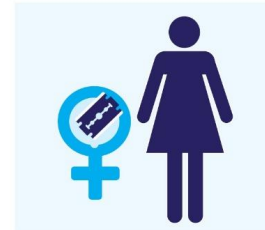


City of Rotterdam.



Shantle Singh



City of
Rotterdam

Presentation:



- Who am I?
- City of Rotterdam
- Gender-related violence
- Honour-related violence
- Key people in neighbourhoods
- Survivors of domestic violence



Who am I?



Shantie Singh (Jagmohansingh)

Senior Policy Advisor

Gender-Based Violence

Harmful traditional practices

Prevention and breaking the silence

Shantie Singh works as a senior policy advisor at the Municipality of Rotterdam. Here she deals with the approach to domestic violence, gender-related violence and honour-related violence. She has a passion for improving the position of vulnerable people in the city and has always found it important in her work that as many Rotterdam residents as possible are seen and heard. She is a storyteller and story listener, and she sees this as her most important added value for the public sector

The Netherlands

Erasmusbrug

Rotterdam.

Modern architecture

So much more than just
the Port of Rotterdam

170 nationalities
= vibrant culture

Domestic & gender-based violence



www.rotterdam.nl/schadelijketraditionelepraktijken



Prevalence figures for domestic violence NL

- In 2020 and 2022, 9% of the population aged 16 and over reported having been a victim of domestic violence in the previous year (1.3 million people).
- Women are more likely to be victims than men.
- An estimated 850,000 of these people are victims monthly, weekly or daily (490,000 women and 360,000 men).



Femicide

- Deadly gender-based violence against women.
- In almost 80% of the cases in which a woman or girl is killed in the Netherlands, the perpetrator is someone from the domestic circle: a (ex-)partner, a parent or another family member.
- For comparison: for men and boys this is 15%
- The province of South Holland, where Rotterdam is located, has the highest percentage of victims of murder and manslaughter nationwide



Figures on reports of domestic violence in Rotterdam

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	2024
Aantal adviezen	1934	2258	2128	2164	8484
Aantal meldingen	1969	2107	2155	2113	8344
Aantal crisis	124	129	134	165	552
Aantal tijdelijke Huisverboden	61	103	90	87	341
Aantal gestarte Voorwaarden & Vervolg	133	118	121	97	469
Aantal gestarte Onderzoeken	71	85	72	58	286

Sexual violence

Numbers at the centre against sexual violence Rotterdam in 2023:

Acute sexual violence – 266

Non acute sexual violence – 269



These are the numbers we know of...



Platform Stop Violence Against Women



www.rotterdam.nl/schadelijketraditionelepraktijken

How it started in Rotterdam & developments so far

In 2017, Rotterdam participated for the first time as a municipality in Orange The World – the international campaign period from November 25 to December 10 to draw attention to ending violence against women

- Important start to tackling violence against women & femicide



Platform 'Stop Violence Against Women' in 2018

- Three women murdered in a relationship - femicide
- Silent march with huge turnout
- Mayor: call for action group



Manifest Stop Violence Against Women



Playform Stop Violence Against Women

Platform Stop violence against women' has the following task:

- 1. To continue to stimulate the social debate on violence against women.**
- 2. To work on expertise and knowledge.**
- 3. To collect new ideas to tackle the problem of violence against women.**
- 4. To implement actions from the manifesto**



Key words: more awareness about the size and seriousness of



25 november

WORLD ORANGE DAY

internationale dag

stop geweld tegen vrouwen



Violence Against
Women

ZONTA SAYS NO



Working with 'survivors'



Former victim and former perpetrator of violence



REMI

“I am both a former victim and former perpetrator of violence, I am above all just Remi. A boy who dared to ask for help when he could no longer cope himself and dared to take on the battle with himself and the great unknown. This has ultimately resulted in regaining my own identity, taking back roles and using social talents.

Today I have been completely abstinent for over 9 years, I have managed to change my previous behavior and I have been working as a certified Expert by Experience for various organizations for 8 years.

My slogan is therefore: “You have to do it yourself, but never alone”...



Former victim of domestic and honour based violence



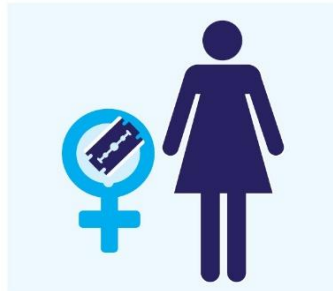
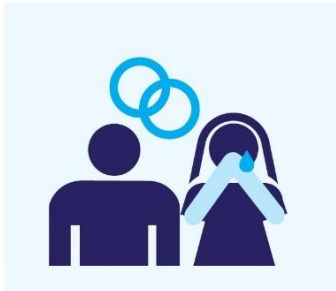
FAYZA

“I was humiliated and abused, both mentally and physically. In this marriage two children were born. If I tried to speak up for myself or my children, my husband or family in law forcefully shut me up. In that time I had known so much fear. At a certain moment my fear was gone. I could not and did not want to go any further. The light in my head went out and I jumped from the balcony to end my pain and my life.”

Fayza survived the fall and became hospitalized. After that she managed to flee to a safe house. From that moment started her long and difficult way to freedom. Fayza can now live again instead of only survive. She wrote a book about her experience and wants to be an example for other women who still live in violence and isolation.



Honour-based violence – Harmful traditional practices



‘Harde aanpak van gedwongen huwelijken’

Strijd tegen toenemend aantal gevallen

Inzet buurtvader tegen eergeweld

Steeds meer meldingen van eergeweld in Rotterdam

Vrouw in het nadeel bij religieuze scheiding

AD Rotterdams Dagblad, Rotterdam Dichtbij 24-11-2016

Zeven gevallen van vrouwenbesnijdenis

ROTTERDAM In Rotterdam zijn dit jaar zeven gevallen gemeld van vrouwenbesnijdenis bij Veilig Thuis Rotterdam Rijnmond (VTRR). Dat is voor het eerst in ja-

ren. Ook werd vaker bij VTRR aan de bel getrokken, in totaal 64 keer, over eergerelateerd geweld. Daarnaast kwamen 15 meldingen binnen van huwelijksdwang.

Dat schrijft het college van b en w op vragen van de VVD. De stijging komt door de toegenomen aandacht voor het onderwerp, maar is waarschijnlijk nog maar het topje van de ijsberg, stelt de gemeente. Binnenkort wordt een plan van aanpak gepresenteerd om deze ‘schadelijke traditionele praktijken’ aan te pakken.

‘Huwelijk onder dwang aangepakt’



Schadelijke Traditionele Praktijken

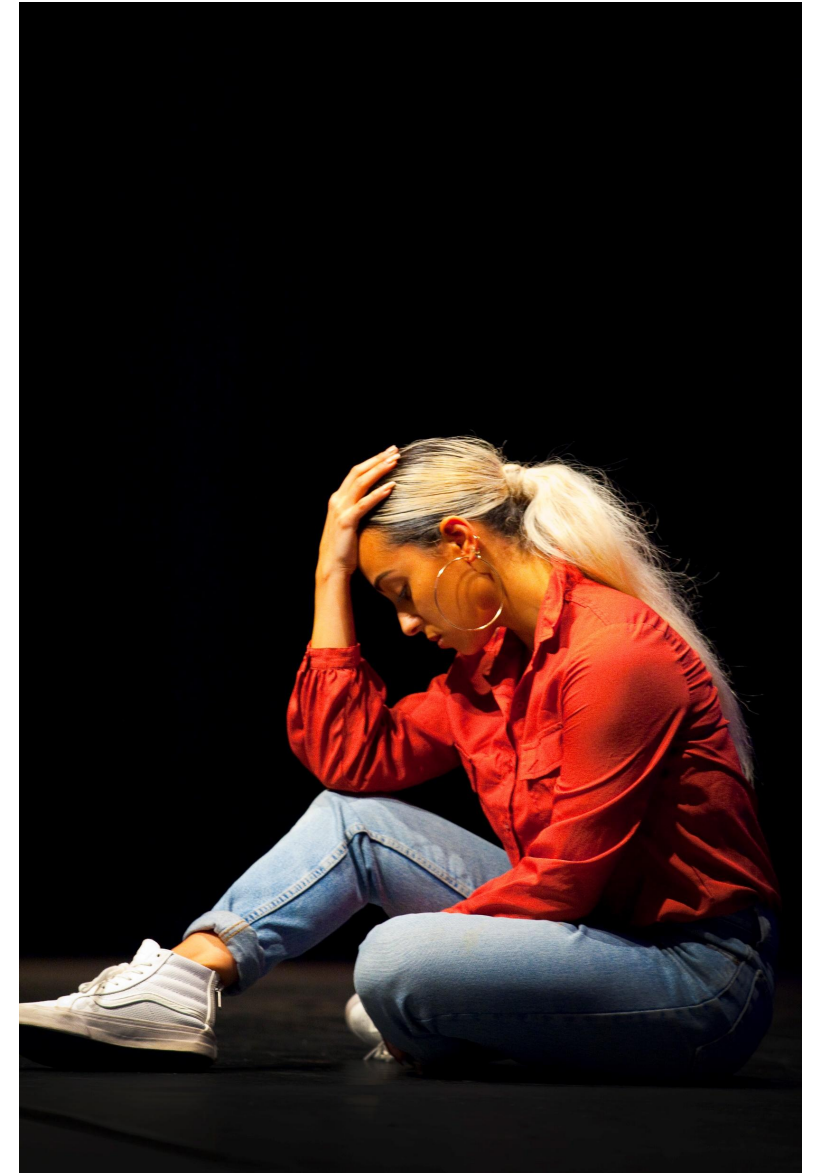
- Verschijnselen zoals fysiek en geestelijk geweld, onderdrukking, verminking, moord
- Komen voort uit: orthodoxe, conservatieve tradities en opvattingen over man-vrouwrollen en seksualiteit.
- STP beperken mensen in hun fundamentele rechten en vrijheden tot zelfbeschikking en zijn daarmee ook een schending van universele mensenrechten.
- STP kunnen overal voorkomen – geen ver van ons bed show, ook in Nederland, ook in Rotterdam

Bewust niet meer gekozen voor de term eengerelateerd geweld:

- Bepaald 'stigma' – contraproductief
- Benadrukken niets mis met tradities
- Term dekte de lading van de problematiek niet meer

Manifestations of harmful traditional practices

- **Honor-related violence**
- **Marital captivity**
- **Forced marriage**
- **Abandonment**
- **Female genital mutilation**
- **Forced isolated women**



The problem:

Harmful traditional practices

- Female genital mutilation: an estimated 28,000 women are circumcised. Between 40 and 50 girls living in the Netherlands at risk of circumcision every year.
- Forced marriage and abandonment: estimate based on the records of care professionals and experts: between 674 and 1914 cases per year.
- Honour related violence: according to the National Expert Centre Honour Related Violence a little more than 500 reports of honor-related violence and about 20 honor killings were reported per year.
- Forced isolated women: often called estimates of more than 200 to 300 women in a form of hidden isolation living in large cities



"I was 15 years old when I was told I had to marry my 28 year old cousin. I cried for two days."



FORCED

Collaboration in the HTP approach

- Key persons, experts by experience and through them with the communities themselves where we want to prevent STP.
- Invested a lot of time in the partners with whom we were going to collaborate. Formal and informal.
- Developed a policy with informal and formal organisations to tackle harmful traditional practices.
- All activities were evaluated by the city, which again consisted of a mix of informal and formal



What does this require:

- Open attitude & respectful
- Connecting with the city at 'all levels'
- Space for pilots
- Space for 'working differently'
- Tailored communication to target group



(H)echt verbonden

Het burgerlijk en religieus
huwelijk onder de loep





(H)echt Verbonden:

- Expertmeetings
- Publicatie
- Publieksversies
- Interviews op film

[www.rotterdam.nl/
hechtverbonden](http://www.rotterdam.nl/hechtverbonden)



Working with 'silent heroes' in the neighborhood



www.rotterdam.nl/schadelijketraditionelepraktijken

