Wednesday 17th, 2020

COVID-19: INVENTIVE SOLIDARITIES TO PROTECT WOMEN VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE

Isabelle Rome

High Official for Gender Equality at the French Ministry of Justice

Erwann Tor

Magistrate, Regional Expert on fighting against Trafficking in Human Beings and related crimes, French delegation to the UN and the OSCE

Combating violence against women and girls

- Protection of women victims of prostitution is a fully-fledged objective of the French Plan to mobilize and combat violence against women
- Identification of victims of all forms of violence against women and girls is difficult even under normal circumstances
- Addressing gender-based violence during Covid-19 through prevention,
 victim protection, prosecution of perpetrators and public private sectors
 partnership

Domestic violence during the COVID-19 pandemic



Alert mechanism/ Reporting Plateform for violence



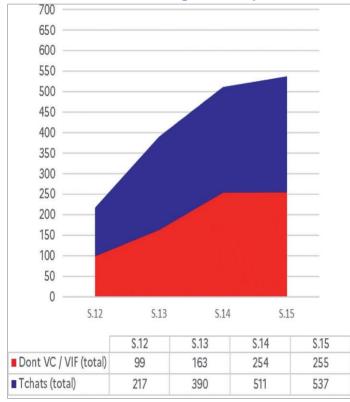
The reporting platform for violence arretonslesviolences.gouv.fr is open 24H/24 and 7days/7 and mobilizes trained police officers,

Since the beginning of the lockdown, there has been a clear increase of messages to the platform, especially concerning

domestic violence.



Total number of messages to the platform



Alert systems and suitable reception arrangements for the victims

Helplines for women:

- The national reference number 3919, specialized for women victims of violence
- 116 006, the number for the standard of the « France Victimes » network, with :
- → Personalized reception
- → Specific orientation depending on the situation

This work is achieved through associations working in close cooperation with Courts

Helplines for children

Violence on children can be psychological, physical and sexual

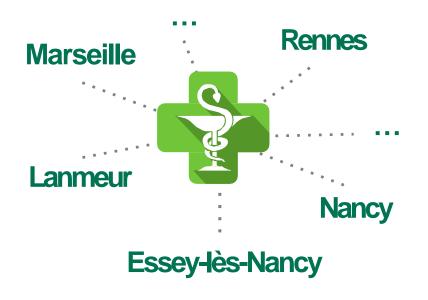
- The national number 119 (free 24h/24 7/7) provides advice and reporting to social services or law enforcement
- To reinforce the protection measures already existing, doctors, lawyers, social services and psychologists answer to this number for an online consultation: 03 20 35 97 72

Domestic violence during the COVID-19 pandemic



Alert Mechanism / Pharmacies

Several situations were reported in pharmacies, which allowed victims to gather information and, when they chose to, to connect them to law enforcement, for example in Nancy, Rennes, Lanmeur, Marseille, Essey-lès-Nancy...





The judicial response to domestic violence during the COVID-19 pandemic



Courts treat these cases in priority:

- Reinforced protection for the victims :
- → Measures of protection (protection orders)
- → Telephone devices "serious danger"
- Removal of the violent spouse :
- → Bringing the perpetrator before the competent judicial authorities without delay
- → A platform, managed by an association, to find accommodation in 3 to 4 hours, for those who have none (either in homes or at the hotel)