

## Meeting Minutes

23<sup>rd</sup> February, 2016

In attendance: Saman Rizvi, Sumaira Ishfaq, Nighat Said Khan, Samina Bano Rahman, Farida Shaheed, Nyla Naz, Nabiha Meher Shaikh

### Agenda:

1. Statement on “The Punjab Protection of Women Against Violence Act” (Qisas & diyat)
2. Statement from WAF Khi
3. Blasphemy
4. Escalating violence & increase in honour killings

### “The Punjab Protection of Women Against Violence Act”

- Supported by many activists like HRCP
- Why shouldn't we support it?
- Farida: There are already many sections in the PPC, but they aren't applied in the domestic sphere. Should apply. There is a law on bodily harm, attack etc but not applied, which is why there is a need to criminalise acts of violence within the home. Was given to social welfare department which is problematic. Not interested in women's rights, but welfare. Acts of domestic violence not punished. Punishment for falseness, obstruction and breach of orders.
- Bunny: not a domestic violence bill. Is for women who are already facing on going violence. Man can be removed from the house for only two days, not until completion of case and violence may escalate upon his return. One punishment is against the woman for false charges.

- There is no reference to the PPC. Baluchistan bill has referenced the PPC. Missing from Punjab bill. Should be mentioned and referred to in bill.

- Offences not fully defined.

- Violence will escalate when the GPRS bracelet will be removed. Likely to kill her.

Women can be followed into shops etc. Restraining order is only distance from person.

How to ensure and implement this? We also lack the digital capacity. Tracker not considered a good idea.

- Meena: Are we rejecting it? Are we saying critical elements are missing?

- Farida: Punjab has hesitated to make domestic violence a criminal offense. Have cited maulvis as a reason not to do so. It is not criminalising the act. Strengthen dar ul aman instead of creating new shelters. Why is all this money being spent? Instead of police being made responsible, intermediary has been created. Can't register until complaint registered with intermediary and can't be done at a police station.

- Farida: hold a press conference on 8th March to discuss the act. End impunity by criminalising it.

- Bunny: Implications like amendment under PPC are we opening up a door? Very few maulvis in PA so ignore it.

- Bunny: press conference on March 8th and read the statement drafted by Farida.

- Meena: should refer to Sindh and Baluchistan bill. Is in statement.

- Nabiha: cybercrime not defined. Why is cybercrime in it? Not defined.

- Farida: cybercrime separate. No point in adding this. Can't ask for restraining order or GPS tracker if being cyber stalked. Need to include lawyers in the conference.

- Meeting with Hina Jilani at 4 pm on Wed 2nd March at her residence to discuss the bill

### Statement from WAF Khi

- Bunny will forward the statement
- Statement needs revision and editing
- Demand needed for cyber crime
- Special Rapporteur for VAW not needed.

### Blasphemy

- Include in resolution
- Meena: Justice not served by hanging Qadri. Aasia bibi has not received any justice.
- Farida: WAF shouldn't take up Qadri alone. Focus on principles.
- Bunny: Ansar Abbasi went to FSC to apply death penalty. Capital punishment for blasphemy implemented by NS.