

Rights of Women's

# Pathways to Justice



## BMER Women, Violence & the Law

**Pathways to Justice** is a practical, accessible and empowering guide to the legal rights of Black, Minority Ethnic and Refugee (BMER) women including women seeking asylum. Long overdue and the first book of its kind, it provides extensive coverage of issues including forced marriage, female genital mutilation, immigration and asylum, trafficking, child abduction and honour crimes.

Produced by Rights of Women following 30 years' experience, complete with up-to-date cases and written in an easy-to-follow style the book sets out the key legal facts facing at-risk women in England and Wales today. The book will inform and empower women and is a vital resource for individuals, voluntary and community organisations, lawyers, policy makers, health and social work practitioners, academics, police officers and broadcasters.

### WHAT OTHERS HAVE SAID

*"This is an excellent book which will help BMER women access justice. I believe it is really important for women to feel empowered and be informed about their legal rights. Rights of Women have achieved this with this book. Keep up the good work!"* **Doreen Lawrence**

*"Pathways to Justice provides a comprehensive introduction to the law from forced marriage to immigration law and deserves to be on the shelf of every judge and worker supporting BMER women. Reading this book is the first critical step in breaking down the barriers that prevent women from understanding their legal rights and accessing justice."* **Baroness Helena Kennedy QC**

*"This informative and pioneering guide is much needed for those who work or come into contact with BMER women. But perhaps even more importantly, it serves as a critical reminder that the human rights of BMER women cannot be dispensed with in the name of 'cultural sensitivity', 'difference' or the need to maintain the so called 'integrity' of the immigration and asylum system!"* **Pragna Patel, Southall Black Sisters**

*"I congratulate Rights of Women on producing this essential and important guide for BMER women including women seeking asylum. This handbook may help save lives and it will assist many women from these communities access justice and free themselves from violence and/or the threat of violence".* **Saira Khan, Broadcaster and Business Woman**

# Rights of Women



Rights of Women is a well established and expanding not-for-profit organisation committed to informing, educating and empowering women on the law and their legal rights. The organisation runs a free legal advice telephone service for women and produces publications on women's rights. Rights of Women's areas of expertise include family law, relationship breakdown, domestic violence, sexual violence, immigration and asylum and it frequently runs conferences and training programmes on these issues.

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To order this publication online see our website [www.rightsofwomen.org.uk](http://www.rightsofwomen.org.uk)

Rights of Women works to attain justice and equality by informing, educating and empowering women on their legal rights.