## WE ARE THERE FOR YOU!

Take your chance and make the first move! We will support you. Together we will find a solution – no matter how hopeless you may consider your situation. If necessary, we can find secure and secret accommodation for you, where you will be protected from threats and violence.

#### There are alternatives and ways out!

#### Would you like to contact somebody,

- » who understands you and your fears and supports you?
- » who takes you , your wishes and plans for the future seriously?
- » with whom you can be upfront no matter what the topic is?
- » who can help you to make the decision most suitable for you?

#### We assist you in making your own decision:

- » if you plan your life in a different way to your parents and they don't want to accept it!
- » if you are afraid of getting married against your will!
- » if you have already been forced into marriage against your will!

## The choice is yours!

### WHAT CAN YOU DO?

Get some information under www.zwangsheirat-nrw.de. From there you will be able to access online counselling or just call us.

E-Mail: zwangsheirat@maedchenhaus-bielefeld.de

Telefon: 0521.521 68 79



Address: Mädchenhaus Bielefeld e. V.



Counselling centre against forced marriage Renteistraße 14, 33602 Bielefeld

#### Refuge for girls in crisis:

Telefon: 0521.2 10 10 (available every day around the clock)











gefördert vom:

Ministerium für Gesundheit, Emanzipation, Pflege und Alter des Landes Nordrhein-Westfalen



## WHAT IS A FORCED MARRIAGE?

## It is a forced marriage:

- » if your parents or family decide who you should marry.
- » if nobody asks you whether you want to marry or which person you love.
- » if you do not want to marry, have not given your consent, pressure is exerted on you or you feel forced.

You have the right to freely decide whether and who you want to marry!

# Love and honour have got nothing to do with force!

No religion allows forced marriage!



## THERE ARE MANY WAYS THAT GIRLS CAN LIVE THEIR LIVES!

- » Our aim is to empower girls and young women, who are threatened or concerned by forced marriage, so they can live a self-determined life, according to their own wishes and ideas.
- » We will inform and support you, if you are, or could be a victim of forced marriage.
- » We are a team of intercultural, all-female consultants and we can speak German, Turkish, Kurdish and English. For Albanian and Arabic we use translation services.
- » The counselling is free of charge and anonymous and it can be online, by phone and "face to face".
- » Of course, we advise boys and young men, too, and arrange help for them with some corresponding institutions.



## **ADDITIONAL OFFERS**

- » We advise relatives and confidents and people who, through their work, are confronted with issue of forced marriage.
- » We offer information events, continued education and Workshops for teachers, youth workers, social workers and others for whom it would be useful.
- » We deliver prevention events free of charge in all types of schools in North Rhine-Westphalia with the topic EMPOWER GIRLS- support against force marriage.
- » More information and guidance is available on our webpage www.zwangheirat-nrw.de in six languages.

Das Mädchenhaus Bielefeld e. V. is a charitable association with the aim to improve the living conditions of girls and young women in all spheres of life. The association, being an acknowledged supporting organisation of the youth welfare service, develops offers for girls and young women in distress. www.maedchenhaus-bielefeld.de

Telefon 0521.521 68 79