Experiences and Strategies of Immigrant Women against Domestic Violence



Objectives:

-Situation of immigrant women who are victims of domestic violence in Bilbao

- Analysis of the principal institutional responses

- Proposals for improvement in providing appropriate resources

Methodology: in-depth interviews

Mistreated women living with the aggressor: 6

Women who have been mistreated: 8

NGOs: 4

Social services: 4

Health services: 5

Legal assistance: 5

Police: 3

Cultural mediators: 3



GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

Acts of violence based on belonging to the female sex, resulting in

damage or suffering whether physical, sexual or psychological for the woman,

such as threats, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, regardless of whether it takes place

in public or private life.

Classification of gender violence

- State: Female genital mutilation; Rape in warfare; Stoning
- Community: Harassment at work or school/college; trafficking of women; forced prostitution; sexual abuse; rape...
- Home: Sexual abuse of minors;
 Domestic violence



Gender-based violence



- Patriarchal culture

-Social problem

- Due to basic structures of sociability
- Due to its range y frequency
- Due to dominant structures and ways of life

Types of violence in the family environment

- Physical: from the blow to the murder
- Psychological: devaluation, including insults, threats, destruction of objects, abuse of pets...
- Sexual: sex without consent, rape
- Economic: absolute control of income and expenses
- Social: verbal mistreatment in public, control of external relations and activities

Difficulties in ending an abusive relationship

- Difficulties related with socialization
- Family mythology ("family secret")
- Affective difficulties
- Psycho-social reality
- Work/educational problems
- Legal situation
- Right to family reunification
- Lack of knowledge and feelings of vulnerability towards the host society

TO SUMMARISE:

- Universal phenomenon
- A problem for women (not of women)
- Common forms, cycle and consequences
- Different access to resources

