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WAR Newsletter
2012 - 14

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WAR Seminar Rape & Sexual Abuse: Legal Reforms

This year War Against Rape observed its 25th Anniversary. It came into existence in 1989 as a separate entity, after working for sometime as a Sub-Committee of Women's Action Forum (WAF).

On this occasion, WAR hosted a Seminar and honored the Women's Rights Icon in Pakistan Mukhtara Mai as the Guest of Honor. The Seminar arranged by War Against Rape (WAR) was presided by the Minister of Culture and Tourism, Ms. Sharmila Farooqi.



War Against Rape used this platform of this Seminar to push forth for some much needed Legal, Medical and Procedural Reforms to the Government.

The Seminar on "Rape & Sexual Violence: Legal Reforms" attracted a diverse segment of society, comprising of members of the Civil Society, representatives from NGOs, doctors, lawyers, teachers, human rights activists and government officials.Cont/-

Credits

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WAR Recommendations Legal Reforms

1. Cases of Sexual Violence, rape & incest to be covered under "Time Limit" of 2 years as done in terrorism cases.
2. In compromised or out of court settlement cases, State should become 'Party' and continue with the prosecution of the Accused.
3. Cyber Crime Act to be immediately legislated due to increasing crimes on women.

4. Mandatory DNA testing for all rape cases and DNA machine to be installed in all Districts.
5. Empower current Women Police Stations & increase to every District.
6. Medical Legal Examination for rape survivors to be operational in all 9 hospitals identified, including establish in private Hospitals like Aga Khan Hospital, Ziauddin Hospital.
7. Mandatory recruitment of more women as State Prosecutors,

Judges, Police officers, Medico-legal Officers and Clerical Force in judiciary.



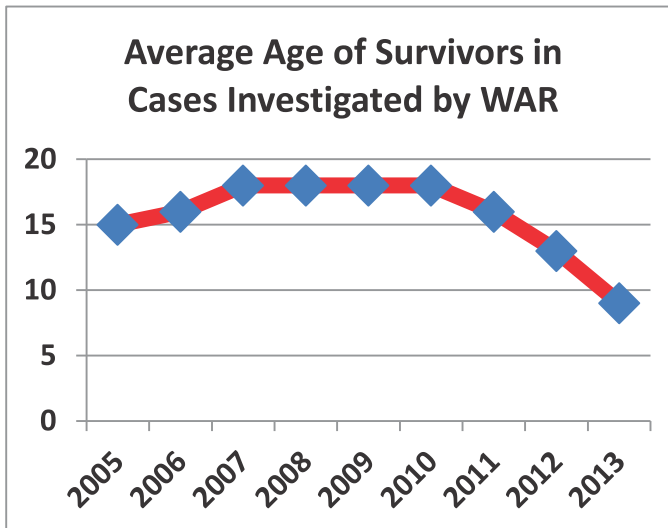
Alarming Changing Trends:

Compiled by Sheraz Ahmed

Average Age of Survivors

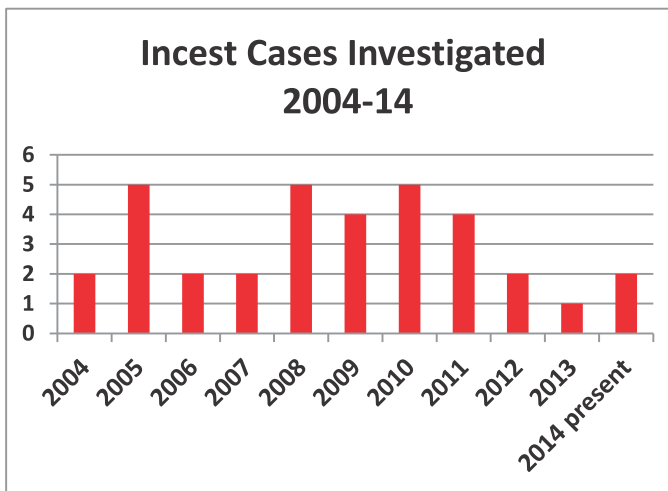
With increase in Child Sexual Abuse (CSA) cases in 2013, the trend showed a shocking decrease in the average age of a survivor. In 2013, WAR's Survivor Support Officers investigated almost 60% of Child Sexual Abuse cases of children under 13 years compared to only 30% in 2012. There were 14% cases of Child Sexual Abuse with murder of a child as young as 7 years old. This also brought the average age down rapidly from 13 years to just 9 years.

The chart below traces the average ages of survivors in cases investigated by WAR from 2005-2013. The trend shows consistent decrease in the age of survivors. The average age of a rape survivor is 9 years. The age group most vulnerable to sexual assault is 6-13 years (59%), followed by 14-20 years (23%).



Incest Cases

Culturally Incest is not only a taboo subject, but vastly considered 'not plausible' in a traditional Muslim family in Pakistan. Nonetheless WAR records show consistent cases of Incest over the years. However, due to the fact that Incest is shrouded in shame and secrecy, WAR believes these figures are just a tip of an iceberg.



War Against Rape Karachi.

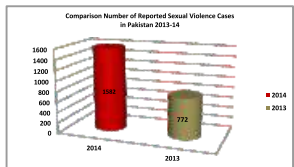
FACTSHEET 2014

Observing 25th Anniversary

In a patriarchal society like Pakistan, sexual violence, in particular rape, is accompanied by a strong social stigma, and the general attitude that rape is somehow the woman's fault. War Against Rape works along with different government sectors, in order to prevent and respond to sexual violence, especially women and children, including ministries of Health, Education and Law, as well as legislators, civil society, community leaders, religious groups, minorities, the private sector, media, teachers and families.

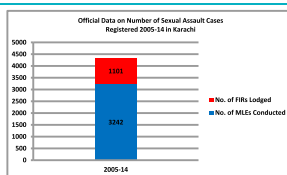
Due to growing severity of the issue of Sexual Violence (SV), and the state's constant failure to ensure the safety and protection of the survivor's rights and delivery of services, there is rising number of incidents of sexual violence being recorded and analyzed. For this purpose, WAR gathers statistics and case-related information from all 112 Police Stations in Karachi, including Women Police Stations and the three major Government hospitals in the city where medico-legal examination are conducted. The statistics includes cases it investigates, which may also be referred from other sources like NGOs, newspaper/media, citizens, school teachers and directly from Courts via Public Prosecutors and Judges.

Increase in Reported Sexual Assault Cases in Pakistan - 2014
A total of 1582 First Information Reports (FIRs) were lodged across Pakistan during 2014 compared to only 772 in 2013 in cases of Rape, Gang-rape and other forms of sexual violence. The statistics indicates that 4 women were raped every day throughout 2014. This increases the significant difference of reported sexual assault cases by almost 49%.



Reported Sexual Assault Cases in Karachi - 2014
Official records for Karachi show that only 106 First Information Reports (FIRs) were registered in 2014, while only 109 in 2013, in cases of sexual assault (includes Rape, Gang-rape, attempt to Rape, incest and Sodomy) compared to data collected from the three major g hospitals, Jinnah Post Graduate Medical Centre (JPMC), Civil Hospital, and Abbasi Shaheed Hospital shows that 383 Medico-legal Exams (MLEs) were conducted in cases of sexual assault during the same period, whereas 370 MLEs have been registered in 2013. It was found that FIRs had only been lodged in 27.67% of the cases where MLEs had been conducted. A consolidated comparison of the data obtained from the police and the medico-legal sector from 2005-14 is given below.

According to the Graph, the FIRs had only been lodged in 34% of the cases. The significant difference in the number of MLEs and FIRs registered in sexual assault cases still continues to exist in 2014. It is indicative of survivors either not willing to engage with the criminal justice system, the reliable data is missing by the police force or of cases where the complainant attempted to report the crime, but were unable to get their complaint lodged due to biased attitude and non-corporation from the police.

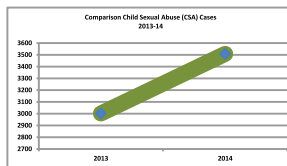


Emerging Trends

Child Sexual Abuse (CSA)

Being a vulnerable member of the society children are continuously being targeted and falling prey to sex offenders. The nature of crimes being perpetrated against children is a cause of great concern. The participation of communities in developing community-based programs that focus on prevention and quick response is the need of the hour, especially as in most cases the perpetrators are neighbors or close relatives.

WAR has been tracking an alarming rise in the number of Child Sexual Abuse (CSA) cases throughout the country, in 2014, reported numbers of 3508 children were sexually abused throughout the country, whereas in 2013, the total number of reported cases was 3002. This shows an increase of 17% in the registration of CSA cases from the previous year. According to the statistics 67% cases were reported from rural areas, while 33% from the urban areas. A total of 10 cases registered per day. The most targeted vulnerable age group among both girls and boys was 11-15 years. The largest groups identified were 1790 acquaintances and 1248 strangers by a total of 6531 abusers are on record. The following chart illustrates a comparison in CSA cases during 2013-14.



Increase in Reported Sexual Assault Cases in Pakistan - 2014
A total of 1582 First Information Reports (FIRs) were lodged across Pakistan during 2014 compared to only 772 in 2013 in cases of Rape, Gang-rape and other forms of sexual violence. The statistics indicates that 4 women were raped every day throughout 2014. This increases the significant difference of reported sexual assault cases by almost 49%.

War Against Rape (WAR) Sexual Violence Factsheet Jan - Dec 2011

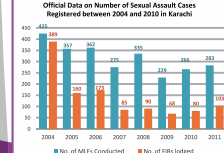
The year 2011 ended on a high note with the passing of two major laws by Parliament extending the ambit of protection offered to women under the law in Pakistan. Unfortunately, they represent an attempt to curb violence against women in the country as well.

The role of the State extends to, amongst others, providing security to all its citizens, by preventing crime, investigating it and ensuring punishments to offenders. Sadly, while the Government of Pakistan continues the momentum of legislation on women's issues, the implementation of laws has remained problematic, with little focus on addressing patriarchal subjugation of women and preventing crimes against women in the first place.

In order to highlight the growing severity of the issue of Sexual Violence (SV), and the constant failure of the State to ensure the protection of the rights of survivors and delivery of services, it is imperative that the number of incidents of SV are recorded and analyzed. WAR gathers statistics and case-related information from all 103 police stations in Karachi, including Women Police Stations and the three major Government hospitals in Karachi where medico-legal exams (MLEs) are conducted. However, the cases it investigates may be referred from other sources as well, including town offices (over 18 in Karachi), other NGOs, media and directly from courts via public prosecutors and judges.

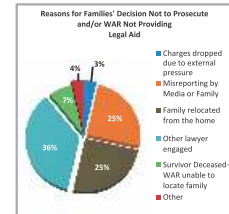
Reported Sexual Assault Cases January - December 2011
A reported 4091 First Information Reports (FIRs) were lodged across Pakistan in 2011, in cases of Rape and Sexual Assault. Official records for Karachi show that in 2011, 103 FIRs were registered, in cases of sexual assault (includes Rape, Gang Rape, attempt to Rape and Sodomy). Data collected from the three major Government hospitals shows that 283 Medico-legal Exams (MLEs) were conducted in cases of sexual assault in 2011.

WAR has been tracking the difference in the number of FIRs and MLEs conducted in Karachi since 2004. A comparison of the data obtained from the police and the medico-legal sector from 2004-2011 is depicted below.



Police records show that of the 103 FIRs registered between Jan-Dec 2011, charges of only 45 (44%) of the cases have been presented in court, and 56% have been dismissed off under Classification A - which means that there was lack of evidence for the case to proceed further, or the accused had absconded. At the end of December 2011, 39 of the 45 cases were pending trial, whilst 14 have resulted in convictions.

WAR's Investigations
WAR investigated 41 cases of sexual assault in 2011. 32% of these cases were taken to court by WAR's legal team. The chart below illustrates the reasons why 68% of cases were not taken.



Analysis of cases investigated by WAR in the period Jan - Dec 2011 highlighted the following facts:

- The age group most vulnerable to sexual violence was 12-17 years (29%), followed by 6-11 years (27%).
- 37% of survivors were children under the age of 12, whilst 64% were under 18 years.
- The average age of a rape survivor was 16 years.
- Majority (80%) of rape survivors were female, while 20% were male.
- Demographically, the highest incidents of sexual violence were recorded in Bin Qasim town (18%), with Orangi town (14%) in second place.
- 25% of the survivors' families shifted from their homes to escape stigma and persecution.



Observing 25th Anniversary

WAR's Working Committee's Message on the occasion:

War Against Rape's 25 years of history, complete with milestones, achievements, breakthroughs -- sequentially obstructions, taboos, blockade, frustrations and disappointments -- all have been the reality of it's 25 years of existence.

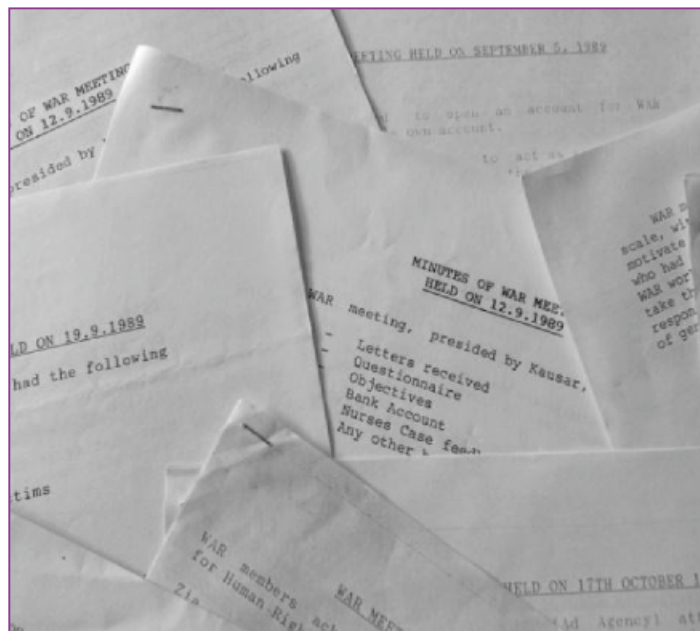
The success story was the successful transition from a totally voluntary setup into a professional organization. With this transition, the organization was able to function the normal working hours and consequently deliver more. At the same time, the frenzy of activism and the "pressure group" power that WAR had acquired as a reputation in the early days, started getting lost the ethos of activism became one of professionalism - with WAR going into the midst of Survivor Support activities.....providing instant psychological, medical and legal support to survivors.

As WAR matured, it was able to deliver sustainable legal support, regular training workshops and awareness spreading sessions with stakeholders. WAR ventured into research on the challenges of rape and sexual violence and published articles, started publishing Newsletters and Factsheets.

It started community based awareness sessions in different districts, working with elected councilors in Community Centers, going into schools and colleges, working with teachers & students and soon penetrated into new territories holding workshops and giving sensitization training to stakeholders. It reached out to Professional and Government

Institutes like the Women Police Officers, Medico-Legal Officers, Lawyers etc. From time to time it digressed into issues like Domestic Violence, Women's Shelters etc, but every time it deliberately focused back to its core challenge of rape and sexual violence.

The stigma attached to the word "rape" and the "silence" surrounding it has broken to quite an extent --- as the tagline "breaking the silence" is no longer used in WAR's communications. There were many



breakthroughs – but the most heartening is the regular stream of young students coming to work in WAR as Interns during the summer breaks. These Interns are young boys and girls, both from local colleges and from abroad.... a positive change from those earlier days when parents would complain to College Principals for letting WAR speak to students on such a "shocking" subject!

Perhaps the lowest point in WAR's history was when due to extreme paucity of funds, WAR was on the point of closing down - twice in history. The issue of low Funds remains a perpetual issue to this day. Herein comes the myths and the taboos -

almost everyone agrees that the "cause" is good & deserving, challenges WAR faces are immense -- yet at the time of "giving" individuals distribute their Zakat to more 'deserving' causes like education & health and Corporations do not want the 'stigma' of being associated with such a taboo subject! This leave WAR with the only other option of International Donor Agencies, which has its related 'donor fatigue syndrome' from time to time.

The WAR Working Committee acknowledges that the strong reputation that WAR has developed over the years, not only in the NGO sector, but also within the Sindh government, is due to the professionalism, dedication, honest hard work and unflinching commitment of its professional staff. Kudos to each and every member of our Professional Staff who played a role in the development of WAR over the years.

Focusing in the coming next 25 years of WAR, the WAR Working Committee recognizes the fact that WAR has to evolve into a more vibrant, visible and forceful organization, with Advocacy being in the forefront.

In the years to come, breaking the silence and raising awareness on the challenges of Incest, which remains shrouded in shame and secrecy, should be a focused area for WAR. WAR envisages a society with justice at the grass-root level and a society free from discriminatory laws – and only then can WAR's vision, of a "One Window Operation" for Survivors at all District level, become a reality.



How it all started.....

by Kausar Khan

Founding Member WAR

Twenty five years from today (2014), revisiting that period brings back two significant trends – Women Action Forum's (WAF) persistence with the issues it pursues for women's rights, and the buzzing around the rapid increase in kidnapping and armed burglaries.

This was 1989, and General Zia ul Haq, the military dictator of Pakistan, had been dead for a year (he died on August 17, 1988). The euphoria of freedom from the dictator had been replaced in Karachi with the anxieties around the rising lawlessness. This was the first term of Benazir Bhutto as Prime Minister of Pakistan (1988-1990). This was the time when CPLC (Citizen Police Liaison Committee) was formed (1989).

WAF members during its weekly meetings would also share incidents of armed robberies experienced by people they knew. Sometimes there were accounts of exchange between

the dacoit and the woman in the house – 'you are lucky you are old', said a dacoit, as he held his gun towards the elderly woman who had chided him for breaking into her home. In one such meeting, a WAF member recounted what happened to one of her friends when two dacoits broke into her home. She was raped by one dacoit, while the



other kept her husband busy in another room. This incident galvanized WAF and it called a meeting on this issue at the Press Club. The meeting was charged, and ended with a call for a meeting a week later. Soon weekly meetings on the issue of rape took place and those who came regularly were people new to WAF, and soon

outnumbered WAF members at the meeting. The meeting then shifted from the Press Club to the office of ShirkatGah, the organization that had given birth to WAF.

A new leadership emerged in what appeared to be a Sub-Committee of WAF, and the group that now carried forward the agenda decided to name itself War Against Rape (WAR). The next step that WAR took was to devise a structure for itself and get registered. This process also initiated an internal debate in WAF which pondered over its relationship with WAR, and debated whether it is a Sub-Committee of WAF or an independent entity. The latter reality prevailed and WAF began to see as an important ally in its struggle for women's rights. Many a time when a case of rape was reported to WAF, it was turned to WAR.

Helping Survivors & their Families

Helping Survivors & their Families

Over the years, WAR has been helping many of the Survivors in more ways than simply providing legal and psychological assistance. This has been the case because Survivors and their family get harassed many a times and have to thus relocate or due to the pressures of the court case, many of the Survivors father/husband or those earning livelihood are left without jobs and consequently left totally destitute. At times, they have no money to even come to the Court. On such occasions, WAR struggles with its Zakat Fund to rehabilitate the families.

Some of these cases, with changed names are given below:

Raheela:

WAR arranged the following for this family:

Arranged fruits & food for Raheela due to doctor's advised.

Arranged Finger Chips Machine for the family to generate income.

Arranged a job for Raheela's father.

Arranged clothes on Eid-ul-Fitr for Raheela and her mother.

Laraib

WAR arranged the following for this family:

Ten visits to Laraib's house and Rs. 2000/- for her needs and other expenses.

Given Rs. 2000/- for Laraib's eye checkup and glasses.

Ten visits to Laraib's school for follow up of her study and submission of fee.

Arranged clothes on Eid-ul-Fitr for Laraib and her mother.

Additionally WAR provided food and Eid clothes for Three others Survivor and their family

When we started WAR in 1989

by Nazeeha Hussain,

WAR Founding Member / Working Committee Member:

I was one of the early members who volunteered to join WAR to fight against violence against women. It was my late sister Saneeya, who took me to one of the WAF meetings held at the press club in 1988 as I returned home after completing my education in the US.

I recall our earlier meetings at Shirkat Gah at 1 Bath Island when we would be asked to share our experiences of fear. We had a close group of the Working Committee that was formed to initiate WAR. The search for an Office was one of the many tasks that I remember and also going with the late Paula Moarif to buy fans for the WAR office. Membership data base was also one of the areas that I volunteered to work on.

To sensitize ourselves to the issue of rape, we were all asked to go back and review this topic, considered a much tabooed one, in our own circles of friends and peers at work. I was doing a temporary job in an airline then and so with utmost difficulty approached the topic with the peers one day. The response I got from one gentleman at that time on the issue of rape was "I would love to be the rapist". This

showed the mindset of some of the people who made fun about it and hence was one of the biggest challenges to get people to understand how serious this crime was.

Things that hit me profoundly were the bonding sessions we did, and then understanding the myths of rape. One of the early rape cases was that of the German lady who lived in PECHS alone and she suspected someone



from the domestic staff who raped her. We all were asked to provide our support to her in the form of spending time with her so she was never alone. We would take food and go down to spend a couple of hours with her. Given we were all working then, my volunteer hours would fall on a Sunday and I would do it. I cant recall much except that I had very little or no experience in dealing with a older

survivor.

The things that I enjoyed doing were the Open Meetings we held with the public, which were part of the 'breaking the silence' and spread awareness of this crime and how to report rape. We would spent hours over doing small tasks like cutting press clippings on the topic, specifically any coverage of rape cases and then reviewing how to tackle it.

Some of our earlier successes includes the case which we won of a 5 year old girl – Mahjabeen, who was raped by a store keeper in Lyari. I remember how we had arranged an open meeting in Lyari and how fearless we were at that time.

One of the other stories that touched me was the street theatre where Sania Saeed did some work for WAR. Our friend Yaseen Bizenjo and the drama group from Lyceum and then Ajoka Theatre as fund raiser for WAR were my first experiences of learning how we could use drama and theatre to raise awareness of the issue of rape and to break the silence around reporting rape.

by Dr. Abdul Bari Awan

Member Working Committee

I have been working as a volunteer & member of WAR's Working Committee continuously since 1994 and would like to share my feelings as to how I felt during those formative years of WAR.

The formative years (1989-99):

During its first 6 years WAR was managed and run by a volunteer Working Committee (WC) of 13 members. During these years, WAR faced various problems which were related to it being a purely volunteer organization. In November 1995 the WC had a brainstorming session and after which it published a 20 page report: "Proposal and Three Year Plan 1996-98, which highlighted WAR's weaknesses and suggested solutions. Quote: "It is agreed that most of these issues arise because of limited volunteer time, limited number of staff (only one) and limited financial resources. There was

general agreement by the WC to make a transition to a more formal organization with more paid staff. The WC will remain a volunteer-only. With overall responsibility for strategy, policies and finance". This was the beginning of long term three year program and budget planning. One of the requirements of FBR for all NGOs is an annual audit of accounts, which was never done. The first audit of accounts was done in 1995. It was also decided that according to its new direction & funding strategy, request for donations would be sent out to foreign donor agencies for assistance.

Thanks to the donations from UNDP,

British High Commission and Shell, WAR was able to transform itself and grow into a formal organization having a blend of a volunteer WC and a salaried professional staff consisting of a Coordinator, Lawyers, Socio-legal Officers, Psychologist and an Account/Office Assistant. However, since the UNDP grants are very seldom renewed, WAR entered into its crisis filled next 3 years, as there was no new commitment of foreign or local funds.

The Crisis Years (2000-2001): Lack



of financial resources forced WAR to reduce staff and its activities. As of 2000 WAR's finances permitted to retain only two professionals, a lawyer & a socio-legal officer at half salary. A member of the WC took on the job of the Coordinator in 2002 with the objective of preparing a new three year (2003-05) budget proposal for requesting International donations.

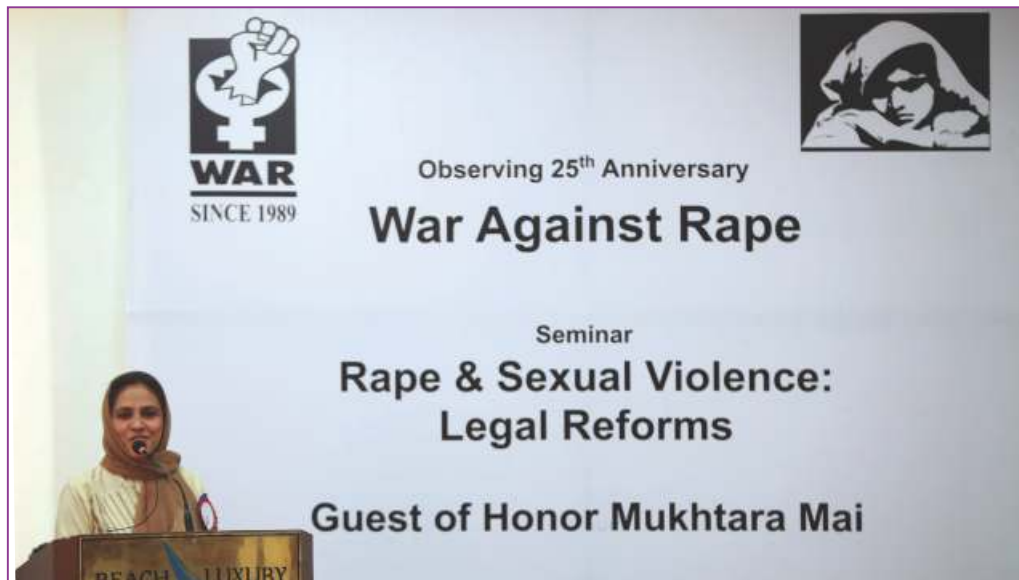
During this period WAR's financial situation was grim. Loans and personal donations from WC members and friends tried to keep WAR going. WAR entered year 2002 with a deficit of Rs. 72,000. Loans given by WC members had to be written off. WAR also

received a notice of immediate payment from CBC of past arrears of property taxes from 1989 of about Rs. 40,000. This complicated matters as although WAR had purchased its office in 1989, it had not transferred the property to its own name. It continued to appear in the CBC register in the name of the builder. WAR had achieved zero funding. The auditors warned if WAR's financial condition did not improve in 2002, it may have to go into "liquidation".

The years of Reconstruction (2002-Present)

Thanks to our International donors like ICCO and Mama Cash from Holland, Global Fund for Women, Global Fund for Human Rights, and USAID from U.S.A., and European Union Commission, WAR has been able to carry on with its program over these years. National funding has been low, varying from 5 to 10 per cent of our budget during these years.





.....Continue from Page 1 Cover Story

WAR Seminar

The Seminar was addressed by the Guest of Honor Mukhtari Mai, who pleaded for speedy trials to ensure prosecution of the criminal offenders of this heinous crime. The Minister of Culture & Tourism Sharmila Farooqi, praising the work of NGOs like War Against Rape, reiterated the Governments resolve to continues its work for welfare of women in general, including effort to eradicate sexual violence. The Seminar was also addressed by WAF representative Ms. Kausar S. Khan who reminisced about the environment which lead to WAR being formed in the late 1980s.

The highlight of the War Against Rape Seminar were the key note addresses on Legal & Procedural

Reforms. Barrister Danish Zuberi, appreciated the Sindh Government's initiative of passing the Harassment at Workplace Act, The Domestic Violence law and the Child Marriage Restrain Act, but strongly urged the Government to focus on the challenge of its actual implementation. Barrister Danish Zuberi, in her address spoke about the laws relating to rape and the reforms needed to make rape prosecution more effective.

Ms. Sarah Zaman, in her address spoke of the 'on field' challenges in the Medico-legal field as well as procedural obstructions hindering disbursement of fair trial and justice to Survivors. Going through her experience as a past Director in WAR, she gave

recommendations for reforms in the Medico-Legal Sector.

War Against Rape urged the Sindh Government to improve the state of law and order in Karachi as women are the first victims of lawlessness. It urged the Government for stricter enforcement and implementation of all laws recently passed for Women protection & welfare, as otherwise, violence against women will continue, unabated.

War Against Rape strongly feels that had justice been done in the Mukhtara Mai's case, heinous crime like gang-rape, could be reduced to some extent from the society.



First Contact with Survivors and their Families

by Sheraz Ahmed
Survivor Support Officer (SSO),

The roles of the Survivor Support Officers (SSOs) of War Against Rape (WAR), Ms. Rukhsana Siddiqui and Mr. Sheraz Ahmed are important and crucial. They have to reach out to the Survivors of Rape and their families at a time when they are in a traumatized state and offer them help and support. WAR has to ensure that its actions do not add to their victimization, but serves to make them aware of their legal rights and support them in the choice of action to be taken.

WAR obtain information about rape cases from different sources i.e. Newspapers, Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), Judges and

Lawyers, Community Based Organizations (CBO's), The Citizen Police Liaison Committee (CPLC), The Office of the Police Surgeon, Medico-Legal Officers (MLOs) – male and female, Police Station.

Most cases of Rape that WAR handles come from the so called “Katchi Abadies – Lower Middle Class Areas” or “informal settlements”, and WAR's male and female SSOs go together. They make the First Contact visit to the survivors together to assure them of WAR's support and aid. The purpose of the First Contact visit and other subsequent visits is to gain the trust of the survivors and their families and encourage them to come to the WAR office where free legal aid and counseling would be available to them. An appointment with WAR's resident

lawyer and counselor is arranged to explain to them their rights under the law and how the accused can and should be prosecuted and punished for their crime.

However, the final decision whether to take the culprit to court to seek justice or remain silent and not prosecute belongs to the survivor and their families.



WAR Activities:

1. WAR recommended financial assistance for Survivors

During its meeting with Regional Directorate of Human Rights Mr. Iqbal Pasha on January 11, 2012 at Sindh Secretariat, where Riaz Fatyana addressed NGOs; discussed human rights issues NGOs are facing, and assured that the government is committed towards safeguarding human rights in Sindh.

The Government offered compensation to those who have suffered human rights violations. On behalf of the Survivors, WAR filed applications on behalf of 15 Survivors of rape and sexual assault, for compensation.

2. Consultation with Political Parties

April 7th June 2012. As part of its strategy of keeping in contact with political parties, WAR held meeting in Consultation with Regional Directorate of HR Irum Frooqi, MQM. In the meeting WAR and MQM exchanged

ideas and areas of cooperation. MQM was keen that WAR train and sensitize their Workers and arrange Capacity building of their Town Workers.

3. Coordination meeting with Social Welfare Department

The Sindh Government's Social Welfare Department developed a Child Protection Unit (CPU) in Sindh. The Department Official reinforced their commitment to the protection and promotion of child rights in the province. The idea behind the Child Protection Unit (CPU) is to work with relevant stake holders, in order to promote child rights and to protect children from violence, exploitation, neglect and abuse. With this in view the department invited WAR to participate and work with them, so that the Department could refer child sexual abuse cases to WAR.

4. Help Desk in Shelters

WAR provided support and set up Psycho-social counseling and Legal Help Desks in two shelters i.e. Panah



Shelter for Women and Bint-e-Fatima Old Home and Shelter. WAR professional staff i.e. Ms. Rukhsana Siddiqui, Survivor Support Officer, Ms. Farida Moten, Legal Consultant and Ms. Sarah Jafri, Clinical Psychologist provided Psycho-socio counseling, legal counseling and psycho-therapy services to all residents at Panah and Bint-e-Fatima Shelters.

During the Project, the Help Desk services were provided to 154 Survivors. WAR also provided Legal Aid to 27 of these survivors. Initial counseling was given to these Survivors, there were cases of physical violence 41, sexual violence 19, Incest 2, Rape/gang rape 2, domestic violence 68.

Referral Networking Meeting With Police Officials

WAR has also been focused on ensuring that police officers are sensitized to the issue of gender based violence so that women who have been subjected to sexual abuse do not feel hesitant when reporting their cases to the local police, and that the police officers take the appropriate steps when carrying out an investigation into a case of domestic abuse.

During these meetings, WAR was advised by the police about laws for domestic violence and protection of women are there, such as Section 151 Pakistan Penal Code (PPC), prevention of action for any crime and abuse, and Section 354 PPC (applicable to other than husband), in case of any violation or attempt of violation of private body parts of women, any women can seek redress.

Section 504 PPC protects against the use of abusive language against women. Section 337 A-1 PPC gives protection against body harm with mark of injuries.

Being a Police officer My Responsibilities

WAR also developed a guideline "Being a Police officer My Responsibilities" and put on many police station.



Meetings with Hospitals:

WAR has built a referral networking with Medico-legal sector as well as hospitals. The WAR team comprising of Ms. Rukshana Siddiqui and Mr. Sheraz Ahmed, visited 03 Medico-legal hospitals in Karachi i.e. Jinnah Post Graduate Medical Centre (JPMC), Civil Hospital, Abbasi

Shaheed Hospital, along with WAR also referral net working build with Private sector and psychological hospitals such as Pakistan Association for Mental Health (PAMH), Jamiat Hospital, Pakistan Medical Association (PMA), Chinniot Hospital and DOW International Medical College (DIMC) and DOW University of Health Sciences (DUHS). WAR had detailed

meetings to build a referral mechanism.

The Medico-Legal Officers (MLO) and doctors in the hospital appreciated WAR's efforts and were willing to refer survivors of gender based violence and sexual assault cases to these shelters. WAR also developed and shared a flyer.



تقدیر سے متاثرہ افراد کو مدد فراہم کرنے کے اہم نکات

تقدیر سے متاثرہ افراد کو مدد فراہم کرنے کے اہم نکات

- 1) ...
- 2) ...
- 3) ...
- 4) ...
- 5) ...
- 6) ...
- 7) ...

USAID Aurat Foundation

محبت پسند خیر برپائی کی ضرورت

پسندیدہ خیر برپائی کی ضرورت

USAID Aurat Foundation

Meetings with Bar Associations

The Referral Networking Meetings were held with the Lawyers at Karachi Bar Association (KBA) and Sindh High Court Bar Association (SHCBA).

These meetings were conducted by Ms. Asia Muneer, WAR Lawyer and Ms. Rukhsana Siddiqi, Survivor Support Officer and were attended by District Court & High Court lawyers, who appreciated the work being done by WAR and offered full cooperation in taking the work forward.



Community Meetings in Towns

WAR held a number of Community Meetings in various Districts/Town in the city of Karachi. WAR staff members Rukhsana Siddiqui and Sheraz Ahmed conducted these meetings. These Community meetings were specifically held in slum areas, targeting and focusing on those areas where sexual violence number had increased over the years.

These targeted areas were: Surjani Town, Korangi, Landhi, Gulshan, Surjani, Manghopeer, Sohrab Goth, Gadap, Punjab Colony, Orangi, Neelam Colony, Gulistan-e-Jauhar etc.



Presentation in Self-Empowerment Workshop

Saneeya Hussain Trust held a Workshop on self-Empowerment for its beneficiaries. They invited WAR to hold an Awareness Session during the Workshop. WAR Coordinator Kiran Simon held the Presentation telling the beneficiaries about WAR activities and

the free services it offers. The Saneeya Hussain Trust offers scholarships to deserving female candidates for further education or professional training.



WAR Session in SZABIST

SZABIST University invited WAR to take part in their program. WAR Coordinator Kiran Simon gave a Presentation on 28 August 2014 on WAR activities and Sexual Violence.





WAR Research Study Launch 16th June 2012

WAR conducted a number of in-depth research on different subjects. These researches were then published. The Research study Launch took place on June 16, 2012 people from different segments of the NGO sector was invited for the event. The following researches were published:

- 1) "With an End in Sight" Incest in Pakistan: A legal & Socio-cultural analysis, conducted by Sarah Zaman and Sanaa Rasheed.
- 2) Best Practices in Medico-legal Care for survivors of Sexual Assault
- 3) The Criminal Justice System & Rape.

- 4) An Attitudinal Study of the Public Sector's response to Rape in Karachi, conducted by Ayesha Khan and Sarah Zaman.
- 4) Sexual Violence of the Law in Pakistan, conducted by Maliha Zia Lari. Edited by Sarah Zaman.



Training with Shelter Homes

WAR undertook training of two Shelters i.e. Panah Shelter and Binte-Fatima Shelter Home. The staff in both the Shelter houses were trained by WAR professional staff on Legal and Psychological basic training.

related laws pertaining to sexual violence, women and family matters, including the basics i.e. Nikhnama, Khulla etc. They also gave out a Training Manual developed by them for the Shelter staff.

Clinical Psychologist Sarah Jaffery and Rukhsana Siddiqi. These Trainings were attended by all Panah staff including gate-keepers/ Guards, Caretaker Manager, Counselor etc. Participants were given a Manual developed by WAR.

WAR Advocate Ms. Asia Muneer, Ms. Rukhsana Siddiqi and Advocate Rehana Perveen gave a Session on

The second Training was about Psycho-Social Counseling. This training was conducted by WAR

Internship Programs - 2013 & 2014

Building Stronger Alliances with Educational Institutions

In 2013-14 WAR held successful Internship Programs. Students from different national and international Universities took active part.

Projects / Assignments:

Compiling data. Editing research reports in English and translations into Urdu. Assisted in Fund Raising Events. Updating events in website and Facebook. Field visits to Schools, Shelter Homes, Courts, Police Stations.

The interns came from various national and international schools, colleges and universities.

National Universities:

The Lyceum School, Government Girls Degree College, Nixor College, IBA Karachi, SZABIST & Bahria University

International Countries:

United Kingdom, Germany, Netherlands, Australia & Turkey Most of WAR's International Volunteer Interns came via IBA Karachi. The AIESEC-IBA (Association of International Exchange of Students in Economics and Commerce partnered by Institute of Business Administration) Program. Massachusetts, New York University, New York, University of Central Florida, Orlando, Florida.

INTERNATIONAL

Hiba Thobani-University of West England (UWE) Bristol, Bar Professional Training Course, UK.

Noor Sattar-School Of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), LLB, London UK.

Sophie E. - CAU, Bachelor of Arts, Germany.

Marloes Thijs-Utrecht University, Conflict Studies, the Netherlands.
Hannah Sutton- Curtin University, IR, Sociology, Anthropology, Australia.
Ozge Kaya-Bogazici University, PolSci, IR, Istanbul, Turkey.
Anne Westerweele-University of Utrecht-History, the Netherlands.



INTERNSHIP PLACEMENTS:

The annual summer Internship Program of WAR offers students from various local and international Colleges / Universities an opportunity

to work along with WAR's professional staff in its various activities and programs related to issues of all forms of sexual violence against women and children. It is a

great learning experience about the challenges that exist in addressing gender based violence in Pakistan.

COMMENTS OF INTERNESS

NAME: Hiba Thobani (Aug-Sept 2014)

UNIVERSITY / SCHOOL AFFILIATION: University of West England (UWE) Bristol

EXPERIENCE AT WAR: As a lawyer starting my career in Karachi, WAR provided a smooth transition from student life into the legal profession. It was a pleasure to work with WAR's permanent staff and in particular its in-house lawyer Ms. Asia. Her passion came through in all her work and it was a wonderful learning experience to attend city court with her. I have huge respect for the people working tirelessly to run this organization and

hope to continue working with them in the future.

NAME: Noor Sattar (Aug-Sept 2014)
UNIVERSITY / SCHOOL AFFILIATION: School Of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS)

EXPERIENCE AT WAR: I joined WAR as a third year law student hoping to gain some experience in the legal field, however I left with a reformed identity and much more to offer. The work ranged from research projects to developing and editing the annual news letter as well as city court visits, where we sat in on actual cases and

even witnessed encounters with the accused and victims' families.

My experience at WAR has been a whirlwind (to describe it best) where not only have I learned the day to day workings of an NGO, but also adopted a lot of qualities from the staff such as empowerment, confidence and strength to strive till success is achieved. I enjoyed every minute of my time here, made some great friends and experienced a whole new meaning to life as I knew it.

NAME: Sophie E (Sept 2014)

UNIVERSITY/SCHOOL
AFFILIATION: CAU

EXPERIENCE AT WAR: My internship at WAR ensured me a great overview regarding social issues faced by many women in Pakistan. It provided me with a practical experience about the work in the field of human rights. My work included going through the newspaper finding incidents regarding sexual abuse and harassment as well as working in the marketing apartment. I am thankful for the time I spend here and the things I learned during my internship.

NAME: Hannah Sutton

UNIVERSITY/SCHOOL
AFFILIATION: Curtin University

EXPERIENCE AT WAR: WAR is a place of inspiration, filled with people passionate about making a change in Pakistan and empowering women. Being an NGO that focuses on an issue which is a social stigma in society, there have been many threats against the staff both in the office and on the field. I then feel that my task of applying for security grants to help the safety of the staff is important and I love coming in to work on it every day. It is a work environment that keeps you informed, active and always ready to challenge yourself.

NAME: Ozge Kaya (Jun-Jul 2014)

UNIVERSITY/SCHOOL
AFFILIATION: Bogazici University

EXPERIENCE AT WAR: For the first time in my life I am working for an NGO for sexual violence survivors in Karachi. This project was one of the most attractive aspects for me to come to Pakistan. We search newspapers everyday for sexual violence and rape cases. It is done because in Pakistani society rape is a common crime. But, unfortunately, survivors and their families hesitate to reveal affairs and to challenge for justice. Additionally, we visited a shelter house for sexual violence survivors which were really interesting. In our small NGO office, in fact, we cannot do something crucial to emancipate women in Pakistan society. However it has been a great experience.

NAME: Maheen Bandhani (Jun-Aug 2014)

UNIVERSITY/SCHOOL
AFFILIATION: Bahria University

EXPERIENCE AT WAR: My experience at WAR went beyond just the internship exposure it offered me. The work that we did, as well as being in the company of international internees changed my thinking about social issues greatly. It not only opened my mind to the prevailing social issues in Pakistan, but also exposed me to the

problems faced by young girls my age. Therefore, I feel like I have become more compassionate and sensitive to issues like these.



NAME: Marloes Thijs (Jun-Jul 2014)

UNIVERSITY/SCHOOL
AFFILIATION: Utrecht University

EXPERIENCE AT WAR: My time at WAR was something special. It was so inspiring to see both the permanent staff as well as the volunteers being so passionate and committed to a cause so controversial in Pakistan. This autumn, WAR will celebrate its 25th anniversary, hopefully the wonderful people at WAR will be able to provide services for rape victims and fight for social change for many years to come.



Investigation of sexual violence cases

2011-2014

by Sheraz Ahmed

WAR investigated 152 cases of sexual assault between January 2011 to December 2014. Out of these, 24 cases (16%) has been taken to court for prosecution. WAR's Survivor Support Officers (SSOs) Ms. Rukshana Siddiqi and Mr. Sheraz Ahmed paid 107 visits to survivors and their families, offered basic counseling and imparted rights information. Traditionally, in the past 20 years only a handful of women have approached WAR directly for assistance. The organization is dedicated to finding

cases as and where they happen and reach out to survivors and their families with the help of the Police.

Various visits were paid to different Police Stations in Karachi in order to collect Data on sexual violence cases, including Women Police Stations. The total number of visits to Police Stations by the WAR team was 50, whereas 10 visits to the Capital City Police Office (CCPO) were also made. 25 visits were paid to the three major Government hospitals, Jinnah Post

Graduate Medical Centre, Civil Hospital and Abbasi Shaheed Hospital, where medico-legal examinations for sexual assault cases are conducted by medico-legal officers.

During this period, WAR also provided support to survivor and their families through the Survivor Support and Crises Aid Funds, for the provision of food, medicines, clothing, house rent and education (Survivors only).

Self Defence Workshop



WITH BODY BEAT RECREATIONAL CENTER

WAR organized a Self defense workshop with BodyBeat Recreational center where an ex-military trainer gave the participants a hard core 3 hour training session on how to defend ourselves in case of an attack. This workshop got a good coverage in online media and our board member Azra Rehan who came up with this activity was also invited on FM 105 to talk about WAR .

Success Stories

By Asia Muneer

Case No. 01 State v/s Shahbaz Masih

This is a case of a 4/5 years old Survivor only. Who was taken from the street by a young boy to a washroom in his own house, where he raped her after covering her mouth with his hand. The accused's mother than took the little girl and left her back in the street, crying and bleeding.

Judgment: He is convicted of the rape of a minor and sentenced to 15 years and a fine of 50,000.

Case No. 02 State v/s Khurram Shahzad

Survivor was working in Korangi hospital. On 28-5-2008 she left her house to attend duty in hospital, when she reached Korangi No. 3, some one hit her on head and she lost consciousness. When she came to her senses, she found herself in a house where accused and two others persons were present. The accused raped her, even though she begged him to spare her. The FIR was registered against the accused, after medical examination was completed.

The Judgment was pronounced by the Session Judge, after hearing all evidence. The accused was arrested, the judgment announced against the accused was a 10 year conviction and a fine of 50,000/-. His appeal to High Court was also dismissed.

Case No. 03 State v/s Irshad

The Complainant, who was father of the survivor, who was murdered, was a Security Guard. At the time of the opening of the Fast, he realized that his daughter, only 5/6 years old, was missing. The Mohalla people started the search, announcements were made from the local Mosque. Some one then informed them that the child was last seen talking to the Accused and another man. The Accused was arrested and the investigations conducted found him guilty. He was convicted and sentenced to the following Judgment: kidnapping **5 years fine 10,000/-, rape imprisonment for life and fine 50,000/-, and murder (Qatl-i-Amd) life imprisonment and fine 10,000/-**

Case No. 04 State v/s Jawed Iqbal

This case is a very good example of State becoming the Party and not letting the Accused go free, even when the father of the Survivor appeared before the Judge and filed his 'bayan halfi' that the honorable court acquit the accused as he was forgiven. But court did not accept the 'bayan halfi' and the Judge rightly said "the offence is against the society and not compoundable. The Accused's apology would be taken as mitigating the crime".

In this case, the father lodged the FIR, when his minor daughter of 6 years old, who had gone to play at 3pm in the apartments next to their house did not return. The accused who also resided in the apartments, left the minor in an unconscious condition in front of the apartments, after raping her.

Judgment passed was an **imprisonment of 12 years and a fine of 20000/-** in case of nonpayment of fine, further 2 months of imprisonment.

Cases Won 2012-14

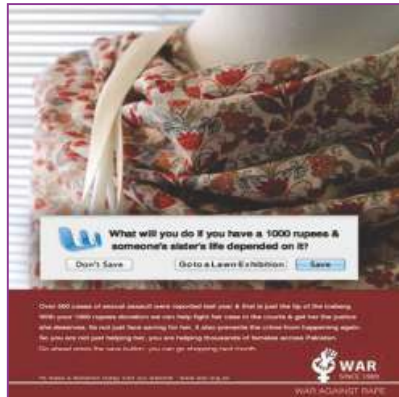
1. Shahbaz Masih-----10 years fine 50,000/-
2. Khurram Shahzad Mashi-----10 years fine 50,000/-
3. Khurram Shahzad appeal in high court-----10 years fine 50,000/- and appeal dismissed
4. Muhammed Irshad & others-----life imprisonment and 2,00000/-
5. Jawed Iqbal-----12 years and 2,0000/-
6. Azhar-----1 year juvenile justice ordinances

List of Lost Cases 2012-14

1. Azhar appeal session trail. This case won, 10 years convicted. But after appeal in High court accused was released.
2. Parvaiz lost due to lack of evidence.
3. Rana Tasneem lost due to lack of evidence.

DONATE A 1000 Rupees Online Campaign

WAR launched an online campaign designed by Headlion Advertising on Facebook which prompted people to spend their hard earned money the right way.



Fundraising Activities

WAR arranged a fundraising event with the help of students of Lyceum School.

Fundraising Theatre

WAR arranged a fundraising Theatre event with the help of students of the Lyceum School. The theatre was held in Alliance Franchise, Karachi on 30th November and 1st December 2012. Two different performances were performed titled "Aurat" & "Aadhi Gawahi" by the students.

WAR Stall

AT OCEAN MALL CHILDRENS FESTIVAL

Our working committee member Azra Rehan arranged a FREE stall at the children's festival at the Ocean Mall. This stall managed to generate a lot of crowd and we created good awareness among the people as well as raised a good amount of donation. Badges and Pens which said "I support WAR" were given to those people who made donations as a gesture of goodwill.



WAR in Media WAR Team in TV programs

A number of TV channels covered WAR activities and WAR staff took part in their Programs. WAR staff participated especially in the Morning Shows of various channels, as the audience is mainly women. Some of the programs in which the WAR Team participated are programs: AGAR on ARY news, Morning Show with Maya Khan, Morning with Sadiya Imam in Dawn News Chanel.

Rukshana Siddiqi, representing WAR, talking in HTV Morning Show.

WAR's team (Rukhsana Siddiqi, Survivor Support Officer, Sarah Jaffery, Clinical psychologist) participated in Express TV morning show that was recorded in New Karachi Police Station.



Collage of old WAR Pictures



Sponsorships Acknowledgment

WAR gratefully acknowledges Sponsorships and donations from the following Organizations and individuals for their financial assistance which allowed them to hold the Seminar on December 16, 2014

Hanif Adamjee Charitable Trust

Lesli Derry Perry [Pearl Engineering Pvt Ltd)



Acknowledge with thank photographs taken on voluntary basis by
Mr. Jamal Ashiqain (Cell No. [0345-8212603](tel:0345-8212603))
and video recording on voluntary basis by
Ms. Nayab Rehman (Cell No. [0333-3982493](tel:0333-3982493))

WAR IN PRESS

Handling of rape cases a chain of weak links

By Tehmina Qureshi
Karachi

For a woman in Pakistan who has been raped, her best bet for justice is to approach the nearest government hospital... as soon as possible.

At least this way, the woman and her family can ensure a medical examination by a medico-legal officer, who would then also call the police station concerned to record the survivor's statement.

This way, when the MEO writes report, the circumstantial evidence present at the time when the patient, such as torn or bloody clothes or injuries, will be duly hence included as evidence.

In rape cases, especially in primary circumstantial cases, the police officers are often not clear about the procedure.

In such cases, the police officers often do not follow the correct procedure, which is why the medico-legal officers often find it difficult to provide a clear report.

The medico-legal officers often find it difficult to provide a clear report, which is why the police officers often do not follow the correct procedure.

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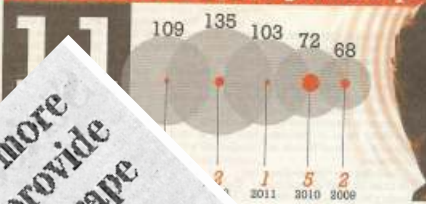
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Convictions in FIRs against rape



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Call for early arrest of rapists

By Our Staff Reporter

KARACHI: The War Against Rape (WAR) condemning the rape and subsequent killing of two girls, including a five-year-old, in the city has demanded immediate arrest of culprits and stern punishment to them according to law.

In a statement issued today, WAR coordinator Simon said it was shocking that a five-year-old girl was kidnapped, raped and killed in Karachi.

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'Two rape and murder cases in a week alarming'

By our correspondent
Karachi

War Against Rape (WAR), an NGO concentrating its resources on battling the heinous crime, has expressed "profound sorrow and concern" over the two rape cases reported in Karachi in less than a week.

WAR demanded that the government should ensure that such cases are handled on time and the culprits are punished.

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Call for more laws to provide justice to rape survivors

Any law that provides justice to rape survivors is a step in the right direction. However, more laws are needed to ensure that justice is served.

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Rape of minors a rising trend

Experts fear number of minors being raped is rising. This is a concerning trend that needs to be addressed immediately.

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Since DNA tests as primary evidence in rape cases

Provincial assembly expected to pass bill at next session

HAFEEZ TUNIO
KARACHI

There will be a ray of hope for rape victims after the Sindh Assembly passes its mandatory DNA testing for rape survivors bill at the next session.

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There will be a ray of hope for rape victims after the Sindh Assembly passes its mandatory DNA testing for rape survivors bill at the next session.

All expenses relating to the collection of DNA samples and conducting the tests will be borne by the government through the Sindh DNA Testing fund

The law also lays punishments for officials found violating the DNA samples, contaminating or abusing them. In many cases, the police and medical officers are found delaying, destroying, altering, contaminating and tampering forensic evidences.

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Women need to know them, you just need to protect them

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It's better to fight than to die, says Mukhtar Mai

The rape survivor and activist organized a protest in Karachi. She said it is better to fight than to die.

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Myths QUIZ

1. **A woman is MORE likely to be raped in a deserted road at night.**
TRUE FALSE
2. **Men rape because they get sexually excited and cannot control themselves.**
TRUE FALSE
3. **A woman who is decently dressed and totally covered is NOT likely to be raped.**
TRUE FALSE
4. **MAINLY young and beautiful women get raped.**
TRUE FALSE
5. **Rape is ALWAYS premeditated and planned.**
TRUE FALSE
6. **A husband CAN rape his wife.**
TRUE FALSE
7. **Men who rape are NOT normal.**
TRUE FALSE
8. **A girls coming from rich & influential family does NOT get raped**
TRUE FALSE
9. **A rapist is mostly known to the Victim.**
TRUE FALSE

The above are common myths in our society discriminating against women. See the correct answers below and judge how much you are influenced by these common incorrect presumptions.

ANSWERS:

1. **FALSE:** In reality, all women are vulnerable regardless of where they are, at home, at workplace, in hospitals or factories.
2. **FALSE:** Rape is not about sex, it is about power, where sex is used as a tool.
3. **FALSE:** Dress is not the cause of Rape. It is incorrect to presume that the woman in some ways must have asked for it i.e. by dressing provocatively or flirting and exciting the man.
4. **FALSE:** The fact is, that it is not only the young and attractive that gets raped, but rape affects women of all ages and all looks. Even old and very young are raped.
5. **TRUE:** Rape is always premeditated and planned. The survivor is not always chosen beforehand, but the act itself is planned.
6. **TRUE:** Any forced sexual intercourse is a rape, even if it is between a husband and a wife.
7. **FALSE:** This myth takes away the responsibility of the act, excusing the man on grounds of insanity.
8. **FALSE:** Rape happens in all level of society.
9. **TRUE:** A Rapist is mostly known or lives in the neighborhood.

**Mukhtara Mai, Kainat Soomro and many others
.....waiting for justice.....**



About War Against Rape:

War Against Rape (WAR) is an apolitical, Non-Profit and Non-Government Organization working since 1989 providing sexually abused women and children FREE legal aid, psychotherapeutic counseling, basic medical assistance and crisis intervention for survivors of rape, incest and other forms of sexual violence.

Presently, WAR involved in investigating close to a hundred cases each year, which may or may not be reported to the authorities, providing free legal aid to nearly 20 families annually, providing psychotherapeutic counseling and running a robust advocacy, capacity-building and awareness raising programs.

War Against Rape (WAR) publishes annual newsletters, reports, statistics & data including Research Publications on topics of rape, Incest, Criminal Justice System etc.

WAR AGAINST RAPE

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