



What the White Ribbon Campaign Says About... Forced Marriage & Honour-Based Violence

While forced marriage & honour-based violence usually only occur in certain ethnic communities within the UK and around the world, we all have a collective obligation to stop these acts of violence against women.

- In 2008, the Forced Marriage Unit received more than 1600 calls to its helpline on suspected incidences of forced marriage (Home Office)
- Around 3,000 forced marriages take place every year (NCP's report on violence against women, 2008)
- There are no published statistics on the number of 'honour crimes' committed in the UK. However, according to the Home Office, it is widely quoted that there are 12 'honour' murders a year (Home Office)

Why Forced Marriage and 'Honour' Crimes Occur:

- The idea of protecting family honour or 'izzat' by controlling or punishing unwanted behaviour and sexuality
- The desire to prevent 'unsuitable' relationships

What All Men Can Do to Stop Forced Marriage and 'Honour' Crimes:

- Wear a white ribbon - a pledge never to commit, condone, or remain silent about violence against women
- Report any suspicion of an impending forced marriage or act of honour-based violence
- Support such organisations as the [Judith Trust](#), the [Forced Marriage Unit](#), and the [Henna Foundation](#)

**While some men are part of the problem,
all men can be part of the solution!**