
**VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN WORKING GROUP and E-NETWORK
NEWS UPDATE – 19 June 2008**

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News, legislation and policy update

Domestic violence, forced marriage and “honour”-based violence: Home Affairs Select Committee Report

“Desperate” shortages of refuge places and perpetrator programmes must be urgently addressed.

The Home Affairs Committee calls on the Government to implement a national strategy to ensure that there is better education and early intervention to prevent domestic violence - including so called “honour”-based violence and forced marriage. Although the Committee acknowledges that significant steps have been taken to tackle such violence over the last few years, it says the Government’s approach to all forms of domestic violence remains disproportionately focused on criminal justice responses at the expense of effective prevention and early intervention.

Press release, Report AND Evidence submitted:

http://www.parliament.uk/parliamentary_committees/home_affairs_committee/hacpn080611no45.cfm

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200708/cmselect/cmhaff/263/263i.pdf>
<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200708/cmselect/cmhaff/263/263ii.pdf>

Euro 08 campaign against Trafficking in Women

This is an initiative launched by more than 25 women’s and men’s organisations, Human Rights organisations, gender equality offices, counselling centres, faith organisations and trade unions. The campaign aims not only to raise awareness on the trafficking of women in Switzerland but also to mobilise its population on this very serious form of Human Rights violation.

<http://www.frauenhandeleuro08.ch/en/home/>

House of Lords debate –Rape Crisis Centres

<http://www.theyworkforyou.com/lords/?id=2008-06-03a.71.0&s=rape+crisis+centres>

UPDATE from OBJECT:

Bill passes unopposed and government announces consultation with local councils over the bill's proposal

Roberta Blackman-Woods' Ten-Minute Rule Bill to licence lap dance clubs as Sex Encounter Establishments passed unopposed to a second reading (for more information about Ten-Minute Rule Bill's click [here](#)). Read her House of Commons speech [here](#). Watch a clip of the Object 'stripclub café' protest [here](#).

The Government also announced it was writing to all local authorities to gauge their opinion on the proposal to licence lap dance clubs as Sex Encounter Establishments.

The campaign is supported by a growing number of councils and also by their representative body, the Local Government Association. However, given the Government's announcement it is important that the campaign's proposal filters through to all councils. For this reason Object is organising a **DAY OF ACTION** on Saturday July 5th.

For further details see <http://www.object.org.uk>

Home Office Race, Disability and Gender Equality Scheme

The Home Office has published plans explaining how it will meet statutory duties to promote equality, bringing together the department's race, disability and gender equality schemes. The scheme is made up of:

- an over-arching scheme that sets out the principles and practices that apply throughout the Home Office group
- separate individual schemes for each part of the Home Office group

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/documents/ho-equality-scheme-0507/>

Women's National Commission update

WNC has published the following documents which are now available on the WNC website:

WNC Newsletter June 2008

http://www.thewnc.org.uk/pubs/wnc_newsletter_june_2008.pdf

Report from the Consultation on the Priorities for the Ministers for Women

http://www.thewnc.org.uk/pubs/mfw_priorities_consultation_report.pdf

UK Shadow CEDAW Report,

This Shadow Report will inform the examination of the UK Government's 6th Periodic Report to the committee of the United Nations 'Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women' (CEDAW), which takes place on the 10 July 2008 at the 41st CEDAW Session, held in New York from 30 June – 18 July 2008.

http://www.thewnc.org.uk/pubs/uk_cedaw_shadow_report.pdf

Consultations

The EHRC Human Rights Inquiry Team has sent around a reminder that the Human Rights Inquiry Call for Evidence deadline is **Saturday 21st June 2008**. The Call for Evidence response forms, which can take as little as 15 minutes to complete, are available at:

<http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/projects/humanrightsinquiry/pages/feedbackforms.aspx>

Publications and resources

Good Practices in Legislation on Violence Against Women: UN Expert Group

The United Nations Division for the Advancement of Women of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDAW/DESA) and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) convened an expert group meeting on good practices and lessons learned in regard to legislation on violence against women, which was held at the United Nations at Vienna, from 26 to 28 May 2008.

Background papers, 'Expert Papers' and presentations are available at:

http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/egm/vaw_legislation_2008/vaw_legislation_2008.htm

Resource for anti-pornography activists

Stop Porn Culture, a new feminist anti-pornography movement, has just launched a website (see below) with lots of on-line resources, as well as a streaming video of the slide show, co-written by Gail Dines, Rebecca Whisnant and Robert Jensen. The site was designed to provide information and tools for activists/academics/anti-violence organisers.

To visit the website go to <http://stoppornculture.org/home.html>

Ministry of Justice: Forced Marriage (Civil Protection) Act update

Ministry of Justice sent this update to everyone who has responded to the consultations so far. If you would like to receive this directly, please e-mail

forced.marriages@hmcourts-service.gsi.gov.uk



MOJ Forced Marriage
Act Newsletter - June

Conferences, training and events

FGM National Clinical Group: Female Genital Mutilation Conference

25th September 2008 The Liner, Lord Nelson St, Liverpool L3 5QB by Lime St Station



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For further information about the FGM National Clinical Group:

www.fgmnationalgroup.org

Churches' Network for Non-violence Multi Faith Reference Group

“Growing Up Without Violence—Eliminating Corporal Punishment of Children”:

July 9th 2008

At: The Abbey Centre, Westminster, London

The conference is free of charge – lunch and refreshments provided – Places will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

Chair: Dame Mary Marsh, Chief Executive, NSPCC; Co-Chaired by Young Campaigners

Keynote speakers:

- Dr Ghayasuddin Siddiqui, Director Muslim Institute, “The religious imperative to end violence against children- the role of religious leaders and communities”.
- Jay Lakhani, Hindu Council of GB, “Eliminating corporal punishment – transforming children's lives”.
- Revd Dr David Cornick, General Secretary Churches Together in England – “Working together to achieve our aims”.
- Peter Newell, Coordinator Global Initiative to End All Corporal Punishment of Children
- Actions of religious groups around the world towards ending corporal punishment of children

Please find attached to book a place



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Eaves: Conference on group rape Thursday, 20 November 2008

Group rape and other forms of sexual assault involving multiple perpetrators are controversial and seldom spoken of. Yet anecdotal evidence suggests that such assaults are far from unknown in some neighbourhoods.

Often characterised by the very young age of both attackers and victims and the fact that they may well know each other, it is one of the most extreme demonstrations of a breakdown in social cohesion.

Measures to combat knife and gun crime are being implemented. The time has now come for professionals working with marginalised young people to address this issue, which at worst sees girls who have been raped sharing a classroom with their attackers, and too afraid to seek help.

This conference, hosted by Eaves in conjunction with Central Conference Consultants, aims to open a dialogue between professionals on multi-perpetrator sexual assault, and to provide information and contacts which will help professionals take the initiative in their area.

Venue: Inmarsat, Central London

Further details of the conference will be available shortly – keep checking www.ccclimited.org.uk

To ensure that you receive a priority programme contact Central Conference Consultants Ltd on 0115 916 3104 or email ccclimited@aol.com

Jobs, research, tenders

The Equality and Diversity Forum (EDF) is looking for a Chief Executive who, working with EDF members and Trustees, can consolidate and build on the Forum's success: extend EDF's networks, enhance EDF's influence and strengthen the governance and resource base of the organisation to ensure its long term future.

The closing date for applications is **12 noon on Friday 4 July.**

Please see the weblink below for the following details:

- Advertisement
- Covering letter
- Equality and Diversity Forum overview
- Candidate Brief
- Job description and person specification
- Monitoring form
- Guaranteed interview scheme form

<http://www.edf.org.uk/newsletter.php?action=fullnews&id=1027>

WOMANKIND Worldwide - HEAD OF PROGRAMMES

WOMANKIND Worldwide is a leading international women's human rights and development organisation.

Head of Programmes (REF: HOPR)

WOMANKIND is recruiting for a newly created Head of Programmes position. As well as being a member of the Senior Management Team, this position will be responsible for the strategic development of all our programme activities to ensure ever greater focus, effectiveness and impact in our programmes. Knowledge of women's human rights and/or gender and development is essential and the ideal candidate will have experience of managing a diverse portfolio of partner organisations.

Starting salary: £40,510 plus 7% employer's pension contribution.

Closing date for applications: 9.00 am Tuesday 8th July. Dates for interviews: 17th & 18th July 2008. Dates for second interviews: 22nd July 2008 For an application pack please download from our website at www.womankind.org.uk or email recruitment@womankind.org.uk.

WOMANKIND Worldwide welcomes all applicants and values diversity and we are committed to being an equal opportunities employer.

WOMANKIND WORLDWIDE, Development House, 56 – 64 Leonard Street, London, EC2A 4LT
Charity Reg. No. 328206

TENDER – Recruiting for a new Director

Tender aims to enable young people under the age of 25 to develop positive attitudes towards relationships in order to challenge anti-social behaviour and prevent intimate violence. Related to this we intend to equip adults with the skills and resources they need to promote healthy relationships amongst young people.

Tender is looking for a new Director to lead the organisation. The new Director will develop and implement Tender's growth strategy and manage its portfolio of youth centred campaigns and educational arts projects. For a complete job description, go to www.tender.org.uk

Closing date: **Friday 4 July 5pm**

Comparative study on sanctions and time limits in the Member States and EFTA/EEA countries in the field of gender and anti discrimination

The call for tenders under the PROGRESS programme related to a comparative study on sanctions and time limits in the Member States and EFTA/EEA countries in the field of gender and anti discrimination has just been published by the Commission.

The purpose of the study will be to provide the Commission with independent input on the situation in the Member States and the EFTA/EEA countries, as regards rules on time limits and sanctions in cases of discrimination on grounds of gender, race or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age and sexual orientation compared with similar disputes in the various fields of law.

For further details:

http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/emplweb/tenders/tenders_en.cfm?id=3385

Deadline for submitting offers 30/07/2008.

VT/2008/052, Seminars to raise awareness among judges and legal practitioners on EC legislation on equal treatment between women and men

Call for tender from European Commission on Seminars to raise awareness among judges and legal practitioners on EC legislation on equal treatment between women and men.

The Contractor will prepare, run and evaluate:

- (i) three seminars to train judges, prosecutors and other members of the judiciary with the aim of creating a corps of legal practitioners within the judiciary who are familiar with the European framework on equal treatment between women and men, and who will in turn be able to disseminate the knowledge gained within their professional sectors (1 and a half to two days for 40 to 50 participants);
- (ii) two seminars aimed at disseminating information and raising awareness of other interested legal practitioners, for example, from trade unions or employers' associations, NGOs, labour inspectorates and Equality Bodies, and who will in turn be able to disseminate the knowledge gained within their professional sectors (1 and a half or two days for 40-50 participants);
- (iii) one seminar for university professors and law lecturers on the EC Equal Treatment Legislation. The participants should be high level and from relevant fields, such as labour law, human rights law, European law, social law, constitutional law etc, and who will in turn be able to disseminate the knowledge gained within their professional sectors (1 and a half days, 40-50 participants).

For further details:

http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/emplweb/tenders/tenders_en.cfm?id=3365

Deadline for submitting offers 24/07/2008.

If you have any news, information or publications you would like circulated to the WNC Violence Against Women Working Group, please e-mail Maria Turay on maria.turay@communities.gsi.gov.uk

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