**Forced marriage** is a marriage without the consent of one or both parties and where duress is a factor. Duress can include physical, psychological, financial, sexual and emotional pressure. It includes incidents where consent is given but the person did not have the full facts about the proposed spouse. Culture, religion and tradition are no excuse. Forced Marriage is a violation of a person’s human rights and is illegal in the UK.

**Honour Based Violence & Abuse** is a crime or incident, which has or may have been committed to protect or defend the honour of a family and/or community because it has been perceived that a person has brought shame or dishonour on them.

**HONOUR BASED ABUSE & FORCED MARRIAGE**



Do not bring shame on this family- you must marry him



I’m going on holiday and don’t think I’m coming back





We will never speak to you again if you don’t do as you’re told

**DUTY**

**GUILT**

**HONOUR**

**PRESSURE**



This marriage is your only option



I don’t want to leave school



The marriage has been decided I can’t let my family down

**INDICATORS (this is a non-exhaustive list):**

* Accompanied to medical appointments/not attending appointments
* Self-harm/attempted suicide/eating disorders
* Substance misuse
* Unwanted pregnancy
* Truancy/missing from home/withdrawing from education
* Excessive restrictions, e.g. house arrest

**For further training and information contact:**

Equation – [www.equation.org.uk](http://www.equation.org.uk) or Karma Nirvana [www.karmanirvana.org.uk](http://www.karmanirvana.org.uk)

HM Government (2014) Multi-agency practice guidelines: Handling cases of Forced Marriage