

# Honour and Shame Based Violence

The following factors have been associated with honour/shame based violence. While these factors may not predict violence, their presence suggests additional areas to be considered when creating a safety plan.

## Factors:

- ☐ Rigid adherence to values, cultural norms, and faith principles, particularly in the face of opposing evidence, possesses a distorted, usually extreme view of culture/faith specifically as it relates to the role of women, sexual orientation, and/or socialization of children/youth.
- ☐ The family shares the values/belief system with a culture/religion/etc. where shame and abuse is frequently used to change behaviour of family members.
- ☐ There are other persons, community members, extended family members involved in the case – encouraging or supporting abusive, violent and threatening behaviours.
- ☐ There is a high level of community economic interdependence based on family status (i.e.: employment, trade, contracts, dowry).
- ☐ You believe there to be a credible threat of violence/abuse to one or more persons relating to this case.

## PERPETRATOR RISK FACTORS

- |                                                                     |                                                                             |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Serious violent threats or statements      | <input type="checkbox"/> Origin from an area with known sub-cultural values |
| <input type="checkbox"/> History of violence, including criminal    | <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of adaption to Western culture                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Honour based violent acts                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Significant or multiple personal stressors         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Violent criminality                        | <input type="checkbox"/> Intervention from outside agency/person            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Escalation of behaviour                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Person is dating and others may be aware           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Attitudes supporting honour based violence |                                                                             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> High degree of insult                      |                                                                             |

## VICTIM VULNERABILITY/ RISK FACTORS

- |                                                                 |                                                         |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Inconsistent behaviour and/or attitude | <input type="checkbox"/> Inadequate access to resources |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Extreme fear                           | <input type="checkbox"/> Unsafe living situation        |
|                                                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Personal problems              |

### **Perpetrator's rationale often attributed to Honour Based Violence:**

- |                                                               |                                                        |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Not covering hair or face            | <input type="checkbox"/> Dating                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Not covering their bodies            | <input type="checkbox"/> Seeking advanced education    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rebelling against domestic servitude | <input type="checkbox"/> Refusing an arranged marriage |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wearing make-up                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Seeking a divorce             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Western clothing – lifestyle         | <input type="checkbox"/> Marry against parents' wishes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Leaving the religion                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Behave independently          |

### **Difference between Honour Based Violence and Domestic Violence:**

- |                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Perpetrators have support from family                             | <input type="checkbox"/> Parents can be the murderers                                                                          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> It is often a collective decision                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> A marked woman has little chance of being forgiven                                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Perpetrators may not have remorse                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Honour based violence gives the family the perceptions they are                                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gossip and rumours can start a scandal that can lead to death     | <input type="checkbox"/> Age of victims range from 5-40 years old reclaiming status                                            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Perpetrators may be rewarded (status)                             | <input type="checkbox"/> Families can hire contract killers, or send victim overseas where they are vulnerable and untraceable |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Once collective decision has been made it is difficult to reverse |                                                                                                                                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Self-sacrificing is glorified                                     |                                                                                                                                |

### **Get more information about risks to safety**

- |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Clarify reason for seeking help</li><li>• Is there immediate danger?</li><li>• Was a threat made? If yes, why were they threatened and what is the threat?</li><li>• What was the trigger for the threat?</li><li>• IF THEY HAVE A PARTNER (DATING) THEY ARE IN DANGER. Ask how many people know about the partner?</li><li>• Who is the main source of danger?</li><li>• What actions have already occurred?</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What specifically does the person fear?</li><li>• Do family members have a criminal record?</li><li>• Identify school or place of employment?</li><li>• Identify what steps they are willing to take?</li><li>• Assess whether they can return home?</li><li>• Learn about what story they have told to cover their tracks?</li></ul> |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

***Risk is heightened with disclosure – who are they in danger from and what does the danger look like?***

**DO:**

- ☐ Discuss/reinforce confidentiality
- ☐ Provide information about available services
- ☐ Discuss “human” rights
- ☐ Speak with them alone
- ☐ Give them two or more contacts (ensure these contacts are aware not to contact family)

**DON'T:**

- ☐ Use friends or family as interpreters
- ☐ Mediate with family members
- ☐ Send them back to the perpetrator(s)
- ☐ Inform any family members where they are
- ☐ Don't assume female relatives will support them

