociocultural patterns of conduct of men and women, with a view to achieving the elimination of prejudices and customary practices and of any other nature that are based on the idea of inferiority or superiority of any of the sexes or in stereotyped roles of men and women."

Intervening to eliminate violence means taking into account the different types of prevention:

- *Primary prevention is the one that is carried out to avoid the appearance of a problem. It is aimed at the general population and especially at the highest risk population, to try to reduce the number of cases of a problem.*
-
- *Secondary prevention: its objective is to reduce the number of existing cases of a given problem. It acts during the development of the problem on the people affected.*
- *Tertiary prevention acts after the problem has appeared, trying to minimize its effects, that is, the consequences, facilitating people's recovery and avoiding relapses.*

Any prevention program should focus on changing sexist behavior models and raising awareness of the consequences of violence against women, as well as promoting awareness among women who suffer from it in order to break the relationship and that they understand that, even if or it is easy, they can opt for a life without violence.

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TEST

1. *The cycle of violence was described by Walker (1989) and consists of 2 phases: aggression and reconciliation.*

True

False

2. *Alencar-Rodrigues and Cantera (2016) warn about the need to increase knowledge about migrant women, both about their rights and existing resources.*

True

False

3. *Feminism frames gender violence as a political problem, but not a social one.*

True

False

4. *The Ecological Model of Bronfenbrenner (1979) raises four levels of interaction: social, community, family and individual level. These four levels are independent of each other.*

True

False

5. *Learned helplessness is a theory postulated by (Seligman, 1975; Walker, 1979). Learned helplessness refers to the "psychological state that can occur when the individual cannot control or predict the events that shape their lives"*

True

False

CHAPTER 6

OTHER MANIFESTATIONS OF VIOLENCE



"Never forget that a political, economic or religious crisis will suffice to call into question the rights of women"

Simone de Beauvoir (1908-1986)
(French philosopher, feminist activist)

To begin with... What do you know about other forms of violence against women?

SELF_EVALUATION

Read carefully the wording of the questions and answer if it is TRUE or FALSE

1. Women in sexual violence are most victims.

True

False

2. Female Genital Mutilation is performed mostly in Western countries.

True

False

3. In Spain, most of the people who practice prostitution are nationals.

True

False

4. Sexual violence, female genital mutilation, prostituted women, and human trafficking for the purpose of sexual exploitation are other manifestations of violence.

True

False

5. Sexual violence is not considered a public health problem.

True

False

LESSON 1 INTRODUCTION

Sexual violence, female genital mutilation, prostituted women and human trafficking for the purpose of sexual exploitation are other manifestations of violence. This type of violence is very worrying, giving rise to important social and legislative movements.

These types of crimes have risen exponentially throughout the world and especially in some countries. In the case of Spain, and despite the changes introduced to the Penal Code in recent years, these crimes have risen by more than 20%. Shame, humiliation, and thoughts of self-blame and inadequacy that society itself makes people feel make it difficult to report and recover.

It is also true that the visibility of these crimes in the social sphere has led to greater awareness about them, although different obstacles continue to be found in daily practice, such as the lack of collaboration of the victim or family members, fear of threats from the aggressor, lack of resources, etc.

Although there is still a long way to go, we will try to give visibility through the contents included in the following lessons, trying to analyze these manifestations of violence.

LESSON 2 SEXUAL VIOLENCE

Sexual violence is considered a serious public health problem that must be responded to from different areas such as care and health to meet the needs of the people who suffer it:

- *Psychological health.*
- *Physical health.*
- *The monitoring and continuity of security, mental health and support.*

This type of violence remains hidden and is only reported in a very small percentage.

According to the Macro-survey (2019) carried out in Spain, in a sample of almost 10,000 women representatives of the female population, the following results were obtained:

- *13.7% of women aged 16 or over (2,802,914 women) have suffered sexual violence throughout their lives from any person (current partner, past partners, people with whom they have not had a relationship).*
- *Of the total number of women aged 16 or over residing in Spain, 6.5% (1,322,052 women) have suffered sexual violence at some point in their lives from someone with whom they do not maintain and have not maintained a relationship of partner.*
- *3.4% (703,925 women) of all women aged 16 or over have suffered sexual violence in childhood before reaching 15 years of age.*
- *2.2% (453,371 women) have been raped at some time in their lives.*
- *74.6% of women who have suffered rape have also experienced other situations of sexual violence.*
- *13.7% of women who have suffered some type of sexual violence claim to have been raped when they were under the influence of alcohol or drugs.*

In addition, the results of this study reveal different vulnerability variables:

- *Disability: women with disabilities have suffered sexual violence outside their partner throughout their lives in a higher proportion (10.3%) than women without accredited disability (6.2%).*

- *Young women (16 to 24 years old) have experienced sexual violence outside their partner throughout their lives in a higher proportion (11.0%) than women aged 25 or over (6.0%).*
- *Migrants: migrant women have been subjected to sexual violence outside their partner throughout their lives in a slightly higher proportion (9.8%) than women born in Spain (6.0%).*

We could define sexual violence as any behavior of a sexual nature carried out without the consent of the other person.

The World Health Organization (WHO) defines sexual violence as: "any sexual act, attempt to consummate a sexual act, unwanted sexual comments or advances, or actions to commercialize or otherwise utilize the sexuality of a person under duress by another person, regardless of the person's relationship to the victim, in any setting, including the home and workplace.

UNICEF refers to sexual violence as "the action of subjecting a person to the will of an aggressor, taking advantage of the impotence and helplessness of the victim, with the intention of harming them, causing pain and suffering, both physical and mental, depersonalizing them." and dominate her, subjecting her to sexual acts without her authorization or consent."

According to the WHO (2013) sexual assaults have serious consequences for the health of women:

Regarding reproductive health:

- *Gynecological trauma*
- *Unplanned pregnancy*
- *Unsafe abortion*
- *sexual dysfunction*
- *Sexually transmitted infections (STIs), including HIV infection*
- *traumatic fistula*

At the behavioral level:

- *High-risk behaviors such as unprotected sexual relations, multiple intimate partners, alcohol and other substance abuse...*
- *A greater risk of exercising this violence by men and of suffering it by women).*

Regarding mental health:

- *Depression*
- *Post-traumatic stress disorder*
- *Anxiety*
- *Sleep difficulties*
- *Somatic symptoms*
- *Suicidal behavior*
- *Panic disorder*

Deadly Results:

- *Death by:*
 - ✓ *Suicide.*
 - ✓ *Complications of pregnancy.*
 - ✓ *Unsafe abortion.*
 - ✓ *AIDS.*
 - ✓ *Murder during rape or in defense of "honor".*
 - ✓ *Infanticide of a child born because of rape.*

REMEMBER

Appropriate professional actions by the different resources (health, police, social, judicial) surely minimize the consequences

Sexual violence encompasses different behaviors from verbal harassment to forced penetration, as well as other coercive behaviors, from sexual pressure and intimidation to physical force. This type of violence affects both genders, but it is mostly suffered by women at the hands of men.

1. Psychological factors: Lack of self-control, poor sexual self-esteem, personality disorder, etc., are some of the psychological factors that can cause sexual violence.

2. Social factors: Within these factors we can find the reification of women and sexist language.

3. Personal factors: Although they are not always the cause for this violence, sometimes circumstances such as alcoholism or drug addiction favor the commission of this type of crime.

REMEMBER

Sexual violence is another manifestation of inequality and the power relations of men over women.

Sexual violence is one of the most brutal manifestations of gender violence

In Spain, as in other countries, treatment programs for sexual offenders have been implemented, trying to reduce recidivism, although they have not always been successful.

As we previously mentioned, these crimes are included in Spain Penal Code, and more specifically, we find the following:

- *Sexual assault: Articles 178 to 180.*
- *Sexual assault on minors under 16 years of age: Articles 181 to 183 bis.*
- *Sexual harassment: Article 184.*
- *Exhibitionism and sexual provocation: Articles 185 and 186.*

Within the framework of sexual violence, we contemplate sexual harassment and harassment for reasons of sex, discussed in previous lessons, but which we think it appropriate to remember, since it is a behavior that affects a significant number of women.

Both crimes are related to each other, since they are behaviors prosecuted by Organic Law 3/2007, for effective equality between women and men. They are also considered discriminatory acts and considered done of the types of violence that women suffer the most.

*Despite being closely linked, **sexual harassment** and gender-based harassment are not the same. Sexual harassment refers to any behavior of a sexual nature, whether physical or verbal, whose objective is to violate the dignity of a person, especially when said behavior creates a hostile, humiliating, offensive or degrading environment, and almost always having as a victim to a woman.*

*On the contrary, with **gender-based harassment** we refer to unwanted situations or behaviors towards a person because of their gender, with the aim of violating their right to dignity.*

The main difference between the two concepts is that sexual harassment refers only to the sexual sphere, while harassment based on sex or gender covers much broader

discriminatory situations, without the need for there to be a sexual intention on the part of the aggressor.

As we have previously pointed out, both sexual harassment and gender-based harassment are suffered mainly by women, in addition to having another series of consequences that affect the harassed person and unfortunately in society.

In relation to sexual harassment, the previously mentioned study carried out in Spain indicates the following:

When asked about unwanted behaviors with sexual connotations, the respondents described insistent or leering looks, unwanted physical contact, exhibitionism, sending sexually explicit images or photos that made them feel offended, humiliated, intimidated, etc.:

- 40.4% (8,240,537 women say they have suffered sexual harassment at some point in their lives.

- 18.5% (3,778,356) of women say they have suffered sexual harassment in childhood, before reaching the age of 15 years of age

- 74.9% of women who have suffered sexual harassment (30.3% of women aged 16 or over) report having suffered insistent or leering looks that have made them feel intimidated, and 40.4% (representing 17.5% of those aged 16 or over) have had unwanted physical contact, such as unnecessarily proximity, touching parts of their body or kissing

- 98.2% of the women who have suffered sexual harassment experienced it by a male aggressor 73.9% of the women who have suffered sexual harassment and have answered the question about the sex of the aggressor, report that the aggressor was an unknown man, the 34.6% say that it was a male friend or acquaintance and 17.3% say that the aggressor was a man from the work environment.

- 75.2% of the women who have suffered sexual harassment affirm that it has happened more than once compared to 24.1% who say that it only happened once.

- The prevalence of sexual harassment among women between the ages of 16 and 24 is much higher than that of women aged 25 or over: 60.5% have suffered it on some

occasion and 34.7% before reaching the age of 15 compared to 38.0% and 16.6%, respectively, of women aged 25 or over.

Victims of sexual or gender-based harassment may suffer stress, anxiety, insomnia, fatigue and other health disorders, which can lead to serious disorders. For society, the consequences of these behaviors translate into costs for the health system, social security, the judicial system, etc. Likewise, they also undermine the values of equality, democracy and social justice.

Public Institutions have turned to finding solutions to this problem, and almost all share the same common denominator: it is to educate the whole of society against these behaviors or attitudes.

Spanish Legal System already has sanctions, including prison sentences, since sexual harassment constitutes a crime defined in the Penal Code, in its article 184.

Sexual harassment and harassment based on sex in the workplace have been and continue to be a scourge, and this even though regulatory and cultural advances have made it possible to develop equality policies that highlight the rights of women.

These behaviors are a manifestation of inequality in power relations between women and men in the workplace and represent one of the most common forms of violence against women in our society.

It is the Equality Law, in its article 48, which refers to the establishment of measures aimed at the prevention of both conducts in the company and includes the obligation on the part of companies to arbitrate specific procedures for its prevention and to give channel to complaints or claims that may be made by the people who suffer it.

With this precept, the equality law focuses attention on a persistent problem today, and highlights the importance and significance that its eradication has, not only for the victims but also for the companies

The health system is the main recipient of women who suffer sexual assault, specifically the emergency service. The action protocols are focused on:

- Immediate attention before the possibility of existence of injuries.

- *Prevention of sexually transmitted infections.*
- *Prevention of pregnancies.*
- *Indication of subsequent serological and microbiological controls.*
- *Communication to the court and sending a judicial part urgently.*
- *The action of the health professionals in the event of a sexual assault is carried out jointly with the forensic doctor on duty for the exploration and collection of samples.*
- *It is convenient that there is a follow-up of the victim's health, both physical and psychological.*

In general, sexual assaults, as we have indicated, anyone can be the object of this violence, the main victims being women. Some studies indicate that 15% of women will be victims of this crime throughout their lives (Campbell and Wasco, 2005; Vickerman and Margolin, 2009, as cited in Sarasua et al., 2012); Regarding minors, the prevalence rate is 19.2% in girls and 7.4% in boys.

The damage caused by this type of aggression has serious consequences for mental health; Feelings of fear of suffering physical and psychological harm, or losing one's life, generate a certain helplessness, as well as a lack of control (Echeburúa, Corral, Sarasua, & Zubizarreta, 1996).

Faced with these situations, the professionals, including the people who assist the victims, must pay special attention not to re-victimize them because a double trauma can be caused by not giving the importance that a sexual assault deserves. (Cyrulnil, 2002, cited in Fernández, Novoa and Salvador, 2020)

In the Autonomous Community of Castilla y León they have a comprehensive care program for victims of gender violence called "Objective Zero Tolerance" and which is framed within the Ministry of Family and Equal Opportunities; This Ministry is in charge of designing actions to meet the needs of women victims of these crimes in a comprehensive way, for this reason they have launched action programs to care for women and girls who are victims of sexual assault and abuse (whose aggressors are neither partners or ex-partners); This program includes psychological and legal care.

Regarding legal assistance, it is a free service for the victim and has specialized legal assistance in this type of crime in legal proceedings 24 hours a day, every day of the year.

Regarding psychological care, a post-crisis intervention care service is offered. This service is provided by psychologists from the Official College of Psychology.

REMEMBER

In the European Union between 45% and 55% of women have suffered sexual harassment since the age of 15 (European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights, 2014)

To know more...

https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/98821/WHO_RHR_12.37_spa.pdf;sequence=1

<https://interactive.unwomen.org/multimedia/infographic/violenceagainstwomen/es/index.html#nav-3>

<https://lac.unfpa.org/es/temas/violencia-basada-en-género>

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TEST

1. *Anyone can be the object of sexual violence, but the main victims are women.*

True
False

2. *The World Health Organization (WHO) defines sexual violence as: “any sexual act, an attempt to consummate a sexual act, unwanted sexual comments or advances, or actions to trade or otherwise use the sexuality of a person under coercion by another person, regardless of the person's relationship to the victim, in any setting, including the home and workplace.*

True
False

3. *Sexual violence is not another manifestation of inequality and the power relations of men over women.*

True
False

4. *According to the World Health Organization (2013) sexual assaults have serious consequences for the health of women:*

True

False

5. The damage caused by this type of aggression has serious consequences for mental health, such as fear, but not a lack of control

True

False

LESSON 3

FEMALE GENITAL MUTILATION



"It is imperative to stop this flagrant manifestation of gender inequality. With urgent investment and timely action, we can meet the Sustainable Development Goal target of eliminating female genital mutilation by 2030 and building a world that respects the integrity and autonomy of women."

Antonio Guterres. Secretary General of the United Nations (2022)

To begin... What do you know about female genital mutilation?

SELF_EVALUATION

Read carefully the statement of the questions and answer if it is TRUE or FALSE

1. It is estimated that there are more than 200 million girls and women who are mutilated in 30 countries in Africa, the Middle East and Asia.

True

False

2. The practice of Female Genital Mutilation is a procedure consisting of altering or damaging the female genital organs for medical reasons.

True

False

3. According to the WHO, the most common practices Type I and Type II account for 90% of cases.

True

False

4. Excision has been performed on most girls before they were five years old.

True

False

5. Female genital mutilation is a violation of the fundamental human rights of girls and women.

True

False

Definition

The World Health Organization (WHO) defines Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) as "all procedures consisting of altering or damaging the female genital organs for reasons that have nothing to do with medical decisions and is internationally recognized as rape. of the human rights of women and girls.

It also adds that this practice "reflects deep-rooted inequality between the sexes and constitutes an extreme form of discrimination against women and girls. This practice violates their rights to health, safety and physical integrity, the right not to be subjected to torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, and the right to life in cases where the procedure ends up resulting in death."

In 2012, the UN General Assembly approved Resolution 67/146 condemning Female Genital Mutilation and requesting efforts to eliminate this practice, asking Member States to prohibit and punish it as it is considered an "irreparable and irreversible abuse that negatively impacts the human rights of women and girls... " "... constitutes a threat to the health of women and girls, including mental, sexual and reproductive health..."

We can find different terms to refer to FGM as female circumcision or ablation and includes the total or partial excision of the female genital organs or any other injury to these for non-medical reasons²².

REMEMBER

Female genital mutilation is a violation of the fundamental human rights of girls and women

These procedures do not provide any benefit to the health of women or girls and can cause great physical and mental disorders. In most cases, it is practiced between infancy and 15 years. The countries where this practice occurs most is in Africa, the Middle East and Asia.

Although this practice is usually based on cultural reasons to justify its performance, in most cases it is practiced thinking that a benefit is achieved for the girl or woman.

²²<https://interactive.unwomen.org/multimedia/infographic/violenceagainstwomen/es/index.html#mutilation-2>

To know these reasons well, it is necessary to understand the traditions of certain countries, although we already anticipated that knowing their arguments does not justify this practice in any way.

Some of these beliefs go through the practice of a great tradition among these countries, this being a value that complicates its eradication in a very difficult way, since these traditions make their groups stronger. Sometimes, not doing practice supposes a great personal, family and social cost, since sometimes women who do not have it practiced are not accepted as wives, with the consequent isolation and social rejection.

REMEMBER

At least 200 million women and girls between the ages of 15 and 49 have undergone female genital mutilation in 30 countries where representative data is available.

In almost all these countries, most girls were cut before they were five years old.

Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting: A global concern, UNICEF, 2016

As UNICEF assures, in order to put an end to this terrible practice, it is necessary to adopt awareness-raising measures both in families and in communities and protection agencies. Without forgetting the need to develop legislation in this regard and a political commitment at the local, regional, national and international level. Since 2008, UNICEF together with UNFPA have managed to get thirteen countries to contemplate the prohibition of female genital mutilation through their legislation. This program has provided treatment and protection and prevention services.

According to the World Health Organization, the following types of FGM are established:

- Clitoridectomy (Type I)

It is the partial or total resection of the clitoris and/or the prepuce

- Excision (Type II)

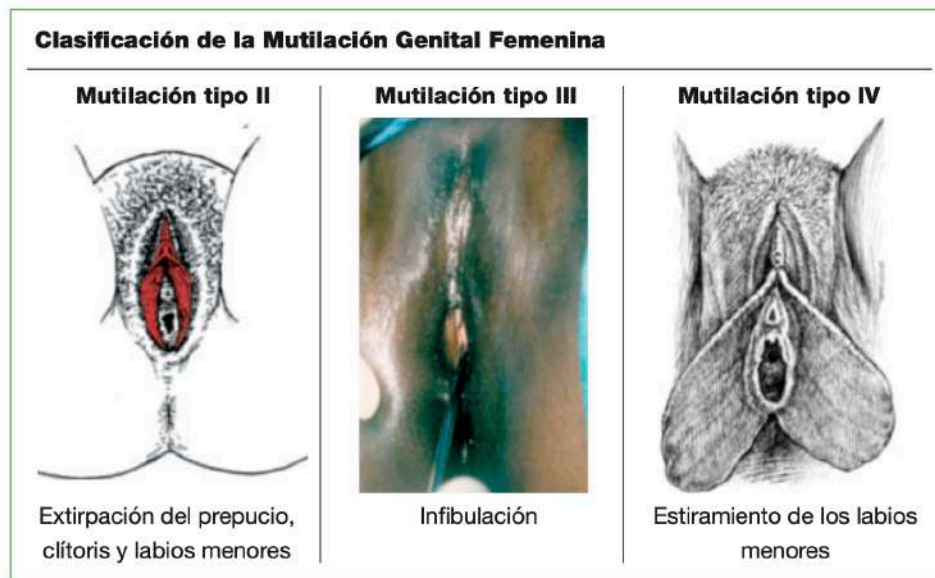
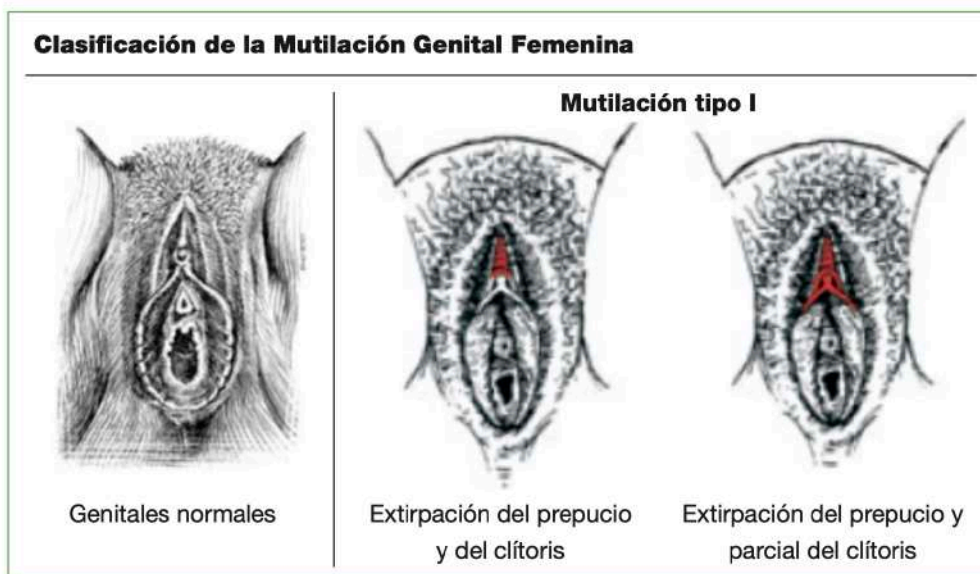
It is the partial or total resection of the clitoris and the labia minora, with or without excision of the labia majora.

- Infibulation (Type III)

This is the narrowing of the vaginal opening to create a seal by cutting and repositioning the labia minora or majora, with or without resection of the clitoris.

- Other imprecise practices. Other procedures that damage the external genitalia (perforation, incision, scraping or cauterization of the genital area).

According to the WHO, the most common practices Type I and Type II account for 90% of cases.



Source²³: Common protocol for health action against Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)

²³ Ministerio de Sanidad, Servicios Sociales e Igualdad (2015)

The type, age and manner in which FGM is performed varies according to various factors, including the ethnic group to which the woman or girl belongs, the country in which she lives, whether she is in a rural or urban area and their socioeconomic background.

FGM is carried out at many different ages, ranging from shortly after birth to approximately 15 years of age, according to the World Health Organization. However, a decrease in the average age is being observed, especially in urban areas, which indicates that it is less and less linked to the initiation into adulthood.

Another important fact is that many girls undergo genital mutilation individually, but more and more frequently it is carried out in groups, for example, groups of sisters.

Generally, the ritual is usually carried out in the girl's home or in that of a relative or neighbor, in a health center or, especially if it is associated with the initiation, in a place specially designated for it.

FGM is practiced by several people, an elderly woman highly respected in the community, a traditional midwife or healer, a barber or a qualified midwife or doctor. Generally, during the mutilation only the presence of women is admitted.

Regarding the consequences of mutilation, we can divide them into:

a) Short term. In this case, the consequences are diverse, some physical such as: infections, bleeding, wounds, injuries and even death from shock or bleeding, and other psychological such as the intense fear or panic that remains.

b) In the medium and long term. Here the consequences that we find are usually gynecological, urinary, sterility disorders, and in general everything related to being mothers. Also highlight sexual problems that occur after mutilation.

It is important to note that even in countries where FGM is widely practiced, there are groups that do not. More than countries, we would have to talk about "ethnic groups" practicing or not practicing FGM.

Currently, it is estimated that some 200 million girls and women around the world have undergone FGM, and every year two million are at risk of suffering it. It is practiced in approximately 40 countries, being carried out quite widely in Africa, common in the Middle East and in Muslim communities.

In industrialized countries, it is associated with communities of immigrants from these countries, which is why there have been some cases in North America, Latin America, in the Pacific and in Europe, always carried out clandestinely by people residing in their communities.

FGM is practiced in countries around the world, according to UNFPA²⁴:

- Africa: Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Central African Republic, Egypt, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Democratic Republic of the Congo, United Republic of Tanzania, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sudan, Togo, Uganda and Zambia.*
- Asia: India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.*
- Middle East: United Arab Emirates, Oman and Yemen, in Iraq, as well as in the State of Palestine.*
- Eastern Europe, recent reports show that some communities practice FGM in Georgia and the Russian Federation.*
- South America: Colombia, Panama, Ecuador and Peru.*
- Western countries such as Australia, Canada, the United States, the United Kingdom and other European countries where populations from areas where it is practiced reside.*

Regarding the reasons that justify FGM, UNFPA indicates that they are the following:

- Psychosexual: to control the sexuality of women. Virginity (before marriage) and fidelity (after marriage) are considered to be assured and male sexual pleasure is increased.*

²⁴ <https://www.unfpa.org/es/recursos/preguntas-frecuentes-sobre-la-mutilacion-genital-femenina-mgf#origen>

- *Sociological and cultural: as part of the initiation rite and the transition from girl to woman (cultural heritage); various beliefs such as that the clitoris can grow like a penis, or that the practice of FGM is related to fertility.*

- *Hygienic and aesthetic: for thinking that the female genitalia are dirty and ugly.*

- *Religious: It is associated with religion, although both Christianity and Islam reject this practice.*

- *Socioeconomic. In some populations, FGM is a requirement to get married. It favors marriage.*

According to this same organization, the practice of FGM is carried out with sharp objects such as knives, scissors, scalpels, pieces of glass or blades. It is done without using anesthesia or antiseptics, if health professionals do not intervene. In the case of infibulation, they tie the girls' legs to immobilize them for 10-14 days to heal.

Regarding the protocols for action against FGM, it should be noted that it is necessary to provide tools to those who may have the opportunity to detect and thereby prevent this practice. It is not a crime that is foreign to us, and from our field we have to participate actively to alleviate the consequences that it generates in the women who suffer it. For this, it is necessary to know the national and international regulations, identify the consequences that it produces and provide professionals with tools to intervene in these situations.

In Spain, the practice of FGM, in any of its variants, is considered a crime of injury. The Spanish legislation applicable to FGM is included in article 149 of the Penal Code:

"Article 149.

1. Whoever causes another, by any means or procedure, the loss or uselessness of an organ or main member, or of a sense, impotence, sterility, a serious deformity, or a serious somatic or mental illness, will be punished with imprisonment from six to 12 years.

2. Whoever causes genital mutilation to another in any of his manifestations will be punished with a prison sentence of six to 12 years. If the victim is a minor or person with a disability in need of special protection, the penalty of special disqualification for the exercise of parental authority, guardianship, curatorship, guardianship or foster care for a period of four to 10 years will be applicable, if the judge deems it

appropriate. to the interest of the minor or person with a disability in need of special protection”.

Also in article 23.4 of the Organic Law 6/1985, of July 1, of the Judiciary, with the modification of the year 2014, which was worded as follows:

"Article 23.

-- --

4. Likewise, the Spanish jurisdiction will be competent to know the acts committed by Spaniards or foreigners outside the national territory that can be classified, according to Spanish law, as one of the following crimes when the expressed conditions are met:

-- --

1) Offenses regulated in the Council of Europe Convention of May 11, 2011 on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence, provided that:

1st the procedure is directed against a Spaniard;

2nd the procedure is directed against a foreigner who habitually resides in Spain; either,

3rd the crime had been committed against a victim who, at the time of commission of the facts, had Spanish nationality or habitual residence in Spain, provided that the person to whom the commission of the criminal act is accused is in Spain.

-- --

In addition to the previous regulation, it must be taken into account that Article 13 of Organic Law 17/1996 on the Legal Protection of Minors states that persons or professionals who detect situations of risk or neglect of a minor or minors are obliged to provide them with assistance, as well as to bring the facts to the attention of the corresponding legal representatives.

Lastly, it should be said that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and numerous norms derived from it underscore the obligation of States to respect and

guarantee basic human rights, in this case those referring to physical and mental integrity, non-discrimination for reasons of gender and health, so FGM is a violation of these rights.

There have been several factors that have prevented for years this practice from being considered a matter of human rights, mainly the cultural aspect that is granted in the countries where it is practiced. However, the UN World Conference on Human Rights held in Vienna in 1993 called for the elimination of all forms of violence against women.

The prevention of FGM acquires great importance through information and education, being the judicial measure the last resort to use.

Said prevention requires a complex approach because considering that it is a tradition, blaming the family should be avoided. It requires, on the one hand, interdisciplinary work with the participation of different professionals and social agents related to these groups of migrants and, on the other, an approach aimed at the entire family nucleus.

Likewise, the design of training programs for these professionals and social agents must take into account this new reality that immigration entails and include cultural elements that can influence access to and health care and, specifically, the prevention of the FGM.

However, it cannot be forgotten at any time that these actions must be accompanied by other measures aimed at improving the social and economic situation of women, as well as education in the communities and action in their countries of origin.

Among the recommendations for prevention, we could distinguish the following:

A) Recommendations to health professionals.

The main recommendation would be information and Health Education within the framework of the preventive activities of Primary Health Care, to families from countries where mutilation is habitually practiced.

Likewise, if there is knowledge of the proximity of a trip to the country of origin and it is suspected that there is a risk of performing an FGM on the girl, an educational reinforcement will be carried out for the family and an informative reminder about the legal situation of FGM in Spain, as well as a physical examination of the girl by the pediatrician.

If the family is openly in favor of FGM or verbalizes its intention to carry it out in the country of origin, the Minors' Prosecutor's Office will be informed, and if the practice of FGM on a girl is detected, the Prosecutor's Office will be notified. Minors and the necessary preventive actions will be carried out, in coordination with the Social and Educational Services, if there were other minors in the family.

B) Recommendations to the professionals of the educational centers.

In this case, the teachers will provide, within the framework of the relationship between tutors and fathers/mothers, information on the risks to the health of girls and the legal implications in Spain to families who come from countries where sexual violence is practiced. FGM.

In the event of reasonable suspicion (holiday trip to their country of origin, comments from relatives or the girl...), the teachers must notify the management team of the center.

C) Recommendations to professionals in community social services or primary care.

In this recommendation, Information-Training in collaboration with professionals from different systems (health, education, etc.) to immigrant groups on social, health, educational resources, social skills, etc., will be the priority.

In addition, it is necessary to promote the creation of associations, through which the people who are part of these should be sensitized and who, at the same time, can be transmitters of the necessary information to their well-known residents here and, if possible, in the country. of origin to prevent FGM.

In Spain, as a result of the preparation of the National Strategy for the Eradication of Violence against Women (2013-2016) and in order to eradicate all types of violence against women, work is being done in coordination with specialized entities to publicize the practice of female genital mutilation to prevent, detect and address the precise treatment, from the health field.

REMEMBER

Female genital mutilation is based on deeply held social, cultural, economic, political, and religious beliefs.

To know more...

<https://www.unfpa.org/es/resources/preguntas-frecuentes-sobre-la-mutilacion-genital-femenina-mgf#secuelas-psicologicas>

<https://www.who.int/es/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/female-genital-mutilation>

https://violenciagenero.igualdad.gob.es/violenciaEnCifras/estudios/investigaciones/2020/pdfs/Estudio_MGF.pdf

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GK1IV9BBdC4&t=2s>

<https://www.un.org/es/observances/female-genital-mutilation-day>

References

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<https://www.unfpa.org/es/resources/preguntas-frecuentes-sobre-la-mutilacion-genital-femenina-mgf#origen>

<https://www.unicef.org/es/historias/lo-que-debes-saber-sobre-la-mutilacion-genital-femenina>

<https://interactive.unwomen.org/multimedia/infographic/violenceagainstwomen/es/index.html#mutilation-3>

<https://www.unfpa.org/es/resources/preguntas-frecuentes-sobre-la-mutilacion-genital-femenina-mgf>

TEST

1. *To put an end to the practice of FGM, it is necessary to adopt awareness measures both in families and in communities and protection agencies.*

True

False

2. *Given reasonable suspicion (holiday trip to their country of origin, comments from relatives or the girl...), the teachers must inform the management team of the center.*

True

False

3. *Female genital mutilation is based on social, cultural beliefs, but economic, political, and religious beliefs do not influence*

True

False

4. *According to the WHO regarding the classification of the types of FGM, in addition to Types I and II there are other imprecise practices.*

True

False

5. *La Infibulation (Type II) is the narrowing of the vaginal opening to create a seal by cutting and repositioning the labia minora or majora, with or without resection of the clitoris.*

True

False

LESSON 4

PROSTITUTED WOMEN



"It is not worth it for me to be told that it exists since the beginning of time, because the same thing happens with murder, and that is not why someone asks that it stop punishing"

Carmen Calvo. Spanish politics. President of the Equality Commission of the Congress of Deputies (Minister of the Presidency, Relations with the Courts and Democratic Memory of Spain 2020-2021)

To begin... What do you know about prostitution?

SELF_EVALUATION

Read carefully the statement of the questions and answer if it is TRUE or FALSE

- 1. Prostitution, like the rest of the manifestations of violence against women, is a violation of human rights.*

True

False

- 2. Most of the people who practice prostitution are foreigners, and many of them have an irregular administrative situation.*

True

False

- 3. If we want to make an adequate approach to the phenomenon of prostitution, we must do so through a gender analysis and from the perspective of human rights*

True

False

- 4. The prostituted woman cannot be considered a victim*

True

False

- 5. Prostitution has a strong gender differential component because the applicants are mostly male, a total of 99.7%, and the people in prostitution are mostly women with serious economic problems.*

True

False

LESSON 4 PROSTITUTED WOMEN

Introduction

Talking about prostitution leads us to the Trafficking of Women for the purpose of sexual exploitation, a topic that will be addressed in the next lesson; Both terms are closely related since they mainly affect the most vulnerable women, generally from the poorest countries.

Prostitution, like the rest of the manifestations of violence against women, is a violation of human rights. Being considered as the slavery of the 21st century, it is undoubtedly violence against women and also linked to sexual violence.

Since both practices are related and there is a specific topic in Lesson 5, in this lesson we will talk exclusively about prostitution and some basic concepts.

We could define prostitution as the practice of having sexual relations with other people in exchange for money or other economic benefits.

The main causes for which prostitution can be reached are several, but surely the main ones are the following:

- Domestic violence.
- Scarce financial resources.
- The lack of protection by the government and society. - Family farm.
- Obtaining easy money.
- Social marginality.
- Early pregnancies.
- The low educational level.
- Etc.

Regarding the historical background In Spain, we can say that the regulation of the phenomenon of prostitution was initially of an administrative nature. It began with the Decree Law of March 3, 1956, which dealt with the abolition of tolerance centers, declaring closed the so-called brothels and houses of tolerance.

With regard to Criminal matters, with the reform of the Criminal Code of 1963, Spain complied with the International Convention for the repression of trafficking in persons and the exploitation of the prostitution of others, of March 21, 1950, to

which it adhered Spain in 1962. With this reform, it was decided not to incriminate prostitution, but all behaviors linked to prostitution were considered punishable.

Finally, the Criminal Code approved by LO 10/1995, of December 23, made a very similar approach, although it reduced the number of punishable behaviors, suppressing less intense exploitation behaviors, renting pimping (leasing or transferring premises for the exercise of prostitution) and the corruption of minors, although the latter was included in the subsequent reforms of the Penal Code.

Prostituted women

About prostitution in Spain, we hardly know data on how many women practice it, nor in how many brothels or flats there are, nor how many men go to them and how much money is moved in this market.

All the data that is known is approximate, since we do not know exactly if the figures offered by the different Administrations (Central and Autonomous), have something to do with reality.

Next, we are going to present some of these figures, which we have taken from official reports, from NGOs, etc.

The Minister of Justice, Pilar Llop, said in a statement that: "Spain is the first European country in consumption of prostitution." This statement has been ratified by specialists, although only Puerto Rico and Thailand have higher percentages of men who admit that they have paid for sexual services.

According to data from the Government of Spain, the number of women engaged in prostitution is estimated at 45,000, although there are data that may change this figure, such as not having access to clandestine apartments and other places to host, which are most spaces where prostitution is practiced. We have to take into account that the majority of people who practice prostitution in Spain are foreigners.

Secrecy

It is worth making special mention of this concept since the situation of prostitution in Spain is characterized by its low visibility due to the secrecy in which it takes place. This clandestinely is the main cause of their ignorance, since the

prostitution that is known is visible, that is, the one we see on the street, although we must not forget that it is the least of all.

Some international reports coincide in pointing out certain changes experienced in our country in relation to prostitution, such as the increase in activity, the nationality of women in prostitution, the great economic activity that is associated with it and the places where exercises. The latter of great importance

If we talk about the economic position of prostitution, according to the Government itself, we can say that the sex trade moves a total of 6 million euros in advertising.

According to the Mixed Commission of the Courts General for Women's Rights and Equal Opportunities, in our country, "prostitution, from the point of view of demand, is characterized by the fact that the majority of buyers of prostitution are men and the offer is made up of foreign women, many of them in an illegal immigration situation, who carry out their activity mostly in closed places. In addition, the practice of prostitution on the street has been greatly reduced, which has also contributed to invisibility".

In addition, according to this same Commission:

... "In just a few years the number of national women in prostitution has decreased considerably and now they are mostly foreigners (90% nationals, 10% foreigners), and although there are differences in different areas of our geography, depending on the places the origin is from greater to minor Countries of the East, Latin America and Central Africa.

Prostitution has a strong gender differential component because the applicants are mostly male, a total of 99.7%, and the people in prostitution are mostly women with serious economic problems.

In Spain, prostitution is addressed as a clear violation of the human rights of people who are in this situation, as contemplated in the framework of the United Nations Convention for the Suppression of Trafficking in Persons and the Exploitation of Prostitution of Others, of December 2, 1948, which considers the existence of sexual exploitation even if there is consent of the victim; as well as with the Resolution approved by the European Parliament on February 2, 2006 that calls for fighting against the idea that prostitution is comparable to a job".

It must be considered that in the reform of the Penal Code of 2003, the profit obtained through the exercise of the prostitution of another person is included as a crime, although there are many difficulties in proving this circumstance.

Most societies are governed by ethical and moral principles that define the values of coexistence and, furthermore, as a consequence of them, they have the obligation to define what is accepted and what is not in public relations between people, but it is true that the dynamic nature of these values makes them change over time and what is accepted at some moments in history, social changes make it intolerable.

We understand that prostitution has a close relationship with economic inequality and with the patriarchal system that shows its greatest harshness in the different types of gender violence, among which are the different forms of sexual exploitation, such as trafficking or trafficking with exploitative purposes, or sex tourism.

If we want to carry out a detailed study of this issue, the first thing we must do is intervene on the causes, since that is how we can address this serious problem.

The concurrence of elements such as security and emigration should not make us lose sight of the fact that the first thing is to support the victims.

Vulnerability factors

Vulnerability factors are very important when analyzing the problem of prostitution. For this reason, some dimensions of the sexual services market allow us to mark differences and inequalities between people who practice prostitution, such as the way of contact with men, the organization and management of the offers of these services and the risks and situations of vulnerability that these people have to face.

There are a number of factors that generate greater vulnerability and that lead to important changes. These factors can be (Falcó, 2007):

- *People linked to prostitution in Spain come mainly from other countries.*
- *It has been shown that there is a significant increase in the last decade of migrant women who practice prostitution in Spain.*
- *Some of these migrant women in prostitution are affected in their economy, since sometimes they have to pay off the debt of the people or mafia networks that bring them, or sometimes, they have to send money to their family, in addition to trying to survive in his day to day.*

In addition to the aforementioned problem, there is another vulnerability factor and that is none other than the illegality where they usually found, due to not having their papers in order (residence, work, etc.). This irregular situation leads these people to become so afraid that they are unable to make any complaint. There is a sector of women who carry out prostitution in situations of coercion or threat, forced by the mafias that bring them to Spain. (Falcó, 2007)

There are various ways in which people in prostitution can contact clients who demand sex. In this sense, the street has been one of the most visible spaces, this visibility being the most socially repudiated. As we have already pointed out previously, it is not the street that sustains the greatest volume of sexual contact and exchange in Spain, but rather a small sector. Unfortunately, it is other places such as web pages, hostess clubs, clandestine apartments, etc., which more demand prostitution services.

Marginality, precariousness, or little family and social support, make up other vulnerability factors, generating a situation of poverty for these people in many cases. Sometimes the use of substances such as alcohol and drugs have been present in the activity of prostitution. It has been revealed that many drug uses (cocaine, pills, etc.) are carried out by prostitutes in an instrumental and functional way, either to facilitate the relationship with the client, or to endure many hours of occupation or just to make more money. However, the intensive use of drugs can generate a greater situation of vulnerability and defenselessness in the negotiation with the client, in addition to the possibility of reaching compulsive or addictive consumption. In some cases, these addictive problems have ended the people who practice prostitution (Falcó, 2007)

Scope and legal framework

The legal framework in the international arena is given by the United Nations Convention for the Suppression of Traffic in Persons and the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others, of December 2, 1948, which considers the existence of sexual exploitation even if there is consent of the victim, as well as the Resolution approved by the European Parliament on February 2, 2006, which calls for fighting against the idea that prostitution is equivalent to work.

Prostitution is an issue that has concerned international law, since it represents a crisis for human rights (attempts, among others, against freedom, equality, dignity, security...). For this reason, different regulations have been issued. Currently we can find among others, the following:

- *Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 1948.*

- UN Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others, 1949.
- International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, 1976.
- Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, 1976.
- International Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women, 1980.
- Protocol against the smuggling of migrants by land, sea and air, which complements the Protocol against organized trafficking in persons, 2000.
- Convention for action against trafficking in human beings, 2005.

The legal regulation in Spain is regulated in the Penal Code, in its articles 187 to 189 ter, related to prostitution and the sexual exploitation and corruption of minors.

This code does not penalize the exercise of prostitution by the person who exercises it, but the exploitation derived from this exercise is penalized when certain factors intervene, or it is maintained before a certain age.

Below we transcribe some of these precepts, due to their importance:

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CHAPTER V

Of crimes related to prostitution and sexual exploitation and corruption of minors.

Article 187.

1. Whoever, using violence, intimidation or deceit, or abusing a situation of superiority or need or vulnerability of the victim, determines a person of legal age to practice or remain in prostitution, will be punished with prison sentences. from two to five years and a fine of twelve to twenty-four months.

A prison sentence of two to four years and a fine of twelve to twenty-four months will be imposed on anyone who profits by exploiting the prostitution of another person, even with their consent. In any case, it will be understood that there is exploitation when any of the following circumstances occur:

a) That the victim is in a situation of personal or economic vulnerability.

b) That burdensome, disproportionate or abusive conditions are imposed for its exercise.

2. The penalties provided for in the previous sections will be imposed in their upper half, in their respective cases, when any of the following circumstances occur:

a) When the culprit has taken advantage of his or her authority, agent or public official. In this case, the penalty of absolute disqualification from six to twelve years will also be applied.

b) When the culprit belongs to an organization or criminal group that is dedicated to carrying out such activities.

c) When the culprit has endangered, intentionally or through serious negligence, the life or health of the victim.

3. The indicated penalties will be imposed in their respective cases without prejudice to those that correspond for the assaults or sexual abuse committed on the prostituted person.

Article 188.

1. Whoever induces, promotes, favors or facilitates the prostitution of a minor or a person with a disability in need of special protection, or profits from it; or otherwise exploits a minor or a person with a disability for these ends, will be punished with prison terms of two to five years and a fine of twelve to twenty-four months.

If the victim is under sixteen years of age, a prison sentence of four to eight years and a fine of twelve to twenty-four months will be imposed.

2. If the acts described in the previous section were committed with violence or intimidation, in addition to the fines provided for, a prison sentence of five to ten years will be imposed if the victim is under sixteen years of age, and the prison sentence from four to six years in the other cases.

3. Penalties higher in degree than those provided for in the previous sections will be imposed, in their respective cases, when any of the following circumstances occur:

a) When the victim is in a situation of special vulnerability due to his age, illness, disability or any other circumstance.

b) When, for the execution of the crime, the person responsible had taken advantage of a situation of coexistence or a relationship of superiority or kinship, due to being an ancestor, or brother, by nature or adoption, or similar, with the victim.

c) When, for the execution of the crime, the person responsible had taken advantage of his or her authority, agent or public official. In this case, a sentence of absolute disqualification of six to twelve years will also be imposed.

d) When the culprit has endangered, intentionally or through serious negligence, the life or health of the victim.

e) When the acts have been committed by the joint action of two or more persons.

f) When the culprit belongs to an organization or association, even of a transitory nature, that he is dedicated to carrying out such activities.

4. Whoever requests, accepts or obtains, in exchange for remuneration or a promise, a sexual relationship with a minor or a person with a disability in need of special protection, will be punished with one to four years in prison. If the minor has not reached sixteen years of age, a sentence of two to six years in prison will be imposed.

5. The indicated penalties will be imposed in their respective cases without prejudice to those that correspond for infractions against sexual freedom or indemnity committed on minors and people with disabilities in need of special protection.

Article 189.

1. He will be punished with imprisonment from one to five years:

a) Anyone who captures or uses minors or people with disabilities in need of special protection for purposes or in exhibitionist or pornographic shows, both public and private, or to make any kind of pornographic material, whatever its support, or financial any of these activities or profit from them.

b) Anyone who produces, sells, distributes, exhibits, offers or facilitates the production, sale, dissemination or exhibition by any means of child pornography or in the production of which persons with disabilities in need of special protection have been used, or possesses it for these purposes, even if the material originates abroad or is unknown.

For the purposes of this Title, child pornography or in the production of which persons with disabilities in need of special protection have been used are considered:

a) Any material that visually represents a minor or a person with a disability in need of special protection engaging in real or simulated sexually explicit conduct.

b) Any representation of the sexual organs of a minor or person with a disability in need of special protection for primarily sexual purposes.

c) Any material that visually depicts a person appearing to be a minor engaging in real or simulated sexually explicit conduct, or any representation of the sexual organs of a person appearing to be a minor, for primarily sexual purposes, except

that the person who appears to be a minor turns out to be eighteen years of age or older at the time the images are obtained.

d) Realistic images of a minor engaging in sexually explicit conduct or realistic images of a minor's sexual organs, primarily for sexual purposes.

2. Those who carry out the acts provided for in section 1 of this article will be punished with a prison sentence of five to nine years when any of the following circumstances occur:

a) When used by minors under sixteen years of age.

b) When the facts are of a particularly degrading or vexatious nature, physical or sexual violence is used to obtain pornographic material or scenes of physical or sexual violence are represented.

c) When using minors who are in a situation of special vulnerability due to illness, disability or any other circumstance.

d) When the culprit has endangered, intentionally or through serious negligence, the life or health of the victim.

e) When the pornographic material is of notorious importance.

f) When the culprit belongs to an organization or association, even of a transitory nature, that is dedicated to carrying out such activities.

g) When the person responsible is an ancestor, guardian, curator, guardian, teacher or any other person in charge, in fact, even provisionally, or by law, of the minor or person with a disability in need of special protection, or if it is of any person who lives with him or of another person who has acted abusing his recognized position of trust or authority.

h) When the aggravating circumstance of recidivism occurs.

3. If the events referred to in letter a) of the first paragraph of section 1 have been committed with violence or intimidation, the penalty will be imposed one degree higher than those provided for in the preceding sections.

4. Whoever knowingly attends exhibitionist or pornographic shows in which minors or people with disabilities in need of special protection participate, will be punished with a sentence of six months to two years in prison.

5. Anyone who acquires or possesses child pornography for their own use or in the production of which disabled persons in need of special protection have been used, will be punished with three months to one year in prison or a fine of six months to two years.

The same penalty will be imposed on anyone who knowingly accesses child pornography or in the production of which persons with disabilities in need of

special protection have been used, through information and communication technologies.

6. Whoever has under his authority, guardianship, guardianship or foster care a minor or a person with a disability in need of special protection and who, with knowledge of his state of prostitution or corruption, does not do everything possible to prevent his continuation in such state, or do not go to the competent authority for the same purpose if you lack the means for the custody of the minor or person with a disability in need of special protection, will be punished with imprisonment from three to six months or a fine from six to twelve months.

7. The Public Prosecutor shall promote the pertinent actions in order to deprive of parental authority, guardianship, guardianship or foster care, as the case may be, the person who engages in any of the conducts described in the previous section.

8. The judges and courts will order the adoption of the necessary measures for the withdrawal of web pages or Internet applications that contain or disseminate child pornography or in the preparation of which persons with disabilities in need of special protection have been used or, where appropriate, to block access to them to Internet users who are in Spanish territory.

These measures may be agreed on a precautionary basis at the request of the Public Prosecutor.

Article 189 bis.

The distribution or public dissemination through the Internet, the telephone or any other information or communication technology of content specifically intended to promote, encourage or incite the commission of the crimes provided for in this chapter and in chapters II bis and IV of this title will be punished with a fine of six to twelve months or imprisonment from one to three years.

The judicial authorities will order the adoption of the necessary measures for the removal of the contents referred to in the previous paragraph, for the interruption of the services that predominantly offer said contents or for the blocking of both when located abroad.

Article 189 ter.

When, in accordance with the provisions of article 31 bis, a legal person is responsible for the crimes included in this Chapter, the following penalties will be imposed:

a) A fine of three to five times the benefit obtained, if the crime committed by the natural person has a prison sentence of more than five years.

b) A fine of double to four times the benefit obtained, if the crime committed by the natural person has a prison sentence of more than two years not included in the previous paragraph.

c) Fine of double to triple the profit obtained, in the rest of the cases.

d) Dissolution of the legal person, in accordance with the provisions of article 33.7 b) of this Code, being able to decree, in accordance with the rules contained in article 66 bis, the other penalties provided for in the same that are compatible with the dissolution.

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It is important to note that article 59 of Organic Law 4/2000, of January 11, on the rights and freedoms of foreigners in Spain and their social integration, allows sex workers who are involved in mafias to obtain a residence permit and of work if they denounce the people who illegally introduced them into Spanish territory.

Action protocols²⁵

We must allocate more resources to care for victims, establishing a coordination and action protocol in the fields of security, health, legal, etc.

People who are in a situation of prostitution have special difficulty getting out of this situation. That is why the entities dedicated to the care of women in this situation demand more resources dedicated to their care.

People who are in a situation of prostitution must be offered Action Plans that make life alternatives possible, facilitating their socio-labour integration.

All this process must be accompanied by economic aid, promoting an active insertion income for those women who choose to leave the situation of prostitution.

It is necessary to promote measures to improve the living conditions of women in a situation of prostitution, promoting their knowledge of and access to existing resources.

We must ask our rulers to:

- Defend the rights of people in situations of sexual exploitation.

²⁵ Report of the presentation on prostitution in our country (154/9)
Approved in the presentation session of March 13, 2007

- Establish policies of integration and social and labor insertion for women victims of sexual exploitation.

- Strengthen international cooperation between the countries of origin, transit and destination, especially in the fight against illicit trade for the purpose of sexual exploitation.

In addition, we must mention the awareness and training measures, among which it is worth highlighting:

- Carry out more awareness campaigns with the aim of changing the social and men's perception of women, influencing the change in gender roles.*
- Reinforce the training of officials and professionals from Administrations and Institutions, public and private, related to the phenomenon of sexual exploitation.*

Undoubtedly, we have made gradual progress in terms of comprehensive care for victims, but we still have a long way to go. That is why we have to deepen and improve in:

- Rights information campaigns aimed at victims in different languages.*
- Information to victims about rights and resources in the police, health, immigration, asylum and border services.*
- Promote specialized legal assistance in their own language for victims of sexual exploitation.*
- Preparation of prevention and rehabilitation programs, with a gender perspective.*
- Prepare more guides and action protocols aimed at the various professionals involved in the care of victims (police, judicial, social...)*

Finally, we want to make a special mention of the Trapped Program. Through this project it is intended to provide care to women victims of prostitution and trafficking for the purpose of sexual exploitation; The Junta de Castilla y León has subsidized the program with 200,000 euros

This project was born from the call of the entities specialized in this field, which are the first to know the state in which women find themselves:

- Immigrant women in an irregular administrative situation.*

- *Closure of clubs and/or flats. Increase in debt, which continues to be generated.*
- *Lack of minimum income to be able to feed or pay for housing*
- *Inability to access different public resources.*
- *Women who are left on the streets, homeless.*
- *Women could not meet their needs or that of their dependent sons and daughters.*
- *Many were coerced into the activity, with the consequent risk to their own health, as well as that of their sons and daughters.*
- *Confinement in flats and clubs, impossibility of leaving them. Lack of access to information about the disease or protective measures.*
- *A maintenance of the demand for prostitution services is detected*
- *They detect a maintenance of the demand for prostitution services, although less than usual.*
- *Invisibilization of women and isolation from the environment.*
- *Impossibility of access to the Public Health System.*
- *Ignorance of rights. Fear of going to public organizations such as social action centers or health centers.*
- *Increased demand for aid. The main means of communication with women is WhatsApp, which they attend practically 7 days a week*
- *Lack of savings by women.*
- *Urgent need to cover basic needs: food, accommodation, communication, pharmacy, etc.*

The profile of the women with whom we work is as follows:

- *In an irregular administrative situation, with dependent children in many cases and with no social support network.*
- *With hardly any economic income, with little true information about what is happening.*
- *Women who begin a process of change and abandonment of prostitution and who need support and social accompaniment.*

On the one hand, the problem of prostitution is made visible, women's outings to the environment are resumed, cases of women victims of trafficking for the purpose of sexual exploitation are assessed, access to autonomous housing is facilitated and processes of social integration.

However, the pandemic worsens the situation of women because women in clubs decrease and floors increase, where it is more difficult to reach and enter. There is a lot of mobility of women, who change them when they find a place in the clubs before being able to intervene with them and also difficulties of integration in short periods of time.

Subsequently, it focuses on the psychosocial recovery of women, setting long-term objectives, seeking a way out of prostitution or reporting the situation of trafficking. It is necessary to work on the self-esteem of women and their labor integration, as well as support in the care of the minors in their care.

To know more...

<https://apramp.org/download/la-prostitucion-claves-para-reflexionar-sobre-un-problema/>

<https://violenciagenero.igualdad.gob.es/otrasFormas/trata/datosExplotacionSexual/estudios/home.htm>

<https://apramp.org/los-demandantes-de-prostitucion-son-jovenes-segun-apramp/>

<https://violenciagenero.igualdad.gob.es/otrasFormas/trata/datosExplotacionSexual/estudios/DOC/InformePonenciaProstitucion.pdf>

References

Falcón, C. (2007). *Riesgo, vulnerabilidad y prostitución*. *Documentación Social*. 11-35.

Other sources consulted:

Report of the presentation on prostitution in our country (154/9). Approved in the presentation session of March 13, 2007

TEST

1. One of the problems that exist when addressing the intervention with prostituted women is their mobility.

True

False

2. The main causes for which prostitution can be reached are several, among which are: intrafamily violence, scarce economic resources, among others.

True

False

3. *The situation of prostitution in Spain is characterized by its low visibility due to the secrecy in which it takes place.*

True

False

4. *Some of these migrant women in prostitution are affected in their economy, since sometimes they have to pay off the debt of the people or mafia networks that bring them, or sometimes, they have to send money to their family, in addition to trying to survive in their day to day.*

True

False

5. *The consumption of substances such as the intake of alcohol and other drugs has been related to the exercise of prostitution in an instrumental and functional way.*

True

False

LESSON 5

TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS FOR THE PURPOSE OF SEXUAL EXPLOITATION



“Human trafficking is a reality that has acquired worrying dimensions today, due to the great benefits it provides. It is, in fact, one of the three most lucrative illicit businesses along with drug and arms trafficking.”

*Government Delegation for Gender Violence
Ministry of Equality of Spain (2022)*

To begin... What do you know about human trafficking?

SELF_EVALUATION

Read carefully the statement of the questions and answer if it is TRUE or FALSE

1. Human trafficking is one of the three most lucrative illicit businesses along with drug and arms trafficking

True

False

2. The definition of trafficking in human beings has been defined in the well-known Palermo Protocol

True

False

3.. Trafficking in human beings means referring to another serious crime of violence against people that also violates human rights.

True

False

4. Women and girls barely represent the 2 million people in situations of forced commercial sexual exploitation

True

False

5. Spain is one of the main destination countries for human trafficking.

True

False

LESSON 5

TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS FOR THE PURPOSE OF SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

INTRODUCTION

Human trafficking is another manifestation of violence with devastating consequences for the victims. Talking about these practices means making reference to another serious crime of violence against people that also violates human rights. This practice has acquired great concern, because it is one of the illegal businesses that generates high profits. In addition to being a violation of human rights, it violates other rights such as:

- *Right not to suffer slavery, torture, or inhuman and degrading treatment.*
- *Right to health.*
- *Right to decent housing in safe conditions.*
- *Right not to be discriminated against based on gender.*
- *Right to fair work and favorable conditions.*
- *Right to life.*

In order to adequately intervene with the victims, it is necessary to understand the concept well and not to confuse it with other similar crimes; such as the illegal trafficking of immigrants, although both concepts are related, they are different. This last concept refers to facilitating the illegal entry of a person into a state, who is neither from that country nor resides there permanently and does so in order to obtain a benefit; the aim of trafficking is the exploitation of the person after transfer from one place to another, while the aim of trafficking is to move people illegally across national borders.

Trafficking has some specific characteristics:

- *-It violates the dignity of the person, his freedom and equality.*
- *Most of the victims of trafficking are women because this practice is linked to the place that women occupy in society and the feminization of poverty.*
- *It is one of the cruelest forms of violence against women; gender inequality, education, training or access to work are variables that affect women much more. In addition to occupational segregation and a disproportionate representation in the informal employment sectors... place women in a social and economic situation of vulnerability to recruitment.*

In addition, trafficking for the purpose of sexual exploitation violates the right to life, liberty, physical and moral integrity, sexual freedom, privacy and human dignity.

REMEMBER

Human trafficking is a manifestation of violence against people that violates human rights. This practice has gained great concern, as it is one of the illegal businesses that generates high profits.

Human trafficking for the purpose of sexual exploitation

The definition of trafficking in human beings has been defined in the well-known Palermo Protocol²⁶; the General Assembly of the United Nations adopted the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and from there this protocol was born.

"The recruitment, transportation, shipment or reception of people, by means of threat, use of force, coercion, fraud, deceit, abuse of power or situations of vulnerability, or mediating payment or economic benefit in obtaining the consent of a person to cede control over another for the purpose of their exploitation. Exploitation includes, at a minimum, that derived from prostitution and other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labor or services, slavery or similar practices, servitude, and removal of organs.

Thus, the main elements of the definition of "trafficking" are three:

- Acts: recruitment, transport, transfer, shelter or reception of people. Trafficking can take place in the same country, although most victims are transferred from one country to another.*
- The means: threat, use of force, coercion, deceit, abuse of power, abuse of a situation of vulnerability, granting or receiving payments or benefits to obtain the consent of a person with authority over another.*

²⁶ España se sumó al Protocolo de Palermo en el año 2000.

- *The purpose: sexual exploitation, labor servitude, begging, or removal of organs.*

The objectives of the United Nations Protocol to prevent, suppress and punish trafficking in persons (Palermo Protocol) include its purposes in article 2:

- *Prevent and combat human trafficking, paying special attention to women and children.*
- *Protect and help the victims of such trafficking.*
- *Promote cooperation among the States Parties to achieve these ends.*

It is also important to take into account the content of article 3 of the protocol, which refers to the "recruitment, transport, transfer, shelter or reception of people for the purpose of exploitation. Whenever you resort to ":

- *Threat or use of force or other forms of coercion:*
- *Kidnapping.*
- *Fraud.*
- *Cheated.*
- *Abuse of power or a situation of vulnerability.*
- *Granting or receiving payments or benefits to obtain the consent of a person having authority over another.*

The crimes contemplated in the protocol (article 3) are the following:

- *The exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation.*
- *Forced labor or services.*
- *Slavery or practices similar to slavery.*
- *Servitude.*
- *The removal of organs.*

According to APRAM (2010) the protocol to combat trafficking requires conforming the crime through the combination of constitutive elements of the criminal type:

- *The typical action.*
- *The use of coercive means to commit it.*
- *The exploitation purposes.*

It is possible that the person, at the time of recruitment, gives their consent, but for it to be valid it must be granted and maintained at all stages (recruitment, transportation, reception and exercise of the activity).

According to global estimates of modern slavery on forced labor and forced marriage²⁷:

- Of the 27.6 million people in forced labor situations, 17.3 million are exploited in the private sector; 6.3 million are in a situation of forced commercial sexual exploitation, and 3.9 million in a situation of forced labor imposed by the State.*
- Women and girls represent 4.9 million people in situations of forced commercial sexual exploitation, and 6 million people in situations of forced labor in other sectors of the economy.*
- 12% of people in situations of forced labor are children. More than half of these children are victims of commercial sexual exploitation.*

Every two years, UNODC collects information on these crimes in 148 countries in order to analyze the situation and contribute to their elimination. The latest global report on human trafficking (2020) includes the results of the study of more than 500 judicial decisions from 71 countries that provided information on 3,000 victims and more than 1,500 traffickers. Included in these results is the disastrous influence of COVID-19, increasing forced labor and the use of the Internet to recruit and export victims.

Let's see some of the results:

- Human trafficking in the world continues to affect mainly women and girls with 65% of the victims identified. However, recent information reflects an increase in men and boys compared to the previous report (35% of the total number of identified victims).*
- Sexual exploitation remains the main purpose of exploitation in the world (50% of the identified cases), but there is an increase in cases identified for the purpose of forced labor and some other forms of exploitation such as the begging of others (from 34% in 2016 to 38% in 2020).*
- The sectors where the greatest occurrence of cases of forced labor identified are domestic work, the construction sector, sectors of rural economies such as agriculture, extractive economies such as mining, the textile sector and informal jobs.*
- The main risk factors that are exploited by traffickers in the world, according to the cases analyzed are economic needs, irregular migratory status, a history of family*

²⁷ *Estimaciones mundiales sobre la esclavitud moderna: trabajo forzoso y matrimonio forzoso - Resumen Ejecutivo*

conflicts, mainly in cases of children and adolescents, and the generation of affective dependence on the trafficker as a mechanism of submission.

- The recession caused by COVID-19 has a direct impact on the risk of occurrence of the crime of trafficking in persons, mainly due to the increase in the population with economic needs derived from the increase in unemployment.

- More than 90% of the cases identified in South America originate from the same region. In other words, most of the identified victims are from the same country or from neighboring countries.

This report reveals the operating characteristics of trafficking:

People are recruited in their country of origin to transfer them through transit regions and their subsequent exploitation in the country of destination. Most of the victims come from poor countries and are usually women and girls, boys to a lesser extent. There are two network models:

- Groups with a hierarchical structure and strong internal discipline that tend to make this activity compatible with others such as drug, arms or immigrant trafficking and violent kidnappings.*
- Smaller groups that contain other subgroups and that only engage in human trafficking and are very violent.*

Spain, says the UN, is one of the main destination countries for human trafficking, especially women for prostitution. Most of the millions of victims are women and girls, and he warns that the trafficking networks are mainly for prostitution, but also for labor slavery; on the other hand, it points out that it is necessary to tackle this serious problem with a global response because it can currently be confirmed that the responses put in place are proving ineffective.

The Spanish Penal Code punishes this crime and it defines trafficking in persons in its article 177 bis:

“1. Anyone who, whether in Spanish territory, from Spain, in transit or bound for it, using violence, intimidation or deceit, or abusing a situation of superiority or need or vulnerability of the national or foreign victim, or through the delivery or receipt of payments or benefits to obtain the consent of the person who possessed control over the victim, recruited, transported, transferred, welcomed, or received, including the exchange or transfer of control over those persons, for any of the following purposes:

a) The imposition of forced labor or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or begging.

b) Sexual exploitation, including pornography.

- c) *Exploitation to carry out Criminal activities.*
- d) *The removal of their bodily organs.*
- e) *The celebration of forced marriages.*
- -"

According to APRAM (2010) regarding the illegal smuggling of migrants and human trafficking, although both practices involve the movement of people to obtain a benefit, there are four elements that differ from a criminal perspective: consent, transnationality, the source of profits and exploitation.

Regarding consent, migrants consent to trafficking, while in trafficking they never consent and if they had initially consented, it would be invalid and worthless because it has been through coercion, deception and abuse by traffickers.

Regarding exploitation, it ends when migrants reach their destination, however, in trafficking exploitation persists.

Regarding transnationality, trafficking is always transnational and trafficking can take place regardless of whether the victims are transferred to another State.

Lastly, regarding the source of profits, in traffic they charge for moving people. They maintain control in order to continue to make profit through continued exploitation.

As we have indicated, human trafficking is a form of modern slavery, a violation of human rights that constitutes a crime against human security and against the security of the State.

But it is also an illegal business, which in some cases international migratory movements take advantage of to strengthen their business and profit financially. Therefore, trafficking in persons for the purpose of sexual exploitation is given by inequality between genders and the lack of equal opportunities. It should be noted that the demand for prostitution is a factor that contributes to this situation in most cases.

Trafficking in persons for the purpose of sexual exploitation continues to be a means to provide women and girls to the prostitution market, since a very high percentage of these cases have the purpose of female sexual exploitation, as we have previously indicated.

The United Nations Organization with respect to human rights, in the field of human trafficking, understands that international law prohibits certain practices that are

closely related to human trafficking, including debt bondage, forced labor, the worst forms of child labor, the sexual exploitation of children, forced marriage, forced prostitution and the exploitation of prostitution.

The Principles and Guidelines on Trafficking in Persons (2010) explicitly promote a human rights-based approach to trafficking. The importance of this approach has been validated by the International Community and by international human rights bodies.

Lessons learned in the development and application of a human rights-based approach, such as development, offer important new insights into the main features of the approach and how it might apply to trafficking in persons.

Key issues that can be drawn from these experiences include the following:

- *When formulating development policies and programs, the main objective should be the promotion and protection of rights.*
- *A human rights-based approach identifies rights holders (for example, trafficked persons, persons at risk of being trafficked, persons accused or convicted of trafficking-related offences) and what they are entitled to, and to the corresponding duty-bearers (usually States) and the obligations incumbent upon them.*
- *Fundamental principles and norms, contained in international human rights treaties (such as equality and non-discrimination, the universality of all rights and the rule of law) must guide all aspects of the response at all stages.*

The human rights of trafficked persons will be at the center of all efforts to prevent and combat trafficking in persons and to protect, assist and redress victims.

Principle number one and the related guidelines require that human rights be at the center of all measures to both prevent and combat trafficking in persons and the provision of protection and assistance to trafficked persons. This is an important starting point for the Principles and Guidelines on Trafficking in Persons.

*This Principle confirms that priority must be given to the human rights obligations accepted by States under treaties.
international human rights.*

For human rights to be placed at the center of all activities aimed at combating human trafficking, it is necessary to determine which are the main rights that are affected by this phenomenon and by the related exploitation. It is important to recognize that some rights will be particularly relevant to the causes of trafficking (for example, the right to an appropriate standard of living); others, to the

trafficking process itself (eg, the right not to be held in slavery); and still others, to the response (eg, the right of suspects to a fair trial). Some rights are broadly applicable in each of these respects.

Below is a list of the rights and obligations most relevant to addressing trafficking in persons.

- Prohibition of discrimination based on one or more of the prohibited grounds: race, color, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, origin or other status.*
- The right to life.*
- The right to liberty and security of the person.*
- The right of access to justice, to equality before the courts and to a fair trial.*
- The right not to be subjected to slavery, servitude, forced labor or in conditions of slavery.*
- The right not to be subjected to slavery in case of armed conflict.*
- The right not to be subjected to torture or cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.*
- The right not to be subjected to gender-based violence.*
- The right to freedom of assembly.*
- The right to freedom of movement.*
- The right to the highest attainable degree of physical and mental health.*
- The right to fair and favorable working conditions.*
- The right to a standard of living appropriate.*
- The right to social security.*
- The right not to be sold or traded, and not to be promised in marriage.*

In another order of things, we can say that the path of human rights will not always ensure that the situation is resolved. One of the greatest difficulties for migrant women victims of trafficking is regularization and access to the labor market.

Without proper documentation, it is very difficult to access occupational training and work. Undocumented women are forced into the underground economy. The only options that are presented are caring for people, domestic work and some even consider working in prostitution independently.

We find ourselves with labor niches, with few rights and poorly paid, in a labor market that is increasingly hermetic for migrant women.

Sometimes, society itself does not help either, since the stigma that accompanies the situation of trafficking and the practice of prostitution makes it difficult for women to enter. The weight of the stigma also makes it difficult for them to identify themselves as a collective, and for them to prefer to keep their experiences silent rather than make themselves visible as a group to demand their rights in an organized way.

Although we have made progress on the issue of human rights in terms of trafficking, there is no doubt that we still have a long way to go. To continue advancing, we need the administrations, Security Forces and bodies and other organizations that intervene in the matter of trafficking, to position it not only as a violation of Human Rights, but also as a gender problem and as a collateral situation of prostitution or contemporary migrations.

Both the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights confirm that rights are universal: they apply to all people, regardless of race, sex, ethnic origin or other status. Victims of trafficking are protected by the full range of human rights. Even if they are outside their country of residence, international law makes it clear that trafficked persons cannot be discriminated against solely on the basis of their non-national status. In other words, and except for very specific exceptions that must be reasonably justifiable, international human rights law applies to all persons who are in the territory or jurisdiction of the State, regardless of their nationality or citizenship and how have entered the territory. International human rights law recognizes that certain groups need additional or special protection.

This may be due because they have been discriminated against in the past or because members of the group share particular vulnerabilities. In the context of trafficking, target groups include, among others, women, children, migrants and migrant workers, refugees and asylum seekers, internally displaced persons, and persons with disabilities. Sometimes members of a group will become a favorite target for traffickers. Children, for example, may be trafficked for purposes related to their age, such as sexual exploitation, various forms of forced labor or begging. People with disabilities can be victims of certain forms of work in exploitative conditions and fall into begging. Trafficking places women and girls in situations of exploitation specific to their gender, such as exploitative prostitution and sex tourism, and forced labor in the domestic work and service sectors. The Trafficking also brings harm and consequences for them associated with their gender, such as rape, forced marriage, unwanted or forced pregnancy, forced abortion and sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV/AIDS.

Members of a given group who are trafficked may be entitled to different or additional rights. For example, international human rights law places additional important responsibilities on States to identify child victims of trafficking and to ensure their safety and well-being, both immediate and long-term. The fundamental rule derives from the obligations contained in the Convention on the Rights of the Child: the best interest of the child will prevail in all circumstances (art. 3). In other words, States cannot give priority to other considerations, such as those related to immigration control or public order, to the detriment of the best interests of a trafficked child. In addition, due to the applicability of the Convention on the Rights of the Child to all children under the jurisdiction or control of a State, trafficked children who are not citizens have the right to the same protection as nationals in all aspects, including those related to the protection of their privacy and their physical and moral integrity. Other treaties codify these rights in greater detail.

Thus, both the Trafficking Protocol and the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings require the adoption of certain special measures with respect to child victims.

The importance of applying a human rights-based approach to trafficking means that there is a clear relationship between human rights and human trafficking. This does not necessarily mean that human rights will be the natural focus of any response to trafficking. For example, cross-border trafficking may be seen as an immigration issue and human rights as no more than an afterthought. States may also combat trafficking by focusing on aspects of crime or public order. Over the past decade, an international consensus has been building around the need for a rights-based approach to trafficking.

A human rights-based approach is a conceptual framework for dealing with phenomena such as trafficking in persons that is normatively based on international human rights standards and operationally targeted. To promote and protect human rights. Such an approach requires an analysis of the ways in which human rights are violated throughout the trafficking cycle, as well as the obligations of States under international human rights law. It seeks ways to correct the discriminatory practices and unfair distribution of power that underlie human trafficking, keep those responsible in impunity and deny justice to its victims.

Vulnerability factors

States and intergovernmental organizations shall ensure that in their action they consider factors that increase vulnerability to trafficking, including inequality, poverty and discrimination in all its forms.

Although our knowledge of the trafficking process is far from complete, it is clear that some factors influence the vulnerability of a person, a social group, a community or a society to this phenomenon. Those factors include human rights violations such as poverty, inequality, discrimination and gender-based violence, all of which contribute to economic deprivation and social conditions that limit personal choice and fertile ground for traffickers and exploiters. Factors influencing vulnerability to trafficking often have distinct and disproportionate effects on groups that already lack power and influence in society, such as women, children, migrants, refugees and the internally displaced.

Vulnerability to trafficking can be long or short term, specific or general, procedural, political, economic or structural. To ensure that responses are well targeted, appropriate and effective, it is important to understand the nature of particular

forms of vulnerability. An example of specific short-term vulnerability is caused by a lack of information about safe migration opportunities and about the dangers associated with trafficking.

This vulnerability could be addressed through initiatives aimed at improving the information status of potential migrants, including those who might be trafficked, with due precautions and advice to avoid falling into the hands of traffickers. Poverty and lack of access to safe, legal and non-exploitative migration channels contribute to vulnerability in much more complex ways; broader and longer-term criteria will be needed to effectively address these factors.

A United Nations study on the link between poverty and human rights identifies the lack of opportunities to achieve well-being as one of the defining traits of a “poor person”. In this sense, well-being refers not only to the level of income but to the basic capabilities that all people have in common, for example, being adequately fed, clothed and housed, being able to avoid disease, participating in the life of the community and be able to present oneself with dignity before others. In this point of view of poverty, an important element is the insufficient availability of economic resources.

Discrimination based on race and gender, particularly in the recognition and application of economic and social rights, is a critical factor in making individuals and groups vulnerable to trafficking. In both situations the impact of discrimination, particularly regarding access to education, resources and employment opportunities, results in fewer and worse options in life. It is the lack of real opportunity that, in turn, makes women and girls more vulnerable than men, and certain nationalities and races more vulnerable than others to the coercion, deception and violence that comes with human trafficking.

International and state legal framework of trafficking in persons for the purpose of sexual exploitation

At the international level, and as a reference, we find the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, held in New York on November 5, 2000, as the main regulation.

Organizations such as

- The Organization for European Security and Cooperation.
- The Council of Europe.

In Spain, we find this crime regulated in the Penal Code in its Title VII Bis, with the following wording:

**"TITLE VII bis
Of human trafficking**

Article 177 bis.

- *1. Anyone who, whether in Spanish territory, from Spain, in transit or bound for it, using violence, intimidation or deception, or abusing of a situation of superiority or need or vulnerability of the national or foreign victim, or through the delivery or receipt of payments or benefits to obtain the consent of the person who had control over the victim, will capture, transport, transfer, hosts, or receives, including the exchange or transfer of control over those persons, for any of the following purposes:*

a) The imposition of forced labor or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or begging.

b) Sexual exploitation, including pornography.

c) Exploitation to carry out criminal activities.

d) The removal of their bodily organs.

e) The celebration of forced marriages.

A situation of need or vulnerability exists when the person in question has no real or acceptable alternative but to submit to the abuse.

When the victim of trafficking in human beings is a minor, in any case, the penalty of special disqualification for any profession, trade or activities, whether or not paid, that involves regular and direct contact with minors will be imposed. , for a period of between six and twenty years greater than the duration of the imprisonment sentence imposed

2. Even when none of the means listed in the previous section is used, any of the actions indicated in the previous section will be considered human trafficking when it is carried out with respect to minors for the purpose of exploitation.

3. The consent of a victim of trafficking in human beings will be irrelevant when any of the means indicated in the first section of this article has been used.

4. The penalty higher in degree than that provided for in the first section of this article will be imposed when:

a) the life or physical or mental integrity of the persons who were the object of the crime had been endangered.

b) the victim is especially vulnerable due to illness, pregnancy, disability or personal situation, or is a minor.

If more than one circumstance occurs, the penalty will be imposed in its upper half.

5. The penalty higher in degree than that provided for in section 1 of this article and absolute disqualification from six to twelve years will be imposed on those who carry out the acts taking advantage of their status as authority, agent of the latter or public official. If any of the circumstances provided for in section 4 of this article also concur, the penalties will be imposed in their upper half.

6. The penalty higher in degree than that provided for in section 1 of this article and special disqualification for profession, trade, industry or commerce will be imposed for the time of the sentence, when the culprit belonged to an organization or association of more than two persons, even of a transitory nature, who dedicate themselves to carrying out such activities.

If any of the circumstances provided for in section 4 of this article concur, the penalties will be imposed in the upper half. If the circumstance provided for in section 5 of this article concurs, the penalties indicated in this in its upper half will be imposed. In the case of the heads, administrators or managers of said organizations or associations, the penalty will be applied to them in their upper half, which may be raised to the next higher degree. In any case, the penalty will be raised to the one immediately higher in degree if any of the circumstances provided for in section 4 or the circumstance provided for in section 5 of this article.

7. When, in accordance with the provisions of article 31 bis, a legal person is responsible for the crimes included in this article, the penalty of a fine of three to five times the benefit obtained will be imposed. In accordance with the rules established in article 66 bis, judges and courts may likewise impose the penalties set forth in letters b) to g) of section 7 of article 33.

8. Provocation, conspiracy and proposition to commit the crime of trafficking in human beings will be punished with a penalty one or two degrees lower than that of the corresponding crime.

9. In any case, the penalties provided for in this article will be imposed without prejudice to those that correspond, where appropriate, for the crime of article 318 bis of this Code and other crimes effectively committed, including those constituting the corresponding exploitation.

10. Convictions by foreign judges or courts for crimes of the same nature as those provided for in this article will produce the effects of recidivism, unless the criminal record has been canceled or may be canceled under Spanish law.

11. Notwithstanding the application of the general rules of this Code, the victim of trafficking in human beings will be exempt from punishment for the criminal offenses that have been committed in the situation of exploitation suffered, provided that their participation in them has been a direct consequence of the situation of violence, intimidation, deceit or abuse to which they have been subjected and that there is adequate proportionality between said situation and the criminal act carried out."

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There are other regulations related to this topic, of which we highlight the following:

1. Organic Law 4/2000, of January 11, on the rights and freedoms of foreigners in Spain and their social integration: Article 59 bis

Article 59 bis establishes a specific statute for foreign persons in an irregular situation who are victims of trafficking in human beings, in accordance with the provisions of article 10 of the Council of Europe Convention on combating trafficking in human beings (Convention from Warsaw).

In this sense, when it is estimated that there are reasonable grounds to believe that a foreign person in an irregular situation has been a victim of trafficking in human beings, they are informed of the possibility of taking advantage of a recovery and reflection period of a duration of at least 90 days. The identification will mean the non-initiation of a disciplinary file in relation to their irregular situation and the suspension of this in case it has been initiated, as well as any measure of expulsion or return that could have been agreed.

During the recovery and reflection period, the victim and their minor or disabled children, who are in Spain at the time of identification, are guaranteed access to appropriate assistance and protection measures. Once said period has elapsed, the victim may be provided, at their option, with an assisted return to their country of

origin or residence and work authorization for exceptional circumstances, either in response to their cooperation for the purposes of the investigation or the criminal actions or taking into account their personal situation.

2. Regulation of Organic Law 4/2000, on the rights and freedoms of foreigners in Spain and their social integration, approved by Royal Decree 557/2011, of April 20:

It includes, in its Chapter IV, on "temporary residence and work due to exceptional circumstances of foreign victims of trafficking in human beings" (articles 140 to 146) the development of the provisions contained in article 59 bis of the Immigration Law.

This regulation provides, among other issues, for the preparation of the Framework Protocol for the Protection of Victims of Human Trafficking that establishes the bases for coordination and action of the institutions and administrations with competences in the matter of human trafficking. The Regulation also extends the scope of application of the provisions of article 140, relating to the Framework Protocol for the Protection of Victims of Trafficking, to all victims of trafficking, both non-EU, in a regular or irregular situation, and citizens of a Member State of the EU.

2. Law 4/2015, of April 17, on the Statute of the Victim of Crime.

It constitutes a general catalog of procedural and extra-procedural rights for all victims of crimes, which provides a legal and social response to victims and their families, and also contemplates specific attention to the most vulnerable victims, such as victims trafficking and minor victims.

Specifically, the protection needs of victims of human trafficking are taken into account in the individual assessment of victims to determine their special protection needs, and what measures must be adopted, which translates into access to measures protection measures aimed at avoiding their secondary victimization during the investigation and prosecution phases.

3. Royal Decree Law 3/2013, of February 22, which modifies Law 1/1996, of January 10, on free legal assistance:

It recognizes the right to free legal assistance for victims of trafficking in human beings together with other groups, without the need for them to prove insufficient resources to litigate. They are also exempt from paying fees.

4. Law 35/1995, of December 11, on Aid and Assistance to Victims of Violent Crimes and Against Sexual Freedom.

Regulates access to a public aid system for the benefit of direct and indirect victims of intentional and violent crimes, committed in Spain, resulting in death, or serious bodily injury, or serious damage to physical or mental health and, on the other hand, it includes the access of the victims of crimes against sexual freedom even when these were perpetrated without violence to these aids.

It is important to note in this section that a draft Organic Law against trafficking and exploitation of human beings is currently being drafted. Although it is too soon to know how this Organic Law will be, after going through all the parliamentary process, today we can anticipate a series of new features that we include below.

This text is intended to end the regulatory dispersion currently existing in our country and follows the recommendations that have been approved internationally.

In response to international recommendations such as those derived from the Palermo Protocol, the Warsaw Convention, Directive 2011/36/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council, the Protocol of the International Labor Organization, or the Group of Experts against Trafficking in Human Beings of the Council of Europe (GRETA), this draft comprehensively addresses all forms of trafficking that involve the most serious violation of the fundamental rights of a human being, from sexual exploitation, through begging and trafficking of organs, to labor exploitation, "which is even more dramatic when it affects children and adolescents", the head of Justice pointed out.

This draft organic law jointly addresses the fight against all forms of trafficking in human beings and against all forms of exploitation that constitute the purpose of trafficking, criminalizing forced labor, servitude, slavery and all forms of exploitation.

Likewise, beyond the criminal response, it also includes prevention and awareness-raising in society and assistance to the victim, guaranteeing them a whole series of rights and support measures. On the other hand, the text stresses the role of demand and the importance of dismantling the business model to break the chain of trafficking.

Measures are established in the educational, health, advertising and media fields and, finally and as a novelty, the adoption of said measures in the private and business sector, to avoid exploitation. Labor regulations are strengthened in the most sensitive sectors, with the collaboration of the Labor and Social Security Inspectorate.

- *Guarantee of the rights of victims*

The adequate assistance and protection of victims is the backbone of this law. In this sense, as a novelty, the National Referral Mechanism (MND) is created as the body in charge of the immediate referral of alleged victims of trafficking.

In general, the right to specialized protection and assistance is recognized, appropriate to the type of trafficking and exploitation suffered and the profile of the victim. You will be informed in a language you can understand, with the help of an interpreter or cultural mediator if necessary, and in close collaboration with accredited specialized entities.

From the moment of detection, the alleged victims have the right to receive information and advice, to be referred immediately to specialized assistance and protection services, and the right to access assistance and support services, the latter being guaranteed from the moment they are detected. detection, throughout the identification process and for as long as necessary after final identification.

The right to privacy and identity protection from the moment of detection and the right to free legal assistance are also recognized.

Another crucial aspect of this norm is the fact that the recognition and effectiveness of these rights is not linked to the filing of a complaint and the participation of the victims in the criminal investigation, without prejudice to the fact that the public powers Encourage the victim to collaborate for an effective prosecution of the crime through the necessary mechanisms.

The labor and economic rights of the victims are also recognized. Specifically, the right to social and labor integration, the right to access the provision of the minimum vital income and access to housing. Likewise, the right to full reparation and the right to adequate financial compensation in the form of compensation are recognized.

- *Protection of minors*

The norm also contemplates the protection of minor victims of trafficking and exploitation. Thus, the right to specialized protection and assistance is recognized, appropriate to the type of trafficking and exploitation suffered and the profile of the victim and with an agile, specialized procedure and under the principle of the best interest of the minor.

Likewise, the information and participation of minors in all procedures and the continuity of assistance and protection once they reach the age of majority are guaranteed. Specific measures are also provided for unaccompanied minors and non-repatriation in the best interest of the minor.

- **Protection system**

The institutional system is another of the pillars of the law. In the first place, a National Rapporteurship on Trafficking and Exploitation of Human Beings is created, under the Ministry of the Interior, with the rank of General Directorate, which will supervise all public policies on trafficking and exploitation and will play the role of national coordinator for the effects of representation of Spain in the international arena. Attached to this Rapporteurship is the National Referral Mechanism
Junto a ella, se regulan las unidades especializadas de las instituciones públicas implicadas en el proceso de detección e identificación.

Finalmente, aborda también la cooperación institucional e internacional con los países de origen, adoptando un enfoque integral que abarca tres ejes prioritarios: la prevención, la protección y la persecución.

Action protocols

As in other topics (gender violence, equality, etc.), the action protocols in this area can be divided into several areas:

- *General action protocols.*
- *Health action protocols.*
- *Protocols of action of the Security Forces and Bodies.*

Framework Protocol for the Protection of Victims of Human Trafficking

The purpose of this protocol is to establish action guidelines for the detection, identification, assistance and protection of victims of trafficking in human beings, to promote the coordination of the institutions involved in said processes and to define the relationship mechanisms between the administrations with responsibilities in the matter, as well as communication and cooperation processes with organizations and entities with proven experience in assisting victims of trafficking, particularly those that provide comprehensive assistance and participate in public administration programs for assistance and protection of the same

This Framework Protocol seeks, in particular:

- 1. Define the identification procedure for victims of trafficking in human beings and coordinate the actions of the authorities and institutions with responsibilities in said process.*
- 2. Establish the guidelines for the evaluation of the supposed risks to which the victims are exposed and the determination of the protection measures.*
- 3. Collect the aspects related to the complaint and/or inform the judicial authority.*
- 4. Delimit the necessary elements to provide adequate information to victims about their rights, services and resources.*
- 5. Establish criteria for a correct evaluation of the needs of the victim, which allow adequate assistance.*
- 6. Provide for the inclusion of foreign victims of trafficking in voluntary return programs.*
- 7. Detail, when the victim is a foreigner and is in an irregular situation, the procedure for granting the recovery and reflection period and, where appropriate, the exemption from liability and the granting of the corresponding residence and work authorization or the assisted return procedure. Establish specific actions in the case of minor victims.*
- 8. Define the participation of organizations and entities with proven experience in assisting victims of trafficking, in particular, those that provide comprehensive assistance and participate in public administration programs for the assistance and protection of victims.*

Activity: the movement #METOO

The #MeToo movement arose in 1996 through Tarana Burke, a social activist, but it was not until 2017 that it went viral as a result of the publication of an article in the New York Times newspaper in which sexual assaults came to light. that had been perpetrated by the powerful Harvey Weinstein for decades. Thousands of women around the world used this hashtag through social networks to denounce the sexual abuse suffered. This movement gained great strength after the complaint by actress Alyssa Milano, and from that moment women began to share their experiences of sexual violence on social networks. The actress wrote a tweet that had an unexpected impact: "If you have been sexually harassed or assaulted, write #MeToo." There was an avalanche of women and the hashtag quickly spread around the world. This movement broke with the culture of silence in the face of sexual abuse. It could be said that the 'Weinstein case' triggered the #Metoo movement,

and managed to unite thousands of women who have ever been harassed. He has also given credibility and visibility to the victims of the most serious cases.

It can be assured that #metoo has managed to raise awareness about how powerful men use their tools to sexually abuse women.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GESBI9pWWml>

We encourage you to learn more about the victims of Harvey Weinstein, one of the most powerful people in Hollywood, and the abuse he carried out for decades. His behavior was always protected by all the people around him, and despite the fact that they knew of his abuse and could have unmasked him, they did not. Hundreds of women filed charges against him. This predator was sentenced in 2020 by a New York court to 23 years in prison; he would later face other legal proceedings for rape and sexual abuse of other victims. This conviction marked a great triumph for the #MeToo movement in its feminist fight against sexual abuse and assault²⁸.

Once the documentary has been viewed, answer whether the following questions are true or false:

- 1. Vulnerability and fear were characteristics present in the victims (V)*
- 2. The predator did not act normally (F)*
- 3. The victims of sexual abuse highlight that the struggle for power and seeing the fear in the faces of women made him feel good.*
- 4. A phrase that can define the attitude of the predator was "Give the predator what he wants or abandon a dream" (V)*
- 5. The MeToo movement broke with the culture of silence in the face of sexual abuse (V)*
- 6. Despite the treatment received by all the people around them their victims had ambivalent feelings towards the aggressor and the situation (V)*
- 7. The victims of sexual abuse kept silent because they thought that no one would believe them (V)*
- 8. The MeToo movement has not given credibility and visibility to the victims of the most serious cases (F)*
- 9. The conviction supposes some reparation to the victims for the damage suffered (V)*
- 10. Some of the people who worked with the accused acknowledged that they could not do anything (F)*

²⁸ Weinstein cumple su reclusión en el centro penitenciario de las Torres Gemelas, en el centro de Los Ángeles, tras haber sido extraditado desde Nueva York en julio de 2021. Fuente: https://www.huffingtonpost.es/entry/harvey-weinstein-es-declarado-culpable-de-violacion-en-su-juicio-de-los-angeles_es_63a15dede4b04414304a89bd.html

To know more...

<https://apramp.org/download/guia-de-intervencion-con-victimas-de-trata-para-ayuntamientos-y-trabajadores-as-sociales-ed-2020/>

<https://apramp.org/download/guia-de-intervencion-psicologica-con-victimas-de-trata/>

<https://apramp.org/download/menores-victimas-de-trata-y-explotacion-una-realidad-oculta-cada-dia-mas-visible/>

<https://apramp.org/download/a-pie-de-calle-actuaciones-con-menores-victimas-de-trata/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9QX73GqSUW8>

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Instrumento de Ratificación del Protocolo para prevenir, reprimir y sancionar la trata de personas, especialmente mujeres y niños, que complementa la Convención de las Naciones Unidas contra la delincuencia organizada transnacional, hecho en Nueva York el 15 de noviembre de 2000.

Naciones Unidas Derechos Humanos. Alto Comisionado (2010) *Principios y directrices recomendados sobre Derechos Humanos y Trata de personas*.

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https://www.ilo.org/global/topics/forced-labour/publications/WCMS_854797/lang-es/index.htm

http://www.oas.org/juridico/spanish/tratados/sp_proto_prev_repri_y_sanci_trata_per_s_espe_muje_y_niño_compl_conve_nu_contr_deli_org_trans.pdf

https://www.unodc.org/documents/publications/TiP_Europe_ES_LORES.pdf

https://www.unodc.org/documents/data-and-analysis/tip/2021/GLOTiP_2020_15jan_web.pdf

TEST

1. *Trafficking consists of three stages: recruitment, transport and insertion and integration in destination places.*

True

False

2. *Among the purposes of the United Nations Protocol to prevent, suppress and punish trafficking in persons (Palermo Protocol) is: to protect and help victims of trafficking.*

True

False

3. *Exploitation at the destination is not the end of trafficking.*

True

False

4. *Women and girls represent 4.9 million people in situations of sexual exploitation*

True

False

5. *The main risk factors used by traffickers in the world are economic needs, irregular migratory status, a history of family conflicts, mainly in cases of children and adolescents, and the generation of affective dependence on the trafficker. as a submission mechanism.*

True

False

Activity Chapter 6

Human trafficking is a harsh reality that remains hidden. It is the slavery of the 21st century. One of the frequent crimes that generates large amounts of money in the world, followed by drug and arms trafficking. It is a violation of human rights and

seriously damages the dignity and physical and emotional integrity of the victims. Vulnerability is the common denominator of trafficked persons. They are deceived and moved from one place to another, promoting isolation.

We suggest you view this campaign to end slavery and then answer whether the statements presented are true or false.

“But all over the world, the cycle of trafficking is breaking. And one life at a time, this is how we end slavery”

<https://www.a21.org/index.php>

- 1. All victims of human trafficking have a situation of vulnerability in common, either because they belong to minorities, because they suffer from poverty, economic situation, natural catastrophes, wars or simply because they try to improve their lives through work or education (V)*
- 2. Human trafficking is a cycle that is represented by three characteristics: vulnerability – exploitation – revictimization (V)*
- 3. The REACH – RESCUE – RESTORE protocol can break the cycle of trafficking (V)*
- 4. Victims who manage to escape of the situation are more vulnerable to re-victimization (V)*
- 5. That people know their rights will not prevent trafficking (F)*
- 6. It is necessary for professionals to know how to identify vulnerability indicators to discover the victims (V)*
- 7. That people know and understand trafficking through education is not enough to stop this serious problem (F)*
- 8. Legal advice to victims is important for the p frictions courts to stop traffickers (V)*

CHAPTER 7

BASIC INTERVENTION STRATEGIES WITH VICTIMS OF GENDER VIOLENCE



When I go out into the street I always remember what he told me: don't stop look back, because I will always be there... behind you... without you seeing me".

(Anonymous testimony of a victim at police stations)

LESSON 1

INTERVENTION WITH THE VICTIM AND WITH THE VICTIMATOR

To begin... What do you know about professional assistance to victims of gender violence?

SELF_EVALUATION

Read carefully the wording of the questions and answer if it is TRUE or FALSE

1. Women of low social class are more prone to suffer gender violence.

True
False

2. The number of women victims of violence in the world is very high.

True
False

3. In the intervention with victims our beliefs can limit us and have a wrong perception of the situation.

4. It is suspected that there are more than 13 million women in the world who suffer violence.

True
False

5. Victims of intimate partner violence have a specific profile.

True
False

LESSON 1. INTRODUCTION

In our interventions with women abused by their partners or ex-partners, we must not get a wrong idea of the traits that can define them; Although it is not possible to speak of a profile, we can focus our attention on a series of characteristics that all women victims of violence share. Abuse does not distinguish whether the woman is married or single, if she has children or not, if they are divorced, if they are young, adult or old. As we also know from previous lessons, we will not count on the influence of variables such as socioeconomic level, cultural, or if the woman is a migrant or national. Professional practice shows us that we can be faced with women with low economic resources, from a low social class, but we will also find highly qualified women, women who perform different professions such as teachers, judges, police officers, politicians, doctors... we can also observe women who abandoned their Professional careers to devote himself to caring for the family.

The percentage of women who suffer violence from their partners is high, as reflected in the data from the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (2015) on a sample of 42,000 women in the 28 member states (with an average of 1,500 interviews by country) that shows us the reality of violence against women: it is suspected that 13 million women in the EU have suffered physical violence during the 12 months prior to the study, which represents 7% of women aged between 18 and 74 years; Regarding the different forms of expression of violence, the study indicates that 22% of the women who had been in a relationship stated that they had been victims of physical or sexual assault, of which 31% claimed to have suffered such sexual assault up to on six or more occasions and 43% had suffered psychological violence.

In caring for women, it is necessary to understand this violence in terms of:

- ✓ *Who exerts the violence.*
- ✓ *About who is deployed.*
- ✓ *The space in which it is perpetrated.*

It is important to understand these variables because understanding women's behavior is not easy. We are talking about violence that is exercised in the area of couple relationships, that is, the most intimate and private space of people; In general and all too often we find ourselves judging the victim because we do not understand her decisions:

- *Express expressions of apologies for the conduct of the aggressor.*
- *Feelings of grief.*
- *Clear and explicit feelings of love towards him.*

- *Not being willing to denounce (just wanting to be "scared").*
- *ear for the well-being of the aggressor if he is arrested or imprisoned.*
- *Waive the police process before or during the interview.*
- *Desist once he has made the complaint and not wish to sign it.*
- *Withdraw in the oral trial phase.*
- *Allow the violation of the restraining order.*
- *Etc.*

We can be victims of our own limiting beliefs (myths, stereotypes, ideas about love and relationships, motherhood, etc.) and this may influence our perception of the problem; These reductionist ideas may make us believe that we know what is best for women, that we can make decisions for them. For this reason, it is important as professionals to know how gender violence manifests itself, what type of injuries it produces, how the battered woman behaves and why she asks for help at a given moment, and not at another, if we do not understand this process, it will be difficult for us to relate certain manifestations and attitudes.

Knowing how to detect the signs of violence will help us improve intervention and care and we will do so based on an assessment of:

- *Physical symptoms*
- *Psychological manifestations*
- *The behavior of the victim*

The woman does not know when the abuse began, because she does not really start with physical aggression; it starts off subtle, with behaviors she doesn't pay much attention to. The violence that the aggressor deploys on the woman is progressive; during the interview phase, some state that they do not remember the first sign; some women indicate that they do not even remember when it started, at what moment the aggressor disrespected them; others indicate different moments: at the beginning of the relationship, during the first moments of living together, in the first pregnancy, when her first son or daughter was born...

It is unlikely that the woman will realize the manipulation by the aggressor and will assume certain behaviors as normal: disrespect, insults, even a push. However, even though she considers these behaviors "minor and normal," the violence will escalate, and, as we know, she may suffer serious consequences for her physical and psychological health, even losing her life.

Sustained violence traps the woman in the relationship, and she will go through different cyclical phases whose frequency and intensity will increase; It is essential to explain to the woman these cycles that are repeated continuously.

At the beginning, as we indicated, the aggressor will begin with psychological abuse camouflaged under the guise of care and protection. The woman does not perceive this abuse, but little by little her security and confidence in herself decreases. These are control and restrictive behaviors that undermine her autonomy, generating

isolation and dependency. Examples of these behaviors are jealousy, excessive vigilance, criticism of her way of dressing, of her friends, control of entering and leaving the house or of schedules in general.

REMEMBER

If we try to explain a puzzle with only one piece we cannot... We need to see it in its entirety

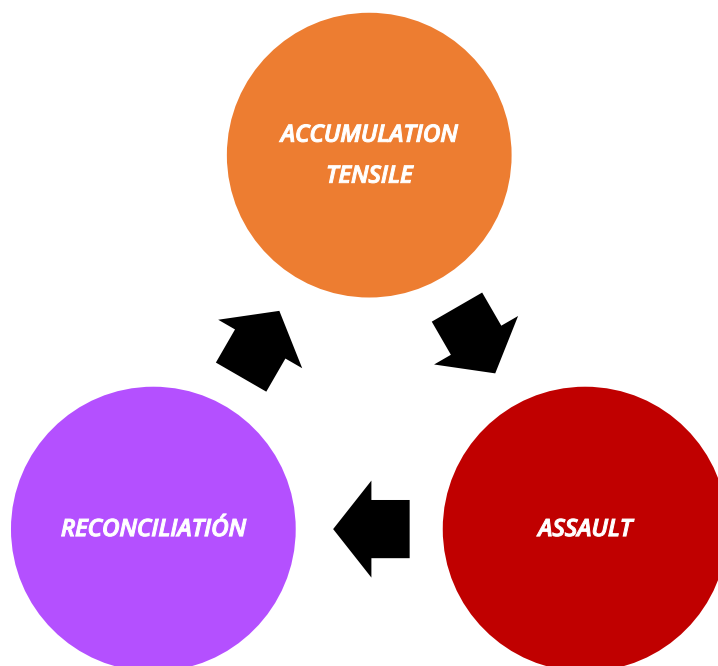
The same happens with gender violence, to understand why the woman stays with the aggressor we must know the whole situation.

This will help us understand the situation and not hold the victim responsible: existence of sons and daughters, emotional dependence, economic dependence, fear of an uncertain future...

The intervention guidelines that are developed below will be applied to professionals in any field of action, since the first contact with the victim will be the first step to get out of the violent relationship.

Intervention with the victim

Abuse follows guidelines that are explained through the theory of the "Cycle of Violence" (as we explained above); this theory was described by Walker (1979). This psychologist verified that all the women who attended therapy went through the same phases, with the same pattern in the aggressors who alternated aggression (physical or psychological) with regret. It is a progressive and ascending process in which the frequency and intensity of the attacks increases as time goes by



Phases of the cycle of violence

Phases of the cycle of violence²⁹

1st Phase: There is an accumulation of tension. It is a succession of small incidents or conflicts that lead to friction between the couple, with a constant increase in anxiety and hostility, since he does not express complaints and feelings, he does not differentiate between anger and aggression. These small incidents (insignificant things, as verbalized by the victims) are attributed to the behavior of the woman, although there have been no changes in her behavior. While she does not know what has caused her anger, he is indifferent, despises her, devalues her with phrases such as "... if you are an idiot." This phase is characterized especially by the appearance of those isolated situations of psychological violence. She thinks that if she calms him down she will go away, and she will be submissive and affectionate; she will try not to provoke her anger, she will resign and accept, but that will not be enough and he will express more violence, generating anguish and fear in the woman.

2nd Phase: The accumulated tension produces an "explosion of violence" that can vary in severity, from a slap to death. The woman does not understand what is happening; the aggressor can hit her hard with an open hand or with a closed fist, with any object (a stick, a lamp, a cup, a plate, a painting, etc.). He will kick her in

²⁹Extracted from Velasco Riego L. (2018) *Gender violence. Practical manual to detect and deal with it*. Libertas Editions.

any part of the body (in the abdomen -especially if she is pregnant-, in the back, in the head, in the arms, in the face, etc.), he will drag her by the hair, he will throw her against the wall or against furniture, he will throw her down the stairs; she will throw her out of the house half naked; In the sexual field, some women state that they have been forced to perform sexual practices that they do not want (fellatio, anal penetration, etc.). In this phase there can be physical, psychological and sexual aggressions. The woman remains disoriented and confused, because she does not know what the aggressor's behavior is due to. She is not able to react. She feels guilty, because she thinks that it was, she who aroused the wrath of the aggressor. When this phase is repeated frequently, it is usually the moment in which they ask for help; some women go to the health or police services to put an end to the nightmare they are experiencing, but others, unfortunately, will continue to live in that hell. It is a moment of great importance, since the professional you address will depend to a large extent on whether or not you leave the relationship.

3rd Phase: *"Honeymoon" or "reconciliation". The cycle ends with this phase, in which the abuser repents and apologizes. He promises that it will never happen again; it is a way to prevent her from abandoning him or reporting him. She believes him. He reinforces her with her affectionate expression, and allows her certain concessions, such as seeing her friends, or talking to her family; the woman thinks that it is an isolated incident, and that she is to blame for everything that has happened. She thinks he will change because he is really sorry (to her). The woman feels that she must continue with him so that he can change with her help, understanding that she is her responsibility and that if she does not anger him, she will not repeat the violent episode again. She thinks that she can't leave him at that moment when she has promised to change. But the episodes of accumulation of tension will repeat themselves and the phases will begin again, which are becoming shorter each time. On many occasions we will be able to hear from the victims: "it is my husband is the father of my children, I know he will change, I have to help him, how am I going to leave him now...".*

REMEMBER

That women come to understand "the cycle of violence" is essential, both for themselves and for the professionals who care for victims; it is part of the process to break with that violent relationship.

REMEMBER

THE DECISION TO BREAK

It is very difficult to get out of the relationship when the woman realizes the situation to which she is subjected, she does not have the strength to break. The continuous harassment suffered makes them not feel capable of taking this step, they will lie about the injuries, justification to the aggressor... Leaving the relationship is painful and complex. They will not always have a support network and feel great emotional dependence on the aggressor.

To deal with the attention to the victim we will do it from the evaluation and the intervention. There are many programs that can help us perform our task better, but we will focus on basic evaluation and intervention guidelines in the first contact with the victim.

First of all, it is important to create a suitable environment to carry out the evaluation. We must offer security, active listening and empathy, to facilitate the scenario in which we are going to work. You should never pressure them to file a complaint because we must take their emotional state into account and explain to them that we have all the time they need and that there is no rush. Especially in this first approach it is only necessary to listen and reassure. Let's remember that it may be the first time you are talking about your situation

Before starting the evaluation, it must be taken into account, as we have seen in previous lessons, that it will present psychological sequelae, mainly anxiety and post-traumatic stress, it may happen that there is a re-experiencing and general psychological discomfort; It is common for intense activation to appear when recalling an episode of abuse. We can also find ourselves with an evasive attitude, that is, that avoids thinking about something specific about which we are asking

When conducting the evaluation we will focus on:

1. History of abuse.

We will ask about the type of abuse suffered, the exposure time, frequency. How he has been coping with the different violent episodes.

2. Dangerousness of the aggressor. Know what kind of threats it suffers. It is necessary that he describe his way of being, how he is and how he behaves, with her and with other people, if he consumes alcohol and other substances if he lacks impulse control. How he attacks him, at what time and with what objects (if he used them.

3. Consequences of abuse. Knowing the result of the violence, that is, its consequences, will help us understand how the woman feels, and we can also

understand what she does (the behavior) and why she does it (the reason); The situation she is going through is complex, we need to approach the evaluation and/or the intervention with a "blank mind" without judging, without preconceived, stereotyped ideas, only then can we have an objective vision of reality.

Attitudes of the professional towards a woman victim of abuse

- *Take care of the woman in an intimate place.*
- *Generate a climate of trust and safety.*
- *Listen without interruptions.*
- *Do not doubt the story of the woman. Believe what she says and let her know that you believe her.*
- *Do not adopt an attitude of excessive protection (paternalism).*
- *Do not pressure her to decide (report, abandon the aggressor, leave her home).*
- *Avoid secondary victimization (that the woman has to report the facts to several professionals).*
- *Never refer to family mediation. Mediation in countries like Spain is prohibited Art. 44.5 of Organic Law 1/2004 under the premise that in an asymmetric relationship it is not possible to mediate.*
- *Prevent the victim from sharing space with the aggressor.*
- *Support women in decision-making.*

REMEMBER

The victim suffers from post-traumatic stress, it is easy to intensely relive the traumatic experience.

It is normal for avoidance behaviors to appear in places and/or situations associated with aggression.

They suffer from Learned Helplessness "It doesn't matter what you do" you never know when you will receive new attacks, nor the reasons that will arouse the aggressor's anger.

LESSON 2. THE INTERVIEW WITH THE VICTIM

“Before when he called me a bitch I answered him. I learned to shut up so he wouldn't hit me. Now he calls me a whore and hits me just the same. He tells me: he who is silent consents. So if I speak he hits me, if I keep quiet too ”.

(Anonymous testimony of a victim at police stations)

Introduction

In previous lessons we have been able to verify that the consequences of violence can be devastating as a result of physical, psychological, sexual, labor, social damage... depending on the type of violence exercised and depending on its intensity and frequency, damage that will persist over time, even after the relationship has ended.

In our care interventions for women, we will find situations of chronic stress, fatigue and anxiety, which respond to situations of threat and insecurity, uncontrollability... continuously, intermittent violence, shared with moments of regret, violence that fluctuates between periods of affection and tenderness that leads to a constant state of alert when any stimulus triggers anxiety (women who are startled only by the noise of opening a door); but also with deep feelings of sadness, apathy, a negative vision of the world and of herself, hopelessness, feelings of guilt, lack of control of her life and a persistent fear of not knowing when she will be attacked again, fear of losing her life, coupled with learned helplessness: whatever you do, you will not be able to avoid aggression. Low self-esteem as a result of constant disqualifications, contempt and insults... feelings of guilt, shame, isolation make each time find yourself more alone, more cut off from the outside world, more dependent, feel more incapable of solving problems and making decisions, and avoidance responses instead of coping behaviors arise. All this makes it very difficult to leave the relationship and we will find some resistance, it is easy for them to lie about the origin of the injuries and to justify the aggressor. Besides that they will not always have the support network they need and they are very emotionally attached to the aggressor.

The reality is that many victims do not ask for help, so it is necessary to pay attention to all the possible indicators that can alert us that a woman is in this situation, to respond to her needs.

Unless the woman speaks openly about her situation, that she goes directly to request help from the health or police services, it is difficult for them to address the issue with third parties or professionals. They will not recognize the situation they are experiencing, hiding what is happening to them out of shame, fear and guilt. It is difficult to recognize that they have been forced to tolerate certain behaviors and this limits and paralyzes them, they prefer to remain silent and keep quiet, in short, they feel responsible for what happens to them, responsible for being the object of this violence.

Detecting situations of violence that many women keep silent about is a complex task, it requires awareness-raising and specific training to overcome the obstacles that have a specific weight in care and intervention, such as social factors (myths and stereotypes that have not been overcome) or psychological factors such as the fear of causing harm to the victim by not having adequate training when conducting the interview.

Some of the difficulties on the part of the woman, in the detection and intervention are the following:

- *Fear:*
 - *A can be done by the aggressor if he speaks (threats)*
 - *Not to be believed.*
 - *Not being able to "take their children forward."*
 - *Fear of not being believed or not being understood by the family or environment.*
 - *To the judicial process.*
 - *To not have protection.*
 - *To an uncertain future.*
 - *Not being able to face his life without the aggressor.*
 - *§ Fear of lack of resources (in some cases).*
 - *Lack of confidence in Justice and the Police.*
 - *To think that she won't be able to get ahead alone.*

- *Denial or minimization of their situation. He will lie about injuries and defend the offender. Lack of consistency between the state of their injuries and their cause due to feelings of guilt and shame.*

- *Lack of trust in professionals, mistakenly thinking that no one can help her out of the situation she is in.*

- *Rigid traditional attitudes about the female role: fear of creating conflicts, feelings of failure with respect to the couple, blame for breaking up the family, leaving their children without the paternal model, double shifts...*

- *Women with added vulnerability:*
 - *Migrant women in an irregular administrative situation and/or with language obstacles.*
 - *Older women*
 - *Women residing in rural areas.*
 - *Women with disabilities.*
 - *Etc.*

Any behavior of the woman must be associated with normal reactions that are a response to the trauma and it is necessary to connect with the situation of abuse that she recounts to respond to the most basic and urgent needs of that moment.

We will never find an intervention equal to another, for this reason we must adapt to the needs of each woman, little by little we will realize that they are the ones who will set the pace of the interview and depending on the facts that they narrate, some questions or questions will arise. others.

There is no methodological instrument, nor a standardized and protocolized interview, since each woman is unique, as is her case, but professional practice leaves us some indications that will undoubtedly facilitate our work with battered women.

The objective that we must consider before a woman victim of abuse at first is to generate the confidence that she needs. We must welcome her in such a way that she understands that she will receive assistance and that as professionals we will help her on the road to her recovery.

But let's not forget that as victim care professionals we may have certain limitations that hinder our work, and it is necessary to be aware of this to overcome them, for example:

- *Not having the necessary specialized training to understand the framework of gender violence.*
- *Not knowing the support system and the network of resources to which the woman can be referred (legal, social, health, etc.)*

- *Lack of time to adequately address each case (police stations, medical consultations)*
- *Difficulty creating an adequate environment (privacy and intimacy).*
- *Poor coordination between the professionals involved.*

The interview must take place in a suitable place. We have been insisting on this sense of places, not only safe, but also welcoming places that invite the victim to feel welcome. A police station can be safe but not necessarily welcoming. Since the first actions with victims at the end of the 90s, we have been improving the actions looking for suitable spaces for them, both at the police and judicial levels. Resources of this type are not always available, but an effort must be made so that the victim feels that we are with her, that we will listen to her and help her, and that we are aware of her lapses, interruptions, doubts, fears, etc.

Hence the importance of the physical environment in the first contact with the victim. Let's think that perhaps it is the first time that she has dared to talk about what is happening, she may have only gone to receive information and is not willing to tell details of her history of abuse... any moment could be a possibility for her and him/her the professional must be prepared to facilitate the path.

Our first moment can be an indicator of how later performances. It is necessary to maintain an active listening accompanied by empathy. Listening in the broad sense of the word, listening is feeling, perceiving both your verbal and non-verbal language; what the woman says with her words, her gestures... It supposes an effort on the part of the professional who intervenes not to speak or respond prematurely; it is about letting the woman start her story, and not interrupting her, letting her ventilate, let her unload... although there are times when silence predominates... it is time to listen... silence also communicates and we must know how to decipher it. Respecting these moments we also offer communication and listening; it will make her feel welcomed, believed, legitimized, valued... and this despite feelings of fear and guilt arising... we will transmit legitimacy and normality (reminding her that these are normal reactions to an abnormal situation, such as abuse), we can even tell her that we understand how you feel, that it is a difficult situation, but that we will help you get out, because you get out of violence, that many women who have gone through your situation have managed to get out of violence.

Encourage the woman to recount what happened, calmly, calmly; transmitting to her that she has all the time she needs... encouraging her to freely tell what has happened to her, in her own way, respecting her time, her needs, her silences; We can add positive messages that reach you, but without generating false expectations. Assure her that the path she has just begun is long and difficult, but that everything will be fixed little by little and with the help of the professionals who will accompany her during this process. She should not feel judged, because we will accept the story she offers us without judging her, understanding what she feels and how she feels. Our willingness to listen will help us understand and accept what he tells us, even if we think differently, we do not necessarily have to share his decisions or ideas about the problem.

REMEMBER

In the Intervention:

- *Earn their trust*
- *Give it time*
- *Explain the situation*
- *Refer her to the health care network*
- *Accompany and protect*

The interview and the importance of communication

We know that battered women have a special feeling of guilt and believe that they have lost control of their lives and bear the burden of responsibility for thinking, mistakenly, that they are responsible for what happens to them.

During the interview, as her story progresses, conflicting feelings towards the love-hate aggressor arise; on the one hand, they reject him, and come to recriminate his behavior, but on the other they feel a great affective dependence on the aggressor, they believe they are under her control, generating a perception of inability to make decisions.

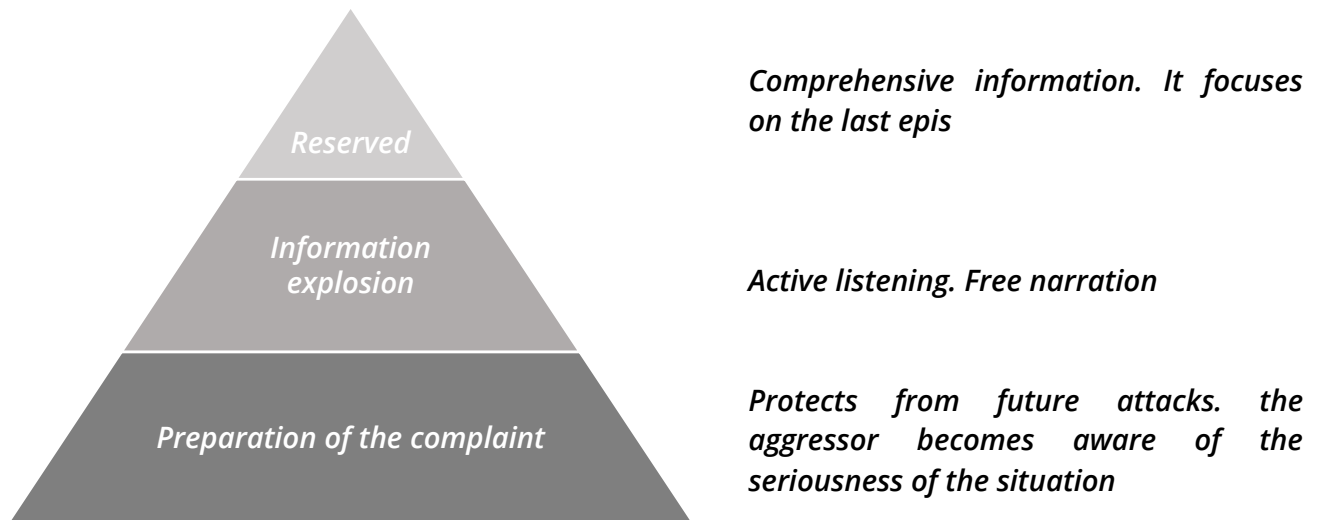
With the memory of some violent episodes, she may feel ashamed of what she herself is telling, patience must be shown, and special consideration of the feelings of shame that may surface.

This is an undirected interview. The story must be totally free. If the interviewer follows these instructions patiently and in that environment of trust and security created, what we call "an information explosion" will arrive; In order for her to feel that she is really being heard, there is no need to take notes at this time, except for something that is strictly necessary.

We recommend starting with friendly phrases so as not to make her uncomfortable, such as "tell me what happened"; respecting the times and silences you need. When the story ends, you will be asked if you want to denounce³⁰; They will not always be willing to take this step, sometimes even in police stations at the end of the interview they are not willing to report.

³⁰ In the case in which you are not in police stations. This semi-guided interview is just as suitable for any professional field.

It is necessary to assess their risk situation in order to adopt the necessary measures to guarantee their safety. They must be informed that the right thing to do is to report to put an end to a situation that should no longer be sustained over time. If fear is the variable that prevented it and in the measures of our possibilities and protocols, the possibility of requesting protection to break the cycle of violence will be indicated. Thus the aggressor will become aware of the situation and the complaint will prevent future attacks.



Source: Velasco, 2015

The professionals who work in attention to victims must have minimum communication skills to maintain a dialogue based on active listening; Knowing how to ask, because this helps us to know what we should ask at a certain moment and what not, and also a specific, clear and concise language must be used. All of this will allow us to obtain information from the victim, encourage her to speak, guide her in providing information, so that she feels heard and understood; If we ask properly we will obtain information about:

- Demands, needs and objectives of the victim.*
- Physical, emotional and social state.*
- Fears and worries.*
- Skills and resources that you have.*

When the woman has decided to request help, in any of the institutions or resources (police, health, legal, etc.) she must have a preferential and especially respectful treatment and for this reason

- *Show immediate availability, without waiting for a later time. Attention must become the PRIORITY.*
- *Talk alone with the woman.*
- *Attend to the woman in a specific place, SHOULD NOT SHARE A SPACE, neither with the aggressor, nor with other people.*
- *The victim IS NOT RESPONSIBLE for what happens to him.*
- *The victim IS NOT JUST ANOTHER CASE in our interventions*

The importance of knowing how to listen

Regarding active listening, we must bear in mind that when we have a conversation, information will always be lost between what we say and what is perceived, some information will remain on the way.

We often listen with the intention of responding. When we listen, we usually elaborate in our brain the answer we want to give to the person who speaks to us. This cannot happen in victim care. Carrying out active listening implies listening with the intention of understanding, of understanding the woman; Understanding does not mean having to change your mind, you listen actively, even if our point of view is different from hers.

REMEMBER

It is much more difficult to listen than to speak, we only listen to 25%.

We are not trained to listen actively.

Sometimes the origin of discrepancies, disagreements with other people when we speak are conditioned by communication problems, misunderstandings and misinterpretations.

We must take the time to listen to the woman, not misanticipate what we think she may think or feel; sometimes she just needs us to listen to her.

Active listening:

- *Knowing to listen is knowing to make verbal and mental silence, sometimes we completely forget the thread of conversation*
- *When we listen we don't just hear, we don't just focus on the sounds, but we have to interpret what is saying to us*

We say that it is important to listen paying attention to who is speaking, in this case to the victim. If we do not understand something we should ask him; Sometimes professionals do not dare to ask for prudence... fear of the image that we may project on the other person... lack of competence... In active listening it is appropriate to interpret and elaborate what we have understood and offer feedback. Help us with techniques such as paraphrasing and reformulation (saying with our words what we have understood from the message that the victim transmits to us); if it is necessary to answer or ask, leaving the victim to follow her story, if we speak we do not listen. We have to generate confidence in the woman so that she narrates what happened, that she feels free to express herself through her verbal and non-verbal language.

REMEMBER

What is true in communication is what the RECEIVER understands. The person responsible for the communication is the issuer and therefore who should consider changes

During the interview and in our communication with the victim, let's show that we know how to listen actively by adopting an open stance to their story; Let's show interest through a smile, nods in the affirmative...

It is easy for certain emotions to arise before the victim's speech that we must manage; our non-verbal language may give us away... take care of our tone, gestures, facial expressions, eye contact or its absence, body posture, etc., because active listening implies:

- *Maintain eye contact*
- *Attentive facial expression*
- *Incorporation towards the other person*
- *Affirmative head movements*
- *Murmurs of approval*
- *Make summaries*
- *Not judge*
- *Do not carry out other activities at the same time*

***OUR WAKE-UP COMMUNICATION
EMOTIONS IN THOSE WHO LISTEN TO US***

There are words and expressions that make communication difficult; words that we use in our daily life and that can cause rejection when we use them in an inappropriate context or with an inappropriate tone, or if we abuse their use. Certain expressions can be unpleasant to hear

Negative words

- *No.*
- *No way.*
- *Never.*
- *Never.*
- *Wrong.*
- *Problem.*
- *Impossible.*
- *Technical words.*

Generalizations:

- *All.*
- *Any.*
- *Always.*
- *Never.*

False confidence:

- *I assure you.*
- *You can believe me.*

Of obligation:

- *You should.*
- *You have to.*
- *Calm down.*

Unsafety:

- *I do not know.*
- *We'll see.*

There are also mistakes that can be made when asking:

- *Ask several questions in a row without waiting for an answer.*
- *Ask only closed questions.*
- *Ask questions in such a way that the answer is conditioned, seeking confirmation of our opinion "and it could not be what...?"*

The non-verbal aspects of the reception play an essential role and for this reason we must:

- *Immediately establish visual and physical contact (if circumstances allow)*
- *Accompany that visual contact with verbal and gestural expressions that denote support and warmth.*
- *Use a calm tone of voice.*
- *Use your name to address the woman.*

Other strategies in the intervention:

- *Establish a pleasant climate*
- *Try to make the person who is going to tell their story feel comfortable.*
- *Show interest.*
- *Keep a watchful eye.*
- *Avoid giving the feeling that time is not available.*
- *Ask what needs to be clarified, and do not take anything for granted. It is a way to avoid misinterpretation.*
- *Asking appropriate questions will provide information that will undoubtedly be necessary to design the most appropriate intervention for your situation.*
- *Take into account her situation, she will be nervous, and emotions will be mixed. It will not be easy to tell what happens to him.*
- *-Contemplate the possibility that she could be defensive, monotonous, with a lack of interest.*
- *Facilitating the space and time they need means earning their trust.*
- *Act with calm and understanding.*
- *Use non-verbal language with the head, with the look or with the body.*
- *Make short summaries about what the victim is narrating.*
- *Don't start talking until she finishes.*
- *Do not anticipate conclusions.*
- *Not judge.*

REMEMBER

Act with calm and understanding

- *Do not rush to your conclusions.*
- *Do not judge.*
- *Keep an open mind... just pay attention.*
- *Even if you do not agree with what he tells you, you do not need to show rejection.*
- *Avoid distractions.*
- *Listen to what it tells you, not what you would like to hear.*
- *Show empathy. "Get out of your shoes and put yourself in theirs"*
- *Put yourself in her place and you will be able to see how she feels, only then will she understand that she has your support to face such a difficult situation for her.*

Migration as a risk factor

In previous lessons we have verified that migration should not be an obstacle for women who suffer violence. In Spain they are guaranteed police and judicial protection since Organic Law 1/2004 in its article 17 includes the rights that assist them:

- 1. All women victims of gender violence are guaranteed the rights recognized in this law, without being able to there is discrimination in access to them.*
- 2. Information, comprehensive social assistance and legal assistance to victims of gender violence, under the terms regulated in this chapter, contribute to making real and effective their constitutional rights to physical and moral integrity, freedom and security and equality and non-discrimination based on sex.*
- 3. Information and guidance services, immediate, telephone and online psychosocial care, 24-hour legal advice, reception and assistance services Comprehensive social services, consisting of legal, psychological and social counseling for victims of violence against women, will be essential services. In the event of any situation that makes it difficult to access or provide such services, the competent public administrations will adopt the necessary measures to*

guarantee their normal operation and their adaptation, if necessary, to the specific needs of the victims derived from the situation. of this exceptional situation. Likewise, the normal operation and provision of the monitoring system by telematic means of compliance with precautionary measures and penalties of prohibition of approach in matters of gender violence will be guaranteed.

In a study conducted by Cases et al. (2009) between Spanish and migrant women, it is concluded that there is a differentiation between the two, with migrant women being more vulnerable; regarding the way to deal with violence, they claimed to have denounced a high percentage, but that they lacked the necessary information, resorting to a lesser extent to professionals in the socio-sanitary field, measures being necessary to help migrant women overcome the obstacles with which that can be found when going to the resources they need depending on their situation.

In the intervention with the woman, regardless of the field of action, it is essential that she be accompanied to a health center. It is necessary that it be attended by health personnel before even making the complaint. In this way we can obtain more information about what happened, especially if there are physical injuries. The woman can obtain a medical report that will be of great help in the complaint to prove the facts; This report will also include psychological injuries (anguish, anxiety, stress, depression) or sexual injuries, if any.

As professionals we must understand that it is a difficult moment, a moment in which resistance will arise, minimization of the problem, justification of the aggressor, but it is necessary to insist. Sometimes physical injuries are not visible, they are not observable, but it does not mean that they do not exist. In any case, there may not be physical injuries at the time of requesting help, but psychological injuries are always present. The medical report will serve as evidence in the judicial process.

When we refer to the priority of going to a medical center before making a complaint, for example, we mean that in a general way the calm and security that professionals can transmit can reduce the anxiety of women when perceiving themselves protected and listened to, and it is possible that during the medical care they are calmer, not being able to verify the reality of their condition.

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<https://violenciagenero.igualdad.gob.es/informacionUtil/derechos/docs/guiderechos.pdf>

TEST

1. When we talk about learned helplessness, we are referring to the woman's thought: "whatever I do, it won't matter, I won't be able to avoid the aggression".

True
False

2.. It is easy for women to talk openly about their situation with professionals

True
False

3. In caring for women, it is necessary to understand this violence in terms of:

- Who exercises the violence.
- About who is deployed.
- The space in which it is perpetrated.

True
False

4. The migration factor makes migrant women more vulnerable

True

False

5. Any behavior of the woman must be associated with normal reactions that are a response to the trauma and it is necessary to connect with the situation of abuse that she reports to respond to the most basic and urgent needs of that moment.

True

False



“When I went to the police, she sat next to me. She, between tears, told her my story of more than 30 years of abuse. She was not in a hurry and she nodded her head listening to me attentively... I felt that she understood me... that she believed me ”

(Anonymous testimony of victims at police stations)

LESSON 3

THE POLICE AND JUDICIAL PROCESS

To begin... What do you know about the police and judicial process in the face of gender violence?

SELF_EVALUATION

Read carefully the wording of the questions and answer if it is TRUE or FALSE

1. One in four women victims of sexual assault by their partner or by someone other than their partner did not go to the police or any specialized entity out of shame and dishonor.

True
False

2. You must always show a receptive, empathetic, understanding attitude towards the victim

True
False

3. Listen actively. Without judging, without hesitation, no matter how incredible the story may seem to us, it is part of the intervention strategies

True
False

4. There is a Protection Order in Europe so that women can travel anywhere in the world

True
False

5. That the woman decides to go to the Police, or that she has been forced to go to the police station (due to third-party complaints) does not have to be a stressful factor

True
False

Introduction

Reporting is not easy. Initiating a police and judicial process can initially be dizzying, because the procedure is generally unknown, but the main reason for women who suffer violence is not being sure that they will be believed.

The results of the study carried out by the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) ³¹ on gender violence in Europe with a sample of 42,000 women in 28 countries of the European Union, focused on the experiences of women in relation to violence, indicate that only a third of the women victims of intimate partner abuse (33%) went to the police or to a victim assistance service; in the case of women assaulted outside the couple, only 26% attended; The report states that, just as some of the women who were attacked went to the health services, they did so to a lesser extent to other specialized victim assistance services, that is, few women requested help in the event of serious episodes of physical violence and / or sexual. After a serious incident of sexual violence by a partner, a third of the women went to the health service (health center or hospital) and only 6% contacted shelter services, 4% did so with other support entities, which means that they do not always have the information they need when making a complaint, and the report ensures that it may be due to the availability of services and the place where the woman resides .

Another relevant piece of information is that, in addition, one in four women victims of sexual assault by their partner or someone other than their partner, did not go to the police or any specialized entity out of shame and dishonor.

Undoubtedly, information is key in the health care process as it is in the police process and also awareness and specialization in this type of intervention. As this report points out, we must take into account the Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council in Strasbourg (2022) on the fight against violence against women and domestic violence and provide victims with the necessary support that responds to their needs. specific.

In relation to the police and judicial process, we can fit them into the same axis of attention to the victim due to the consequences of facing this type of process; They are usually cumbersome, unfamiliar processes, and in most cases having to face police or judicial action generates some anxiety for obvious reasons: unknown scenarios, difficulty in proving the facts due to lack of evidence, professionals without a gender perspective, etc.

³¹ Considered the largest study on gender violence in the world.

Currently, police personnel have specific groups to care for women that are made up of highly qualified professionals, and the same is true at the judicial headquarters, since training on gender violence is something inherent to the position; in Spain we have specialized courts called Violence Against Women Courts. But not always the woman who goes to the Police or the Court will feel that she has been treated as she required, she will not always have professionals available to her. with the sensitivity that these interventions require. Due to legislative issues, time, procedures and assignment of powers, it may be necessary to be attended by professionals with less training.

The police process

That the woman decides to go to the Police, or that she has been forced to go to the police station (due to third-party complaints) is already a stressful factor in her situation, we insist that most women are unaware of their rights and the resources with which you can count; thus, it will be a situation for her that is less uncomfortable. So the most prudent thing to do is to make sure of the following issues:

- Do not allow the woman to wait too long without being attended. If the woman is not determined to file a complaint, it is almost certain that she will not be attended to immediately; doubts, fear, shame... will make her want not to stay in place.*
- Prevent him from sharing a physical space with the aggressor or with his relatives; the aggressors and her family take advantage of these moments to contact the woman and ask her not to report, to withdraw the complaint if that were the case, or even to pressure her with new threats.*
- From the beginning it must be received with respect, providing the information you need, about your rights and the resources you can access.*
 - To be received in a cozy, intimate space with a pleasant climate in which you can feel comfortable. Most of the resources, including the police and judicial ones, have rooms set up to care for victims, but this will not always be the case, so it is recommended that in these cases where there is no specific room, a place be set up for that first attention.*

-Try if it is possible to be attended by a woman. We know that this possibility is important, it guarantees a greater understanding and comprehension of how you feel, and this without detracting from the attention that many male police officers offer from the respect and sensitivity that characterizes them by having specialized training and understanding the difficulties that woman can have at certain times; but we understand that narrating, for example, a sexual assault, it will never be the same to do it before a woman as before a man. The fact of being attended by a woman will facilitate the interview and her emotional discharge.

As we can remember from previous lessons and as we will see in the following, it is necessary to deploy all our intervention skills and strategies, we will mention some of them below.

During the interview it may be difficult for you to speak (not in all cases, but in most cases) and this should not be a difficulty for the professional; we must understand that it is a normal response to an abnormal situation. Do not show rush, a gesture of looking at the clock can make you think that you have the time she needs; the woman does not want to bother, she does not want to be "another burden"; we know the consequences of the abuse and we know that she will be very affected by the situation; she is a matter of adapting to her needs and her times.

It is also important in the interview, and specifically in the police intervention there will necessarily be unpleasant, uncomfortable questions... specifically those related to sexual relations; This moment must be approached with caution, anticipating that it is a subject that we must discuss... indicating for example: "we know that some questions will be uncomfortable but they are absolutely necessary, we need to know if you have ever felt forced to have sexual relations... if the offender has demanded unwanted sexual practices... if he has forced her into prostitution... if she has had sexual relations for fear of the consequences of refusing to do so..."³²

Each and every one of the professionals who are in the women's care teams must provide a comprehensive response that goes beyond our daily interventions, highlighting the following suggestions³³:

- Always show a receptive, empathetic, understanding attitude...*
- Listen actively. Without judging, without hesitation, however incredible the story may be for us.*

³² Extracted from the book Velasco Riego, L. (2018) *Gender violence. Break your silence. Practical manual to detect and deal with it*. Libertas Editions.

³³ Idem

- *Avoid unnecessary actions that generate "secondary victimization".*
- *Knowledge of basic interview techniques to make it easier for the victim to express herself and verbalize her history of abuse.*
- *Confidentiality.*
- *Preferential attention to the victim, separate her from the rest of the people.*
- *Option to be attended by female staff.*
- *Interview in reserved space.*
- *Pay attention and interest, even if you do not want to report or have withdrawn the report.*
- *Facilitate health care.*
- *Facilitate legal assistance.*
- *Collect information about the environment and the medical service.*
- *Request information from the aggressor.*

Police intervention can also encounter obstacles that prevent the continuity of their task by the victim or the environment:

- *Feelings of shame and guilt, which will make decision making difficult.*
- *Wrong belief about the impossibility of getting out of the relationship and that no one can help her.*
- *Lack of trust in professionals.*
- *Minimization and denial of violence.*

In the police process, different scenarios will occur: on the one hand, if the life of the woman is in danger, it will be necessary to remove her from the home, if the aggressor is not detained; on the other hand, we may be facing a chronification of violence and it is necessary for the woman to go to therapy to help her in the decision to break up and in these cases she also has the right to be protected. In any case, it is necessary to provide her with security and confidence and to know the real situation in which she finds herself, in order, as we have indicated, to attend to her most urgent needs.

You have to accompany her throughout the process and that both the woman and her sons and daughters (if any) feel supported and protected.

It is possible that the woman does not go to the police stations, and that it is the Police who appear at the scene, in which case the police must accompany the woman and remain with her for as long as necessary. It is essential:

- *Transfer her to a health center to ensure evidence of any manifestation of violence (physical, sexual or psychological).*
- *In case of sexual assault, transfer her to the health center or hospital, preventing her from washing or changing her clothes so that the evidence is not destroyed.*
- *Take a detailed statement from him, but taking into account his emotional state.*
- *Inform the woman of all her rights.*
- *Refer the victim to the care network and accompany her when she travels.*
- *Check that the aggressor does not have weapons (both legal and illegal).*

In the collection of information for the subsequent complaint, it is necessary that the facts, dates and type of violence carried out by the aggressor be specified as accurately as possible. To the extent that you remember, you should make an effort to tell his story of abuse.

This is necessary so that the Judicial Authority can get an exact idea of what happened. Subsequently, you will have to testify in court and it is important to record everything you remember, sometimes it can be years and years of mistreatment, but without a doubt the most serious episodes should be included in your statement to contribute to clarifying the facts, to police investigation and court ruling.

Sometimes the emotional wear and tear suffered by the victims during the police and judicial processes are terrible; This that occurs frequently must be detected by the Police and must propose a break. It will be difficult for the woman to remember certain moments, but it is necessary to insist on the importance of including everything that she can remember to produce the most complete police report possible.

It will be recommended that you attach reports on your health, medical, psychological or psychiatric treatments... if you do not have medical reports, the professional should contact your primary care doctor to check if they are aware of the woman's situation and if appears in the medical record.

Finally, try to gather information from third parties if they were present and witnessed any of the events that you have incorporated into your story. It may be accompanied by a photographic report in which physical injuries (if any) are verified, the state of the home if objects were broken, text messages or WhatsApp, social networks or emails, in which they are stated, for example, threats or other evidence.

Carrying out a good investigation, in detail, with an exhaustive account, means that your case will not be filed due to lack of evidence. Poorly elaborated reports, made

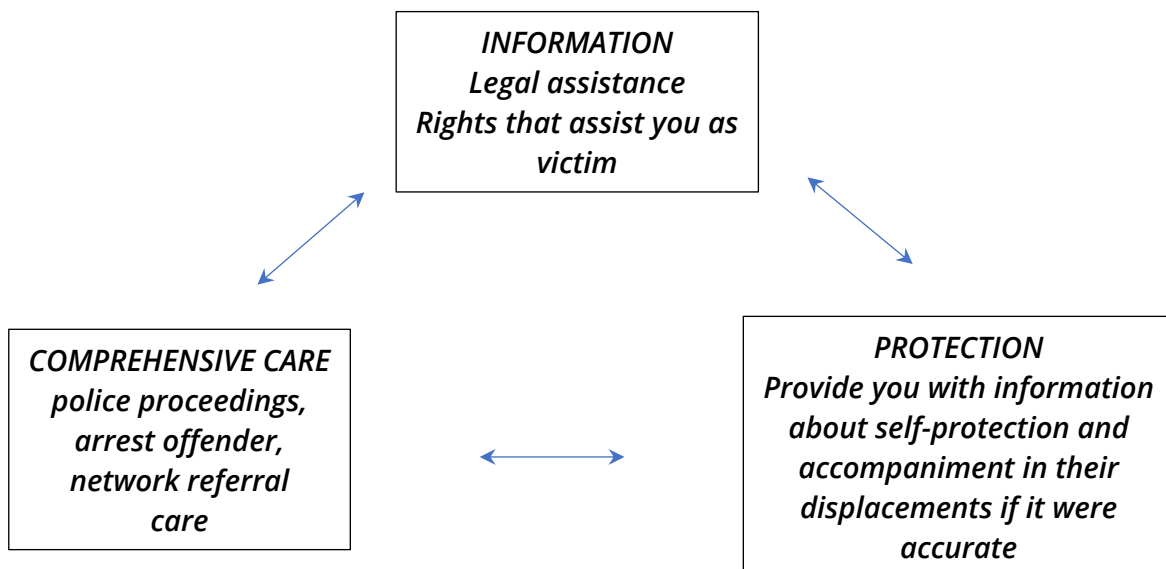
due to lack of time or interest, can have devastating consequences for the woman by not obtaining a conviction for the aggressor and believing that all the effort made has not been worth it, added to the fear of what her partner will be capable of. or ex-partner when verifying that their acts have gone unpunished.

Spanish legislation and action protocols contemplate, as one of the rights of victims, the presence of a lawyer on duty, or designated by the victim herself (of her confidence) who will be present during the statement in dependencies police and judicial authorities and will oversee her defense, accompanying her throughout the procedure.

As noted, the information is vital for the woman to make decisions based on her case and needs.

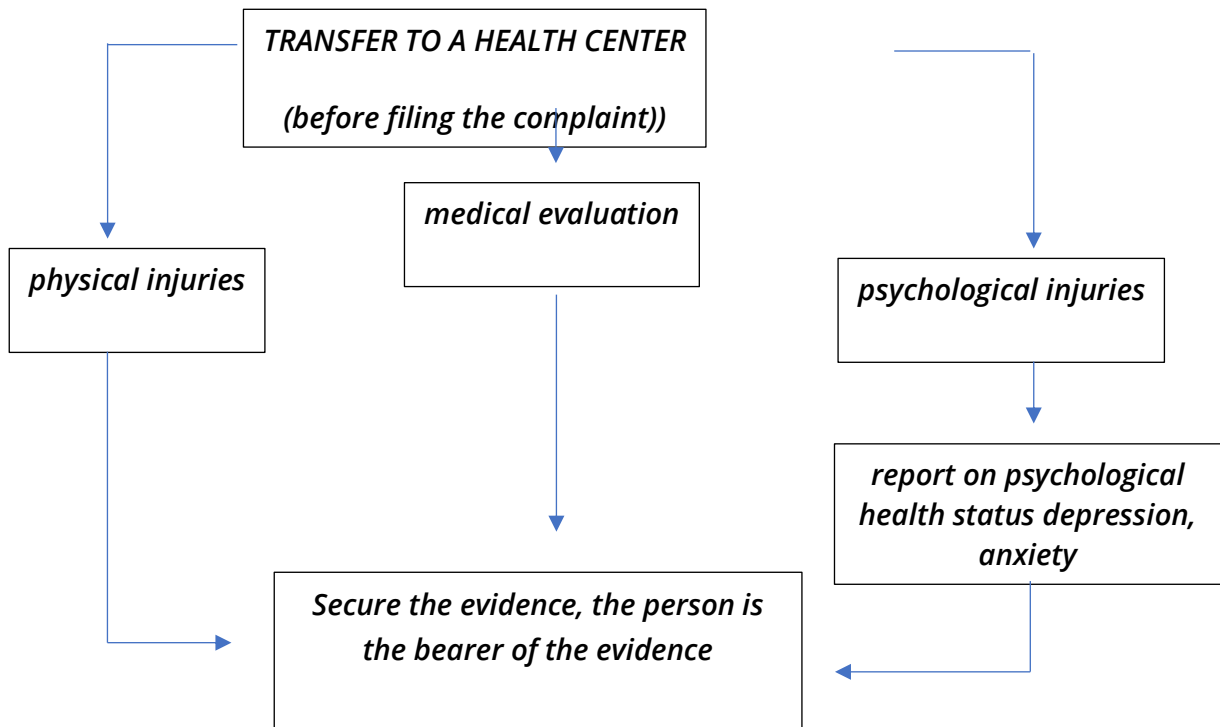
In the event that the woman is a foreigner and does not know the language, it will be necessary to request an interpreter.

The basic pillars in which police actions can be summarized are information, protection and comprehensive care:



REMEMBER

Prompt, comprehensive, personalized and specialized care must be provide



The judicial process

Regarding the judicial process and attention to the victim, we previously indicated that they are very similar.

Organic Law 1/2004 proposes the creation of specialized Courts (the Courts for Violence against Women) and represented a great advance in this matter.

Currently, these courts are competent in criminal and civil matters and assume the powers based on the offended person (the woman) although they will only deal with cases of gender violence and not the rest of the people in the family unit because it would be the responsibility of another court (the Investigating Court).

These Courts that, as we say, was an important turning point in terms of improving police and judicial processes for the victim because it will be the Judge who will

decide on issues related to the breakup, assets, etc. in addition to being in charge of coordinating with other resources such as health, police and legal.

The Integral Law, in its art. 43, includes the incorporation of art. 87 bis in the Organic Law of the Judiciary:

"1. In each judicial district there will be one or more Courts for Violence against Women, with headquarters in the capital of the former and jurisdiction throughout its territorial scope. They take their designation of the municipality of its headquarters.

2. Without prejudice to the provisions of the current legislation on demarcation and judicial plant, the Government, at the proposal of the General Council of the Judiciary and, where appropriate, with a report from the Autonomous Community with jurisdiction in matters of Justice, may establish by royal I decree that the Courts for Violence against Women that are determined extend their jurisdiction to two or more districts within the same province.

3. The General Council of the Judiciary may decide, following a report from the Government Chambers, that, in those constituencies where it is convenient based on the existing workload, the knowledge of the matters referred to in article 87 ter of this Organic Law, corresponds to one of the Courts of First Instance and Instruction, or of Instruction in its case, determining in this situation that only one of these Bodies knows all these matters within the judicial district, either exclusively or also knowing of other subjects.

4. In the judicial districts in which there is only one Court of First Instance and Instruction, this will be the one that assumes the knowledge of the matters referred to in article 87 ter of this Law".

Undoubtedly, these Judges have a greater knowledge of the situation of women and their follow-up. Another aspect worth highlighting about these courts is the specialization with a view to better training of the professionals, since they will have a greater amount of material and human resources and the collaboration of other professionals in Psychology, Forensic Medicine, Labor social etc And how could it be otherwise, the figure of the Prosecutor's Office against Violence against Women also arises, which is organized and supervised by the Public Prosecutor's Office, therefore, we have Prosecutors with specialization in the Superior Courts of Justice and Provincial Courts.

Each provincial capital has a specialized Court and they must take cognizance of the investigation and, where appropriate, the verdict of crimes related to violence against women, as well as the corresponding civil matters.

Even with all the resources at its disposal that represent an improvement in care, becoming called "comprehensive care, going through the judicial process is not easy; uncertainty, the fear that arises in the face of an unknown scenario; and it is that it is natural that the fear of initiating the process arises against the person with whom he has lived, his partner, with whom he has shared his life. On the other hand, there is a certain suspicion about the expectations of the result and its influence on their future... all of this blocks women in decision-making. But it is important that she is aware of the reality in which she lives and that the judicial process will open up for her the possibility of recovery through the mechanisms that are put in place with the complaint to start her recovery through that comprehensive health care, psychological and social for the benefit of their health and protection and that of their family.

In addition, in Spain, the victim has free justice, included in the Royal Decree-Law we have on 3/2013, of February 22, free assistance is recognized for victims of gender violence to litigate, regardless of the available resources and you can request the Protection Order through your lawyer.

It is a tool regulated by Law 37/2003, of July 31, which was created in order to protect victims of gender and domestic violence.

The Judge, in the event that the existence of violence is accredited and there are sufficient indications, and in addition there is an evident risk for the woman, may, by means of a judicial resolution, grant the victim comprehensive protection. It is a quick and simple procedure through which you will agree on criminal, civil and social protection measures.

Egarding penal measures:

- Deprivation of liberty measures.*
- Restraining order.*
- Prohibition of communication.*
- Prohibition to return to the place of the crime or residence of the victim*
- Withdrawal of weapons or other dangerous objects.*

Regarding civil measures:

- Attribution of the use and enjoyment of the dwelling.*
- Custody regime, visits, communication with the children.*

- *Provision of food.*
- *Measure of protection to the minor to avoid a danger or harm*

Regarding social measures:

- *Social care.*
- *Healthcare.*
- *Legal assistance.*

The Protection Order can be requested by:

- *The person who has suffered physical or psychological aggression by their partner or ex-partner, even if they have not lived together.*
- *Relatives of the victim (descendants, ascendants, siblings...).*
- *Public and private organizations that are aware of this type of event and must notify the Court.*
- *The Public Prosecutor and the Court, ex officio.*

Once the request is submitted, it is forwarded to the Court for Violence against Women or to the Duty Court and within 72 hours, the Court will summon the victim with her lawyer, the accused, also with her lawyer and the Public Prosecutor. Once the resolution is adopted, it will be communicated to the parties for their knowledge and to the institutions involved, such as the police forces so that they adopt the necessary measures to guarantee the protection of the victim based on the risk situation.

If the woman must travel to another Member State, she may do so and move freely maintaining the Protection Order through Law 23/2014, of November 30, on mutual recognition of criminal decisions in the European Union; when an order or resolution is issued by the Spanish judicial authorities, they may communicate it to the corresponding authority in another Member State; Likewise, the Spanish authorities will also carry out the execution of the European orders and resolutions provided for in the Law and coming from another State. This Law includes the European Protection Order, since it is a decision issued by the judicial authority of a Member State that authorizes another State to adopt the necessary measures in favor of the victims who need it in the territory in which they are. With this instrument, the rights of victims outside a country are guaranteed, since the Protection Order would be recognized by any State of the Union European.

Art. 130. European Protection Order. 1. The European protection order is a decision in criminal matters issued by a judicial or equivalent authority of a Member State in relation to a protection measure that empowers the competent authority of another Member State to adopt the appropriate measures in favor of the victims or possible

victims of crimes that may endanger their lives, their physical or psychological integrity, their dignity, their individual freedom or their sexual integrity, when they are in their territory. 2. The protection order can be issued both in relation to precautionary measures imposed in criminal proceedings and in relation to deprivation of rights, provided that they consist of: a) The prohibition of entering or approaching certain localities, places or areas defined in where the protected person resides or frequents. b) The prohibition or regulation of any type of contact with the protected person, including contacts telephone, by email or post, by fax or by any other means. c) Or the prohibition or regulation of approaching the protected person at a distance less than that indicated in the measure.

Art. 131. Competent authorities in Spain to issue and receive a European protection order.

1. The competent authorities to issue and transmit a European protection order are the Judges or Courts that hear the criminal proceedings in which the resolution adopting the protection measure has been issued.

2. The competent authorities to recognize and execute the European protection order are the Examining Judges or the Violence Against Women Judges of the place where the victim resides or intends to do so, without prejudice to the provisions of the following article.

However, when probation or alternative measures to provisional detention have been issued, the same Judge or Court that has already recognized and executed those decisions will be competent to recognize and execute the European protection order.

As an example of a semi-structured interview, the following questions could be asked, taken from (Velasco and Mozos, 2008)

- Is married? Do you have a stable partner? Since when?
- Do you have children? Are they from the same couple? How old are them?
- Do you remember when she suffered the first push, slap, insult...?
- "Did she ever push you, grab you, shake you?"
- Has she hit her/her children?
- Have you threatened her children?
- Have you ever felt threatened? Do you ridicule? Humiliate you? Have you done anything that made you feel like you were unaware of her presence?
- Does he insult you or has he ever insulted you? Has he ever kicked you out of the house?
- Does the aggressor break things or throw objects, knock on doors...?
- When these events occur, are your children present?
- • Briefly describe all the violent episodes that have occurred before.

- Have you ever denounced previous attacks? If not, can you tell us why you did not decide to bring it to our attention?

And all those questions that can be of help, without at any time involving an interrogation (it must never be forgotten that it is the possible victim of the crime, not the culprit). Secondary victimization must be avoided at all times.

Other related questions:

- What exactly happened?*
- How it all started?*
- Where did you hit him?*
- How did he hit you?*
- What exactly happened?*
- How it all started?*
- What did he hit you with? (with the hand, with the fist, with some object...).*
- Were his children present?*
- Were other people present?*
- What did you do afterwards?*
- Did you ask for help? Did you leave home?*
- What did her children do?*
- Do you fear for your life?*
- Has he ever forced you to have sex?*
- Have you ever felt forced to have sexual relations against your will?*
- When you have had sexual relations, has it been out of fear of the consequences? of rejection?*
- When it happened?*
- How it happened?*
- Did she hit her? How did she do it? With some object?*
- Did she threaten him with some kind of weapon to have sexual relations?*
- How is the usual behavior with children?*
- Did she ever think that she could have sexually abused them?*
- Do you think there could be some kind of sexual abuse towards your children? (There are especially cases of sexual abuse when they are not the children of the couple, but of a previous one).*
- How do you feel or how have you felt in these situations?*
- Who made the rules at home?*
- What happened when they were not fulfilled?*
- Does it make you feel inferior? Does he often yell at you?*
- Do you insult him?*

- Do you threaten him?
- Are you blackmailing him?
- Do you look down on him?
- Does it make you feel guilty about everything?
- Does he show you indifference?
- Does he ridicule you in public?
- Does he constantly tell you that everything is wrong?
- Doesn't it allow you to dress as you want?
- Do you criticize his physical appearance?
- Does it make it difficult or prevent you from studying or working outside the home?
- Does he accuse you of being unfaithful for no reason?
- Does it discourage you from having relationships with your previous friends?
- Do you treat your family or friends badly?
- Does it prevent you from relating to your family of origin?
- Do you feel that your partner isolates you?
- Does he threaten to kill himself or induces her to commit suicide?

The professionals should transmit security and trust with phrases such as "I understand how you feel, I'm sure you are suffering a lot, but we are going to try to help you, etc." "What happens is not your fault, no one deserves to be attacked, this does not happen to all couples..." "I know this is difficult for you, you can take the time you need, I understand what you are going through"...

To know more...

https://violenciagenero.igualdad.gob.es/marcoInternacional/ambitoInternacional/unionEuropea/instituciones/Otros/FRA/docs/Encuesta_EscalaUE_Principales_Resultados.pdf

https://e-justice.europa.eu/360/ES/european_protection_order

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TEST

1. *The results of the study by the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) indicate that only a third of women victims of intimate partner abuse (33%) went to the police or to a victim assistance service.*

True
False

2. *Listen actively. Without judging, without hesitation, however incredible the story may be for us.*

True
False

3. *The European Protection Order is a decision issued by the judicial authority of a Member State that authorizes another State to adopt the necessary measures in favor of the victims who need it in the territory where they are.*

True
False

4. *The basic pillars in which police actions can be summarized are: information, protection and comprehensive care.*

True
False

5. *Police intervention will never find obstacles that prevent the continuity of its task in caring for the victim.*

True
False



"It is not about violent men, psychopathic profiles, or problems rooted in their personality; Violence is a resource that society and culture make available to men to use in case of need, leaving it to their discretion to determine when the need arises."

Miguel Lorente

Government Delegate for Gender Violence (2008-2011)

LESSON 4

INTERVENTION WITH THE VICTIMIZER

To start... What do you know about men who exercise violence against women?

SELF_EVALUATION

Read carefully the wording of the questions and answer if it is TRUE or FALSE

1. *The same thing that happens with the victim in the aggressors we do not have a profile.*

True

False

2. *Intervention with victimizers, we find many obstacles that will make it difficult for us to identify them.*

True

False

3. *There are different classifications to talk about types of aggressors. Gottman (1995) in the laboratory identified them as "Cobra" and "Pitbull"*

True

False

4. *There is a false belief that the abuser is crazy.*

True

False

5. *The perpetrator perceives the woman in the relationship as property*

True

False

Introduction

We begin this lesson using the definition of Lorente (2004) to refer to the aggressor with the following phrase "man, male, male"; With this we do not mean that all men are equal, we are only talking about the aggressors of women.

For a long time, the concern to know the framework of gender violence was centered on the victim. We have seen in previous lessons how this has evolved with the different theories on gender violence. The violence that occurs on women, in the field of couple relationships, has the epicenter in the perpetrator.

However, we will always face the same problem: the difficulty in identifying it. We have already commented that there are no profiles that can define a woman who is subjected to violence by her partner, since any woman can be a victim of abuse. The same will happen with the victimizer, any man can be an abuser and we will see the nuances of this statement throughout the lesson.

Given that any "man, male, of the masculine sex" can exercise violence, we can say that there is no profile, but that it is "an elastic profile, which can take any form without modifying its essence" (Lorente, 2004).

Before moving forward, it is important to have a clear premise "not all men are the same, nor are all men abusive, when we talk about aggressors we refer to the violent" (Velasco, 2015); This is important because, as previously indicated in the intervention with perpetrators, we encounter many obstacles that will make it difficult for us to identify them and doubts may arise at times as to whether we are intervening with an aggressor, as a fundamental element that characterizes them, among others many, is manipulation.

This difficulty in identifying them is determined by their double facade. Although we are assuring that the abuser is a man with certain characteristics, these will not be noticeable at first glance. These men tend to be kind, polite, considerate, friends of their friends... on the outside they take care of their image as a "good person" while in private they display all their capacity to do harm.

On the other hand, we must consider that our beliefs, our perception of reality, our education, the lack of training in this matter, the lack of skills, etc. These are factors that are undoubtedly very present in the proceedings with the perpetrators.

Let us remember that precisely the theory of the cycle of violence can help us understand how the aggressor passes from the phase of aggression to that of reconciliation, in which he says he regrets his behavior and asks for forgiveness, getting the victim to forgive him.

It is not easy to imagine another type of criminal, if we think of a thief, even a sexual offender, we have no difficulty in contextualizing him, and in most cases there is no question of who is to blame, however this is not it happens in the crime of habitual mistreatment of the couple; sometimes it is hard to believe that this man who has been arrested, who has entered prison... he could be an aggressor, unless the injuries are so clear that there is no doubt, and even then surprise and disbelief always remain.

Professional experience confirms that it is difficult to detect him. He will appear before the professionals in his best costume seasoned with patience, with an appropriate tone in communication, with impulse control; even if he has been arrested, he will deny the facts and make us doubt whether things really happened as he tells them. Because it will be easier to share everything that is normal (remember the influence of the socialization process, stereotypes and gender roles).

As the literature points out, abusers in the sphere of the couple do not fit into a similar group; some authors point out the possibility of different groups and subgroups depending on the violence they exercise or if they have pathological alterations (Echeburúa, Amor & Corral, 2009), but without referring to variables such as alcohol and drug consumption or mental disorder as cause of violence, because it would come to justify it, however if they are considered facilitators or inhibitors of violence (Bosch and Ferrer, 2013).

Aggressors in gender violence

We have already mentioned that we cannot affirm that there is a profile of a gender abuser. This perception is unanimous, therefore it is important to join efforts to identify the differences for the design of strategies and intervention programs that adapt to the differential characteristics of the aggressors.

To get an idea of the characteristics of the aggressors, we must go back to the first classifications made in the laboratory (Gottman et al. 1995, cited in Echeburúa, 2009):

- *Gottman et al. (nineteen ninety-five)*

Studies carried out in the laboratory that differentiate different groups of abusers based on the cardiac response after a couple's discussion:

1. Type I aggressors, also called "Cobra": They are more aggressive with the woman verbally, presenting a decrease in the cardiac response below normal. These men showed more violence in their environment (friends, partners, etc.) as well as antisocial behaviors. It uses instrumental violence. Aggressive behavior is planned, expresses great dissatisfaction, and feelings of guilt do not appear.

2. Type II aggressors, also called "Pitbull": In this case, the cardiac response increases, and they also presented personality disorders (borderline, avoidance...), anger, insecure attachment style. It is an impulsive violence that is characterized by behavior modulated by anger and that has difficulties in controlling impulses or in the expression of affections.

- *Holtzworth-Munroe and Stuart (1994) Considers three variables: psychological functioning, extent of violence (towards other people) and seriousness of the behaviors and based on this, establishes three types of aggressors:*

- *Aggressors who exercise violence in the family environment (overcontrolled); they would be 50% of the aggressors (in the study it is reduced to 36% of the sample); These aggressors are violent with their partner and with their children. Passive, dependent and obsessive personality traits may appear. There may be prior existence of abuse. They are low-risk offenders.*
- *Borderline/disphoric aggressors. They are impulsive. They would be 25% of the abusers (in the study they are 15%); they exercise physical, sexual and psychological violence of medium or high intensity directed towards their partner and family. Sometimes they can express violence outside the home. They present impulsiveness, emotional instability and irascibility. He switches abruptly between control and extreme anger.*
- *Aggressors generally violent/antisocial. They use violence in an instrumental way (physical/psychological); It's not just limited to family; they use violence in the face of conflicts and frustrations. Violence is more frequent and intense than in the previously*

described groups. They are narcissistic and manipulative and justify the use of interpersonal violence.

We also find it interesting to consider the classification made by Lorente (2004) as an x-ray of the abuser. From the perception that all the aggressors need to control the woman, but they differ in their motives, although they all equally justify her conduct.

The aggressors in the couple, assures Lorente, show the woman a defined behavior and directed to achieve her conscious objective of what she does, that is, she knows why she does it and for what; when she should exercise physical or psychological violence and when she should not. It is also important to consider another element such as the variability of the behavior, given that "no violent behavior, no matter how intense the blows or how much fear it induced in the victim, would be effective, nor would any aggression be effective to achieve control, if always and only the same reasons and the same circumstances are triggered" (Lorente, 2004)

Thus, we can find different ways of carrying out control and aggression (Lorente, 2004):

- The puzzle: due to the way in which the aggression materializes and the motives it uses, it is the prototype of the aggressor. He considers the woman as inferior to him. He needs her to be part of society; he is looking for a wife, mother and homemaker. A woman to be seen with in public on occasion, but a woman who stays at home most of the time. He thinks that it is an obstacle for her professional development and for her to come and go with total freedom due to the responsibilities associated with the family. She becomes her "her woman" and will hold her responsible for everything that happens to her. She will remind him that thanks to him the circle has come out of her and that he has been the one who has freed her from it. The aggressions originate from insignificant reasons (disproportionate and excessive aggressions) using objects that provide more damage. This aggressor can belong to any social class, regardless of his economic position and educational level, the consumption of alcohol and other substances. Nope they have remorse because they understand that what they have done has been for their own good (the woman's, and caused by her)

- The bearded vulture: It is characterized by its impulsiveness and degree of violence. Irritability predominates in interpersonal relationships and in the area of affectivity, as well as impulsiveness. He demands compensation from the woman for how much he has done for her. The responsibility always falls

on the woman. Presents rage and anger that will be directed towards her. The term "bone vulture" refers to the extreme violence used and its consequences (bone fractures and serious injuries); they will go from anger to kindness and affection and to asking for forgiveness.

- The remote control (the psychological abuser): the aggressor must maintain his position of power in relation to the woman and obtains it through the control he exercises and the submission he provokes in her, for this he does not necessarily have to use physical violence because you can do it effectively to achieve your goal with psychological violence. Psychological aggression is the main characteristic of violence in any of its manifestations; Violence always causes psychological damage to women because of what it represents for her, and an insult does not matter as much as a slap.

- The normal driver. He is considered the complete opposite of an aggressor: respectful, considerate, even publicly recognized, but always based on his criteria and never confronts him or questions his decisions. He is a person adapted to society; corseted in traditional social norms (social order, family, etc.); he is narcissistic, he needs to be admired and to show that he is superior. He will not need to use physical violence or repeated psychological attacks. It is a total control that places the woman in a "faithful wife" and emotionally dependent.

- The cyclical aggressor. The most representative characteristics of this type of aggressor is the way of exercising violence; has a tendency to instability in relationships and affectivity; emotional changes that will be expressed in the relationship. He is dependent on the woman (as in all relationships based on violence) and his conduct will go from concern for the family to the margin of it, presents impulsiveness, aggressiveness... but control and submission do not have to appear (except for the conditions of cultural inequality); Being cyclical, distrust, isolation and instability pour it into sarcastic and hurtful verbal attacks.

- The soulless: his sign of identity would be that of the psychopath, not as a clinical diagnosis but in terms of behavior conditioned by culture. He is usually solitary, although sometimes he seeks company. He is integrated into society. He lacks empathy and is aggressive, irritable, impulsive, and violent. He may have had previous behaviors in childhood (animal abuse, breaking objects, etc.); the image of the cruel and evil subject who enjoys the suffering of others. Aggressions are difficult to predict: or you can get excited by any insignificance or not get upset in a serious situation. The need to feel superior

will lead you to continually frighten your partner as a way of exercising control.

REMEMBER

The perpetrator perceives the woman in the relationship as property and therefore can do what he sees fit because she belongs to him; he is jealous, possessive, suspicious.

We have verified that the aggressor can be a man of any age, socioeconomic and cultural level, with high or low status, old or young, it can be a man who consumes alcohol and other substances or may not even smoke... it will be difficult to describe him; there is a tendency to think that the abuser has a psychological disorder ("he is crazy") or that his aggressiveness and violence are a consequence of the consumption of alcohol and/or other drugs.

Regarding the consumption of alcohol and drugs, we have to say that not all aggressors consume, nor do all men who consume assault. Therefore, consumption cannot explain the violent behavior of the perpetrators; however, we know that alcohol and other toxic substances act as facilitators and disinhibitors (Bosch and Ferrer, 2013).

From what is described in the types of perpetrators, we know that it is easy to identify that we are not dealing with clichés (we do not openly perceive violence or its authoritarianism or the predictability of behavior) on the contrary, we can be dealing with educated, friendly, pleasant, attentive people... The victimizer, like a spider, will weave a web into which the woman will fall without realizing it, and from which it will be difficult for her to get out as she will find herself more and more trapped. He will present his double facade that allows him to adapt like a chameleon to different situations in public life. From the outside he is a polite, correct, accommodating, charming person... he can appear to be a good father. It will not be easy to imagine him as an aggressive and manipulative person.

The gender abuser is not a common criminal and his conduct outside the private environment will go unnoticed.

REMEMBER

The aggressor can make the professional fall into their trap and make them doubt the account that the victim has provided.

Through daily work with aggressors we have witnessed the ability and strategies that they develop in front of the police, lawyers and even before the judicial authority, capable of convincing us of their innocence; they may not always succeed, but they will try.

(Velasco, 2015)

Behavior of the aggressor: some indicators

- *Macho attitudes and behaviors.*
- *People with low self-esteem, feelings of insecurity and affective deficiencies.*
- *People with jealousy and control behaviors (through isolation, threat...)*
- *Learned behaviors: children of abusive parents.*
- *Normal conduct outside the home, even exemplary.*
- *The woman as a property and an inferior being.*
- *Use violence to demonstrate and/or reinforce her authority.*
- *Correct behavior outside the home. they are persuasive*
- *Jealous, possessive, liars, angry, continually demanding attention, blaming others for their mistakes.*
- *They constantly criticize.*
- *They're not mentally ill.*
- *Alcohol or drugs are not the cause, nor does it justify it.*
- *Use defensive strategies, to minimize responsibility.*

Regarding defensive strategies, let's see some examples:

- *Use phrases such as: "Sometimes I have to give you a cake to correct what you do wrong", "Sorry, I've been very nervous since I lost my job", "If you had prepared my dinner, this would never have happened"*
- *He will try to pity his partner, family and friends (even professionals).*
- ✓ *He will remember the good moments of the relationship.*
- ✓ *He will promise to change his behavior.*
- ✓ *He will try to get forgiveness through gifts, flowers, dinners*

- ✓ *He will covertly transmit threats to keep the children, not pay his pension, leave his job, even commit suicide, and if he does not get what he wants, he will be more aggressive, increasing the risk for the woman and her daughters.*

REMEMBER

The aggressor acts in a manner consistent with his goal: to subdue and control the victim.

There are no types of aggressors, but ways of carrying out the aggression to achieve the objectives through violence.

Each aggressor is unique, but they all have a common denominator: maintaining dominance and power over their partner.

We must maintain the idea that the perpetrator is a criminal who has committed a crime that has serious consequences for the woman and her sons and daughters. It is logical that he feels a certain tendency to demonstrate that the violent act has not been serious, let's remember that we have the social order as an ally (some men justify this type of violence. He will always present himself in society and before professionals as someone normal and that normality is protected until it is denounced.

In the intervention of the perpetrator, it is necessary to make an effort and distance ourselves on an emotional level to perceive the situation objectively; You can seek the complicity of the professional to justify her conduct, in which case, it will be suggested that you seek professional help (psychological treatment).

We must be extremely careful and display our assertiveness in the face of the trivialization of violent behaviors; when the aggressor minimizes the facts and is capable of questioning the veracity of the complaint, trying to convince ourselves of this, we can contribute to the legitimization of violence... professional experience with aggressors leaves us with the idea that "they do not take responsibility for their actions. They do not admit them, they do not recognize the seriousness of the facts, they do not give up fighting to recover the relationship, they all use some excuse to justify their behavior... our commitment must be to carry out an absolutely objective intervention, distancing ourselves as much as possible from the problem and not give some confidence that can be easily manipulated".

She does not usually regret her behavior, since she does not consider herself responsible, rather the contrary, as we have previously indicated, the responsibility

falls on the woman (she forced me, I did not want to hurt her...); he is not usually aggressive towards professionals, not even towards the Police; It may even be the case that a cross complaint arises in police stations because the perpetrator will denounce his partner.

The control exercised over the partner can go beyond the complaint. He will try to obtain forgiveness by any means, and this, even if they have issued a measure prohibiting communication and approach. He will use the children to get to her ("tell mom to forgive me, that I won't do it again, that I'm going to change".)

When he realizes that he will not be able to contact her, he will begin with threats (I will take your children, I will take my own life, I will not pay alimony, etc.); In these situations, he can become much more aggressive when he sees that he does not achieve his objective.

Intervention programs with aggressors

With the implementation of the aforementioned Organic Law 1/2004 in Spain, the challenge of enforcing the sentences imposed by the Judicial Authority on the aggressors arises, since in some cases the prison terms could be replaced by intervention programs for men, convicted of gender violence.

The approach to violence against women has focused only on women, that is, many resources have been put into operation through comprehensive care: social, economic, psychological, legal, protection aid, etc., but let's not forget two vitally important issues:

- 1. That the aggressors can return to have a new partner and will not stop exercising violence.*
- 2. That the victims can resume living together and return to the starting situation.*

It is necessary to intervene with the aggressors so that they modify their behavior and assume responsibility for their actions. We have seen the weight that sociocultural patterns in the transmission of violence have on gender violence.

This type of programs has its appearance in the 70s in the United States; At that time, another solution was needed that was not focused on the victims, helping them to return to their homes (Feder, Wilson and Austin, 2008, cited in Lila et al. 2010); they considered that intervention programs with abusers could contribute to increasing the safety of women and that helping women did not guarantee that the aggressor would reoffend, that is, it did not prevent them from exercising violence against a new partner. (Crowell and Burgues, 1996 cited in Lila et al. 2010)

The Organic Law, mentioned above in reference to penalties, states:

"In the event that the prisoner has been convicted of a crime related to gender violence, the prison sentence can only be replaced by that of work for the benefit of the community. In these cases, the Judge or Court will additionally impose, in addition to being subject to specific re-education and psychological treatment programs, the observance of the obligations or duties provided for in rules 1 and 2, of section 1 of article 83 of this Code."

(Article 35. Substitution of penalties)

1. The prison administration will carry out specific programs for inmates convicted of crimes related to gender violence.

2. The Treatment Boards will assess, in the grade progressions, granting of permits and granting of probation, the follow-up and use of said specific programs by the inmates referred to in the previous section.

(Article 42. Penitentiary administration)

Based on this regulation, the aggressors may have an alternative criminal measure to prison if they have been sentenced to less than two years, that is, the aggressors whose sentence does not exceed two years in prison, may substitute the sentence for a sentence alternative being legally obliged to follow a re-education program which has aroused some controversy.

On the other hand, there is certain resistance to change on the part of the aggressors and their assumption of responsibility, by not participating voluntarily in the programs. (Ferrer, Ferreiro, Capilla and Bosch, 2016)

By following the legal mandates of the international community in relation to the perpetrators:

✓ The fourth UN World Conference on Women in Beijing (1995) through its recommendation 125 urges:

"Offer, finance and promote therapy and rehabilitation programs for perpetrators of violence and to promote research to improve these therapies and rehabilitations in order to prevent the recurrence of this violence."

- ✓ *The Istanbul Convention (2011), in relation to programs for men who engage in gender violence in its article 16 refers to preventive programs and intervention and treatment (article 16):*
 1. *The Parties shall take legislative or other measures to create or support programs aimed at teaching those who exercise domestic violence to adopt non-violent behavior in interpersonal relationships to prevent new violence and change violent behavior patterns.*
 2. *The Parties shall take legislative or other necessary measures to create or support treatment programs aimed at preventing the recidivism of offenders, in particular offenders of a sexual nature.*
 3. *When taking the measures referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2, the Parties shall ensure that the safety, support and human rights of victims are a priority and that, where appropriate, such programs are created and implemented in close coordination. with services specialized in supporting victims.*

In intervention programs with aggressors, we must take into account that:

- ✓ *Intervening with aggressors aims to improve the safety of victims.*
- ✓ *Man must assume responsibility for his behavior and the consequences.*
- ✓ *Do not think that this type of violence is isolated (as they mention it)*
- ✓ *Look for a point of union between the rejection of the violence that he exerts and his belief system.*
- ✓ *Approach the subject naturally, with respect and empathy, but with a firm attitude.*
- ✓ *Believe that change is possible and let them know, without generating false expectations.*

Example of an intervention program with abusers: the Phoenix Program

In Castilla y León we have the Phoenix Program. This psychological intervention program is aimed at men who perpetrate gender-based violence against women. It is a voluntary program.

It aims to respond to comprehensive care in the approach to gender violence from a psychological perspective, which contemplates intervention with violent men as one of the key aspects whose priority purpose is the prevention of new situations of abuse towards their partners.

It is aimed at men residing in Castilla y León who want to voluntarily change their attitudes and their violent behavior against women for reasons of gender.

The objectives of the program are:

General objectives

- Eliminate violence against women from the aggressors themselves who are currently carrying it out.*
- Preserve the physical and psychological integrity of women subjected to gender violence.*

Specific objectives

- Reduce the probability of reproducing violent relationship patterns with future partners.*
- Prevent the transgenerational transmission of relationship patterns between genders based on machismo and inequality.*
- Promote the psychological well-being of men who commit gender violence against women.*
- Increase the personal adjustment of men who exercise gender violence in the field of couple relationships.*

Types of intervention

The modalities of intervention are individual psychotherapy and group treatment; the maximum number of sessions will be fifteen in both groups.

The groups will be open and will be made up of a minimum of four and a maximum of eight men. To be included in the group, the abuser's prior participation in the individual modality of intervention will be necessary, sufficiently to assess the suitability of group treatment in each case.

The aggressor joins the program from the corresponding Social Action Center (which corresponds to him by area of residence) the referring professional must:

- 1. Verify that the applicant has exercised or currently exercises gender-based violence.*
- 2. Inform the interested party about the Fénix Program.*
- 3. Complete the application for participation in the program using the standard model.*
- 4. Assess the timing of the referral.*
- 5. Prescribe the Fénix Program in the corresponding computer system.*

Once the administrative procedure has been completed, a psychologist from the Official College of Psychology of Castilla y León will be assigned. Once the psychological intervention has begun, the Women's section will carry out the follow-up together with the assigned professional. It may also happen that the request to join the program arises because the interested party contacts the Women's Section directly, carrying out the corresponding procedure.

Regarding the individual intervention, it consists of the following phases:

- Information and motivation. In this phase, in a single session, the professional will inform the abuser about the program and work on her motivation to start treatment. It will assess the degree of motivation for change and the degree of danger. If the aggressor agrees to start the treatment, it will go on to the second phase.*
- Evaluation and diagnosis. It will affect the creation of the therapeutic relationship and the motivation for change. An anamnesis will be carried out and the psychological tests considered appropriate will be applied in a maximum of three evaluation interviews.*

Based on the results of the diagnostic evaluation, the patient will be proposed as suitable or not suitable for treatment. Aggressors who are diagnosed with mental disorders that require psychiatric help or dependency on alcohol or other substances that require specific treatment and prevent the development of psychotherapy will not be suitable.

Within 15 days after completion of the evaluation, the psychologist will send the Section a report with the diagnosis, the pass or fail assessment, and the start date of the therapy.

This report includes the following information:

- *File number*
- *Personal data of the aggressor*
- *Personal data of the report and collegiate number*
- *Tests and methodology*
- *Diagnostic assessment*
- *Pass or fail proposal*

Psychological treatment

If it is assessed as not suitable for the intervention, the Women's Section will inform the Social Action Center, who will inform the applicant. In the event that the application has been made in the Women's Section, it will be the latter who informs the applicant of the reasons for the professional assessment of unfitness and proceeds to close the file.

If considered suitable, the abuser will begin psychological treatment once a therapeutic contract has been signed with the professional, who will inform the Women's Section of the start date of the treatment.

The maximum number will be 15 treatment sessions, including those for evaluation and diagnosis.

Treatment may end for the following reasons:

- *Abandonment of therapy by the aggressor*
- *Breach of the therapeutic contract*

Evaluation and final report

Once the intervention is finished, the professional will prepare a report within 15 days of the last session with the aggressor and send it to the Women's Section. It will consist of the following sections.

- *File number*
- *Personal data of the aggressor*
- *Data of the issuer of the report and collegiate number*
- *Tests and methodology*
- *Interpretation of results*
- *Diagnostic evaluation*
- *Summary of treatment trajectory*
- *Type of therapy you have followed*

- *Results obtained*
- *Recommendations*

Tracing

At six and twelve months from the date of the last session, a semi-structured interview will be held with the abuser and with significant people around him. The professional will prepare a report with the results of each of these sessions that he/she must send to the Muier Section.

During the development of the intervention sessions of the program, both the General Directorate for Women and the person in charge of the peripheral body competent in matters of gender violence, may request the psychologist who carries out the intervention an intermediate report related to the evolution of the treatment.

Regarding the group intervention

The Women's Section, having seen the men referred to the program at the provincial level who are being treated in the modality of individual intervention at a given moment, may seek the professional opinion of the psychologists who carry it out regarding their suitability. for group treatment. Given the possibility of forming groups with a minimum of 4 and a maximum of 8 participants with a minimum guarantee of permanence, a report-proposal will be submitted to the head of the peripheral body competent in matters of gender violence, who will resolve the request for group formation. therapeutic.

Once the group psychotherapy has started, the Section will monitor the intervention together with the professionals who carry it out.

At the end, the psychologists will send a report within 15 days of the last session, with the following information:

- *Personal data of the participants*
- *Data of the issuer of the report and collegiate number*
- *Methodology*
- *Interpretation of results*
- *Diagnostic evaluation*
- *Summary of treatment trajectory*
- *Type of therapy that has been followed or Results obtained*
- *Recommendations*

To know more...

<https://www.redalyc.org/pdf/337/33712038010.pdf>

<https://www.publico.es/entrevistas/programas-reeducacion-maltratadores-deben-instrumento-evitar-delito-no-perpetuarlo.html>

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Lila, M; García, A y Lorenzo, M.A. (2010) *Manual de intervención con maltratados*. Universidad de Valencia.

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TEST

1. *There is a tendency to think that the abuser has a psychological disorder ("he is crazy") or that his aggressiveness and violence are the consequence of the consumption of alcohol and/or other drugs.*

True

False

2. *The aggressor who is respectful, considerate, even likes his partner to be publicly recognized but always from his criteria and never confronts him or questions his decisions is called the cyclical.*

True

False

3. *The aggressor acts in a manner consistent with his objective: to subdue and control the victim.*

True

False

4. *There are no types of aggressors, but ways of carrying out the aggression to achieve the objectives through violence.*

True

False

5. *The gender abuser is not a common criminal and his conduct outside the private environment will go unnoticed.*

True

False



Lesson 5

PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS OF THOSE WHO CARE FOR WOMEN VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE

To begin... What do you know about victim care professionals?

SELF_EVALUATION

Read carefully the wording of the questions and answer if it is TRUE or FALSE

- 1. The professionals attached to departments, sections, etc. linked to comprehensive care for battered women must have specific training in equality and violence.***

True
False

- 2. All the people who make up any group that cares for women should do so voluntarily***

True
False

- 3. Commitment and motivation do not prevent secondary victimization***

True
False

- 4. Sometimes the survivors need police protection in their daily movements: going to their workplace, accompanying their sons and daughters to schools, going to make a statement at the judicial or police headquarters.***

True
False

- 5. Despite the resources put into place in relation to training for care to provide the teams with highly qualified professionals, there are still many complaints that women have about certain services***

True
False

PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS OF THOSE WHO CARE FOR WOMEN VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE

After all the progress made in previous lessons, we have no doubt about the need to have teams specialized in caring for victims of gender violence. The guidelines that we provide below can be applied to any scenario of comprehensive care.

The professionals attached to departments, sections, etc., associates with comprehensive care for battered women must have specific training in equality and violence matters, as well as specific knowledge in all the aforementioned vulnerability variables. To this we must add the degree of commitment and motivation necessary to carry out the work effectively and efficiently to avoid secondary victimization, since all of this has repercussions on the users of the care services.

The main objective is to offer quality care from specialized teams that can accommodate and listen to people who demand care, that is, who suffer abuse or who are victims of related crimes and carry out all the necessary procedures to meet the needs of which must be answered in coordination with the rest of the resources of the healthcare network.

Carry out the care process rigorously from the beginning, whether it is obtaining evidence of the situation from the police or health system, or simple advice or accompaniment and protection. Sometimes the survivors need police protection in their daily movements: going to their workplace, accompanying their sons and daughters to schools, going to make a statement at the judicial or police headquarters.

Despite the resources put into place in relation to training for care to provide the teams with highly qualified professionals, there are still many complaints that women have about certain services.

The survivors regret that the behavior of some professionals is not what is deserved and expected. Little training, lack of interest, prejudices, education and the very system of values that each one carries with them... variables that generate unfair treatment of women.

For this reason, we insist on the need for specific teams to be aware of the reality in which women live. Multidisciplinary teams with the following characteristics:

Voluntary nature: *All the people who make up any women's care group should do so voluntarily, that is, assignment to the group is not mandatory; This type of intervention requires a certain amount of sensitivity and a high degree of involvement.*

The professionals who want to be part of comprehensive care teams are often concerned about expanding their knowledge and updating it; they feel a great satisfaction for the task they develop; they care about doing their job to the best of their ability and always for the benefit of the survivor.

Training: *the professionals who are part of these teams must receive specific training in this matter and related areas with the objective of acquiring the skills that we mentioned in previous lessons that facilitate communication and active listening, empathy, assertiveness, emotional control, etc.*

They have to master these skills in order to apply them throughout the process; it will help them to understand how the woman develops and how she is... if she is going to show collaboration or not, if she wants to report, go to a health center, etc., all this can change as we have seen, if the woman feels cared for, listened to, protected.

They should know the conditions in which women request help, how they are going to find them and what will be the most appropriate care for their case: some women may show concern for their partner: what will happen to him if they stop him, they do not want him to enter prison or go to jail... and this even if she shows injuries, worry and/or fear... other women, however, show fear for the opposite, all they want is to be assured that he will not get close to her .

Likewise, it is necessary that they know in detail the functioning of the resources of the locality and those from outside it, to refer the woman if she needs it.

As far as the professional field of psychology is concerned, there are some aspects that must be present when working with women victims of gender violence. At a general level, Álvarez et al. (2016), propose the following:

- Women should be allowed to vent*
- Have an attitude of active listening*

- Reassure and reassure
- Understand your emotions
- Be empathetic
- Convey hope
- Stand openly against violence

The intervention must be focused to promote a model of good treatment that is in opposition to mistreatment to promote resilience and a change of focus. It is also important to establish objectives that are realistic and considering the situation in which the victim finds himself. These objectives must be established between the woman and the therapist (Álvarez et al., 2016).

Although it is necessary to maintain a warm, reassuring and safe climate throughout the process, this is especially important at the beginning of the process. To achieve this, the therapist must have a supportive, welcoming and accepting attitude, as well as promote autonomy. The person has to know explicitly that in therapy they are in a safe place, they are not alone, they are going to establish the rhythm of the work and that they are not to blame for their discomfort. (Alvarez et al., 2016)

To promote this climate of security, it is recommended that the psychologist: let the woman know that he believes in her, validate her feelings, give positive messages and point out her ability, emphasize the problems she has solved, support her decisions and offer her information.

These same authors point out some aspects to take into account to facilitate communication in the interview, which are:

- *Attention: attention must be paid to the patient and to the non-verbal language of the professional.*
- *Empathy.*
- *Clarity of language: in victims of gender violence, this ability should be enhanced due to the high level of anxiety they have and which makes understanding difficult.*
- *Respect the silences.*
- *Feedback: ask about specific aspects of the victim when explaining some information to see if she understands it.*
- *Efficacy questions: these must be more or less specific depending on the moment of the interview in which she is.*
- *Respect: it is essential to promote feelings of understanding and non-judgment.*

Other general recommendations regarding the intervention are: use a low and calm tone of voice, as well as a relaxed posture; and dispense with physical contact if the person does not expressly indicate it.

On the other hand, they warn of attitudes that should be avoided:

- Blaming the victim.*
- Conduct couples therapy.*
- Impose their criteria and make decisions for women.*
- Show prejudices, myths or stereotypes.*
- Give quick and hasty answers.*
- Giving false hope.*
- Pathologize, judge, give advice or have a paternalistic attitude*
- Show despondency.*

In working with victims of gender violence and with the aim of including a gender perspective in all interventions, it is recommended: to review one's own beliefs and attitudes that generate prejudices, as well as stereotypes and gender roles, normalize differences and give them visibility, use inclusive language, not promote power relations between some people and others and use material that takes diversity into account. (Alvarez et al., 2016).

Regarding other professionals (social or legal services) who are also involved in working with women who have suffered gender violence, it is also necessary for them to know the Training Plans of public institutions, for correct action (Cubells, Calsamiglia and Albertin, 2010).

Si los jueces adquieren una actitud "bonachona", burocrática o formal, consiguen generar reconocimiento, seguridad y justicia en las mujeres (Ptacek, 1999, como se citó en Cubells, Calsamiglia y Albertín, 2010).

In this way it is possible to avoid the secondary victimization that can occur if the judges have a severe or condescending attitude; which also causes them to be indifferent and hostile to the needs of the victims. They must also be sensitive (Russell, 2006 as cited in Cubells, Calsamiglia and Albertín, 2010). Their professional practice must be carried out from a gender perspective and consider each case as unique and particular. (Cubells, Calsamiglia and Albertín, 2010; Calle, 2004).

It is detrimental that from professionals violence is made invisible or minimized, from the judicial system the aggressor-victim hierarchy that occurs in abuse should

not be reproduced. Attitudes such as: lack of empathy, disqualification, imposition of rhythms... should be avoided. All this favors revictimization. (Street, 2004).

Activity

A LOOK AT GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

<http://youtu.be/sYU0JPGmZjM>

Different professionals from the political, academic, associations, etc. fields participate in this documentary made at the University of Salamanca (USAL). and we have the testimony of two survivors who have wanted to collaborate by sharing their story.

Based on the content of the documentary, answer the following questions:

1. A criminal or police process is complex for anyone and in the case of women who suffer violence from their partners, this complexity increases.

TRUE

2. In therapeutic work with battered women mothers of minor children, it will not be necessary to intervene with the minors if they have not been direct witnesses.

False

3. To get out of the violent relationship, an important factor is economic independence, however, it is not decisive. Women without economic resources, but with adequate social and family support manage to break the relationship.

TRUE

4. Survivors of violence highlight the importance of enduring mistreatment by their sons and daughters.

False

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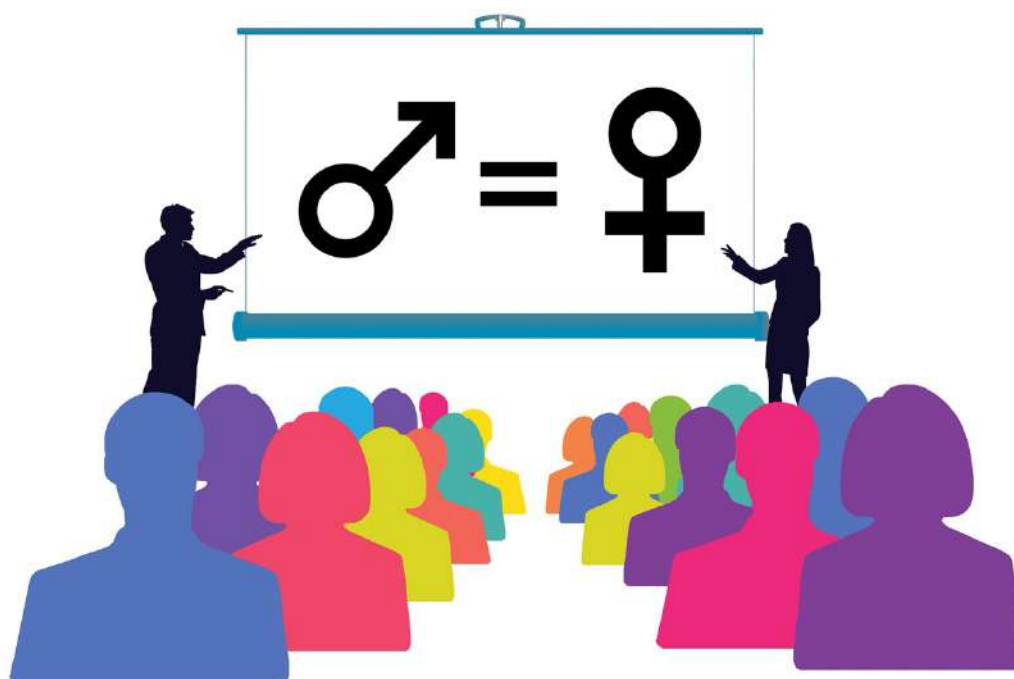
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Chapter 8

Prevention and education in gender violence



LESSON 1

EDUCATION IN EQUALITY IN MINORS: EDUCATIONAL, SOCIAL AND FAMILY CONTEXT

To begin... What do you know about professional assistance to victims of gender violence?

SELF_EVALUATION

Read carefully the wording of the questions and answer if it is TRUE or FALSE

- 1. With all the support and help that currently exists to help women who are victims of gender violence, the one who continues with the aggressor is really because she loves him and we are not going to get her to get out of the violence.***

Verdadero

Falso

- 2. The gender perspective in public health is based on laws, decrees and agreements at a global, European, national, regional and local level.***

Verdadero

Falso

- 3. The problem of gender violence in the immigrant population of our country is practically unapproachable, since the extreme machismo that prevails in these groups is the root of their relationship, family and social context.***

Verdadero

Falso

- 4. Equality training for the immigrant community is impossible to carry out because they are very hermetic due to mistrust in the host country.***

Verdadero

Falso

- 5. Solving the problem of gender violence is a transversal task of all Government Ministries and Councils: Presidency, Equality, Education, Health, Labor and Immigration, Social Services.***

Verdadero

Falso

1. PREVIOUS CONSIDERATIONS

As we have well seen and addressed in previous chapters, considering all the variables covered by the traditional hegemonic masculinity model also means trying to find a solution from the different levels involved (political, socio-community, legal, psychological, academic, etc.), carry out a tremendous task of banishing the most sexist roles to achieve a re-education in equitable and fair gender roles for men and women. And since it cannot be otherwise, this must start from the earliest possible age, that is, from birth in a family or even before, at the moment a couple decides to start a family. Educating is a transversal task that must be integrated into the different sectors involved in this arduous task, so that after the family it is the SCHOOL, with capital letters, that must continue with this task. And of course, the socio-community area cannot ignore its responsibility in the matter.

It is both the task of the family and of the educational context and of the socio-community services to co-educate today's children in equality so that the men and women they will become tomorrow assume these egalitarian values and can build a more equitable and just right for tomorrow.

We are going to focus on the present topic on the prevention of gender violence from the formative approach both in the educational field and outside of it.

About immigrant families that come from other backgrounds, customs, attitudes, traditions and social advances, we find ourselves with the added difficulty of reaching and penetrating all this and being able to make it more flexible in order to one day facilitate change. It is a great challenge to train those immigrant groups that are most resistant to change, but at the same time also the most vulnerable, in equal opportunities as a measure to prevent gender violence from within their communities.

Spain has emerged in recent years as a country of immigration from many parts of the world, and the foreign population now represents 11.3% of the total population residing in Spain, but according to the information available, the proportion of foreign women in Spain who are victims of gender violence, as well as the proportion of foreign aggressors suppose an over-representation with respect to the demographic weight of foreign women and men in Spain.

With regard to the dimension of gender violence in foreign women, as indicated in the Evaluation Report on the application of Organic Law 1/2004 of December 28, prepared by the Government and the Communities Autonomous three years after its entry into force, according to what was stated in the macro-survey on violence, foreign women declare that they are victims of gender violence in a greater proportion than other women.

On the other hand, the figures of GBV in the foreign population have followed an increasing evolution in recent years, a circumstance that has its origin in three fundamental elements, which are cited below:

*1. On the one hand, references to **inequality between men and women** are more evident in some of the places of origin of a part of the foreign population, which means that the resort to violence is clothed with legitimacy and normality for foreigners aggressors and for the victims.*

*2. Secondly, **the special circumstances** in which foreign women find themselves on many occasions, either due to the lack of kinship, friendship or fellowship networks in Spain or because they depend on those of their aggressor, cause insecurity and difficulty higher than that of Spanish women when it comes to breaking with violence.*

*3. And thirdly, there is the **demographic component**, which is not only related to the quantitative factor of the increase in the foreign population, but also to the qualitative component, which behaves as a determining factor in relation to GBV cases. The age group in which violence and homicides are most frequently used, in both Spaniards and foreigners, it is between 20 and 49 years old, and while this group in the Spanish male population represents 46.9%, in foreigners it is 64.3%, a circumstance that indicates that in the foreign population there are more men of the age that gives rise to more violence against women, which translates into a higher incidence of cases.*

On the other hand, some relevant resistance has been identified in women, such as the fear of foreign women from certain cultures to be examined by male physicians in health centers when they are treated for physical or mental injuries, a circumstance that also occurs before recognitions forensic doctors, as well as distrust of the Security Forces and Bodies and other public institutions. However, together with the greater manifestation of abuse, a greater presence of foreign women is also observed in the information available on gender violence: both in the filing of complaints as well as in data of a judicial nature, in the exercise of labor rights and also in the figures of fatalities. In this sense, and despite the limited statistical significance of the data on homicides due to gender violence, it should be noted that the analysis included in the Report on the evaluation of the first 3 years of the Law Integral indicates that while the measures developed by the Integral Law have had a positive impact on the Spanish population, a circumstance that is observed in the decrease in the percentage of Spanish victims, which has fallen from 77.1% in 2004 to 55.7 % in 2008, the percentage of foreign victims in those years has gone from 22.9% to 44.3%. For their part, in the same period, foreign aggressors have gone from representing 22.2% of the total to 38.6%, 16.4 points more.

*All this generated the need to create a **PLAN FOR THE CARE AND PREVENTION OF GENDER VIOLENCE IN THE FOREIGN IMMIGRANT POPULATION**, which has been articulated in collaboration between different ministries such as Equality, Education,*

Labor and Immigration and the Government Delegation. for Gender Violence. Said Plan is based on the following 6 basic foundations:

- 1. **Comprehensive:** Addresses elements related to: a. Prevention and attention. b. Measures aimed at women and men. c. Consideration of the context of cultural reference, which implies adapting the measures to the cultural references of origin.*
- 2. **Proactive:** Bring resources closer to the population, not wait for them to demand them.*
- 3. **Global:** Insert attention to GBV within other problems related to it and other issues relating to women to achieve greater involvement and avoid rejection.*
- 4. **Multidisciplinary:** The overall nature of the plan requires that the measures be developed from the different disciplines involved.*
- 5. **Social:** It must be developed in collaboration with the Administrations (State General, Autonomous Community, Local) and with immigrant associations, women's organizations, NGOs and social agents, with the collaboration of the media.*
- 6. **Individual guidance:** In all those actions, especially Regarding care, the measures will be oriented to the circumstances of each woman.*

The Ministry of Equality, through the Government Delegation for Gender Violence, and the Ministry of Labor and Immigration, through the Secretary of State for Immigration and Emigration, developed a training module on CARE PLAN AND PREVENTION OF GENDER VIOLENCE IN THE FOREIGN IMMIGRANT POPULATION Equality and Violence for professionals and volunteers from immigrant associations, social agents and NGOs, intercultural mediators and other instances considered appropriate, in order to train them in information, prevention, detection and accompaniment to women victims of violence.

Likewise, in collaboration with the Ministry of Education, Social Policy and Sport, teacher training will be promoted, especially those assigned to adult education – Inclusion of the module on Equality and Violence in training programs developed and/or financed by the General Directorate of Integration of the immigrants.

The Ministry of Equality, through the Government Delegation for Gender Violence, will collaborate with the Ministry of Education, Social Policy and Sport, in determining the professional profiles specialized in the attention of the immigrant population and in the determination and definition of the training modules to be included in the titles of the professional family of "Sociocultural and Community Services".

The Ministry of Education, Social Policy and Sport, through the Secretary of State for Social Policy, will adapt the online training course on "Intervention with families who

suffer from domestic violence" aimed at primary care social service professionals managed by Local Corporations, to the specifics of care and prevention of gender violence in foreign population.

The Ministry of Equality will sign an agreement with the medical and health scientific societies whose actions entail frequent and close contact with the foreign population (specialists in gynecology and obstetrics, family medicine, urgencies and emergencies...). The Ministry of Equality will sign a collaboration agreement with the Official College of Social Workers to analyze the joint performance of training, awareness-raising and detection actions for gender violence aimed at Social Workers. – The Ministry of Equality, through the Government Delegation for Gender Violence, and the Ministry of Labor and Immigration, through the Secretary of State for Immigration and Emigration, will prepare a module for training on equality and gender violence by the staff of the Immigration Offices.

Therefore, the conclusion is reached that the eradication of gender violence must be coordinated and integrated among all the sectors involved. And among them are essential:

- The inclusion and formation of the family itself as a preventive self-resource against gender violence against women and minors when they grow up and start their own relationships.*
- The educational context as a powerful and responsible tool due to its possibilities of universality and resource over time.*
- The social contexts of youth participation where young people attend in a playful and voluntary way.*

2. Equal education for minors: family context

The family is the first and great pillar that transmits values and models of how people function, first in a private environment, but a reflection of how they function in other environments.

In addition, the transmission of values in those early years of childhood is crucial and representative for the rest of life. Obviously, we are talking about values such as education in values and the co-education of children at the same time that they are being educated: caring, protecting and loving.

The education and transmission of values not only consists of transmitting what must be done but must be educated by example with the paternal and maternal

model. That is to say, if in our family we try to reach a fair distribution of family tasks between father-mother and children, we will already be contributing and in what way to the promotion of equality between the masculine and the feminine. On the other hand, we are behavior models so if we break the mold our offspring will have it a little more. easy to break the barriers typical of the most discriminatory attitudes based on gender. Let us not forget that our children, adolescents and young people will be the men and women of tomorrow and we have a great responsibility in their future.

But as we already saw at the beginning of the chapter, all of us have developed in a patriarchal system that has been reflected in our families, at school, at work and in society in general. Having said this, we must assume that we transmit what we have inherited, therefore also sexist attitudes on many occasions with that desire for attention, protection and love.

By this we want to say that we are all responsible for the sexist attitudes that exist today in our young people and that, in the worst case, help to perpetuate the highly unequal tradition of gender roles that they assume and impose on their equals. In this case, we have already arrived late to the task of prevention, but that is not why we are going to throw the towel because we have to help to alleviate the situation and to prevent it for the future since it is about beings still in development. Let us now look at risk and protection factors in children that we must know from the family.

The risk factors are:

- Have internalized the sexist ideology and assumed the traditional normative models of masculinity and femininity. This risk factor is the clearest and the one named by most studies, since it is a belief system that justifies the submission of women and inequality.*
- Have internalized the myths of romantic love. As we have seen before, this vision of love generates dependency relationships and makes it difficult to identify violent behaviors because they are confused with signs of love. (Exhibit).*
- Having internalized authoritarian and/or violent patterns of conflict resolution in interpersonal relationships. This implies normalizing that the way to solve things is through violence or authoritarianism.*
- In adolescence, the factor of having low self-esteem, the existence of important affective deficiencies and a feeling of loneliness are added. These characteristics can lead to being seen in an abusive love relationship a refuge, to accept submission in exchange for protection and affection.*

The protection factors are:

- *Have the ability to perceive abuse or mistreatment.*
- *Have sufficient and adequate information and knowledge about the phenomenon of sexist violence.*
- *Living in an environment that uses dialogue to deal with conflicts and tensions in interpersonal relationships and that rejects violence as a mechanism for solving problems.*
- *Have high self-esteem and self-confidence.*

Source: Guide Georgina Oliva i Peña and Margarida Saiz i Lloret

In this regard, we are going to try to provide a series of family resources if the children could one day be in this situation. The family has not only the responsibility but the possibility of observing their adolescent sons and daughters closely and every day. Therefore, they are the most indicated to detect these situations early and ask for help in the event that we were facing a situation of gender violence in adolescence or youth.

We go on to detail a number of signs and changes to be aware of, talk to your sons and daughters and try to find out what, if anything, is going on.

Indicators that your daughter could be a victim of gender violence in a dating relationship

- *Changes in self-esteem and self-image. This includes, on the one hand, changes in the girl's way of dressing or grooming. It can also affect their perception of themselves: they feel ugly, clumsy, worthless...*
- *They have a mood that fluctuates, with mood swings, irascible: "they have to channel their emotions who are experiencing the result of gender violence in some way, and families are usually the ones who receive this irascibility".*
- *They are defensive. They do not allow comments about their relationship and "they get angry when something related to him is said to them, even if it is of no importance, but they perceive it as an attack and come to his defense."*

- *Lack of motivation. They have lost the desire to do things, to project themselves into the future, interest in their hobbies and interests and it is very common for their academic performance and interest in studies to drop.*
- *Isolation. There is a change in their relationships. They no longer stay with their group of friends, they spend all their time with him, or locked in his room talking to him.* • *Changes in eating and sleeping. By excess and/or by default.*
- *His presence on social networks has changed. He may try to control her over what she posts on social media, people, photos, or by asking for her passwords. If we see a significant change in that regard, between how she used to act online before and now, it may be an indicator that something is happening.*

Indicators that your son could be exercising gender violence in a dating relationship

- *He is defensive, not very communicative, he withdraws more.*
- *He is contemptuous towards his partner, complains about his attitude or behavior.*
- *Expresses the frustration that the relationship causes in other areas. Looking at his attitude can give us clues, because if he expresses violence in other areas it is easy for him to also exercise it in the area of the couple.*
- *How is your relationship with the girl. The family can be attentive to how he treats his partner: if he controls her, if he tries to direct her life, if she treats him badly in public. But also, how is she doing can give you many clues.*
- *How is your behavior in social networks. This is another area to which we can pay attention since there we can observe aggressive or humiliating behaviors. For example, if she is dedicated to posting sexist comments, post messages denigrating her partner or her ex-partner or spread intimate photos of her with the intention of hurting and humiliating her.*

It is likely that, in the face of all the signs of your daughter's or son's violent relationship, you have been slow to react. It is understandable that at home you have not been able or known to see it. It is not easy to see, it is something unthinkable in our eyes. "How does that little person whom I have educated with love and respect, in the values of freedom, autonomy and equality, find herself in this situation?", You might ask yourself. It is a recurring thought and that any person in that circumstance would have.

When you finally accept what is happening, you can be invaded by many feelings, including guilt. Guilt for not having known how to see it before, for not having been able to prevent it, for not having acted... Guilt even for considering that the attitude of your daughter or your son is your responsibility.

Other feelings that may surface are anger, shame (our own or others), sadness, fear... You may feel anger towards your son or daughter, towards your partner, anger towards yourself or your partner, or anger just because. And the same with the rest of emotions. It is a difficult moment, of crisis, of uncertainty, of fear. All these feelings are normal and understandable. But if we let ourselves be invaded by them, it can lead us to not act, to a block, or to act in an unwanted way.

Therefore, the first thing you can do when you are faced with a situation like this is to accept what is happening and the feelings that it generates in you. Try to forgive yourself, be lenient with you, understand that it is not your responsibility. That your daughter and your son make their own decisions and can make mistakes and get into harmful relationships. But, also, that they can get out of this situation, that this will not make them a "victim" or "abuser" all their lives. And they need your love, support and accompaniment.

This situation is not easy. It is a painful process, where uncertainty predominates. As a mother, father, guardian or legal representative, you do not have to have all the answers, or know what to do at all times. In fact, the logical thing is that you feel inside a maze from which you don't know how to get out. Therefore, in these situations it is highly recommended to ask for help. Put yourself in the hands of professionals who know how you feel and can advise you on what to do and how to best accompany your daughter or son.

Of course, the action is going to be different and perhaps the first thing to decide is the degree of urgency in our action, since it is not the same as simply suspecting it through clues, our daughter admits that she has problems in her relationship, to recognize gender violence or to be in a life-threatening situation.

If your son was exercising gender violence in a dating relationship, it is not easy at all. On the one hand we can feel guilty; on the other hand we can stigmatize and blame our son; perhaps you think that you have to solve the problem because your son is very young; maybe you take away responsibility given his lack of experience and young age. In the end, it's a matter of holding him and your son responsible, but not blaming him because he could block himself and prevent the change. At the same time, it is a matter of becoming aware of what he does but not stigmatizing him with the label of abuser, which would also make change difficult. But above all, it is a matter of taking it firsthand and seeking help to help your child change, since it is his responsibility along with your help, of course.

IN THE EVENT THAT YOUR CHILD IS EXERCISING GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE	
PARENTAL ATTITUDES THAT MAKE THE PROBLEM DIFFICULT	PARENTAL ATTITUDES THAT MAKE IT EASY TO GET OUT OF THE PROBLEM
<i>Blame yourself as a mother, father or guardian for what is happening</i>	<i>Recognize your emotions and those of your child</i>
<i>Blame your son</i>	<i>Listen to your son.</i>
<i>Tell off</i>	<i>Give him care and love</i>
<i>Punish</i>	<i>Show him that you trust him and his ability to change</i>
<i>Tell him that he is an abuser</i>	<i>Understand that this is a situation that could happen</i>
<i>Take away his mobile or social networks</i>	<i>Understand that he is not an abuser, that it is something circumstantial and that if he works on it, he can repair the damage and it does not have to happen again</i>
<i>Control what he does</i>	<i>Ask for help so that three axes can be worked on: recognizing the violence, taking responsibility for their actions, repairing the damage</i>
<i>Forbid him to do things that he did until then</i>	
<i>Overprotect</i>	
<i>Try to solve the problem for him</i>	
<i>Set different and contradictory rules between parents and/or guardians of the young person</i>	

IN THE EVENT THAT YOUR DAUGHTER IS LIVING GENDER VIOLENCE	
PARENTAL ATTITUDES THAT MAKE THE PROBLEM DIFFICULT	PARENTAL ATTITUDES THAT MAKE IT EASIER TO GET OUT OF THE PROBLEM
<i>Blame yourself for what is happening</i>	<i>Acknowledge your emotions and those of your daughter</i>
<i>Blame your daughter for what is happening to her</i>	<i>Understand that she can happen to any girl</i>
<i>Scold her</i>	<i>Give him care and love</i>
<i>Talk bad about her boyfriend</i>	<i>Talk to your daughter about everyday things</i>
<i>Tell her that she has to leave her boyfriend</i>	<i>Listen to your daughter</i>
<i>Forbid him to speak or see her boyfriend</i>	<i>Trust her</i>
<i>Take away the mobile or social networks</i>	<i>Have patience</i>
<i>Control what she does</i>	<i>Create a space of trust and safety with your daughter</i>
<i>Forbidding her to do things that she did until then</i>	<i>Try to have a good atmosphere in the family and make plans together</i>
<i>Comment on what she is experiencing in her relationship</i>	<i>Show her unconditional support, let her know that she will always support her</i>
<i>Ask directly about relationship issues that she is not counting.</i>	<i>Trust that there is a way out of this situation</i>
<i>Tell him that he is suffering from gender violence or that it is a machism relationship</i>	<i>Ask for professional help or advice in a specialized center</i>
<i>Overprotect</i>	
<i>Talk to her friends to act behind your daughter's back</i>	
<i>Set different and contradictory rules between the parents and/or guardians</i>	

<i>of the young person</i>	
<i>Try to solve the problem</i>	

3. Equal education for minors: educational context

At present, the historical, social, political, labor moment, etc., that we have to live is especially influenced by a society of “image”, “competitiveness” and the “mass-media”.

*On the other hand, we experience the contradiction between what our society expresses in the laws as a consensual aspiration of citizenship, that is, **equality between the sexes** (Spanish Constitution, 1978) and the existing inequality in people's living conditions. in general, and men and women in particular.*

Said inequality is shown by offering people more or less opportunities to access resources, personal autonomy and the scope of collective decision-making, according to what the sociocultural tradition has assigned and still assigns, taking as criteria the sex.

These conditions, of course, do not allow equal opportunities or rights to the diversity of citizens. Therefore, perhaps now more than ever it is essential try to solve these inequalities; This objective is transversal, that is, it must cover all the contexts in which the population participates, whatever their nature:

<i>Personal</i>	<i>Family</i>	<i>Social</i>	<i>Labor</i>
<i>Academic</i>	<i>Politic</i>	<i>Community</i>	

*Of all these contexts, there is one of special relevance in terms of the age of influence, the evolutionary development it encompasses, and the crucial maturational processes that take place at that stage of life, both physiologically, psychologically, and socially. I am referring to the **academic context**. Although the activities aimed at correcting this inequality are not directly framed in this context, this does not mean that they cannot have a link, as we believe to be the case.*

*In response to this, the **Law of General Regulation of the Educational System (LOGSE, 1990)** establishes as a transversal principle to all curricular areas, **Education for Equal Opportunities between the sexes**, with the objective that the school does not*

reflect or maintain discrimination based on sex that does exist in society in general terms.

However, even though girls, like boys, already have guaranteed access to education in compulsory education and have accessed other levels such as the University, deficiencies are still revealed in the educational process in terms of equal opportunities. When the professional options of girls and boys continue to be so marked by gender, with the consequent and future known job segregation, we must assume that the objective of equal opportunities has not been achieved and is still far from being achieved. Therefore, it must be assumed that only the declaration of the Right to Equality will not suffice, so that corrective measures for this real, rather than legal, inequality seem necessary. But there is a magnificent tool to try to solve these difficulties:

"It is an intentional process of intervention through which the development of boys and girls is promoted starting from the reality of two different sexes towards a personal development and a common social construction and not confronted":
Coeducation.

Principles of Coeducation:

- *Coexistence of attitudes and values traditionally considered as belonging to men and women, such that they can be accepted and assumed by people of either sex.*
- *Complete development of the personality without gender barriers, correcting cultural sexism and social inequality of women.*
- *Accepts the existence of traits that determine "the masculine" and "the feminine" and studies their social and historical components... without imposing them a priori.*
- *It supposes an integral and integrating education of the world and the female experience.*
- *Questions the socially dominant forms of knowledge.*
- *Requires the practice of diverse languages, open to interpersonal communication.*
- *Attends to the evolutionary processes of affectivity and sexuality of students.*
- *It is a task that should not be confined solely to the school world but should seek to transform the social structures that maintain discrimination.*
- *It must involve the entire school community: parents, teachers, students and non-teaching staff.*
- *It is a global alternative to teaching (what, how and why we teach); It is not about creating new areas, but about covering them all.*

- *The school that coeducates prepares for life and takes into account its 2 spheres: public and private, both relying on the personal. Try to get students to:*

- *Basic cultural knowledge.*
- *A paid profession.*
- *Theoretical and practical knowledge of economics and domestic administration.*
- *A sexual and emotional education that allows them to be happy.*

- *It supposes an education for criticism, coexistence, commitment, creativity and justice. That is, educate for La Paz.*

Coeducation, therefore, intends that traditional masculine and feminine values coexist, but that they can be assumed from personal freedom and regardless of the gender of whoever assumes it.

Likewise, it seeks to promote the integral development of people, without the restrictions of gender. Until now, belonging to one gender or another has conditioned, and still does, the development of personality, limiting it according to gender. Of course, he is not unaware that obviously the sexes imply genetic, social and cultural differences. But not because of this, it should be required that each sex is perfectly pigeonholed in what is expected of it. Such differences are accepted, but not enforced. Since it considers both sexes with their differences, it also implies assuming everything corresponding to the female sex that to date has remained in the shadows, under the masculine predominance. In other words, said masculine preponderance is questioned and that everything has been embedded since the beginning of time.

One of the masculine preponderances has occurred in the use of language, of the masculine generic, for which reason she advocates overcoming this restriction, which sometimes does not allow bringing to light all the diversity equivalent to sexual differences.

It incorporates the evolutionary development (affective-sexual) of people in general and of the sexes in particular. Thus, it presents the possibility of taking advantage of this knowledge to enhance learning and eliminate the barriers that hinder it.

For all this, it does not only propose to provide students with knowledge and more knowledge, but rather it proposes comprehensive training at all levels: culture; access to a paid profession; household knowledge; education in self-knowledge and others' knowledge of emotions, and use of them effectively.

Undoubtedly, we could not affirm that it is a comprehensive education, if we do not consider the transmission of values and principles such as, Tolerance, Respect, Acceptance of Diversity, Peace, Justice, Critical Reflection, etc.

And for all that has been said so far in relation to Equality, Discrimination and Coeducation, this workshop is perfectly framed in the task of trying to alleviate and solve difficulties for the achievement of Full Equality of Rights and Opportunities between People, whatever be your sex. The intervention from this workshop will basically have three axes: Stereotypes and roles; Self-esteem, assertiveness and communication; Prevention of Family Violence.

Our students need coeducation to be included in a transversal, mandatory and continuous way as an essential curricular content. Our educational context makes it possible to train in coeducation in the compulsory period from 6 to 16 years of age (optionally from 3 years of age), that is, we reach all boys and girls enrolled in school. And since education is compulsory it is During this period, we could say that, except on a few occasions, we would carry out universal training in coeducation.

In terms of compulsory education for students, it would be appropriate to develop a project, in my opinion, as an ambitious proposal that should address, among others, the following purposes:

- *Recreational-teaching purpose: the objective is to complement the training of boys and girls in values through recreational activities.*

- *Preventive purpose:*

- o *Of future relational problems whose fundamental basis is the existence of discriminatory attitudes of youth.*

- o *From future situations of violence that are rooted in inequalities between genders.*

- *Evaluative purpose: collection of qualitative and quantitative data about what Equality means for young students.*

These training projects should include at least 3 large blocks of work with students to comprehensively address the prevention of gender violence, understood as the maximum manifestation of inequality between men and women.

1. *Gender roles, prejudices and sexist stereotypes of men and women: ATTITUDE ANALYSIS.*

2. *Critical analysis of the stereotyped female and male advertising image in the different mass media: SEXIST ADVERTISING.*

3. *Equal distribution of male and female gender roles in public and private spaces: PROMOTION OF EQUALITY.*

We are going to develop in a little more detail the essential sections in an equal opportunities workshop with minors in whose families there is a high probability of living with gender violence (either because it exists between the parents of the minor, or because sexist stereotypes are so established in minors who tend to repeat them in their first Couple relationships).

3.1. Workshops on equality with minors

General objective

Try to alleviate and solve the difficulties to achieve full equality of rights and opportunities between people, regardless of their sex and their gender roles as a measure of prevention of gender violence, understood as the maximum inequality between men and women.

Other objectives

- *Evaluate the sexist attitudes of the students.*
- *Analyze our attitudes towards gender roles.*
- *Differentiate the attitudinal levels: cognitive, affective and behavioral.*
- *Become aware that attitudes are learned and/or taught.*
- *Evaluate our prejudices and stereotypes about the masculine and feminine gender.*
- *Critically analyze the role played by the mass media, advertising and social networks in the transmission and maintenance of sexist gender stereotypes.*
- *Redefine gender roles. Elaborate alternatives for the acceptance of the otrx.*
- *Training in social skills: knowledge of assertive rights.*
- *Training in empathy.*
- *Promote assertiveness as a basis for the development of a healthy self-esteem.*
- *Train the assertive style of behavior against aggressive and/or passive styles.*
- *Strengthen communication skills and generalize them at all levels: personal, family, social...*
- *Prevent any manifestation of gender violence: physical, psychological, sexual, economic, social, work...*

Contents

- *The concept of attitude.*
- *The attitudinal components and their interrelation: thoughts, feelings and behaviors.*
- *The concept of gender roles.*
- *Attitudes towards gender roles.*

- *The formation of attitudes in people.*
- *The concept of prejudices and stereotypes.*
- *Sexist prejudices and stereotypes.*
- *The change of attitudes.*
- *Discriminatory messages based on sex, verbal and non-verbal.*
- *Language with a gender perspective.*
- *The advertising-sex-gender trinomial.*
- *The importance of equality in the mass media.*
- *Traditional gender roles and their pseudo-adaptation to the historical, sociological, labor, cultural... current moment.*
- *Equality in the domestic sphere.*
- *The concept of self-esteem and its personal implications.*
- *Self-esteem, assertiveness and communication*
- *The concept of gender violence.*
- *Types of gender violence: physical, psychological, sexual, social, economic..*
- *Cycle of gender violence and profile of the victimizer*
- *Prevention of family violence.*
- *Role of the family in egalitarian education: coeducation.*
- *Education for peace and non-violence.*
- *Family educational models.*
- *Behavior styles: passive, aggressive, assertive.*
- *The assertive style of communication and/or behavior.*

Recreational-formative activities

- *Pretest on sexist attitudes.*
- *Presentation dynamics.*
- *Knowledge dynamics.*
- *Dynamic Tapes of prejudices.*
- *Sexist riddles.*
- *Work with television and press advertisements.*
- *Critical review of advertising, music, series...for its sexist promotion.*
- *Video-forum on sexist advertising: print and audiovisual. Complaint codes at the Women's Image Observatory of the Ministry of Equality.*
- *Egalitarian advertising video-forum. Awards for advertising that promotes equality between men and women.*
- *Viewing of institutional campaigns that promote equality.*
- *Brainstorming about characteristics that facilitate the acceptance of the other.*
- *Dynamics to promote empathy: game of dictating drawings.*
- *Pairing dynamics: thoughts, feelings and emotions.*
- *Video-forum of episodes of significant series for adolescents in which to refute the sexist stereotypes shown.*
- *Analysis and criticism of the traditional cast of gender roles in the family.*
- *Analysis of the file distribution of domestic-family tasks in your home.*

- *Video-forum of shorts on coeducation and cooperation.*
- *Design of an equal distribution of gender roles in couples and/or families.*
- *Short viewing of gender violence to identify the various subtypes.*
- *Design of egalitarian roles in couples that avoid gender violence.*
- *Elaboration of the conclusions of the workshop through murals, posters, diptychs, triptychs, infographics, songs, drawings, etc.*
- *Posttest about sexist attitudes.*
- *Workshop evaluation questionnaire.*

4. Equal education for minors: social context

The group of social services professionals as well as youth associations and organizations have a great responsibility and possibilities of positive influence to induce reflection on macho attitudes as well as to facilitate change in young people. We are change agents.

In adolescence, due to evolutionary development, friendships and the social context take on special importance, more than at other times in their lives, coming to place family influence in 2nd place, which until then had been ranked number 1. For this reason, it is of vital importance that all the spaces for social participation of our young people be used to promote equal opportunities and banish the sexist attitudes that promote inequality and, ultimately, gender violence.

Social agents have great power to act because they have easy access to young people and, on the other hand, they have tools to try to induce change in our young people, since they do not occupy any place in their family that has been banished to a 2nd place of importance and also generate a space of trust and closeness that increases the probability of influencing their critical and moral questioning for the better.

On the part of the family, from early childhood it would be crucial to encourage the participation of their children in associations, entities, NGOs, etc., that work on projects that promote equal opportunities and the eradication of violence. At that tender age we have more influence capacity and so when they reach adolescence the seed would already be planted.

Work with young people in a context of social participation must have a double aspect, since it will work simultaneously with boys and girls:

- *On the one hand, favor a critical vision of prejudices and sexist stereotypes in today's young people, such as guarantor that one day they move in a more just and equal world in the distribution of the world public and private of men and women.*

- *On the other hand, favor the banishment of sexist roles in the first courtship relationships that they establish as a prevention of gender violence.*

TEST

Read carefully the wording of the questions and answer if it is TRUE or FALSE

1. *Training migrant groups in equal opportunities is a matter of the family itself, of the different ministries involved (Equality, Education, Health, Labor and Immigration, etc.) and of the social agents that work with young people.*

Verdadero

Falso

2. *We are all responsible for the sexist attitudes that exist today in our youth.*

Verdadero

Falso

3. *The myths of romantic love typical of adolescence, the time to start the first dating relationships, are typical of age and will pass with age and experience.*

Verdadero

Falso

4. *Sexist gender roles and stereotypes are produced due to the models observed by young people in the mass media.*

Verdadero

Falso

5. *In the case of the immigrant population, social agents do not have great power to act over young people due to their distrust of professionals from the host country.*

Verdadero

Falso

LESSON 2

PREVENTION OF GENDER VIOLENCE IN MIGRANT WOMEN

1. RAISING AWARENESS ABOUT GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE AMONG MIGRANT WOMEN AND THEIR FAMILIES

If gender violence is already a social scourge in itself for the female collective in particular and for the entire population in general, let's not say anything if other vulnerability factors are added to the phenomenon in women such as belonging to: rural world, old age, ethnic minorities, immigration, disability, etc.

In particular, in this topic we are going to focus on the group of women victims of gender violence who are immigrants in the place of destination of their care and support. As aggravating factors in the situation of gender violence, we must consider the following factors:

- The double emotional loneliness that these women experience because they are not supported in their own community of reference due to the internalization of sexist roles and stereotypes. Socially and with family it is not easy for them to find understanding and accompaniment, being in a foreign country greatly aggravates the emotional state of these victims.*
- Immigrant women still have deeply rooted and normalized the machismo of their cultures and sexist gender stereotypes.*
- Immigrant women often don't even know their rights as citizens because in their own countries of reference neither their knowledge nor their defense nor intolerance nor social and legal punishment against gender violence is promoted.*
- On many occasions we must consider the fear of the consequences for being illegal immigrants.*

• If we also add the language barrier, the perpetual accompaniment of the husband or a man/woman in the family, the absolute lack of collaboration with the children and housework, etc., we see the great barriers for women in accessing resources of help.

Based on the above, there is legislation that protects comprehensive care for immigrant women who are victims of gender violence.

Organic Law 1/2004, of December 28, on Comprehensive Protection Measures against Gender Violence (hereinafter Comprehensive Law), provides that a One of the priority lines of action aimed at preventing, eradicating and punishing gender violence, as well as protecting its victims, is the one that addresses the specific situation of foreign women.

In this sense, article 17 of the Law guarantees the rights of all women victims of violence regardless of origin, religion or any other personal or social circumstance. Likewise, the collaboration plans drawn up by the public powers to achieve the objectives of prevention, assistance and prosecution of acts of gender violence, must consider in a special way, in accordance with article 32 of the Comprehensive Law, the situation of women who, due to their personal and social circumstances, may have a greater risk of suffering gender violence or greater difficulties in accessing the services provided for in this Law. Since the approval of the Law, various actions have been taken in relation to the population foreign.

In the field of immigration, with the approval of the Regulation of Organic Law 4/2000, of January 11, on the rights and freedoms of foreigners in Spain and their social integration, by Royal Decree 2393/2004, of December 30, it is foreseen, on the one hand, that in cases of family reunification, victims of gender violence, once they have obtained a court order for protection, have access to an independent authorization, and on the other hand, in the case of people in an irregular situation, domestic violence is expressly introduced as a case for residence authorization for humanitarian reasons.

Likewise, attention to the requirements derived from the vulnerability of foreign women has been the inspiring principle of the National Plan for Sensitization and Prevention of Gender Violence and the Strategic Plan for Citizenship and Integration.

The National Plan for Sensitization and Prevention of Gender Violence 2007-2008, approved by the Council of Ministers on December 15, 2006, points out that, in order to achieve its objectives (improve the response to gender violence and achieve a change in the social relationship model), special attention must be paid to those groups of women who are more vulnerable, including foreign women, who, being in a situation of double discrimination, require an additional effort to remove the social and cultural obstacles that prevent the GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE CARE AND

PREVENTION PLAN IN IMMIGRANT FOREIGN POPULATION real and effective exercise of their citizenship statute and repercussions on their quality of life.

The Strategic Plan for Citizenship and Integration 2007-2010, approved by the Council of Ministers on February 16, 2007, includes among its objectives, facilitating the social integration of foreign women victims of gender violence. On the other hand, in the action protocols in In cases of gender violence, the specific situation of foreign women has been considered.

This is the case in the Action Protocol of the State Security Forces and Bodies and Coordination with Judicial Bodies for the Protection of Victims of Domestic and Gender Violence (2005), the Common Protocol for Health Action against Domestic Violence Gender (2006) and the Protocol for Action and Coordination of the State Security Forces and Bodies and Lawyers against gender violence (2007).

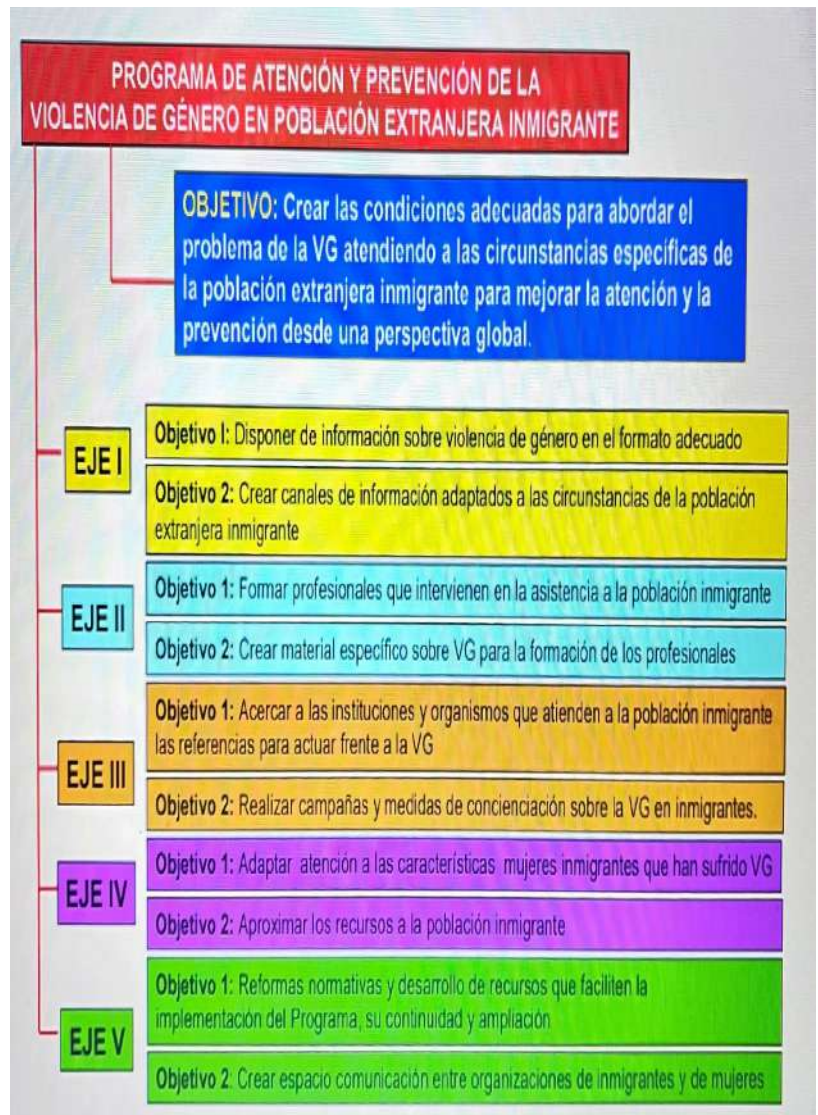
Finally, it is worth highlighting the actions carried out in collaboration with the Autonomous Communities and Local Entities for the execution of innovative projects in the field of comprehensive social assistance and within the framework of the Support Fund for the Reception and Integration of Immigrants, and the made through grants to non-profit organizations.

However, the reality of gender violence in Spain demands action in terms of care and prevention of gender violence directed at foreign women within the framework of the Comprehensive Law and the Plans approved for its implementation.

2. Training of community professionals who care for women victims of gender-based violence

Within the aforementioned PLAN FOR THE CARE AND PREVENTION OF GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE IN THE FOREIGN IMMIGRANT POPULATION, 5 main axes of action are included, where specific training in gender-based violence for social sectors is one of the main ones.

AXES of the PLAN FOR THE CARE AND PREVENTION OF GENDER VIOLENCE IN THE FOREIGN IMMIGRANT POPULATION.



Source: <https://violenciagenero.igualdad.gob.es>

1. Information:

- a. Objective 1: Offer information on gender violence in the appropriate format.
- b. Objective 2: Create information channels adapted to the circumstances of the foreign population.

2. Training:

- a. Objective 1: Train professionals involved in assisting the population.

b. Objective 2: Create specific material on GBV to develop the training of professionals.

3. Sensitization:

a. Objective 1: Bring the references to act against GBV to the institutions and organizations that serve the foreign population.

b. Objective 2: Carry out campaigns and measures to raise awareness about GBV in the immigrant population.

4. Attention adapted to the circumstances of foreign women victims of gender violence:

a. Objective 1: Adapt care to the characteristics of foreign women who have suffered gender violence.

b. Objective 2: Bring resources closer to the immigrant population.

5. Structural measures:

a. Objective 1: Regulatory reforms and development of resources that facilitate the implementation of the Plan, its continuity and expansion.

b. Objective 2: Create a space for communication and exchange between immigrants and women's organizations.

It would be mandatory for any social services professional who cares for victims of gender violence, knowledge and management of the following legal instruments, both international, European, national and regional.

• World Conference on Women in Beijing (Peking) in 1995. • Organic Law 1/2004 on Comprehensive Protection Measures against Gender Violence.

• Law of equality. Organic Law 3/2007, of March 22, for the effective equality of women and men. • The enactment of regional legislation on Gender Violence.

• Istanbul Convention. Council of Europe on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence. 2011.

- *Measures adopted through the State Pact against Gender Violence, of December 2017.*
- *Law 8/2021 on the Comprehensive Protection of Children and Adolescents from Violence.*
- *Organic Law 10/2022, of September 6, on comprehensive guarantee of sexual freedom.*
- *UN. Sustainable Development Goals 2030. Goal 5: "Gender Equality".*

Regarding the scope of comprehensive care services for migrant women who are victims of gender violence or at risk of being so, we must try to orient ourselves in the following areas at a minimum. Training is required by the Social Services that care for women victims of gender violence. This training is designed to cover the following modules with information related to victims of gender violence and their comprehensive care.

Therefore, it would be appropriate to look for the information related to the community, province, city and municipality of residence to observe how training has been articulated for professionals who can in turn reach and train immigrant families in order to prevent the transmission of favorable principles. inequality and gender violence within their own family group.

We are talking to train people outside the formal curriculum, since it is an adult and autonomous population. However, if we do not address this link, we will be leaving the task of preventing gender violence in the migrant population lame.

All existing resources within our reach should be used to reach this population, through whatever:

- *Basic Social Services: social worker/s, social educators, family intervention technicians, psychologists specialized in violence of gender, etc.*
- *Educational resources for adults: adult education centers, Spanish learning courses, etc.*
- *Educational resources for your children of compulsory school age: infant school, infant education, primary education, compulsory secondary education.*
- *Employment resources: inclusion, training and SEPE benefits.*
- *Specific resources from their own communities of reference: associations, NGOs, community of compatriots, etc.*

- *Judicial resources: work measures to benefit the community, reeducation courses for abusers, etc.*

- *Health resources: visits for health problems, reviews, consultations, etc.*

And all these resources should be articulated through the existing resources in the community of residence, such as schools for parents, Educating as a family, training courses, psychological support programs in gender violence for both women and men, various procedures (benefits, subsidies, emergency aid, etc.), health education, promotion of integration through various recreational, training and sports activities, etc.

It is through all these resources that minors should be reached, first by training in the matter with a gender perspective in order to provide all training resources with the aim of preventing it.

The perspective of training and prevention in gender violence must be transversal in every project formative regardless of whether it is playful, health, judicial, social, etc.

3. Map of resources for care for immigrant women victims of gender-based violence

General Sources:

- *Violet point. Ministry of Equality. There is a version in PDF or QR code (you can download it directly from the image below).*



Punto Violeta is an instrument promoted by the Ministry of Equality to involve the whole of society in the fight against violence against women and spread, in a massive way, the necessary information to know how to act in a case of violence against women. It forms part of the catalog of urgent measures of the Improvement and Modernization Plan promoted by different ministries of the Government of

Spain in the context of the sexist alarm of recent months and represents a change of focus in public policies for attention to victims, situating violence macho as a structural problem that requires the involvement of the whole of society to put an end to it.

- [Telephone 016 - 016 online.](#)

- [ATENPRO: Telephone Service for Attention and Protection to victims of gender violence:](#)

- *Social Services of your Town Hall*
- *Telephone: 900 22 22 92*
- *Information to Local Entities: atenpro@femp.es*
- *Ministry Information: atenpro-sei@igualdad.gob.es*

- [Guide to the action and coordination system in cases of gender violence in Spain. Ministry of the Presidency, relations with the Courts and Equality.](#)

- [Devices for the telematic control of removal measures and penalties.](#)

- *Protocol of action of the monitoring system by telematic means of compliance with the measures and penalties of removal in matters of gender violence.*
- *Protocol of action in the penitentiary sphere of the monitoring system by telematic means of compliance with the measures and penalties of removal in matters of gender violence.*

- [Web of resources: Finder of resources closest to you.](#)

- *WRAP.*

- [Alarm status:](#)

- *Resources of each autonomous community.*

- *Victim Assistance Offices.*

- [Other resources:](#)

- *Fernando Pombo Foundation: [Practical Guide for legal advice to victims of gender violence.](#)*

Specific resources:

- *Equality Law 3/2007. Equal Opportunities Plans in the different autonomous communities, provinces of residence of the woman.*
- *European Charter for Equal Opportunities for Men and Women in Local Life. Council of Municipalities and Regions of Europe and its associates, May 2006. For the case in which there are no local Equal Opportunities plans.*

Collaborating associations government delegation:

- *Themis Women Jurists Association*
- *National Confederation of Women in Equality*
- *Federation of Progressive Women*
- *National Federation of Separated and Divorced Women's Associations*
- *Women's Foundation*
- *UNAE Federation*
- *Ecuadorian Hispanic Rumiñahui Association for Development Collaboration*
- *Spanish Red Cross*
- *CERMI*
- *ONCE*
- *National Confederation of Deaf People (CNSE)*
- *Clara Campoamor Association*
- *Commission for the investigation of mistreatment of women*
- *AFAMMER: Association of rural families and women*
- *Ana Bella Foundation • Luz Casanova Foundation*
- *ANAR Foundation • Save the Children*
- *ACNUR*
- *Men's Association for Equality (AHIGE)*
- *ASPACIA Foundation*
- *MUM Association*

4. Awareness and training on gender violence with immigrant offenders

In Spain, there are various programs managed by associations / NGOs, Professional Colleges of Psychology, Penitentiary Institutions, etc., which work on the re-education of the perpetrator or aggressor of gender violence against their partner, being the generic approach for men and not specific to migrant men.

CUPIF (With a Foot Out) among others, carry out therapeutic intervention proposals of a re-educational nature against Gender Violence and Domestic Abuse such as the so-called CUPID "With a Foot Inside", aimed at domestic aggressors who are complying with protection measures 37 suspension of the execution of the sentence; a proposal developed at the request of the Penitentiary Social Services of the Community of Madrid. The proposal aims to alleviate the existing gap and the general absence of judicial pronouncements suspending the sentence imposed with the correlative imposition of mandatory attendance by the convicted person in a final sentence to, according to No. 4 of Section 1 of Article 83 of the Penal Code "training, labor, cultural, civil, sexual and other similar education programs" enabling the real effectiveness of subduing the abuser or aggressor, as an alternative to their entry into prison, strictly in the cases that this is appropriate, to an educational or rehabilitation program with the necessary content to promote respect for gender equality and rejection without palliatives, as criminal behavior and unworthy of violence. The CUPID Program for the suspension of the execution of the sentence in crimes of gender violence and also domestic abuse will be coordinated and supervised at all times by the Penitentiary Social Services of the Community of Madrid in the C.I.S. Victoria Kent.

The Treatment Program for Abusers of Echeburúa, and Corral, (Spain, 1998; cited in Ortiz and García, 2003). It includes very diverse psychopathological aspects and therapeutic techniques, becoming a very complete program It combines both individual therapy for a better knowledge of the problems that one presents with certain people in the domestic environment, as well as group therapy that favors involvement with others and the confrontation of situations avoiding rationalization.

The Galician Reeducation Program for Gender Abusers (Arce and Fariña, 2007), developed by the Forensic Psychology Unit of the University of Santiago de Compostela, intervenes exclusively with those men who have received a conviction for committing violence against a woman but, because they are not repeat offenders and do not receive a sentence of more than two years, they do not go to prison. Therefore, the program is not carried out with inmates, but with prisoners whose sentence is replaced or suspended for attending the program, establishing a contract-program with which the prisoner will enter prison in case of non-compliance or no progress. Has as purpose the psychosocial reeducation of these aggressors through learning and generalization of skills and abilities, eradicating behavioral and cultural patterns.

Espacio de Asturias Program to address individual problems of variable duration.

Castilla y León Phoenix Program with group programs (Bengoechea et al. 2007; in Ruíz and Expósito, 2008).

Instituto Navarro de Psicología Jurídica with the Therapeutic Program for Family Abusers (Echauri, Rodríguez and Martínez, 2007), a program that has ambulatory (outside prison) or internal (in prison) adaptation, according to needs, as well as contemplating the possibility of full, medium and short program, depending on the needs of the subjects. Its main objective is to change the attitude of the aggressors, cognitive restructuring, social skills and participation in risk situations.

At the University of Granada with the Psychosocial Program for Aggressors in the Field of Violence Gender (Ruíz and Expósito, 2008) share guidelines with the Navarro Institute of Legal Psychology mentioned above.

The Context Program (Lila, 2009) in collaboration with the University of Valencia is framed in the model of Brofenbrenner (1979) according to which we have to take into account the levels of intrapersonal, interpersonal and macrosocial analysis to carry out evaluation and intervention.

There is also a Psychosocial Intervention Program for People who mistreat their Partners (Quintero and Carbajosa, 2008), developed by Grupo 5 Acción and Acción Social Madrid, which promotes intervention from the model of change (Prochaska and DiClemente, 1982 and 1986).

From Penitentiary Institutions, the Intervention Program for Aggressors (PRIA), based on the one published in 2005 by Penitentiary Institutions and adapted to the growing need for intervention in situations that require alternative measures; encourages the integration of clinical aspects, working on motivation, and focuses on the manifestations of Gender Violence, especially the psychological one, as well as on the instrumentalization of children.

Source: TFG Master General Health Psychology. SARA TIZÓN MUDARRA

Regarding the Fénix Program for attention to abusers of Castilla y León, dependent on the Junta de Castilla y León (Ministry of Family and Equal Opportunities) due to the lack of specification in the quotes of the aforementioned TFG and my in-depth knowledge in the first person, I will proceed to its more detailed description. It is a program that belongs to our autonomous community, Castilla y León, and I am one of the psychology professionals involved in the Agreement signed between the Junta de Castilla y León and the Official College of Psychology of Castilla y León for the reeducation of the perpetrators or aggressors of gender violence.

Said Fénix Program includes voluntary aggressors who attend individual and/or group therapy, those others who attend group programs as a criminal measure in a judicial sentence, as well as those with measures from the Educational Intervention Unit in the case of minors. (aged over 14 years) and those others who, after serving a prison sentence, go through the Social Integration Center (CIS) as a measure prior to probation.

ANNEX 1. Rights of Immigrant Women Victims of Gender Violence

The main rights of foreign immigrant women are:

- *Residence status in Spain: there are two types of residence and work authorizations for foreign women victims of gender violence:*
 - *Residence and independent work authorization for foreign women regrouped with their spouse or partner.*
 - *Temporary residence and work authorization due to exceptional circumstances for foreign women in an irregular situation.*
 - *Authorization for residence and independent work for foreign women reunited with their spouse or partner:*
 - *Obtaining the authorization once a protection order has been issued in favor of the woman or, failing that, when there is a report from the Public Prosecutor indicating the existence of signs of gender violence.*
 - *Duration of authorization: 5 years.*
 - *The processing of authorization requests will be of a preferential nature.*
 - *Sons and daughters who are minors or who have a disability and are not objectively capable of providing for their own needs, who are holders of a residence authorization for family reunification, will retain the residence authorization for family reunification and will depend, for the purposes of its renewal, on the family member with whom they live.*
 - *Temporary residence and work authorization due to exceptional circumstances for foreign women in an irregular situation:*
 - *Request for authorization from the moment a protection order has been issued in their favor or a report issued by the Public Prosecutor's Office in which the existence of signs of gender violence.*
 - *Granting of the authorization when the criminal proceeding concludes with a conviction or with a judicial decision from which it is deduced that the woman has been a victim of gender violence, including the filing of the case because the*

defendant is unaccounted for or the Provisional dismissal due to expulsion of the defendant.

- *Duration of authorization: 5 years. However, in the course of these 5 years, the woman can access long-term residence status, upon request, for which purpose the time during which she would have been the holder of a provisional authorization for temporary residence and work will be calculated.*

- *Residence authorization for exceptional circumstances in favor of their sons and daughters who are minors or who have a disability and are not objectively capable of providing for their own needs, or residence and work authorization in the event that they are over 16 years of age. and are in Spain at the time of the complaint: request by the foreign woman at the time she requests the temporary residence and work authorization in her favor for exceptional circumstances, or at any other time later in the process penal. Its concession and its duration occur in the same terms as the temporary residence and work authorization due to exceptional circumstances of foreign women in an irregular situation.*

- *The processing of authorization requests will be of a preferential nature.*

- *Provisional authorization for temporary residence and work of the foreign woman in an irregular situation:*

- *Once the request for authorization of temporary residence and work of the woman victim of gender violence has been submitted, a provisional authorization of residence and work will be granted ex officio in favor of the foreign woman and, where appropriate, provisional residence or residence and work authorizations in favor of her sons and daughters who are minors or who have a disability and are not objectively capable of providing for their needs, provided that there is a protection order in favor of women or a report from the Public Prosecutor's Office that appreciates the existence of signs of gender violence.*

- *The provisional authorization in favor of the foreign woman and in favor of her sons and daughters over the age of sixteen will imply the possibility of working, as an employee or self-employed, in any occupation, sector of activity and territorial area. Its validity is conditional on the granting or refusal of the definitive authorization.*

- *Protection of foreign women in an irregular situation who are victims of gender violence:*

- *If when the situation of gender violence is reported, the irregular situation of the foreign woman is revealed:*

o The administrative sanction procedure will not be initiated for being illegally in Spanish territory (serious offence).

o The disciplinary administrative procedure that had been initiated for the commission of said infraction prior to the complaint or, where appropriate, the execution of the eventually agreed expulsion or return orders will be suspended.

• Concluded the criminal procedure:

o With a conviction or with a judicial resolution from which it is deduced that the woman has been a victim of gender violence, including the filing of the case due to the defendant's whereabouts being unknown or the provisional dismissal due to the expulsion of the accused, the foreign woman will be granted temporary residence and work authorization for exceptional circumstances and, where appropriate, the authorizations requested in favor of their sons and daughters who are minors or who have a disability and are not objectively capable of providing for their own needs.

o With a non-convicting sentence or with a resolution from which the situation of gender violence cannot be deduced:

□ The foreign woman will be denied temporary residence and work authorization due to exceptional circumstances and, where appropriate, the authorizations requested from in favor of their sons and daughters who are minors or who have a disability and are not objectively capable of providing for their own needs.

□ The provisional residence and work authorization granted to the foreign woman will lose its effectiveness and, in its case, the provisional authorizations granted to their sons and daughters who are minors or who have a disability and are not objectively capable of providing for their own needs.

□ The administrative sanctioning procedure for irregular stay in Spanish territory will be initiated or continued.

- *Renewal of the authorization for temporary residence and employment for a foreign woman who is a victim of gender violence: The authorization will be renewed upon its expiration in the event of termination of the employment contract or suspension of the employment relationship as a consequence of that the worker is a victim of gender violence.*
- *Right to information: The free telephone number for information and advice on issues related to gender violence 016 offers an information service 24 hours a day, as well as in the official languages, in English, French, German,*

Arabic, Bulgarian, Chinese, Portuguese, Romanian and Russian. Also, during the hours of Monday to Friday, from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., it provides services in 42 other languages. In this way, with different degrees of coverage, it provides services in a total of 51 languages.

- *Right of asylum: The right of asylum is the protection granted to non-EU nationals or stateless persons who are recognized as refugees. This protection consists of the non-refoulement or expulsion of persons who have been recognized, as well as the adoption of the following measures, among others: permanent residence and work authorization, access to the rights recognized by the applicable legislation to people who are victims of gender violence, access to health care, social assistance and social services.*

- *Refugee status will be recognized for women victims of gender violence who, due to well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of belonging to a certain social group, gender or sexual orientation, are outside of the country of their nationality and cannot or, due to said fears, do not want to avail themselves of the protection of that country, or the stateless woman who, lacking nationality and being outside the country where she previously had her habitual residence, for the same reasons reasons she cannot or, due to such fears, does not want to return to it:*
 - *For the right to asylum to be recognized, it is necessary that the well-founded fears of women of being subjected to persecution are based on acts of persecution that are serious and take the form of acts of physical or psychological violence, including acts of sexual violence.*

 - *In order to assess the reasons for persecution, it will be considered that, depending on the prevailing circumstances in the country of origin, a group based on a common characteristic of sexual orientation or sexual identity is included in the concept of a specific social group. Likewise, depending on the prevailing circumstances in the country of origin, people fleeing their countries are included. of origin due to well-founded fear of persecution for reasons of gender.*

Source: Government Delegation for Gender Violence

TEST

Read carefully the statement of the questions and answer if it is TRUE or FALSE

1. *Awareness and training programs on gender violence are a matter of associations and NGOs that work with this population.*

TRUE
FALSE

2. *Being an immigrant woman victim of gender violence is a factor of maximum vulnerability as well as belonging to other vulnerable groups, be it by age, rural area, disability, etc.*

TRUE
FALSE

3. *Transmitting the rights of immigrant women victims of gender violence is useless because these women are threatened by their husbands and even if they know their rights they will not be able to exercise them.*

TRUE
FALSE

4. *Working on awareness and prevention with the perpetrators of gender violence is a waste of time and resources for the real victims who are women and their children.*

TRUE
FALSE

5. *The comprehensive approach to gender violence involves attention to all levels involved: women, children and aggressors.*

TRUE
FALSE

LESSON 3

AWARENESS AND TRAINING OF PROFESSIONALS FROM THE FIELD OF HEALTH IN THE FACE OF GENDER VIOLENCE

Previous considerations

Immigration for women supposes a situation of special vulnerability since they suppose especially difficult processes and existential trajectories.

In immigrant women, conditions can also come together that determine a special vulnerability:

- *Economic and labor precariousness.*
 - *Irregular administrative situations and the fear of being expelled from the country.*
 - *Greater communication and expression difficulties due to language barriers.*
- Shortage of interpreters with training in gender violence.*
- *Greater difficulty in accessing social and health resources.*
 - *In some cases, the possibility of having suffered other forms of violence throughout their lives and their migratory process (sexual abuse and assault, sexual exploitation and trafficking, armed conflicts, prison and torture, poverty, etc.).*
 - *Absence or scant family and social support network, especially in women who have recently arrived in the country.*
 - *Lack of knowledge of your rights and the resources.*
 - *Prejudices, discriminatory attitudes and mistrust of professionals from various fields.*
 - *In situations of request for reunification of minors, fear of the file being paralyzed if the couple separates.*
 - *Girls and women who have also suffered another form of gender violence, such as genital mutilation (FGM), can come to the health consultation, a highly traumatic act with deep emotional scars and serious consequences in all areas of health. Stigma and shame are powerful factors that often stop these women from seeking help.*

For all these reasons, it seeks to try to reach these forms of gender violence that are more difficult to detect and among the migrant group that, precisely because of their situation of greater vulnerability, becomes more inaccessible.

In addition to the laws, articles, commissions, strategies and plans about awareness and training in violence of gender to the professionals who work in the union, it should be possible to impregnate these professionals with a gender perspective. Training is of no use if we do not previously raise gender awareness.

In the area of health, the gender perspective is essential in all the professionals of the union, from administrative personnel, assistants and orderlies, through nursing and medical personnel, in addition to the rest of health and non-health professionals, such as professionals Psychology, Physiotherapy, Social Work, Security, etc.

Having training and sensitivity in gender perspective can mean finding access to the migrant population (women and children), open or restricted. We will not be able to attend to your integral health if we do not know the true reality of your existence. This must be done by transmitting confidence in the health professional, as well as providing the consultations with a private space preserved from discomfort. where they can come clean and tell what is really happening. Only in this way can we help and guarantee a good health service in relation to the health of victims of gender violence.

OBLIGATIONS OF HEALTH PERSONNEL IN THE MATTER OF GENDER VIOLENCE

In Spain, health personnel have the legal obligation to notify the judicial authority of the possible existence of a criminal act, as stated in the following laws, articles and decrees:

- *In **Organic Law 1/2004 on Protection Measures Comprehensive Against Gender Violence**, physical, psychological and sexual violence exerted on women "by those who are or have been their spouses or those who are or have been linked to them by similar affective relationships, even without cohabitation" has **the consideration of crime** in the terms provided in the Penal Code.*
- *Article 262 of the **Criminal Procedure Law** states: «Those who, by reason of their positions, professions or trades, have news of a public crime, will be obliged to report it immediately to the Public Prosecutor, the competent court, the investigating judge and, failing that, to the municipal or police official closest to the site, if it were of a flagrant crime". Article 355 of this Law explicitly mentions the obligation of medical professionals: «If the criminal act that motivates the formation of any cause consisted of injuries,*

the doctors who attended the injured person will be obliged to report your state".

- Also, **Royal Decree 1030/2006** establishing the **Common Services Portfolio** of the National Health System, in Annex II, section 6.6.3. and in Annex IV, section 2.8, it includes as a function of the health personnel of Primary Care, Specialized Care and Emergencies, the communication to the competent authorities of those situations that require it, especially in case of gender violence.
- In case of suspicion of **mistreatment by the partner or ex-partner**, the court on duty will be notified through the injury report or medical report. **The information of the fact to the judicial authorities allows to implement the measures aimed at protecting women and preventing the crime from going unpunished.**
- The State Organic Law articulates a set of measures to provide a global response to violence against women by their partner or ex-partner, covering aspects of awareness and intervention in the educational, health, social, care and care, as well as procedural, criminal and civil regulations.
- In turn, most Autonomous Communities have developed their own legislation on gender violence (see Annex I).
- In our health field, **other forms and manifestations of violence against women can reach the health consultation**, such as female genital mutilation, sexual assault and abuse, sexual harassment in the workplace, which although they are considered a crime in our legal system, they are regulated in the **Penal Code and in the Law of Criminal Procedure**.
- **In the case of other in situations of violence against women** not committed by their partner or ex-partner, the injury report will also be issued, but not under the heading of gender violence, and will also be sent to the duty court.
- From the health system we must ensure that women will have information regarding their rights, in an accessible and understandable format, with translation into sign language, where appropriate, or in different languages for women from other countries.
- Regarding the care of the daughters and sons of women in situations of gender violence, it is necessary to take into account in health actions the **Organic Law of Legal Protection of Minors** (Organic Law 1/1996, of January 15, of partial modification of the Civil Code and the Civil Procedure Law).

Likewise, it is important to know that **Organic Law 10/2011**, of July 27, modifies articles 31 bis and 59 bis of Organic Law 4/2000 on **Rights and Freedoms of Foreigners in Spain and their Social Integration**, and contemplates the automatic granting, no longer optional, of provisional residence and work authorization to foreign women in an irregular administrative situation who report mistreatment, and have obtained a protection order or one that has been issued report of the Public Prosecutor's Office in which the existence of signs of gender violence is appreciated, and extends this right to their sons and daughters until the judicial resolution regarding the complaint that has been filed is issued. This Organic Law

also extends the protection rights of women victims of trafficking to their sons and daughters and other people who maintain family or other ties with them.

Source: Common protocol for health action against Gender Violence. 2012

Health intervention guidelines in gender violence. Government delegation against gender violence.

1. Regulations:

State regulations:

- [Organic Law 1/2004, of December 28, Measures of Integral Protection against Gender Violence.](#)
- [Organic Law 3/2007, of March 22, for the effective equality of women and men.](#)
- [Organic Law 10/2022, of September 6, of Integral Guarantee of Sexual Freedom.](#)
- [Code of gender and domestic violence.](#)
- [Foreign Code.](#)

European regulations:

- [Letter of the fundamental rights of the European Union \(2000\).](#)
- [EU justice web- Legislation of the European Union on gender violence.](#)
- [European Council Agreement to prevent and combat violence against women and domestic violence of 2011 \(Istanbul Agreement\).](#)

International regulations:

- [Universal Declaration of Human Rights.](#)
- [Convention on the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women \(CEDAW\).](#)
- [United Nations Declaration on the Elimination of Violence over Women \(1993\).](#)

- [Declaration and Platform of Action of the IV International Conference on Beijing's Woman \(1995\).](#)
- [United Nations Manual on legislation on violence against women \(2012\).](#)

2. Rights:

- [Women's rights guidance victims of gender violence 2022. Epíprafe 2. Rights of foreign women victims of gender violence.](#)

3. Reports:

- [Work and reports of the Commission against Gender Violence of the Interterritorial Council of the National Health System.](#)
- [Good practices in the National Health System.](#)

4. Action protocols:

- [Common basic guidelines of the National Health System for Health Action due to cases of aggression to women by a sharp object \("prick"\) in leisure contexts.](#)
- [Common protocol for health acting in the face of gender violence in the National Health System \(2012\).](#)
- ["Health action against trafficking for the purpose of sexual exploitation" to the common protocol for health acting in the face of gender violence 2012.](#)
- [Common sanitary action protocol against female genital mutilation \(MGF\).](#)

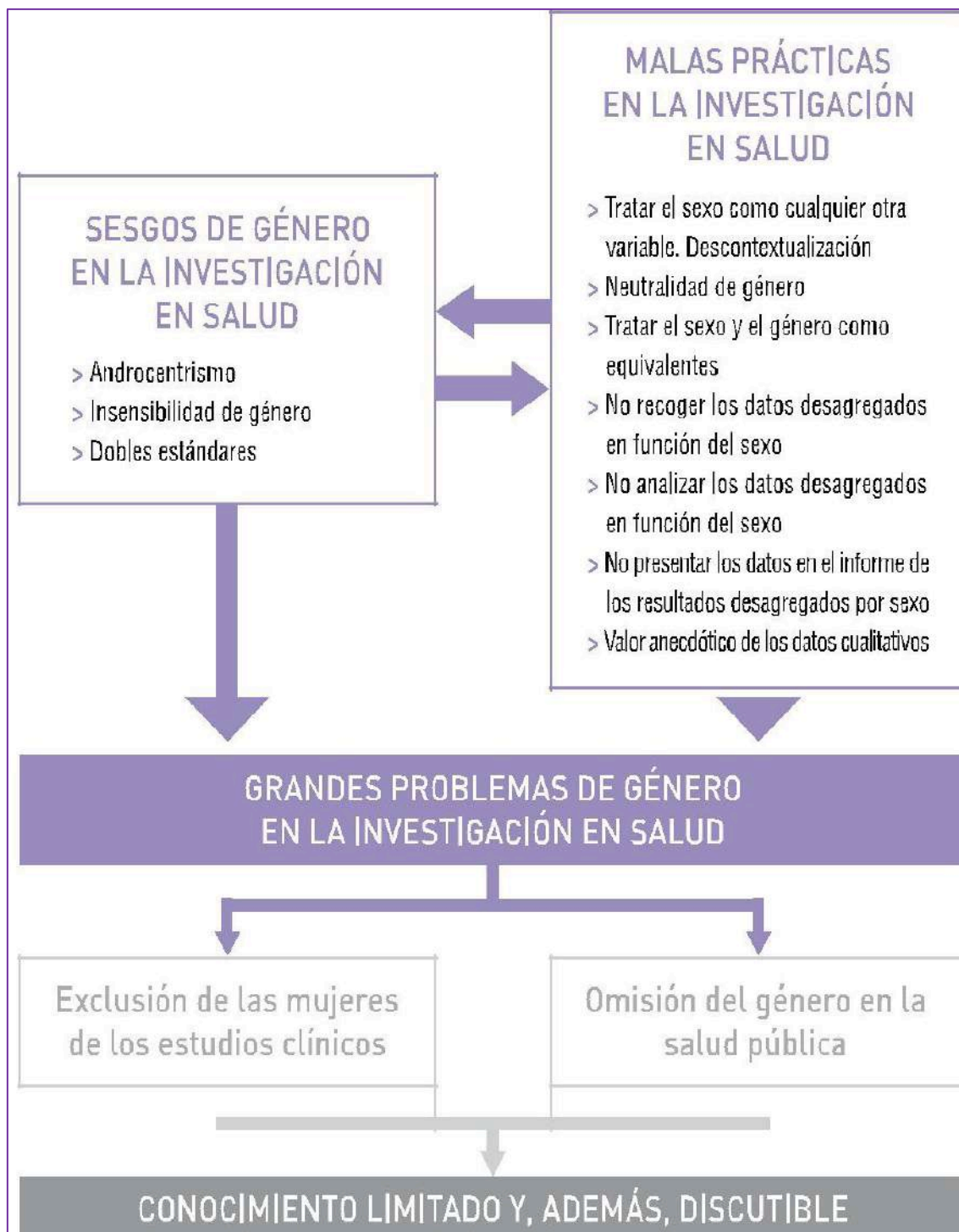
5. Resources:

- [Information and advice service 016.](#)
- [Trust your health personnel, tell us what is happening to you.](#)

Source: Government Delegation against Gender Violence.

The gender perspective in Spanish public health

In this matter, the first thing to be done is a diagnosis and the results today, they are nothing flattering:



Source: Guide to incorporate gender perspective into health research

For all these reasons we will see now the efforts that have been made, those who continue to be done and those who remain to be done to correct this imbalance and one day to ensure that the gender perspective is incorporated into universal health in general and in our national health in particular.

Community health is a multisectoral and multidisciplinary collaborative strategy that uses public health sciences, evidence-based strategies and other approaches to involve and work with communities, culturally appropriate to optimize the health and quality of life of All people who live, work or are active in a defined community. It is explicitly focused on the intersection of the needs of the community and its assets, the understanding of the community and the health priorities, and requires often innovative methods to document the evidence of effectiveness and equity in effectiveness.

Gender norms determine different ways and opportunities to live from people depending on their sex, which are associated with gender inequalities in health, and therefore the gender perspective must be incorporated in a transversal way in all phases of development of community health. It is not just a matter of ethics and justice, but also of effectiveness of interventions.

The gender perspective in health care should be guided by the consideration of the following sections:

- The conceptual framework of gender inequalities includes inequalities in power, in access to resources and in control over them, the sexual division of labor and gender socialization.*
- The gender perspective must be incorporated in all phases of the development of the community health strategy.*
- An evaluation of the gender impact must be carried out before the implementation of the interventions.*
- In the analysis of the situation, quantitative results must be disaggregated by sex, and qualitative analysis has to explicitly examine gender inequalities.*
- The evaluation must contemplate gender equity, both in the process and in the effectiveness of interventions.*

Source: Gacetasanitary.org

Gender transversality, internationally disseminated from the Platform of Action agreed in the IV International Conference of Women held in Beijing in 1995, recognizes the importance of integrating gender equality into all public policies as

an objective. Applying the gender perspective in health programming is a challenge and a need to make people's rights effective, making visible the needs of women and intervening on gender inequities that can occur, for this it is necessary to incorporate theoretical frameworks and theoretical frameworks and Approaches that cover the concept of integral health, which consider health as a process in which biology, social context and the subjective experience lived influence. Social factors affect different men and women, being able to create discrimination, inequalities and inequality, that is, social vulnerability, which affects directly on the health process.

The Declaration of Madrid (WHO) considers that, to achieve the highest levels of health, health policies must recognize that women and men, due to their biological differences and their gender roles, have different needs, obstacles and opportunities. (Declaration of Madrid. WHO, 2001).

It is a requirement in advanced societies that public administrations carry out good practices in health, there is a theoretical body that supports the need to manage both the clinic and diagnoses with a gender approach, among whose action strategies it is contemplated:

- *The patient -centered care.*
- *The personal-patient personal relationship (subject to subject).*
- *Non -biased and differential attention by sex.*
- *Differential morbidity and needs.*
- *Attention to psychosocial determinants.*
- *Identify gender social and psychosocial determinants and influence change.*

A health approach must pursue the principles of equality and equity, as a guarantee of respecting and enforcing people's human rights, through a non -biased clinic, in which patients are not addressed differently for being one or another sex. There is more and more evidence that involuntarily, and not consciously, professionals make less diagnostic and therapeutic effort with women in very diverse pathologies, this is a gender bias in care motivated by gender social stereotypes. A clinic sensitive to differential morbidity by sex, not doing so is another gender bias modality should be aspired. Health personnel must maintain self-observation and analytical look on their practice to detect when the sex or patient's social conditions can cause stereotyped attitudes that are the imperceptible engine of biased clinical actions that lead to inequality.

The concept of integral health must contemplate the influence of the social context and the subjective experience in the ways of getting sick, therefore not only the biological, but also the psychosocial and gender factors, which determine the vulnerability of the vulnerability of people.

The concept of health inequality refers, therefore, to the impact they have on the distribution of health and disease in the population social determinants such as wealth, nationality, education, occupation, the ethnic group, urban residence or rural and the habitability conditions or equipment of the place where you live or work.

WHO defines health inequality as those differences that are unnecessary, avoidable and unfair, it is therefore a concept that includes a moral and ethical dimension.

Using a health gender approach as a gender perspective strategy means considering that:

- People are always a woman or man and there may be differences by sex in the state of health and in care in health services.*
- There is a different cultural and social construction for each sex (gender construction), and there may be differences due to these gender constructions in the state of health and in health care.*
- In society there is hierarchy among the sexes, being sometimes disabled or discriminated against the feminine and there are unequal power relations between men and women. They are gender relationships.*

The main psychosocial factors in health depending on sex are those that follow:

• Main psychosocial determinants for women:

- The loads of the traditional role (including its effects of dependence, isolation and lack of social network) as a caregiver and household worker.*
- Couple conflicts.*
- Conflicts related to daughters' diseases.*
- Duels.*
- Bad treatment for the couple or ex -partner.*
- The double working day affects is an exclusive factor of women.*

- **Main psychosocial determinants for men:**

- *Couple conflicts, including separations, is the most frequent factor.*
- *Duels.*
- *Conflicts at work or with studies.*
- *Own accidents or diseases.*
- *Loads of the traditional role as the main worker and family support.*

- **The main differential determinants between the health of men and women at all levels are referred to according to the following variables:**

a. *Work conditions; social class; purchasing power; sexual option; level of studies; Intersection of the genre with ethnicity, birth or age:*

- **Productive work.**
- **Reproductive work.**
- **The social class.**

b. *Life conditions and styles:*

- **Biological factors:** *food, sleep, hygiene, physical activity, consumption or not toxic...*
- **Psychosocial factors:** *individual factors (stress, loneliness, support, etc.), educational-formative, labor, economic, social environment ...*

For all the aforementioned, we cannot ignore that the gender perspective is a perspective still in diapers, but not for that reason without progress. This cannot be done without the special consideration of social, family, political, educational, economic and health that supposes gender violence for women in particular and for the whole of society in general. We will address these aspects more deeply below.

- **Gender violence, public health and women's health.**

Gender violence causes in women a progressive deterioration of health, since aggressions are either specific or repetitive, of low or high intensity, involves losses

in the biological, psychological and social sphere of women. This type of violence seriously affects women's health, living high-risk situations even reaching murder.

"The consequences of gender violence are numerous effects on the health of women who suffer from it, we can not only talk about injuries derived from physical abuse, since with these numerous health problems appear. The health problems derived from it are given both in the short and long term. The sequelae in the health of women victims of gender violence persist over time once the abuse relationship has ended" being able to become a chronic disorder.

- Gender violence as a public health problem. Primary care.

According to the study: "State of health and violence against women in the couple" on the macro-ancestry of gender violence 2011, gender violence is a public health problem with serious repercussions on the lives of women, their children and daughters, and societies. In spite of this it has been naturalized and therefore invisible for centuries. This way of exercising violence is a manifestation of inequality, domination and power of men over women, due to their status as women.

Several studies consider that gender violence has serious health consequences of women victims of gender violence:

- They are more likely to suffer disability or death.*
- They have a higher prevalence of mental health problems.*
- Musculo-sculpture problems.*
- Sexual and reproductive health problems.*

And concludes that the social and economic costs of gender violence are great for societies. Sometimes, women lose the ability to carry out their productive role in the labor, and reproductive market in families, and consume to a greater extent health and social resources.

- The importance of detection of VG from the health system and training.

Gender violence is a difficult problem to identify for various reasons, so there are many cases that remain without detecting, taking into account that it would also be an early identification of the situation.

- The health institution in the face of gender violence.

Research studies on gender violence contribute to visible the situation of inequality of women and the consequences for their health, being a tool of public health aimed at the eradication of violence to women.

Promote gender equality processes in the health system through the creation, improvement and responsible use of tools such as protocols, norms and recommendations, research, training, articulation of gender units means betting on the rights of Women which demands an equality strategy between women and men in the health system and a responsible commitment in the prevention of violence against women from health, this being a transversal responsibility that all councils share.

Source: Health Plan 2019-2025. Gender perspective in the health plan. Women's Institute.

Commission against gender violence of the Interterritorial Council of the National Health System.

With regard to access to health resources, according to article 16 of Organic Law 1/2004 within the Interterritorial Council of the National Health System, the Commission against Gender Violence whose composition will be constituted by:

- ***Representatives of all autonomous communities with competence in health.***
- ***Representatives of other units of the Ministry of Health and Consumption and the Ministry of Equality.***

There will be the following general and specific objectives as well as quality criteria that I go to detail:

- ***General objectives for quality criteria for the basic training of professionals. The National Plan for Awareness and Prevention of Gender Violence, of December 15, 2006, proposes, among its priority objectives in the field of health, training health professionals in gender violence with common quality criteria and indicators of Training evaluation.***

The health professionals of the National Health System, at the end of basic training in response to gender violence, must be able to:

- ***Provide comprehensive, continuous and quality care, from a gender perspective, applying the established action protocol.***
- ***Recognize gender violence as a public health problem.***

- *Facilitate the improvement of quality and equity in health care to women who suffer from gender violence.*

- *Support health administrations in the organization of this training sharing the processes, materials and good practices.*

• ***Specific objectives in relation to the conceptual aspects of violence:***

- *Analyze socialization between women and men, as well as the construction of inequality relationships.*

- *Know what gender violence is, how it is generated and how it is maintained.*

- *Recognize attitudes and behaviors of abuse and good treatment in personal relationships between men and women, differentiating between conflictive relationships and abuse.*

- *Recognize the different manifestations of gender violence.*

- *Describe the different moments in the process of the abuse relationship.*

- *Describe the consequences of gender violence in the health of women who suffer it and understand recovery as a process.*

- *Describe the consequences of gender violence in the family environment (dependent people, daughters and sons) and social.*

- *Describe roles and attitudes of health professionals in gender violence.*

- *Identify the difficulties in talking about the situation of violence by women and health personnel.*

- *Describe the impact of gender violence on health personnel and how to face it.*

• ***Specific objectives in relation to health action:***

- *Detect and diagnose signs and symptoms that appear in a situation of abuse, maintaining an attitude of alert and paying attention to suspicion indicators.*

- *Perform the following assessments: biopsychosocial; of safety and risk; of the family and environment situation, and the resources that women have.*

- *Develop communication, listening and understanding skills, avoiding victimizing and blaming women, while their decisions and rhythm in the intervention process are respected.*

- *Know the benefits that group methodology has for women in a situation of ill - treatment.*
- *Develop an interdisciplinary intervention with the support and collaboration of the rest of the team professionals.*
- *Act with daughters and sons, and other dependent people and the family environment, taking into account the consequences that the situation of violence has been able to produce, and establish, in turn, the proper derivation and coordination actions.*
- *Know in depth the resources available in the community.*
- *Perform adequate derivation depending on the needs of women, adequately informing them of the indicated resources.*
- *Establish and maintain constant inter -institutional coordination and collaboration with social, police, legal and community devices.*
- *Establish a monitoring consultation plan and monitor the derivations made.*
- *Know the ethical-legal aspects of abuse.*
- ***Common quality criteria in training in gender violence to health professionals:***
 - *All health personnel will be trained in the fields of management, administration and welfare that is directly involved in the provision of health services to women.*
 - *The contents of the training will be appropriate to the labor competences required by the job to provide women with quality care.*
 - *The teaching staff will be multidisciplinary, formed by experts (as) in the area of gender violence and coordinated with each other to give homogeneous messages and promote group work.*
 - *A training action will be considered a basic training course when it lasts about 20 teaching hours. Awareness activity will be considered when it has a duration of less than 10 hours.*
 - *The formation will be carried out in a near and accessible place that meets the adequate conditions of infrastructure and endowment to provide participatory formation.*

- *There will be a reference figure in the health services that know, coordinate, facilitate and guarantee the planning, realization and evaluation of the training plan.*

- *The teaching hours received from the staff of the health services that attend these courses will be accredited so that they are useful for the professional career in accordance with the established legislation.*

- *There will be mechanisms to facilitate assistance to training actions to all personnel referred to above.*

Source: Commission against gender violence of the Interterritorial Council of the National Health System. Women's Health Observatory Secretariat.

Health action in gender violence

1. *Prevention.*

2. *Primary and specialized care service.*

a. *DETECTION.*

b. *ASSESSMENT.*

c. *INTERVENTION:*

I. Woman with the presence of gender violence indicators.

II. Woman recognized as a victim of gender violence without extreme danger situation.

III. Woman recognized as a victim of gender violence in extreme danger.

IV. Recommendations for health action.

d. Detection and assessment of minor children of victims of gender violence.

3. *Emergency service:*

a. *Detection.*

b. *Attendance.*

c. *Victim safety assessment.*

d. *Information and derivation.*

d. *Legal action.*

4. *Acting to sexual aggressions.*

5. *Health action with men who exercise violence against women.*

1. Prevention

- Sensitization and training of professionals

- *Inclusion in continuous training of health personnel aspects of prevention, early detection and comprehensive care for women and children, including intercultural competences and vulnerable contexts to abuse.*
- *Approach of multidisciplinary clinical sessions of real cases of women in situations of special vulnerability.*
- *Performing sessions with professionals from other institutions such as Pediatrics, SS.SS. and educational professionals in the case of minors.*
- *Communicate the importance of detection of minors who directly or indirectly presence gender violence in their mothers.*

- Women's integral health care

- *Place visible posters and brochures for women who indicate that gender violence is the object of health care and that they can ask for help.*
- *Promote in women autonomy and defense of their rights inside and outside the health system that foster their integration and self-care.*
- *Include sensitization and prevention content of gender violence in health education and maternal care.*

- Community field

- *Collaborate with community associations through talks, workshops and days to address the consequences of gender violence on health and what is the role of health personnel.*
- *Participate in days, actions and campaigns of other institutions and social organizations with women of special vulnerability.*
- *Collaborate in the school environment to favor coeducational models as a way of prevention of violence against women.*

2. Primary and specialized care service.

a. DETECTION

b. ASSESSMENT

- *Address psychosocial aspects in the consultation.*
- *Suspicion indicators.*
- *Identification with specific questions about abuse.*
- *Assessment: biopsychosocial, violence and risk.*

c. INTERVENTION:

- *Information about the problem.*
- *Work in consultation and monitoring.*
- *Registration in the medical history.*
- *Intervention by the T.S. of primary, specialized and hospitable health teams.*
- *Derivation s specialized services if necessary.*
- *Action with children and dependent people if appropriate.*
- *Issue where the part of injuries and corresponding medical report proceed.*

c.1. Woman with the presence of gender violence indicators.

✓ Record in the medical history the suspicion and action carried out including the assessment of vulnerability and risk.

✓ Inform the woman of the assessment made by the professional of the situation in which she is

✓ Work in the consultation - monitoring:

- *Establish a trust relationship*
- *Work with women awareness about abuse relationships and the impact on their health.*

- *Comprehensive/interdisciplinary care of physical/psychic/social problems found.*
- *Plan follow -up visits: accompany women in recognizing the situation of violence and decision making, empathically.*
- *Propose, if the possibility is considered adequate, participation in group interventions (groups of women in the center or in other resources in the area).*
- *If there is a consistent suspicion of gender violence and the situation is valued as a risk for women, you can communicate to the Fiscal Ministry for their investigation.*

c.2. Woman recognized as a victim of gender violence without extreme danger situation.

- ✓ *Record in the medical history, including the assessment of vulnerability and risk.*
- ✓ *Inform the woman of the assessment made by the professional of the situation in which she is.*
- ✓ *Work in the consultation - monitoring:*
 - *Work with women aware of the impact on the health of the abuse relationship that you are living.*
 - *Comprehensive/interdisciplinary care of physical/psychic/social problems found.*
 - *Pose the elaboration of a security strategy in a possible extreme situation.*
 - *Establish a monitoring consultation plan for:*
 - *Pose and favor decision -making to initiate changes in the situation.*
 - *Accompany women in coping with their situation.*
 - *Prevent new situations of violence.*
 - *Offer, if possible, participation in group interventions (groups of women in the center or other resources in the area).*
- ✓ *Derived (if necessary and prior to the consent of the woman):*
 - *To the social work personnel of the health center.*
 - *To the appropriate resources to the situation in which the woman is.*
- ✓ *Issue part of injuries when appropriate.*

✓ *In those cases in which the woman refuses to denounce and the health personnel have found suspicions of the existence of physical or psychic abuse (there is no clear finding of the origin of the injuries to be able to issue the corresponding part of injuries), it is It recommends communicating to the Prosecutor's Office this situation, as established by the legal precept. The Prosecutor's Office will decide based on the indications that can be contributed or expanded, what is the appropriate procedural situation.*

✓ *Acting with sons and daughters and other dependent people if any.*

c.3. Woman recognized as a victim of gender violence in extreme danger.

✓ ***Record in the medical history** the episode and the actions carried out based on the situation of physical or psychic risk, suicide, etc. This registration can serve as evidence in a judicial process.*

✓ ***Know the family situation**, dependent people and the resources you have.*

✓ ***Inform the woman** of the assessment made by the professional of the danger situation in which she is located and consider the possible strategies to follow. Tell him that he is not alone.*

✓ ***Issue the part of injuries and medical report, and send it to the judge immediately (fax, email) delivering a copy to the woman and informing her of her implications.***

✓ ***Urgently derive to social work or support services of 24 hours of social emergencies** for battered women, 112 (emergencies), specific services of their autonomous community or, where appropriate, act following the inter -institutional coordination protocol of the Autonomous community.*

c.4. Recommendations for health action.

• *Record in the medical history the suspicion and the actions carried out. It can serve as an important evidence in a judicial process.*

• *Inform the wife of the health action plan and the possible consequences of the measures to be taken.*

• *Inform you about your rights and resources you can count on.*

• *Do not verify the woman's testimony talking to her aggressor.*

- *Whenever a part of injuries is issued, previously the safety of women must be assessed and take protection measures to minimize the risk.*
- *Always read the woman the part of injuries issued.*
- *Inquire about the possibility of ill-treatment of other family members or close people.*
- *If there are sons or daughters in charge, contact pediatrics to assess the scope of abuse.*
- *It is necessary to take into account the specific difficulties of women in situations of special vulnerability.*
- *Never recommend couple therapy or family mediation.*
- *Maintain close coordination and collaboration with other non -health institutions and services.*
- *It is necessary that health professionals carry out their own processes and the training is also experiential, becoming aware of their own attitudes, stereotypes, personal processes, relationship modes, conflicts and the impact of patriarchal mandates in their lives.*
- *Promote in women their participation in therapeutic and/or personal development groups, both in health centers and in specialized services.*

d. Detection and assessment of minor children of victims of gender violence

Suspicion indicators in the sons and daughters of women in relations of gender violence.

- *Damage or body injuries.*
- *Growth delay, delay or difficulties in any area of development: Psychomotricity, language, low school performance.*
- *Repeat psychosomatic diseases.*
- *Sleep and eating disorders.*
- *Spherical control disorders.*

- *Frequent accidents.*
- *Behavioral disorders.*
- *Difficulties in relationships (violent relationships with their peers, behaviors of inhibition and isolation)*
- *Depression, anxiety.*
- *Suicide attempts, self-harm.*

3. Emergency service:

- a. **Detection:** Attend signs, symptoms and indicators.*
- b. **Assistance:** Physical, psychological and social.*
- c. **Security assessment, both risk and protection.***
- d. **Information and derivation.** According to interterritorial and CCAA protocol and information to primary care.*
- e. **Legal action.** Part of injuries or medical report to the court, always guaranteeing the protection of women.*

4. Action before sexual assaults

4.1. Registration in the medical history

- *It can serve as important evidence in the judicial process.*
- *Transcribe the facts referred to by the patient in relation to aggression (date, place, time, type of sexual assault) and the acts performed after the aggression and before the exploration (personal hygiene, food taking or medication, etc.)*
- *Background of diseases, interventions, medications, associated consumption of alcohol and other drugs, etc.*
- *Background of violence, if any.*
- *Gynecological history: menarche, menstrual cycle, last menstruation date, contraceptive method, last sexual relationship.*

4.2. General exploration

- **Body surface examination:**

- The woman must undress on a white sheet, so that the clothes and remains (earth, hairs, etc.) can be collected.*

- Systematic exploration must begin from top to bottom, in the posture as is completer and more comfortable for women: standing first or recumbent on the stretcher.*

- Describe the type of injury: appearance, shape, color. Detail location and importance of injuries (wounds, bruises, erosions, lacerations), in their case the non-existence of them. If there are convenient, the realization of photographs, after the consent of the woman.*

4.3. Gynecological exploration

- **Gynecological exploration:**

- The vulvo-vaginal inspection will be carried out being the woman on the gynecological stretcher: detail wounds, bruises, bruises, consingning where appropriate, the non-existence of them. In cases of sexual aggressions in women who have not previously had coital relationships, it is of interest to record the possible existence and location of himeneal tears, which show the existence of penetration.*

- Do not use an exploratory material that can be aggressive or harmful without having checked the general status of the victim; since there may be tears or ruptures in vagina, straight or rectavaginal septum. Special care will be taken with the microtrauma that may occur during exploratory maneuvers.*

- Bimanual-Ecographic Touch: It is not systematically advised except painful uterine mobilization with a spleece in vaginal exploration or impossibility of vaginal exploration).*

- **Sampling:**

- Sampling is of vital importance for clarifying the facts and must be done as soon as possible. The woman must go to the health center without washing or changing clothes after the aggression.*

The samples must be thoroughly packaged and labeled, detailing the name of the patient, date and signature of the professional. The different samples will be introduced into an envelope with the name of the woman and aimed at Forensic Medicine of the Court of Guard.

If the formation is not taken by the Forensic doctor, ensure the chain of custody so that the samples obtained have legal value, that is, the person responsible for the taking and the transport of the sample to the medical-formal service of the Court of Guard, they must document their identity documentary, the exact relationship of the samples obtained and sent, being recorded by the person to which the delivery is made in the medical-formal units.

• Legal interest samples:

Semen:

- Vaginal, anal or oral shots with dry and sterile swabs for sperm research and DNA study to proceed to the identification of the aggressor. They will be saved on their covers without including them in any preservative, they will remain refrigerated (4-8°C), and will be labeled. It is recommended to take the shot with at least two swabs.

- Vaginal washing, anal or oral, with 10cc. of sterile physiological serum for the collection of possible semen remains. The washing will be collected in an appropriate sterile tube that can be closed tightly and will be labeled. It will remain refrigerated (4-8°C). The vaginal washing will be subsequent to the samples for the screening of sexually transmitted infections.

- Patient clothes related to the alleged aggression, placing each garment in an independent and labeled bag.

- Swabs shots moistened in physiological serum in the cases of anal or oral aggression, of the corresponding cavities placing the swab in tube, to seal and label.

NAILS:

- Nail cuts (possibility of finding skin of the aggressor), can be done during the general exploration, each nail must be packaged independently indicating in each container to which finger and what hand it corresponds.

Pubian hair:

- Public hairstyle of the attacked woman (possible hair of the aggressor). It can be done by a gynecological brush, before starting gynecological exploration.

Blood (by analytics):

- *Determine blood group and RH of the patient, to contrast the results, rule out that blood groups and DNA belong to the aggressor.*
- *Study of sexually transmitted infections: HIV, Hepatitis B and C, Syphilis.*
- *Toxic test.*

Urine: pregnancy test.

Exudate:

- *Gonorrhea detection, clamidias, monilias and tricomonas.*
- *Cytological smear: it does not contribute anything to the diagnosis of vaginal infections if appropriate crops are made.*

4.4. Attention and monitoring

• *Treatment of physical injuries and psychological sequelae:*

Physical trauma: treat wounds and make their infection prevention and, if necessary, make tetanus prophylaxis.

Psychological trauma: women who have suffered sexual assault have feelings of anxiety, guilt, humiliation, shame, that require help. It is important to derive women preferred to a psychiatry or psychology consultation or psychological care teams to victims of sexual aggressions.

• *Prevention of sexually transmitted infections:*

Preventive treatment for gocococy, clamidia and syphilis in possible incubation should be used.

The need for post-exposure prophylaxis against HIV: the risk of HIV transmission can be raised if the aggressor has HIV infection, suffers from other sexually transmitted infections and the risk is even higher if the rape is multiple or repeated And there was ejaculation. Consider post-exposure prophylaxis against HIV, VHB and HCV in adults and children.

The need for prophylaxis against hepatitis B virus will be valued individually.

- **Pregnancy prophylaxis:**

- In the case in which the woman is using an effective contraceptive method, prophylaxis will not be necessary.*
- Hormonal postcoital contraception, if less than 72h passed from the aggression.*
- If they have passed between 72 h. and less than 5 days of the aggression the previous procedure is not considered effective and must proceed to place a IUD.*
- Confirm the next rule or perform a pregnancy test at 2-3 weeks.*
- Inform the woman who in case of pregnancy can opt for her interruption.*

4.5. Information and derivation

- **Inform the woman about:**

- Sexual aggression is a crime and the woman has the right to denounce it.*
- Analyze with it the repercussions in physical and emotional health.*
- Inform you that the legislation protects your rights and integrity and that if you want you can request a protection order.*
- Inform the network of resources and social devices for the attention to women who suffer gender violence of their CCAA or province.*

- **Derivation:**

- The derivation and coordination with primary care and social work is important, ensuring the psychological, social and legal care of women, according to the organization and resources of their CCAA or province.*

4.6. RECOMMENDATIONS

- *Do not keep sexual relations until next assessment.*
- *Proper monitoring of the entire process of comprehensive care to your health.*

4.7. Notification to the Court

- *Issue the part of injuries and medical report to the Court of Guard. In the medical report the results of all medical tests carried out and recommended in this protocol must be collected.*

5. Health action to sexual aggressors

The intervention and treatment competences of men convicted of gender violence correspond to the Ministry of Interior, through the General Secretariat of Penitentiary Institutions (except in the Autonomous Community of Catalonia), all without prejudice to the programs developed by some communities Autonomous in its territory.

The sanitary actions that proceed from primary care are:

- *Those that have to do with care needs as a user, derived from their health status.*
- *In those cases in which he himself - as patient - will request help to health services to modify his violent behavior, information on the resources and programs available in his autonomous community will be offered. The social work personnel of the health system may offer more detailed and expanded information.*

In the case in which the woman who suffers mistreatment from the health personnel help for her partner or ex -partner, would act as in the previous case offering information about the resources available in this regard in the scope of her autonomous community.

Source: Common protocol for health action against Gender Violence. 2012

TEST

Read carefully the statement of the questions and answer if it is TRUE or FALSE

1. *The immigrant woman has a direct access to health care as soon as she requires it, since our health system is universal.*

TRUE
FALSE

2. The guidelines that govern our health system in terms of gender violence are issued by international, European and national regulations even if we have the competencies transferred to the communities.

TRUE
FALSE

3. The gender perspective in health care does not proceed because this is a matter of the Ministry of Equality.

TRUE
FALSE

4. The psychosocial conditions of immigrant women such as productive and reproductive work, social class, educational level, economic level, previous psychological state, etc., are intensely responsible for their level of health.

TRUE
FALSE

5. The health action in gender violence includes the following areas: prevention, primary and specialized care, urgencies, sexual aggressions and health action with men who exercise violence against women.

TRUE
FALSE

Final Activity

We suggest viewing the interview with Soledad Murillo de la Vega about her perception of the situation of gender violence in the European Union as an authoritative voice on the matter.

Some considerations to take into account in her professional career:

- *2004-2008: She held the first political position on equality in the Government of Spain as General Secretary for Equality Policies of the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs. She is the promoter of Organic Law 1/2004, of December 28, on Comprehensive Protection Measures against Gender Violence and of Organic Law 3/2007, of March 22, for the effective Equality of women and men.*

- *2009 - 2013: United Nations Rapporteur as a member of the United Nations Anti-Discrimination Committee against Women (CEDAW), based in Geneva and New York.*
- *2018 - 2020: Secretary of State for Equality in the Government of Spain PhD in Sociology and Communication; Her work has focused on research in the field of the social promotion of women, from the field of health, employment and participation and Director of the Equality Unit of the same university, where she promoted the Women's Studies Seminar and promoted the first doctorate in Gender. In her research as a sociologist, her work on the analysis of men's and women's time in terms of the tensions generated by reconciling the job market with family life stands out, analyzing why said reconciliation is a feminine and not a masculine problem, and research on associationism in women's organizations.*

Link: pending subtitle