Annual day of remembrance
remembering those lost to honour killings

Shafiea Ahmed
14th July 1986 – 11th September 2003

14 July 2020 marks the annual day of remembrance for victims of honour based abuse and violence.

Shafiea was murdered in 2003 by her parents in an honour based killing; she would have turned 34 this year. Shafiea’s birthday was chosen as a date of annual remembrance for all people subjected to honour based abuse and violence.

Honour based abuse is an incident or crime involving violence, threats of violence, intimidation coercion or abuse (including psychological, physical, sexual, financial or emotional abuse) which has or may have been committed to protect or defend the honour of an individual, family and / or community for alleged or perceived breaches of the family and/or community’s code of behaviour (National Police Chiefs’ Council definition - Sept 2019).

Behaviours that could be seen to transgress concepts of honour include:

- Inappropriate make-up or dress
- The existence of a perceived unsuitable relationship
- Rejecting a forced marriage
- Pregnancy outside of marriage
- Being a victim of rape
- Inter-faith relationships (or same faith, but different ethnicity)
- Leaving a spouse or seeking divorce
- Kissing or intimacy in a public place
- Alcohol and drugs use

Honour based abuse and violence cuts across all cultures, nationalities, includes male as well as female victims, and is present within the LGBTQ+ community and affects disabled people too.

As we start to unlock from COVID-19 and enter the summer holidays this is a time when we all need to be alerted to the increased risk of honour based crimes with many young people during the period potentially travelling overseas to visit family.
For further free, confidential help and advice contact:

**Project Choice** – victim, survivor and practitioner specialist advice and support
0161 770 2999
projectchoice@oldham.gov.uk

**Rochdale Women’s Welfare Association** - specialist support for women experiencing honour based abuse and violence
01706 860157
info@rwwa.co.uk

**Karman Nirvana** - support for victims of forced marriage and honour based abuse and violence

If you have concerns that an adult is at risk Rochdale Adult Social Care on 0300 303 8886
If you have concerns that a child is at risk you should contact Rochdale Children’s Social Care on 0300 303 0440
If you feel that someone is in immediate danger contact the Police on 999