

Women Social Status and Domestic Violence

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Women are suffering because of their position in the society. Men and women are human, but the traditions and cultures choose to put women in lower position and men in the higher one. In such a context, it will be difficult for women's human rights to be promoted.

Most of women feel it is good to live under the responsibility of men. The situation seems good for some men who use the opportunity to dominate women. Domestic violence questions find their beginning exactly at this level: battle of wills between men and women.

The stereotypes play an important role in violence against women. We have to fight against bad stereotypes which teach that only women have to :

- do domestic task and men are better to study, to go to the office;
- take care of children and family;
- stay at home and men are able to be out off the house at any time as they want.
- Men only have the capacity to make decisions.
- Men only can be out front in public.
- Everything women do has to be behind men;
- women must be helped by men.

Women have no public capacity because of traditions. With respect for women human rights, we have to fight against the bad aspects of traditions and cultures. Women are the property of men. They have no right to have something by themselves. Everything they have must belong to their husbands. There are women who have no identity except that of their husbands. Women must fight to have an identity. Most women are afraid of traditional machineries. Most families do not support their daughter when they have domestic violence problem. Women and girls have to behave correctly. Men have the right and the choice to do what they want like beating wives. Women are ashamed to talk about their domestic violence situation. Traditions and cultures have educated women and girls to be quiet in any situation. They have no right to talk to many people about what is going wrong in their lives.

Women in Burkina Faso have a national policy for the promotion of women adopted. Men in our country do not like their wives working in an office. It is very important for leaders to develop new strategies to free women psychologically. This is a fundamental problem women leaders have to solve. To really promote women's human rights leaders, need help not only from men, but also women. When there is a will, there is a way. Namely, in all cases of human rights violation of women, each leader needs the cooperation of each victim.

As domestic violence grows, governments have to work harder to resolve these kinds of issues due to traditions. Young girls may go to school and women have to be trained. Strong education programs are necessary for women development. Women have to understand and know everything around them.