



**MAAPSI
BANGLADESH**

END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN



MAAPSI Bangladesh.

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Violence against women is now recognized as a human rights violation and its definition includes physical, sexual or psychological harm.

Any act of gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual or psychological harm done towards women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life.

Situation of Women in Bangladesh

Social context

Traditional socio cultural norms, values, practices have given lower status to women in respect to men limiting their rights.

- Women have fewer opportunities in education, employment, social security's, expression of opinion, health care, nutrition, shelter, divorce, guardianship of child, choosing job, participation in overall development process.

Economic Context

- Women's day long household activities have not been included in national statistics. Unemployment rate of women is 70.7%. Women fill only about 7% of officer ranks, 10% of staff position, 5% at low level workers position.

Factors of Violence Against Women

- Domestic Violence
- Wife beating
- Abduction
- Trafficking in women and children
- Rape
- Acid Attack Burn
- Acid Attack Burn
- Homicide
- Psychological abuse
- Sexual exploitation
- Dowry related violence
- Violence during pregnancy
- Forced prostitution
- Abuse and harassment

Reasons of Violence against Women

- Lack of gender equality
- Lack of awareness and knowledge about rights
- Poverty
- Low educational level
- Women's lower position
- Socio-cultural restrictions
- Tendency to coercively control women
- Polygamy
- Misinterpretation of Religion
- Misapplication of Religious belief

Challenges for Addressing VAW

- 1) People are not aware about the type and extent of violence against women.
- 2) People specially women are not acquainted with the legal consequences of offence
- 3) Large number of victims consider it as private and do not share with others.
- 4) Social stigma and avoidance leads to conceal the incidence.
- 5) Access to justice is still very limited.
- 6) People are not aware about where to go and what to do?
- 7) Limited cooperation and coordination among the institutions and stakeholders.
- 8) Services are limited to specific locations.



MAAPSI Activities to End Violence against Women

MAAPSI Bangladesh- A human rights network comprising of 200 NGO's is working with grass roots NGOs to make people more aware and stop violence against women. Recently MAAPSI has organized a series of discussion meetings titled ' The role of civil society to end violence against women' in association with its country wide network members.

Objectives:

- highlight sexual violence against women and girls living in urban areas.
- provide a platform for women and girls to make their experiences of sexual violence in cities recognized, understood and acted upon.
- help men and boys to understand and reject social norms and behaviors that support violence against women.
- gather evidence to influence national policies on violence against women.
- train office holders in the police, education and transport authorities in how to prevent and respond to violence against women.



MAAPSI organized a discussion meeting titled 'End Violence against Women' in Dinajpur in association with Come to Work. Executive Director, Motiur Rahman facilitated the session.

BCDP, Chapainababganj, in association with MAAPSI organized a discussion meeting titled ' The role of civil society to end violence against women' on 22 February, 2015.





MAAPSI organized a discussion meeting titled 'End Violence against Women' in Kurigram in association with VIEW. Executive Director, Enamul Haque facilitated the session.



MAAPSI and Shathi Environment Foundation Organized a discussion meeting titled "End Violence against Women" in Ulipur, Kurigram on 25 February, 2015.



AISEDUP organized a discussion meeting on "End violence against women" in Jhenaidah in association with MAAPSI on 23 February 2015.

Love Thy Neighbour and MAAPSI jointly organized discussion meeting on "End violence against women" in Barisal on 19 February 2015

