



Kosovo Women's Network

Serving, Protecting and Promoting the Rights of Women and Girls

Press Release

Protest: Enough Excuses

On Mon., 17 Oct. 2016, at 12:00, at Zahir Pajaziti Square in Prishtina, activists from the group Albanian Feminists, the Kosovo Women's Network (KWN), the Group of Women Assembly members from the Municipality of Gjakova, and other individual women and men activists from civil society invite you to protest together with us against the violence perpetrated against a girl from the Municipality of Rahovec.

The girl was kicked and dragged near the fence outside her high school "12 May" by her uncle, who also is a professor at the school. Then, he and two other persons lifted the girl into a van as she was unable to walk, as seen in a video distributed via the internet. To make the situation worse, officers from the police station in Rahovec declared that "giving a few slaps to a girl who only in September missed school 41 times should not be exaggerated." Meanwhile the Director of the school that the girl attends was nearby when this event occurred. He stated that the school does not have the responsibility to intervene in family relationships.

This has proven once again that domestic violence remains a serious concern for Kosovo society. Also, educational institutions, in this case the school, has not taken this crime seriously, as they have failed to demand recourse for violence perpetrated by a professor. Both this institution and the Kosovo Police stated that violence against girls is a personal matter that is "only for families."

Kosovo society, over the years, has accepted the use of domestic violence as a form of education and discipline for children. Even outside the family, teachers have used violence in an attempt to improve the behavior of pupils. Unfortunately, this phenomenon continues today.

Therefore, through this protest, we demand an end to violence. We also want to demonstrate to all Kosovo institutions and Kosovo society our opposition to violence with these words: *Mjaft më me arsyetime!* [Enough excuses!] Through this protest, we call for justice for this and many other cases of violence in Kosovo, including against girls and boys, men and women. Through protest, we ask institutions to perform their duty professionally. We also urge you, all citizens, if you witness or experience violence, please report it.

Violence must not be used as a form of education or discipline! Violence is a crime! Come protest with us!

[#NukKaArsyetim](#) [#NoExcuses](#)