

REMEMBER

SGBV is NOT your fault!

Worldwide many women, men, girls and boys experience physical or sexual abuse or other forms of SGBV in their lifetime. Anyone can become a victim of sexual and gender-based violence.

You are NOT alone! Help is available!

There are people who can help you, such as doctors, police officers, and social workers. If you have experienced or are experiencing SGBV, tell someone you trust or contact the organizations listed above.

HELP others stay safe as well!

If someone who suffered SGBV reaches out to you, listen to them, trust them and remind them that SGBV is not their fault and that they are not alone. Tell them that help is available and encourage them to seek assistance. If they agree you can contact the organizations listed above together.

Share the leaflet and the video so that it reaches more people!



<https://youtu.be/KsIE6Q7hXe8>



ABOUT US

The PROTECT project aims to strengthen national support services for victims of sexual and gender-based violence. PROTECT also aims to make these services available to refugees, asylum seekers and migrants, be they children or adults and including people identifying as LGBTI.

<https://eea.iom.int/PROTECT-project>



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Information on

SEXUAL AND GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE



IN CROATIA EVERY child has the same rights regardless of age, gender identity, sexual orientation, language, religion or where they come from.

You have a **RIGHT** to be safe and enjoy a life free of any form of violence.

If someone hurts or threatens to hurt you or someone you know, remember that you have a right to receive help and protection.

You are not alone. **HELP** is available.

SEXUAL AND GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE (SGBV)

What is SGBV?

SEXUAL AND GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE (SGBV) is any act which is perpetrated **WITHOUT A PERSON'S CONSENT**, based on gender norms and unequal power relations. It includes acts that may cause physical, sexual, emotional, psychological or economic harm or suffering. Perpetrators often use force, coercion, deception or manipulation. Most often SGBV is not recognised or reported.



What types of SGBV exist?

There are many forms of SGBV. Sexual violence is amongst the most commonly reported types.

- **SEXUAL VIOLENCE** can take many forms and includes rape, injury to or unwanted touching of the private parts, being forced to have sex with someone, being forced to watch someone else being sexually violated, being forced to be naked, and much more. Sexual violence is not sex. It is about violence, power, and control.



- **OTHER EXAMPLES OF SGBV** include violence which takes place within the family; being forced to marry, to have a baby or to have an abortion; being harassed with unwanted looks, remarks or gestures; being transported to another country in exchange for money, sexual acts or labour; honor crimes; and female genital mutilation; being forced to follow a religion you don't want to, being spied or followed.

If you think or suspect that violence is happening to you or even if you are unsure, you can ask for help.

What is the difference between sex, gender and gender identity?

A person's **SEX** is the biological characteristics that are assigned when they were born, while **GENDER** is how society believes that people should behave (how they should dress and present themselves, what their roles and responsibilities should be, etc.) according to their biological sex.

A person's **GENDER IDENTITY** refers to each person's deeply felt internal and individual experience of gender. This may or may not correspond with the sex assigned at birth, including the personal sense of the body (which may involve, if freely chosen, modification of bodily appearance or function by medical, surgical or other means) and other expressions of gender, including dress, speech and mannerisms.

To whom can SGBV happen?

SGBV can happen to **ANYONE** and is **NEVER** the victim's fault. Women and men, girls and boys, adults and children can all become victims of SGBV. Sometimes violence is directed at someone because of who they love or because they are vulnerable. No matter what, violence is **NEVER** justifiable. Majority SGBV refers to women and girls, who represent the largest group affected. However the lack of data on the incidence of SGBV perpetrated against men and boys does not mean that they do not suffer SGBV, but rather that coming forward is problematic.

Who can perpetrate SGBV?

ANYONE can perpetrate acts of SGBV. The perpetrator can be someone you know, like a close family member, close relative and friend, a romantic partner, influential community members who are in positions of authority, as well as persons or entities who are unknown to you. Most acts of SGBV are perpetrated by someone known to the survivor. Anyone can perpetrate SGBV, but perpetrators are primarily men, who often use violence to assert or maintain their privileges, power and control over others. However, women can also be perpetrators, for example, a mother forcing a young child to marry, a female pimp, a human trafficker etc.

Where can SGBV happen?

SGBV can happen ANYWHERE: in your home country, during your journey to another country and in the country, you are currently living in. It can happen in public places and private homes, at work, in detention centres and prisons, during random stops and at checkpoints.

Is SGBV my fault?

SGBV is NEVER the victim's fault. Gender norms and unequal power relations are the root causes of SGBV. The perpetrator is the only person to blame.

What if I did not fight back?

It is very common not to fight back during an assault because you may panic and feel hopeless or trapped and you don't know what to do to get out of the situation. This does not mean that you consented to the violence.

What if I am asked for sex in exchange for money, help or other goods?

Nobody has the right to force you to have sex or to get you to agree to have sex in exchange for something you may need or want.

If someone forces you to have sex in exchange for money, help or other goods, this is sexual exploitation and a form of sexual violence.

In Croatia, if you are under 16, it is a crime if someone offers you money, help or any goods or services in exchange for sex.

What are the consequences of SGBV?

SGBV can have both physical and emotional consequences. Physically SGBV can cause bodily harm, pain, infections and women and girls can become pregnant without wanting to, among other consequences. The emotional consequences of SGBV can include trauma, nightmares, insomnia, headaches, and many different feelings such as anger, shame, sadness, guilt, fear. All feelings are valid, and Croatia has professional and confidential services to support victims. You are NOT alone.

REMEMBER

ANYONE can become a victim of SGBV

SGBV is NEVER the victim's fault

SGBV is always UNACCEPTABLE

You can ask for HELP



AVAILABLE SERVICES

What can I do if I or someone I know has experienced or witnessed SGBV?

If you or someone you know experience or witness SGBV you can tell a family member, a relative or another adult you trust.

You are NOT alone.

You can always ask for help from the staff of the asylum or accommodation center where you live or from your legal representative or guardian.

There are also other people who can help you in a confidential way, such as teachers, social workers, police officers and doctors. In addition, you can contact migrant and refugee organizations, women's and youth organizations.

You can call the following telephone numbers to contact emergency services:

CROATIAN POLICE: 112 or 192
EMERGENCY MEDICAL ASSISTANCE: 112 or 194

List of useful contacts in Croatia

OMBUDSMAN FOR CHILDREN
01/4929-669
info@dijete.hr
www.dijete.hr
Teslina 10, 10 000 Zagreb

SOCIETY FOR PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSISTANCE - COUNSELLING FOR CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES "MODUS"
It provides counselling and support to family members affected by domestic violence.

01/4621-554; 095/4826-111
(Mondays to Fridays; 9.00-21.00)
modus@dpp.hr
www.dpp.hr
Kneza Mislava 11, 10 000 Zagreb

DUGA ZAGREB, HOME FOR CHILDREN AND ADULTS

Free telephone counseling center for children and adult victims of family violence.

0800 8898
(Mondays to Fridays, 16.30-19.30)

01/6383 503 (every day, 8.00-20.00)

Telephone for information on inclusion in the psychosocial treatment of domestic violence offenders.

01 / 4590-560 (Mondays and Wednesdays: 14.00-20.00; Tuesdays to Fridays: 9.00-15.00):
tretman@duga-zagreb.hr

BRAVE PHONE FOR CHILDREN
If you fear for your safety and/or

your life, when someone you know endangers you in any way, when you have a problem you'd like to talk about.
Toll Free Phone: 116 111
(Mondays to Fridays, 9.00-20.00)
hrabrisa@hrabritelefon.hr
www.hrabritelefon.hr

NATIONAL SOS LINE AGAINST TRAFFICKING
0800 77 99

SOS line is established in cooperation with the Government Office for Human Rights and National Minorities and Non-Governmental Organizations where it is possible to seek help and obtain information and point out cases suspected of representing trafficking.

In addition to the SOS line, there are also shelter for victims of trafficking in human beings in Croatia and certain non-governmental organizations providing legal, counseling and psychological and social assistance to all victims of trafficking.

CROATIAN RED CROSS
If you or a person you know experienced trafficking in human beings, you need advice, help or suspect potential trafficking in human beings, you can contact us via e- at

01/4655-814
(working days, 8.00-16.00)
trafficking@hck.hr
Ul. Crvenog križa 14, 10 000 Zagreb
www.akaz.net