







# Justice for Women



#### What is violence?

Violence is defined as "the use or threat of physical force or power that results in or has the potential to result in harm, injury, death, or psychological damage to an individual."

#### What is domestic violence?

According to Article 3/b of the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence Against Women and Domestic Violence (Istanbul Convention), domestic violence refers to all acts of physical, sexual, psychological, or economic violence occurring within the family or household or between former or current spouses or partners, regardless of whether the victim shares the same residence with the perpetrator or not. As a phenomenon that reinforces social inequalities and perpetuates cycles of discrimination, domestic violence harms not only individuals but also society as a whole. This situation leads to the normalization of violence through power relations and social norms, making it more persistent.

#### What is violence against women?

According to Article 2/ç of Law No. 6284 on the Protection of the Family and the Prevention of Violence Against Women, gender-based violence against women refers to any act or behavior rooted in gender-based discrimination that results in or is likely to result in a violation of women's human rights, solely because they are women. This includes all forms of attitudes and actions that fall under the definition of violence as specified in this law. This violence includes all forms of gender-based discrimination that negatively affects women's health, dignity, and social status and can occur in various settings, including within families, workplaces, or public spaces.

#### What is gender inequality?

Gender inequality is a form of discrimination arising from the roles assigned to men and women in social life. This discrimination restricts women's access to rights, opportunities, and resources. It creates serious barriers to women's political, economic, social, and cultural rights. These barriers limit women from fully enjoying their human rights and fundamental freedoms.

#### What is discrimination?

Discrimination refers to the unjust or unequal treatment of individuals or groups based on characteristics such as gender, race, ethnicity, language, religion, disability status, age, or sexual orientation. Discrimination is considered a violation of human rights and prevents individuals from having equal rights and opportunities in social life.

#### What is legal literacy? Why is it important?

Legal literacy refers to individuals having knowledge of basic legal concepts and rights. This knowledge facilitates citizens' understanding of their rights and responsibilities and their access to the justice system. For women, legal literacy increases their access to justice, especially by raising their awareness of their rights.

Dating violence, which includes physical, sexual, psychological, social, and digital violence inflicted by the partner, is also one of the situations that women are exposed to.

## WHY SHOULD YOU LEARN YOUR RIGHTS?

# • Personal Empowerment

Women who know their rights can fight against the difficulties they face more consciously and determinedly.



# • Use of Legal Rights

Being informed about women's rights teaches how to use legal rights against violence and discrimination.



#### Social Justice

Conscious individuals contribute to achieving social justice by supporting not only themselves but also other women.



# Social Participation

Being aware of their rights enables women to participate more actively in social life.



# • Economic Independence

Awareness in education and business life helps women gain economic independence.



## **BASIC LEGAL CONCEPTS**

## • Rights:

It refers to the powers and freedoms individuals have within the framework of laws. For example, the right to property, the right to life, and the right to education.

# Responsibilities

The obligations that individuals must fulfill before the law. For example, the responsibility to pay taxes or the obligation to comply with contracts.

#### Justice

It refers to ensuring equal rights and opportunities for all members of society. The legal system has mechanisms that operate to ensure justice.

#### Court

A court is an authority that conducts trials and makes judgments to uncover the material truth regarding disputes or crimes between individuals.

#### Prosecutor

A prosecutor is a legal officer who investigates crimes on behalf of the state, gathers evidence, and initiates the judicial process by filing a public case to ensure the punishment of the crime.

## Lawyer

A lawyer is a person who defends the legal rights of individuals or institutions, resolves their legal issues, and represents them in legal proceedings.

# Judge

A judge is an independent judicial officer who presides over cases, evaluates evidence, and delivers fair and impartial decisions in court.