

PLACES YOU CAN CONTACT:

> Emergency Helpline of the German Foreign Office

Tel.: (0049) 30-5000-2000

When calling, say the word "Emergency" and you will be connected with a member of staff immediately.

> Address of the local German mission abroad (embassy or consulate)

<https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/ReiseUndSicherheit/deutsche-auslandsvertretungen>

ADVICE AND COUNSELLING SERVICES IN HESSEN:

You can contact these services for advice and counselling:



Feministische Mädchenarbeit Frankfurt e. V.

Eschersheimer Landstr. 534
60433 Frankfurt am Main
Tel.: 069 531079
maedchenberatung@fem-maedchenhaus.de
www.fem-ffm.de

FIM – Frauenrecht ist Menschenrecht e. V.

Varrentrappstr. 55
60486 Frankfurt am Main
Tel.: 069 8700825-0
info@fim-beratungszentrum.de
www.fim-frauenrecht.de

Infrau e. V.

Höhenstraße 44, 60385 Frankfurt am Main
Tel.: 069 451155
info@infrau.de
www.infrau.de

Mäander e. V.

Helfmannstr. 63a, 64293 Darmstadt
Tel.: 06151 893103
maeander-darmstadt@t-online.de
www.maeander-darmstadt.de

Mädchenhaus Kassel

Annstr. 9, 34119 Kassel
Tel.: 0561 71785
info@maedchenhauskassel.de
www.maedchenhauskassel.de

Wildwasser Gießen e. V.

Liebigstraße 13, 35390 Gießen
Tel.: 0641 76545
www.wildwasser-giessen.de

Rumi imPuls e. V.

Offenbacher Landstraße 440B
60599 Frankfurt am Main
Tel.: 0176 24562011
info@rumi-impuls.de
www.rumi-impuls.de

SOLWODI Osthessen

Gerloser Weg 20, 36039 Fulda
Tel.: 0661 6006697
fulda@solwodi.de
www.solwodi.de

RAHMA – Muslimisches Zentrum für Mädchen, Frauen und Familie e. V.

Postfach 12 01 37, 60114 Frankfurt am Main
Tel.: 069 40036213
info@rahmazentrum.de
beratung@rahmazentrum.de
www.rahmazentrum.de

ZORA

Adolfstr. 5, 65185 Wiesbaden
Tel.: 0611 9101413
info@zoratreff.de
www.zoratreff.de

Frauennotruf Marburg e. V.

Neue Kasseler Straße 1, 35039 Marburg
Tel.: 06421 21438
mail@frauennotruf-marburg.de
www.frauennotruf-marburg.de

Youth Welfare offices

<https://jugendamt.org/jugendaemter-hessen/>

Online advice

Anonymous advice online
www.maeander-onlineberatung.de

FeM Mädchenhaus

www.fem-onlineberatung.de

Papatya – Anonymous crisis shelter for girls and young women with migrant backgrounds

www.papatya.org

Specialised nationwide and state level services can be found at:

www.zwangsheirat.de
www.stopchildmarriage

IMPRESSUM



Gemeinsam handeln. Mehr erreichen.

Main Office Netzwerk gegen Gewalt

Friedrich-Ebert-Allee 12
65185 Wiesbaden
Tel.: 0611 353-2182/2184
ngg@hmdis.hessen.de
www.netzwerk-gegen-gewalt.hessen.de

In cooperation with TERRE DES FEMMES



www.frauenrechte.de
www.zwangsheirat.de
www.info.zwangsheirat.de



Design

ansicht Kommunikationsagentur, Wiesbaden
www.ansicht.com

Print

Justizvollzugsanstalt Darmstadt

Netzwerk gegen Gewalt

HESSEN



IF AND WHO YOU MARRY IS YOUR CHOICE



K is 15. When she turns 16, she is expected to marry her cousin who wants to come to Germany.

M is 17. He has been "promised" since birth. During the summer holidays he is to be forcibly married in his parents' home country.

Take important information and contact details with you and hide them in a safe place (you can fill in the section below and give it to a person you trust).

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You can find the **address of your local German mission abroad** (embassy or consulate) on the Internet at: **www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/ReiseUndSicherheit/deutsche-auslandsvertretungen**

Tel.: (0049)

Your passport or identity card number:

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Date of issue of your passport/identity card:

Name and address of relatives you are visiting abroad:

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.....

Telephone number of a counselling service listed in this brochure:

Tel.: (0049)

Other important information:

.....

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LOVE CAN'T BE FORCED!

- > Do your parents or relatives want you to marry? Have they chosen someone for you? But you don't want to get married?
- > Are you expected to visit relatives in your parents' home country? Are you afraid of being married off over there?
- > Were you were married against your will and want to want to get out of the marriage?

Sometimes parents try to impose their will by exerting pressure or using violence. They accuse you of bringing shame on the family by saying “No”.

A marriage against your will is against the law. Even if your family tradition says otherwise. And in Germany, you are not allowed to marry until you are 18 years old. No exceptions.

Everyone has the right to freely choose who they marry! Anyone who uses violence or threats to force you to marry is liable to prosecution. In Germany, they are liable to imprisonment. Similarly, if someone takes you to another country by violence or threats or refuses to let you return to Germany because they want you to get married over there, they are also liable to prosecution.

This applies to girls as well as boys, regardless of origin, religion, skin colour or age.

Your parents and relatives aren't the ones who have to live with your spouse - you are!

If and who you marry, is your decision alone!

DO YOU FEEL ALONE AND AFRAID THAT NOBODY BELIEVES YOU OR CAN HELP YOU?

RE YOU AFRAID OF BEING MARRIED AGAINST YOUR WILL IN GERMANY?

There are many girls and boys facing similar problems.

YOU'RE NOT ALONE! HELP IS AVAILABLE!

You could talk to someone you trust. This could be a friend, a member of staff at a youth or counselling service, or a teacher. Or a family member you trust. Together, you can think about what to do.

If you need specific help, contact a counselling service (see reverse side). That's where the experts are! They offer free advice and counselling.

- > You can also do it **anonymously** by phone or via the Internet.
- > You don't have to give your name.

NOBODY WILL TELL YOUR FAMILY!

- > These counselling services have experience with forced marriages.
- > They can give you specialised advice - even if you are already married.
- > They understand your fears, family pressure and how difficult it is to talk about it.
- > You can also get counselling on other problems with your family (e.g. lifestyle, friendships, sexuality).
- > If you feel **threatened**: You can contact the **police** at any time! **Telephone: 110** They are there for you day and night.

ARE YOU AFRAID OF BEING MARRIED AGAINST YOUR WILL WHILE ON HOLIDAY?

- > Look for ways you can stay in Germany. Contact a counselling service! (see reverse side)
- > If you are abroad, it is very difficult to get help (see reverse side for help abroad).

- > If you don't have a German passport and only have a temporary residence permit, you can only re-enter Germany within a limited period of time after you have left the country.
- > If you don't have a German passport, then German embassies and consulates can't really help you. In that case, contact Papatya: **www.papatya.org**

ARE YOU AFRAID OF BEING TAKEN TO A FOREIGN COUNTRY AGAINST YOUR WILL?

Give the following information in full to a counselling service in your area, to an employee of the Youth Welfare Office or a person you trust (friend, teacher):

- > **Name and date of birth from your passport**
- > **Number, place and date of issue of your passport (or a copy of your passport)**
- > **The names of your parents**
- > **Your address abroad**
- > **Your address and telephone number (including mobile phone number) in Germany**
- > **A recent photo of yourself**
- > **The address and telephone number of a person you trust in Germany**
- > **Your date of departure and your date of return**
- > **The name of the person you will be travelling with.**

In addition:

- > **Take enough euros and some money in the foreign currency with you.**
- > **Get an additional prepaid mobile phone with credit that works in the country you are travelling to.**
- > **Save the Emergency Helpline number of your local German embassy or consulate (see reverse side) in your mobile phone.**

- > **Memorise the Emergency Number if possible.**
- > **Inform the Youth Welfare Office of the date of your return and, if possible, state in writing that you do not want to be married**
- > **Make a copy of your passport and travel ticket and keep them in a safe place.**

WHAT CAN YOU DO IF YOU ARE ABROAD AND THE WEDDING IS COMING UP?

Contact a counselling service in Germany, the nearest German mission abroad (or the Foreign Office in Berlin) or your trusted person. Tell them to inform a counselling service or the Foreign Office.

HOW CAN YOU GET BACK TO GERMANY IF YOU HAVE FLED AND HAVE NO MONEY FOR A TICKET? WHAT HAPPENS IF YOUR PASSPORT/TICKET IS GONE?

- > Contact an organisation in Germany (e.g. <https://verschleppung.papatya.org>).
- > German embassies can also support you if you have a German passport.

IS THE MARRIAGE THAT TOOK PLACE ABROAD ALSO VALID IN GERMANY?

- > In many cases it is valid under German law. It can be annulled in Germany if, for example you were underage or married under duress. However, such marriages remain valid abroad. **For this reason: Get comprehensive advice, get help!**
- > A purely religious marriage is not recognised as a marriage.