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INFO SHEET

PERCEPTIONS OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS

A comparative summary
(Baseline, Mid-term-Review, Endline)

Disclaimer

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The opinions expressed in this study are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the views of UN Women or the European Commission.

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ALBANIA INFO SHEET

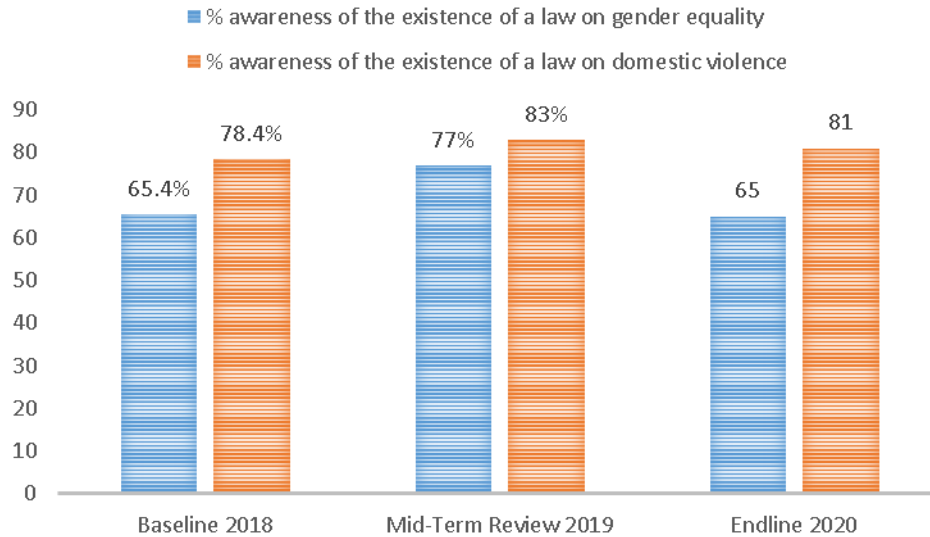
The data in this info sheet were collected in 2020 (November-December) as part of Endline phase exercise conducted by the Observatory for Children and Youths Rights in Albania (Observatory) under the EU-UN Women regional programme “Implementing Norms, Changing Minds”. Data include responses from 1260 women, girls, men, boys and others of ages 15 - 64, in the region of Elbasan and municipalities of Durrës, Korçë, Shkodër, Kamëz, Tiranë and Vlorë, in both urban and rural areas, including members of disadvantaged communities (Roma, Egyptian, persons with disabilities, and LGBTI). The selection of target areas was based on the location of projects and interventions conducted by CSOs part of the EU-UN Women regional programme on EAW. *Marginalized and vulnerable groups represent 8% of the sample, including: people with disability, Member of Roma/ Egyptian communities, LGBTI.*

The quantitative data collected, through unified and standard formats approved by UN Women in all the countries that are implementing the program (6 Western Balkans and Turkey), are entered in the Database format for Albania. The quantitative data are analyzed and compared with a similar exercise (the baseline phase) that was conducted in 2018, using the same tools and methodology. This Info Sheet represents findings and analysis of these findings as a comparative overview that contains data from the Baseline (2018) and Mid-Term Review (2019) and Endline (2020).

Knowledge of the Law / Information about the Law / Familiarity with the Law

- **65% of respondents were aware of the existence of a law on gender equality, 81% of them were aware of the existence of a law on violence against women and domestic violence. Compared to the survey findings conducted during the baseline phase (2018) and mid-term review (2019) it was noted that:**
 - During the Endline (2020), the level of awareness of the existence of the law on gender equality decreased by 0.6% (during baseline it was 65.4%);
 - During the Endline (2020), the level of awareness about the existence of the law on violence against women and domestic violence increased by 3.3% (during baseline it was 78.4%).
 - Meanwhile, during the mid-term review (2019), the level of awareness of the existence of these two laws has been higher than in baseline and endline phase (awareness of the existence of the law on gender equality has been 77% while for the law on violence against women has been 83%).

Graph 1- "Comparative results on the level of awareness of the existence of the law on gender basis and the law against violence against women and domestic violence"

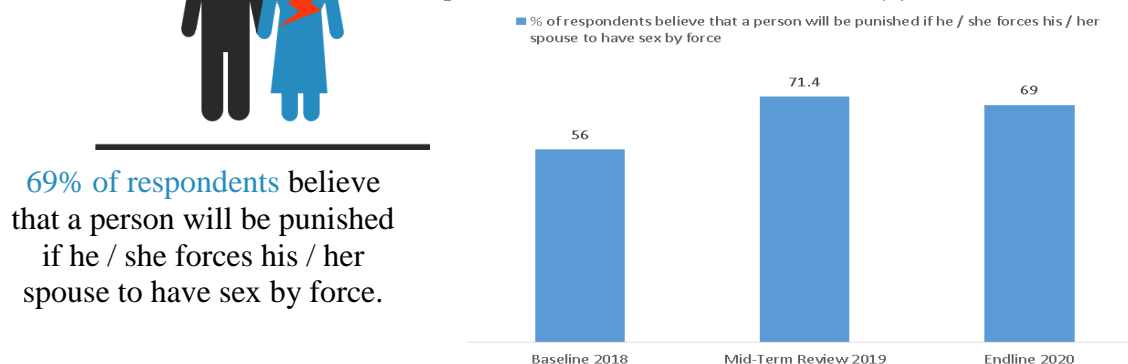


- From the findings of the survey conducted during endline (2020) it was identified that:
 - Part of the respondents were not aware that other forms of non-physical violence were punishable by law. Most respondents knew that certain types of violence were punishable by law (ranking from highest to lowest):
 - Rape / sexual assault 93%
 - Trafficking and sexual exploitation 92%
 - Child sexual abuse 92%
 - Sexual harassment 88%
 - Domestic violence 80%
 - Crime in the name of honor 77%
 - Stalking 65%
 - Psychological violence 62%
 - Forced abortion 55%
 - Forced marriage 52%
 - Economic violence 48%
 - Economic violence, forced marriage and forced abortion are again considered at a low level as forms of violence punishable by law (the level of awareness of individuals that these are forms of violence punishable by law is 48-55%). For other forms of violence and their legal punishment, the level of awareness was higher during endline phase (62-93%).
 - Spousal rape is perceived differently from other crimes. While the majority of respondents during endline phase (2020) consider trafficking and sexual exploitation as crimes believing that a person would be punished for their commission (92%), a smaller percentage of respondents believed that a person would be punished for having sex with his / her spouse / partner by force (69%).
 - Compared to the findings of the survey conducted during the initial evaluation phase (2018), it was noted that the percentage of respondents who believe that a person should be punished for having sexual intercourse with a spouse / partner has increased by 23.2% (it was 56 % before). Meanwhile, this value was more positive during mid- term review

(2019), in which 71.4% of respondents considered it an act punishable by law to have forced sexual intercourse with their spouse / partner.



Graph 2- “Comparative results on the level of respondents’ trust in the punishment of persons who force their spouses / partners to have sexual intercourse by force”



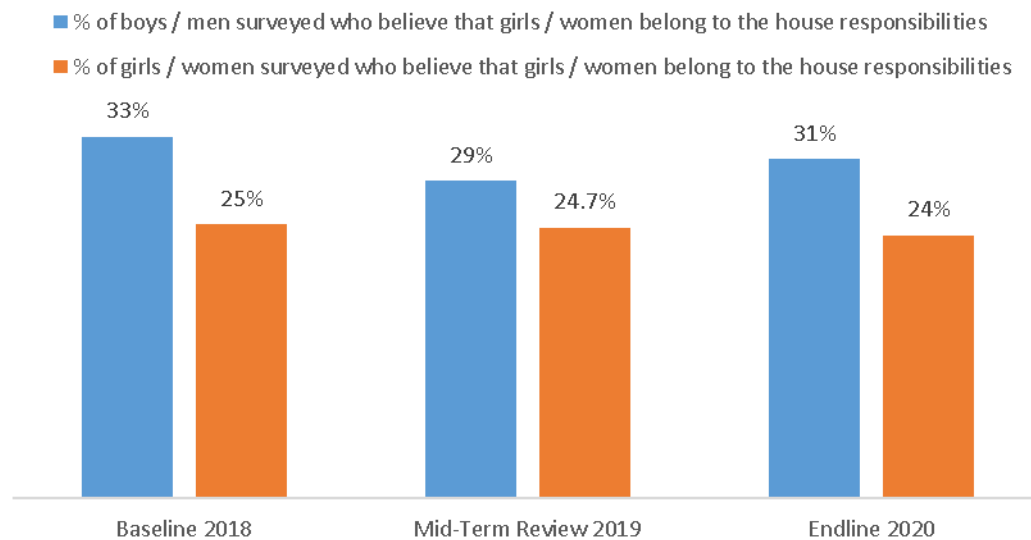
69% of respondents believe that a person will be punished if he / she forces his / her spouse to have sex by force.

Perceptions of gender roles

- **During endline phase, it turns out that a significant number of respondents believe that girls / women are expected to act within traditional gender roles and be subservient to men**
- **28% of respondents** believe that girls / women belong to the house responsibilities, while boys / men should pursue career opportunities. The data show that:
 - **71% of respondents from the Roma / Egyptian community** believe that girls belong to the house responsibilities;
 - **13% of individuals with different abilities** believe that girls belong to the house responsibilities;
 - **Less than 1 in 3 respondents** believe that girls / women belong to the household sphere, while boys / men should pursue careers and leadership opportunities. This ratio is the same as in baseline and mid-term review phase. While the gender analysis shows that:
 - **Approximately 1 in 3 boys / men** surveyed believes that girls / women belong to the house responsibilities while boys / men should pursue careers and leadership opportunities. The percentage of boys / men surveyed who believe that girls / women should deal mainly with house responsibilities, while boys / men should pursue careers and leadership opportunities has **decreased by 6%** compared to baseline (already 31% of surveyed boys / men believe this, compared to 33% of surveyed boys / men during baseline). Meanwhile, this indicator has been more positive in the mid-term review with 29%.
 - **Approximately 1 in 4 girls / women** surveyed believes that girls / women belong to the house responsibilities, while boys / men should pursue careers and leadership opportunities. The percentage of girls / women surveyed who believe that girls / women should deal mainly with house responsibilities, while boys / men should pursue careers and leadership

opportunities has **decreased by 4%** compared to baseline phase (now 24% of girls / women surveyed believe this, compared to 25% of girls / women surveyed during baseline). Meanwhile, this indicator during mid-term review was 24.7%.

Graph 3- “Comparative results for the level of respondents believes that girls/ women belong in the domestic sphere”



▪ **Boys / men are perceived to have a “right” dominant role and to have power over girls / women.**

- Control over women's bodies: More than 1 in 6 girls / women surveyed agree that women should have sex with their husbands against their will. Among Roma / Egyptian girls / women respondents this belief is higher, as almost 1 in 3 respondents agree that women should have sex with their husbands against their will.

Almost 1 in 9 boys / men surveyed believe that girls / women should see a doctor only with the permission of their partners.

Compared to the findings of surveys conducted during **baseline (2018) and mid-term review (2019)**, it was noted that:

The ratio of boys / men surveyed who believe that girls / women should be seen by a doctor only with the permission of their partners has improved throughout endline phase (1 in 9 boys / men surveyed). Whereas in the previous two phases this ratio was 1 in 5 boys / men surveyed.

- Control over women's finances: Apparently, 1 in 4 boys / men surveyed and more than 1 in 6 girls / women surveyed believe that the girl / woman's income is owned by the partner. Approximately 1 in 6 boys / men surveyed and more than 1 in 7 girls / women surveyed believe that women belong to their husbands and men's families and consequently cannot inherit wealth from their maternity family. Compared with the findings of the surveys conducted during **baseline (2018) and mid-term review (2019)**, it was noted that:

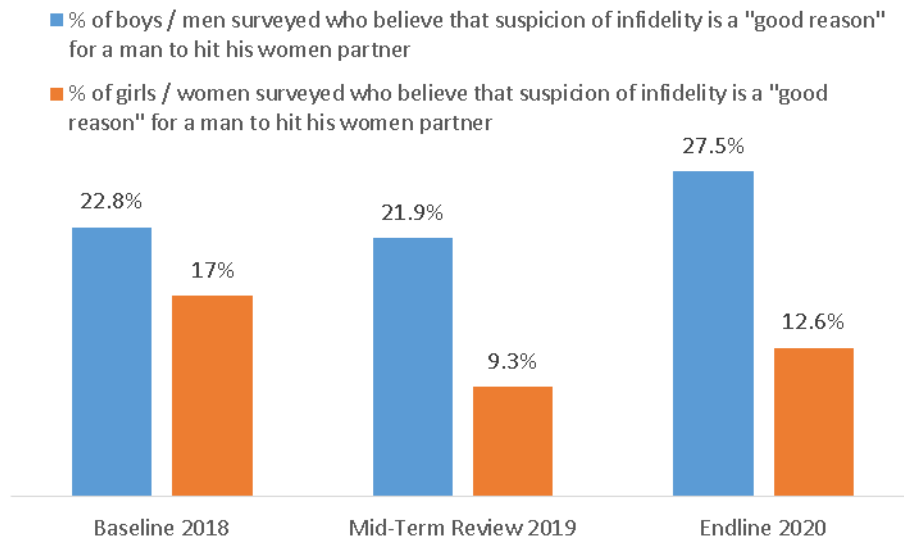
- The ratio of men and women surveyed who believe that women's income is owned by their husbands has improved during endline phase (it was 1 in 3 boys / men and 1 in 4 girls / women in two phases previous).
 - The perception that women belong to the husband and his family has improved, as endline survey shows:
 - 1 in 6 boys / men surveyed in 2020 compared to 1 in 4 boys / men surveyed in 2019 and 1 in 5 boys / men surveyed in 2018.
- Control over basic decision making and autonomy: Almost 1 in 6 boys / men surveyed claim that the couple's children belong to the male partner and his family. More than 1 in 3 girls / women surveyed and 1 in 2 boys / men surveyed believe that women should obey their husbands. Compared to the findings of surveys conducted during baseline **(2018) and mid-term review (2019)**, it was noted that:
 - The ratio of boys / men surveyed who believe that the couple's children belong to the father and his family has improved during endline assessment compared to baseline and mid-term review assessment (in which the ratio was the same 1 in 5 boys / men).
 - Currently, the ratio of boys / men as well as girls / women who believe that women should obey their husbands is the same as during baseline (2018) and higher than in the mid-term review phase (2019) , specifically:
 - In 2020 and 2018, 1 in 2 boys / men surveyed believes that women should obey their husbands. While in 2019 this ratio was 1 in 3 boys / men surveyed.
 - In 2020 and 2018, 1 in 3 girls / women surveyed believes that women should obey their husbands. While in 2019 this ratio was 1 in 4 girls / women surveyed.

Attitudes towards violence against women

- **A significant percentage of respondents have prejudices that justify and minimize the impact of violence against women.** These beliefs and myths reduce the responsibility of the "perpetrator" by shifting some of the responsibility and guilt to the victim of violence. A clear example of this belief is the fact that 27.5% of boys / men surveyed and 12.6% of girls / women surveyed also believe that even the suspicion of infidelity is a "good reason" for a man to hit his partner. Compared to the findings of surveys conducted during **baseline (2018) and mid-term review (2019)**, it was noted that:
 The percentage of boys / men surveyed who believe that suspicion of infidelity is a "good reason" to hit a partner has increased by 20.6% (this figure was 22.8% during baseline). This indicator was more positive in the mid-term review phase, in which 21.9% of boys / men surveyed had such confidence (decreasing by 3.9% compared to baseline).
 - The percentage of girls / women surveyed who believe that suspicion of infidelity is a "good reason" to hit their partner has decreased by 25.9% (this figure was 17% during baseline). This indicator was even more positive in the mid-term

review, in which 9.3% of girls / women surveyed had such confidence (decreasing by 45.3% compared to baseline).

Graph 4- "Comparative results on the level of respondents' belief that the suspicion of infidelity is a 'good reason' for a boy / men to hit his women partner"

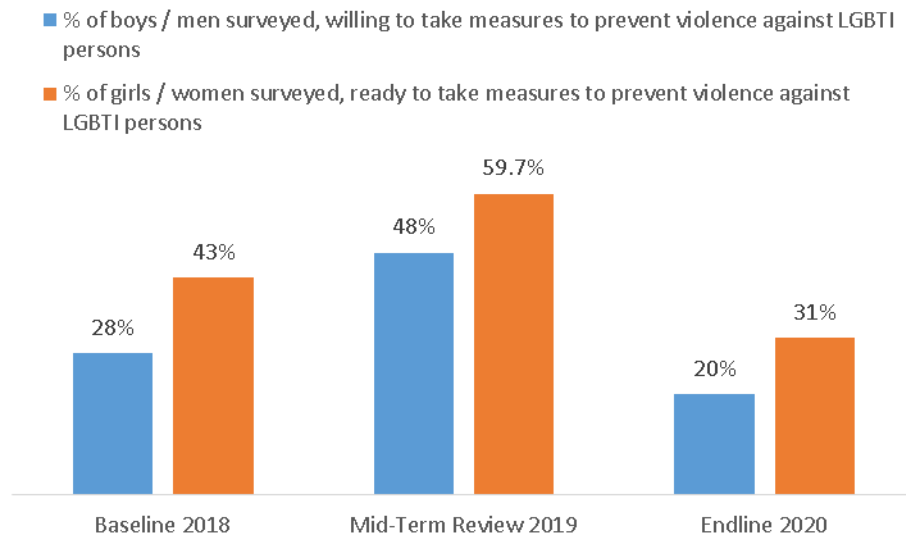


- Violence is perceived as a private issue that needs to be addressed within the family.** More than three quarters of respondents (78%) admit that abused women should not seek help from the police. This indicator has been more positive during mid-term review (2019), in which more than a quarter of respondents have had such an attitude.

Willingness to prevent or report violence

- Many respondents were hesitant to provide assistance in situations of domestic violence.**
- Respondents were less willing to help prevent violence against members of marginalized communities,** highlighting how other forms of discrimination based on ethnicity or sexual orientation allow and promote violence against women. **Only 20% of boys / men surveyed and 31% of girls / women surveyed were willing to take action to prevent violence against LGBTI community.** Compared to the findings of surveys conducted during baseline (2018) and mid-term review (2019), it was noted that:
 - The percentage of boys / men surveyed willing to take action to prevent violence against LGBTI persons decreased by 28.6% (it was 28% during baseline). Meanwhile, this indicator was more positive in the mid-term review, in which 48% of boys / men surveyed were willing to act against violence against LGBTI persons.
 - The percentage of girls / women surveyed willing to take action to prevent violence against LGBTI persons decreased by 27.9% (it was 43% during baseline). Meanwhile, this indicator was more positive in the mid-term review, in which 59.7% of girls / women surveyed were willing to act against violence against LGBTI persons.

Graph 5- “Comparative results for the willing level of respondents believes to take action to prevent violence against LGBTI persons”

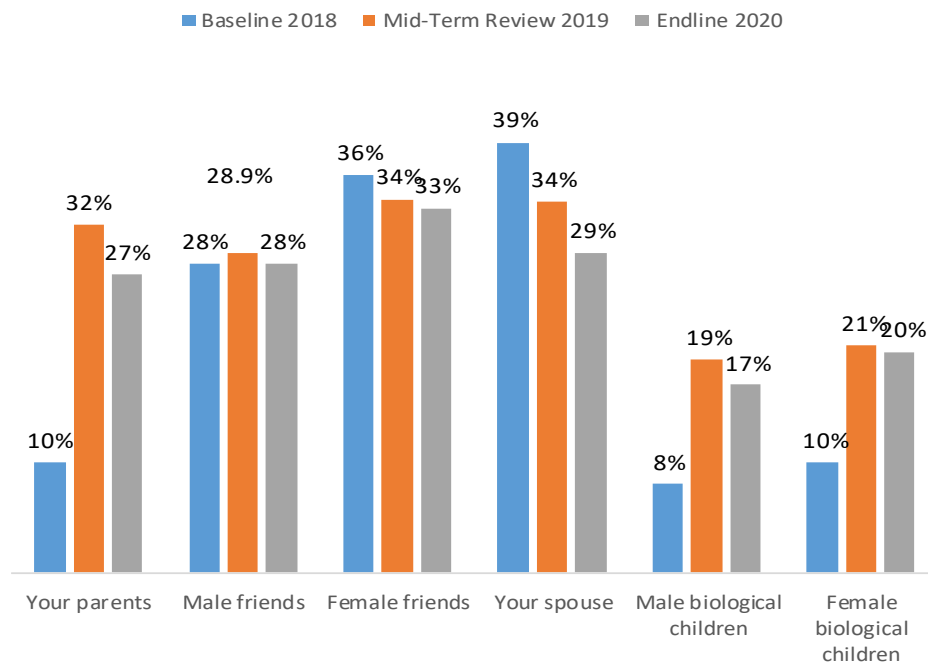


- **Women showed higher willingness than men to intervene in violent situations and take measures to prevent violence.** In addition to the increased willingness to help strangers experiencing violence, women were significantly more willing to help individuals from marginalized communities, such as LGBTI, ethnic minorities.
- **Attitudes that minimize or justify violence against marginalized women are not limited to marginalized groups, but target all women.**

Commonality of discussions on VAW/G and gender equality

- **Issues related to violence against women and girls are rarely discussed outside of family or with close friends.** Violence against women and girls continues to be a private matter in Albania. Respondents were more likely to discuss these issues with their friends and partners.
 - The percentage of respondents who agree to discuss issues related to violence against women and girls with their parents is **27%** (it was 10% during baseline and 32% in the mid-term review).
 - The percentage of respondents who agree to discuss issues related to violence against women and girls with their biological boys is **17%** (it was 8% during baseline and 19% in the mid-term review). One way to reduce DHNGV is through involving boys in educational and awareness-raising activities from an early age. But if parents refuse to discuss these issues with their sons early in life, any intervention in this area will be more difficult. For this reason, in parallel with the interventions in the school or in the education system, one should work closely with the parents as well.
 - The percentage of respondents who agree to discuss issues related to violence against women and girls with their biological daughters is **20%** (it was 10% during baseline and 21% in the mid-term review).

Graph 6: "in the last 12 months, have you discussed issues related to the prevention of VAWG with ..."



Common channels for delivering messages on VAW/G and gender equality

- **The most commonly used methods of communication are likely to reach the target audience.** Social media (50%), TV shows / debates (48%), TV spots, promotional materials such as leaflets (31%) and newspapers (28%), radio advertising (20%) and training (19%) continue to be the most effective channels for disseminating information related to the prevention of violence against women.
- **Alternative methods of communication,** such as sports games, religious rites / exhibitions and songs, may be less effective in reaching a large audience, although they may be useful as part of a wider campaign using also common methods of communication. In addition, the marches have demonstrated a low impact on the public.

Graph 7: "In the last 12 months, have you heard about issues related to gender equality or the prevention of VAW/G through ..."

■ Baseline 2018 ■ Mid-Term Review 2019 ■ Endline 2020

