

Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG)

Note: We recognise that harmful abuse and practices affect women and girls in the majority, however, practices such as domestic and sexual abuse can affect anyone. You will find details of services providing information and advice according to your gender, sexuality, race and disability.

Violence Against Women and Girls: Types of harmful abuse and practices

The types of crimes and offences that affect women and girls are many and varied. According to the Home Office 'Tackling Violence Against Women and Girls' strategy (July 2021), for instance, VAWG can refer to acts such as

- sexual violence (including rape, sexual assault)
- sexual harassment (unwanted sexual touching, upskirting, sharing of intimate images without consent)
- stalking
- trafficking and forced prostitution
- domestic abuse
- female genital mutilation (FGM)
- forced marriage
- so called 'honour-based violence'

SUPPORT, INFORMATION AND ADVICE

Domestic Abuse

Hounslow Domestic and Sexual Violence Outreach Service

If you would like to talk to someone you can call 07810 031 780 in confidence, to discuss your options and practical ways to stay safe. Open Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm.

Hounslow One Stop Shop

You can attend the Hounslow One Stop at the following address.

The Arts Centre
1st floor
Treaty Shopping Centre
Hounslow
TW3 1ES

No appointment needed.

Open every Wednesday from 10am - 12pm.

If you would like to talk to someone you can call 07810 031 780

Women and Girls Network

Offers advice and advocacy services as well as counselling and group work.

For more information, contact 0808 801 0660

Mon to Fri 10am- 4pm

Wednesday evenings from 6pm-9pm

Southall Black Sisters

Provides free, confidential information advice and support to Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic women experiencing domestic abuse and other forms of Violence Against Women and Girls. You can contact them between Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm via phone on 0208 581 9595, email them at info@southalblacksisters.co.uk or through their online contact form:

<https://southalblacksisters.org.uk/contact-us/>

Rights of Women: Civil Injunctions and Criminal Justice System Information

Legal information sheets on a range of issues, including injunctions and navigating the criminal justice system – <http://rightsofwomen.org.uk/get-information/violence-against-women-and-international-law/>

Latin American Women's Rights Service:

Offers advice, advocacy and practical support to Latin American women who are experiencing or have experienced Domestic Violence, Harmful practices or any other form of violence – 020 7324 9805 or 020 7324 9808 –

<https://lawrs.org.uk/what-we-do/>

Chinese Information and Advice Centre (CIAC):

Part of the ASCENT consortium to provide linguist and culturally sensitive services to survivors of sexual and domestic violence and abuse – 0300 201 1868 – <https://ciac.co.uk/our-services/women-and-children-support/>

Asian Women's Resource Centre (AWRC):

Domestic violence and advocacy services available in five community languages (Bengali, Gujarati, Punjabi, Hindi and Urdu) 0808 169 4455 (Mon-Fri 10-5pm)

IKWRO (Iranian and Kurdish Women's Rights Organisation):

specialist support (including counselling) to Middle Eastern and Afghan women and girls who are at risk of 'honour' based violence, forced marriage, child marriage, female genital mutilation and domestic violence – 0207 920 6460 (Mon to Fri 9.30-5.30), For out-of-hours emergencies call: Kurdish / Arabic/English: 07846 275246, Farsi / Dari / English: 07846 310157

<https://ikwro.org.uk/need-help/>

Sistah Space

Provides information, advice and advocacy services to Afro-Caribbean heritage women and girls experiencing domestic and sexual abuse. Contact 0207 846 8350 or email info@sistahspace.org.

<https://www.sistahspace.org/>

Sexual Violence (including rape, sexual assault, sexual abuse and sexual harassment)

Hounslow Domestic and Sexual Violence Outreach Service

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The Havens:

Specialist centres in London for people who have been raped or sexually assaulted. Urgent advice/appointments (24/7) – 020 3299 6900 – <https://www.thehavens.org.uk/>

London Survivor's Gateway

The London Survivors Gateway offers support to victims and survivors of rape and sexual abuse to access specialist services in London.

Freephone – 0808 801 0860 – <http://survivorsgateway.london/>

Monday 9-5pm, Tues 9-7pm, Wed 9.30-3.30pm, Thurs 9-7pm, Fri 9-3pm

Galop: specialist LGBTQI+

Offers support and advice to people who have experienced biphobia, homophobia, transphobia, sexual violence. They also support lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans and queer people who have had problems with the

police or have questions about the criminal justice system – 020 7704 2040 – <https://www.galop.org.uk/>

Survivors UK (men and boys)

Specialist support service for those who identify as male, trans, non-binary, have identified as male in the past, and have experienced sexual violence and/or abuse. They have an online/text/WhatsApp helpline service: <https://www.survivorsuk.org/>

Revenge Porn Helpline:

UK helpline supporting adults who are victims of image based abuse and who have had their intimate images and videos shared without their consent, or when someone is threatening to do this – 0345 600 0459 (10.00am-4.00pm, Monday to Friday) – <https://revengepornhelpline.org.uk/>

Rights of Women: Revenge Porn & Law/Sexual Harassment at Work

For more information on revenge porn and the law, please see following information: <https://rightsofwomen.org.uk/get-information/violence-against-women-and-international-law/revenge-porn-online-abuse-and-the-law/>

Provides free employment legal advice to women in England and Wales experiencing sexual harassment at work including:

- **Identifying sexual harassment at work**
- How to bring a complaint against your employer
- Advice about grievances and investigations
- The Employment Tribunal procedure
- Settlement Agreements and Non-Disclosure Agreements

Contact 020 7490 0152. Opening hours: Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays: 3pm – 5pm and 6 – 8pm.

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DeafHope:

Provides and offers support, advice and information for deaf communities, especially for victims of sexual violence service. For more details or to contact an advocate, see the website: <http://www.deaf-hope.org/sexual-violence/>

Women's Trust:

Free counselling and therapy (including support groups and workshops) for female survivors of domestic violence, emotional abuse, sexual abuse, and other forms of domestic abuse – 020 7034 0303 – <https://womanstrust.org.uk/>

Respond

Provides therapy and specialist support for people with learning disabilities, autism or both, who have experienced abuse, violence or trauma. – 0207 383 0700 <https://respond.org.uk/>

MOSAC

Provides support for non-abusing parents or carers whose children have been sexually abused. Contact 0800 980 1958 or <https://mosac.org.uk/>

STALKING

National Stalking Helpline/Suzy Lamplugh Trust:

Offers information and guidance to anybody in the UK who is currently or has previously been affected by harassment or stalking through a freephone number and email facility – 0808 802 0300 (09:30-16:00 weekdays except for Wednesdays when it is open 13:00-16:00. The Helpline is not open on bank holidays)

<https://www.suzylamplugh.org/Pages/Category/national-stalking-helpline>

MODERN SLAVERY (Sexual exploitation/Forced Prostitution)

Modern Slavery Advocate/Hounslow Adult Social Care

Hounslow Modern Slavery Advocate: contact Adult Social Care 0208 583 3100 or adultsocialcare@hounslow.gov.uk. For more information and advice, see

https://www.hounslow.gov.uk/info/20004/community_and_living/2218/modern_slavery

Modern Slavery Helpline (Unseen UK)

Help, information and advice on all types of modern slavery, including sexual exploitation and forced prostitution. Call 0800 0121 700 (24/7) or complete an online form on <https://www.modernslaveryhelpline.org/report>

Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)

FORWARD:

specialist Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) support service:
<https://www.forwarduk.org.uk/violence-against-women-and-girls/female-genital-mutilation/>

Contact 0208 960 4000 ext 1 or 07834 168 141 (Mon to Fri 9.30-5.30pm)

Forced Marriage

Forced Marriage Unit:

Government help and support line: 020 7008 0151, From overseas: +44 (0)20 7008 0151 (Monday to Friday, 9am-5pm), Out of hours: 020 7008 1500 (ask for the Global Response Centre) or email fmu@fco.gov.uk – www.gov.uk/stop-forced-marriage

Rights of Women:

Legal information sheets on a range of issues, including Forced Marriage and the law: <https://rightsofwomen.org.uk/get-information/family-law/forced-marriage-law/>

Karma Nirvana:

Support for victims of 'honour'-based violence and forced marriage – 0800 5999 247 (Monday-Friday: 9am-5pm) – <https://karmanirvana.org.uk/>

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Honour-Based Violence

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