

Further Information about Forced Marriage

Warning Signs

Parents who force their children to marry may seek to justify their behaviour, believing that it protects their children, preserves cultural and / or religious traditions, and caters for stronger family relationships. Some other key reasons may include controlling unwanted sexuality, preventing perceived unsuitable relationships, protecting 'family honour', achieving financial gain, ensuring care for a child or adult with additional needs, and assisting claims for residence and citizenship.

Some indicators

Education: absence / attendance (missing from school); request for extended leave / home education; failure to return from visit to country of origin; surveillance by family / extended family and community; deterioration in behaviour, achievement or punctuality

Health: self-harm; attempted suicide / threats to suicide; eating disorders; substance misuse; depression; pregnancy; always accompanied to appointments

So-called Honour Based Abuse

Definition: 'an incident or crime involving violence, threats of violence, intimidation, coercion or abuse (including psychological, physical, sexual, financial or emotional abuse) which has or may have been committed to protect and defend the honour of an individual, family and / or community for alleged or perceived breaches of the family and / or community's code of behaviour'.

Resources:

[Forced marriage - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk)

[Our-Girl-Resource-Pack.pdf \(avaproject.org.uk\)](http://avaproject.org.uk)

[Forced Marriage Awareness - Free Course | Virtual College \(virtual-college.co.uk\)](http://virtual-college.co.uk)

Charities:

[IKWRO – IKWRO Women's Rights Organisation](http://www.ikwro.org.uk)

[Karma Nirvana](http://www.karnirvana.org.uk)

[Southall Black Sisters - Southall Black Sisters](http://www.southallblack.org.uk)

[Home | Kiran Supprt Services \(kiranss.org.uk\)](http://www.kiranss.org.uk)

[Sharan | Supporting South Asian Women in the UK](http://www.sharan.org.uk)