



TANSEEQ

COORDINATION

For Ending Gender Based Violence In Lebanon

Issue 2 / July - December 2010

TANSEEQ IDENTIFIES A NEED AND FILLS IT!

UNFPA, the United Nations Population Fund in Lebanon is pleased to present the second issue of *TANSEEQ for Ending Gender Based Violence (GBV) in Lebanon* newsletter. This newsletter provides a comprehensive snapshot of activities in the area of GBV undertaken during the second half of 2010 in Lebanon. A total of 16 actors in the area of GBV have contributed to the present issue. This issue's special feature is a supplement dedicated to the Middle East's first *White Ribbon Campaign* in Lebanon, conducted during the 16 Days Campaign to End Violence against Women between November 25 and December 10. The various activities implemented during the campaign were carried out by a coalition of national and international non-governmental and governmental actors, lead by KAFA (Enough) Violence and Exploitation.

After the launch of *TANSEEQ* in July 2010, UNFPA tested the first issue among a wide range of contributors and stakeholders. The results were unanimous; all respondents agreed that *TANSEEQ* reached its objective in constituting an effective knowledge sharing tool on GBV in Lebanon. Similarly, all complimented the usefulness of the information provided and the adequacy of its format. According to several respondents, *TANSEEQ* "facilitates stakeholders' access to information, gives more exposure to ongoing programs and projects related to GBV and enhances the partnership and collaboration mechanism between various stakeholders on local and national levels". Suggestions were also provided for further improving its design and layout: these ideas led to a "touched up" issue 2.

As always, UNFPA wishes to thank all partners for their contributions and welcomes further suggestions and comments.

Disclaimer: The views expressed in this publication are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the United Nations Population Fund. The mention or omission of specific actors, their actions or logos does not imply any endorsement or judgment by the United Nations Population Fund.

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FINALIZATION OF 4 NATIONAL STUDIES ON GBV IN LEBANON

In December 2010, and with the support of UNFPA Lebanon, the following four national studies on GBV were finalized: *Situation Analysis of Gender-Based Violence in Lebanon*, by the Centre of Arab Women for Training and Research (CAWTAR); *Assessment of Media Coverage of Gender-Based Violence*, by the Lebanese Council to Resist Violence against Women (LECORVAW); *Review of Gender-based Violence Resource and Training Materials in Lebanon*, by Education for Change (EfC); and *Review of Gender-based Violence Research in Lebanon*, by Education for Change (EfC).

The studies succeeded in identifying gaps and challenges in each of the 4 areas based on field work, consultation with key actors and literature review. A set of practical and pertinent recommendations were developed at policy and programme levels which would require the involvement, contribution and pro-active role of a number of stakeholders. A meeting will take place during the 1st quarter of 2011 to disseminate the findings of the studies and to agree on priority areas and interventions. Executive summaries of the 4 studies will be published and distributed to concerned partners and stakeholders.

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STUDY ON SCHOOL RELATED GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE LAUNCHED

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in Beirut launched a study on school-related gender based violence (GBV) in November 2010. The study seeks to generate knowledge regarding:

- The nature and the extent of school-related GBV;
- The root causes of school related gender based violence and its perpetrators;
- The impact of school gender based violence on students in general and girls in particular, and on their educational choices and achievement;
- The complain avenues and the referral processes in cases of violence.

The findings will be used to inform policy makers in order to address the issue in and through education. The study is funded by the Government of Italy and it is implemented by UNESCO Beirut in collaboration with La Sagesse University within the framework of the project *Supporting Gender Equality in Education in Lebanon* in close collaboration with the Higher Council for Childhood- Ministry of Social Affairs and the Ministry of Education and Higher Education.

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ENGAGING HEALTH CARE IN THE MANAGEMENT OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SURVIVORS

Two researches on the *Knowledge, Beliefs and Attitudes of Medical Students Regarding Domestic Violence* and *Involving Health Care in Domestic Violence: What Women Want* were completed. The first one, funded by the American University of Beirut, revealed that medical students who have witnessed abuse as children have less egalitarian attitudes towards women and are more reluctant to help violence victims. Whereas the findings of the second study, funded by the World Health Organization and conducted in collaboration with KAFA (Enough) Violence and Exploitation, reveal that women welcome the idea of involving the health care sector in addressing abuse and consider it a socially acceptable approach, but wondered about the cost of these services if they are to be implemented. These studies highlight the importance of engaging the health care system in responding to domestic violence.

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WORKING WITH LABOUR INSPECTORS AND TRADE UNIONS TO PROTECT THE RIGHTS OF WOMEN MIGRANT DOMESTIC WORKERS

The International Labour Organization (ILO) has organized two activities promoting the rights of domestic workers in Lebanon. In light of the Ministry of Labour's decree on monitoring Private Placement Agencies, the ILO, jointly with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), conducted a meeting with labour inspectors in September 2010. Among issues noted was the need to have the Ministry of Labour's hotline provide interpretation to respond to calls from women migrant workers. The participating labour inspectors emphasized that women domestic workers need specific labour legislation to end their legal exclusion. Being barred from the right to formally organize in trade unions is another significant impediment for migrant domestic workers from accessing justice. In November 2010, the ILO organized a meeting of trade union representatives from Arab countries to discuss the global standard setting process for Decent Work for Domestic Workers. The workshop provided guidance to the trade unions as to how to respond to the ILO's *Brown* report on domestic workers, and to inform and mobilize future trade union actions.

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NETWORKING FOR ADVOCACY ON PALESTINIAN REFUGEE WOMEN'S RIGHTS AND GBV COUNSELING CENTER SERVICES

As a member of the regional AISHA Arab Women's Forum and the European Feminist Initiative (EFI), Association Najdeh for women's rights, including and Palestinian refugee women, organized a series of Arab-Euro round table discussions addressing *Violence against Women and Security: Engendering Peace in the context of Open Society*. Three round tables were held in Beirut on June 15, September 23 and October 15, 2010. Topics addressed were structural violence against women, secularism and legal rights. An international conference addressing structures of patriarchal violence against women was also held in Beirut on November 23. Association Najdeh also participated in an international conference on the *Application of Women's Human Rights Framework on the issues of Women affected by Conflict* from 15-17 October 2010 in Colombo, Sri Lanka. This was funded by the International Women's Rights Action Watch - Asia Pacific (IWRAW - AP).

Association Najdeh has established since 2003 six GBV counseling centres in Palestinian camps. During the 2nd half of 2010, services included:

- Awareness-raising sessions: from July to October 2010 targeting women and men in local communities whereby 10 interactive awareness-raising sessions were conducted targeting 85 women and men in local communities.
- Counseling services: from July to October 2010, 69 cases were received, 52 of them consisted of new cases and 90 percent were women.
- Referral services: from July to October 2010, 9 cases were referred to mental health and legal specialists.

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INTERACTIVE THEATRE AND DIRECTORY OF LEGAL AND SOCIAL SERVICES IN PALESTINIAN CAMPS AND GATHERINGS

The Palestinian Women's Forum in Lebanon, with the support of the The Office of the Italian Development Cooperation of the Italian Embassy in Beirut, organized an intensive training course on social theatre techniques for preventing violence against women in Shatila camp between July and September 2010. The training was facilitated by Ibrahim Abou Khalil and Karim Dakroub from Act Project, and about 12 Palestinian and Lebanese women and men participated in this event. As a result, and by November 2010, 3 shows were performed in Beqa'a, Beirut and Tyre respectively. The performances attracted a considerable number of viewers, reaching more than 600 persons and including representatives of local communities, Palestinian, Lebanese and international NGOs, as well as local media. Two additional shows will be presented in Saida and Tripoli in 2011. The next phase will consist of organizing a training of trainers.

The Palestinian Women's Forum in Lebanon has also produced and distributed 2,000 copies of English and Arabic directory of Palestinian, Lebanese and international associations providing legal and social services for women survivors of violence in Palestinian camps and gatherings.

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GENDER AWARENESS AND NON-VIOLENCE WORKSHOPS IN PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SCHOOLS

Women's and girls' right to education constitutes an essential contribution to the long-term prevention of violence against women. From this perspective, throughout 2010, and with the financial support of World Young Women Christian Association (YWCA), the National YWCA of Lebanon conducted gender awareness and non-violence workshops in public and private schools to promote tolerance, gender equity and respect for human rights among students of the secondary level. The project is organized in public and private schools through 7 local YWCA branches which are favourably situated in major geographical areas.

The workshops are youth-friendly and provide an empowering space to discuss gender issues and social structures as well as to understand the scope of violence against women and to develop means of intervention. The main objective is to create awareness about women's human rights and how social structures are gendered and thus affecting the fulfilment of equality between men and women. This reinforces the leadership potential of young women and men and enables them to positively impact their environment.

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IMPROVING UNDERSTANDING AND KNOWLEDGE OF THE VARIOUS FORMS OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

With the support of the European Commission, the regional programme *Enhancing Equality between Men and Women in the EuroMed Region* was developed within the framework of the Istanbul Ministerial Conclusions (May 2008 - May 2011). It encompasses 9 countries as beneficiaries, including Lebanon. The programme has 3 specific purposes:

- Purpose 1: Support and reinforce current dynamics that favour both de jure and de facto gender equality.
- Purpose 2: Improve understanding and knowledge of the various forms of violence against women.
- Purpose 3: Ensure that the Istanbul Ministerial Conclusions on *Strengthening the Role of Women in Society* are being followed up.

As a part of its activities, *EuroMed Gender Equality Programme* is currently conducting a research on the state of play of GBV in the Mediterranean which will be produced in 2011. This regional report will present a number of positive experiences, good practices and lessons learnt from Northern and Southern EuroMed countries for combating GBV.

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SHEDDING LIGHT ON MIGRANTS' RIGHTS

Lebanon hosts more than 120,000 migrant women who came as domestic workers, in the hope of improving the lives of their respective families. Most of them come from South Asia and Africa. Far from their relatives and country of origin, these women are particularly vulnerable and some suffer from abuses and violations of their rights by unscrupulous employers. Since 2003, Caritas Lebanon Migrant Center (CLMC), with the main support of the US Department of State- Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons (G/TIP), has been providing trafficking survivors as well as migrant workers with direct aid, such as social, legal and medical assistance and shelter. In parallel, with the support of the European Union, CLMC conducted awareness raising sessions with the Lebanese public. On November 24, on the occasion of the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, CLMC organized an event to *Shed Light on Migrants' Rights* including a theatre play, a documentary and a rap song, created by trainees sensitized to the importance of respecting all women's rights and willing to spread it.

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ENDING VIOLENCE THROUGH REFUGEE COMMUNITIES

UNHCR and its partners place special attention to address sexual and gender based violence (SGBV) among non-Palestinian refugees in Lebanon. In 2010, refugee men and women were mobilized to identify persons-at-risk within their communities and to refer them to available services.

Efforts were also made in the second half of 2010 to enhance data collection and reporting, while reinforcing confidentiality and respect. In comparison to 2009, 60% more domestic violence cases were reported by the end of 2010. However, women and girls continue to face challenges that place them at increased risk. These include their inability to access legal remedies and formal work, as well as complex civil status laws related to divorce and custody.

On another note, UNHCR, NGO partners and refugees have taken advantage of the 16 Days of Activism against GBV this year by launching a series of activities that include developing a 2011 strategy with Oxfam-UK on working with men and boys and building the capacity of refugee SGBV support groups

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CELEBRATING THE 10th ANNIVERSARY OF UN SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 1325 ON WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY

United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1325 on *Women, Peace and Security* was issued in 2000 to enable women to contribute to all stages of peace-building, peacemaking, peacekeeping, conflict prevention and conflict resolution. The UN organized *Open Days* in conflict-affected areas all over the world to enable direct dialogue between women organizations, women community leaders, and senior UN representation at country levels. The purpose was to seek women's views on means of improving the full implementation of the resolution as well as to the strengthening the local and national ownership of the resolution.

Lebanon chose August 2nd, 2010 to observe the 10th anniversary of this landmark resolution by holding its *Open Day on Women, Peace and Security* under the leadership of UNIFIL and the UN Resident Coordinator's sub-office in the South. The *Open Day* provided an opportunity for women of South Lebanon to highlight the most pressing needs in their communities and to reflect upon progress and challenges to the full implementation of UNSCR 1325. This was the first time these women groups had the opportunity to articulate their vision for peace and security to the United Nations senior leadership, who responded with concrete context-specific commitments.

In addition, UNIFIL Gender Unit hosted the art exhibition of Kafa (Enough) Violence and Exploitation on Violence against Women and has witnessed the 16 Days of Activism Event in its premises by creating awareness on GBV within the UNIFIL staff through broadcasted messages in collaboration with other units mainly HIV and Civil Military Coordination.

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FINALIZATION OF THE GUIDE FOR WORKING IN WOMEN PRISONS IN LEBANON

In 2010, the Institute for Women's Studies in the Arab World (IWSAW) at the Lebanese American University completed the *Guide for Working in Women Prisons in Lebanon*, with the support of UNFPA, the United Nations Population Fund.

This guide consists of two major sections. The first section includes information on the following: international conventions on the rights of prisoners; criminal prosecution, criminal law, and rights of women prisoners in Lebanon; the Lebanese prison law (Decree No./14 310); a survey of the reality of prisons and prisoners in the Arab countries, as well as findings of the two studies undertaken by IWSAW in 1999 and 2010 to shed light on conditions of women's prisons in all 4 women prisons in Lebanon (Barbar Khazen, Baabda, Tripoli, and Zahle) concerning women and criminality in Lebanon. The second section of the guide includes practical guidelines and tips to work in women's prisons in Lebanon, particularly: the stages of preparation for the implementation of a project; best practices to address the needs of inmates at the social, psychological, health, and legal levels; as well as tips to reach the best possible outcomes when it comes to helping inmates to learn and/or develop income generating skills and achieve social integration once they are acquitted.

The guide will benefit to a wide array of parties, mainly: local civil society (especially social workers) and international bodies dealing with the affairs of prisons in Lebanon; religious institutions; officials in charge of prison management; decision-makers regarding prisons.

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CINEMA ARENA – AN INSIDE LOOK – VOICES FROM BEHIND BARS PROJECT

Men and women inmates face a lot of problems inside Lebanese prisons, mainly the unsuitability of prison infrastructure with international standards, and the lack of integrated services which hinders their social integration during their stay in prison and after their release. This situation undoubtedly leads to a rise in violent practices among prison inmates towards themselves and others during their incarceration and after their release, which makes it harder for them to re-assimilate into society and find job opportunities.

Therefore, the Ministry of Social Affairs, in partnership with the Ministry of Interior and Municipalities – Directorate General of Internal Security Forces – and a number of non-governmental organizations, sought to implement the *Cinema Arena* project in Lebanese prisons while paying special attention to women prisons, considering that this project will work towards emphasizing invisible and neglected entities in Lebanon, i.e. prisons.

Cinema Arena 2009-2010 implemented several artistic, educational, and psychosocial activities and attempted to develop a spirit of creativity and innovation among men and women inmates in prisons. It also aimed to encourage them to express their opinions and ideas and transfer them afterwards to the outside world where they belong.

Cinema Arena 2009-2010 – An Inside Look – Voices from Behind Bars is a development project which offers to develop the capacities of Lebanese prison inmates, by:

- Organizing psychosocial, educational, and artistic activities to create a space for prison inmates to express themselves on the one hand and enhance their capacities to resolve conflicts in a sound manner on the other.
- Rehabilitating and equipping the infrastructure of some damaged prisons.
- Providing training opportunities on basic human rights of prison inmates for Internal Security Forces personnel.
- Enhancing coordination mechanisms between Lebanese central and local authorities to improve the quality of basic services provided to prison inmates during their incarceration and after their release, mainly psychological, physical and awareness-raising services.

In fact, the Social Development Centers of the Ministry of Social Affairs will seek to implement a series of awareness-raising activities concerning gender based violence (GBV) and reproductive health in 13 prisons targeted through the project, where it held awareness-raising seminars with inmates in general and women inmates in particular on issues related to GBV and reproductive health in order to promote awareness about the forms and effects of GBV, especially among this marginalized group.

This project seeks to find a connection between prisons, men and women inmates, Internal Security Forces personnel and the families of the inmates.

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EXPANDING THE SERVICES OF KAFA (ENOUGH) VIOLENCE AND EXPLOITATION

KAFA (Enough) Violence and Exploitation launched in 2010 the *Stop the Exploitation of Women Migrant Domestic Workers* project which aims at building public support against the exploitation of women migrant workers in Lebanon. In this regard, the tasks of the Listening and Counseling Center in KAFA have widened to include women migrant workers who have fallen victim to sexual and physical violence.

The project included the preparation of a study entitled *Servant, Daughter or Employee? A Pilot Study on the Attitudes of Lebanese Employers towards Women Migrant Domestic Workers* which came to the conclusion that the legal framework protects employers even if they mistreat workers. KAFA also published two issues of a newsletter for women migrant workers in their mother tongue that included testimonies from women domestic workers in Lebanon, a copy of the unified work contract and a manual of services and organizations available in Lebanon. *Hotline of the Listening and Counseling Center (24/7): 03/018019*

In another respect, and as part of a unique initiative, KAFA (Enough) Violence and Exploitation in partnership with the International Medical Corps opened in the second half of 2010 a clinic specialized in providing psychotherapeutic services to men based on the principles of confidentiality and self-autonomy. This clinic constitutes a safe space that provides any man with the opportunity to speak about his current situation and identify methods to confront his difficult social conditions. It also offers him the means to manage psychological pressure which constitutes a primary factor in the aggravation of the phenomenon of domestic violence, while presenting him with the opportunity to work on changing his communication pattern with his family in order to regain his status as a source of security for his wife and family. The services of this clinic are almost free of charge and basically aim at improving the quality of life of these men and those around them. *Clinic phone number (24/7): 03/010188*

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THE LEBANESE WOMEN DEMOCRATIC GATHERING'S RESISTING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN PROGRAM

The GBV project is an integral part of the Lebanese Women Democratic Gathering's goals to eliminate all forms of discrimination and violence against women in order to ensure the advancement of women and achieve effective gender equality. The Gathering was active in all its branches in resisting violence against women through psychological support and legal guidance in its Listening Centers. The number of those benefiting from the services of this program, including psychological support, empowerment, follow-up and accompaniment to court, has reached 162 battered women. Additionally, through this program, a particular emphasis was placed on the phenomenon of violence - which constitutes a social lesion - by way of raising awareness, sensitizing public opinion and spreading the culture of equality in order to reject that of violence in the private and public sectors and as such, 26 sensitization meetings were organized in all Lebanese regions. The Gathering also initiated the elaboration of a guidance manual on spreading awareness to fight violence against women in order to assist Civil Society Organizations enhance their staff capacities to develop their work in the field of resisting gender based violence.

Moreover, the Lebanese Women Democratic Gathering coordinated with national active entities in the field of resisting violence and organizations that support this cause, through the participation in media campaigns and lobbying activities to ratify the draft law on the protection of women from domestic violence, within the National Coalition for Legislating the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence.

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HONORING ARTISTS FOR PROMOTING ISSUES ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

In accordance with the goals of the Lebanese Council to Resist Violence against Women which are focused on shedding the light about the problematic of violence against women, a constant taboo, and with the hopes of finding a social and legal/rights structure that could provide protection to any woman subjected to gender based violence and giving this issue the human dimension it so rightly deserves, the Council is seeking to receive battered women and provide them with guidance and follow-up on an individual, family, health, psychological, and legal levels through the listening and counseling program.

More so and based on the Council's belief that the process of change requires the targeting of mentality through interventions on the individual and community levels, the Council will focus on audio-visual and print media at the local and regional levels to sensitize the public opinion through preventive-therapeutic programs that fall within the framework of active psychodrama, given its direct positive repercussion on the society as a whole.

In order to accomplish the latter goal, the Council honored four creative pioneer writers active supporters of women's issues, especially on violence against women in Lebanon: Ms. Claudia Marchalian, Ms. Mona Tayi, Mr. Marwan Najjar, and Mr. Choukri Anis Fakhoury; in addition to a number of actors and actresses who participated in relevant TV shows, on Friday, July 2, 2010 at the Quality Inn Hotel in Tripoli in North Lebanon which lacks a supportive media movement for similar causes. This tribute aims to promote debating, addressing and dealing with violence against women in future productions.

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WOMEN ON THE ROAD TO SOCIAL REINTEGRATION

Mouvement Social has been working alongside women prisoners since 1998, within the framework of the *Rehabilitation and Social Follow-Up* program implemented in Barbar Khazen prison. Through this program, the organization aims at developing women's skills and building their capacities to enable their integration into society upon their release from prison. For this purpose, Mouvement Social has organized a vocational training session for women on the use of computers at the beginning of July 2010 and for a period of three months. At the end of this training session, a graduation ceremony was held inside the prison and certificates were distributed to women prisoners, in the presence of representatives from the Ministry of Interior; the prison administration and Mouvement Social.

Given that awareness is an integral part of social rehabilitation and follow-up, social workers designed awareness-raising and sensitization seminars for women prisoners on *Women's Rights and the Need to Refuse all Forms of Violence*. The final reward remains for the women who express in each session their joy for receiving the first certificate in their lives; a credit they have never received before. It is also worth mentioning that Mouvement Social started in October 2010 to implement a new training session in women's hairdressing.

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FIRST WHITE RIBBON CAMPAIGN IN THE MIDDLE EAST

MEN STANDING TO ENDORSE FAMILY VIOLENCE LAW IN LEBANON

16 Days of Activism against Violence against Women 2010

Every year, KAFA (Enough) Violence and Exploitation celebrates the *16 Days of Activism against Violence against Women* in Lebanon, between November 25 and December 10. This year, KAFA (Enough) Violence and Exploitation joined on November 25 over 55 countries around the world by organizing the first *White Ribbon Campaign* in the Middle East. The campaign was implemented in partnership with Oxfam Great Britain, the Lebanese Ministry of Social Affairs, the National Coalition for Legalizing the Protection of Women from Family Violence and, with the support of UNFPA Lebanon, UNIFEM Jordan, OHCHR, UN Trust Fund, International Medical Corps, Kvinna Till Kvinna, the Italian Embassy in Beirut, the Australian Embassy in Lebanon.

This campaign was the largest and most important one in the history of KAFA (Enough) Violence and Exploitation since its establishment in 2005. A series of activities were held all over the Lebanese regions in partnership with the Social Development Centers of the Ministry of Social Affairs and members of the National Coalition for Legalizing the Protection of Women from Family Violence, as well as various public and private universities and NGOs.



CAMPAIGN'S ACTIVITIES AND MILESTONES

I. LAUNCHING OF ABOUT LATIFA AND OTHERS DOCUMENTARY FILM

KAFA (Enough) Violence and Exploitation has launched the *16 Days of Activism against Violence against Women* on November 25, at Babel Theatre through the broadcasting of the TV documentary entitled *About Latifa and Others* produced and directed by the journalist Diana Mokalled in presence of more than 300 persons. The documentary highlights the problematic of femicide in Lebanon and will be used as a tool in advocating for the law.

II. MEDIA CAMPAIGN

Being the first *White Ribbon Campaign* in the Middle East, an effective media campaign strategy was developed in order to reach different Lebanese regions and audiences. Between November 25 and December 10, the campaign consisted of the following:

- Billboards: 470 billboards highlighted the message of the *White Ribbon Campaign*: "Raise your hand...against Violence - 128 hands raised in the parliament for endorsing the family violence law". This message was used as a standardized slogan. The billboards were located in different Lebanese regions, and were displayed over a one week period (November 26- December 2).
- Unipoles: Strategic locations were identified on exits from the capital Beirut City where 7 unipoles were displayed over one month period, from December 1 till January 1. The unipoles projected the same slogan as the one used in the billboards.
- Rolling trucks: Over the campaign's period, advertising rolling trucks with the campaign's visuals toured the different Lebanese regions.
- TV advertisement and radio spot: All local TVs and Radio Stations aired an advertisement calling for the endorsement of the Lebanese law for protecting women from family violence.
- Two songs: Ms. Monita Youssef wrote, composed, and performed two songs concerning the engagement of men and boys in ending violence against women, and the proper legislation for the protection of women from family violence in Lebanon. The 2 songs were also aired on various local radio stations.
- Flyers and posters: More than 70,000 flyers and posters were distributed in all Lebanese regions during the *16 Days of Activism against Violence against Women* highlighting the message and slogan used in the billboards and unipoles.

'Hand in Hand against Violence', the 16 Days of Activism against violence against Women campaign has proven its success with the collection of more than 2,000 signatures in support of the law for protection of women from family violence. Through various activities, the organizers and implementing partners were able to reach more than 68,000 people across the country.

- Pit-stops: More than 80 pit-stops were organized for a 5 days' period all over the country and in all refugees' camps in partnership with the National Coalition's members, Ministry of Social Affairs' Social Development Centers and with Palestinian NGOs. Flyers inviting for closure ceremony along with white ribbons were distributed to the public.
- Hosting by talk shows: Kafa (Enough) Violence and Exploitation has succeeded to enlarge its audience and advertise its campaign on local and Arab TV channels as well as radio stations such as Future TV, LBCI, OTV, Al Hurra TV, Al Aan TV, Radio Orient, Voice of Lebanon, Al Shark radio station, Voice of Lebanon, and others.

III. AWARENESS SESSIONS

More than 60 awareness sessions in different regions advocating for the endorsement of the law for protecting women from family violence were organized in partnership with the Coalition members and the Ministry of Social Affairs' Social Development Centers, universities and Palestinian NGOs.

IV. LAUNCHING OF THE CAMPAIGN IN AIN HELWEH REFUGEE CAMP

The launch of the campaign in Ain Helweh refugee camp took place on December 6 in Saida, in partnership with the Palestinian Women union, the Italian Cooperation and in collaboration with the Palestinian Embassy, UNRWA, and participation from Palestinian NGOs and Popular Committees. More than 400 persons attended the launching event through the inauguration of the *Behind the Doors* exhibition and presentation of a folkloric scene on violence against women and the role of men in ending violence against women. Flyers, pins, and scarves were distributed to all participants.

V. WHITE RIBBON CAMPAIGN IN UNIVERSITIES

KAFA (Enough) Violence and Exploitation organized the *White Ribbon Campaign* at 4 Lebanese universities: Lebanese American University, American University of Beirut, University of Balamand and Haigazian University, from December 6 till December 9.

- At Haigazian University young men and women united to take a stand to end violence against women. Stands informing students of KAFA (Enough) Violence and Exploitation's mission of gender equality and ending violence against women were set up on campus, as well a visual statement by the students about the solidarity of men and women to this cause with a human White Ribbon. Over 100 men and women from Haigazian University signed a petition to support the Lebanese law for protecting women from family violence.
- The Faculty of Health Sciences of University of Balamand supported the *White Ribbon Campaign* by organizing a competition in honor of men and women united to end violence against women. Students competed in sports and fun games. Over 210 men and women signed the petition to advocate for the Lebanese law for protecting women from family violence.
- The Lebanese American University (LAU) *White Ribbon Campaign* was a compilation of a number of different and innovative activities organized in partnership with the Institute for Women's Studies in the Arab World: A tree with messages calling for positive masculinity such as "real men respect women"- "Real men call for endorsement for the protection of women from family violence"...etc) was decorated with white ribbons; a video tent was set up on campus where students viewed former advertisements by KAFA (Enough) Violence and Exploitation, advertisements for the *White Ribbon Campaign* from other

countries, and the new KAFA (Enough) Violence and Exploitation documentary *About Latifa & Others*. A human chain connected by white ribbons was constructed and extended from the upper campus of LAU to the lower one. In addition, information stands were available on campus for students to learn more about the initiative, and to sign the petition to advocate for the Lebanese law for protecting women from family violence. In total, over 220 young men and women from LAU signed the petition and took a stance to end violence against women. A pioneer study by Oxfam Great Britain and KAFA (Enough) Violence and Exploitation entitled *The Effects of Socialization on Gender Discrimination and Violence Case Study: Lebanon* was also launched.

- At the American University of Beirut (AUB), a two-on-two basketball tournament (one male and one female per team) was organized to demonstrate the success of men and women partnership initiatives when there is mutual respect and communication. At the end of the day, over 260 young men and women from AUB signed the petition, speaking up against domestic violence in their country.

VI. CLOSING CEREMONY AND HUMAN CHAIN

The closure event of the campaign took place on December 10 at the UNESCO Palace, under the High Patronage of His Excellency Prime Minister Saad Hariri, and with the presence from the Bahrain Men Network as guests of honor.

Hundreds of people and activists stood shoulder to shoulder near the UNESCO Palace, and composed a human chain to convey the message: "Men and Women Standing Hand in Hand against Domestic Violence".

The human chain was followed by the closure ceremony with the presence of more than 1100 participants where the First National Men Forum from Lebanese ministers and deputies was launched.

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