

Transnational Actions

The project has two Transnational Partners:

1. Leeds Inter-Agency Project:

The L.I.A.P. project will inform our analysis and understanding of male domestic violence from an anti-racist perspective.

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2. Association pour la Promotion des populations d'origine nomade d'Alsace (APPONA)

APPONA is a Gypsy organisation based in Strasbourg (France). We will work to develop our gender agendas and share insights and methodologies on training with Gypsy and Traveller women.

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Pavee Point

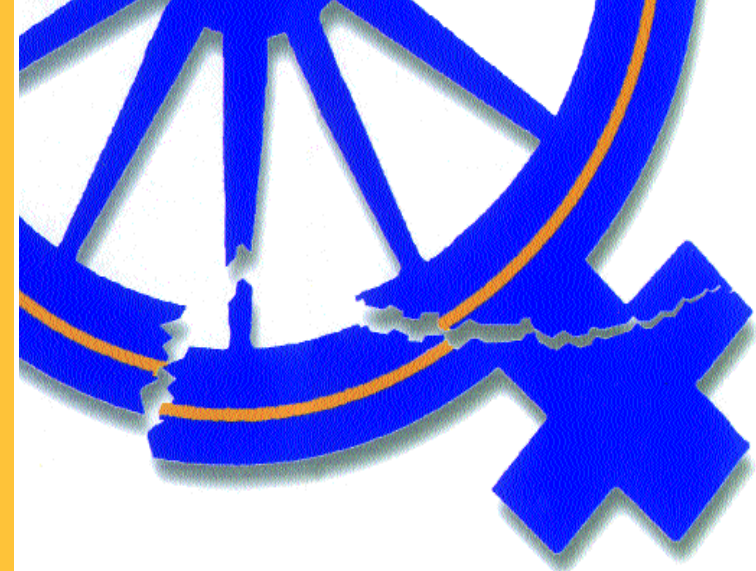
Pavee Point is a voluntary non-governmental organisation which is committed to the attainment of human rights of Irish Travellers and the majority population working together to address the racism and exclusion Travellers experience in society. It has been involved in direct work with Travellers since 1985.

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Pavee Beoirs Breaking the Silence

Traveller Women and Male Domestic Violence

Traveller Women

Traveller women are one of the most marginalised groups in Irish society. The Report of the Task Force on the Travelling Community states that:

“The inequalities experienced by women generally are also experienced by Traveller women. In addition, Traveller women suffer from discrimination experienced by Travellers as a group in Irish society.”

Through Pavee Point’s work on various training programmes run with and for Traveller women, the specific needs and issues for Traveller women and children experiencing violence have been highlighted and explored. This initiative will address the Traveller specific dimensions to the experience of domestic violence and identify culturally appropriate responses.

Policy Context

The report of the Working Party and Judicial Process for Victims of Sexual and other crimes of Violence against Women and Children highlights the situation of Traveller women and *“strongly recommends that a working group be established to examine the needs of Traveller women and which would specifically examine the practicalities of providing a refuge which would be directly run by Traveller women for other Traveller women. The provision of support and practical options to women in marginalised groups, such as Traveller women is vital. It is also vital that differences be respected and that models of self-help and empowerment are developed by and for Traveller women, appropriate to their cultural needs”*.

The Report of the Task Force on Violence against Women states *“training modules should be developed that will specifically address the needs of women who are facing additional isolation and discrimination. Women from all marginalised groups should be trained to deliver culturally appropriate responses within their own communities. Traveller women should be trained and employed within existing crisis and emergency services, especially refuges, and should be resourced to carry out research into the need for specialist services within their own community”*.

Aim

To develop culturally appropriate responses to male domestic violence issues within the Traveller community and to identify and create employment opportunities for Traveller women in refuges and associated services.

Objectives

- To create a body of Traveller women with a capacity to engage with the issues associated with domestic violence and to seek employment in this area.
- To create a context that will be favourable to developing and implementing new initiatives for Traveller women in this area.
- To pilot actions that will clarify the detailed nature of the new initiatives required.
- To develop policy materials and knowledge adequate to resource new initiatives for Traveller women in the area of male domestic violence.

Actions

- To train 12 Traveller women as refuge/crisis/outreach workers.
- To undertake research at a national level on the extent, nature and options for Traveller women experiencing violence within their community.
- To pilot a series of responses to domestic violence within the Traveller community and to develop a policy on the issue and make recommendations for addressing domestic violence in culturally appropriate ways.
- To provide in-service training to a range of key personnel who interact with Traveller women seeking refuge from domestic violence.
- To work with young Traveller men in challenging violence against women in their own community.

