

BELGIUM**Women's programmes**

In the Belgian Prisons there are no specific programmes for women who have suffered gender violence within intimate partnerships and are in prison.

Men's programmes

In the Belgian Prisons there are no specific programmes for men who have committed gender violence within intimate partnerships and are in prison.

However, in 2006 there was a programme targeting inmates perpetrators of gender violence. It was a pilot project developed in Wallonie, in the prisons of Lantin and Vervier. The programme was developed in the framework of a specific criminal policy on gender violence and it was ran by the Ministry of Public Affairs. Nowadays, the programme is not running anymore since there was no budget allocated for it.

The programme was developed in the framework of restorative justice. The cornerstone of the programme was that perpetrators take responsibility for their violent behaviour and for the crime they had committed.

The objectives of the programme were:

- to think about what happened
- to make men take responsibility for their violent behaviour
- to learn the consequences that their behaviour had on the victims
- to prevent violent behaviour and to avoid relapse

The programme was addressed to all inmates perpetrators of gender violence and it was voluntary based. The programme was developed in modules of 3 months, with one session of 2H15 each week. The methodology was based in group dynamics lead by external professionals.

In Flanders there are no programmes for men perpetrators of gender violence. However, several programmes at lowering aggression in general delivered by NGO.