



The Role of Criminal Policies in Reducing Violent Crimes against Women and Children

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Abstract

Violence against women and children is one of the most serious social and legal issues in contemporary societies, which has widespread consequences on security, mental health, and family cohesion. This descriptive-analytical study aims to examine the role of criminal policies in reducing violent crimes against these vulnerable groups. Criminal policies, including judicial, executive, and support measures, play a decisive role in preventing crime, supporting victims, and deterring perpetrators. In the judicial sector, specialized procedural laws and procedures, the use of special family courts and branches, closed hearings, and the use of psychologists and social workers protect victims and promote criminal justice. Executive policies also include operational measures by the police and judicial officers, the implementation of temporary and protective orders, the establishment of support centers and cooperation networks with governmental and non-governmental institutions that ensure the immediate and long-term security of victims. On the other hand, support measures by governmental institutions and non-governmental organizations, the provision of legal and psychological counseling, temporary shelters, and educational and awareness-raising programs complement judicial and executive activities. However, research shows that challenges such as delayed proceedings, poor implementation of protection orders, lack of specialized training for officers and judges, and limited resources and specialized centers have prevented the full realization of the goals of criminal policies. The results of the research indicate that the integration of judicial, executive, and support criminal policies by establishing specialized institutions, continuous training, and strengthening support networks can play an effective role in reducing violence against women and children. These findings emphasize the importance of a multidimensional and coordinated approach in the design and implementation of criminal policies and show that comprehensive support for victims, effective prevention of recidivism, and promotion of social justice can only be achieved through cooperation between the judiciary, government institutions, and non-governmental organizations.

Keywords: *Violence Against Women and Children, Crime and Punishment, Prevention and Support Introduction*

1. Introduction

Violence against women and children is one of the most important social and legal issues in the world today, which has widespread consequences on mental health, physical security, and family cohesion. This type of violence not only exposes victims to physical and psychological harm, but also imposes significant social and economic consequences on society. Therefore, preventing the occurrence of these crimes and protecting victims is considered one of the main priorities of criminal justice systems. In Iran, several laws and regulations have been developed to combat violence against women and children, including the Family Protection Law of 1391 and the Criminal Procedure Law of 1392. In addition to determining punishment for perpetrators, these laws have paid special attention to protecting victims and establishing specialized judicial mechanisms. However, field studies and research show that the existence of laws alone is not enough and that achieving protective goals requires comprehensive and multidimensional criminal policies. Criminal policies include judicial, executive, and support measures that simultaneously pursue the goal of deterrence, prevention, and victim protection. Judicial policies, focusing on specialized trials, special family branches, closed hearings, and the use of psychologists and social workers, attempt to create restorative justice and protect victims. On the other hand, executive policies, including operational measures by police and judicial officers, the implementation of temporary and protective orders, and the establishment of governmental and non-governmental support networks, ensure the immediate and long-term security of women and children.

Despite legal and executive advances, challenges such as lack of specialized training for officers and judges, poor implementation of protection orders, lack of specialized centers, and limited resources have prevented the full realization of the goals of criminal policies. For this reason, the need to develop and strengthen coordinated criminal policies, continuous training, and the creation of extensive support networks is felt more than ever. This study seeks to provide practical solutions to reduce violence against women and children by examining judicial and executive criminal policies, the role of government and non-government institutions, and existing challenges. The main goal of the study is to identify the strengths and weaknesses of criminal policies and provide practical solutions to strengthen support for victims and prevent reoccurrence of crime.

1-1- Concepts In principle, in understanding any phenomenon, understanding its concept and characteristics and considering the historical background of that concept is effective. Here, the concept and definitions provided for criminal policy, violence, violence against women and children, and domestic violence will be discussed from the perspective of lawyers. 1-1-1-The concept of criminal policy Languageally, criminal policy means planning, directing, and organizing measures related to the prevention, confrontation, and control of crimes, and its roots are in the word "policy" in the sense of directing and managing public affairs and "criminal" in the sense of related to criminal law and punishments. In other words, criminal policy is a set of decisions, principles, and strategies that the government and judicial and executive institutions adopt in order to reduce the incidence of crime, provide justice, protect the rights of victims, and maintain social order and security. In terms of terminology, criminal policy includes not only the establishment of criminal laws and the determination of penalties, but also the processes of prevention, correction and rehabilitation of criminals, protection of victims and the establishment of monitoring and enforcement mechanisms. This concept is designed to achieve the broad goals of society, such as security, justice and the reduction of social harms, and must be in line with human rights principles and international standards. Criminal policy can have a preventive, deterrent, corrective or protective aspect and include a combination of legal, judicial, enforcement and social tools. From the perspective of criminology, criminal policy is a tool of the state for managing criminal behavior and reducing victimization, and at the same time reflects the values, culture and social attitudes of society towards crime and justice. Therefore, the analysis of criminal policy requires the simultaneous examination of its legal, institutional and social dimensions. Finally, criminal policy, as a dynamic concept, constantly requires review and reform in light of social, cultural, and technological changes to maintain its effectiveness in controlling crime and protecting society.

1-2- The concept of violence Violence literally means “coarseness, roughness, roughness, harshness” (Dehkhoda, 1968, 589) and “abnormal” (Amid, 1983, 535) and is also equivalent to “aggression and strictness” in a specific Persian dictionary. Accordingly, any behavior or speech that involves rudeness, harshness, anger, humiliation, insult, and rage is called violence; although violence - as a social and psychological reality - has a relative concept, its examples and intensity and severity in each society are proportionate to the culture of that society and different from another society. The term concept of violence refers to an action or behavior that intentionally causes physical, psychological, sexual, or economic harm to an individual or group. Violence can be direct, such as assault, or indirect, such as threats, humiliation, and psychological harassment. In criminology, violence includes behaviors that violate the rights of others and cause fear or suffering. This concept can occur in family, social, economic, or political areas and is not limited to physical violence. Also, violence is often associated with inequality of power and control, especially when a group or individual uses a position of power to exert force. The term definition of violence in scientific literature highlights the importance of identifying, preventing, and legally confronting it. Thus, violence is a multidimensional phenomenon that requires a combined legal, social, and psychological perspective to examine. Therefore, violence can generally be defined as "the abuse of power to exert pressure on others by any means, including assault, psychological abuse, sexual assault, and any threat or recourse to power with the aim of asserting superiority and achieving individual desires in a way that is likely to result in asserting superiority and achieving individual desires in a way that is likely to cause specific harm to the victim."

On the other hand, depending on the goals and how the violence is carried out, types of violence can be identified. Among these cases, we can name hidden violence versus overt violence, individual violence versus group violence, domestic violence versus social violence, targeted violence versus aimless violence, and physical violence versus psychological violence. On the other hand, depending on who the violence is carried out against, types of violence against the elderly, violence against children, violence against ethnic, religious, and racial minorities, and violence against women can be identified and examined; however, since the present study focuses solely on violence against women, the explanation and explanation of other types of violence will be omitted.

1-3- Islamic Approach to Violence Islam's approach to violence against children and women is based on human dignity, justice, and the preservation of physical and mental health. Religious teachings explicitly prohibit any kind of assault, assault, psychological abuse, and cruelty against women and children, and emphasize their legal and social protection. The Quran and Sunnah hold parents, guardians, and society responsible for creating a safe and just environment for the proper growth and upbringing of children, and condemn domestic violence morally and legally. In the case of women, Islam guarantees the right to security, respect, and protection against any kind of assault and violence, and recommends criminal action in the event of a violation of these rights. In addition to the legal dimension, Islamic teachings emphasize the prevention of violence by teaching morality, respecting the rights of others, and promoting humane behavior. The Islamic perspective views violence not only as an individual crime but also as a threat to the order and health of society. From the perspective of Islamic criminology, violence against women and children is a violation that has widespread social and psychological consequences, and individual and social responsibility is raised to prevent it. Also, policies and religious rulings are designed to deter, support and correct violent behaviors. As a result, Islam's approach to violence against women and children is a combination of moral principles, legal protection and social responsibility, which aims to ensure justice, human dignity and the security of society. Therefore, in religious teachings, various forms of violence against humans, but also against any creature, are considered undesirable, and in social relations, great emphasis is placed on respecting the rights of others. The word "violence" does not exist in the Holy Quran; however, violence can be considered an example of "oppression". God has based human nature on justice and has condemned oppression and tyranny.

With this explanation, it is possible to identify the types of violence in jurisprudence: 1- Violence within the limits of the law, which is synonymous with "punishment" in modern law; 2- Violence outside

the law, which refers to attacks on the life, property, and spirituality of other people. Regarding the denial of violence against children, women, the elderly, parents, and some special groups in Islam, numerous verses and hadiths can be cited. The Holy Quran recommends men to be kind to women, condemns slander and slander against them, and obliges them to associate well with women. It also considers men to be responsible for the care of women. The Prophet of Islam also emphasizes in some passages the necessity of fulfilling women's rights, being kind to his wife, and making peace with and reprimanding her. However, the justification of some forms of violence in Islam, such as the permissibility of resorting to some Islamic punishments such as stoning, which modern human rights claim is contrary to human dignity; It requires in-depth jurisprudential discussions and justification of related secondary rulings, which we will skip because the topic is outside the scope of the book.

1-4- Slavery of Bread and Children from the Perspective of Religions From the perspective of religions, the slavery of women and children has been severely criticized and restricted. Islamic teachings emphasize human dignity and condemn any cruelty and abuse of slaves, especially women and children. Judaism and Christianity have also set moral and social laws, providing minimum rights for slaves, and emphasizing fair and kind treatment of them. In all Abrahamic religions, raising and caring for slave children is considered a moral and religious duty. Religious teachings have often tried to reduce violence and create a minimum level of security and respect for slave women and children. In this way, religions have played an important role in limiting cruelty and violence against slave women and children by establishing moral and legal frameworks. Therefore, the approach of religions to slavery has been to accept this institution, taking into account the requirements of time and place. Judaism considers slavery legitimate, and in this regard, Leviticus states: "Buy male and female slaves from the nations around you, and bequeath them to your sons after you as an inheritance, so that they may inherit and multiply them forever."

In Christianity, although there is no explicit text, Christian elders such as Saint Thomas Aquinas consider slaves to be part of the property of the individual and his family. Slavery was also prevalent among the Arabs of the Age of Ignorance, and Islam, considering the requirements of that era, explicitly recognized the existence of slaves in verse 178 of Surah Al-Baqarah; however, in other verses such as verses 60 and 77 of Surah Al-Baqarah, it emphasized the liberation of slaves and respect for their personality, to the extent that verse 36 of Surah An-Nisa considers them to be equal to the family members of the slave owner. Also, a closer look at verse 33 of Surah An-Nur, which condemns some of the common practices of that era, such as forcing slaves into prostitution, indicates Islam's concern for their human dignity. Although in this era, when barbarism is known as one of the methods of violating human rights, the present scholars can preserve the inherent dignity of man through *ijtihad* in principles and foundations, because in fact, the main task of *ijtihad* in the contemporary world is to harmonize Islamic traditions with each other on the one hand and to adapt them to international norms related to human rights on the other. To this end, we can, by relying on the main goals and objectives of the Sharia and laying the foundation of values such as justice, freedom and human dignity of individuals, consider those rulings that are contrary to these values as historical, sectional and temporal rulings of Islam. In other words, by interpreting the Quran and Sunnah in their historical context, such conflicts can be eliminated.

1-1-4-1- Slavery of Women and Children in the Middle Ages In the Middle Ages, women and children continued to be held as slaves or property by the ruling classes and landowners, and they had few legal rights. They were forced to perform hard agricultural work, domestic service, or work in workshops, and were often subjected to physical and psychological violence. Forced marriages and economic exploitation of slave women and children were common, and there was no effective protection system for them. In addition, wars and conquests captured women and children and sold them into slavery. The role of children in hard labor and limited education exacerbated the harsh living conditions of slaves. Overall, the slavery of women and children in the Middle Ages reflected severe social inequality and a lack of legal protection for vulnerable groups. Therefore, in the Middle Ages, slave markets were also in operation in

Europe, and from the 15th century, with the discovery of the American continent, the trade of black slaves began from the coast of Guinea, and with the authorization of a Polish priest named Las Casas to Spanish merchants to trade slaves to the new continent, the slave trade was formalized. However, the cultural growth of societies led to the official abolition of the purchase and sale of slaves in 1791 in France and in 1843 in England. From the 19th century onwards, although slavery in its traditional form disappeared, especially after the Lincoln Declaration, new types of slavery, especially the enslavement of women, became widespread, which will be discussed below.

1-1-4-2- Modern Slavery After the collapse of communism and the dissolution of the Warsaw Pact, the trade of women and girls from Eastern Europe to Western Europe increased significantly, to the extent that the number of these women has been estimated at up to three hundred thousand per year. Thus, sex traffickers and profit-seeking traffickers traffic poor people, especially women and girls living in underdeveloped countries and in unfavorable economic conditions, and use them in the prostitution industry. "According to the report of the International Centers for Migration in the countries of Eastern and Central Europe, about two hundred and fifty to three hundred thousand women and girls are victims of prostitution rings every year. This is while in many of these countries, there is no punishment for traffickers ... According to the report of the Council of Europe Group of Experts, the revenue of this trade is estimated at thirteen billion dollars per year. Even women are bought and sold as goods up to 18 times. "According to the same report, Moldovan women are purchased for \$150 and sold to middlemen for more than \$5,000 after arriving in Italy."

Typology of violence against women and children These types are as follows. 1-2-1- Physical, emotional and sexual violence against women and children Violence against women and children can take many forms, including physical, emotional and sexual violence. Physical violence includes beatings, torture or the use of harmful tools that threaten the physical health of victims. Emotional or psychological violence affects the mental health and self-esteem of individuals by humiliating, threatening, blaming and creating fear or anxiety. Sexual violence also includes rape, sexual harassment and sexual abuse of women and children, which have profound physical and psychological consequences. These types of violence often occur together and can create a cycle of ongoing harm. Women and children, due to their greater vulnerability, require special legal, social and psychological support. Accurate recognition and definition of these types of violence is a prerequisite for developing effective prevention and criminal protection policies. Violence against women may be individual or group, state or personal, social or family, physical or psychological. In this section, types of violence will be considered under three general headings: physical violence, emotional violence, and sexual violence.

1-2-1-1- Physical violence against women and children As mentioned earlier, one of the forms of violence based on the outcome is physical violence, which includes acts such as assault, mutilation of genitals, pushing, beating, slapping, throwing objects, and murder; violence whose results are determined as fractures, lacerations, inability to give birth, abortion, and sometimes death. This type of violence may be committed by the husband, father, brother, or his male relatives, or by men in the community. Although there are no accurate statistics on domestic violence, it can be clearly claimed that society is facing a significant black figure in this area. Physical violence against women and children includes any physical action that causes harm to the body of a person, such as assault, bruising, burning, or the use of harmful instruments. This type of violence can threaten the physical health of the victim and lead to disability or even death. Women and children are more exposed to this violence due to their more vulnerable position in the family and society. Physical violence is often accompanied by other forms of violence, such as psychological and sexual violence, and it also leaves long-term psychological effects on the victims. Recognizing and identifying physical violence is a prerequisite for implementing effective criminal policies and legal protection. Reducing this type of violence requires education, culture building, and strengthening protective and judicial mechanisms. Overall, physical violence is one of the most prominent and tangible examples of violations of the rights of women and children in different societies. A study conducted in 2003 shows that in most complaints filed by women, the repetition and frequency of

violence has led to their reporting. As most women victims of violence have stated in their complaints that they have been repeatedly beaten by their husbands before. Studies have shown that most women hide their complaints and endure violent situations against them for several reasons, including embarrassment, fear of disgrace, fear of facing poverty, rejection by their families, danger to their lives and the loss of their children, problems in the judicial process, and the belief that the law favors men.

It is obvious that the likelihood of a husband's violence against his wife being exposed is higher than similar violence by the father or brothers of the woman; especially since in traditional societies, protesting against the father's violence and subsequently filing a complaint about it is considered a violation of the family's dignity, and the victimized girls are once again blamed by their relatives, which is considered a form of repeated victimization. On the other hand, statistics available in previous research indicate that more than 65 percent of women who have filed complaints about their husbands' violence have expressed their consent at the prosecutor's office or police station, and 35 percent of the lawsuits have been closed due to the women's failure to follow up or not providing sufficient evidence. Only 5 percent of the cases have been sent to court with an indictment, and more than 30 percent of them have been closed with the women's passing. The aforementioned statistics are complicated because it is not clear exactly why the victimized women have abandoned their complaints. Especially since the aforementioned statistics acknowledge that more than 77 percent of the victimized women were housewives. Therefore, it can be concluded that the reason such women give up pursuing the lawsuit is probably because of helplessness, lack of financial independence, and threats from their spouses or rejection by their families, and not real consent!

Another study in 2000 examining physical violence against women by their husbands indicates that the level of harm caused by physical violence is significantly related to women's employment status, such that physical abuse is less common among employed and educated women, especially managers and high-level employees.

1-2-1-2- Clear examples of physical violence against women and children A: Female genital mutilation
The origin and origin of this wrong tradition is not exactly known, but speculation suggests that this tradition began in North Africa and then entered other countries, mainly Africa and East and Central Asia. This practice can be defined as: "Any traditional practice involving the cutting or manipulation of the female genitalia that may be carried out for cultural-social reasons or simply to carry out an old custom and ritual." However, the manner, method and rituals of its implementation, the age of the girls who are victims, and the reasons for considering this violence justified, differ in different regions and countries in Africa and Asia. In some regions, this violence is considered a religious act, and in others, it is considered a cultural tradition. This practice is mostly carried out on girls between the ages of four and twelve; Although in some African regions it is performed during marriage or during pregnancy and in some Asian regions immediately after the birth of a baby girl (Ohadi, 2001: 102), unofficial statistics indicate that more than 130 million women and girls worldwide have been victims of this infamous custom. What is more interesting is that this violence against girls is done solely to obtain more sexual pleasure from their future husbands. Cutting off the genitals of girls, especially at a young age, may lead to bleeding, shock and convulsions, fractures of the pelvic bone, damage to the adjacent tissues of the genitals and even the death of the girls. Severe pain at the site of the operation due to the lack of use of local anesthetics because this operation is performed by non-physicians, often by hairdressers, should be added to the immediate consequences after the operation. On the other hand, its long-term consequences can include pelvic infection, anemia, septicemia, cysts, and infectious diseases such as AIDS due to the use of sharp and cutting instruments that have not been disinfected. Existing reports indicate that victimized girls face numerous problems during pregnancy and childbirth; because the healed tissue is torn due to the pressure exerted by the fetus in the space between the anus and the vagina, and it may even cause the death of the baby or the baby may suffer brain damage due to lack of oxygen and prolonged labor. In addition, during pregnancy, the fetus hits the posterior walls of the bladder, and this pressure causes serious damage to the urinary tract, bladder, and uterus.

B: Beating, Injuring, and Murder Physical violence causes mild or severe injuries to the body. Many cases of physical assault can be considered beatings. These cases include slapping, punching, whipping, kicking, biting, burning, burning a part of the body, throwing acid, causing superficial or minor injuries with sharp objects such as knives, razors, squeezing the throat, pushing and throwing objects at children and women. However, a study conducted by the World Health Organization entitled "Women's and Children's Health and Domestic Violence Against Them" revealed that slapping is the most common form of violence against children and women (Hamidi, 2003: 86). The murder of women and children is also the most severe form of physical violence against them, which is often prevalent in the context of spousal or honor killings. Victims are killed due to prejudice or cynicism of their relatives and close friends, so to speak, to preserve their family honor. In fact, in traditional societies, even if a woman is sexually assaulted, her murder is permissible to preserve the honor of the relatives.

1-2-1-2- Emotional violence Any violent behavior and speech that damages the victim's personality is psychological violence; although psychological violence varies according to the customs and culture of each society. The definition of psychological violence states: "A type of violence that damages the dignity, honor, honor and self-confidence of a child and a woman, and this behavior is applied in the form of unjustified criticism, humiliation, bad language, ridicule, insults, obscenities, sarcasm, and constant threats of divorce or remarriage." "The husband abuses his wife by using his authority to create fear and threats with physical and sexual acts in order to force the wife to perform an action and behavior in accordance with his wishes," and thus the family relations between the couple and other family members are weakened and the woman's mental health is greatly damaged. Other examples of psychological violence include neglect, favoritism, prolonged anger and silence, slander, harshness and obstruction, suspicion and distrust, unkindness or self-will, prohibition of employment, and the creation of unusual restrictions such as prohibiting a woman from socializing with her friends or family. The consequences of this type of violence are feelings of insecurity, depression, and ineffectiveness of women in the social environment. It is important to note that for psychological violence to occur against women, it is not necessarily necessary for physical violence to occur.

1-2-1-2-1- A clear example of psychological violence; sexual harassment One of the clear examples of psychological violence is sexual harassment or "sexual harassment", which is also referred to in international documents. Psychological harassment includes behaviors that threaten the mental and emotional health of the child and create a feeling of insecurity, fear and constant anxiety. One of the clear examples of psychological violence is sexual harassment against children, which includes threats, humiliation, harassment and sexual abuse. This type of violence leaves severe physical, psychological and social consequences on the victims and destroys their self-confidence and psychological security. Psychological harassment of children is often accompanied by physical or sexual violence and its effects continue in the long term. Accurate recognition of these behaviors is essential for prevention, legal intervention and psychological support for children. Judicial and support measures should be designed with a focus on reducing psychological damage and rehabilitating the affected child. Sexual harassment is a form of discrimination that violates the equal protection of women and men. The Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, adopted at the Fourth World Conference on Women in 1995, describes sexual harassment as a major form of violence against women, which, on the one hand, violates their human dignity and worth and, on the other hand, prevents them from participating effectively in society. This harassment is most visible in the workplace and on the street. For example, street sexual harassment is characterized by boys and men who, for the purpose of sexual gratification or emotional abuse, insult, ridicule or compliment women passing by on the street. A set of international documents states that sexual harassment is "a form of abuse of power that takes the form of unwelcome conduct, speech or visual conduct based on sex and that affects their employment or dismissal." Other examples of sexual harassment include sexual demands or offers, harassing questions or explanations about a woman's private sexual relationship or questions about women's characteristics, telling sexual jokes, addressing women, and expressing phrases that include defining and explaining sexual relations with all the details

and dirty looks at women's sexual organs by men, which in most cases is the perpetrator's goal to satisfy sexual instincts and seek pleasure.

1-2-1-3- Sexual violence Sexual violence refers to any type of violent sexual behavior by one person towards another despite the other party's opposition. This sexual behavior can be carried out with the motivation of threat, abuse, harm and sexual damage. In simpler terms, any type of violent sexual behavior is called sexual violence. The element of violence in the title of sexual violence itself indicates coercion and force on the part of the aggressor and unwillingness on the part of the victimized woman. One of the most obvious types of violence, according to victimology data, is gender-based violence, which is seen in all societies in different forms and does not recognize any geographical or cultural boundaries. According to the definition of the United Nations in 1993, violence against women is: "Any violent behavior related to gender that causes harm or is likely to cause harmful physical or psychological harm and is accompanied by suffering to women." The preamble to the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women states: "Any act of gender-based violence that results in physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, which results in arbitrary or coercive deprivation of liberty, whether in public or private life." Although this declaration is the first international human rights instrument to address violence against women exclusively, it merely mentions examples of violence such as rape, sexual abuse, genital mutilation, exploitation of prostitution, drug trafficking, murder, torture and systematic rape, sexual slavery, and forced pregnancy. Two years later, in the document of the Fourth World Conference on Women in 1995, known as the Beijing Declaration, all issues related to women were discussed in more detail and in the relevant part of this declaration, under the title of violence against women, a precise definition of violence against women was provided in paragraph 113: "The term violence against women refers to any act of gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, mental or sexual harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in private life or in public life." According to this definition, violence against women and children, especially minor girls, is recognized as gender-based violence, even if the act of violence results in the actual occurrence of harm or injury. Therefore, it even includes threats of violence that create a feeling of fear and insecurity in women. This document first divides violence into three general categories including physical, sexual and psychological violence and then examines the perpetration of each of them in different scenarios - whether it occurs by the family, society or states. Thus, the aforementioned document includes acts such as assault and battery, sexual abuse of girls in the family, rape by spouses, violence related to dowry and cutting off the genitals of girls as part of domestic violence, and acts such as rape and sexual harassment in educational institutions and workplaces of women, as well as the sale and purchase of women and forcing them into prostitution as part of social violence. The human rights violations related to women and children during armed conflicts, in particular murder, systematic rape, sexual slavery, forced pregnancy, forced sterilization and forced abortion mentioned in paragraphs 114, 115 and 116 of this declaration, can be considered examples of violence committed by states. This document also considers pornography, in its paragraph 118, as one of the new forms of violence against women and calls on governments to combat these acts and punish their perpetrators.

1-2-1-4- Typology of Sexual Violence Sexual violence is divided into two types in terms of the number of perpetrators: 1-2-1-4-1- Based on the number of perpetrators A: Individual sexual violence In this way, the perpetrator is only one person and probably has previously known the victim and abused her trust. Therefore, this type of violence is mostly committed by the victim's acquaintances and in-laws and with a predetermined plan. The declaration of this violence is not reported for various reasons, such as protecting the victim's reputation, and this sets the stage for the perpetrator to continue the violence against the victim.

B: Group sexual violence In which several people simultaneously or within a short period of time sexually harass a woman or women or enjoy violent sexual intercourse with another person. Such rapes occur without the group's prior knowledge of the victim and often involve kidnapping or deceiving girls

and women; therefore, the place of commission is in remote places and ruins of gardens or the home and workplace of one of the rapists. In this type of violence, the victimized women and girls suffer more psychological and physical harm, and the fear of being called a deviant by their society or family, as well as the lack of acquaintance with the rapists, may prevent them from reporting it. It goes without saying that some victims will not have the opportunity to report it at all; because the degree and severity of group violence and the perpetrators' fear of exposing the rape may lead to the death or murder and mutilation of the victim.

1-2-1-4-2- Based on the severity of violence In another classification, based on the severity of violence, three types of sexual violence are defined: a) Rape with force In a way that is planned in advance and may be accompanied by kidnapping the victim. b) Rape with anger In this type of rape, the rapist commits sexual rape without prior planning with the intention of revenge or humiliation of the woman. c) Rape with other-harm The rapist commits rape with a prior plan and, since he enjoys seeing the victim suffer, inflicts severe physical injuries on her, both during and after sex, and in some cases, mutilation may occur after sex. 1-2-1-5-Domestic Violence Domestic violence is violence that occurs in a private environment and generally occurs between people who are related to each other due to intimacy, blood or legal relationship. In fact, violence between family members or members of a household is called domestic violence. Domestic violence includes many cases such as: physical violence, sexual abuse, verbal abuse, emotional abuse, mistreatment, financial and economic pressures, and sometimes even psychological and spiritual abuse.

Conclusion

Undoubtedly, throughout history and in all cultures, men have dominated women and children, and they have been subjected to many forms of discrimination and oppression. Violence against women and children is one of the most widespread human rights violations, which manifests itself in various forms; domestic violence, sexual assault, domination and slavery, sexual slavery, buying and selling, forced prostitution, honor killings, sex selection of fetuses, genital mutilation, assault, unwanted pregnancy, insults and assaults, and systematic sexual assaults in international and domestic armed conflicts are just some examples of this violence, and violence still affects millions of women - from all social and economic levels and classes, and with all levels of education. In Iran's domestic laws, although there are more or less legal protections for women and children, they do not respond to the severity and seriousness of the crimes committed against women and children by the family or society. For example, despite the undeniable existence of domestic violence in Iran, especially in traditional families, there is no specific legal protection - even in defining and expressing instances of domestic violence - and if it does occur, it is only possible to refer to general criminal laws. There is also a lack of criminal protection regarding forced marriages or traditional marriages called "blood feuds" or "navel cutting", which cause severe physical and psychological harm to girls. It is clear that scattered criminal articles cannot properly prevent or reduce violence. Rather, protection mechanisms will only be effective in the light of a differentiated and coherent criminal policy; in other words, protection of potential and at-risk victims as well as victims of violence can be achieved through organized and coordinated actions by civil society and the government. On the one hand, civil society, namely non-governmental institutions and organizations, family, school, and mass media, will play an important role in raising awareness among women about self-confidence, self-care, and changing the dangerous lifestyles of some of them, as well as educating the public about the concepts of human rights and human dignity. In addition, civil institutions can provide adequate facilities for victims of violence to file complaints and pursue them. On the other hand, the government, in a general sense, will take legislative, executive, and judicial measures to protect women.

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