

香港婦女 遭受暴力經驗 研究2021

報告撮要
Executive Summary

Survey on Hong Kong
Women's Experiences of
Violence 2021



ZONTA
CLUB OF
KOWLOON
MEMBER OF ZONTA INTERNATIONAL
EMPOWERING WOMEN
THROUGH SERVICE & ADVOCACY



Lingnan 嶺南大學
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Hong Kong Women's Coalition
on Equal Opportunities
平等機會婦女聯席

Foreword – Hong Kong Women's Coalition on Equal Opportunities

Violence against women is defined as, in the United Nations Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women, “any act of gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life”. In 1992, the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, in its General Recommendation No. 19, asserted that gender-based violence is “a form of discrimination that seriously inhibits women’s ability to enjoy rights and freedoms on a basis of equality with men”.

Framing gender-based violence against women as a human rights violation implies that the issue is no longer a private matter that happens at home. Governments are responsible for private acts if they fail to address the structural and deep-rooted discrimination against women. Preventing gender-based violence requires legislative, administrative, judicial, institutional and educational measures and reforms.

Despite the high prevalence of gender-based violence against women in the globe and in Hong Kong, recent data and research on Hong Kong women's experiences of violence is lacking. The taboos of sexual violence and intimate partner violence in Hong Kong have made us believe that many survivors have not reported the violence they have experienced nor have they sought assistance from family members, friends or social service organizations.

In 2013, Hong Kong Women's Coalition on Equal Opportunities (WCEO) conducted a survey on sexual violence and intimate partner violence of women in Hong Kong. The Survey showed that more than one quarter of women responded to the Survey had suffered intimate partner violence, close to half valid responses had experienced sexual harassment, and more than 15% had undergone other forms of sexual violence apart from sexual harassment.

The idea of updating the 2013 Survey surfaced because of two recent developments in Hong Kong. First, new forms of gender-based violence against women, such as image-based sexual violence, have emerged. Second, the social unrest in 2019 and the COVID-19 pandemic have disproportionately impacted the lives of women. Reports revealed an increase in gender-based violence against women around the world and in Hong Kong.

We are grateful to the sponsorship by Zonta Club of Kowloon and Lingnan University, and Professor Annie Chan and her research team for their passion and professionalism in this research project. I look forward to working with them in advocating the findings and recommendations to relevant stakeholders for changing the situation and improving the well-being of women in Hong Kong.

Si-si Liu

Director, Hong Kong Federation of Women’s Centres

Secretariat (2021/22), Hong Kong Women's Coalition on Equal Opportunities

About Hong Kong Women's Coalition on Equal Opportunities

Hong Kong Women Coalition on Equal Opportunities (WCEO) was set up in 1995. It is formed by a group of grassroots women's organizations which have participated in the Fourth International Women's Conference in Beijing. The aim of the WCEO is to facilitate the collaboration of local grassroots women's groups in addressing various issues faced by women and to advance our society with respects on gender equality. It pushes for the implementation of Beijing Platform for Action and the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women in Hong Kong, monitors the Government in the elimination of discrimination against women, and makes recommendations to the legislators and government agencies for policy changes on women issues.

Foreword - Zonta Club of Kowloon

Family is an important pillar of society. As a Chinese saying goes: “Harmony will make a family rich; unity will make a country affluent”. This saying reflects the importance of family harmony to the development of society. Unfortunately, in reality, the situation in Hong Kong & the world at large runs contrary to this saying. Violence against women is one of the most pervasive human rights violations. It also knows no barriers and may take place from the home to schools, to the workplace & even on transportation vehicles.

‘To end violence against women’ should be an important priority of our society. The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals No. 5 seeks to ‘Achieve gender equality and empower all women’. This goal should also be the basis of planning strategies for any society.

The history of women has been a perpetual story of ‘suffering in silence’. In this way, violence against women has continued for a long time. Just too long. Now is the time for action. Now is the time to take bold steps to address issues of sexual violence & intimate partner violence. Now is the time to stop abuse against women to enable them to enjoy safe and decent lives. In bettering the lives of women, we also better the lives of children and their families. With cohesion in the family, Hong Kong will be a healthier, stronger, and more prosperous society.

‘Zonta Says No to Violence Against Women’ campaign has been launched by Zonta International since 2012. In the past, Zonta Club of Kowloon supported this campaign yearly with photo sessions, briefings to our seven Z Clubs in secondary schools & three Golden Z Clubs in university & tertiary education institutes. We also participated in the advocacy tram ride along HK island (2013), supported a documentary film (身訴) focusing on gender violence (2014), & launched the first Chinese speaking Apps for prevention of domestic violence (2016).

Because there is a scarcity of research data in this area, the Zonta Club of Kowloon has decided to sponsor this survey ‘Hong Kong Women’s Experiences of Violence 2021.’ We hope that the findings of this research will be useful to the Hong Kong Government and its various departments, civil society organizations, and NGOs in planning their policies & servicing models in the coming years.

In Zonta we serve,

Miriam Lau,
Honorary Member
Zonta Club of Kowloon

Winnie Teoh
Chair, Advocacy Committee
Zonta Club of Kowloon

Cecilia Kuk
President
Zonta Club of Kowloon

About Zonta Club of Kowloon

Founded in 1977, Zonta Club of Kowloon was the second club chartered in Hong Kong. The club is a member of Zonta International, a global organization of executives and professionals working together to advance the status of women worldwide through service and advocacy. Altogether, Zonta International has more than 1100 clubs in 64 countries worldwide.

Since its establishment, Zonta Club of Kowloon has worked to achieve the objectives of Zonta International. We have supported a variety of community projects through partnership with service organizations that will benefit women in distress, abuse victims, the elderly, handicapped and underprivileged. We are committed to helping our communities and to improving the legal, political, economic, educational, health and professional status of women worldwide. As of February 2022, we have 54 members and 2 Honorary members. Our club has helped to set up the Zonta Club of Macau. We are also sponsoring the activities of 7 Z Clubs in secondary schools, & 3 Golden Z Clubs in tertiary educational institutes.

Our sponsorship for this research is part of our 'Zonta Says No to Violence Against Women' campaign, a worldwide campaign of saying NO to violence, launched by all Zonta Clubs since 2012.

Survey on Hong Kong women's experiences of violence 2021

Executive Summary

1. Introduction

- 1.1. The Women's Coalition on Equal Opportunities (WCEO), sponsored by Zonta Club of Kowloon and a research grant from Lingnan University, conducted a study on Hong Kong women's experiences of violence in 2021. Prof CHAN Hau Nung Annie from the Department of Sociology and Social Policy of Lingnan University undertook the research. A similar study of a smaller scale was conducted by the WCEO in 2013. The present study aims to provide updated empirical data on the issue.
- 1.2. The target sample are women living in Hong Kong aged 15-64. The research consists of a questionnaire survey and in-depth interviews. A total of 1044 responses were received for the survey and 30 individuals were interviewed individually or in focus groups. Similar to the 2013 survey, the current survey sample is skewed towards younger, better educated women when compared to Hong Kong's 15-64 female population.

2. Findings on Sexual Violence

- 2.1. 37.54% of valid responses¹ reported having experienced sexual violence in their lifetime. The most commonly experienced forms are 'discussing sexual topics' that caused discomfort (28.91%), 'non-penetrative sexual assault' (28.39%) and 'unwanted sexual attention' (17.97%). For the most serious sexual violence incident ever experienced, non-penetrative sexual assault are most often reported (38.24%), followed by penetrative sexual assault (16.34%) and discussing sexual topics that caused discomfort (11.76%).
- 2.2. The most serious sexual violence encounters ever experienced most often occurred in the home of the victims or the perpetrators (29.73%), public transport (15.54%) and schools (9.46%). Around 5% of these incidents happened in virtual space (i.e. online forums, social media, communication software).
- 2.3. Around 85% of these incidents involved one perpetrator; 92.49% of all perpetrators were male. Only 30.62% of the perpetrators were strangers; the rest were former partners (11.11%), friends (9.38%), family members or relatives (8.15%), and other persons who are known to the victims (such as classmates and co-workers).
- 2.4. 75% of respondents did not react to the incident when it occurred. There is no statistically significant difference in the socio-demographic characteristics of those who did and did not react. Most common forms of reaction were glaring at the perpetrator(s) (10.54%), tried to escape or run away (8.31%) and tried to seek help from others (3.51%) and to call out or scream (2.56%). Many said they did not know how to react (29.07%), pretended nothing happened (21.09%) or felt that they were forced to accept it (18.21%).

¹ All percentages hereafter refer to valid responses.

- 2.5. Respondents reported feelings of anger and dissatisfaction (26.02%), followed by fear of interacting with others (17.24%) and helplessness (16.30%) because of the incident. Many also felt sad/wronged (13.17%) and depressed/anxious (7.52%).
- 2.6. Respondents became always vigilant or cautious (30.77%), tried to avoid the perpetrators (27.24%) and changed their appearances or way of dress (20.19%) after the incident.
- 2.7. 60.3% of respondents said they have sought help, most commonly through telling family or friends (34.71%). The most common reason for not seeking help is not having time or energy to deal with it (16.40%), followed by feeling embarrassed or ashamed (15.08%) and not knowing how to seek help (10.05%).
- 2.8. Our qualitative data analysis found that victims of different forms of sexual violence (e.g. image based sexual violence, sexual harassment, childhood sexual abuse) similarly suffered from serious psychological stress and trauma, mainly due to (i) society norms of shame surrounding sex, (ii) myths about sexual violence, (iii) obstacles to help seeking and (iv) ineffective policies or laws and/or their execution.

3. Findings on Intimate Partner Violence

- 3.1. 26.37% of respondents reported having experienced intimate partner violence. The most commonly experienced forms are sexual violence (35.52%), verbal insults or threats (22.01%) and physical violence (14.29%). Non-physical violence, such as stalking (13.90%), restriction of social contacts (5.02%) and cutting off financial support (2.32%) were also reported. The most serious intimate partner violence incidents experienced were physical violence (30.53%), followed by sexual violence (25.95%) and verbal insult or threats (22.14%).
- 3.2. Intimate partner violence typically occurred in the victims' or the perpetrators' homes (48.31%). Perpetrators were mostly former partners (63.77%) and current and former spouses (12.32% and 11.59% respectively). 88.97% of the perpetrators were male.
- 3.3. 68.86% of victims said they did not react to the most serious intimate partner violence incident ever experienced when it happened. For those who did, 11.20% tried to run away and 7.76% tried calling out for help. 27.80% said they were 'forced to accept it', 19.69% said they didn't know how to react, while 10.81% said they pretended nothing happened.
- 3.4. Respondents reported feeling insecure (12.76%), depressed/anxious/worried (11.89%), wanting to escape from/sever the relationship (11.89%), and self-blame (11.54%) after the incident. Many also felt angry/dissatisfied (10.31%), helpless (7.87%) and fearful (7.69%).
- 3.5. Victims also became avoidant or withdrawn (38.04%) and vigilant/cautious about their personal safety (31.52%). It is worth noting that 17.93% said that there were no changes to their lifestyle after the incident.

- 3.6. Just over half of the victims said they sought help after having experienced the most serious intimate partner violence incident (51.35%). Family and friends were the most mentioned source of help (27.73%), while 12.27% sought help from social service agencies or professionals, and 11.82% sought separation or divorce. A significant proportion (9.09%) sought help from mental health professionals.
- 3.7. Reasons given for not seeking help include feeling embarrassed or ashamed (13.97%), feared that others would not believe them or would blame them (12.50%) and fear of causing trouble or not wanting to make a big deal out of the situation (12.50%). Some also worried that seeking help would worsen the relationship with the perpetrator (11.76%) or would negatively affect them (8.09%).
- 3.8. Analysis of the qualitative data shows that non-physical forms of intimate partner violence (e.g. psychological and emotional abuse, economic and social control) can have devastating damage to women's mental health. The harm of physical and sexual violence is well-understood, but non-contact physical violence such as destroying physical objects in front of the victim and threatening to physically hurt them or their children have equally serious effects. Sexual violence within a relationship is not limited to sexual coercion, but can also include unprotected sex without consent and sexually humiliating acts and demands.

4. Recommendations

- 4.1. Violence against women remains a serious social problem in Hong Kong. We urge all stakeholders, including the Women's Commission, government departments, advisory boards and quasi-governmental bodies, to treat violence against women as a priority, and to take this into account when planning policies in connection with women, children and families.
- 4.2. Relevant government departments should provide adequate crisis support to women who are subjected to violent. These include:

4.2.1. Financial support

Many female victims of intimate partner violence are economically dependent on their partners and are often the main caregivers of children. We recommend that the government set up emergency funds to help them cope during crisis situations.

4.2.2. Housing support

Intimate partner violence and sexual violence often occur in homes, making it a priority that victims have suitable housing options to turn to. We urge the government to review the existing compassionate rehousing scheme, specifically to clarify and streamline the application process for women who share a home with violence perpetrators. A greater variety of shelter options apart from women's refuge (e.g. hotels) should be available so that women can have timely, safe and suitable accommodation during crisis situations.

4.2.3. *Sexual violence crisis support*

Victims of sexual violence often need to visit different departments in order to receive medico-legal care (e.g. hospital, police station and forensic service) right after the assault happened, creating secondary trauma. In 2018, the Legislative Council endorsed the need to establish crisis support centres for victims of sexual violence. We urge that the government speed up the funding approval process for implementation, and ensure that these centres should follow the “Guidelines for medico-legal care for victims of sexual violence” according to the World Health Organization (WHO).

4.2.4. *Improve flexibility in service provision during the pandemic*

Service statistics from the HKFWC show that intimate partner violence related help seeking has increased by 10% between 2018-2020 during the COVID-19 pandemic. Governmental departments’ reduction of services during the pandemic as well as victims’ reservations to use crises services such as refuge homes out of health concerns have made it even more difficult for women to receive support. We urge relevant government departments and service providers take such difficulties into account and allow for greater flexibility in handling cases during the pandemic.

4.2.5. *Increase funding to non-governmental organisations (NGOs) servicing female victims of violence*

The government needs to increase funding to NGOs that provide services such as crisis support, temporary shelter, legal advice and counselling to female victims of violence. We also recommend that liaison and coordination amongst different service agencies be improved through, e.g., the integration and upgrading of helpline services of different NGOs, so that women do not have to search for separate agencies for the variety of support that they need.

4.3. Improve policy, legal and professional training provisions

4.3.1. *Employers need to establish sexual harassment policies and provide training for staff*

Workplace sexual harassment remains serious and prevalent. Presently, there are no consequences to employers who ignore the Equal Opportunities Commission’s (EOC) recommendation to establish sexual harassment policies and staff training, nor are there incentives for employers to do so. We recommend that the EOC and relevant government departments make it a requirement for employers to establish sexual harassment policies and sexual harassment training to their staff, and to monitor their execution.

4.3.2. *Review existing guidelines for handling violence against women*

“Procedural Guidelines for Handling Sexual Violence Cases”, “Procedural Guide for Handling Intimate Partner Violence Cases” and “Procedural guidelines on child abuse for relevant professionals” are passive and remedial, unable to effectively protect women, children and family from violence. We recommend

that the government revisit and revise these guidelines in consultation with the stakeholders.

4.3.3. Review how domestic violence is classified in police records

Presently the police divides "family conflict case" into "domestic violence (crime)", "domestic violence (miscellaneous)" and "domestic incidents" based on case severity. Under this classification, the number of cases classified as domestic violence will drastically decrease and may undermine the negative consequences for victims. We urge that a review of the classification system be undertaken in consultation with stakeholders.

4.3.4. Increase training for personnel who work with women subjected to violence

Women need to feel safe and supported in order to come forward, seek help and report sexual and intimate partner violence. More training needs to be provided to legal professionals, law enforcement personnel and frontline workers who work with women subjected to violence, in order to prevent victimization and secondary trauma.

Law enforcers are not always able to provide enough information to victims of violence to help them assess their situations and options. Despite the existence of guidelines on how to handle sexual and intimate partner violence cases, more training is needed for frontline workers and professionals to ensure their effective implementation.²

4.3.5. Modernize the Family Court

We recognize that courts are limited in their ability to contain the issue of domestic violence, as they only come into the picture after the unfortunate incidents have occurred. However, the Family Court plays an important role in serving justice to women who suffer from intimate partner violence. More resources are needed to improve its efficiency and capacity to handle the variety and complexity of cases it receives.

One of the examples which deserves referencing is the Specialist Domestic Abuse Court (SDAC) in the UK which is a special court set up to facilitate the process for persons who have unfortunately experienced domestic abuse. Features such as specially trained court personnel and prosecutors, and the measures to protect the safety of victims, should be studied in order to encourage victims to come forward, push for positive outcomes and lessen the intimidating experience of victims.

4.3.6. Speed up reforms on sex crimes legislation

² According to the HKFWC, in some cases, the police charged both the victim and the perpetrator, or may try to persuade the victim to withdraw charges.

The Law Reform Commission (LRC) began its consultation on reforming laws on sex crimes in 2012 and has since produced several reports.³ Many recommendations in the LRC's 2019 report, including important changes to laws on sexual assault and definitions of consent had yet to be put on the agenda of the Legislative Council. We urge that the government address the LRC's recommendations as soon as possible.

In this connection, an increase in penalty for convicted offenders of sex crimes can produce a clear signalling effect and work as deterrent. Associating rehabilitation services (e.g. counselling) are essential to combat sexual violence and must be included as part of a comprehensive review of sex crime legislation.

4.4. Public education by stakeholders through a variety of media and means

4.4.1. *Educate the public about sexual and intimate partner violence*

Public education materials are needed in order to equip women with information about women's rights and relevant laws in Hong Kong and to encourage them to seek help. For example, the Police may wish to further publicize how sexual and intimate partner violence cases are handled.

Many people do not realize that the emotional and mental abuse are a form of violence against women and children with serious consequences. Public education should help the public understand the definitions and nature of sexual and intimate partner violence, when and how to seek help, so that they can provide support to family and friends should it occur.

4.4.2. *Address sexual violence in public transport and schools*

We recommend public transport operators increase their effort to alert passengers that sexual violence, including indecent assault and image based sexual violence are criminal offences. Similarly, schools need to incorporate sexual violence into their sex education curriculum. We urge that the government review its guidelines on sex education for schools (last updated in 1997) as soon as possible. At the same time, teachers shall be offered the knowledge and skills in identifying sexual violence in their training package.

³ Including a consultation paper in 2012 on rape and other non-consensual sexual offences, one in 2016 on sexual offences involving children and persons with mental impairment, and one in 2018 on miscellaneous sexual offences. In December 2019, the Commission issued a review of substantive sexual offences. In November 2020, the Sub-committee on the review of sex crimes published a consultation paper on sentencing and related matters in the review of sexual offences.

前言 – 平等機會婦女聯席

聯合國《消除對婦女的暴力行為宣言》對「針對女性的暴力行為」定義為「任何基於性別的暴力行為，並對女性造成或可能造成身心方面或性方面的傷害或痛苦，包括威脅發生性行為、強迫或任意剝奪自由，且不論這些暴力行為是發生在公共生活還是私人生活中」。聯合國消除對婦女歧視委員會於 1992 年公布的《第 19 號一般性建議》亦指出，基於性別的暴力「是嚴重阻礙女性與男性平等享受權利和自由的一種歧視」。

「基於性別而針對女性的暴力」已視為侵犯人權的行為，意味著這已不只是發生在私人領域的事情，而是具有公共性的議題。政府需要為針對結構性及根深蒂固的歧視女性行為作出行動，而預防基於性別的暴力需要立法、行政、司法、制席及教育的措施及改革。

雖然基於性別的暴力行為在香港以至全球均屢見不鮮，但近年卻鮮有相關的研究及資料以掌握香港的狀況。長久以來，家庭暴力及性暴力亦是香港的社會禁忌，因此我們相信有不少倖存者都未有舉報暴力行為，亦未有向家人、朋友、服務機構求助。

「平等機會婦女聯席」（下稱婦女聯席）於 2013 年曾進行了一項有關香港婦女遭受暴力經驗調查，結果顯示超過四分一的被訪的婦女曾遭受家庭暴力，接近一半受訪者受過性騷擾，以及有超過 15% 的受訪婦女曾遭受性騷擾以外的性暴力。

近年兩項社會現象促使婦女聯席再次進行相類型的研究。第一項是出現了新的基於性別而針對女性的暴力模式，如影像性暴力。第二項是經歷了大型的社會變遷，包括 2019 年的社會運動與新型冠狀病毒疫情。這些事件對女性生活都有更大的影響，如疫情期間已有報導指香港及全球都增加了基於性別而針對女性的暴力行為。

我們感謝九龍崇德社及嶺南大學的資助，也感謝陳效能教授及其研究團隊的熱心及專業。我們期待與她們共同努力，把調查的結果及建議反映給相關人士及部門，以作出改變及改善香港婦女的福祉。

廖珮珊

香港婦女中心協會總幹事

平等機會婦女聯席秘書處 (2021/22 年度)

關於平等機會婦女聯席

平等機會婦女聯席（下稱「婦女聯席」）成立於 1995 年，由一群曾參與北京第四屆世界婦女大會的基層婦女團體組成。婦女聯席的目的為聯繫香港基層婦女團體的力量，推動社會關注婦女議題，及推動社會上的性別平等。婦女聯席亦動《北京宣言及行動綱領》及《消除對婦女一

切形式歧視公約》在香港的實踐，監督政府在消除對婦女歧視的進度，及向立法會及政府組織作出與女性相關的政策建議。

前言 – 九龍崇德社

家庭是社會重要的支柱，中國人有句格言，就是「人和家富，家和國富」。這句話反映了和諧家庭對發展社會的重要性。事實上，香港和世界的情況與這句話背道而馳。「對婦女的暴力行為」是最普遍侵犯人權的行為之一。它沒有界限，可能發生在家中到學校到工作場所甚至交通工具上。

「結束對婦女的暴力」應該是我們社會的一個優先考慮。聯合國可持續發展目標第 5 項是「實踐性別平等並賦予女性權力」，促進此目標更應該是什麼社會規劃的基礎。

長期以來，女性的歷史就是一個“默默受苦”的故事。「對婦女的暴力行為」已經持續太久。實在太久了。現在就應該行動。現在就是採取大膽措施解決性暴力和親密伴侶暴力問題的時候了，現在就應該停止所有虐待婦女的行為讓她們可以享受安全及有尊嚴的生活。在改善婦女生活的同時，我們亦會改善兒童和家庭的生活。有了家庭的凝聚力，香港將成為一個更健康、更繁榮及更強的社會。

國際崇德社自 2012 年開始發起「崇德社對婦女暴力說不」環球活動。過去九龍崇德社每年都有倡導宣傳活動，並講解給本會在 7 間中學設立的少年崇德社及 3 間大學和專上學院成立的青年崇德社。我會也曾經參與沿香港島舉辦電車倡導宣傳運動 (2013)，支援一部聚焦性別暴力的紀錄片“身訴”(2014)，並推出首個中文預防家庭暴力應用程式 (2016)。

鑑於香港缺乏這方面的研究資料，九龍崇德社決定贊助「香港婦女遭受暴力經驗研究 2021」。希望研究結果對香港政府、政府部門、民間組織和非政府組織制定政策及來年服務模型都有幫助。

此致 大家安好!

劉健儀

九龍崇德社榮譽會員

張連蕙馨

九龍崇德社倡導委員會主席

鞠玲真

九龍崇德社會長

關於九龍崇德社

九龍崇德社成立於 1977 年，在香港是第二個特許成立的分社，隸屬全球性慈善機構國際崇德社 (Zonta International)，會員皆各界專業和管理人士，透過社會服務和倡導，致力提升婦女的地位。迄今全球的會員遍佈 64 個國家，超過 1100 個分社。

成立 45 年來，九龍崇德社努力實踐國際崇德社的工作目標，與本港多間機構合作，舉辦多項社會服務計劃，幫助身陷困境的婦女和被虐待的受害人，殘疾人士、老人和弱勢群體，讓他們

受惠。除了服務社群，我們亦努力促進改善全球婦女的法律、政治、經濟、教育、健康和專業地位。截至 2022 年 2 月，九龍崇德社有 54 位會員和 2 位榮譽會員。我們協助成立澳門崇德社；並於本港 7 間中學設立了少年崇德社，以及 3 間大學和專上學院成立了青年崇德社。

我們贊助這個研究是「向婦女暴力說不」的倡導運動的一部分。而自 2012 年以來，全球崇德社亦就「向婦女暴力說不」的主題，分別推廣倡導及宣傳活動。

香港婦女性遭受暴力經驗研究 2021

報告摘要

1. 簡介

1.1. 平等機會婦女聯席 (WCEO) 獲得九龍崇德社贊助及嶺南大學研究撥款支持，於 2021 年進行了一項有關香港女性遭受暴力經驗的研究。此研究由嶺南大學社會學及社會政策系陳效能教授負責。平等機會婦女聯席於 2013 年曾進行一項類似但規模較小的研究。本研究目的是為議題提供最新的研究數據。

1.2. 研究樣本對象為年齡介乎 15 至 64 歲居住在香港的女性。研究包括問卷調查及深入訪談。問卷調查部分收集了 1044 個回應，而深入訪談部分則訪問了 30 位受訪者（包括個別訪問及焦點小組訪問）。是次研究樣本跟香港 15 至 64 歲女性人口比較，傾向較多為年輕、受過高等教育的女性，情況與 2013 年的研究相類似。

2. 關於性暴力的研究結果

2.1. 研究有效回應⁴中有 37.54% 的受訪者表示曾經歷過性暴力。受訪者最常經歷的性暴力包括「說出帶有性意味的說話，令你不安 / 難堪」（28.91%）、「非插入式的性侵犯」（28.39%）及「帶有性意味地看著你」（17.97%）。而受訪者經歷過最嚴重的性暴力則為「非插入式的性侵犯」（38.24%），緊接是「插入式的性侵犯」（16.34%）及「說出帶有性意味的說話，令你不安 / 難堪」（11.76%）。

2.2. 受訪者經歷過最嚴重的性暴力事件最常發生的地點是她們或侵犯者的住所（29.73%）、公共交通工具（15.54%）及學校（9.46%）。約 5% 發生在虛擬空間（即網上論壇、社交媒體及通訊軟件）。

2.3. 約 85% 的事件中只得一位主要侵犯者，所有侵犯者當中男性佔 92.49%。只有 30.62% 的侵犯者為陌生人；其他侵犯者的身份包括前任伴侶（11.11%）、朋友（9.38%）、家人或其他親屬（8.15%）及其他受害者認識的人（例如同學或同事）。

2.4. 75% 的受訪者表示該事件發生時沒有作出反應。有和沒有反應的兩組受訪者的社會人口特徵在統計學沒有上顯著的差異。發生事件時最常有的反應為對怒目而視（10.54%）、掙扎逃走（8.31%）、找身邊的陌生人協助（3.51%）及大聲呼叫（2.56%）。很多受訪者表示她們不知道如何反應（29.07%）、假裝若無其事（21.09%）或被迫接受（18.21%）。

⁴ 除非特別註明，此報告中描述的百分率是指有效回應率。

- 2.5. 事件發生後，受訪者表示感到憤怒或不滿 (26.02%)，其次是恐懼或害怕與他人互動 (17.24%) 以及無奈 (16.30%)。亦有部分受訪者感到傷心或委屈 (13.17%) 及憂鬱或煩惱 (7.52%)。
- 2.6. 事件後有受訪者變得時常保持警惕或注意自己安全 (30.77%)、有人會盡量避免與互動 (27.24%)、有人改變衣著、外觀或穿搭 (20.19%)。
- 2.7. 60.3%的受訪者表示她們曾經尋求協助，最常用的方法為告訴親人或朋友 (34.71%)。受訪者不求助的最大原因為沒有時間或精神去處理 (16.40%)，其次為感到羞辱或不想別人知道 (15.08%) 及不知道求助方法 (10.05%)。
- 2.8. 是次定性研究結果分析顯示，即使受害者經歷不同形式的性暴力 (例如影像性暴力、性騷擾或童年性侵犯)，她們仍會同樣感受到嚴重的心理壓力及創傷，主要由於 (i) 保守的社會規範使「性」帶來羞恥感、(ii) 社會對性暴力的誤解、(iii) 困難的求助以及 (iv) 政策或法律上的不足。

3. 關於親密伴侶暴力的研究結果

- 3.1. 26.37%的受訪者表示曾經歷過親密伴侶暴力。受訪者最常經歷的親密伴侶暴力為性侵犯或被強迫發生性行為 (35.52%)，其次是言語辱罵或恐嚇 (22.01%) 及肢體暴力 (14.29%)。部分受訪者亦曾經歷非肢體暴力，例如纏擾行為 (如監控或跟蹤) (13.90%)、被禁止聯絡朋友或家人 (5.02%) 及被切斷財務 (2.32%)。受訪者經歷過最嚴重的親密伴侶暴力事件為肢體暴力 (30.53%)，接著是性侵犯或被強迫發生性行為 (25.95%) 及言語辱罵或恐嚇 (22.14%)。
- 3.2. 親密伴侶暴力通常發生在受害人或施暴者家中 (48.31%)。施虐者的身份主要是前任伴侶 (63.77%)、現任及前任法定配偶 (分別為 12.32%及 11.59%)。而大部分施虐者都是男性 (88.97%)。
- 3.3. 68.86%的受害者表示當最嚴重的一次親密伴侶暴力發生時她們並沒有作出反應。而表示有作出反應者當中，11.20%嘗試掙扎逃走，7.76%嘗試大聲呼叫求救。有27.80%表示她們只能被迫接受，19.69%不知道該如何反應，而 10.81%則假裝若無其事。
- 3.4. 當事件發生後，受訪者表示感到缺乏安全感 (12.76%)、憂鬱 / 抑鬱 / 煩惱 (11.89%)、想逃避或斷絕關係 (11.89%) 及自我責備 (11.54%)。亦有不少受訪者感到憤怒或不滿 (10.31%)、無奈 (7.87%) 及恐懼 (7.69%)。

- 3.5. 該事件發生後，部分受訪者表示自己盡量避免外出或回家（38.04%）及變得時常保持警惕或注意安全（31.52%）。值得注意的是，有17.93%受害者表示事件發生後她們生活方式沒有任何改變。
- 3.6. 稍多於一半的受害者表示，在最嚴重的一次親密伴侶暴力發生後有尋求協助（51.35%）。家人和朋友是受害者最常求助的對象（27.73%），12.27%的受害者則曾向社會服務機構或專業人士求助，而有11.82%選擇與分開或離婚，亦有顯著比例的受害者曾尋求心理醫生或精神科醫生協助（9.09%）。
- 3.7. 部分受害者沒有尋求協助，主要原因是感到羞辱或尷尬（13.97%）、害怕別人會不相信或指責自己（12.50%）及怕麻煩或不想把事情鬧大（12.50%）。有受害者亦因擔心求助會影響關係或令施虐者對自己不利（11.76%），或因怕求助會影響施虐者（8.09%），而沒有選擇求助。
- 3.8. 質性數據分析結果顯示，非肢體暴力類型的親密伴侶暴力（例如精神虐待、財務或社交限制）可對受害者的精神健康造成嚴重影響。肢體及性暴力造成的傷害是明確及廣為人知的，但一些不涉及肢體接觸的暴力 - 例如在受害人面前破壞物件或以言語威嚇受害者會傷害她們或孩子，都有同樣嚴重的影響。親密伴侶關係中的性暴力，不僅是指強迫發生性行為，亦包括了在沒有徵求對方同意之下發生不安全性行為、以及涉及性羞辱行為或要求。

4. 建議

- 4.1. 針對女性的暴力在香港仍然是一個嚴重的社會問題。我們促請所有持份者，包括婦女事務委員會、各政府部門、諮詢委員會及半政府機構重視問題的嚴重性，在計劃關乎女性、兒童及家庭的政策時務必要考慮婦女所遭受暴力這議題。
- 4.2. 相關政府部門需為面對暴力侵害的女性提供足夠的危機支援，包括：

4.2.1. 經濟援助

很多面對親密伴侶暴力的女性受都在經濟上依賴伴侶，而且不少受害者更是子女的主要照顧者。我們建議政府設立緊急救助基金，當危急情況發生時，可以即時提供支援，協助她們渡過難關。

4.2.2. 房屋援助

親密伴侶暴力及性暴力事件經常發生在住所內，所以當暴力事件發生後，必須讓受害者有其他合適的容身之所。我們促請政府重新審視現有的「體恤安置」房屋援助計劃，尤其需為仍被迫與施虐者共處一住所的女性闡明及簡化申請過程，以便她們及時得到援助。此外，除了專為受暴力侵害女性而設的收容所之

外，應提供更多的選擇以作庇護用途（例如酒店），以便受害人面對危機情況時，能夠即時有安全及合適的容身之所。

4.2.3. 性暴力危機支援

當性暴力受害者求助時，經常需要在事件發生不久後到不同部門尋求醫療及司法援助（例如醫療機構、警方及社會服務機構等等），容易造成二次創傷。立法會在 2018 年已認同有需要為性暴力受害者設立危機支援中心。為此，我們促請政府加快審核撥款讓機會得以執行。同時，需確保這類危機支援中心遵守世界衛生組織的指引（指引名稱為：Guidelines for medico-legal care for victims of sexual violence）。

4.2.4. 增加疫情下的服務彈性

根據香港婦女中心協會 2018 年至 2020 年期間的服務統計，COVID-19 疫情期間涉及親密伴侶暴力的求助個案增加了 10%。因應疫情，政府部門減少了服務的提供；同時，有受害者因疫情擔心自身健康而抗拒使用如收容所這類危機支援服務，使她們更難獲得所需的協助。我們促請相關政府部門及服務提供者考慮到疫情下的困難，在處理有關個案時，寬限和容許更大的彈性。

4.2.5. 增加資助予非政府機構以支援受暴力影響的女性

不少非政府機構為受暴力影響的女性提供危機支援、臨時庇護所、提供法律意見及輔導等的服務。政府需增加對這些服務的資助。同時，我們建議改善不同服務提供者之間的聯繫及協調，例如可透過整合和提升非政府機構的求助熱線服務，以便女性在有需要時無需到處尋找不同單位求助。

4.3. 改善政策、法律及專業訓練的提供

4.3.1. 僱主需制定性騷擾相關政策及提供訓練予員工

職場性騷擾仍然是一個嚴重而且普遍的問題。現時，即使有僱主無視平等機會委員會對於制定性騷擾政策及訓練員工的建議，他們亦不會有任何後果之餘，也沒有任何誘因推動僱主去遵從這些建議。我們建議平等機會委員會及相關政府部門通過立法，規定僱主必須制定與性騷擾相關的政策並提供適當訓練予員工，同時須監察及跟進它們的執行。

4.3.2. 重新審視現有關於處理女性遭受暴力的個案程序指引

《處理成年人性暴力個案程序指引》、《處理親密伴侶暴力個案程序指引》及《保護兒童免受虐待—多專業合作程序指引》內容都較為被動，同時形式偏向補救，未能有效保護面對受暴力影響的女性、兒童及家庭。我們建議政府與持份者開展討論並修訂這些指引。

4.3.3. 重新審視在警方記錄下的家庭暴力分類方式

現時，警方根據暴力案件的嚴重程度，將「家庭衝突案件」分成三類：「家庭暴力（刑事）」、「家庭暴力（雜項）」及「家庭事件（包括糾紛）」。⁵在這個分類之下，分類成家庭暴力的個案數目大幅減少，並可能造成輕視事件對受害者的嚴重影響。我們促請有關部門與持份者展開討論，重新審視現有的分類系統。

4.3.4. 增加訓練予需面對受暴力影響的女性的人員

受害女性需要感到安全和受支持，才可以鼓起勇氣站出來，尋求協助及舉報性暴力及親密伴侶暴力。因此，應加強訓練予法律相關專業人士、執法人員及工作上會接觸到受害女性的前線員工，從而減少不公平對待或二次創傷。

執法者未必能提供足夠的資訊予暴力下的受害者，以助她們評估身處的情況及有哪些選擇。儘管現時已有與處理性暴力及親密伴侶暴力相關的指引，但仍需加強訓練予前線員工及專業人士，以確保指引可以有效地執行⁵。

4.3.5. 家事法庭現代化

我們明白法庭遏制家庭暴力的能力很有限，因它的角色是在不幸事件發生後才出現。但對受親密伴侶暴力影響的女性來說，家事法庭在為她們伸張正義扮演重要的角色。為此，政府需要投入更多資源需改善其效率，使它能容納及處理更多不同類型及複雜度的個案。

其中一個值得留意的例子是英國的 Specialist Domestic Abuse Court (SDAC)（譯：專業處理家庭虐待法庭）。這是專為經歷家庭暴力的受害者而設，為受害者們加速處理司法過程。這法庭特別的地方包括有受過專業相關訓練的法庭人員及檢察官，以及一些保護受害者人身安全的措施等，從而鼓勵受害人勇敢踏出來進行舉報，締造正面的結果及減低受害人可能所受到的威嚇經歷。

4.3.6. 加快與性罪行相關立法的改革

香港法律改革委員會於 2012 年開始展開諮詢，討論改革與性罪行相關的法律，並曾發表數份報告⁶。很多委員會報告中提出的建議，包括改革性侵犯相關的法例及修訂對「同意」的法定定義，至今仍未在立法會進行討論。我們促請政府認真考慮這些建議並盡快處理。

⁵ 根據香港婦女中心協會資料，有某些個案的情況時警方會正式起訴以及受害人，或者會嘗試說服受害人放棄起訴。

⁶ 包括 2012 年 9 月發表的《強姦及其他未經同意下進行的性罪行》諮詢文件、2016 年 11 月發表的《涉及兒童及精神缺損人士的性罪行》諮詢文件及 2018 年 5 月發表的《雜項性罪行》雜項性罪行。於 2019 年 12 月，委員會發佈了《檢討實質的性罪行》報告書。2020 年 11 月，法律改革委員會轄下的性罪行檢討委員會發表了一份《性罪行檢討中的判刑及相關事項》諮詢文件。

在這方面，加重性罪犯刑罰能製造明顯的信號效應，並起到阻嚇作用。相關自新服務（例如心理輔導），對於對抗性暴力是必不可少，而且必須為全面審查性罪行立法的一部分。

4.4. 通過不同媒介進行公眾教育

4.4.1. 教育大眾有關性暴力及親密伴侶暴力

公眾教育需要提供有關香港女性權利及相關法律的資訊，以及鼓勵女性遭受暴力時求助。例如，警方可加強向公眾宣傳他們如何處理性暴力及親密伴侶暴力，以釋除不必要的疑慮。

很多人未必知道情感及精神虐待屬於女性及兒童暴力的一種，並會帶來嚴重的影響。公眾教育應該幫助市民理解性暴力及親密伴侶暴力的定義及本質、可到哪裡或如何求助。如不幸地有家人、朋友或身邊的人遇上暴力事件，也可以提供適當的協助。

4.4.2. 正視公共交通和學校性暴力問題

我們建議公共交通工具營運商致力提醒乘客性暴力（包括非禮及影像性暴力）是嚴重的刑事罪行。同樣地，學校亦需要將有關性暴力的題材融入性教育的課程。我們促請政府盡快重新審視對學校性教育的指引（最近的更新已是 1997 年版本）。同時，在教師訓練的內容中需包括如何辨認性暴力的方法和知識。