

'Honour' based abuse can take many forms including:

- Emotional abuse
- Physical abuse
- Sexual abuse/Rape
- Family disownment
- Forced marriage
- In some cases even murder/honour-killing, acid attacks, mutilation, imprisonment, death threats
- Abduction/deportation
- Blackmail
- Surveillance
- Harassment
- Forced Abortion

In most 'honour' based abuse cases there are multiple perpetrators from the immediate family, sometimes extended family and occasionally the community at large. In 'honour' based abuse both perpetrators and victims can be male or female.

Specialist Support:

Shakti Women's Aid provides one to one support to Black Minority Ethnic women and children experiencing domestic abuse, honour based abuse, forced marriage and female genital mutilation.

t: Edinburgh main office: 01314 752 399
(Mon to Fri, 9am-5pm)

t: Tayside/Aberdeen: 01382207095
(Mon to Fri, 9am-5pm)

e: info@shaktiedinburgh.co.uk

web: www.shaktiedinburgh.co.uk

Useful Resources:

Hemat Gryffe Women's Aid

web: www.hematgryffe.org.uk/
t: 01413 530 859 (24hr emergency service)

Karma Nirvana: www.karmanirvana.org.uk
UK Helpline: 0800 599 9247 (Mon to Fri, 9am-5pm)

AMINA: mwrc.org.uk
Helpline: 0808 801 0301 (Mon to Fri 10am to 4pm)

Dundee Women's Aid: 01382 207 099
(For safe accommodation)

International Campaign against Honour Killings:
www.stophonourkillings.com

Emergency Housing: The Housing Options Service can be contacted on 01382 432001 or you can call the Homelessness Advice Line: **0800 633 5843**

Covid-19 advice in 37 languages:
www.doctorsoftheworld.org.uk/coronavirus-information/#

Dundee Food Bank: dundee.foodbank.org.uk/
Links to local community supports area available on:
www.dundeehealth.co.uk/content/coronavirus

Financial Advice:

Brooksbank Debt & Benefits Advice Service - All advice is free, impartial and strictly confidential.
t: 01382 432450 **e:** admin@brooksbankcentre.co.uk

Mental Health and Wellbeing:

If someone is struggling with their mental health and wellbeing they can talk to their GP or NHS 24 (111). They could also phone one of the helplines below:
Breathing Space: 0800 83 85 87
Samaritans: 116 123
Childline: 0800 1111

Suicide Help App which can signpost people to useful information: www.suicidehelp.co.uk

SAMH

www.samh.org.uk/about-mental-health/suicide



Honour Based Abuse and COVID-19

Key Messages

www.dundeeprotects.co.uk

'Honour' Based Abuse and COVID-19:

KEY MESSAGES

This quick guidance applies to all victims or potential victims of 'honour' based abuse. Any victims aged less than 18 years of age must be dealt with under multi-agency child protection procedures.

Increased risks during Covid-19 are:

- Similar to domestic abuse victims living with their abusers in the lockdown but 'honour' based abuse victims are often living with multiple perpetrators – their families
- The pandemic and the social restrictions create the perfect environment for perpetrators to have the ultimate control of the victim
- Women/Girls may not have access to phone, laptop or other devices to seek for support/ these devices may also be monitored constantly
- Women/girls might be locked in the house
- Limited access to a range of support due to lockdown
- Women/Girls may not know there is support out there despite lockdown/COVID restrictions:
 - They may be fearful in seeking help from Police not knowing the short term/long term consequences on them and their family members.
 - Women/Girls may not reach out to mainstream services as they may think mainstream services would not understand their experiences and not understand the impact.

What is 'Honour' Based Abuse?

'Honour' based abuse is a form of abuse mainly perpetrated against women and girls, by their family or their community, who act to defend their perceived honour, because they believe that the victim(s) have done something to bring shame to the family or the community.

The concept of 'Honour' can be different from family to family and is like a set of unwritten codes. For some communities the concept of honour is believed to be extremely important. It links the behaviour of women to the welfare of the community and is used to control sexuality. A family's relationship to honour is defined by the male head of that family.

Who could be at risk?

- Anyone who breaches the 'Honour code' of the family
- Sexual orientation not approved in the family
- Having a relationship with someone not approved by family/community
- Dressing against own religion and culture
- Choosing a different way of living
- Building friendship outside the cultural norms

To compromise a family's 'honour' is to bring dishonour and shame and this can have severe consequences.

What you can do to reduce immediate harm

Always remember the 'one chance' rule: you may only have one chance to speak to a potential victim of HBA/forced marriage and, therefore, only one chance to save a life

Police Scotland would encourage victims subjected to HBA to report their concerns immediately and have confidence that their safety will be prioritised.

For non-emergencies and general enquiries, **101** is the number you call if you need to contact the police. Using 101 for situations that do not require an immediate police response. If there are immediate concerns around the safety of a victim please use the **999** emergency number.

- **Scotland's Domestic Abuse and Forced Marriage Helpline** is there to support anyone with experience of domestic abuse or forced marriage, as well as their family members, friends, colleagues and professionals who support them. We provide a confidential, sensitive service to anyone who calls us.
t: **+44 (0) 20 7008 0151**
e: helpline@sdafmh.org.uk
- The **Forced Marriage Unit (FMU)** is a joint Foreign and Commonwealth Office and Home Office unit which leads on the government's forced marriage policy, outreach and casework. The FMU operates a public helpline to provide advice and support to victims of forced marriage as well as to professionals dealing with cases. The assistance provided ranges from safety advice, through to helping a forced marriage victim prevent their unwanted spouse moving to the UK ('reluctant sponsor' cases). In extreme circumstances the FMU will assist with rescues of victims held against their will overseas.
t: **+44 (0) 20 7008 0151**
e: helpline@sdafmh.org.uk