

البحث الخامس

Honour Crimes in Fayoum Governorate, Egypt A Retrospective Study

Authors: Amro A. Saleh

Journal of forensic Biomechanics, 2018, 9 (2):140

Abstract

Background: honour killings are acts of vengeance, usually death, committed by male family members against female family members, who are held to have brought dishonour upon the family. Honour crimes represent a complex problem in Middle East countries. United Nations in their report in the year 2000 stated that 5000 women and girls were killed each year by their families, most of them in Islamic regions of South Asia, North Africa and the Middle East.

Aim of the work: to highlight and evaluate the problem of honour crimes in Fayoum governorate.

Methodology: This is a retrospective study of honour crimes examined by forensic medicine authority, Fayoum governorate, Egypt during the years of 2014, 2015 and 2016. Honour crimes cases were proved by prosecution investigations. Each case was examined for sex, residence, type of crime (beating, burning, wounding...etc) and the cause for that crime. The perpetrator was also examined for his relation to the victim.

Results: the study included 70 cases presented as 40 cases of honour killing and 30 cases of non-killing crimes. Women were 46 cases (65.7%) and men were 24 cases (34.3%). The commonest cause of honour killing crimes was a premarital sexual relation (42.5%) either true or suspected followed by adultery (32.5%). Other causes included customary marriage (15%), escape from the house (7.5%) and friendship with a man in work (2.5%). In non-killing cases the causes were sexual harassment (66.7%), refuse marriage (6.7%), friendship with a man in work (3.3%) and other reasons involved were 23.3%. The types or the methods of honour killing were presented as strangulation (25%), stab wound (20%), smothering (17.5%), cut throat (15%), poisoning (12.5%), burning and shot gun which represented as 5% for each. the perpetrators of the crimes were brothers, the commonest 33% followed by husbands 30%, while fathers and mothers were 17% and (7%) respectively. Other relatives were 13%.