

Violence against women: victim support - Interview with Sylvia Walby



Sylvia Walby (European Professor of Sociology and Gender Studies, University of Cambridge, UK) is the Director of the European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE). She is also the author of the report 'Violence against women: victim support' (2018).

More information: <http://www.eige.europa.eu/en/eige-profile>

The European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE) has recently produced a report entitled 'Review of the Implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action by the EU Member States: Violence Against Women: Victim Support' for which you were also a part of the research team. The report states that definitions of forms of violence and data collection methodologies differ widely between countries (based on procedural surveys, crime statistics and other sources of administrative data). The data therefore cannot be compared within one country or internationally. What can be done to improve the quality of the data?

Given the extent of administrative data responsibility, how can the role of the police and the justice system be working. There are two main areas of collecting information about the extent of gender-based violence against women (as well as what forms of violence data collected during the routine administration of public services, such as the justice system and surveys of the general population that are a representative snapshot of people about their experience of such violence).

Timely data from administrative sources are useful in monitoring the performance of services, but this is often to significantly underestimate the extent of violence.

increases of the problem is not reported to the authorities. In this respect, most experts recommend surveys of the population to generate more accurate estimates which are better at reporting on changes over time and differences between countries. There are examples of such surveys in some countries, but they cannot be compared there it is an incomplete family that provide comparisons between countries. It is the different forms of violence, or some comparison of changes over time in different countries. However, there is a 'silver line' in the field - an ongoing development from the European Union Fundamental Rights Agency - through with statistics on the implementation of the law, and a second one is proposed by the European Commission (which is a survey would be carried out in all Member States that generates similar data on key indicators. Furthermore by Statistics of different forms of gender-based violence against women, and which is required on a regular basis in order to produce data for change over time. This will require policy coordination at the EU level.

Another relevant finding of EIGE's report is that support services for victims of intimate partner violence are not sufficient. Some of the main challenges are low level of service provision in certain countries or lack of specialised services for women survivors of violence. What other challenges were identified in part of the research in the area of public support to women survivors of intimate partner violence?

The development of specialised services for victims of partner violence has played an important role in increasing the awareness of victims against violence, as well as providing support in areas of legal advice, housing, financial support, in a way that allows for comparison. Also in the EU context, a challenge they include in research, which is that, above the fact, about any country will be legal aid. The exchange of information about these administrative mechanisms, allow the EU has been supported by the Council of Europe of the EU. But despite the known effectiveness of such services, their provision remains very uneven across Europe.

Other expertise services, such as police, justice, health care, housing, employment and disability support, there have been important developments including specialist units, which are also there are not available. There is a challenge to expand all functions of social services of countries, and to maintain the quality of the service provision as they are spread. It is important to continue to develop the expertise that is behind the ongoing provision of new services and the effective delivery of quality services. This requires

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Violence against women: victim support - Interview with Sylvia Walby

EN (PDF, 231.76 KB)

Metadata

AREAS: Beijing Platform for Action, Gender-based violence

BPFA AREA: D. Smurtas prieš moteris

ISBN: 978-92-9218-137-6

DOI: 10.2839/34996