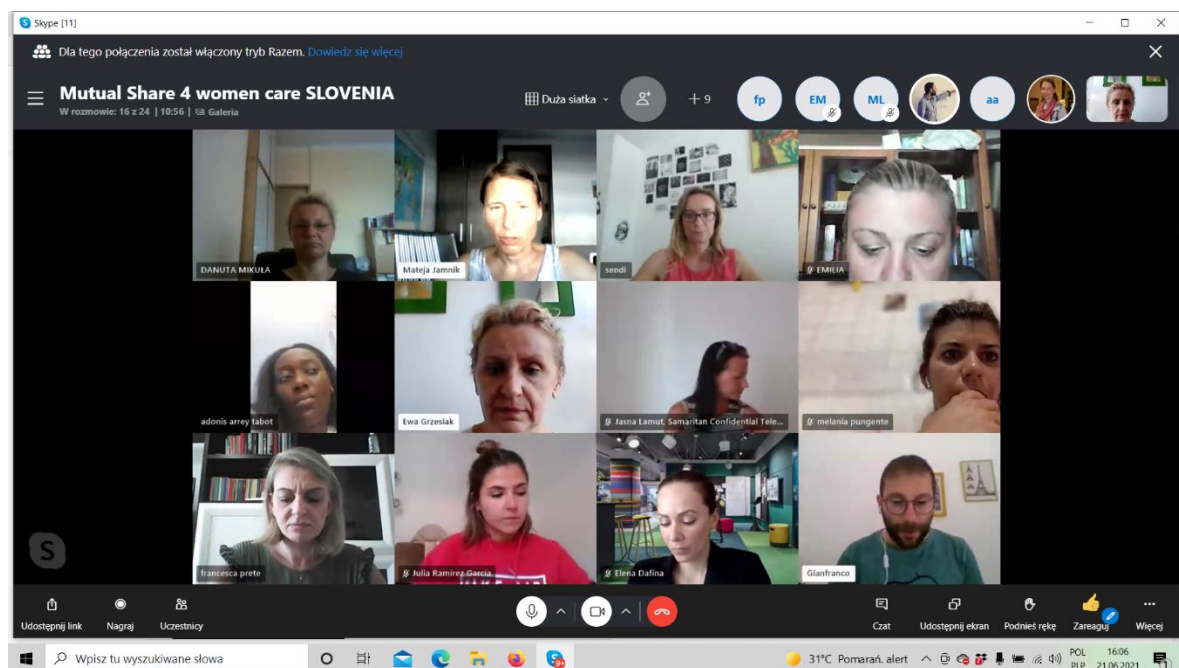


Online meeting – Slovenia

Društvo Jasa – Jasa association

21st – 24th June 2021

MUTUAL SHARE FOR WOMEN CARE EXCHANGE OF GOOD PRACTICES



Maribor, 30th of June 2021

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ONLINE MEETING SCHEDULE

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Association for women and children victims of violence Safe house of Gorenjska

- Centre for information and counselling for victims of violence in Gorenjska (Tina Uranič)
- Safe house of Gorenjska (Špela Zgonc)
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THE IMPORTANCE OF NGOS

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Samaritan Confidential Telephone Society (Jasna Lamut)

SOS HelpLine (Viktorija Zupančič)

Jasa association - Raising awareness with good books (Mateja Jamnik)

POLICE OF THE REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA: INTERVENTION AND PREVENTION (Bojana Krančan)

ONLINE MEETING SCHEDULE

Date & time	Name	Organization	Title
21.6. 16:00	Mateja Jamnik	Jasa association	Raising awareness with the Good Book
	Gianfranco Gatti	DEMOSTENE Study Centre	Project: Mutual share for women care
21.6. 16:30	Sendi Murgel	Ministry of Labor, Family, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities; Labour Inspectorate of the Republic of Slovenia	The role of Centre for Social Work in Social system of Republic of Slovenia
22.6. 9:00 - 9:30	Tina Uranič	Association for women and children victims of violence Safe house of Gorenjska	Centre for information and counselling for victims of violence in Gorenjska
22.6. 9:40-10:10	Špela Zgonc	Association for women and children victims of violence Safe house of Gorenjska	Safe house of Gorenjska
22.6. 10:15-11:00	Martina Slak	Association for women and children victims of violence Safe house of Gorenjska	Maternity home of Gorenjska
23.6. 9:00	Ieva Lauraityte	Association for Nonviolent Communication (Društvo za nenasilno komunikacijo)	Presentation of Association for Nonviolent communication
23.6. 10:00	Jasna Lamut	Samaritan Confidential Telephone Society	Emergency Telephone Services - a Tool for Empowerment of Victims of Violence
	Viktorija Zupančič	SOS Telephone for women and children - victims of violence	
24.6. 16:00	Bojana Krančan	Slovenian Police, Department for Juvenile Delinquency of the Criminal Police Directorate	Aspects of dealing with the crime of domestic violence
24.6. 17:00	Mateja Jamnik	Jasa association	Sharing good Slovenian practice
	Gianfranco Gatti	DEMOSTENE Study Centre	Next steps - a meeting in Granada



SOCIAL SYSTEM IN THE REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA - THE ROLE OF CENTRE FOR SOCIAL WORK

There are **16 Centres for Social Work** in Slovenia, with **63 local units**.

All *Centres for Social Work* are united into **Association of Centres for Social Work (scsd.si)**.

Their **field of work** is very extensive and includes numerous segments: working with children, parents, families, elderly people, disabled people, etc. Centres also deal with certain rights, i.e. financial social assistance, child benefit, arranging exemption from payment of social welfare services, etc.

They also carry out different **services** and legislation enables them to take coercive **measures** if deemed necessary. The Centres also **deal with perpetrators of criminal offences**, both adults and minors.

Centre for Social Work as an institution is an **organizer, promoter and executor of social policy**, and an **assistant** and **supervisor** of the user.

Working areas of *Centre for Social Work*:

- a) **family rights and benefits**
- b) **social security**

The Centre for Social Work and **The Court of Justice** has the authorization to **regulate guardianship** regarding both adults and children – children may have guardian assigned to them if they do not have parents or if parent do not take care of them. *Centre for Social Work* may start a procedure at Court regarding **foster care** for children.

The Centre gives **recommendation to the Court** on the following subjects:

- Opinions and reports,
- It carries out counselling to parents,
- It helps parents with making agreements regarding these questions,
- Offer mediation,
- It carries out discussions with a child as assistance to the Court judge.

Centre for Social Work is involved with **working with families** in different ways:

- with **social prevention** and they also **provide services** defined by *Social Protection Act*.

Services carried out by *Centre for Social Work* are:

- First social assistance,
- Personal help,
- Assistance to family, which includes help for the family for its home and at home,
- Institutional care – placing older persons in institutions.

They also **provide programmes**, which are additionally financed by the *Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Affairs* and which are projects that may last only one year and sometimes several years. These programmes **involve many volunteers**, which provide children with learning assistance, they also organize camps and workshops, spend afternoons with them and actively guide them toward quality leisure time activities.

Centres for Social Work also perform **function of coordination**, namely in four areas:

- a) **Local coordination,**
- b) **Regional coordination,**
- c) **Coordination for prevention of violence,**
- d) **Coordination for community treatment.**

PREVENTION OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Domestic Violence Prevention Act (2008) specifically identifies various forms of domestic violence, cooperation between different authorities and organizations for the protection of victims and court actions.

Victims have a professional help and support from *Centre for social work*, where they draw a plan of help for victims with their assistance; they convene a **multidisciplinary team**, which helps to provide guidance for better treatment of victims. They have the right to companion in all procedures, regarding domestic violence.

Victims have the possibility to propose concrete measures in court in legal civil procedures to assure their safety and the right to stay in their family home; they have the right to free legal aid for these procedures.

According to Domestic Violence Act, **Court may:**

- prohibits entry into the apartment where the victim lives;
- prohibits staying in a certain vicinity of the apartment in which the victim lives;
- prohibit staying and approaching places where the victim is usually located (eg workplace, school, kindergarten...);
- prohibit contact with the victim in any way, including by means of distance and through third parties;
- prohibit any meeting with the victim;
- prohibit the publication of the victim's personal data, documents from judicial and administrative files and personal records relating to the victim;
- decides on leaving the shared apartment to the victim.

Role of Centres for Social Work according to Domestic Violence Prevention Act:

a) elimination of direct hazard for victims,

b) taking care for the victim's long-term safety by eliminating causes or circumstances in which violence is present,

c) finding solutions of their social and material conditions required for existence.

The *Centre for Social Work* can **refer the perpetrator** of violence to corresponding educational, psychosocial and medical **care programs** that are provided by the authorities and organizations as well as NGOs.

Centres for Social Work **must respond** to any information they receive about any actions of individuals which could contain **domestic violence**. When dealing with domestic violence through the service of the first social assistance, they complete the first **interview with family** members in order to identify the specific facts, obtain the first information and identify the social problems of individuals and families.

If they find that there is **suspicion of domestic violence**, they have to start with the **immediate treatment of both victim** as well as **the perpetrator**; especially they have to pay particular attention to juvenile family members.

They conduct interviews with victims and perpetrators of violence separately, they perform the first social assistance with perpetrators, they can also **refer them in help programs**, but there are only a few in Slovenia.

We absolutely need more help programs for perpetrators, because maybe than we can help them with changing their behaviour.

Centre for Social Work when dealing with victims; first **prepare a risk assessment**, which consist of the degree of risk on the basis behaviour causing violence, psychological and physical condition of the victims, its beliefs and support from their social network. **If necessary, they convene a multidisciplinary team**, which involves experts from various institutions that can in any way contribute to addressing and assisting victims of domestic violence.

If necessary, the security plan is prepared, which shall identify options how and what actions victims needs to apply to increase their safety at home, at work, on the road, during a violent event as she prepares to leave ... With the plan of assistance for the victim we prepare a **plan for comprehensive treatment** of the victim.

If it's required to prepare a **plan of assistance** for the victim, centre for social work shall convene a **multidisciplinary team** with organizations and **NGOs** that are involved in helping victims. There they will prepare a plan of assistance and all the members of the team has to **ensure the implementation** of their part of the plan, as it is decided.



Špela Zgonc, Tina Uranič, Martina Slak

Association for women and children victims of violence Safe house of Gorenjska
- Centre for information and counselling for victims of violence in Gorenjska (Tina Uranič) www.cisgorenjske.si
- Safe house of Gorenjska (Špela Zgonc) <https://www.varnahisagorenjske.si/>
- Maternity home of Gorenjska (Martina Slak) www.materinskidomgorenjske.si
vh.gorenjska@siol.net

STUDY VISIT AND EXAMPLE OF GOOD PRACTICE: GORENJSKA REGION

Association was founded by **5 directors of CSW** in Gorenjska region in **2003**.

18 municipalities in Gorenjska region committed to **buy a house and pay the costs**.

The project started with 1 house, now we have 3 programs, 3 houses and 1 office.

Financed – 18 municipalities, MDDSZ, FIHO, donations, contribution of the users.

Aims of the program

- providing shelter and safe space for victims
- empower them
- help them to learn social skills
- teach them new life patterns

Regular procedure

- Giving and receiving info by phone
- Live interview
- Time for woman to consider her decision (approx. 1-2 days)
- Arrangement of coming to the house and including in the program

In case of emergency

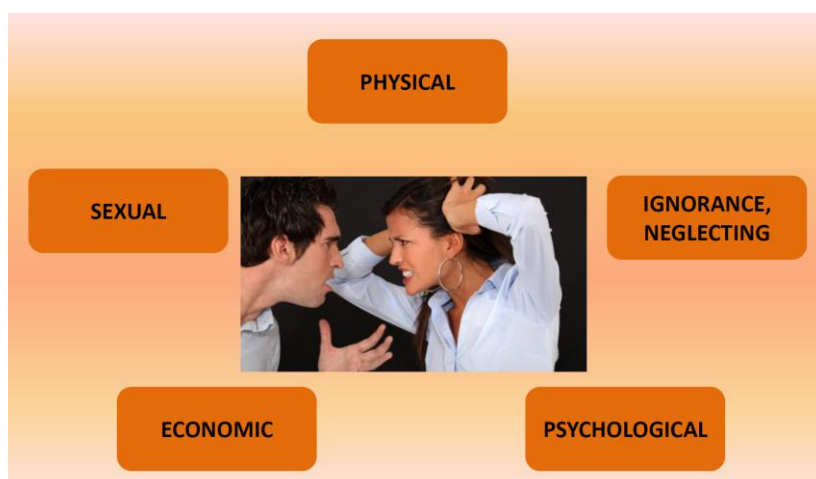
- Phone interview
- Immediate including in the house and in the program

Conditions to be included in the program:

- victim of violence
- free decision to be included
- free space in the house
- acceptance of the rules in the program

In which cases women do decide to leave home

- experienced violence from husband or partner
- experienced violence from their sons (drug users)
- experienced violence from their fathers
- experienced violence from their mother or father in-law



Types of violence

Cycle of violence



The spiral of violence



How to stop violence?

WHAT CAN THE VICTIMS DO:

- recognize the violence
- talk about the violence (trust person: friend, grown up, parent)
- seek help (in school, counselling office, the doctor, CSW, police)

OTHER PERSONS („don't want to put a nose in other people business“):

- we believe the victim
- zero tolerance toward violence
- MUST inform or seek professional help (could be anonymous)

- Safe house of Gorenjska

Safe House



- 6 bedrooms
- kitchen and dining room



- 1 and a half bathrooms
- living room



- outside playground
- terrace



- Maternity home of Gorenjska

- **Founded** in September 2010
- 210 users (91 women and 119 children – 7 new-borns)
- Located in Kranj

Intended for (by Initiative of the *Centre for Social Work* or social distress, with no other option of living or support):

- Pregnant women
- Women with children
 - daughters up to 18 years old,
 - sons up to 16 years old)
- Woman without children

Benefits

- Accommodation and stay
- Conversation and understanding
- Professional support
- Assistance in actively resolving distress (residential, financial, material etc.)
- Empowering
- Learning new life patterns
- Assistance in regulating rights in proceedings at the institutions
- Help in upbringing and care of children

Our Activities

- Individual professional support and counselling Individual and group conversations and activities
- Creative work, cooking, exercise, meditations, nature trips, gardening, music therapy
- Volunteer's help & workshops (clay products, sewing, cooking lessons, translating for women who don't speak Slovenian, activities for children)

Our home



- 4 rooms
- 2 kitchens
- 2 living rooms
- 2 bathrooms + 3 toilets
- Pantry
- Laundry room
- Creation room



It is never too late to do what you wish for

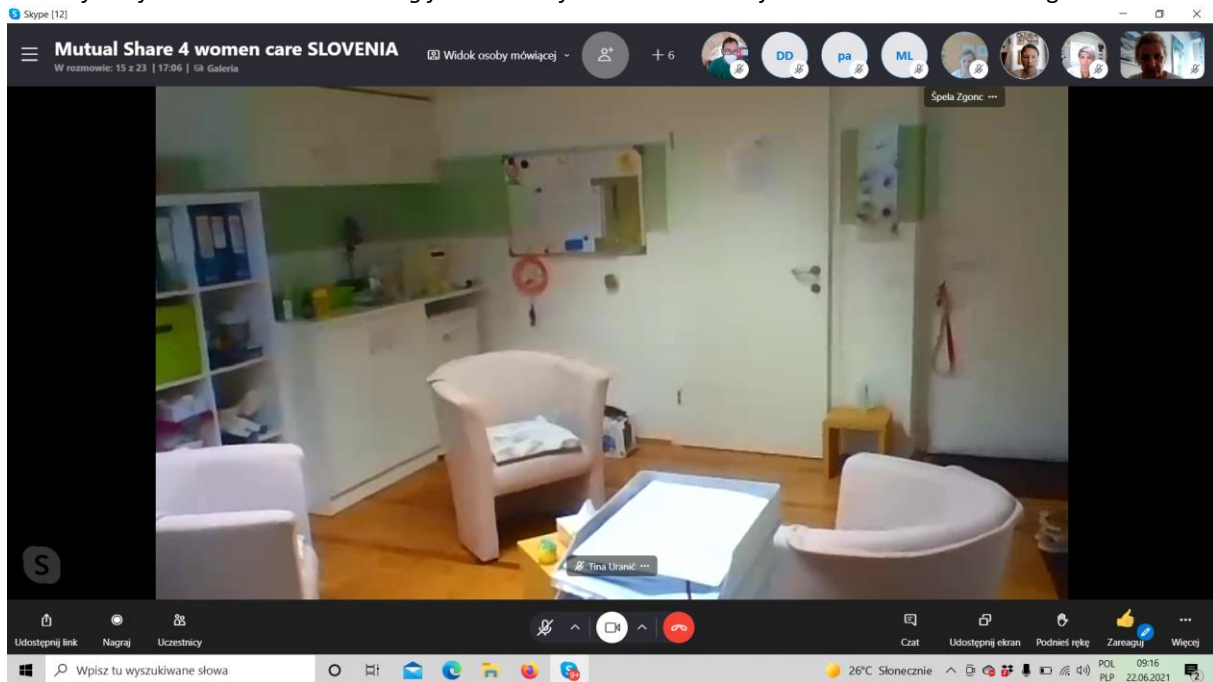


- Centre for information and counselling for victims of violence in Gorenjska

The aim of the centre is:

- being first "entry point" for the victims
- helping to victims of violence regardless of gender and age
- informing and advising victims
- informing and advising the general public, employees in schools, kindergartens, experts ... how to intervene
- individual counselling (usually once a week)
- telephone counselling
- psychosocial help and support
- cooperating with other institutions
- advising lawyers
- Reporting violence to the *Centre for Social Work*

Centre for information and counselling for victims of violence in Gorenjska - Individual counselling corner





Viktorija Zupančič The Association SOS Helpline

viktorija.zupancic@drustvo-sos.si

<https://drustvo-sos.si/>

SOS HELPLINE FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN - VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE

About SOS Help Line

Fundamentally, a feministic project, **established in 1989**, out of a need recognized and defined by a small group of women who wanted to **help women with experience of violence**.

First non-governmental organization in the field of work against violence against women and children in Slovenia.

The mission of the Association is to **offer protection** and support to women and children, as well as **educate** and **raise awareness** about violence and the unacceptability of violence.

Violence against women and children SOS Helpline in 2020/2021 -

Forms of violence:

- psychological violence,
- physical violence.

Perpetrators:

- current or former partner,
- adult children.

Average age of a victim:

- between 30-40 years old,
- over 65 years old.

SOS 24/7

On January 1st, a project titled **We listen, we don't judge, we help -SOS for victims of domestic violence 24 hours a day (SOS 24/7)** was launched.

The most common way of contacting us is by a telephone. Our **Helpline is free of charge, anonymous** and intended **for counselling, support and information**.

Phone counselling in **Slovene, English, Croatian, Bosnian and Serbian language**.

E-counselling is available (also in **Russian and Albanian**).

Legal counselling (3 hours every second week).

Main programs within our Association

Safe house for women and children
(established in 1997).
(2020: 21 users and 11 children)

SOS phone counselling and e-counselling
(2020: 1303 calls, 139 e-mails;
(1.1.2021 - 31.5.2021: 974 calls and 77 e-mails).

Personal psychosocial and psychological counselling by a psychotherapist.
(2020: 121 clients)

Safe house II for women and children
(established in 2009).
(2020: 13 users and 10 children)

Social advocacy and accompaniment to institutions
(court, police department, social work centres).

SOS support group for women with the experience of violence.
(2020: 9 users in two support groups)



Counselling on police matters by a Criminologist (2 hours every second week).

SOS Association Preventive Activities

It started with **trust...**

Conducting **workshops** across Slovenia (14 workshops in 6 different cities).

Collaboration with other non-governmental institution (ex. Amnesty International, DNK).

Main programs within SOS Helpline



Jasna Lamut

SAMARITAN CONFIDENTIAL TELEPHONE SOCIETY

jasna.lamut@gmail.com

<http://www.telefon-samarijan.si/>

Emergency Telephone Services – A Tool for Empowerment of Victims of Violence

HOW CALLERS IN MENTAL DISTRESS CAN BENEFIT FROM SEEKING HELP BY USING EMERGENCY TELEPHONE SERVICES

ABOUT SAMARITAN TELEPHONE

Is a member of IFOTES - an **international federation, founded in 1967** that brings together **National associations of Telephone Emergency Services**, which offer **emotional support, immediately accessible to any person**, suffering from loneliness, contemplating suicide, in cases of violence, or any other **personal psychological crisis**.

INTERNATIONAL NORMS OF LISTENING SERVICES

- Is a **non-governmental, non-profit, humanitarian and voluntary organization**, acting in the **public interest**.
- The basic **mission** is the implementation of the programme **confidential telephone for calls in mental distress**, which was professionally **verified by the Social Chamber of Slovenia**.
- An individual in need has the opportunity to call the **free of charge** telephone **number 116 123**, intended for adults in mental distress. A **qualified volunteer** is available to talk to him.
- In addition to implementing the programme, the society contributes, through **various activities**, to the **stabilization of mental distress** in Slovenia.

OUR VALUES & PRINCIPLES

- Mutual respect.
- Absolute anonymity.
- Non-stop availability (365 days a year).
- Free of charge.
- Laity.
- Rogerian method of counselling.

AIM - to offer an emotional support the caller needs to take necessary action

Rogerian non-directive method of counselling helps callers to:

- feel accepted and understood,
- confirm their right to live their own lives and to take responsibility for it,
- express and relieve their emotions,
- feel empowered.

The aim is to offer an **easy accessible emotional support** the caller needs at the given moment.

Any caller has the right to be listened to and respected **regards of his/her beliefs, convictions and personal choices**.

- Listening is offered in a **welcoming and open attitude** and the listener's golden rule is **never to impose any obligation** to the caller.
- The contents of a call are **highly confidential**, especially with regard to any information pertaining to private lives.
- During a telephone conversation, the **listener should remain strictly anonymous** and the **caller has the right to remain anonymous**.
- Branches of IFOTES work on a **voluntary basis, listeners having been selected, trained and supervised** with a view to constantly improving their listening competence.
- *Emergency Telephone Services* are **entirely free of charge** to the caller.

EXCEPTIONS - WHEN THE ROGERIAN METHOD IS NOT ENOUGH

In cases of violence or when a life is in danger: in case of threat of self-harm or threat or experience of any kind of abuse or violence. The principles of the *Society Confidential Telephone Samaritan* provide that a counsellor can react in a manner that respects principles of the *Code of Conduct* and *Law of Family Violence Prevention*. Anonymity of the caller and a counsellor should be respected...

INFORMING THE CALLER ABOUT AVAILABLE SOURCES OF HELP: Some of the GOs & NGOs that help in cases of violence in Slovenia





Ieva Lauraityte

Association for Non-violent Communication

ieva.lauraityte@drustvo-dnk.si

<https://www.drustvo-dnk.si/en/>

PRESENTATION OF ASSOCIATION FOR NONVIOLENT COMMUNICATION

About DNK

- **Non-governmental and non-profit organization**, which was established in **1996**
- **First non-governmental** organization in Slovenia that **has designed the programs** of counselling for **those who commit violence**
- **35 employees + 71 volunteers** (2020)
- There are **2 entities** of our organization: in Ljubljana and in Koper
- **2 shelters** for women and children victims of violence, **5 safe apartments**
- All programs are **verified by government**

Financing

- Main sources of financing are obtained through **public tenders** by *Ministry of Labour, Family, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities, Municipality of Ljubljana* and also some other municipalities, *FIHO -Foundation for financing humanitarian and disability Organizations* and etc. Therefore, **programs are free of charge for all the users**.
- Other **donators**: individuals and companies that donate **materials** for the victims of violence (clothes, food, furniture for the safe house...)

Statistics 2020

- There were **1840 users** included our different programs in 2020.
- There were **766 persons who were behaving violently** included in our programs for perpetrators, **227 children with experience of violence**, **133 victims of violence in the shelter and safe apartments**, **714 persons**, who were **victims of violence**.
- **12830 counselling sessions** in 2020
- **1902 cases of accompanying users** to different institutions, social advocacy cases, and multidisciplinary teams in different institutions.

Objectives of the association

When the Association was founded, **three primary objectives** were established:

- **To reduce society's tolerance to violence**,
- **Help those who commit violence** to change their behaviour,
- **Help those who experience violence**

Our definition of violence

- **Unequal division of power** – perpetrators trying to gain, keeper expand his power
- **Violent behaviour is learnt**, anyone can learn non-violence
- **Zero tolerance**, no excuse for violence
- **Social groups with less power are more at risk**
- **Personal responsibility**

Our programs

- **Preventive work** - workshops, lectures (children, youth, parents, teachers and etc.), social actions, collaboration with government in the field of violence
- **Work with the victims** – counselling, legal aid, advocacy, safe houses, material help, law change
- **Work with the perpetrators** – counselling, social skills training, group for youth and etc.
- **Cooperation with other institutions in Slovenia**
- **Participation at international level**

PROGRAMS FOR VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE

- **Helpline** for information and **counselling in the field of violence**
- **Information** and counselling support through **electronic and regular mail**

- **Individual help** for victims of violence
- **Social advocacy** for individuals that have experienced or are experiencing violence
- **Accompaniment to institutions for victims of violence**
- **2 Safe houses** for women and children –victims of violence
- **5 safe apartments** for victims of violence
- Assertiveness **training for victims** of violence
- **Guided self-help group** for victims of violence
- **Legal counselling** for victims of violence
- **Individual help for children and young people** who have experienced violence

COUNSELLING FOR VICTIMS OF SEXUAL ABUSE

- Although many victims of intimate partnership violence also experience sexual violence, we created a **new programme for those who have experienced sexual violence outside intimate partnership or want to talk about sexual violence that they have experienced as children.**

VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

- Experiences and the statistics show us that the **most dangerous place for women is their home** (Researches show that **95% of victims of violence are female**).
- **Violence against women is a social problem** (It depends on the response of the society and on the consequences).
- There is **no such thing as a typical perpetrator or typical victim** (Violence against women **occurs in all social classes**).
- There is **no excuse for violence**.
- **Violence is associated with traditional roles**, which are attributed to men and women.
- **Socialization draws girls in the role that prevents women to stand up for them** (Many studies have shown that socialization of boys and girls differ from birth onwards or even from earlier. We have different expectations when we think about having a boy or a girl. These expectations put men in the role of leaders and women in the role of the guided ones, which undoubtedly leads to an imbalance of power.)
- **Intimate partner violence rarely stays the same** over a period of time. It **usually increases** both in severity and frequency.
- **Zero tolerance to violence** is the key to preventing male violence against women (Our society is still not fully aware of the domestic violence. Public is less attentive to the violence that occurs within family relationships and more to the violence outside the home, especially in cases of rape.)

The reality of violence, especially sexual, is different from the myths that persist in public beliefs.
--

The only one, responsible for violence, is the one who commits it. There is no excuse for violence

(We often wonder why the victims of violence persist in a relationship. It is time to ask ourselves why perpetrators persist in a relationship with someone that they find so unbearable that they have to use violence against her.)

- **Leaving a violent relationship** is an opportunity to **gain back your rights**.
- **Response of the surrounding** to individual cases of violence **is a key element** in preventing violence against women (When trying to prevent violence we cannot take the position “every story has two sides”. Violence against women is violence and crime. **Nothing can justify violence.**)

Violence is the point when the surroundings have to react and give the perpetrator a message that his behaviour is intolerable and unacceptable
--

Every human being has the right to be free.
--

PROGRAMS FOR PERPETRATORS OF VIOLENCE

- **Social skills training** for male perpetrators, who behave violently towards women
- **Individual counselling** for perpetrators, who behave violently towards women
- **Group work** with young males, who behave violently
- **Parenting skills training**
- **Caring Dads**

Programme for perpetrators have the following objectives:

- **Increasing safety** and quality of life of women who have experienced or are experiencing violence.
- **Encourage men who commit violence** against women, to **face with the consequences** of their violent behaviour, take responsibility for violent behaviour and begin to think critically about their expectations from people against who they used violence.
- That **perpetrators of violence achieve better understanding** and recognition of different forms of violence against women, which is a direct consequence of the basic structural inequality in gender relations. **Violence against women is rooted in patriarchal cultures** and traditions that are based on expectations and beliefs of men that they should establish power and control over women.

- **To learn nonviolent communication and constructive conflict resolution**, including: a better understanding of the consequences of violence, the dynamics of violent behaviour, to increase emotional literacy, awareness of the need to accept responsibility for the violence as a condition to change violent behaviour, to achieve an equal partnership, to understand and apply good enough and responsible parenting methods for men who have children.

Social skills training for male perpetrators, who behave violently towards women

- The program includes **24 group meetings**

- **Open group**

- **10 participants**

- The training takes place in **9 towns of Slovenia** (Ljubljana, Celje, Novo mesto, Radovljica, Koper, Nova Gorica, Slovenj Gradec, Maribor, Murska Sobota)

- To this program they are usually **referred by different institutions** (Centers for Social Affairs, courts, prosecution office and etc.,)

Violent behaviour is a matter of **an individual choice**. **Every person can choose a way to express their feelings**. **We learn to behave violently** in a society, which tolerates or even promotes violence. That is why it is important **to create a society that condemns violence and promotes nonviolent conflict resolutions**.



Mateja Jamnik, Društvo Jasa - Jasa association

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<http://www.onezimosvet.si/>

RAISING AWARENESS WITH THE POWER OF GOOD BOOKS

ABOUT JASA

Non-profit, non-governmental organization *Jasa*, Founded in 1996, this year celebrates **25h anniversary!**

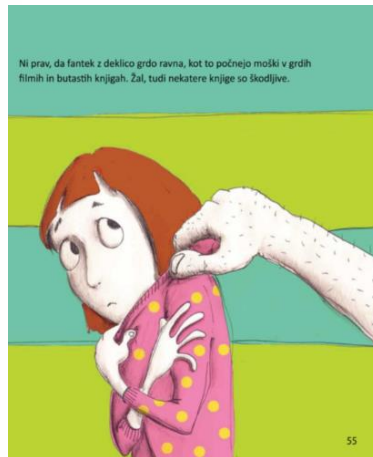
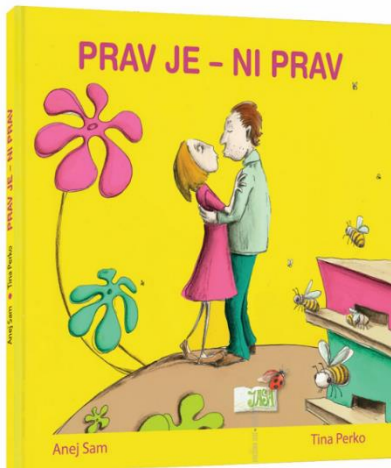
Workforce: Social sciences experts – journalists, philosophers, sociologists, teachers, artists...

Goal: raising awareness and searching for solutions for problematic social issues

Method: Use of art – two-way communication through narrative literature, strengthened with artistic illustration, published in high quality art book in book collection ***Let's make the World gentler***
<https://www.onezimosvet.si/knjige>

Activity: Donation of books to the population through creative reading activities (competitions, art workshops, school projects, literary evenings, round tables...)

Example of storytelling on violence and sexual abuse in the book *It is right - it is not right*



If we want to help the children, we need to tell them the truth - not give them a false picture of a happy world. This will help them to be able to protect themselves on time. Of course, it is necessary to speak with the word of care and love.

Caption to the picture: "It's not right for a boy to treat a girl badly like men do in ugly movies and silly books. Unfortunately, some books are also harmful."

The book *It's right - it's not right* was a part of the project ***Slovenia has a heart***. Children's literary and art competition, which took place throughout Slovenia over the years **2015 – 2018**.

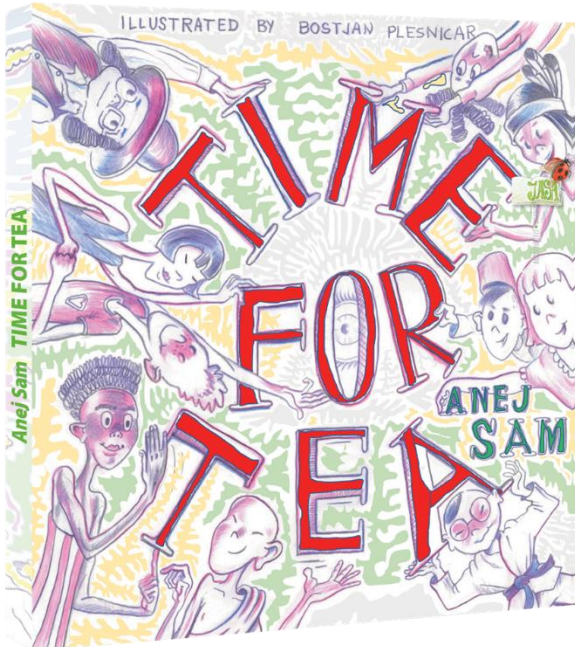
Participants: primary schools, kindergartens, and 10 public libraries, about **22,000 participating children**, who created **8,097 literary-art works**. All the children were rewarded with a book.

Donation of books for children from kindergartens Miklavž pri Ormožu, Gornja Radgona and Negova.





PROJECT TIME FOR TEA

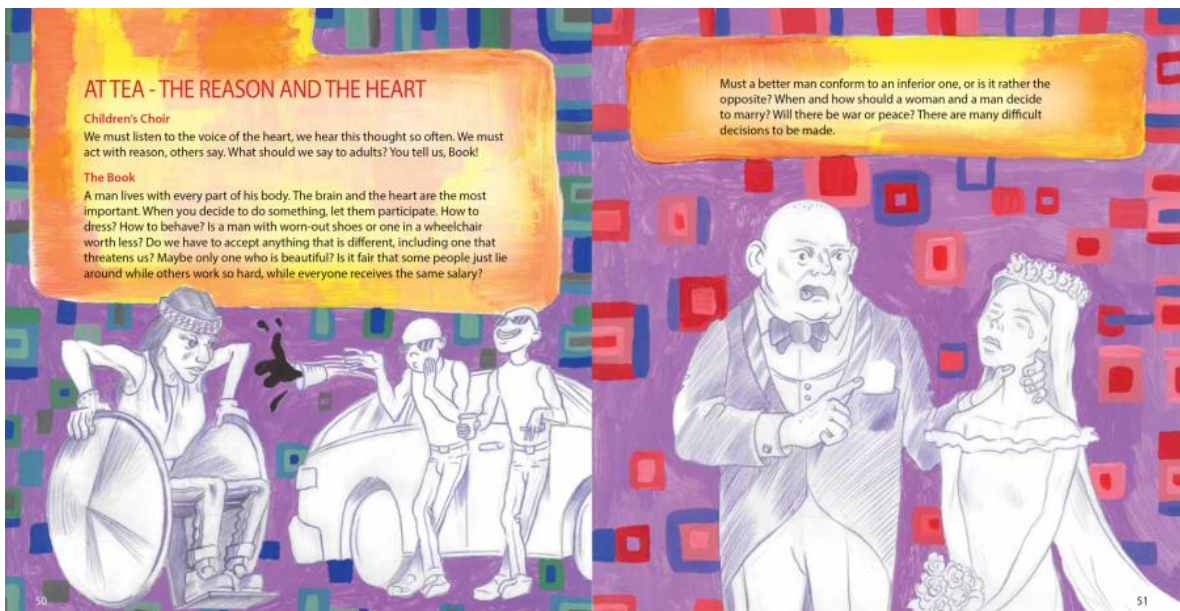


The book *Time for Tea* encourages young people toward **active citizenship**. Strengthens sensitivity to **social injustice**. Moreover, it offers a possible “tool” for change: An **invitation to dialogue** with a cup of tea.

About 40 primary and secondary schools have already included the book *Time for Tea* in a school project for the next school year (2021/22), and the children will invite the mayors of the municipalities for a constructive teatime talk.

In the Autumn 2021, on the occasion of the Slovenian EU Presidency, the book will be donated to all EU decision-makers (all MEPs, Commissioners and all EU government offices, presidents and prime ministers of Member States, as well as their national libraries and national media).

The pages from the book *Time for Tea* shed light, among other things, on the discretization of people with disabilities and on women's right to free marriage.



ASPECTS OF DEALING WITH THE CRIME OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

LEGISLATION

- A decade ago - **domestic violence is like other violent act**
- From 2008 domestic violence is **independent offense**
- Important **three conditions**:
 - **intimate relationship** between the **perpetrator and the victim**
 - **violence act** happened **more than once** in certain time
 - the **victims subordinated to the abuser**

THE LATEST VERSION OF CRIMINAL PROCEDURE ACT–VICTIMS RIGHTS:

- to careful treatment for reasons of vulnerability, such as age, health, disability or other similar circumstances
- to be accompanied by a trusted person chosen by herself when making initial contact with a competent authority
- to have any undesired contact with the perpetrator prevented, unless contact is necessary for pre-criminal or - criminal procedure
- to be informed of the release or escape of a suspect from detention or house detention for the purposes of securing her personal safety
- to receive free legal aid
- very important – the risk assessment

Rights of victims of crime

- to protective and other measures to ensure personal safety under the Criminal Procedure Act and the Witness Protection Act (ZZPri):
 - as a witness, to have your testimony recorded if you are under 15 years of age (Article 84(1) of the ZKP)
 - to be questioned (before the police) by the same person or a person of the same gender (Article 148b of the ZKP)
 - to give testimony with the assistance of an expert and in specially adapted premises (Articles 240(5) and 240(6) of the ZKP)
 - as a witness, to have your personal data protected and give testimony using technical resources such as a protective screen (Article 240a of the ZKP)
 - to give testimony via video link (Article 244a(1) of the ZKP)
 - to have the public excluded from the main hearing (Article 295 of the ZKP)
- to have your rights as referred to in Articles 65(5) and 240(6) of the ZKP respected by an expert who examines or interviews you in order to draw up an expert opinion (Articles 264 and 264a of the ZKP)
- to receive confirmation or a copy of the record on the reporting of a criminal offence when reporting a criminal offence (Article 147a of the ZKP)
- to receive information on the course of your case and on your role in pre-criminal or criminal procedure (Article 65a(3) of the ZKP)
- to be provided with the details of a contact person at the competent authority with whom you may communicate on your case (Article 65a(1)(8) of the ZKP)
- to highlight facts, propose evidence, and view and copy the case file in criminal procedure (Article 59 of the ZKP)
- to give your opinion on any intended dismissal of a criminal complaint regarding a criminal offence for which the law prescribes a prison sentence of more than eight years (Article 161(4) of the ZKP)
- to take charge of prosecution if it is not commenced or is abandoned by the state prosecutor (Articles 60 and 63(2) of the ZKP)

- to file a motion to enforce a claim for indemnification (Articles 100–111 of the ZKP)
- to receive free legal aid under the Legal Aid Act (ZBPP)
- under the Crime Victim Compensation Act (ZOKRD), to be apprised of the method and conditions applying to exercise of the right to compensation for victims of intentional criminal offences involving violence
- to the payment and reimbursement of costs incurred in criminal procedure (Articles 92, 96(4), and 97 of the ZKP)
- to file an appeal against a judgment (Article 367(4) of the ZKP)

Regardless of whether you file a criminal complaint, under the Social Assistance Act and as the victim of a crime offence that has directly caused you to suffer damage of any kind, you are entitled to support for victims of crime. This includes specialist support and counselling provided by social services centres. This enables you to receive psychological, social and financial relief from the position into which you have been placed by the crime.

You may also contact the non-governmental organisations listed below:

- Društvo SOS telefon / SOS telephone helpline (<http://www.drustvo-sos.si/>)
- Društvo za nenasilno komunikacijo / Association for Non-Violent Communication (<https://www.drustvo-dnk.si/>)
- Društvo Ženska svetovalnica / Women's advice room (<http://www.drustvo-zenska-svetovalnica.si/>)
- Ključ – center za boj proti trgovini z ljudmi / Centre for the Fight Against Human Trafficking (<http://www.drustvo-kluc.si/>)
- Društvo za pomoč žrtvam kaznivih dejanj – Beli obroč Slovenije / Association for Assistance to Victims of Crime (<http://www.belobroc.si/>)
- Združenje za MOČ / Association Against Sexual Abuse (<http://polno-slomba.si/>)

The rights listed in this pamphlet are explained in more detail at <https://www.policija.si/medijsko-sredisce/publikacije>.

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**Rights
of victims
of crime**

You become a victim of crime when your personal or property rights are violated or threatened by a criminal offence in which you suffer damage, including physical, mental, emotional or economic damage. When the direct result of a criminal act is the death of a person, that person's spouse or extra-marital partner, direct blood relatives, adopted children or adoptive parents, brothers and sisters and any persons they supported or were obliged to support are also regarded as victims of criminal offence.

Under the Criminal Procedure Act (ZKP), you may report a criminal offence or file a criminal complaint with the state prosecutor or with the police. In the latter case, the police are obliged to accept the criminal complaint and forward it to the competent state prosecutor.

If you decide to file a criminal complaint with the police, you may do so:

- ⇒ in person at any time and any police station or police department, where work or duty work is generally organised or takes place 24 hours a day (a police officer will draw up a record of the oral report, which is then signed by you and the police officer);
- ⇒ by dialling 113 or another police unit number as published in the public Telekom Slovenije telephone directory or via the police website (a police officer will record the report as an official record of a criminal complaint received, which he will then compile and sign);
- ⇒ in writing (if you so request, you will be issued with confirmation that you have submitted a criminal complaint to the police);
- ⇒ by email or via the e-uprava (e-administration) website.

If you make an oral report, the police officer is obliged to warn you of the consequences of entering a false criminal complaint – specifically, that falsely reporting a crime is a criminal offence prosecuted ex officio. After receiving your criminal complaint, police officers are obliged to assess whether there are grounds for suspecting that a

crime offence has been committed, and to take all steps necessary to trace the perpetrator, prevent the perpetrator or participant from concealing themselves or escaping, uncover and secure any traces of the criminal offence and any items that could serve as evidence, and gather into the police investigation all information that could aid the success of the criminal procedure.

In order to establish whether there is a specific need for you to be protected, the police officer will, upon first contact and with the aim of assessing the degree to which your safety is threatened, ask a number of questions important for establishing whether further measures to secure your safety are required. The police officer might also obtain an opinion from the competent social services centre.

Based on your report, the police will gather documents and evidence important for any criminal proceedings that may follow. Following any guidance or instructions from the state prosecutor, the police will draw up a criminal complaint, enclosing with it any items, sketches, photographs, reports, records of activities carried out by the police, official notes, statements and other material that could aid the success of the criminal procedure. All of this is sent to the state prosecutor, who then decides how to proceed.

The state prosecutor may dismiss the criminal complaint, ask it to be supplemented or, in certain cases and with your consent, defer prosecution and assign the case to a mediation procedure. Here, the perpetrator is obliged to carry out community service or minimise or remove the consequences of the criminal offence in some other way. If they do so, the criminal complaint is dismissed. The state prosecutor may otherwise file an indictment directly with the court, or request that individual investigative acts or judicial investigation be carried out by an investigating judge. After investigation is completed, the state prosecutor decides whether proceedings should go ahead (they may withdraw from prosecution or file an indictment). During the trial, the court presents the evidence collected and decides on the guilt of the defendant. If the defendant is found guilty, the court passes the appropriate sentence.

AS A VICTIM OF CRIME, YOU HAVE THE RIGHT:

- ⇒ to particularly careful and considerate treatment for reasons of vulnerability, such as age, health, disability or other similar circumstances (Article 18a of the ZKP)
- ⇒ to use your own language or a language you understand (Article 8 of the ZKP)
- ⇒ to be accompanied by a trusted person chosen by yourself when making initial contact with a competent authority (Article 65(4) of the ZKP)
- ⇒ to be represented in proceedings by an authorised representative, who may be a lawyer; if you are a minor victim of certain crime offences, the representative will be appointed by the court if you have not selected one yourself beforehand (Article 65 of the ZKP)
- ⇒ to free health, psychological and other care and to support offered by social services centres and other organisations (Article 65a(1)(1) of the ZKP and Article 14a of the Social Assistance Act [ZSV])
- ⇒ to be apprised of assistance options and of measures under the Domestic Violence Prevention Act (ZPND) (Article 65a(1)(2) of the ZKP and the ZPND)
- ⇒ to have any undesired contact with the perpetrator prevented, unless contact is indispensable to the successful performance of pre-criminal or criminal procedure (Article 65(5) of the ZKP)
- ⇒ to be apprised of the release or escape of a suspect or the accused from detention or house detention for the purposes of securing your personal safety (Article 65a(4) of the ZKP)
- ⇒ to request information on the departure, release or escape of a prisoner under the Enforcement of Criminal Sanctions Act (ZIKS) (Article 30b of the ZIKS-1)

Collaboration with ngo's

- NGO's are **important members in preventing domestic violence**
- We often **work together** (on certain cases or in different events, in education or training)
- We have the **same goal**
- **For the victims they are indispensable**

Cooperation with Centre for social work

- **Annual meetings**
- **Multidisciplinary Team** for domestic violence
- **When children need to be placed in a crisis centre**

Dealing with the crime of domestic violence

- **Call for help:** information about violence, where, who...
- At the scene: **clear message** of police officer that violence is unacceptable
- We first **examine the report** of domestic violence from the point of view of a possible criminal offense - domestic violence
- **Interviews with participants** separately
- **Pay attention to the possible presence of children**
- **Collect all the evidence**

Thank you for taking the time to read these benevolent contributions.

If you might like to read the individual presentations in full,
they are posted on this website:

<https://www.onezimosvet.si/international-cooperation/mutual-share-for-woman-care>