

TALKING ABOUT GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE



More than **1 in 3** women worldwide (736 million+ women) have been subjected to physical and/or sexual intimate partner violence, non-partner sexual violence, or both, **at least once in their life.**

1 in 4 girls (15-19 years old) worldwide, have experienced physical and/or sexual violence from an intimate partner or husband. (WHO 2021)

More than **5 women or girls are KILLED every hour** by someone in their own family (UN Women 2022)



Talking about Gender-Based Violence (GBV): That means, violence against women and girls, and/or any individual who experiences violence due to gender or sexual orientation.

GBV is a **global** phenomenon, primarily committed by men and boys, with women and girls being the main victims, and it occurs **everywhere** (at home, in the family, at school, at work, online, in every society).

In **Greece**, the term **domestic violence** prevails, as in the majority of the cases, the perpetrator is **a family member** (husband, brother, father, uncle, father-in-law, ex-husband/spouse/partner, etc.)

AM I A GBV VICTIM?

If you have experienced any of the following forms of violence, then **yes**, you are a GBV victim:



- **Sexual:** rape, sexual harassment or abuse, human trafficking, sexual exploitation, forced marriage
- **Physical:** femicide, torture, physical harm/injury (slapping, pushing, kicking, etc.), deprivation of food and water, female genital mutilation, etc.
- **Psychological:** psychological/emotional abuse, verbal violence (insults, threats, swearing, yelling, baseless accusations/criticism), destruction of personal belongings, lack of freedom and isolation from family and friends, prohibition of activities, jealousy, Stalking, vengeful pornography, non-consensual pornography
- **Economical:** no access to money/bank accounts, refusal of opportunities or services, prohibiting work, etc.

GBV is a CRIMINAL OFFENSE, now strictly punishable by law, and the offense is EX-OFFICIO (own motion)¹

¹ Hellenic Police is obligated to initiate prosecution (to file charges, call the Prosecutor), even with an **ANONYMOUS** report made by anyone. In the "Istanbul Convention", Greece by Law 4531/2018 criminalized all forms of GB and domestic violence, including stalking, economic violence, etc.

ARE YOU AFRAID TO SPEAK OUT? You are not alone! Female GBV survivors we're many & strong! Don't wait for

Are you IN IMMEDIATE DANGER?

If you can **TALK & have ACCESS** to a phone:

- Call **100** or send free SMS (address, full name, type of emergency ex. «my life is in danger», «my husband abuses me»)
- Call **15900** 24h SOS Helpline of the General Secretariat for Family Policy and Gender Equality (psychosocial support, legal counseling and shelters/housing centers) or send email: sos15900@isotita.gr
- Call or send email to any of the 18 **Offices for Domestic Violence** of the Hellenic Police. ATHENS: 2144068271, 2105223970, dvoathens@astynomia.gr / PIRAEUS: 2104177602, dvopeiraios@astynomia.gr / WEST ATTICA: Peristeri: 2105717129, dvodyattikis@astynomia.gr or Acharnes: 2102478004, 2102478017 gaev.aataxarnon@astynomia.gr / THESSALONIKI: 2310253382, dvothess@astynomia.gr. More info: <https://www.astynomia.gr/odigos-tou-politi>

• Activate the **Panic Button App** on your smartphone. An application that automatically calls the Police, designed for women victims of domestic violence in Attica and Thessaloniki. Activate the App by visiting any police station or Office for Domestic Violence.

If you **CAN NOT SPEAK** freely or you have **NO ACCESS** to a phone:

- Do the global **SIGNAL FOR HELP** on a video call or outdoors on the street in a store etc. The signal is performed by holding your hand up with your thumb tucked into your palm, then folding your fingers down, symbolically trapping your thumb in your fingers. **Repeat** by moving your fingers up and down.



Are you a **WITNESS** or you **KNOW** a GBV victim?

REPORT it, even anonymously. If a friend/relative confides in you a GBV story, **listen** without judging. Show respect and confidentiality. Before taking any action, **talk first to an expert** from the mentioned helplines for further instructions.

Are you a GBV victim with NO PAPERS / UNDOCUMENTED?

Don't be afraid. **NO DEPORTATION**, imprisonment or losing your child's custody is allowed to happen. The domestic violence victims with no legal papers are **PROTECTED BY LAW** 4531/2018 and no deportation takes place. On the contrary, you have the right to apply for a residence permit for humanitarian reasons. This does not apply to the witnesses of GBV crimes.

Are you WITHOUT ANY MONEY?

Don't be afraid. You can get **FREE** medical, psychosocial and legal aid in various institutions and services (Counseling Centers of Municipalities, DIOTIMA Center etc.)



MORE USEFUL CONTACTS:

- **GBV Pocket Guide App** in 12 languages: **Download** from Google Play or App Store
- **24/7 Helplines for:**
 - Medical aid: **166**
 - Human **TRAFFICKING: 11090**
 - Social help: **197**
 - Children **SOS: 1056**
 - Children's protection: **1107**
- **Counseling CENTERS** (27) and **SHELTERS** (18) throughout Greece (ex. Athens Centre: 2103317305-6). More info: www.isotita.gr or www.womensos.gr
- **DIOTIMA Center:** Womens non-governmental organisation specialised for gender issues & equality: 2103244380 or email: helpdesk.diotima@gmail.com

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the worst to happen. Report even **ANONYMOUSLY**.