



**“Preventing Honour Related Violence by education and dialogue through Immigrant NGOs”**

REF: JUST/2013/DAP/AG/5823

**NAME OF METHODOLOGICAL TOOL**

**CNN documentary on honour killing**

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**NAME OF PARTNER ORGANISATION: Folkuniversitetet**

**COUNTRY: Sweden**

**LANGUAGE: EN**



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## INTRODUCTION

An honour killing is a murder of a person accused of bringing shame or dishonour to her family. The concept of dishonour is very vague and can include anything from refusing to enter an arranged marriage or being in a relationship which is disapproved by the family to becoming victim of rape. The statistics of honour killing is very dark as many of the cases are not reported as homicide. The honour killings happen all over the world.

This documentary reveals the situation with honour killing in Palestine. The questions are the discrepancy between the laws and practice especially in extreme situations of war and conflict. What comes first - law or practice?

## DESCRIPTION AND IMPLEMENTATION

### **Main aim**

The main aim of the discussions around the proposed documentary is to see the discrepancy between the laws and practice. Even if the laws protect the victims, in practice there is always a way to go around the law, especially in conflict zones.

The recommended methodology for discussion is especially relevant for the following reasons:

- It shows the real situation and real women who become the victims of honour crimes in Palestine.
- In the discussion participants can reflect on the situation presented in documentary and apply it for Western Europe with focus on similarities and differences. The role of the facilitator is to lead the group in order to brainstorm issues by themselves.
- To create practical solutions for preventive measures through NGO cooperation with the governments.

### **Expected results**

- ✓ Reflecting on discrepancy between laws and practices.
- ✓ Reflecting on the role of the governments in preventing honour crimes.
- ✓ Reflecting on the role of ethnic minority NGOs in preventing honour crimes.

### **Implementation steps**

1. Select the facilitator to lead the discussion.
2. Start the discussion by showing the following video on honour killings in Palestine.

Video: Girl thrown down well in honour killing

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lrT48j1nCqA>

3. Start the focus group discussion:

- *Obtain verbal consent with participants*  
Read the verbal consent script. Make sure participants understand their rights, and ensure them that their identities will not be revealed in any publications/reports.
- *Establish rapport*  
Often participants do not know what to expect from focus group discussions. It is helpful for the facilitator to outline the purpose and format of the discussion at the beginning of the session and set the group at ease. Participants should be told that the discussion is informal, everyone is expected to participate, and divergent views are welcome.
- *Follow the steps of the plan you established at the beginning regarding topics and content of each session*  
The plan which the facilitator sets up in advance shall be a sort of a framework for the facilitator to explore, probe, and ask questions. Initiating each topic with a carefully crafted question will help participants share their experiences but in a focused and meaningful manner. Moreover, using a plan increases the comprehensiveness of the data. If participants give incomplete or irrelevant answers, the facilitator can probe for fuller, clearer responses. A few suggested techniques are:
  - ✓ Repeat the question – repetition gives more time to think.
  - ✓ Pause for the answer – a thoughtful nod or expectant look can convey that you want a fuller answer.
  - ✓ Repeat the reply – hearing it again sometimes stimulates conversation.
  - ✓ Ask when, what, where, which, and how questions – they provoke more detailed information.
  - ✓ Use neutral comments like “Anything else?”
- *Revise Focus Group Questions*  
You have to revise a question or two in order to enhancing the cultural sensitivity or responsiveness of the initially established Plan. It is of a help to check on the revised question with the group involved in establishing of the initial plan. Also, please be aware that certain types of questions impede group discussions. For example, yes-or-no questions are one-dimensional and do not stimulate discussion. “Why” questions put people on the defensive and cause them to take “politically correct” sides on controversial issues.
- *Other Tips for Guiding the Discussion*  
In focus groups, it is not uncommon for a few individuals to dominate the discussion. Your task is to balance participation, and ensure that every participant has an opportunity to contribute to the discussion. You might need the following strategies for this:
  - ✓ Address questions to individuals who are reluctant to talk.

- ✓ Give nonverbal cues (look in another direction or stop taking notes when an individual talks for an extended period).
- ✓ Intervene, politely summarize the point, and then refocus the discussion.
- ✓ Minimize Pressure to Conform to a Dominant View Point. When an idea is being adopted without any general discussion or disagreement, more than likely group pressure to conform to a dominant viewpoint has occurred. To minimize this group dynamic, the facilitator should probe for alternative views. For example, the facilitator can raise another issue, or say, “We have had an interesting discussion, but let’s explore other ideas or points of view. Has anyone had a different experience that they wish to share?”

4. After the discussion, explain the idea of the exercise and the way people reacted: such decisions are based on the values found in the submerged part of the iceberg, most of which are unconscious values.

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

#### Suggested questions for the discussion

- ✚ What does the law in Palestine say about honour killing? What is the situation in reality?
- ✚ What does the law say about honour killing in your country? What is the situation in reality?
- ✚ What can the government, police, social services do in practice to follow the law?
- ✚ How can NGOs support the law via community work? Give 5 practical suggestions.

#### Materials required

- The hand-outs of the book in paper or electronic format.
- A list of questions for the discussion.

#### Duration / Processing time

- It is recommended to organise 2 sessions in a row, 40 minutes per session with 10 minutes break.