

The role of the Attorney General in the protection of the female victim of violence

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With the new legal and judiciary reforms in Morocco, the role of judges has been widened as they are not only concerned with the application of law and the resolution of conflicts, but they are also interested in establishing social peace in society.

In this sense, it is the Attorney General which bears the responsibility of achieving this social peace in addition to probing into legal and judiciary matters and issues.

The new legal reforms include the social role of the Attorney General, especially in the case of family problems in which women are abused and mistreated by one or more of her relatives. This mistreatment impinges on women socially, psychologically, etc.

The royal speech of August 20, 1999 focused on the necessity of protecting women in order to help them contribute to the development of society, as they are supposed to have the same rights as men (education, employment, etc). Therefore, some court units (specialized in gender-based violence) have been created to be in charge of mistreated and abused women.

The issue of women is highlighted and defended worldwide whenever her rights are violated. The United Nations Organization has always been interested in the issue of woman who has suffered and still suffers from discrimination and violation of her rights. For this reason, the UNO has initiated many conventions and treaties that target to protect women:

Namely,

The international convention of civil and political rights in 1966

The United Nations Organisation resolution about all types of discrimination against women in 1967

The international agreement on battling against all types discrimination against women in 1979

The world convention to eradicate abuse and mistreatment of women in 1993

The optional protocol annexed to the convention of eradicating all types of discrimination against women in 1999

Having ratified and agreed on all international conventions and agreements concerning women, Morocco is obliged to adapt its national legislations to the stipulations and contents of these conventions. This is seen in recent legal and judiciary reform in Morocco:

The reformed constitution in 2011 stipulates that Morocco strongly believes in the respect of human rights. The constitution reveals that man and women are equal in terms of rights and duties.

The constitutional Articles 21 and 22 stipulate that every individual has the right to safety and security (including from his relatives), their belongings must be protected. They must not be threatened or mistreated physically or morally.

The reformed constitution also stipulates that nobody is allowed to mistreat (physically or psychologically) people under any circumstances. All types of violence are considered crimes.

In 2000, Morocco adopted a national strategy about men and women's equality, paving the way for women to take part in development programs and to occupy high governmental positions.

In the same year, the National Strategy of eradicating and battling against the mistreatment of woman was put into practice

All governmental areas, including the Ministry of Justice and Liberties, were immersed in making this strategy successful. In this respect, the Ministry of Justice created court units (under the Attorney General's supervision) to be in charge of women and children, and to combat the phenomenon of violence against women.