

Searching for the Intersections between Human Trafficking and Forced Marriage

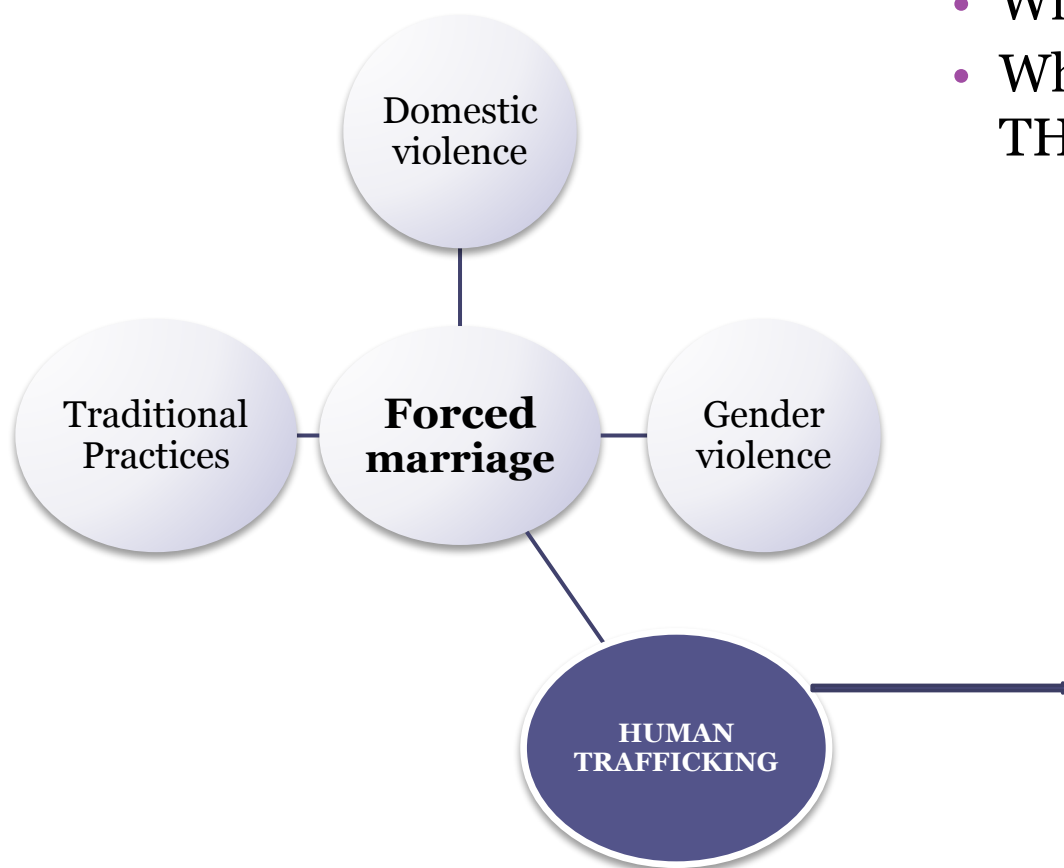
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WORLD SOCIETY OF VICTIMOLOGY
Advancing research, services and awareness for victims

Donosti, June 5-9, 2022

Forced Marriage as a form of THB



- What do we know about FM?
- When do FM intersect with THB processes?

REFERENCES:

- Exploitative Sham Marriages
 - *HESTIA, Heuni, 2017*
- Bride Sales & B.Market
 - *Stock et al., 2017; Liu, 2020; Xiong, 2021*
- Lover Boy
- Child Slavery
 - *Aptel, 2016; Wood, 2020*
- Interlinkages between TIO and Marriage
 - *UNODC, 2020*

- Are there cases of FM linked to THB in Spain?
- Do professionals recognize victims of FM as victims of THB

Spanish Criminal Code (prosecution)

Coercion Offence (172bis)

- **PRISON** up to 3 and 1/2 years **or FINE**
- Violence, severe intimidation, deception

THB Offence (177bis)

- Exploitative purpose “Celebration of FM”
- **PRISON up to 8 years**
 - Up to 12 years if victim is under 18

Qualitative Research

- **Sample:** 34 professionals

- **Criminal Justice System, n=14**

- 2 judges
- 3 lawyers
- 3 prosecutors
- 6 police officers

- **Victim Support, n=20**

- Social workers, social educators, cultural mediators, school counselors, and other experts in gender or migration policies

- **Questions:**

- Detection?
- Dynamics of victimization?
- Effects on victims?
- Victims' expectations?



RESULTS

1. Victim detection

VS professionals

- **Directly**
- **Victims at risk:** teachers, social workers, prevention workshops.
- **Survivors:** counselling domestic abuse, divorce.

CJS professionals

- **Only when referred if** protective operation required

2. Dynamics of victimisation

VS Professionals

- Involvement of family :
 - to preserve cultural identity
 - to mitigate an overly western lifestyle
- Family pressure.
 - However, also severe intimidation

CJS Professionals

- **Close relationship FM and THB detected (n=11)**
 - Bride Sales
 - Bride brought to Spain after or before the marriage
 - FM as a side-effect of THB or illegal smuggling
 - FM as the origin of THB

3. Effects on victims

Victim forced	Physical, emotional and sexual violence
	Stress, insecurity, loss of confidence
Victim escapes	Loneliness
	Guilt
	Rupture - Rejection of family

4. Victims' expectations:



Help, protection

Reluctance to contact with CJS:
prosecution - dilemma

Mediation with families

To conclude:

- ✓ FM linked to THB have been detected
- ✓ Many cases still associated to a family context
- ✓ Progress needed to identify cases of FM as THB
 - Improve the definition of the offence
 - Improve protection and assistance to victims:
 1. Interagency work (with THB experts)
 2. Assess the risk, the will and the needs of the victim
 3. Special attention and resources to Child victims

Thank you for your attention

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