

The National Violence Against Women Network

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Who are we?

- The Improvement Service coordinates the National VAW Network
- The Network aims to improve the capacity and capability of VAW Partnerships to implement the ambitions set out in Equally Safe at a local level and to support partnerships to engage effectively with community planning processes
- Meetings held six times a year and contact maintained through KHub
- Bringing together VAW Partnership coordinators/lead officers and key stakeholders including Scottish Government & COSLA



Why violence against women?

'Gender based violence is a function of gender inequality, and an abuse of male power and privilege. It takes the form of actions that result in physical, sexual and psychological harm or suffering to women and children, or affront to their human dignity, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or private life. It is men who predominantly carry out such violence, and women who are predominantly the victims of such violence. By referring to violence as 'gender based' this definition highlights the need to understand violence within the context of women's and girl's subordinate status in society. Such violence cannot be understood, therefore, in isolation from the norms, social structure and gender roles within the community, which greatly influence women's vulnerability to violence.'

- Scottish Government Definition of Gender Based Violence



59,882 

DOMESTIC ABUSE INCIDENTS WERE RECORDED BY POLICE IN SCOTLAND IN 2014-15. 79% OF ALL SUCH INCIDENTS HAD A FEMALE VICTIM AND MALE PERPETRATOR.

4% OF WOMEN HAVE EXPERIENCED SERIOUS SEXUAL ASSAULT SINCE THE AGE OF 16.



1 IN 5 CHILDREN IN THE UK WILL HAVE EXPERIENCED DOMESTIC ABUSE BY THE TIME THEY REACH 18.

79% 

ACROSS THE UK, 79% OF FORCED MARRIAGE CASES INVOLVED FEMALE VICTIMS.

1 IN 3 GIRLS REPORT SOME FORM OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE IN INTIMATE PARTNER RELATIONSHIPS.

♀ 95%

1,901 RAPES OR ATTEMPTED RAPES WERE RECORDED BY THE POLICE DURING 2014-15. WHERE GENDER KNOWN, 95% HAD A FEMALE VICTIM.

The Links Between VAW & Money Advice

- One of the biggest barriers to women in abusive relationships AND a massive block to women's equality is financial
- Many women fleeing domestic abuse fear they will be left destitute and are unsure where to turn to for advice and assistance, this can be part of the reason that they do not leave
- Women's financial position and opportunities in society are different from men

Opportunities to get more involved

1

- Engage with your local VAW Partnership Coordinator

2

- Join the National VAW Network KHub Group

3

- Tackling VAWG is everyone's business – how can you help?

Thank You

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me:

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Follow us on Twitter: @vawnetwork

