Preventing honour-related violence - experiences from Denmark

Sigrid Bacher Frederiksen
Coordinator of the Dialogue Team
Division for Prevention and Civic Citizenship
Mail: sbfr@siri.dk / dialogkorpset@siri.dk
Questions I will try to answer

What approach does the Danish Dialogue Team use in order to address vulnerable topics in relation to honour-related conflicts with the target group of youngsters and parents?

How and why do men play an active part in the Danish Dialogue Team's work with prevention of honour-related violence?
What and who is the Dialogue Team?

Started in 2009

Purpose
To promote the target group’s acceptance of individual rights, equality, self-determination and self-control, and to reduce homophobia, threats, and control.

Personal experience

Honour-related conflicts

Negative social control

30 volunteers

The purpose matters to them personally!
Purpose

To promote the target group's understanding and acceptance of individual rights, including gender equality, self-determination and the right to one's own body and to reduce honour-related pressure, threats and control.
What and who is the **Dialogue Team**?

- **Started in 2009**
- **Purpose**: To promote the target group’s understanding of individual rights, including equality, self-determination and the right to control one’s own body and to reduce honour-related threats and control.
- **Personal experience**
- **30 volunteers**

Honour-related conflicts
Negative social control
volunteers

The purpose matters to them personally!
What and who is the **Dialogue Team**?

**Started in 2009**

- Honour-related conflicts
- Negative social control

**Purpose**

To promote the target group’s **understanding, acceptance** of individual rights, including equality, self-determination and the right to provide for oneself, and to reduce honour-related threats and control.

**Personal experience**

- 30 volunteers

The purpose matters to them personally!
Honour-related conflicts

Conflicts that arise in close family relationships and where the conflict is due to the perception that the honour of the family has been violated.

The honour of the family is linked to a perception of the family as a united entity – a community where the individual’s actions affect the whole family and its honour.

The conduct of honour applies only in some families and it is not linked to particular religions or cultures.

Negative social control

The negative social control is about actions, control, penalties or sanctions that significantly inhibits or limits the individual’s manifestations in life, self-expression, behaviour, choices and rights.

For example control or restrictions in relation to lifestyle, leisure activities, social relationships, choice of spouse or the right to one’s own body.
What does the **Dialogue Team** do?

**Facilitate dialogue**
- Youngsters, parents and professionals

**Themes**
- Social control, negative social control and honour and shame
- Youth life and communities
- Family life and child raising
- Body and sexuality
- Gender roles and identities

**Approach**
- Peer-to-peer
- Cultural intelligence
- Recognition
- Norm criticism

**Dialogic communication**

**Facilitation as a technique instead of monologues**

**Use personal experiences in a professional way**

**Information about rights and support services**
Mens role in the Dialogue Team's work

Men (and women) are both victims and practitioners of negative social control.

Norms do not change by themselves - and we need both men and women to engage.

We are not unachievable role models.

The ones who undergo the biggest change is not our target group - but the members themselves.
Thank you for your attention!

Sigrid Bacher Frederiksen
sbfr@siri.dk