CREATING A SAFETY PLAN

Creating a safety plan is the first step to end the cycle of abuse. If possible, keep the originals and copies of these documents in a safe and accessible location.

Identity documents:

- Passport and immigration papers
- Social Insurance Number
- Bank documents (debit card/ credit card/ cheque book)
- Driver’s license
- Marriage certificate
- Insurance papers

Other:

- Jewellery or any valuable gifts given at the time of marriage
- Prescriptions, if needed

If accompanied with children:

- Birth certificate or any other medical records
- School records

Establish a code word with someone you trust to notify them:
- You are in danger and they should call 9-1-1
- You are escaping
- Someone is listening to the conversation

WHERE TO GO FOR HELP

Emergency 911
Community Connection 211
www.211toronto.ca

Assaulted Women’s Help Line
1-866-863-0511 / 416-836-7868 (Toronto)
1-866-863-7868 (TTY)
#7233 (#SAFE – Cell)

Family Service Ontario
416-231-6003
www.familyserviceontario.com

Sexual Assault / Rape Crisis Centre
1-800-810-0180
www.sarccp.org

Shelter Net Assessment and Referral Centre
1-877-338-3398 / 416-338-4766
www.shelternet.ca

Shelter Central Family intake
416-397-5637

South Asian Legal Clinic of Ontario
416-487-6371
http://www.salc.on.ca/

Toronto Police Service
1 416 808-2222
TDD: 416-467-0493

Key information identifying Forced Marriage as a form of Human Trafficking
- a resource tool for survivors.

For further information please contact:

South Asian Women’s Centre
800 Lansdowne Avenue unit 1
Toronto, ON M6H 4K3
Tel: 416 537 2276
www.sawc.org
info@sawc.org

This brochure has been funded by The Law Foundation of Ontario
What is Human Trafficking?

Trafficking in persons can be defined as follows:

The action of recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring, or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force, coercion, abduction, fraud, deception, abuse of power or vulnerability, or giving payments or benefits to a person in control of the victim. This is done for the purposes of exploitation, this includes prostitution of others, sexual exploitation, forced labor, slavery or similar practices and the removal of organs.

What is a Forced Marriage?

Forced Marriage is a marriage in which one or both spouses do not or cannot consent to the marriage and duress is involved. Duress can include physical, psychological, financial, sexual and emotional pressure.

A Forced Marriage is a Form of Human Trafficking When:

- Forced Marriage is used to traffic a person across border(s) and where that person then faces exploitation.
- There is a fear of leaving the relationship because of potential harm to self and/or other loved ones.
- The spouse and/or spouse’s family have control of the survivor’s identity documents.
- Economic exploitation is apparent, including dowry and/or exchange of favours.

Options for Survivors:

FMHT is illegal and there are recourses for survivors. Each case is unique and thus, it is advisable to seek legal advice from a professional.

- Immigration Refugee Protection Act - Temporary Residence Permit
- Family law - Divorce
- Criminal Injuries Compensation Board - Potential compensation

Note: In a case of Human Trafficking, charges are brought by the Crown Office on behalf of the Government of Canada. The individual does not bring charges, but may have to give testimony and provide evidence at the trial.

FMHT Indicators

Potential Indicators associated with those FMHT situations include:

- Dowry/exchange of favours/ gifts/wealth in marriage
- Forced labour/servitude
- Lack of informed consent
- Forced sexual intercourse
- Lack of knowledge of immigration policies
- Fear of deportation
- Not in possession of passport or visa documents
- Fear of losing child custody/ separation from child(ren) due to deportation
- Isolation from community
- Financially dependent on the spouse and/or his family—Severe Economic deprivation
- Deprived of personal freedom/ movement (No self-autonomy)
- Obvious signs of malnutrition
- Self-harm and/or suicide attempts
- Severe guilt and/or self blame

Note: These indicators are not exhaustive and do not all have to be present for a case of FMHT.