

Achieving more together

Are you primarily engaged in combating violence against women and girls or is this an important area of your work? As a rape crisis or women's counselling centre in Germany, you can become part of the **bff**:

All networks and support services outside Germany are cordially invited to get in contact with us.

The **bff** is a member of the WAVE network of European women's non-governmental organisations working in the field of combating violence against women and children.

Together we are stronger. Get to know us and the work of the **bff** better by talking to us.

Cooperating for worthwhile results

The **bff** supports various activities and campaigns of other organisations on the national and international level. Our experts are frequently asked to speak at symposiums and training seminars. Please contact us if you are interested in cooperating with us or you think we can support you with our knowledge and expertise.

Support and donations

Working to combat violence against women and girls costs money. By becoming a Friend of the **bff** you can help in the long term – even a small donation of 5 euros a month can make a difference. For further information and a registration form please visit www.frauen-gegen-gewalt.de

We would also be pleased to inform you personally about our current topics. Together, we can find out how you too can lobby for a life free of violence for women and girls.

Donation account:

Bank: PAX-Bank Köln

Account: 6003631018

Bank code: 370 601 93

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WOMEN AGAINST VIOLENCE

FOR WOMEN – AGAINST VIOLENCE

»Violence against women makes me boil with rage!«

German Star Chef Sarah Wiener is an ambassador for the bff.

For a life free of violence

Anyone who wants to achieve anything needs to join forces with others. Today, the **bff:** incorporates more than 150 rape crisis and women's counselling centres that make the association an important lobby for women and girls affected by violence in Germany.

Paid staff and volunteers of the counselling centres organised within the **bff:** have been providing straightforward and professional local help to female victims of violence for over thirty years. They provide the major share of non-residential counselling and support services available in Germany for all girls and women who have experienced or are experiencing sexualised, physical, or psychological violence.

It can happen to any woman. That's why we offer counselling to all women, regardless of nationality, culture, background, religion, sexual orientation or disability. Anyone who wishes to support women and girls who find themselves in an emergency situation can also contact us.

All of us in the **bff:** are jointly committed to taking a stand for girls and women and against violence. We also demand and achieve better conditions for women affected by violence, and provide direct and effective help.

Education and prevention

The **bff:** initiates attention-grabbing campaigns with high-profile supporters. In this way we publically denounce violence and help women affected by violence escape the cycle of shame and violence.

Lobby for women and girls

The **bff:** is continuously growing, integrates regional potential, is highly committed to promoting the interests of women affected by violence and uses both national and international alliances to achieve this. The **bff:** aims to break the taboo surrounding violence against women and girls, and demands better protection for victims.

Specialist advice

The **bff:** advises policy makers, authorities and the media as well as many other professional groups on effective strategies, with the aim of improving the situation of women and girls affected by violence.

Further training

The **bff:** organises seminars and conferences for counsellors, distributes expertise from practice and research and produces information material on the subject of violence against women and girls. The **bff:** develops and communicates innovative concepts that make counselling more effective and geared towards the victim.

Information and help

Women and girls affected by violence as well as people who are close to them can obtain initial information and find their nearest counselling centre by visiting the **bff:** website. Or, you can contact the **bff:** directly and we will tell you the right place to go.

Did you know ...?

- * *One in three women in Germany is a victim of violence at least once in her lifetime.*
- * *Children are often also affected from the start when their mothers are subjected to violence.*
- * *Women who fall victim to violence often end up having to quit their job, move home and/or leave their entire familiar surroundings.*
- * *One in three victims of physical violence keeps silent about the abuse they have endured as does one in two victims of sexual violence. These figures are considerably higher if the abuser is a current or former intimate partner.*
- * *In Germany, rape within marriage has only been a criminal offence since 1997.*
- * *Approximately one third of all young women have experienced sexual abuse within a relationship.*
- * *Violence against and abuse of women takes place in the mainstream of society. The majority of abusers and women affected by severe abuse have a medium or high level of education, are not unemployed and do not have a migration background.*
- * *As yet, there are no statistics on how many women in Germany are killed each year by their spouse or life partner.*