

Islam historically and in current practice is a faith tradition based in the obedience to God (Allah SWT) and the protection of the most vulnerable (women, children, orphans, widows, and foreigners in your land). The first acts of Islam were to end femicide and control the practice of polygamy which were significant forms of oppression to women.

Domestic Violence in Islam is seen indirect conflict to religious instruction per the sacred texts (Quran and Hadith) but also as form of oppression that must be eliminated from the community of believers.

Unfortunately, culture and traditional lifestyles in some communities interfere with the understanding and practice of Islam as a faith.

Islam as a preventive model:

- Men & women are equal in eyes of Allah (Qur'an 49:13) and created from single soul (Qur'an 4:1)
- Spouses are garments for one another (Qur'an 2:187)
- Marriage is based on mutual love and compassion for purpose of mutual tranquility (Qur'an 30:21)
- Communication should be positive (Qur'an 16:125, 14:24)
- Mocking, and name-calling prohibited (Qur'an 49:11)
- Qiwaamah (the role of financially maintaining the family) is the responsibility that all men are given by Allah to tend to the needs of women, as modelled by the Prophet (PBUH), and is not a right for men to abuse, hurt or control their wives or children (Qur'an 4:34)
- The Prophet's (PBUH) leadership in his home and community were based on gentleness (Qur'an 3:159), shura (Qur'an 42:37-38 and 65:6)
- As Muslims, it is not our job to control others, just to advise (Qur'an 88:21-24)

Islam mandates intervention

- Muslims must stand for justice (Qur'an 4:135)
- The Prophet (PBUH) is known to have said "when you see injustice help the oppressed and the oppressor". His companions answered, "We know how to help the oppressed, but how do we help the oppressor?" The Prophet (PBUH) replied, "by preventing him/her from committing further oppression".
- True believers in Islam must help and defend oneself in the face of oppression (Qur'an 42:39-40)
 - In Islam forgiving and seeking safety are not mutually exclusive.
- In oppression, Islam always places blame on the perpetrator, not the victim (Qur'an 42:42)
 - Do not ask the victim, "What did you do to make him angry or to make him hit you?" Rather, hold the perpetrator accountable and provide comfort and safety for the victim.