

THE EGYPTIAN CENTER FOR WOMEN'S RIGHTS

“THE ROLE OF LAW
TO COMBAT VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN”

SUMMARY OF THE STUDY

The role of law to combat violence against women

**A study conducted by
the Egyptian Center for Women's Rights from May to November 2010**

In collaboration with the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung, the Egyptian Center for Women's Rights conducted a study that focuses on and analyzes the legal gaps that are in the Egyptian legislative system, which bans women from obtaining justice and contributes to the rise in violence against women.

Introduction:

This study aims at monitoring and analyzing the problem of violence against women in Egypt. The analytic and explanatory methodologies will be used to identify the reasons behind this problem: historical, cultural, social, sexual, or other factors. There is another study of law and legislation that was issued by the legislator and aims at combating this phenomenon and achieving deterrence in society. The questions, for which we search an answer are: „Can these laws deal with the origins of the problem of violence against women? Is there any change in the societal behavior towards women based on these legislations? Did laws manage to restrict systems of society which restrict women, reduce their rights or depend on philosophy or traditions that depreciate women? Were legislations, laws, and punishments successful in combating all kinds of violence, discrimination, and intolerance against women?

Divisions of the study:

This study is divided into three sections. First section: is a theoretical one; it tackles the definition of violence, its forms, reasons, effects, and how to fight it; in addition to the definition of access to justice and the international conventions that call to stop violence against women, and the Egyptian legislations of combating violence against women as well. Second section: includes methodology and a presentation of case studies and analyses them in order to monitor cases of violence. Finally Third section: is the recommendations and conclusion.

First Section:

First: Definition of violence

Second: Types of violence, including:

- Psychological violence
Isolation from society
Discrimination against women
- Physical violence
Honor defense
FGM (Female Genital Mutilation)
Physical assaults
What women in jails and armed conflicts are subjected to
- Sexual violence:
Rape
Rape within the family (incest)
Sexual harassment
Early marriage

- Legal violence
- Economic violence
The economic violence of the husband
Deprivation of inheritance
Violence related to the dowry
Discrimination in job opportunities
- Political violence
Denying women's freedom of expression of their political opinion
Preventing her from participation in decision making
Preventing her from assuming positions in the state

This section deals also with:

Third: Reasons of violence

Fourth: Impact of violence

Fifth: How to combat violence by:

- The modern, intellectual, educational, political and economic means
- Adopting a policy of comprehensive human development
- Women's awareness has a basic role in combating violence
- Importance of the religious, intellectual, and political elites
- Providing infrastructure for women's development
- Activating women's efforts towards forming civil institutions
- Guiding the large role of media towards having a developed culture of women

This section deals also with the definition of „Access to justice“, including:

- International criteria for access to justice
- Principles of access to justice
- Definition of violence against women in international law

This section also addresses current Egyptian laws to reduce violence against women, especially:

- Violence against women in the Egyptian penal code
- Domestic violence
- Definition of discipline
- Decreased punishments
- Justification of murder („infidelity“)
- Rape
- Sexual harassment
- Adultery
- Human trafficking

Second Section:

This section analyses 100 cases of violence against women. It starts with determining the mechanism, then analyzing the cases content, and finally extracting the final results that can help introducing suggestions to combat violence against women; whether through amending laws and legislations or changing policies or creating mechanisms for combating this problem.

Followed mechanism and gathering data:

Contents of 100 different cases of violence against women presented before criminal courts and family courts were analyzed in order to discuss: kind of violence, its description, ways of informing others about it, detecting it, authorities' actions and procedures in the case, such as filing a police report, prosecution's investigations, legal procedures such as examination of crime, listening to witnesses, asking for police investigations, or medical or technical reports, prosecution's description of the crime, standing before court; including analyzing different courts sentences and its application of laws, decreased and increased sentences in order to answer these questions:

- Reasons for violence against women, whether it be domestic, social, physical, sexual or psychological
- Are social, economic, or cultural motives considered to be reasons behind the increase of violence against women?
- Are there protection mechanisms put in place by the executive authorities?
- Legal deterrence and how to address the problem
- Are criminal investigation and the difficulty of proving that the criminal is guilty of committing violence crimes against women one of the factors that is increasing the problem?
- Forms of violence against women from cases and cases studies
- Is the strategy of combating violence against women in the Egyptian legislative law enough?
- What are the familial reasons that lead to violence within families?

A table identifying the study's sample and kind of cases

No.	Kind of case	Number
1	Felonies	54
2	Misdemeanors	32
3	Personal affairs	14
Total		100

A table identifying the kind of violence in cases of the study's sample

No.	Kind of violence	Number
1	Murder	9
2	Dishonoring	23
3	Abducting and rape	15
4	Hitting	32
5	Divorce because of harm	14
6	Harassment	2
7	Sexual harassment (human trafficking)	1
8	Robbery under threat	1
Total		100

It also tackles the quantitative and qualitative analysis of:

- Jurisdiction combating violence
- Period of claim (general prosecution investigation)
- Period of sentencing
- Sentences
- Sentences based on medical report
- The effect of applying article 17 to punishments for violence against women
- Our suggestion to deal with the problem of mercy in honor crimes

Third Section: Recommendations for combating violence against women

First: on the criminal level

Second: criminal procedures

Third: police

Fourth: sentences and reforming procedures

Fifth: supporting victims

Sixth: social and health services

Seventh: training

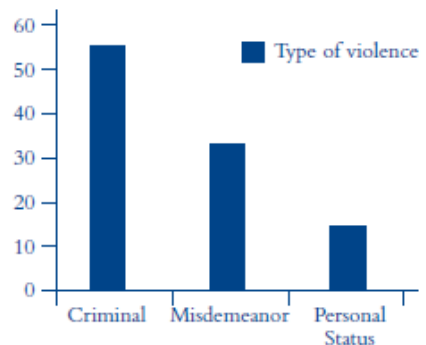
Outcomes of the Study:

The study consisted of 100 cases. Fifty-four of them were high risk crimes as defined by criminal law, including sexual assault, life-threatening crimes, and kidnapping. Victims of these crimes are women as it is difficult to fend off the male perpetrators. These crimes are particularly important within the context of studying the impact of legal deterrents on preventing high risk violent crimes against women. Also, they show that article 17 of the penal code should stop being used, as it gives the judge discretionary power to provide more lenient sentences in cases of violence.

There were 32 misdemeanor cases, which includes battery. These cases are the most common cases of violence against women, especially family violence. There are 14 personal status cases including cases of divorce due to harm. The wife presents evidence of the violence through witnesses or police reports.

Table (1) Chart (1)

S.	Case type	Number of cases
1	Criminal	54
2	Misdemeanor	32
3	Personal status	14
		100



Types of violence:

The sample included 9 murder cases. According to the available data, seven of the victims were older than 18 years old, one was a female child under the age of 7, and one was a young women younger than 18. As for the relation between the killed and the killer, four cases have been killed by their husbands or relatives; they are cases related to revenge for fidelity or what has been named honor.

The sample included 32 cases of battery, reached from physical, psychological to sexual violence against women. The file of researched cases included 8 kinds of violence between simple battery and high risk battery that leave effects on the victim's body.

The sample included 15 cases of rape. In 3 cases the victim was under 7 years old, 5 cases of female children between 7 to 18 years old, and 7 cases older than 18 years. The fear is that two cases of these were committed by relatives or guardians of the children.

There were 23 cases of indecent exposure. In 17 of the cases, the victims were younger than 18 years old, in which case there is an increased punishment.

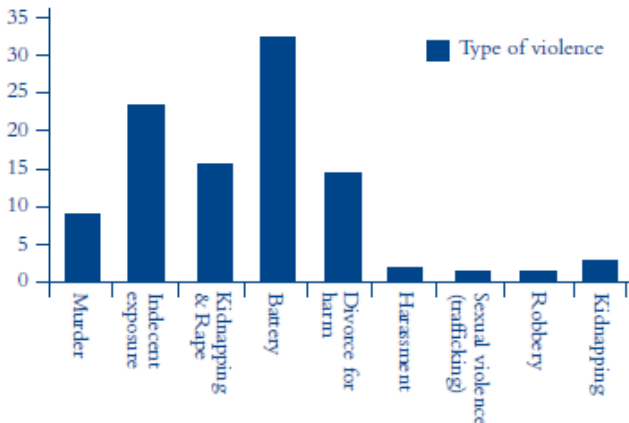
The quantitative analysis shows that 5 women were assaulted by their guardians, which is particularly dangerous. Eighteen women were assaulted by others.

The sample also included 14 cases of violence in personal status cases. Wives said in 7 cases that they requested divorce due to violence, 5 women said that they have been severely beaten, and 2 women said that the battery left permanent damage.

This violence is in addition to the verbal abuse, which harms one's dignity.

Table (2) Chart (2)

S.	Type of violence	Number of cases
1	Murder	9
2	Indecent exposure	23
3	Kidnapping and rape	15
4	Battery	32
5	Divorce for harm	14
6	Harassment	2
7	Sexual violence (trafficking)	1
8	Robbery	1
9	Kidnapping	3
		100

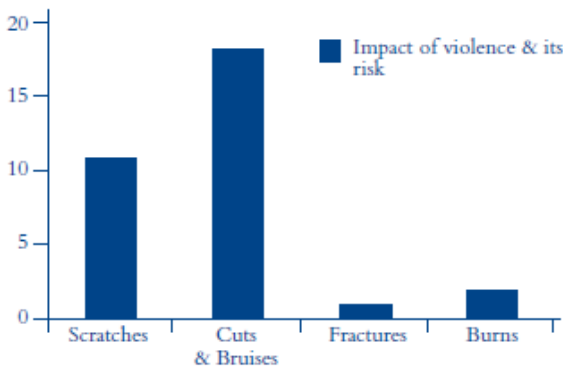


Indicators of the study refer to the existence of 11 cases who have scratches on their bodies that according to medical reports resulted from battery,

More common were cuts or bad bruises from sharp tools. This led in one case to broken bones, and in other two cases to severe burns from acid.

Table (3) Chart (3)

S.	Impact of violence and its risk	Number of cases
1	Scratches	11
2	Cuts and bruises	18
3	Fractures	1
4	Burns	2
		32



First: Duration of lawsuit (investigations of public prosecutor)

Misdemeanor cases (battery):

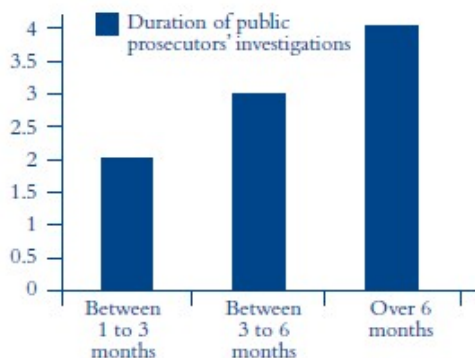
Twenty-four cases lasted between 3 and 6 months, representing 75% of the sample. Six cases lasted between 1 to 3 months, representing 18.75% of the sample. Two cases took longer than 6 months, representing 6.25% of the sample. This demonstrates the need for at least 6 months as about 75% of battery cases in the public prosecutor from filing reports until the first session in court. This is a very long time, especially considering that the investigations often do not follow the actual procedures of investigation.

Murder cases:

Murder cases in which investigations of the public prosecutor take more than 6 months are the most common. This is too long and can have a negative effect on one's confidence in the legal system and on the two concepts of deterrence.

Table (4) Chart (4)

S.	Duration of public prosecutor investigations	Number of cases
1	Between 1 to 3 months	2
2	Between 3 to 6 months	3
3	Over 6 months	4
		9

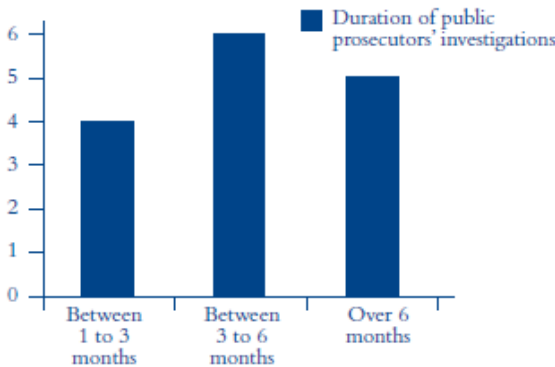


Rape cases:

Rape cases in which investigations of the public prosecutor take between 3 to 6 months accounted for 6 cases out of 15, representing 40% of the sample. In 5 cases the investigations took over 6 months, representing 33.4% of the sample. In 4 cases the investigations took between 1 to 3 months, representing 26.7% of the sample. Thus, the indicator shows that the highest rate is for cases in which investigations take about 6 months. This is considered slow and shows the contradiction with achieving a timely verdict against the perpetrator and redressing for the victim and her family, so that they have confidence in the justice system.

Table (5) Chart (5)

S.	Duration of public prosecutor investigations	Number of cases
1	Between 1 to 3 months	4
2	Between 3 to 6 months	6
3	Over 6 months	5
		15

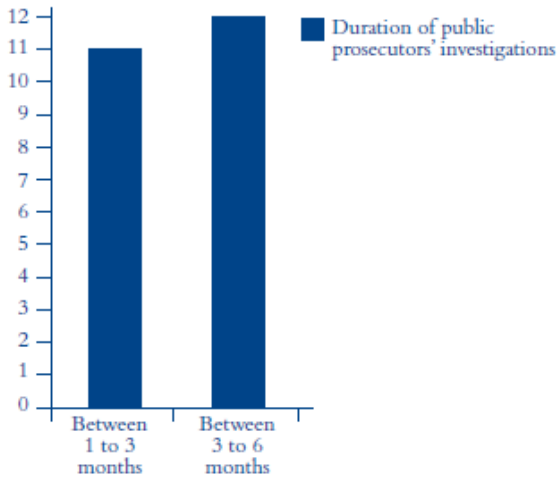


Cases of indecent exposure:

In this sample there were 23 cases of indecent exposure. Twelve of them lasted between 3 and 6 months, representing 52.2% of the sample. In 11 cases, the investigations lasted between 1 and 3 months, representing 46.8% of the sample. Thus, the longer duration is more common, which results in psychological and social burden on the victim and her relatives, and cultivates the belief that she is not able to access justice.

Table (6) Chart (6)

S.	Duration of public prosecutor investigations	Number of cases
1	Between 1 to 3 months	11
2	Between 3 to 6 months	12
		23



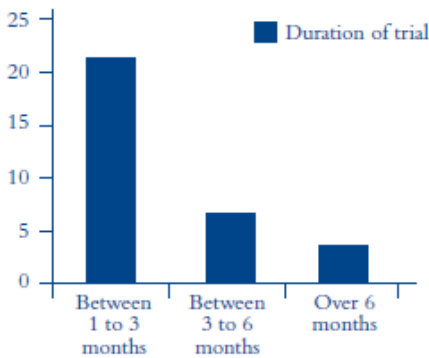
Second: Duration of trial

Misdemeanor cases (battery):

Trials lasted between 1 and 3 months in 21 cases, between 3 to 6 months in 7 cases, and more than 6 months in 2 cases. Thus, the highest rate was for cases that lasted less than 3 months, which shows that reaching a verdict in this kind of case is faster than the public prosecutor.

Table (7) Chart (7)

S.	Duration of trial	Number of cases
1	Between 1 to 3 months	21
2	Between 3 to 6 months	7
3	Over 6 months	4
		32

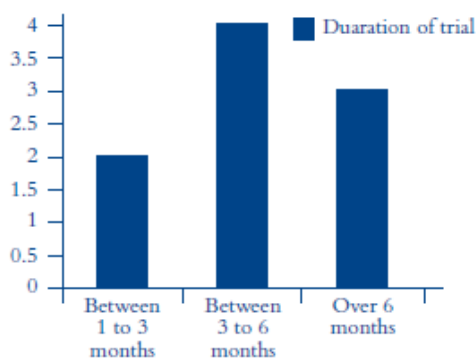


Murder cases:

There were 9 murder cases in the sample. Trials lasted between 3 and 6 months in 3 cases (33.3%), more than 6 months in 4 cases (44.5%) and for 3 months in 2 cases (22.2%). Therefore, cases that had long trials were the most common, which resulted in a long duration of ruling in cases and this affects access to justice.

Table (8) Chart (8)

S.	Duration of trial	Number of cases
1	Between 1 to 3 months	2
2	Between 3 to 6 months	4
3	Over 6 months	3
		9

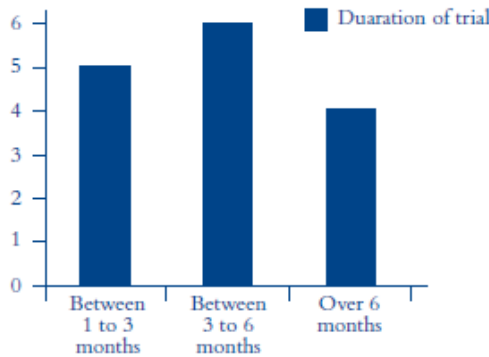


Rape cases:

Trials lasted between 1 and 3 months in 5 cases (33.3%), between 3 and 6 months in 6 cases (40%), and more than 6 months in 4 cases (26.7%). This is long given that the investigation period also takes time. Thus, the time between when the crime is committed and when a verdict is reached is often more than a year. This shows the contradiction with achieving a timely verdict against the perpetrator and redressing for the victim and her family, so that they have confidence in the justice system.

Table (9) Chart (9)

S.	Duration of trial	Number of cases
1	Between 1 to 3 months	5
2	Between 3 to 6 months	6
3	Over 6 months	4
		15

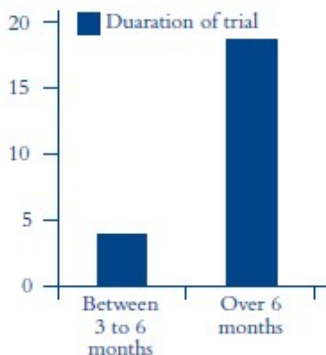


Cases of indecent exposure:

There were 23 indecent exposure cases in the sample. Trials lasted over 6 months in 19 cases (82.6%) and between 3 and 6 months in 4 cases (17.4%). Thus, this result shows that most cases of indecent exposure take a long time in court, which is an obstacle to women's access to justice.

Table (10) Chart (10)

S.	Duration of trial	Number of cases
1	Between 3 to 6 months	4
2	Over 6 months	19
		23



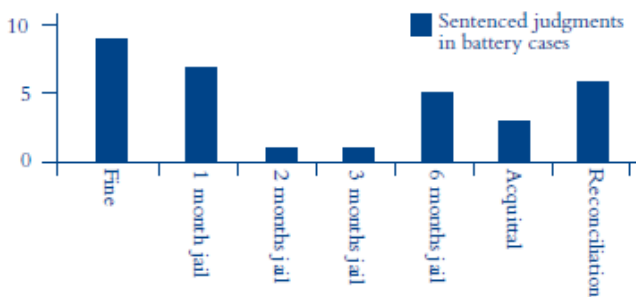
Third: Sentenced judgments

Misdemeanors (assault and battery):

Nine cases resulted in a fine of 200 pounds (28.1%), 7 cases resulted in a sentence of one month jail time (21.9%), and 5 cases resulted in a sentence of 6 months jail time (15.6%). One case resulted in a sentence of 2 months jail time and another for 3 months (6.25%). In 3 cases, the verdict was acquittal (9.4%) and 6 cases concluded with reconciliation (18.75%).

Table (11) Chart (11)

Number of cases	Sentenced judgments in battery cases	S.
9	Fine	1
7	One month jail	2
1	Two months jail	3
1	Three months jail	4
5	Six months jail	5
3	Acquittal	6
6	Reconciliation	7
		32

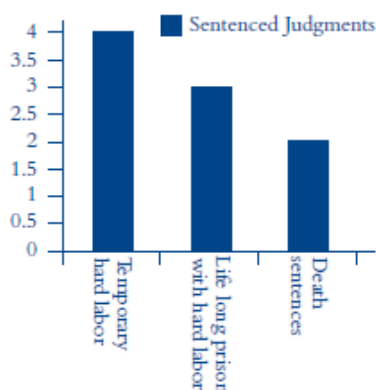


Murder cases:

The sentence for 3 cases was life long prison with hard labor (33.3%), 4 cases led to temporary hard labor (44.5%), and two cases received death sentences (22.2%). Consequently, it is clear that although all the cases are murder cases, the punishments differed significantly. This is because judges used article 17 of the penal code, which allows judges to reduce the punishment without reason. This law was applied in 6 cases out of 9. In these cases, the murder was committed by a relative of the victim, because they were suspicious of her behavior and claimed to be protecting their honor. The reason behind mitigation of penalties, as mentioned in many provisions is provocation that the criminal feels towards his victim, for he feels that it is horrible that his honor has been touched or harmed. That is why violence in such cases practiced against victims is considered acceptable and makes killing seem legitimate in some cases.

Table (12) Chart (12)

S.	Sentenced Judgments	Number of cases
1	Temporary hard labor	4
2	Life long prison with hard labor	3
3	Death sentences	2
		9

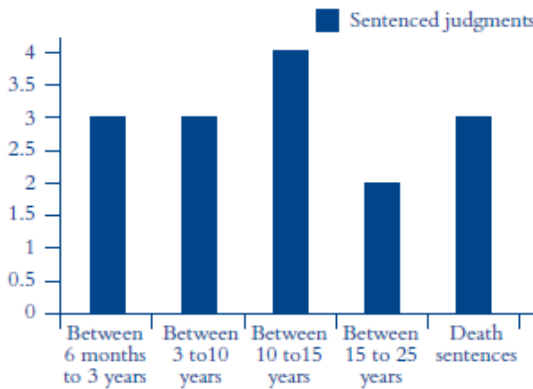


Rape cases:

Sentences in rape cases were decreased, although the legislator had sentenced death to rape and kidnapping cases, because such crimes represent a scare for the society and its security. As mentioned before, this is the result of article 17 of the penal code, which gives judges the power to decrease punishments.

Table (13) Chart (13)

S.	Sentenced judgments	Number of cases
1	Between 6 months to 3 years	3
2	Between 3 to 10 years	3
3	Between 10 to 15 years	4
4	Between 15 to 25 years	2
5	Death sentences	3
		15



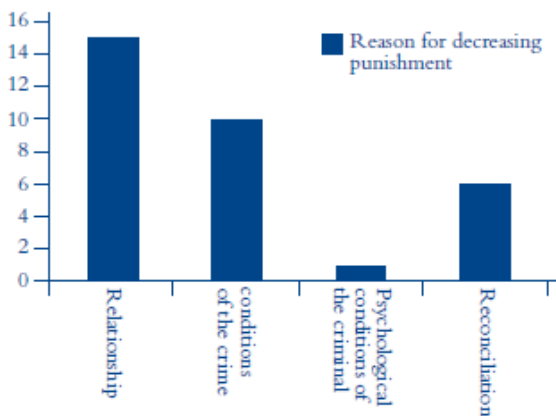
Fifth: Reasons for decreasing the punishment:

Misdemeanors (assault and battery):

In 15 cases the punishment was decreased because of the relationship between the victim and the criminal (46.9%). In 10 cases the punishment was decreased because of a marital relationship (“conditions of the crime” – for instance by claiming that the wife provoked or insulted her husband) (31.4%). There were 6 cases that ended with reconciliation, because of the familial relations and their effect; which led the judge to decrease the punishment (18.6%). Also, there was one case in which the punishment was decreased because of the psychological conditions of the criminal at the time when the crime was committed; he may have been affected by drugs or stress because of his continuous differences with his wife (3.1%).

Table (15) Chart (15)

S.	Reason for decreasing punishment	Number of cases
1	Relationship	15
2	Conditions of the crime	10
3	Psychological conditions of the criminal	1
4	Reconciliation	6
		32

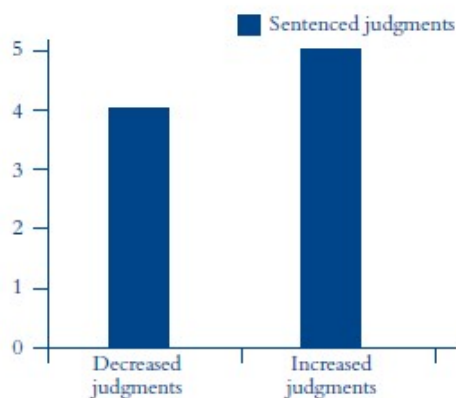


Murder Cases:

The number of cases in which punishment was decreased according to article 17 was 4 (44.5%), while the number of cases in which the punishment was increased was 5 (55.5%).

Table (16) Chart (16)

S.	Sentenced judgments	Number of cases
1	Decreased judgments	4
2	Increased judgments	5
		9

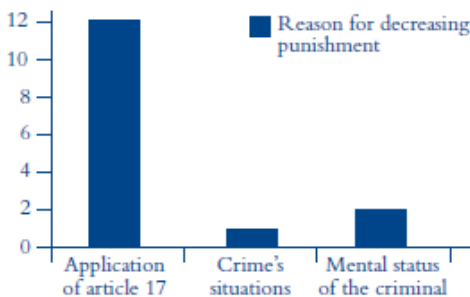


Rape cases:

The number of cases in which the punishment was decreased because of the application of article 17 of the criminal law is 12 cases, with the percentage of 80% of the study's sample. Then, there is one case in which the punishment was decreased because of the crime's situations, with the percentage of 6.6% of the study's sample, followed by two cases in which the punishment was decreased because of the mental status of the criminal, with the percentage of 13.4% of the study's sample. From the above, we can notice that 80% of the referred cases included the application of article 17, which is considered to be a large pretext to the criminal to flee from the stated punishment in the law, and then this will be a reason for other criminals to do just like him, although the punishment should not be decreased in order to reduce the number of such crimes.

Table (17) Chart (17)

S.	Reason for decreasing punishment	Number of cases
1	Application of article 17	12
2	Crime's situations	1
3	Mental status of the criminal	2
		15

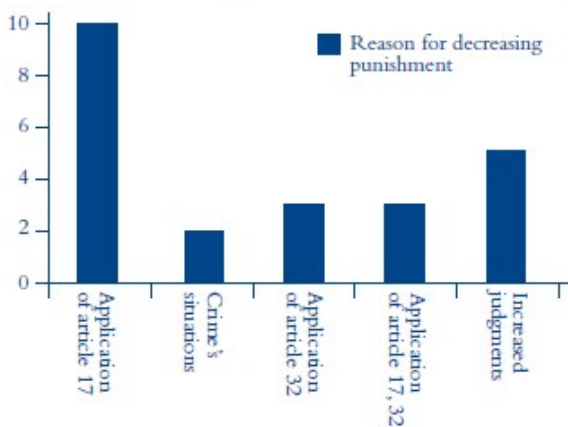


Indecent exposure cases:

In the majority of cases the punishment was reduced using article 17. This article is viewed as a way for criminals to escape the punishment that they deserve.

Table (18) Chart (18)

S.	Reason for decreasing punishment	Number of cases
1	Application of article 17	10
2	Crime's situations	2
3	Application of article 32	3
4	Application of articles 17, 32	3
5	Increased judgments	5
		23

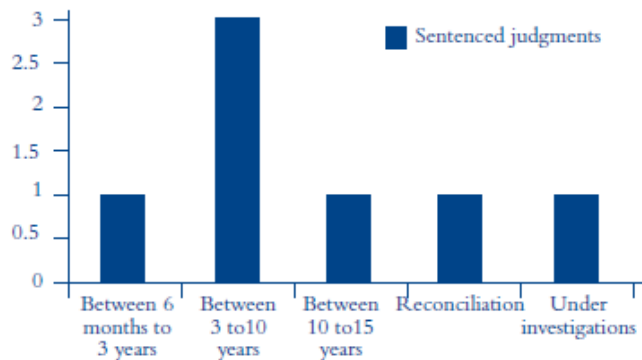


Varied cases:

The study included varied cases: 2 cases of sexual harassment, 3 cases of kidnapping, 1 case of robbery, 1 case of sexual violence and marriage of minors. There were no significant differences in the duration of investigations and trials; both averaged about 6 months. The ruling in 1 case took 6 months to 3 years to be issued the rulings in 3 cases were issued between 3 to 10 months, and the ruling in 1 case was issued between 10 to 15 years. In 1 case the ruling of reconciliation was issued, and 1 case is still under investigation. The matter was not better in cases related to compensation.

Table (19) Chart (19)

S.	Sentenced judgments	Number of cases
1	Between 6 months to 3 years	1
2	Between 3 to 10 years	3
3	Between 10 to 15 years	1
4	Reconciliation	1
5	Under investigations	1
		7

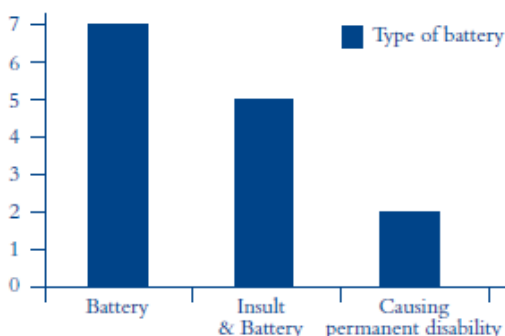


Personal status cases:

The study included 14 cases of divorce due to violence; 7 cases of divorce due to battery, 5 cases due to insult and battery, and 2 cases due to causing a permanent disability.

Table (20) Chart (20)

S.	Type of battery	Number of cases
1	Battery	7
2	Insult and battery	5
3	Causing permanent disability	2
		14



Duration of the lawsuit:

Lawsuits lasted from 15 days to a month until a settlement was reached and the lawsuits go to court in 58.7% of the cases, which is a psychological and material burden on women in addition to the load of their subjection to violence.

Outcomes of the study:

Violence against women in Egypt represents an increasing problem due to stereotypes of women and the social trend on women's duties and rights. These problems contribute to an increasing rate of violence. When violence seemed justified according to societal norms, blame is placed on the victim instead of the perpetrator. Hence, the role of law and people who are responsible for its enforcement became vital to correcting these beliefs, combating violence and preserving the integrity of the society's values and beliefs.

Since violence is often blamed on the victim, it is difficult to address this problem properly. The lack of support for the victim's requests leads to tolerance for violence against the victim and to acceptance of such violence.

Though there were some cases in the study which could have resulted in very severe punishments, such as female children under 18 years old were 65.7% of the rape cases, and 74% of indecent exposure cases, rulings did not indicate that punishments were increased. Instead, judges often used article 17 of the penal code to reduce the severity of the punishment.

The wide use of discretionary power of the judge according to article 17 in the penal code resulted in issuing many verdicts that were not suitable to the crime and violence that was committed. Rulings in violent cases differentiated between increasing and decreasing of their severity in cases of murder and rape due to the use of this discretionary power that decreases the punishment without having to state the reason for using article 17. This article is used in many cases; most of them were cases where the crime was committed by relatives motivated by suspicions of the victim's behavior and by preserving honor. The reasons for decreasing the ruling in many cases were provocative, which led the perpetrator to commit the crime in order to take revenge on the one who offended his honor and his family's honor. This makes murder seem justified, and is considered a valid excuse for the perpetrator to escape from his due punishment. Furthermore, it fails to deter the criminals and others from committing such crimes.

Decreased punishments spread family violence, as rulings are decreased in cases when a husband commits violence against his wife. He blames the wife, saying she provoked him or offended him. Or the punishment is decreased due to psychological circumstances of the criminal when committing the crime. The criminal sometimes commits crimes while on drugs or during a nervous breakdown as a result of continuous disputes with his wife. Hence, though the crime of family violence, and though evidence of the crime are available, most rulings do not suit the harm that women face and are not sufficient to prevent the crime from being committed again.

The society's culture contributes to deepening the concept of blaming the victim, which decreases women's access to justice. Many incidents of violence against women are by relatives, namely husbands. In murder cases, murder by relatives represented 44.4% of the cases, cases of battery represented 10%, and sexual abuse by relatives like rape and indecent exposure represented 18.4%.

The Egyptian penal code does not give a definition for sexual harassment or provide a way to prove its occurrence. Reality confirms the inability to prove sexual harassment. Indecent exposure and rape cases require evidence and witnesses, and this is a difficult matter. Thus, articles of rape and indecent exposures are used as evidence in sexual harassment cases, though there are many studies that refer to women's continuous subjection to sexual harassment either on the streets or on public transport, which restricts women's freedom of movement.

Though Egypt is concerned with the criminalization of human trafficking and though it has signed international and regional agreements that criminalize women's trafficking and prostitution, the phenomena of this crime began to increase and to develop other kinds like rural families marrying their young daughters to rich men from Gulf countries, which is considered a new kind of girls' trafficking in the name of valid and certified marriage.

The duration that is required for more than 75% of violence against women cases for the public prosecutor is not less than 6 months from filing the report of the incident to holding the trial. This is considered too slow for the public prosecutor to deal with such kind of cases. Cases that have a trial lasting 6 months are the most common, which leads to a slowdown in issuing rulings, which negatively affects access to justice.

Investigations for rape cases led to the violation of victims' rights on many levels. They lack of gender sensitivity and well-trained investigators, which psychologically harms the victim, violates her privacy by asking prying questions and making her take a virginity test. As a result, many victims refuse to file a report.

Often more than a year passes between when the crime is committed and a ruling is issued. This is a large problem because it weakens the deterrence effect and is not fair to the victim and her family. Also, it makes the public lose confidence in the justice system.

There are two instances when punishment is increased: when indecent exposure occurs in addition to another crime such as kidnapping or murder, and when the criminal and the victim are related or married.

A lack of awareness about the importance of compensation led to a lack of compensation. The problem is not only of unawareness of victims, but it is a problem of the lack of the judges' concern about the role of compensation in helping victims to recover from psychological harm.

Females between 20 and 40 years were subjected to family violence more than the other age brackets, which conflicts widespread belief. This study provides evidence that widespread violations continue to be committed by husbands in Egypt. The survey found that more than 3 out of 5 married women are subjected to one kind of psychological family violence, and about four out of five married men said that they practiced a kind of psychological violence on their wives.

Cases of divorce due to harm take the settlement office more than a month to deal with, which goes against the time stipulated by law - 15 days. It takes more than 15 days to reach the first ruling due to the judges' concerns with the witnesses' testimony, more than the documented medical certificates, which represents a psychological and financial stress on women in addition to the stress of the violence.

Recommendations:

- Review all legislation and annul the texts that address violence against women negatively.
- Enact deterrent legislations to protect children and women from all kinds of physical and psychological violence that they face in the family, at the work places or in the society. Family violence should be considered a crime against the whole society. Laws that protect women should be applied and people who violate these laws should be punished.
- Enact a law to define and criminalize crimes such as sexual harassment and defining rules for pro-

viding evidence of the crimes. Also, security police should be granted permission to arrest those who commit such crimes and to file a report immediately.

- Increase the punishment in cases of domestic violence due to the relationship of the husband to his wife and his responsibility towards her as in cases of people who commit rape while they are the guardians of the victim. This crime should be added to the file of the husband to be against him if he repeats the crime, even if the wife reconciles with him.
- Establish special units inside the police station in order to receive reports on sexual crimes and domestic violence crimes, with the guarantee of privacy.
- Establish a new procedural system that differentiates between the claim and the procedures of litigation, especially for cases of sexual abuse and domestic violence, in order to provide evidence and carry out the procedures of lawsuit in less than one year.
- If there are repeated allegations of sexual harassment against one person, submitted by more than one women, this would provide more evidence for the crime.
- Collect and compile technical reports and data in order to clarify the physiological and psychological effects of the crime on the victim. Thus, the court will take these matters into consideration when it announces the sentence, which helps to guarantee that the sentence of compensation is equal to the damages caused.
- Set protective procedures in order to guarantee the security of victims and witnesses before, during and after the court proceedings.
- The necessity of linking the investigation procedures and jurisdiction, in order to guarantee all the rights of criminals and victims according to the criminal procedures law.
- Guarantee that women exposed to violence will have their rights addresses fairly and quickly through official and non-official procedures.
- Provide judicial procedures and mechanisms that consider the needs of women who were exposed to violence and that guarantee that cases are dealt with fairly.
- Punish any employee who refuses to file a report against a criminal or participate in any way with him against the victim, in case he received a complaint from her.
- Issue administrative directions by the general attorney, stating that investigation of rape should be at the house of the victim or at the hospital, and there should be trained female attorney generals to investigate such kind of cases. Moreover, they must be trained on how to conduct the investigation.
- Ensure fair compensation for the harm caused.
- Inform the victim when the criminal is released after detainment or the prison sentence, in order to guarantee her safety from any harm to which she may be exposed.
- Set up programs for psychological rehabilitation in the penal institutions in order to discuss the criminal behavior of the criminal, to reach a correction of the criminals' statuses and to reduce the number of domestic violence crimes.
- Set up programs of civil society's organizations to raise the awareness of women who face domestic violence and encourage them to submit official complaints, without feeling fear of family or being ashamed. Moreover, such programs will help to follow up the complaints to reach fair and quick justice. Also, they will provide information on the rights and procedures of reaching justice, means of achieving them, specific institutions where the victim should go, and the penal

- procedures that should be taken, legal articles that need to be applied and the expected sentence.
- Raise awareness of the officials, policy makers, and activists about human and women's rights, provide trainings for all those who deal with victims of violence, such as security and police officers and employees in the legislative, social and medical fields in order to understand the problem's dimensions and results, and to change their attitudes, and to enable them to provide effective support that preserves women's dignity and rights.
 - Spread legal awareness programs as their absence is one of the main factors that contributes to many legal and general problems, and results in many victims losing their rights or not receiving their due compensation.
 - Establish more centers for hosting women who were exposed to violence, train the workers at these centers, provide psychological and social consultations, legal aid, and medication to those who joined the centers and those who need consultations and services.
 - Establish legal aid centers for women and units of rehabilitation for victims of violence, and inform others about them and their activity, in order to be available all over Egypt.