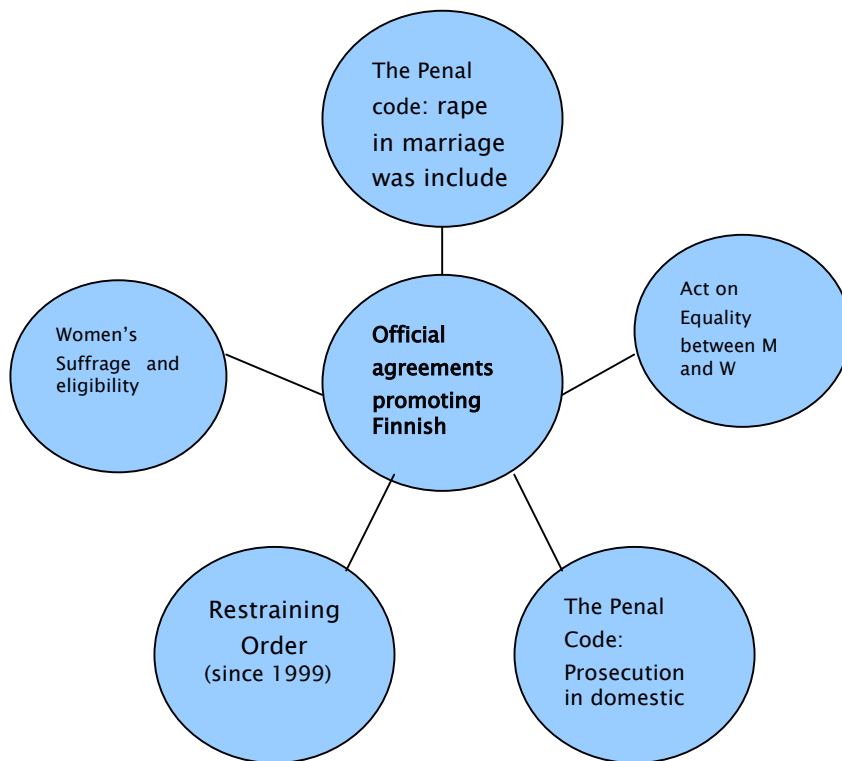
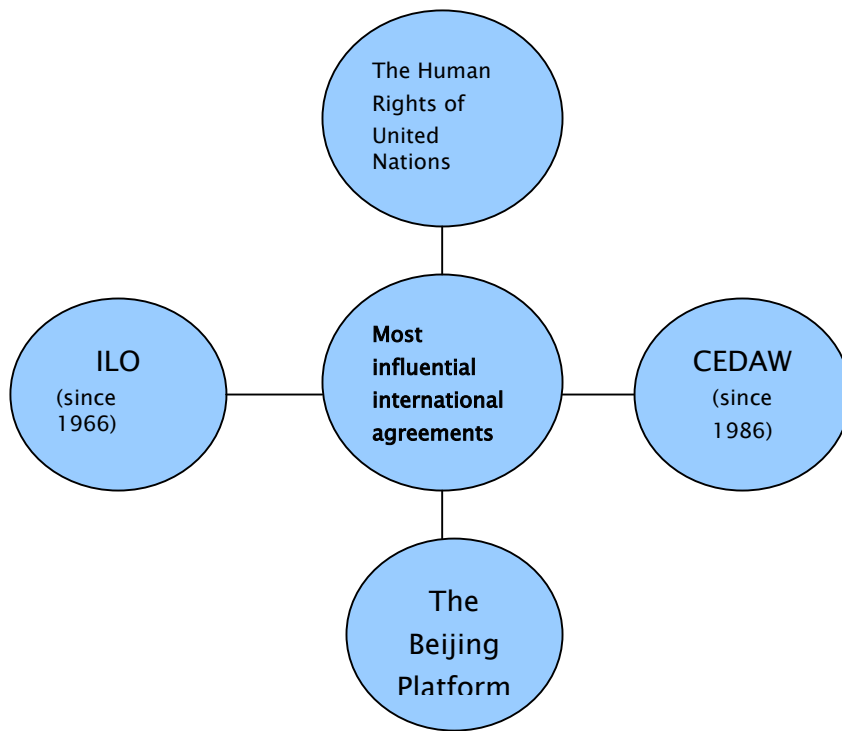


NATIONAL REPORT

GENDER VIOLENCE IN FINLAND

From the perspective of women





NATIONAL REPORT OF FINLAND

CONTENTS

1. LEGAL FRAMEWORK OF GENDER VIOLENCE IN FINLAND	4
1.1. Legal framework of equality – regarding GV at workplaces.....	5
1.2 Legal framework of intimate partner violence and domestic violence in Finland.....	5
2. MAIN PUBLIC POLICIES ON GENDER VIOLENCE	7
2.1 Governmental Programmes.....	8
2.1.1. Internal Security Programme	9
2.1.2. National Programme for Reduction Violence in Finland	10
2.1.3. The Gender Equality Action Plan	11
2.1.4. The Action Programme to Prevent Intimate Partner and Domestic Violence	11
2.2 Programmes of State Provincial Offices	12
3. MAIN STUDIES OF GENDER VIOLENCE CONDUCTED BY THE GOVERNMENT ..	13
3.1 Publications of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health.....	14
3.2 STAKES (National Research and Development Centre for Welfare and Health)	16
3.3 The National Research Institute of Legal Policy	16
4. MAIN RESEARCH PROGRAMS AND NETWORKS CONCERNING GENDER VIOLENCE	18
4.1 Non official studies by the Federation of Mother and Child Homes and Shelters	22
4.2 Publications of universities in Finland.....	22
4.2.1 Publications concerning intimate partner and domestic violence	23
4.2.2 Violence on Workplaces	24
4.4.3 Educational violence	25
4.4.4 Publications of some associations and other organisations	25
5. NATIONAL STATISTICS ON GENDER VIOLENCE	26
6. IN CONCLUSION	30

1. LEGAL FRAMEWORK OF GENDER VIOLENCE IN FINLAND

Finland is a party to other international human rights instruments such as the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms and the European Social Charter. Legal framework of GV has transformed from 1990. The Beijing Platform worked out many changes of legislation in Finland. Also EU-directives have influenced reforms of legislation regarding equality.

In Finland central Acts concerning gender violence are:

- The Constitution of Finland (731/1999)
- Marriage Act (234/1929; amendments up to 1226/2001 included)
- Child Welfare Act (683/1983)
- The Penal Code of Finland (39/1889; amendments up to 650/2003 as well as 1372/2003, 650/2004 and 1006/2004 included)
- The Sex Offence Code (563/1998; is included in the Penal Code of Finland of chapter 20)
- The Restraining Order (898/1998)
- Act on Equality between Women and Men (609/1986; amendments up to 232/2005 included)
- Non-Discrimination Act (21/2004; as amended by Act No 50/2006)

According to *the Constitution of Finland* everyone is equal before the law. No one shall, without an acceptable reason be treated differently, or discriminated against by other persons on the grounds of sex, age origin, language, religion, conviction, opinion, health, disability or other personal characteristics. Also equality of the sexes is promoted in societal activity and working life, especially in the determination of pay and the other terms of employment by this Act. Under the Constitution of Finland everyone has the right to life, personal liberty, integrity and security. No one shall be sentenced to death, tortured or otherwise treated in a manner violating human dignity.

The Legislation regarding GV in the Private Sphere

The Child Welfare Act, The Penal Code and *The Restraining Order* protect victims from **intimate partner and domestic violence** in Finland. In Finnish public policies, an individual level of violence is in general seen (except sexual offences) as *intimate partner and domestic violence*.

The Marriage Act requires an implementation of equality also in the private sphere. According to the Act, spouses must be equal. In the marriage, they shall display mutual trust and work together for the good of the family. Each spouse shall, herself or himself, have the right to decide whether to engage in gainful employment and in societal and other activities outside the family.

The Legislation regarding GV in the Public Sphere

Act on Equality between Women and Men is the main document through which Finnish women are able to act on their rights on a societal level and for the abolition of equality problems. The objectives of this Act are to prevent discrimination based on gender, to promote equality between women and men, and, thus, to improve the status of women, particularly in the working life.

Purpose of the *Non-discrimination Act* is to foster equality and enhance the protection provided by law to those who have experienced discrimination. The Non-Discrimination Act bans discrimination on the basis of age, ethnic or national origin, nationality, language, religion, belief, opinion, health, disability, sexual orientation or other personal characteristics.

In Finland, discrimination is also prohibited under other legislation. In addition to the *Act on Equality between Women and Men* and the *Non-Discrimination Act*, discrimination is also prohibited in the *Employment Contracts Act*, the *Penal Code of Finland* and the *Constitution of Finland*.

1.1. Legal framework of equality – regarding GV at workplaces

Important Acts concerning *work place violence* are:

- Act on Equality between Women and Men
- Non-Discrimination Act
- The Constitution on Finland
- The Sexual Offence Code (see a part 1.2.3. below)
- The Penal Code of Finland (see a part 1.2.1. below)

The Finnish *Penal Code* contains provisions on work discrimination and discrimination in areas such as trade and the exercise of official authority.

Act on Equality between Women and Men was entered into force on the 1st of January in 1987. It defines and prohibits both direct and indirect discrimination based on gender. The prohibition applies to all sectors of society and all situations in which discrimination may occur. In this Act, *direct discrimination* means treating women and men differently on basis of gender or treating someone differently for reasons of pregnancy or childbirth. In this Act, *indirect discrimination* means treating someone differently by virtue of a provision, justification or practice that appears to be gender-neutral but where the effect of the action is such that the person may actually find herself/himself in a less favourable position on the basis of gender; or it means treating someone differently on the basis of parenthood or family responsibilities. In according to the Act, authorities must promote gender equality between women and men purposefully and systematically in all their activities. In particular, circumstances which prevent the attainment of gender equality must be changed. Sexual harassment, gender-based harassment and any order or instruction to engage in discrimination based on gender shall be deemed to constitute discrimination under this Act.

1.2 Legal framework of intimate partner violence and domestic violence in Finland

Legislation concerning intimate partner and domestic violence in Finland includes:

- 1) The Penal Code of Finland
- 2) Sex Offence Code
- 3) Trial Counsel
- 4) Restraining Order
- 5) Child Welfare Act

1) Intimate partner and domestic violence as a crime according to the Penal Code:

In Finland domestic violence has been a public prosecution crime since 1995. According to the code, also violence that occurs in private sphere is divided into three categories: petty assault, assault and grievous bodily injury. Only petty assault is a plaintiff crime. It means that the police investigates only when the victim of the crime demands that the perpetrator be punished. In petty cases, the police can, with the consent of the plaintiff, sentence the suspect to a fine which will be determined by the prosecutor. In such cases a pre-trial investigation record is not necessarily drawn up. Assault and grievous bodily injury are, like most crimes, public prosecution crimes. As such, they are always investigated by the police when brought to their attention. Assault and rape are public prosecution crimes also when they take place in the home or when the perpetrator is a family member.

About the implementation of the Penal Code: If you become a victim of this crime

You can report the crime to the police that arrives at the scene of the crime, in person at a police station or by phone, e-mail or fax. The report can be made at any police station, and it can be made on your behalf by somebody else. Also in intimate partner and domestic violence cases, you should go and see a doctor because a medical certificate is essential evidence for getting a restraining order and it may be necessary at the trial or when you apply for compensation from the insurance company or the State Treasury. If it is a question of sexual assault, you should avoid washing yourself and changing your clothes before you see the doctor. When investigating the crime, the police want to know if you, the victim, demand that the perpetrator of the crime be punished. If at this stage of the legal process you state that you do not demand punishment or if you later withdraw your demand for punishment, you may forfeit your right to press charges. This is important to know in case the prosecutor decides to waive the prosecution.

2) Sex offence code

Renewed sex offence code entered into force on January 1st in 1999. Under this Act sex offences are divided into three categories. They are: compelling to a sexual intercourse, rape and gross rape. Compelling to a sexual intercourse is only a plaintiff crime, in which case victim has to report the offence and demand that the perpetrator be punished. Rape and gross rape are public prosecution crimes. Rape in a marriage was criminalised in 1994. It is a punishable offence such as other sex offences.

3) About a Right to Trial counsel

You are entitled to use legal assistance when you report a crime to the police and at hearings and the trial. In such cases the fee of the attorney is paid either in full or in part by state funds depending on the income of the victim. Legal aid is applied for at the State Legal Aid Offices. They will ascertain the financial circumstances of the applicant. The legal aid includes, for example, counselling and assistance at the trial. The attorney can be a public legal aid attorney employed at the legal aid office, a private lawyer or some other litigator. Legal aid can be given at every stage of the proceedings. Regardless of the income of the victim, the court can grant her or him an attorney for the pre-trial investigation and the trial *If the matter concerns a sexual crime or violence committed by somebody close to the victim*. The fee of the attorney will, in such cases, be paid by state funds.

Support person

The Service for Crime Victims will provide trained support persons free of charge for assistance of the victim in the different phases of the proceedings. In connection to sexual crimes or violence committed by a person close to the victim, the court can appoint a support person if the victim does not need an attorney. In such cases the fee and other expenses of the support person will be paid by state funds.

4) Restraining Order

The purpose of the Act of the Restraining Order is to prevent crimes and to improve the possibilities to interfere with severe harassment. A restraining order means that in order to protect the life, health, freedom or peace of a person, another person may be ordered not to contact him/her.

A restraining order can be applied for by anyone who justifiably feels himself/herself threatened or harassed by an another person. It may be imposed also when the person protected by the order and

the person on whom the restraining order is imposed live in the same household. Typical cases in which a restraining order may be used include the harassment of a former spouse or co-habiter by contacting him/her, trying to visit him/her as well as situations in which an adult child attempts to extort money from his/her elderly parent. The provisions on a restraining order inside a family can also be applied when persons cohabit for other reasons than because they are a couple. A restraining order is possible, for example, when a parent encounters violence from an adult child living in the same house or household. A restraining order can be applied for either from the police or directly from the District Court in writing or orally. Also a prosecuting, police or social service authority may apply for the order if the person threatened is too afraid or unable to do it himself/herself. Breach of a restraining order is a punishable act. **The punishment is a fine or imprisonment not exceeding one year.** Breach of the order is a crime subject to public prosecution, and it will be taken to court by the public prosecutor.

There are four forms of the Restraining order. **A temporary restraining order, which will enter into force immediately**, can be issued by a civil servant, - i.e., a senior policeman or a public prosecutor - or by the District Court with the right to arrest a person. (It is most often first imposed). **A basic restraining order** means that the person on whom it has been imposed, may not meet the person protected or otherwise contact or try to contact the person. Nor may he/she follow or observe the person being protected. **An extended restraining order** refers to an order forbidding the person also from being in a certain area, in the vicinity of the permanent residence, holiday residence or work place of the person being protected or of another comparable place expressly specified in the court order. A person placed under **an inside-the-family restraining order** has to leave the common residence and he/she may not return there. Nor may he/she otherwise meet or contact the person protected by the restraining order. It is forbidden to follow and observe the person protected. Also an inside-the-family restraining order may be imposed **extended** (otherwise it is imposed for a maximum of three months) to cover the presence in a certain other place, e.g. in the vicinity of the common residence.

2. MAIN PUBLIC POLICIES ON GENDER VIOLENCE

Societal and institutional levels of gender violence are essentially included in the scope of **equality**. Equality matters fall within the scope of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health in Finland. Those responsible for the practical implementation of equality are **The Ombudsman for Equality**, who works as an independent authority monitoring compliance with the Act on Equality of Women and Men, in particular the prohibition on discrimination and discriminatory job advertising, and **The Equality Unit**, which prepares the government's gender equality policy. In addition, the Unit coordinates international issues related to the European Union, the United Nations, the Council of Europe, and the Nordic Council of Ministers. **The Council for Equality** is a permanent body with advisory status within the state administration and **The Equality Board**.

The Beijing Platform has contributed to the **Government Action Plan for Gender Equality** (1997) and the **legislation of equality** in Finland. The Government Action Plan for Gender Equality coordinates the government actions to promote equality between women and men. The Action Plan comprises almost one hundred measures that are related to the following themes: gender mainstreaming in state administration, gender equality issues in the working life such as employment, the reconciliation of work and family life, wage differentials, segregation and women's entrepreneurship, promotion of gender equality in regional and local activities, women's position in economic and political decision-making, health policy, reduction of violence against

women, international cooperation, media and women's studies. Mainstreaming a gender perspective into the entire state administration is the most extensive element in the Action Plan. All the Government ministries have taken part in its planning and implementation. It is a continuous process, and its development continues.

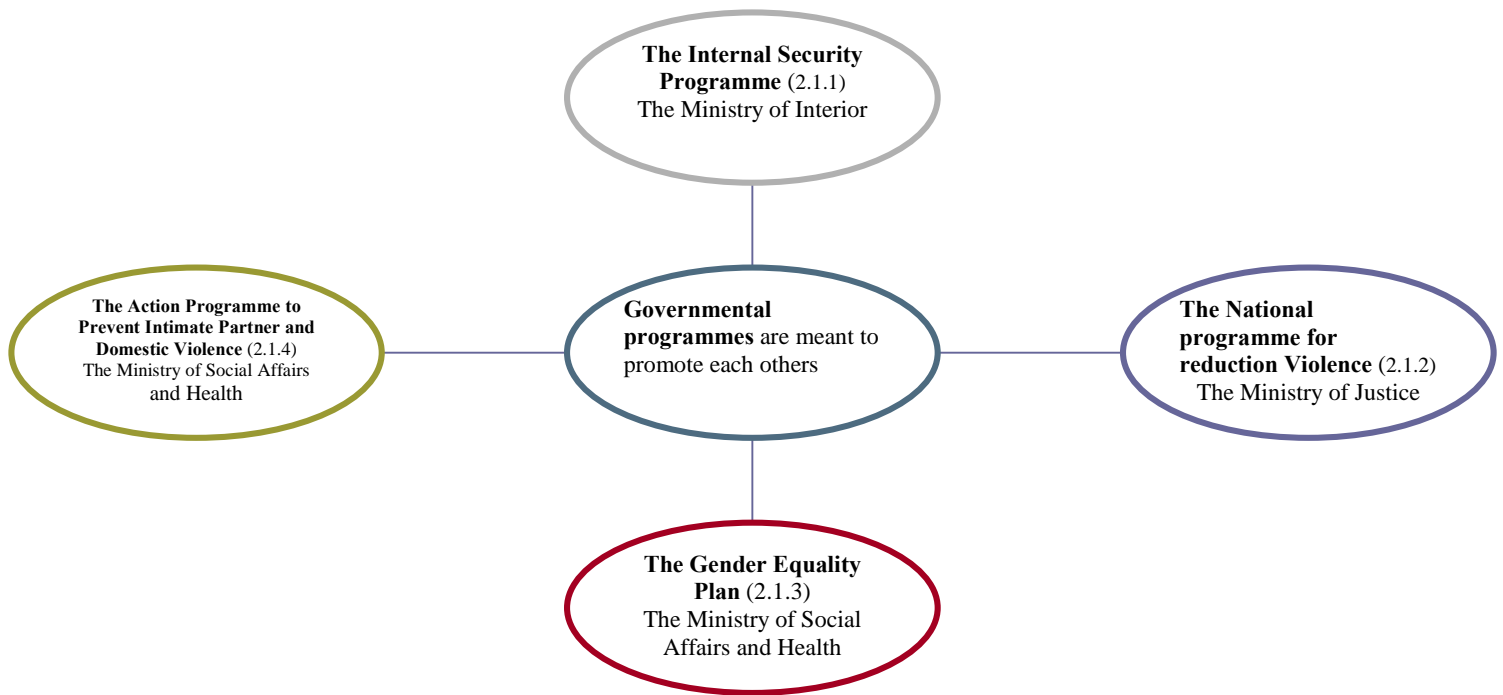
Finnish *National Programme for Prevention of Violence against Women and Prostitution (1998-2002)* has been part of the *Finnish Governmental Plan of Action for the Promotion of Gender Equality*. The Finnish national programme is on the background of present policy dealing with gender violence. The Ministry of Social Affairs and Health launched the Programme for the Prevention of Violence against Women and Prostitution, chaired by the Minister for Social Services. The endeavour has consisted of **two sister projects** and implemented at the **National Research and Development Centre for Welfare and Health (STAKES)**. The programme has aimed to develop professional education and to require collaboration between the police, social and health services, the judiciary and service providers. The project goals include the development **research** and legislation. One objective of the project has been to promote co-operation between the authorities and nongovernmental organisations.



One of the tasks of the State Provincial Offices of Finland is the implementation of preventive social and health care policy and in collaboration with municipalities they support the development of social and health care services according to national objectives. Steering and monitoring of municipal social and health services and preventive work have called for the creation of **regional commissions** for interfering in intimate partner and domestic violence.

2.1 Governmental Programmes

Government programme (2003-2007) highlights violence **as a gender equality issue and a phenomenon that weakens people's personal safety in society**. Feminist researchers, experts on violence and individuals are an important role in governmental programmes. They have taken initiatives and made visible problematic issues in governmental working with violence. Feminist researchers are considered as authorities and their voices have significant meaning in public policies. Although the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health coordinates most of the programmes, many individual experts participate in the work.



2.1.1. Internal Security Programme

The Ministry of the Interior is responsible for Finland's internal security. The government adopted a resolution on the Internal Security Programme on 23rd of September in 2004. The programme is a multi-annual development plan including a large number of proposals for action to enhance everyday security. The objective is to reach the following state of affairs concerning internal security in Finland by 2015:

"Finland is the safest country in Europe. Security is guaranteed by a well-functioning public sector focusing on preventive work. High-quality internal security services that meet people's security expectations are ensured by cooperation between public authorities and contacts with interest groups and the private sector."

The Internal Security Programme focuses especially on improving cooperation between public authorities, with the aim of increasing the effectiveness of internal security and improving the quality of services.

In the Government Programme, special consideration of crime types is emphasised. Reducing violent crime is one of the programme's objectives. The effectiveness objective is to reduce the annual number of homicides, assaults and call-out duties relating to domestic violence. In addition, the aim is to reduce the rate of violence from that stated in the 2000 International Crime Victims Survey. Main strategic guidelines are:

- Preventing hidden crime from increasing, even if the number of crimes reported to the police is decreasing,
- Always making persons who are guilty of violent offences liable for their acts and providing offenders with opportunities to renounce violence and supporting the in this,
- Breaking individual persons' and families' cycle of violence,
- Aiming at an expeditious imposition of criminal liability,

- Ensuring well-functioning mental care services in order to prevent rough violence,
- Implementing extensive intersectoral measures and coordinating the objectives of different programmes.

There are eight measures for to enhancing internal security regarding violent crimes:

1. Action programmes for offenders sentenced for violent and sex offences to imprisonment or community service will be enhanced and the effectiveness of the implemented programmes established
2. The collection and exchange of information between different authorities concerning victims and perpetrators of violence will be ensured.
3. Forms of action suitable for the prevention of youth violence will be encouraged.
4. People who employ violence in their close relationships will always be made liable for their acts.
5. Information available on violence at work and on how to prevent such violence will be gathered from different projects and sectors.
6. Opportunities for imposing an obligation to organise out-patient care for mentally ill violent offenders will be explored in order to prevent recidivism.
7. A crime prevention programme aiming at reducing violence will be drawn up by the end of 2004.
8. A national action programme will be drawn up to prevent violence against women, domestic violence, prostitution and trafficking in human beings.

2.1.2. National Programme for Reduction Violence in Finland

The programme is included into a part of Internal Security Programme and it has been established by *the National Council for Crime Prevention* in the Ministry of Justice. There are many kinds of violence in the programme and violence against women is one part of it. The proposals of the programme take into account other proposals and plans of action that are in use. The Internal Security Programme includes many actions which can be expected to reduce violence against women. The Ministry of social Affairs and Health has a programme with an aim to prevent intimate partner violence and many of the mentioned recommendations are included in that programme. The programme aims to lower the barrier of speaking about violence and to improve the recognition, awareness and prevention of violence all around the society. Development of safety skills will be favoured so as to reduce the risk of victimisation and to reduce the seriousness of the consequences of violence.

Co-operation of authorities is one of the key factors in preventing violence against women and in reducing the effects of violence. The aim is to make the co-operation of authorities more effective in order to recognise violence and to help victims, perpetrators and witnesses of violence. Co-operation projects and pilot programmes have been launched in many places and on many levels. Co-operation of authorities, non-governmental organisations and other parts of civic society is needed to create or to develop networks or other forms of co-operation in order to reduce violence against women.

The programme works for the development of the health care system in order to make the recognition of female victims more effective. The tools for that are systematic screenings in different health care facilities and to make recognition of violence more effective which presumes that there are follow-up services available in municipalities for victims, perpetrators and children.

The purpose is also to develop a more effective social service system with wide co-operation work with police, health care, organisations and other actors. In the co-operation of these actors every perpetrator, victim and witness of violence should be taken into consideration so that they can be directed towards service systems. Special services for victims in municipalities of the whole country will be developed and maintained. It is also important to make services aimed to immigrant women and to inform them of their rights and the support services dealing with violence.

Safety technology that concentrates on women who live under a threat of violence are included in the aims of the programme. With the help of technology, it is possible to connect with the police or an emergency centre fast and easily. In addition, it concerns the contents of violence training of police should reflect practical needs and training should be continuous for the whole police force.

2.1.3. The Gender Equality Action Plan

The Gender Equality Action Plan is a very significant practice to look out for the implementation of equality in workplaces. The plan must contain the results of the previous year's plan. It is connect to the renewed Act on equality between women and men (232/2005). According to this Act, the employer must draw up a gender equality plan if the number of personnel working for the employer on regular basis is at least 30. In this case, the employer must implement measures that promote gender equality as set out in a gender equality plan to be produced annually that deals particularly with pay and other terms of employment. The gender equality plan may be incorporated into the personnel and training plan or an occupational safety and health action plan. Even though the gender equality plan is drawn up on an annual basis, it may contain shorter or longer term objectives. The plan shall be prepared in cooperation with personnel representatives. The gender equality plan must contain an assessment of the gender equality situation in the workplace, including details of the employment of women and men in different jobs and a survey of the grade of jobs performed by women and men, the pay for those jobs and the differences in pay. The plan must also contain necessary measures planned for introduction or implementation with the purpose of promoting gender equality and achieving equality in pay. It must also contain a review of the extent to which measures previously included in the gender equality plan have been implemented and of the achieved results.

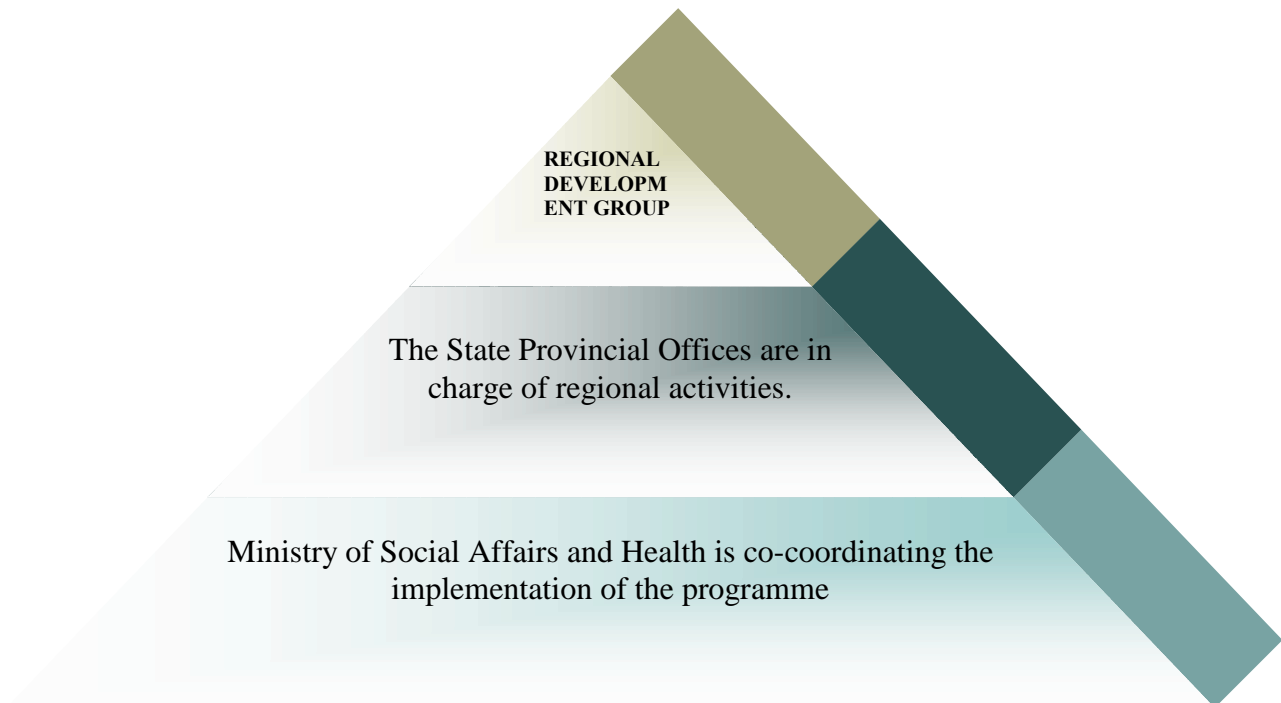
2.1.4. The Action Programme to Prevent Intimate Partner and Domestic Violence

During the Government term 2003-2007 the means to tackle domestic violence have been intensified. Prevention of intimate partner and domestic violence is an Action Programme 2004-2007 of Ministry of Social Affairs and Health. In the background of the Action Programme are deficiencies in the service system: a) supply of services has been coincidental, b) regional disparities in availability of services and c) specialized services are generally provided in the largest cities only.

The main objectives of the Action Programme are:

- 1) To prevent violence in intimate partner relationships and families and to improve the country-wide network of primary and specialized services for victims and perpetrators of violence. This objective is to be reached by
 - Strengthening the public service system (creating practices and methods in order to provide support and care for the victims and perpetrators so that the harm caused by violence will remain a small and as short-term as possible)

- Also services provided by NGOs and the private sector complement the public service provision and are important.
 - Sub-regional co-operation has been emphasised.
- 2) To intensify early intervention in violence problems, in particular in order to help children and young people witnessing and experiencing violence.
- Identification of violence and early intervention in violence problems are needed.
 - Primary and specialized services will ensure that help is available to children and young people facing violence.
- 3) To develop professional skills needed in the work against violence and in handling different situations.
- Professional education for social welfare and health care staff in identifying and helping victims and perpetrators of violence and referring them to help.
 - Continuing education



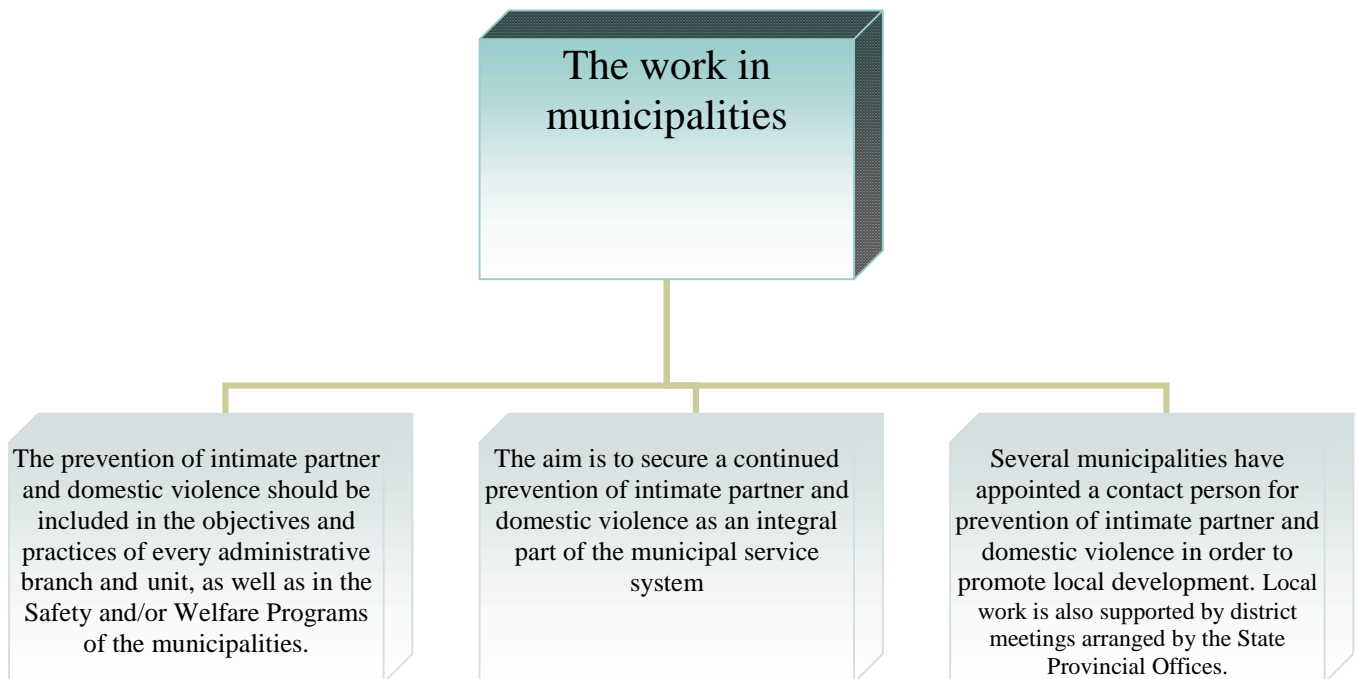
According to the Action Programme, *Regional development groups* are set up in each province. A model for intervening in violence is established in every municipality.

2.2 Programmes of State Provincial Offices

The regional development groups plan the sub-regional service chains for victims and perpetrators of violence together with the local bodies, develop regional training and work in co-operation with the municipal social and health care actors and with the private and third sectors as well.

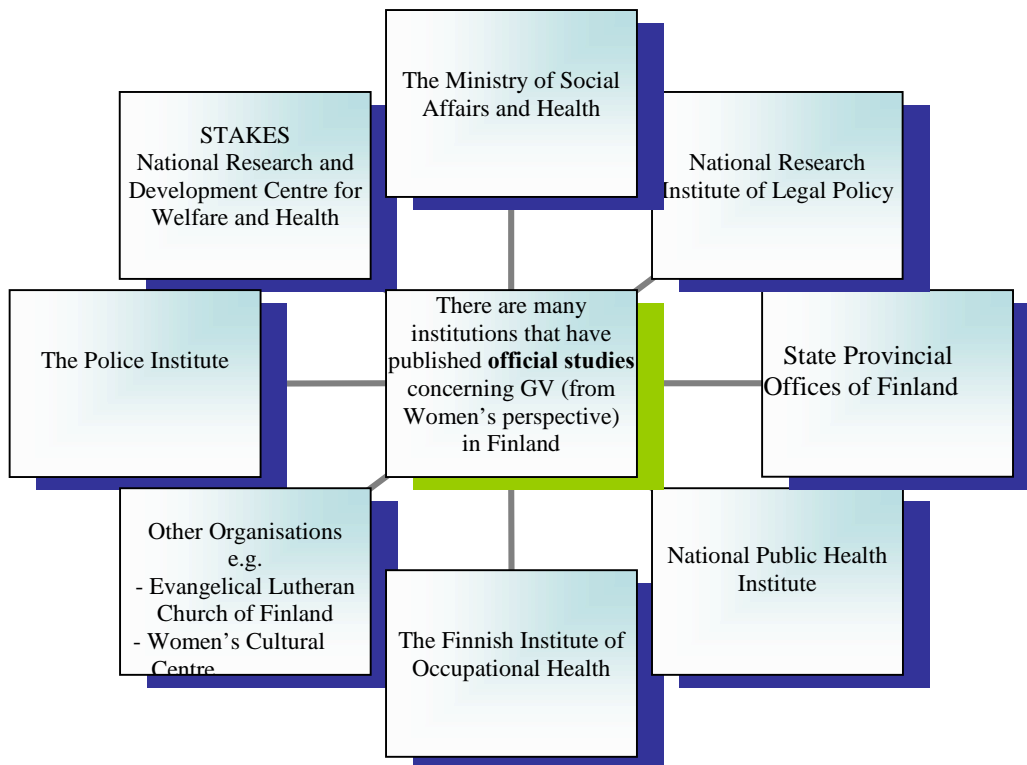
The Beijing Platform for action put pressure on national actions to concern gender violence. In national action plan to promote equality between women and men need to have special programme to combat violence was launched. The STAKES's programme (1998-2003) was funded by the

Ministry of Social Affairs and Health. After the previous programme funding has been very limited for the State Provincial Offices. Violence prevention is increasingly becoming a responsibility of the municipalities. There is a concern whether the responsibility should be transferred to the municipalities. At the moment we are having the last year of the funding that was provided to the State Provincial Offices (2004-2007). There is a great concern how to continue the work.



3. MAIN STUDIES OF GENDER VIOLENCE CONDUCTED BY THE GOVERNMENT

The passage of the Beijing Platform activated governmental support and funding research work in Finland. Studies regarding violence against women are made by many societal sectors and it is not possible to present all of them here.



3.1 Publications of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health

Ministry of Social Affairs and Health activated *the Finnish National Programme for Prevention of Violence against Women and Prostitution* in 1998 that continued for five years. The programme has been carried out by the *National Research and Development Centre for welfare and Health STAKES*, and it has been a part of the Finnish Governmental Plan of Action for the Promotion of Gender Equality that is published under the title: *From Beijing to Finland. National Plan of Action for the Promotion of Gender Equality of the Government on Finland, Publications of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health 1997:20, Helsinki 1997.*

Various handbooks, reports, briefs and studies concerning violence against women have been published ordered by the programme. A handbook regarding prevention of violence for municipalities is published by Helena Ewalds: *To whom the strikes belong? A handbook for municipalities for the prevention partner and intimate violence. Handbooks of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health ISSN 1236-116X, 2005:7. Helsinki 2005.* It is stated in the handbook that partner and intimate violence cannot be seen merely as an individual level problem. Everyone should participate in preventing and intervening in partner and intimate violence, although the responsibility lies with the perpetrator. Violence causes health and social damage as well as economic costs for the individual, the family and the society. As an extensive phenomenon it burdens the municipal service system and is expensive because it requires time, money and staff. Increasing the awareness and knowledge about partner and intimate violence is a central factor in the realisation of a widespread joint responsibility. The training the authorities, talking about violence and making it visible are good means to prevent violence. The prevention of violence must be incorporated into the goals and working practices of all the administrative fields and operational units.

The economic region of Forssa, the city of Porvoo and the municipality of Vihti have piloted a project that was funded by the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health and that aimed at developing operations models and action plans for the work against violence at the local level.

The Working Group for the coordination of expertise and development of violence prevention proposes (2006) establishment of a permanent national unit responsible for the prevention of intimate partner and domestic violence. According to it permanent structures and coordinated cooperation at all levels are needed to support regional and local work to prevent violence. The working Group proposes strengthening the role of **the Finnish Institute of Occupational Health** in the coordination of research, expertise, training and dissemination of information regarding violence at work in the report: *Coordination of the prevention of intimate partner and domestic violence and concentration of expertise. Reports of Ministry of Social Affairs and Health 2006:82. Helsinki 2006.*

The task of the Working Group was to produce a survey of how the agencies and institutions in which knowledge and skills related to violence reduction are concentrated nationally could efficiently support the regional and local work to reduce violence. It was also assigned to examine how the support for the local work to prevent intimate partner and domestic violence could be strengthened by gathering together and networking national knowledge and skills in the field. In its report, the Working Group deals with, on the one hand, intimate partner and domestic violence and, on the other hand, violence at work. It has examined the prevalence and costs of violence, and international guidelines and central government actions to reduce violence. The Working Group has consulted agencies and institutions, and also major NGOs working in this field.

The publication: *Perttu, Sirkka. 2004. Intimate partner violence against women and its screening at the maternity and child health clinic. Reports of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health, 2004:6. Helsinki 2004,* describes a research project dealing with intimate partner violence and presents a model for identifying and preventing intimate partner violence at maternity and child health clinics that was developed as a result of the research. The report is a proposal of operation in order to enter into public policies.

The objective of the Non-Discrimination Act is to endure **ethnic equality**. Accordingly, minorities must be taken into consideration when local operations models are designed for combating violence. This is a focus of Kyllönen-Saarnio & Nurmi (2005) publication: *Kyllönen-Saarnio, Eija & Nurmi, Reet: Maahanmuuttajanaiset ja väkivalta. Opas sosiaali- ja terveystieteiden tutkimuskeskukseen.* (Immigrant women and violence. Handbook for victim help in social welfare and health care.) *Handbook of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health 2005:15.* The purpose of this handbook is to support the basic services in social welfare and health care in helping immigrant women who have experienced violence¹. The handbook is based on interviews with professionals in social welfare and health care and related organisations, practical experience as well as literature produced in the Nordic countries.

¹ According to the handbook violence against immigrant women and girls can, in addition to intimate partner violence, include honour-related violence, forced marriage, genital mutilation of girls, discrimination, and racist violence. Women and girls may have experienced violence in wars or conflicts prior to arriving in Finland or they may have fallen victims to trafficking.

Barriers for immigrant women to seek help are, in many ways, related to the lack of language and civic skills. The handbook includes a set of questions, which can be used to identify violence as early as possible as a part of the basic work in social welfare and health care.

3.2 STAKES (National Research and Development Centre for Welfare and Health)

National Research and Development Centre for Welfare and Health, STAKES is an expert agency in the field of social welfare and health care. It produces information and expertise for policymakers and other stakeholders. It promotes the welfare and health of the population and develops social and health services. It also assesses changes affecting welfare and health, evaluates the outcomes of welfare policy and brings forth new alternatives. STAKES strengthens welfare expertise in Finland. Its core activities are research, development and information production.

These publications, among others, have been a part of the project to prevent violence against women and prostitution financed by the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health and carried out by STAKES:

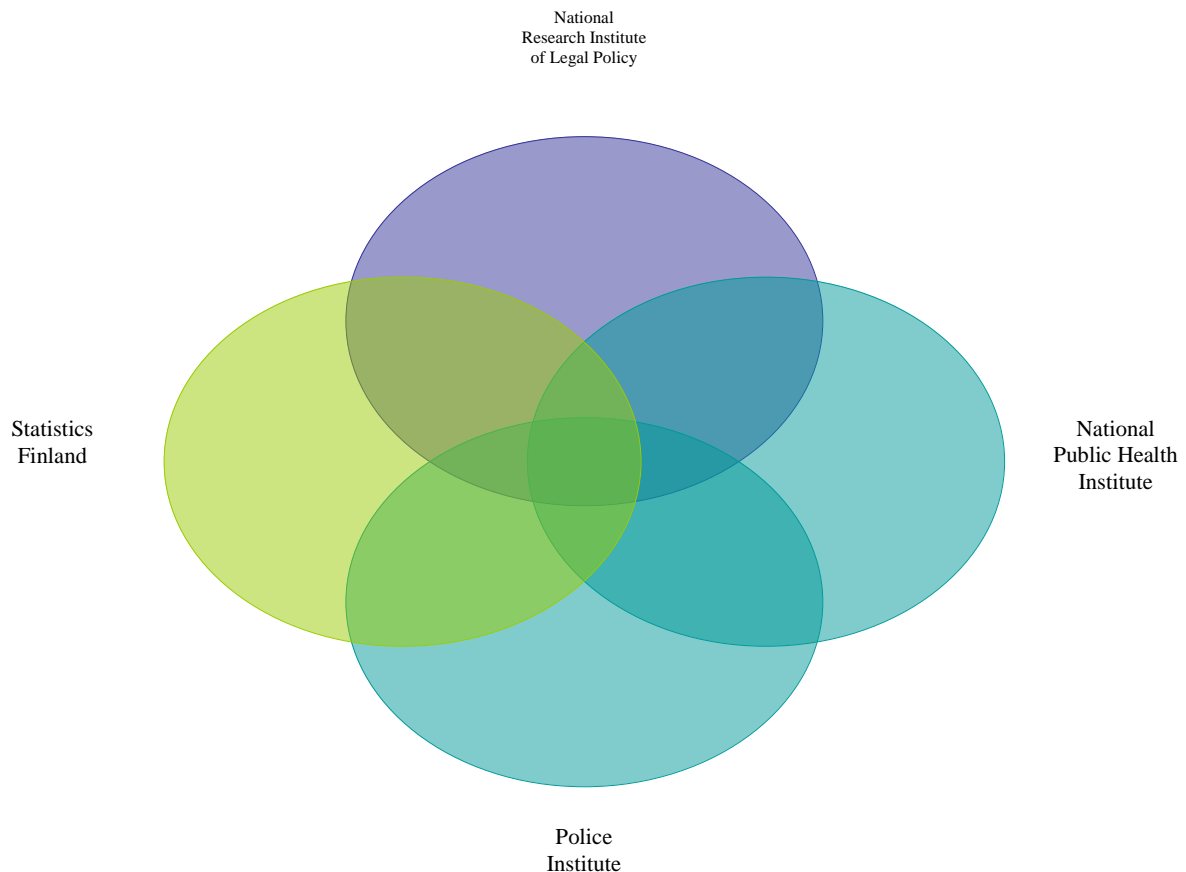
- Rautava, Marie & Perttu, Sirkka 2001. (ed.): *Tavoitteena uhrin turvallisuus – näkökulmia naisiin kohdistuvan väkivallan ehkäisyyn*. (The victim's safety as a goal – perspectives on the prevention of violence against women) STAKES. Helsinki.
- Rautava, Marie & Perttu, Sirkka 2002. (ed.): *Naisiin kohdistuva pari- ja lähisuhdeväkivalta. Käsikirja perus- ja täydennyskoulutukseen*. (Partner and intimate violence against women. A Guidebook for basic and supplementary education). STAKES. Helsinki.
- *Elämä ilman pelkoa. Keinoja kouluille puuttua pari- ja lähisuhdeväkivaltaan*. (A Life without Fear. The tools for schools intervene in partner and intimate violence). STAKES. Helsinki: 2002.
- Holmberg 2002. *Lapset ja perheväkivalta*. (Children and domestic violence). Stakes. Helsinki.
- Taskinen, Sirpa 2003 (ed.): *Lapsen seksuaalisen hyväksikäytön ja pahoinpitelyn selvittäminen. Asiantuntijaryhmän suositukset sosiaali- ja terveydenhuollon henkilöstölle*. (A Working out of Child Sexual Abuse and Assault. The guidelines of group of experts for staff of social welfare and health care.) STAKES. Helsinki.
- Flinck, Aune and Iivari, Juhani. 2004: *Lähisuhdeväkivalta sovittelussa. Tutkimus ja kehittämishankkeen realistinen arviointi*. (Domestic violence in victim-offender-mediation. Realistic evaluation of a research and development project.) STAKES, *Finnish Evaluation of Social Services*.

The purpose of this last-mentioned evaluation study was to determine when, for whom and in which circumstances victim-offender-mediation is a successful intervention in cases of domestic violence. The evaluation study pertains to a research and development project carried out in cooperation by four experimental municipalities. The study combined process evaluation, impact evaluative and comprehensive evaluation. The goal of the project was to develop an “inspection station” for victim-offender-mediation in domestic partner violence: a place where the history of violence in a particular case is established and work is done together with the parties concerned to find a method that will break the violence and bring it to an end.

3.3 The National Research Institute of Legal Policy

The publications of *the National Research Institute of Legal Policy* overlap with **the National Public Health Institute, Police Institute and Statistics Finland**. Publications include a lot of statistics and many of them are based on a well-known and extensive *publication of National Public Health Institute* under the title *Kansallinen uhritutkimus* (National victim survey). It has been

realized in years 1980, 1988, 1993, 1997, 2003 and 2006. *Kansallinen uhritutkimus* (National victim survey) has found out how over 15-year-old Finns have fallen victim to accidents, violence and crimes against property. Intelligence encompasses traffic, occupational, physical and social accidents. The material has been collected by interviews through telephone by *Statistics Finland*.



This anthology analyses exposure to violence in Finland based on national victim surveys (that provide information about trends in the prevalence and nature of different kinds of accidents and violence): *Sirén, Reino & Honkatukia, Päivi (Eds.) 2005. Victimization to Violence in Finland. Results from 1980-2003 National Surveys. Publication no. 216. National Research Institute of Legal Policy. Helsinki 2005.* A latest similar publication has been published under the title: *Sirén, Reino & Kivivuori, Janne & Kääriäinen, Juha & Aaltonen Mikko. 2007: Suomalaisten kokema väkivalta 1980-2006. (The violence Finns have experienced 1980-2006) National Research Institute of Legal Policy. Helsinki 2005.* These publications discover that exposure to violence is prominently an age and gender specific phenomenon. The prevalence of violence is highest in the youngest age group. According to the publications, male victimisations are typically leisure-time related street and pub fights, the prevalence of which is strongly age-related. Violence against women involves more commonly family violence and work-related violence that are often recurrent in nature.

In Finland there are programs to stop and to prevent violence among men who have abused their partners or children. *The Alternative to Violence* –program is a service directed at men. It consists of

personal and group counselling and separately agreed-upon assignments. It needs multi-sectoral co-operation in violence work. It has conducted the assessment survey action of the co-operation network in Espoo and *Lyömätön Linja Espoossa* (“the unbeaten line in Espoo”) to stop intimate partner violence by Hertta Keisala: *Keisala, Hertta. 2006: Parisuhdeväkivalta moniammatillisen työn kohteena* (Intimate partner violence as an object of multi-professional work). *Arviointitutkimus Espoon yhteistyöverkoston ja Lyömättömän Linjan toiminnasta parisuhdeväkivallan lopettamiseksi. Research Communications. National Research Institute of Legal Policy. Helsinki.*

Faith, Hope and Battering was published in 1997 by Statistics Finland (see Chapter: Main National Statistics). The following study was published under the title: *Minna Piispa, Markku Heiskanen, Juha Kääriäinen & Reino Sirén 2006: Violence against Women in Finland. National Research Institute of Legal Policy, Publication No. 225. The European Institute for Crime Prevention and Control, affiliated with the United Nations (HEUNI), Publication Series No. 51. Helsinki.* This report draws on a nationally representative victimisation survey of Finnish women. It contains information about the prevalence, patterns and trend of violence committed by men against women. There are also separate chapters about the fear of violence and how victims have sought and received help from different agencies. The sample consists of 7213 randomly chosen Finnish and Swedish speaking women aged 18-74. Statistics Finland gathered the material through a postal survey. The Report includes much compared statistics with the statistics realized in 1997. According to the 2005 survey, 43.5 percent of the women had at least once experienced a man’s physical or sexual violence or the threat of it after having reached 15 years of age. In the 1997 survey the corresponding share was 40 percent.

Honkatukia, Päivi (2001): ”Ilmoitti tulleensa raiskatuksi”. Tutkimus poliisin tietoon vuonna 1998 tulleista raiskausrikoksista. (Reported to having been raped. Survey about offence of rape reported to the Police in 1998.) *National Research Institute of Legal Policy. Helsinki.*

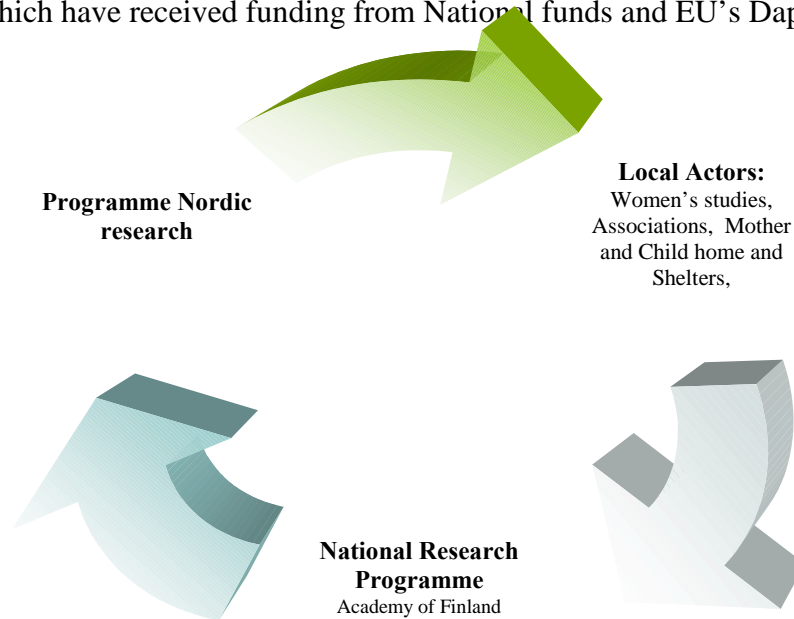
A Publication: *Heiskanen, Markku & Sirén Reino & Aromaa, Kauko. 2004: Suomalaisten turvallisuus 2003* (The security of Finns 2003) is published as a part of research communications of National Research Institute of Legal Policy and as a bulletin of Police Vocational High School. It is also based on our national victim survey (2003).

Police Institute began more systematic publishing activities regarding violence against women since the project to prevent violence against women and prostitution. Police Department of the Ministry of Interior published a report (17/2003), that make a map of violence against immigrant women concerning crimes of sexual and intimate violence, under the title: *Maahanmuuttajanaisiin kohdistuva väkivalta. Poliisin tietoon tullut rikollisuus vuonna 2002.* (Violence against immigrant women. The Criminality reported to the Police in 2002).

4. MAIN RESEARCH PROGRAMS AND NETWORKS CONCERNING GENDER VIOLENCE

In Finland the division related to official and non official studies is controversial and very problematic because universities are official departments and researchers of the universities are considered and also often used as experts in governmental work. Also Women and Child Shelters are official foundations which collaborate with state administration. Generally research reports of Universities are not published however through state administration and thereby they are reported in this document separately chapter titled the Main Official Studies.

In this chapter the aim is to contextualise the gender violence research work on Nordic, national and regional levels. It is important to separately mention remarkable funding that these instances have been directed for gender violence research. The Nordic council of Ministers has carried out a *Gender and Violence program 2000-2005*, total amount was 18 million DKK. The Academy of Finland had a four-year 2000-2003 *Power, Gender and Violence program*, 168 000 FMK. Various universities and Women’s studies units are doing ongoing research concerning gender and violence which have received funding from National funds and EU’s Daphne-funding, for example.



Nordic co-operation

The Nordic Council of Ministers decided (in 1999) to fund a five-year research programme on gender violence. In an international research context, Nordic research on gendered violence is not just an interesting empirical contribution to the field, but can also create possibilities for new theoretical advances. Precisely because the Nordic countries have many structural and ideological similarities, comparative studies in areas where they have gone in different directions can be very fruitful. The ideology of gender equality does not wipe out gendered violence. This fact makes Nordic research in the field internationally interesting and important for Nordic welfare states. Four research areas are defined as of particular importance. Calls for proposals for research projects as well as invitations to conferences have specifically asked for contributions within these four areas: 1) Power, violence, sexuality and victimisation as a gender specific process, 2) parenthood, gender and violence: parenthood as a gendered social institution, 3) masculinity and violence as mutually constituting one another and cultural definitions of sexuality which privilege men’s and subordinate women’s sexuality, and 4) the implications of “culture” and of “cultures” for the link between gender and violence.

The Gender and Violence Program concludes that today there is a lot of knowledge about the extent of violence and women’s subjection to violence. Violence is both a social, individual and cultural problem, which must be dealt with more efficiently than it has been so far. Men’s violence against women has been placed on the policy agenda by the UN and EU and the link between unequal power relations between women and men has been the point of departure for policy declarations and plans of action. Documentation of intervention measures has started at different levels. The

definitions of violence and oppression are getting increasingly similar between countries and cultures. The Gender and Violence Programme names the following challenges for the future:

- New aspects – an increased problematisation of, for example, men’s subjection to violence, and of women’s use of violence both within and outside of intimate relationships, as well as of violence from both men and women within gay/lesbian relationships;
- Increased complexity of analyses – here, intersectionality is a key word; violence is connected not just to gender, but also to power relations tied to, for example, age, ethnicity, sexuality, and social class and how these interact with each other in forming a basis for violence;
- Systematic comparisons – comparative research and statistics will be of increasing importance both within the Nordic countries, the European Union, and at a global level;
- Globalisation – this concerns both the roots of violence and exploitation, and evaluations of interventions at an international level;
- Intervention – both the evaluation of current societal attempts to tackle violence and new research that can form the basis for more efficient intervention measures will be needed.

Gender and violence program consist of 17 Nordic networks and 13 individual projects, and many researchers work within them.

The National Academy of Finland Research Program

Targeted research appropriation, the Academy of Finland

The Academy of Finland had a research program Power, Violence and Gender 2000-2003 which had a following nine research subprojects:

- Sexualised violence, global linkages and policy discourses (50 publications)

This project examined the changing and globalising social, economic, political and policy contexts in which sexualised violence in Finland is produced, reproduced and socially constructed. The project analyses contemporary policy discourses in Finland and the EU on globalising forms of sexualised violence. Major arenas are examined: the commercial sex trade, prostitution, telephone/virtual sex lines, the use of information and communications technologies (ICTs) in direct sex trade, the virtual use of ICTs in downloading sexualised violent material, internet and ICT harassment and abuse in companies. Attention is also directed at pornography, sex entertainment and sex tourism.

- The Violence of Sex: meanings, emotions, practices and policies of sexualised violence (74 publications)

The research project answered to the question of how gendered violence and power are intertwined. In the research project, a connection of meanings and emotions to the symbolic and crystallizations of femininity and masculinity are examined. The research project also analysed what kind of gendered reproductive self evidences certain welfare state practices are established on.

- Why men batter their partners – A narrative and discourse analytic study (9 publications)

The research analysed discursive practises and narratives of men who have abused their wives. Discourses were gathered in therapeutic peergroup meetings. Special interest was identities and

how they were maintained in groups, but also how they were changed and how these changes influenced the violence.

- Displacement of violence. The politics of violence and spaces in-between (15 publications)

The main objective of the project is to produce knowledge on the mechanisms by which gender difference and other culturally hierarchising and violent differences order (and invite) individuals into various subject positions in society. It also aims to explore how individuals situate themselves, recognise themselves, and narrate themselves in and into violent orders, ordered spaces, and spaces in-between. Methodologically, the project aims at grasping the epistemological and ethical questions that have become actual since the "discursive turn" in social sciences, and traces out responsible practices of partial sights and limited knowledge (=situated knowledge). The project focuses on every-day and well-known, though often unrecognised, differences.

- Gendered Power Relations, Violence and Monoacculturation in Educational Institutions (about 120 publications)

The central theme areas of the project research are representations of femininity, masculinity and sexuality, and power relations. The project concerns relations between girls and boys and teacher students and their experiences about violence in the Master of Education Programme and teacher training.

- Violence in the Shadow of Equality. Hidden Gender in Legal Discourses (46 publications)

This project concerns women as actors and legal subjects, their invisibility in Finnish criminal law, criminology, criminal procedure, and legal theory. This invisibility and theoretical understanding of gender relations are the uniting factors of the individual projects of this research group. The main focus of the project is on how (implicit) perceptions about violence against women are reflected and reproduced in legal discourses.

- Incest as a subjective Experience of the Victim (8 publications)

Children's sexual abuse inside the family has been analyzed in both macro- and micro level structures and process. Incest has been analysed through the changes in sexual culture and the gender order, but also as a phenomenon inside the family.

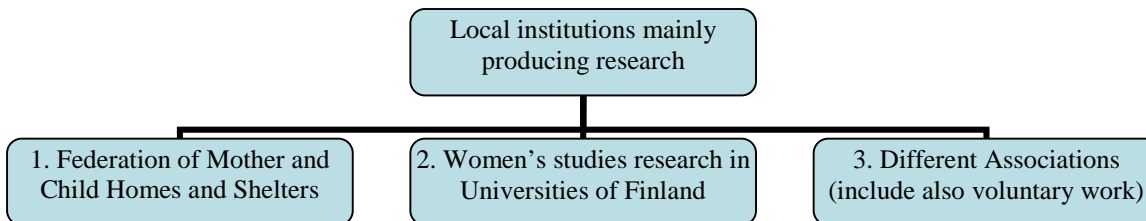
- Victims, perpetrators and prostitutes: mapping sexed/gendered power and violence in Finnish culture (7 publications)

The research project aims to analyze gender differences, hierarchies and similarities and their conflicts and tensions in juridical, psychiatric and equality discourses. These same tensions are examined in the violent partnerships and when prostitutes and their customers meet.

- Global Conjunctures and Gendered Subjectivities: The Effects of Biopower and Political... (6 publications)

The research project examines a) Trafficking of women between Finland and Russia, in which the concept of biopower has been applied. And b) The emergence of ethnical and gendered agencies in a war situation. The project supposes that one arena to produce agencies is global media.

Local Actors



4.1 Non official studies by the Federation of Mother and Child Homes and Shelters

The Federation of Mother and Child Homes and Shelters is a national child welfare organisation founded in 1945 to help single mothers and their children. As society has changed, the Federation has concentrated more on providing support for the family as a whole. It is particularly concerned with helping families in need and with the prevention of problems. The Federation is a central organisation for the member associations assisting families by means of institutional and community services and projects. The aim of the Federation is to safeguard the child's right to favourable growing conditions and safe development, to provide support for parenthood and families and to prevent violence in the family. The Federation publishes research and studies, and a journal called *Esikko* appearing four times a year. It takes an active part in the work of the social welfare and health organisations.

A setting up of shelters activated wide publishing activities regarding domestic violence in Finland. The first one opened in 1979 and they have been around Finland from 1980. The Research work is meant to discern and develop own actions. The latest publications of the federation and its member associations deal with practices of preventing violence and helping and assisting men:

- *Perhe- ja lähisuhdeväkivalta. Auttamisen käytäntöjä.* (Domestic and intimate violence. Practices of helping) *Federation of Mother and Child Homes and Shelters. Helsinki: 2006.*
- *Sanasta miestä, kokemuksia miesten kriisityöstä.* (Experiences about crisis work for men) *Federation of Mother and Child Homes and Shelters. Helsinki: 2006.*
- *Mies varikolle – apua lähisuhde väkivaltaan.* (A Man to the pit stop – help for intimate violence) *Oulu's Mother and Child Home and Shelter. Oulu: 2006.*

4.2 Publications of universities in Finland

There is a large amount of research work carried out in Finnish universities regarding GV. In particular, it has been conducted by researchers working in connection to the **Women's and Gender Studies** department's or units in universities and some of the studies have been published by the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health and the Advisory Board for Equality. Thereby there is sometimes a blurred line between official and non-official studies in Finland.

In Finland several hundreds academic studies regarding GV has been published. The publishing activities were increased by making Nordic and national research funding possible since 1995. Academic dissertations, studies and articles have also been published by other fields of universities such as **educational and sociological** subjects and within **folklore** and **nursing science** in Finland.

Because of the multitude, it is very difficult to recognize the most important ones. Therefore, only the latest ones of them will be presented in this chapter.

4.2.1 Publications concerning intimate partner and domestic violence

The latest academic doctoral dissertations concerning intimate partner and domestic violence have been completed at the University of Tampere: *Leppäkoski, Tuija. 2007. Women Exposed to Acute Physical Intimate Partner Violence Seeking Care at Emergency Departments. Identification of and Intervention in Violence. Department of Nursing Science. University of Tampere.* (Depended on May 25th, 2007). The purpose of the academic dissertation of Tuija Leppäkoski is to create a preliminary model for identifying women exposed to acute physical intimate partner violence seeking care at emergency departments and for intervening in the violence. The model is based on the results of previous research and the present study. The research results suggest that improvement of practical nursing care requires that training be arranged and co-operation with different help providers be developed, and a jointly agreed model be introduced to address intimate partner violence. This is everyone's professional, ethical duty and also based on legislation. However, an implementation of the model demands the support of those in position of nursing administration.

Flinck, Aune. 2006. Parisuhdeväkivalta miehen ja naisen kokemana. Rikottu lemменmarja. (Intimate partner violence as experienced by women and men – from Bed of Roses to the Crown of Thorns). Department of Nursing Science. University of Tampere. The purpose of this qualitative, phenomenological study is to describe intimate partner violence as experienced by women and men and to formulate a common structure of meanings of intimate partner violence. The research results enhance the understanding of the experiences of men and women. The results outline the common structure of intimate partner violence. The information may be useful in promoting women's and men' and families' health, working with violence and in educating social and health care professionals. The results may also help partners to understand each other's experiences in a pair relationship.

Keskinen, Suvi. 2005. Perheammattilaiset ja väkivaltatyön ristiriidat. Sukupuoli, valta ja kielelliset käytännöt. (Family professionals and discrepancies of working with violence. Gender, power and discursive practices). Department of Social Policy and Social Work. University of Tampere. Academic dissertation of Suvi Keskinen is a very versatile conduction as ethnographic research in three family counselling agencies. The theoretical framework is based on poststructuralist feminist theories of subjectivity, gender and power. The study concentrates on these questions: 1) how two Finnish discourses, "family violence" at the end of the 1970s as a hegemonic discourse and a decade later the "violence against women" discourse are made use of by family professionals working with domestic violence and what kinds of discursive practices are constructed, 2) what role do the discourses of heterosexuality and parenthood play in violence work, and 3) what kind of subjectivities are constructed for abused women in the encounters with the family professionals. According to study gender is a performative accomplishment related to the discourses of society. Within discourses certain subject positions are constructed. These subject positions are often gendered, but they can also be sexualised, racialised, age-related, etc. In some types of masculinity, violence holds a more central position than in others. The academic dissertation highlights multidimensional problematics of practices in violence work. It also carries dimensions for definitions of gender, violence and issues of educational violence.

Dialogue in the Barents Region

The research work of *Aino Saarinen* concerning violence against women has shaped up cooperation project in the Barents region. The result of an anthology of Aino Saarinen is an ongoing process of feminist activism and reflection in the northernmost parts of North West Russia, Finland, Sweden and Norway. The research project that she organized since 1999 concerns the Nordic-Russian development project called NCRB – A Network for Crisis Centres for Women in the Barents Region. Collaboration between already existing crisis centres has been developed by using ICT and new women shelters have been established. The latest anthology is titled: *Saarinen, Aino & Carey-Bélanger, Elaine (ed.). 2004. Crisis Centres and Violence against Women. Dialogue in the Barents Region. Volume 9. Femina Borealis: Oulu.*

4.2.2 Violence on Workplaces

The latest academic dissertation regarding work violence had public discussion on June 8th, 2007 in Oulu: *Sandelin, Pirkko. 2007. Kertomuksia psyykkisestä väkivallasta terveydenhuollon työ- ja opiskeluyhteisöissä.* (Narrations of mental violence in workplaces and study communities in the health care sector). *Department of nursing science. University of Oulu.* According to academic dissertation the general belief is that people who work or study in the health care sector are aware of the nature of mental violence – guided by ethic principles, their education and the requirements of health care professions – and recognize its impact on people’s lives and health, work and studying. However, surveys indicate that mental violence occurs in health care communities between the patient and the professional helper and between staff members. According to research mental violence develops in communities where the conditions favouring mental violence are hierarchical structures, their negative bureaucratic operation and management methods and economic recession and its consequences. Favourable conditions also include changes in community values. In conditions of this kind, the victims of mental violence, persons resorting to mental violence and those assisting in it make up a problematic system of interaction. Together they can exhaust the victim of mental violence and cause the feeling of complete fatigue and burnout. For victims recovery means efforts for reaching a new beginning in life, regaining life and the loss of life.

The latest book regarding work violence is essay collection written by lecturer of folklore in Helsinki, Helena Saarikoski. According to the book, operations models of violence, arbitrariness and submission are learnt in culture and they are common knowledge transferring as tradition. *Saarikoski, Helena. 2006. Kateus, juoru, kiusaaminen. Esseitä henkisestä yhteisöväkivallasta (Envy, rumour, bullying. Essays of mental violence of community): Nemo: Helsinki.*

Work violence as **sexual harassment** is studied in academic environments. The latest book that concerns sexual harassment at the University of Helsinki has been published by Liisa Husu under the title: *Husu, Liisa. 2001. Sexism, support and survival in Academia. Academic Women and Hidden Discrimination in Finland. University of Helsinki: Social Psychological Studies 6.*

Also *Mervi Heikkinen* has, in her articles, discussed sexual harassment in academic environments in Oulu. Her latest – yet unpublished – article concentrates on gender and sexual harassment experiences in the environment of the circumpolar North, in particular.

4.4.3 Educational violence

In Finland the research group of *Vappu Sunnari* has conducted studies regarding educational violence that is a direct commensurate with intimate partner and domestic violence and also violence in workplaces. Many studies regarding **Masculinity and femininity representations and violence** have been conducted in the Oulu research group of educational violence.

- Rautio A, Sunnari V, Nuutinen M, Väyrynen M, Kataja R & Uhari M (2005) *Bullying by teachers and students most common during medical studies*. An article that has been sent to be evaluated to be published in the Journal of Medical Education
- Sunnari V (2005) *Heterosexualised peer relations and sexual harassment as a form of violence in primary schools of the northern periphery in Finland*. In: Widerstedt B (ed) Proceedings from the 2nd International Conference “Values in Education across Boundaries” held in Umeå 28 – 29 October 2003. Print & Media, Umeå University, Umeå, 207 – 225.
- Sunnari V, Heikkinen M, Rautio A, Väyrynen M, Nuutinen M (2005) *Seksuaalinen häirintä ja ahdistelu osana segregaaion ylläpitoa yliopistossa – kymmenen vuoden aikana kerättyjen aineistojen vertailuun perustuva tarkastelu*. Teoksessa: Teräs L, Sunnari V, Kailo K (toim.) Koulutus, sukupuolisosialisaatio ja teknologia – näkökulmia segregaaioon. WomenIT:n tutkimusjulkaisu. Rannikon Laatupaino, Raahe, 83 – 99.
- Kailo K, Sunnari V & Vuori H (2004) (toim.) Tasa-arvon haasteita Globaalin ja lokaalin rajapinnoilla. Northern Gender Studies 5, University of Oulu and Lapland.
- Sunnari V (2003) *Training Women for the role of the Responsible Other in Primary Teacher Education in Finland*. European Journal of Teacher Education 26(2): 217-228
- Sunnari V, Huuki T, Manninen S & Tallavaara A (2003) *Den våldsamma skolkulturen och hegemonisk maskulinitet*. I: NIKK magasin 2/2003, 17 – 21
- Sunnari V, Huuki T & Tallavaara A (2003) *Transforming educational institutes into learning organisations: a requisite for combating heterosexism in education*. 28th Annual Conference of ATEE, 24 – 27 August 2003. In the CD-ROM of the accepted articles
- Huuki T, Sunnari V, Tallavaara A, Manninen S (2003) *Masks of Masculinities – The Representations of Masculinities in Boys’ Drawings and Narratives*. 28th Annual Conference of ATEE, 24 – 27 August 2003. In the CD-ROM of the accepted articles
- Sunnari V, Kangasvuo J & Heikkinen M (eds) (2002) *Gendered and Sexualised Violence in Educational Environments*. Femina Borealis 6, Yliopistopaino, Oulu.

4.4.4 Publications of some associations and other organisations

Women’s Line in Finland

Onko joku tuntemasi nainen parisuhdeväkivallan kohteena? Opas perheenjäsenille, ystäville ja naapureille. (Is somebody you know being abused in a relationship? A guide for families, friends & neighbours.) *Women’s Line*. 2006.

Amnesty department of Finland.

“... mutta veturi puuttuu.” *Amnestyn Suomen osaston valtakunnallinen kyselytutkimus naisiin kohdistuvan väkivallan vastaisesta työstä Suomen kunnissa 2005-2006*. (“... but the engine is missing.” A National question survey regarding work of violence against women in municipality in Finland ordered by the department of Finland of Amnesty international). *Amnesty International: Department of Finland*. 2007.

Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland

Kirkot sanovat Ei! naisiin kohdistuvalle väkivallalle. Toimintaohjelma kirkolle. (The Church says No! to violence against women. The Plan of Action for the Church). *Suomen ev. lut. kirkon*

kirkkohallituksen julkaisuja 2004:2. Kirkon naistyön neuvottelukunta. Helsinki 2004: Kirkkohallitus.

Kemppi-Repo, Eeva. 2000. *"Joka viettelee yhden näistä pienimmistä..." Lasten seksuaalisen hyväksikäytön ennaltaehkäisy ja kirkon vastuu.* (The prevention of Child Sexual Abuse and the Responsibility of the Church.) Helsinki: Kirkkohallitus.

Women's Cultural Centre

An important publication for victims of violence to supporting them and to become empowered:
Perttu, Sirkka. 1999. Päänavaus selviytymiseen. Väkivaltaa kokeneiden naisten käsikirja. (Open up for survival. A Guidebook for Female victims of violence). *Women's Cultural Centre.*

5. NATIONAL STATISTICS ON GENDER VIOLENCE

5.1 The Background of gender statistics

The development of gender statistics and indicators in Finland is based on two documents which are based on the Beijing Platform:

- *Outline plan for the development of statistics on equality between the sexes/gender statistics, 1996 – 2000, Statistics Finland.*
- *From Beijing to Finland. National Plan of Action for the Promotion of Gender Equality of the Government on Finland, Publications of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health 1997:20, Helsinki 1997.*

The outline plan for the development of gender statistics in Finland has already been presented in the ECE work session on gender statistics in 1998. Since the resources for the implementation of the outline plan have to be negotiated separately every year, some of the projects have been prolonged and some postponed to the future. For implementing the projects of the Plan of Action of the Government, Statistics Finland has co-operated with the Council for Equality and the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health. This has resulted in progress in basic statistics on violence, a survey on violence against women, and the Gender Barometer.

5.2 National Statistics on violence against women

In Finland three significant statistics concerning violence against women have been made. All of them include key findings about GV at national level and come out frequency and price of VAW.

The first significant Finnish statistical report about violence against women is published under the title: *Markku Heiskanen & Minna Piispa (1998): Faith, Hope, Battering. A survey of men's Violence against Women. Justice 1998:12. Statistics Finland / Council for Equality.* According to *Faith, Hope, Battering*, 40 percent of women have at some point of their adult lives been victims of physical or sexual violence or threats. The violence experienced by the women concentrated on the couple relationships. A study was carried out as a postal inquiry by Statistics Finland in co-operation with the Council for Equality in 1997. A systematic sample of 7100 Finnish and Swedish-speaking women aged 18-74 was drawn from the Central Population Register. Main questions tackled in the report are: How prevalent is violence by men against women? How much of it is there in different population groups? How prevalent is violence experienced by women in a relationship and what is it like? How prevalent is violence that occurs outside relationships and what is it like? How concerned are women about the risk of becoming a victim of violence in different situations in

everyday life? How prevalent is sexual harassment? According to this report, one woman in five had at least once experienced physical violence by the present partner. One-half of those who had been victims of intimate partner violence had suffered some kind of physical injury from the assault, against one-third of those who had experienced non-partner violence. Little over one out of four women who had lived in a violent couple relationship had sought for help at a shelter, the police, a lawyer's or a legal aid office or other institutions. The follow up research is "*Violence against Women in Finland*", which is reported under the chapter 3 Main Official Studies in Finland.

Minna Piispa & Markku Heiskanen (2000): The Price of Violence. The Costs of Men's Violence against Women in Finland. Justice 2001:3. Statistics Finland / Council for Equality. Ministry of Social Affairs and Health. Publications on Equality 2000:7. The Price of Violence estimates the societal costs that violence against women causes in the health care, social and justice sectors. The focus is on the costs of producing services. The aim of the research is to compute an overall estimate. The study makes particular cost estimates for intimate partner violence. The data is collected from two main sources: statistical material related to the activity of various organisations dealing with violence (budgets, annual activity reports, client and patient statistics) together with analytic reports and research reports based on these, and interviews with experts from agencies that deal with violence. The expert estimates were used to assess the proportion of such cost items that violence against women causes to different treatment and helping organisations, but which are not explicitly recorded as "violence". Primarily the study estimated direct and immediate costs. Some analytic indirect costs were estimated, but they were not real in the sense that it would have been possible to find their genuine monetary or bookkeeping value. The time frame was one year and usually the focal year was 1998.

The costs of violence

Immediate costs derive from the health care sector (non-institutional care, hospital care, medication), the social sector (shelters, crisis service, social work, couple and family therapy and other therapy), the criminal system (police, trial, prison) and other sources (e.g. intoxicant treatment, insurance and State Reserve compensations to victims of crime)

According to *The price of violence* the immediate societal costs of violence against women, or the costs of producing the services assessed in the report amounted to 48 million EUR in 1998. The direct annual costs in the health sector amounted to 6,7 million EUR, those in the social sector were estimated at 14,8 million EUR and the costs of the law enforcement and criminal justice sector were 26,6 million EUR. Other costs amounted to 1,7 million EUR in national level. This sum does not comprise many elements that are traditionally understood to belong to direct costs, such as the victim's compensations for sick leave and subsidies for working inability or property damages.

Indirect costs denote estimated costs that have not actually happened, but that as a consequence of a death or an injury have had a negative effect on the total national theoretical working capacity, or the well-being of the population, the value of life and which are often understood as belonging to assessments of the costs of the phenomenon under scrutiny. Indirect costs of violence against women amounted to 61 – 111 million EUR

Other non-visible costs are inflicted in voluntary work. Such work is being carried out in many private institutions such as the Finnish Service for Crime Victims and in the non-institutional services organised by the shelters of the Federation on Mother and Child Homes and Shelters.

The price of violence was the first of its kind in Finland and a pilot study. The result was not quite satisfying firstly because the financial accounts of different authorities, institutions and other

agencies do not, with a few exceptions, provide information on the costs of violence against women. Violence is not seen as a separate problem and in cases where it is seen as a problem it is typically dealt with only after other possibly involved factors have been taken care of. A second matter of difficulty is that financial costs, in the case of violence against women, are only an external aspect, and only one dimension of societal costs. It was not possible to find financial measures for mental health or psychological costs caused by violence. The figures in the national study about the price of violence are underestimates because it was often impossible to distinguish the costs caused by violence against women from other expenditure of the institutions, in particular in the social sector. It is also possible that, for instance, the real reason of hospital visits is not always recorded correctly in the patient information system.

A third study has been conducted at the municipal level: *Markku Heiskanen & Minna Piispa (2002): The costs of violence in a municipality. A case study of violence against women and its costs in the city of Hämeenlinna 2001, based on estimates provided by authority representatives. Ministry of Social Affairs and Health. Reports 2002:16.* The study assessed the cost cause by violence during the month of November in the year 2001. Different helping agencies recorded on a data collection sheet all client contacts that involved violence against women.

The one month costs of violence against women in the City of Hämeenlinna in November in 2001 multiplied by 12 months (and for estimates from the school multiplied by 10 since the school is closed during two summer months) and corrected with the factor of 0.69 projecting the costs to national level (the national average was 69% of the Hämeenlinna rate), showed that the figures deriving from *The price of violence* were low. The comparable annual direct costs of Hämeenlinna at national level were: 17,7 million EUR for the health care sector, 48 million EUR for the social sector and 24,9 million EUR for the criminal justice sector. The total sum (91 million EUR) was almost twice the amount that the researchers arrived at in the previous study at a national level (48 million EUR).

The calculus concerning the criminal justice sector in Hämeenlinna was based on register data and services for which fixed prices were set, and therefore the costs could be assessed in a more comprehensive fashion than in the social sector. The costs were roughly the same in both studies. One reason for the lower estimate of the criminal justice sector costs as compared with the national study may be that there were no homicides in the Hämeenlinna 2001 data. In contrast, social sector costs of violence against women in Hämeenlinna were 3.5 times the estimate from the national study where many aspects of the social sector could not be estimated. In the Hämeenlinna study, also the estimates of the costs in the health care sector were considerably higher, or 2.6 times the level found in the national study. The difference is largely explained by the fact that the Hämeenlinna study also included psychiatric treatment.

Some points: Violence remains a hidden problem and victims tend to conceal it as they fail to seek help, or they hide the real reason of their visit for instance when they go to see a doctor. The calculations are further obscured by the fact that violence is often not recognised. This problem overlaps partly with the fact that violence is not recognised as an independent problem. However, there are many cultural and attitudinal factors behind the difficulty of recognition. In statistics this is reflected in that many sources do not distinguish between women and men.

5.3 Finnish Statistics concerning Gender in Working Life

The National Plan of Action has defined the need for the Gender Barometer. It defines the target of the Gender Barometer in the following way: “*The Finnish Government wishes to monitor citizens’ impressions about gender equality and changes in the situation. Therefore, a new tool, an equality barometer will be developed and produced at least every other year to provide information on the experiences of women and men regarding gender equality in personal relationships, family life, organisations, working life and society.*” The results are published under the title:

Tuula Melkas (2004): Gender Barometer 2004. Equality between Men and Women in Finland. Statistics Finland-Council for equality, SVT Living Conditions 1999:1. Gender Statistics, Helsinki.

The 2004 gender barometer is the third one in succession. The first gender barometer was published in 1998 and the second in 2001. The barometer seeks to analyse, by means of men’s and women’s estimates, attitudes and personal experiences, the division of labour and power between men and women and how acceptable the division is in various situations arising in society. The data for the barometer was collected by means of a telephone survey in January 2004 in conjunction with the Statistics Finland’s Labour Force Survey. The interviews were computer-aided, i.e. the interviewer read the questions from a computer and recorded the replies as the interview proceeded. The sample consisted of about 2500 persons aged 15-74. Acceptable replies were received from 75 % of the sample (943 women and 929 men). The survey proceeds from estimates of and attitudes to society in general to the interviewee’s assessment and experiences of her/his own workplace or educational institution, then to the division of labour and spending within the family, and finally to very personal feelings.

To a large extent, Finnish women and men agree that the responsibilities in providing financial security for the family, everyday running of the home, and parenting should be shared. This attitude reflects the prevalence and popularity of the two-supporter family model in Finland. Despite the fact that employment even among women with a family is taken almost for granted both as far as attitudes are concerned and in practice, one female employee in four still felt in 2004 that pay was adversely affected by their gender. Even in 2004, workplaces still viewed the use of statutory parental leaves as women’s, rather than men’s, right. This was particularly true of the private sector, and of all family leaves except the very shortest ones: only 45 per cent of private sector employees thought that it would be easy for a man to take a family leave of one to seven months. Over the entire examination period of 1998-2004, one change has taken place in the fact that women shoulder a greater proportion than men of the daily responsibilities of running a home and family life. In fact, mothers’ share in communication with school or daycare home has grown.

Gender barometers have also studied personal sentiments about interaction between the genders. In 1998 and 2001, it was fairly common among women, in particular, to have encountered in different circumstances members of the opposite sex with patronising or disparaging attitudes. By 2004, these kinds of experiences of the opposite sex had become less prevalent. Yet, sexual harassment of women seems to show signs of abating: even in 2004, one young woman in two had been harassed by a man during the last two years. The most common experiences were having to listen to suggestive jokes unwillingly, or becoming the target of offensive remarks about one’s physical appearance or sexuality.

6. IN CONCLUSION

The Beijing Platform and CEDAW have been in significant role in the development of Finnish women's status and relation to gender violence. According to Finnish NGO's shadow report the following problem areas can be deemed to be the most central ones: violence against women, trafficking in women, sex industry and prostitution, portrayal of women in the media and advertising, women's unequal status in decision-making, insufficient financial resources for the advancement of women, equal pay is not a reality, gender-disaggregated labour market and traditional roles in the home and the workplaces. Additionally insufficient resources for the equality work in general has been mentioned in NGO's shadow report 2004.

Also ILO has been a key for women's advancement in work life. In Finland women have been generally participated to the work life with the great extent (about 67 per cent of working age women).

During the ten past years gender sensitive violence research has been developed and carried out extensively in Finland. Several researchers have been specialised to the violence research by participating actively to the national, Nordic and international networks, programmes, project and collaborations has increased. Also the definition of gender violence has become similar throughout the countries (see Gender & Violence report in pdf. format <http://www.norden.org/pub/ovrigt/ovrigt/sk/TN2005544.pdf>).

In Finland present discussions on field of studies and government emphasize that cutting the chain of violence requires the expertise and co-operation of various professionals. Also Finnish present guides and reports are concentrating on multi-professional specialization and expertise for prevention of violence and aim at get own role into public policies.

There are still barriers for effective co-operation, which result from the weaknesses to recognise violent crime and defective information on support and service systems that are in use. Official discourse concerns co-operation in the prevention for violence must be co-ordinated and guided. Political decision makers and head of civil service must be committed to the work. The implementation of the prevention of violence requires time, money, and staff.

It seems Ministry of Social Affairs and Health would have independent political solutions for organisation and coordination of prevention of violence. Most important meaning regarding reduction of violence against women is third sector and at grassroots, however. Present governmental programme is finishing and it brings a concern about continuance. Focus is moving more municipalities are answerable violence work and then it is a danger governmental funding regarding violence work is running out.

There are many fast services nationally for victims in Finland. Victim Support Finland provides help for both male and female victims of all types of crime. Most of the customers are women. Other crisis services are provided by the Finnish Association for Mental Health, Women's line and the rape crisis centre "Tukinainen". There are 23 shelters with total of 120 bed places in Finland. Shelters are absent in many places in North and East Finland. The need for shelters in other parts of Finland is also greater than their availability. The need for shorter term shelters has also become clear. In Finland it should ensure extensive shelter services e.g. by developing regional co-operation. Service and support should also be secured in small and remote communities. Co-operation provides very important tools for assisting immigrant female victims. In Finland

migration is relatively limited. Network resources can be utilised by developing practices for different actor in cooperation between organisations and authorities. Migrant clients may need concrete help including the assistance of interpreter. Non governmental organisations are often able to provide more flexibly in the form of special services than the municipal service system.

The responsibility has sifted from the State Provincial Offices to the municipalities that vary a lot in their size, resources and ability to take care of the challenging violence prevention task. Violence prevention in municipalities has been researched but it is still very limited in their scope, because in Finland we have 416 municipalities altogether. Municipalities' professionals have had opportunities for collaboration, education and support offered by State Provincial Offices. Multisectoral collaboration of service providers has been made visible in violence prevention plans.

A national challenge is basic know-how among all essential professionals to detect violence, to identify the risks of violence, to bring up the subject and to face the problem, to intervene in domestic violence and to know to whom refer experienced violence. Other challenges are multi agency and cross-sectoral approaches, all relevant professions receive basic knowledge about the nature the problem during primary vocational of professional training and handbooks or material for educational use.