

The Rights of Women Conference



BMER Women:*

The Law and Violence - Where's the Justice?

Wednesday 26 September 2007 - Hamilton House, London

Speakers include:

Lord Lester of Herne Hill, QC
Government Advisor on Constitutional Reform, Liberal Democrat Peer and human rights lawyer

Shaminder Ubhi
Director of Ashiana Project

Yasmin Rehman
Director of Partnerships and Diversity, Violent Crime Directorate, Metropolitan Police Service

Marai Larasi
Executive Director, nia project and Vice Chair of the Women's Aid Federation of England

This is a full day national conference for women evaluating the law and legal rights and remedies available to BMER women experiencing violence.

Workshops:

Immigration and Domestic Violence
Pragna Patel, Southall Black Sisters
Alison Stanley, Bindmans Solicitors

Violence against Women: International and National Frameworks

Heather Harvey, Amnesty International UK
Tania Pouwhare, Women's Resource Centre

Forced Marriage, the Law and Legal Remedies

Jasvinder Sanghera, Karma Nirvana
Hannana Siddiqui, Southall Black Sisters (tbc)

Violence against Women, Children and the Law

Anne Marie Hutchinson OBE, Dawson Cornwell Solicitors
Michelle Springer-Benjamin, NSPCC

Who should attend:

- * BMER women's organisations
- * Women's service providers, including those providing support, advocacy, advice and refuges
- * Women's policy organisations
- * Women's second tier and umbrella organisations
- * Voluntary sector organisations
- * Law centres
- * Citizens Advice Bureaus
- * Trade unions
- * Lawyers
- * Health and social services practitioners
- * Local Government departments, including equalities officers
- * Central Government department
- * Politicians
- * Academics and researchers
- * Independent Domestic Violence Advocates and Independent Sexual Violence Advocates
- * Police officers, Crown Prosecution Service, magistrates and the judiciary

***BMER Women – Black and Minority Ethnic and/or Refugee Women, including women seeking asylum.**

BMER Women: The Law and Violence - Where's the Justice?



ABOUT THIS CONFERENCE

This full day national conference for women will examine recent and forthcoming laws affecting domestic violence and sexual violence and abuses predominately experienced by BMER women and women seeking asylum such as forced marriage, honour crimes, female genital mutilation (FGM) and trafficking. The focus on BMER women is not about singling out certain communities, but about recognising that BMER women experiencing violence are a specific group that have been marginalised and often denied access to justice.

Attending this timely conference will provide a unique opportunity to hear highly respected speakers and experts including politicians, parliamentarians, service providers, specialist lawyers, leading campaign organisations and the police. This conference will provide a through grounding in the law and legal rights of BMER women experiencing violence, while offering an opportunity for women with existing expertise to receive updates on key topics and contribute to important discussions about accessing changes and campaigning for reforms.

ABOUT RIGHTS OF WOMEN

Rights of Women is a well established and expanding not-for-profit women's organisation committed to informing, educating and empowering women on the law and their legal rights. We produce publications, organising conferences and training courses and undertaking policy and research work. We run two national confidential legal advice lines for women provided by women, one general advice line specialising in family law issues, including domestic violence, and one on sexual violence.

CONFERENCE AIMS

- * To examine the impact of violence experienced by BMER women, within the context of a violence against women framework.
- * To examine and evaluate legal and policy responses to violence experienced by BMER women.
- * To identify areas for reform and develop strategies of response.

**NEW Rights of Women Book **

All conference delegates will receive a copy of Rights of Women's new handbook on the law and legal remedies available to BMER women and women seeking asylum who are or have experienced violence.

Conference delegates will also be able to purchase Rights of Women's other books at one-off discounted rates.

Conference Fees

Women's organisations,
Charities, CABx, Law
Centres: **£100**
All Others: **£200**
Rights of Women members
receive a **10% discount**.

Conference Details

Venue: Hamilton House, Mabledon
Place, London, WC1H 9BD

Timings:

- * Registration at 9am
- * Opening of conference at 9.30am
- * Close of conference at 4.45pm

Promotional Opportunities

Reach our delegates. Rights of Women is providing a unique opportunity to promote your organisation and its work with an insertion into our delegate packs for just £50.

Please detach and return this slip to receive further information, including a booking form and programme for the Rights of Women Conference: BMER Women and Violence — Where's the Justice?

Please send me information about: the conference insertions into conference pack

Name Organisation/Position

Address

Postcode Email Tel

PLEASE RETURN TO Rights of Women, 52-54 Featherstone Street, London, EC1Y 8RT

Email conference@row.org.uk; Telephone 020 7251 6575/6; Textphone 020 7490 2562; Fax 020 7490 5377

www.rightsofwomen.org.uk