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Resources

- www.gov.uk/stop-forced-marriage
- <https://karmanirvana.org.uk/>
- <https://safeguarding.network/content/safeguardingresources/harmful-practices/forced-marriage>
- The FMU has also developed free forced marriage e-learning for professionals.
[Awareness of Forced Marriage - Free Course | Virtual College](#)

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Examples of FMPO Prohibitions/Restrictions/Requirements:

- Prohibit the arranging or forcing of a marriage
 - Prohibit travel or arranging flights
- Require the location of the victim to be disclosed to the court
- Require passports to be surrendered and prevent issue of travel documents
 - Require child to attend school.

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Multi-Agency Statutory Guidance

The Forced Marriage Unit has created a guidance document which comprises:

- Multi-agency statutory guidance for dealing with forced marriage, relating to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and vulnerable adults; and
- Multi-agency (non-statutory) practice guidelines on handling cases of forced marriage, for frontline workers.

[The right to choose: government guidance on forced marriage - GOV.UK](#)

What is Forced Marriage?

Bury Safeguarding Partnership



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The Forced Marriage Unit

The Forced Marriage Unit (FMU) leads on the government's forced marriage policy and casework. It operates both inside the UK (where support is provided to any individual) and overseas (where consular assistance is provided to British nationals, including dual nationals). The FMU operates a public helpline providing advice and support to both victims and professionals.

1

What is Forced Marriage?

A 'Forced Marriage' is a marriage where one or both spouses do not consent to the marriage but are coerced into it. Coercion (or duress) can include physical, psychological, financial, sexual or emotional pressure. Forced marriage is a criminal offence. It is illegal in the UK to force someone to marry. You have the right to choose who you marry, when you marry or whether you want to get married or not.

2

Forced Marriage Warning Signs

Signs that someone could soon be a victim of forced marriage:

- Running away from home
- Self-harming or attempted suicide/depression, or becoming worried or withdrawn
- Poor performance at work, school or college or unexplained absence
- A sudden holiday (some people are tricked into going abroad for a holiday or to see relatives)
- No control over their own money.

3

Legislation on Forced Marriage

The Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 made it a criminal offence to force someone to marry. This includes:

- Taking someone overseas to force them to marry (whether or not the forced marriage takes place)
- Marrying someone who lacks mental capacity to consent to marriage (whether pressured or not)
- Forcing someone to marry can result in a sentence of up to 7 years in prison.