



Violence Against Egyptian Women In The Second Half Of 2006

This report is issue no. 52 of LCHR's Economic & Social Rights series. The report monitors violent cases against women published in the Egyptian newspapers during the second half of 2006. The report analyses the articles published in the Egyptian newspapers from July to December 2006.

The report shows that violence against women during that period has reached 261 cases, represented in 38 cases of sexual assault, 23 cases of murder, 30 cases of domestic violence (28 of them led to death), 28 cases of marital arguments (20 of them led to death), 22 cases of neglect in healthcare (10 of them led to death), 27 cases of suicide attempts (19 of them led to death), 8 cases of official violence, 5 cases of violence against working women and 80 miscellaneous cases (23 of them led to death).

42 of these cases were published in July, 40 in August, 47 in September, 35 in October, 51 in November and 46 in December.

The report shows that domestic violence against women reaches 71.9% by husbands and 42.6% by fathers, and that death reaches 21.6% inside the family.

Rape cases in that period seemed to be collective, as there was a case of 11 men, other case of 9 and another of 8 who took turns raping the victim and then leaving her between life and death.

Some of the rape cases were committed by relatives. There were rape cases committed as revenge of the husband and other rape cases of mentally retarded or mute girls. Most of the rape victims were housewives who have reaches 21 women.

The report shoes that domestic violence against women was for various reasons, like robbery, jealousy, seizure of property, doubt (suspicion in behavior), pregnancy as a result of adultery, revenge, dispute over inheritance ... etc.

There were 12 cases of murder based on the defense of honor, 7 of them were about a brother killing his sister, 3 about a father killing his daughter, one was about a mother killing her daughter and one about a sister killing her sister.

The report shows that marital arguments have varied between financial and family arguments, suspicion in the wife's behavior, revenge, marrying more than one man, insulting or disrespecting the husband, jealousy ... etc. The economic and social problems that the Egyptian society lives in, make women the scapegoats to relieve life's pressure.

The report shows that murder cases happen for various reasons, like robbery, sexual assault, fear of exposing a relationship, financial arguments, revenge ... etc. 7 of the aggressors were women.

The report shows that suicide cases happen for various reasons, like despair of recovery, marital, family or financial arguments, failure in education, locking up girls ... etc.

The report shows that violating women's right to healthcare happens because of medical negligence, overdose of medicine or anesthetic ... etc. such negligence have led to 10 deaths, 9 permanent disabilities and 3 complete coma cases.

The report also shows cases of violence against working women and official violence against women in general in their work areas and in police stations.

As for the miscellaneous part, the report shows cases of gas suffocation, dispute among neighbors, falling off buildings, drowning, road accidents as a result of high speeding, electrical shocks, poisoning, accidentally being shot, collapse of a building ... etc.

These cases have led to 23 cases of death, 3 cases of injury, 52 cases of imprisonment and one case of firing from work.

The report presents some remarks stating that women are the most vulnerable group in the society to violence, and that most of the violence happens in poor areas among various groups of people (criminals, the unemployed, drivers, students, employees, farmers ... etc).

The report also presents the standpoint of the press and the media, as they present women as the cause and motive for such violence and crimes, as journalists write about these crimes and justify what happened to these

women, which is also considered as violence against women practiced by the media.

Finally, the report presents some recommendations, like improving the political, economic, social and cultural atmosphere in Egypt by respecting human rights, the dignity and humanity of citizens, punishing the aggressors and violators and guaranteeing people a safe, free and decent life.

The full report will be published on our website as soon as we finish the translation.

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