



A PIECE OF YOU? AND NOW WHAT?

"Se acabó "perder el tiempo", se acabó tu silencio, tu recreo, tus descansos eternos" - Kathy Murillo.

"I will write my thesis in my three languages. Starting with my heart, continuing with my effort, and ending by embracing my sense of belonging."

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The process of this thesis has been shaped by a series of experiences: reliving moments, engaging in frustration-filled conversations, immersing myself in the experiences of others, engaging in dialogue with the police, delving into the intricacies of their operations, and reading newspapers.

Time and time again, I have reflected on why it is essential for me to write my first thesis on this injustice that affects all people, especially when the frustration caused by the numbers, events, laws, and injustices becomes overwhelming.

Above all, I want to express my deep gratitude to those who have shared their stories with me. Surviving not only a crime but also injustice entails being a double survivor. I would like to thank individuals like Anna, who have decided to bring the injustice they experienced at the hands of the police to public attention through the media. Voices like theirs are the ones reigniting the flame of revolution, the struggle in which we are immersed, and helping us leave trails of smoke for those who will come after us, just as our predecessors did.

I am grateful to all the people who, unknowingly, have supported me in this process, whether through conversations, shared meals, or simply making me laugh. I am thankful to my partner, Stephanie, for the support she has provided me throughout this process now and back then, her patience, and the thoughtful gestures like the afternoon message reminding me that no matter what happens, I can handle anything. And to my two kittens, Dublin and Oasis, who have been a constant source of joy. To my therapist, Alejandro, I appreciate the emotional support he has provided me throughout the entire process. To my friends, who have tirelessly listened to me talk about this topic, and especially to Tara and Alex, without the conversations with Tara and the mornings at the gym with Alex, I wouldn't have been able to maintain emotional well-being. And, of course, my deepest gratitude and admiration go to my three advisors who have accompanied me on this thesis journey, giving me their attention, thinking

alongside me, and providing incredible feedback: Sandim Mendes, Sonia De Jager, and Martina Raponi.

I cannot express enough gratitude to Karin Arink for believing in me as an artist, and to Lizan Freijsen for encouraging my decisions and recognizing my tremendous effort and work.

Thank you for the instructions and for your patience with me, Nora, Emiel, and Jordi from the woodworking workshop, and Raymond and Mitchel from the metal workshop and ofcourse Nan and Anna for their patience and time from the interaction station.

And the beautiful collaboration with Emma Wiersma, for exchanging a letter about this topic.

I also want to thank all the people who have uploaded cat videos on YouTube since, on numerous occasions, throughout this process, those videos managed to bring a smile to my face when I found myself alone surrounded by so many words.

INTRO

According to the 2022 report of the Dutch Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS), the police received a higher number of notifications of sexual offenses compared to the previous year. Thus, becoming a statistic that continues to grow every year, with this time the highest results in a decade. In 2022, a total of almost 10,000 sex crimes reported to the police were recorded, where mostly it is about sexual abuse and rape. Compared to the previous year, when 8,800 sex crimes were recorded, this figure represents a significant increase.

Center Against Sexual Violence of The Netherlands, (Centrum Seksueel Geweld) (CSG), has pointed out that the almost 10,000 cases of sexual offences registered by the police in 2022 are only the "tip of the iceberg". This indicates that the number of cases could be significantly higher, suggesting a worrying social problem in the Netherlands in relation to sexual abuse and rape. The recent scandal about statistics and waiting times for the investigation of sexual abuse cases prompted the police to respond in the media. RTLnieuws, published the news on March 2, 2023, about "how the wait after filing a complaint is long". Sex crime expert, Lidewijde van Lier, stated about it to the news agency ANP. "It's good that people dare to knock on the door" "We want to encourage this," Van Lier said, but she has an important comment on the figures, and that is that it takes police increasingly longer to deal with a case.

My present thesis raises a social and social justice issue of great importance and complexity: sexual abuse, rape, and sexual assault in conversation with justice. Out of respect for all the people who have been survivors of these crimes, I will not mention details or names during my research. The decision to base my research on this topic stems from the need to become aware of the justice problems in the Netherlands regarding sexual abuse reports, having personally experienced a crime situation and an encounter with justice. My personal experience made me aware of the existence of indigence in the legal procedures related to these crimes in the Netherlands, which motivated the present project. How is sexual abuse handled in the Netherlands when it comes to first contact and how does it compare with other systems, in terms of the effectiveness of measures taken by police and judicial authorities to protect survivors, encourage reporting, and fight rape culture, as well as in the priority given by the police to handling crimes related to sexual abuse in the Netherlands?

HOUSE WITHOUT CAMERAS

It all started at that moment when I woke up, and once again I felt that my body did not belong to me. The seagulls were flying around my house that early morning, desperate because they knew a storm was coming. The breeze moved the bare trees, back and forth, never knew if they had consented to it, it all seemed natural. The seagulls glided their flight in the breeze to save energy. Little by little the sun was rising, and it is not known if that early morning there was a dew because many flowers died. I managed to see them, when I left my house with a blank mind, a dry mouth, and no emotions to help me process what had happened. I looked at the ground and the stones wanted to flee from my step, they felt the weight of my soul, they fled from every step as if they were stabbed. What had happened? I wondered for eternal minutes. When suddenly a small bird fell dead at my feet...



And that was the moment when I woke up and decided to keep quiet for not hurting, to keep quiet for not shouting pain, to keep quiet for not feeling that I had no way out, to keep quiet for fear of an inept justice, to keep quiet for not feeling that I was keeping quiet about something.

For as long as I have any notion of life I have always used art as my means of expression, not only with the things I experienced that I liked the most, but also my insecurities, injustices and frustrations that at an early age I was aware of.

My mother used to find me when I was 3 years old in the mornings watching the latest news, and worried she would make me watch other things, I would ask her questions to which my mother didn't have an answer such as "Mommy, why did that man kill his family?", "Why was that little girl kidnapped from her mommy?", "Why don't they just talk?"

My intolerance for injustice and self-criticism about my own behaviour

grew over the years, my art from writing to drawings was experiencing more of the issues around me and my interaction with them.

This thesis will be a small humble attempt at a revolution of the Dutch police system, with a personal touch on my lived experiences of which, in seeking protection in the system, I felt judged.

In order to visualize this issue, I will analyse the effectiveness of the informative conversation (informatief gesprek) on sexual offences in the Netherlands. I will explore whether its aim is to protect survivors, or whether it is designed to discourage reporting. I will examine the interaction between the police and the survivor of sexual abuse, as well as the responsibility of the police in combating the problem of sexual abuse in the country. In addition, I will investigate the actions taken by the judicial authorities when a sexual abuse crime is reported to them. In this context, I will carry out the comparison with other countries that also experience a lack of priority in handling crimes related to sexual abuse in their judicial system or the simple act of filing a complaint.

I want to clarify that I describe studies based on the Central Bureau of Statistics of the Netherlands (CBS)¹ as “people who identify themselves as female or male”, because I refuse to use a description of statistics that uses the term “heterosexual matrix”² thus causing invisibility to gender diversity.

On the contrary, to the crimes committed and to our informative conversation (informatief gesprek) with the police, this investigation will belong to us.



CHAPTER I

FIRST CONTACT

- Adem in, adem uit, adem in... zucht...

Hallo politie Den Haag, spreek met Marijke...

Hallo?

- Hallo... ik zou graag willen weten hoe ik een aangifte kan doen.

Waar gaat de aangifte over?

Het... gaat ove... over seksueel misbruik!

Een moment, alstublieft...

Een minuut...

... Een paar minuten...

... Een uur...

... Een paar uur...

... Een jaar...

... Een paar jaar...

... Een decennium...

... Een paar decennia...

Ben je er zeker van dat je aangifte wilt doen?

Beter laten we geen tijd verspillen.

- Mmm... ja, ik wil echt aangifte doen.

Nee, dat kun je niet!

-Kan ik dat niet?

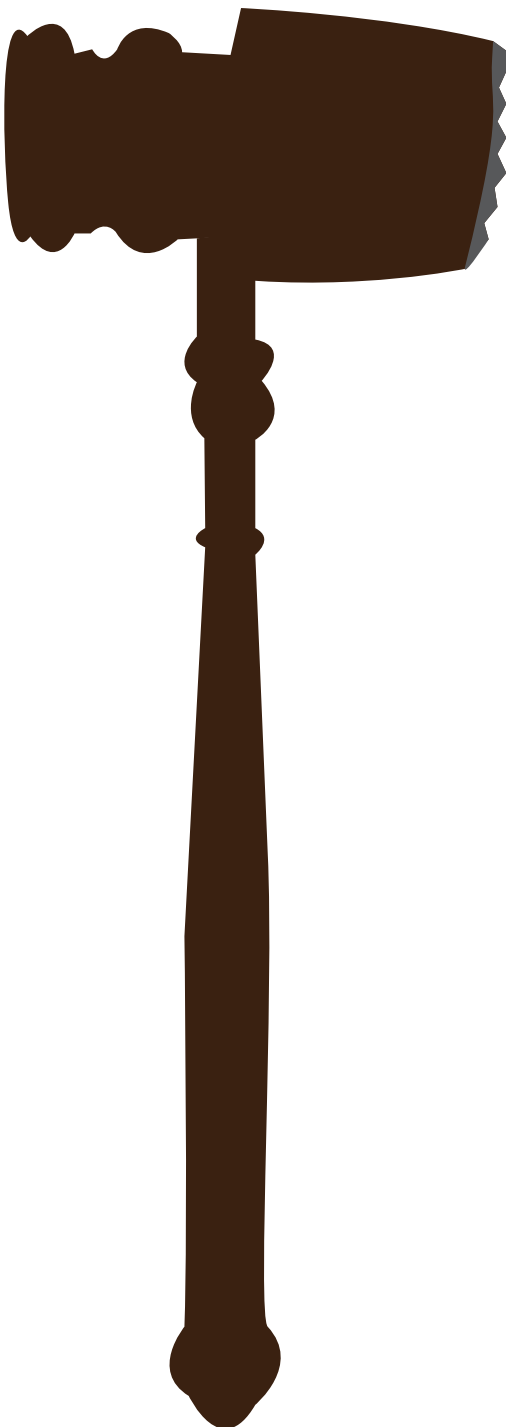
Ja, dat kan je wel, maar je zult het niet doen omdat je ons tijd laat verspillen.

We zullen er niets mee doen, wij kunnen er niks mee.

Hoe lang leef je al met dit voorval?

Het is beter als je gewoon doorgaat met je leven. Vergeet het, dat is het beste.

Op die manier verspilt niemand tijd, jij noch wij."



Deze rechterhamer, samengevoegd met de vleeshamer, vertegenwoordigt de corruptie, het machtsmisbruik, het geweld, de wreedheid, de ontmenselijking en het gebrek aan empathie in het rechtssysteem, en symboliseert hoe sommige rechters, politieagenten en rechercheurs van seksueel misbruik hun positie gebruiken om mensen te manipuleren en te schaden in plaats van eerlijke rechtspraak toe te passen en hun geestelijke gezondheid tijdens het proces te waarborgen.

Oproepen die een seksueel misbruik melden in 2022

In totaal 33800

$$33800:365=92,6$$

$$92,6:24=3,9$$

De hamer sloeg 4 keer per uur.

This judge's gavel merged with the meat hammer represents the corruption, abuse of power, violence, brutality, dehumanization, and lack of empathy present in the justice system, symbolizing how some judges, police, sexual abuse investigators, use their position to manipulate and harm people instead of administering fair justice and ensure their mental health through the process.

Calls notifying a sexual assault in 2022

In total 33800

$$33800:365=92,6$$

$$92,6:24=3,9$$

The hammer hit 4 times per hour.

Este martillo de juez fusionado con el martillo de carne representa la corrupción, el abuso de poder, la violencia, la brutalidad, la deshumanización y la falta de empatía presentes en el sistema de justicia, simbolizando cómo algunos jueces, policías, policías especializados en abusos sexuales, utilizan su posición para manipular y dañar a las personas en lugar de administrar la justicia justa en estos casos.

Llamadas notificando una agresión sexual en el 2022

En total 33800

$$33800:365=92,6$$

$$92,6:24=3,9$$

El martillo golpea 4 veces por hora.

FIRST CONTACT WITH JUSTICE

Every year 100,000 people suffer from sexual abuse, rape, sexual assault in the Netherlands, 90% are people who identify themselves as women, 10% are people who identify themselves as men.

By the year 2022, 52% of people who identify themselves as women between the ages of 18-24 have experienced sexual assault. Only 11.5% of those survivors have successfully reported the crime to the police.

This percentage is not specifying whether the survivors attempted to file a report but were discouraged by the police. Therefore, the vast majority have probably not followed through with the report. Thus, building a record of people who have called to report abuse, but allegedly not filed a report. In this way, the police are let off the hook with no evidence of their negligence.

Politie ontkent ontmoedigen aangifte zedenmisdrijf, 'maar moeilijke vragen horen erbij'

16 maart 2021, 07.00 uur · Aangepast 16 maart 2021, 11.49 uur · Door NH Nieuws & AT5

During the first contact with the justice system, the person who wants to file a complaint calls the general number (0900-8844) recommended by the sex crimes help centers. In this case, it is not the emergency number (112). At this general number, the local police will answer the call. If you mention that it is a case of sexual abuse, you will be transferred to the police specialized in sex crimes. They then ask you to tell them why you want to file a report, but this time in more detail and ask you questions that sound like the beginning of an interrogation.

From that call, they make an appointment for the informative conversation (informatief gesprek zedendelicten). During that meeting, the police investigate the story of the person who was sexually abused to determine whether there is a crime and how serious it is, which will enable them to file a complaint. They also assess the reliability of the survivor's account.

During the interrogation, conducted by video call or in a room at the police station, where at least one officer is specialized as a sex crimes detective, they ask strategic questions without considering the emotional and psychological state of the person. They inquire about the traumatic event with disbelief and ask manipulative questions to make the person feel that they have said something they never said.

This leads me to reflect on the dynamics of power and control in the book, *Dawn* by Octavia Butler, where the character Lilith Lyapo finds herself in a position of powerlessness in the face of abuse of power, ending in manipulation and influence against her integrity. Similarly, with a survivor of sexual abuse, where the inequality of power, not only on the part of the aggressor, but also of the police, can lead to complaints not being taken seriously or being minimized. This combined with being confronted with barriers to being believed and given credibility by the police. Thus, leading to stigmatization, lack of validation or secondary victimization by institutions such as the justice system. Feeling that both the aggressor and the police manipulate your emotions from a level of abuse of power can generate fear when reporting, giving the feeling that justice is not on your side.

On the police website, an officer explains how her work experience changes as she interrogates different people⁹. Specifically, she mentions that people who come in for sexual abuse are mostly considered as "having their first encounter with justice". This can create a power imbalance and influence the way questioning is conducted, due to unfamiliarity with the process, emotional vulnerability, and knowledge disadvantages. The lack of resources in the justice system for these specific cases can lead to manipulation by the police. This should not be allowed, and solutions should be sought to prevent survivors from being sacrificed and to prevent future crimes.

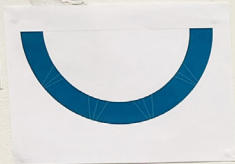
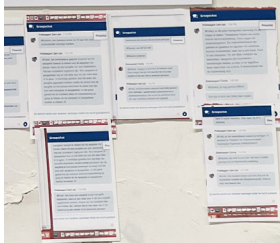
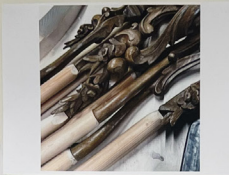
Valse aangiftes weren

Het ontmoedigen zou voortkomen uit het willen weren van valse aangiftes. Maar dat aandeel is altijd maar klein, zegt De Zutter. Korver vreest dat de capaciteitsproblemen bij de politie soms meespelen.

"De meest logische verklaring zou zijn dat het de werkdruk is: 'Laten we alsjeblieft alleen die zaken eruit halen die klip en klaar zijn en waarvan we zeker een veroordeling krijgen en de rest laten we liggen, want we hebben het al zo druk.'

In conclusion, this leads me to speculate on how perhaps there is a relationship between the attitude of the police, with the theory "medical gaze" in the book, *The Birth of The Clinic* by Michel Foucault¹⁰, where he describes the concept of how power and control is established between doctors and patients. This "medical gaze" turns the patient into an object of study and control, defining what is "normal" and what is "abnormal", with both positive and negative consequences. Positive, by allowing effective diagnoses and treatments, and negative, by generating forms of oppression and stigmatization.

In this case, speculation about a "police gaze" as a concept is based on an idea like the "medical gaze" in terms of the ability of the police to exercise power and control over people who want to file a complaint of sexual abuse or some other sexual assault. By rushing to determine the credibility of the survivor, the police assume the role of defining "truth" and "lies", as well as the role of hastily dictating whether "a crime has been committed" or "no crime has been committed" during the informative conversation (informatief gesprek), thus affecting the way they collect evidence or conduct interrogations and encouraging and manipulating people to make hasty decisions. This leads to the risk of dehumanizing the survivor, treating them as an object of study and control without guaranteeing justice in the face of injustice.



Wanneer een... (text partially obscured)

Slachtoffer van een seksueel misdrijf?
HOE NU VERDER?

Wat is een... (text partially obscured)

De... (text partially obscured)



CHAPTER II

DEAD CONVERSATION

My body is wounded,
the wound is invisible.
not only in front of the mirror
but also, to the eyes of others,
for touch, for everything
And all the silence seems opportune,
The sword comes down.
It comes down and brushes my back,
And though it seemed it would protect me,
It judges me backwards, without thinking how long I've been bleeding,
They judge me, without knowing, without wanting to see,
They judge without time to lose,
My wound is bleeding,
help,
it's bleeding inside...
Each time filling my mouth more and more with blood,
leaving no room for my vocal cords,
and that's where I spit out.
every moment of that night
I spit, spit, spit to keep from drowning.
I spit and inhale air..
STOP!!! - They whisper to me.
Your time is up - they tell me.



Aangiften die werden geaccepteerd in 2021

3100 aangiften in totaal

$3100:365=8,5$

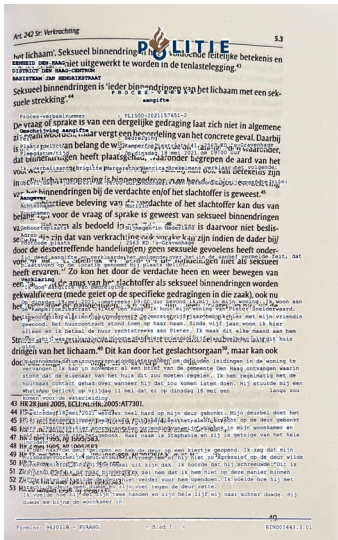
8/9 aangiften werden geaccepteerd per dag.

Reports accepted in 2021

in total 3100 reports

$3100:365=8,5$

8/9 reports where made per day.



Denuncias aceptadas en el 2021

in total 3100 denuncias

$3100:365=8,5$

8/9 denuncias fueron aceptadas por día.

CONVERSATIONS WITHOUT EMERGENCY EXIT

Informative conversations (informatief gesprek) are not carried out in the presence of a psychologist who asks the necessary questions to reach more reliable conclusions and consider the mental and emotional health of the person being questioned. On the contrary, mostly, the police discourage the person, if there is no obvious evidence and the case is complex, in some cases denying them the right to file a complaint. This leads me to speculate on the idea that the police are responsible for the increase in rape. Audre Lorde referred to the increase in rape and its aggression in her book *Sister Outsider*; "Rape is increasing, reported and unreported, and rape is not aggressive sexuality, but sexualized aggression", Lorde also quotes the writer Kalamu ya Salaam: "As long as male domination exists, rape will exist. Only women's rebellion and men's awareness of their responsibility in the fight against sexism can collectively put an end to rape." Reflecting on this, the justice system has a great responsibility to raise awareness about sexual abuse. However, from being an act of injustice and immorality in all aspects, the numbers of sentenced cases in the Netherlands show that it is tolerated by the justice system. This influences society's perception of the seriousness and the weight of injustice of this type of crime.

The police in some cases confuse the need for informative conversation (informatief gesprek) and the freedom to file a complaint, giving information about the reporting process in a catastrophic way for the person¹². Sara Ahmed investigates this issue in her book *Complaint!*¹³ where she mentions "If you don't find the standard for filing a complaint, you can't follow the established path as a procedure, or if you find it, but it is difficult to use, you may not get to the next step" Ahmed also mentions how many times through the use of warnings, as an ominous sign, a sign that represents the danger ahead, warning the person who wants to file a complaint that it will endanger their welfare and safety, and it can also be perceived as a threat.

Comparing Sarah Ahmed's research in London with the dynamics of informative conversations (informatief gesprek) in the Netherlands, I conclude that the police also put pressure on people who want to report, not only by warning them of the harm they will suffer for making the complaint, but also how they will "waste their time investigating something that is not a crime", thus minimizing the traumatic situation, and accusing them indirectly of hurting the institution. This combination makes sure that the reports do not go beyond this informative conversation (informatief gesprek), thus generating a situation of impunity and denial of justice for the survivors, creating invisibility and minimization of the problem¹⁴.

Naar huis gestuurd

Ook slachtoffers die na het gesprek direct aangifte wilden doen, zouden toch naar huis worden gestuurd, wat de opsporing hindert, zegt De Zutter.

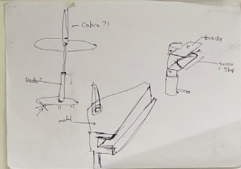
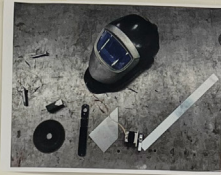
Advocaat Korver hoort van slachtoffers vaak teleurgestelde geluiden na het informatieve gesprek. "Ze horen bijvoorbeeld dat wat ze hebben mee hebben gemaakt geen strafbaar feit is. Dat er geen onderzoeksmogelijkheden zijn, geen bewijzen."

(De politie is op grond van artikel 163 lid 6 en artikel 165 lid 1 Sv verplicht de aangifte of klacht in ontvangst te nemen).

The Dutch police are obliged to receive the complaint based on article 163, clause 6 and article 165, clause 1 Sv. In no case can they deny the right to lodge a complaint. Even if they justify themselves by arguing the lack of hard evidence, they are still obligated to take the complaint. In many cases, the police inform the person not to file a complaint due to lack of evidence, even before they have requested or examined evidence, since informative conversations (informatief gesprek) do not carry out the analysis of evidence, whether physical or digital.

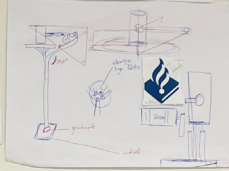
The risk of PTSD after rape is 45% in people who identify as female and 65% in people who identify as male. Recovery from sexual abuse can be lifelong. However, Judith Lewis Herman, in her book, *Truth and Repair: How trauma survivors envision justice*¹⁷, talks about how this issue is

connected to social justice, since in the first case an injustice is committed, which makes it a social issue about equality and justice. Thus, affirming that the way to overcome this trauma is through justice. Reaffirming the importance of recognition and that justice is on the side of the survivor and not on the side of the perpetrator.



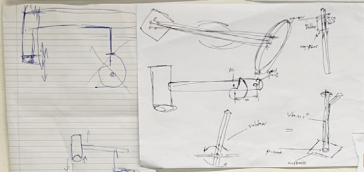
Aangifte na aanranding of vercrachting niet altijd hoogste prioriteit!

Handige tips voor de politie... (text is small and partially illegible)



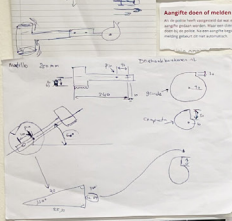
POLITI

Handwritten notes and a stamp.



Handwritten notes on a piece of paper.

Handwritten notes on a piece of paper.



Aangifte doet of niet

Handwritten notes.



Handwritten notes in French: "Je faisais le métier de..."



Workbench area containing:

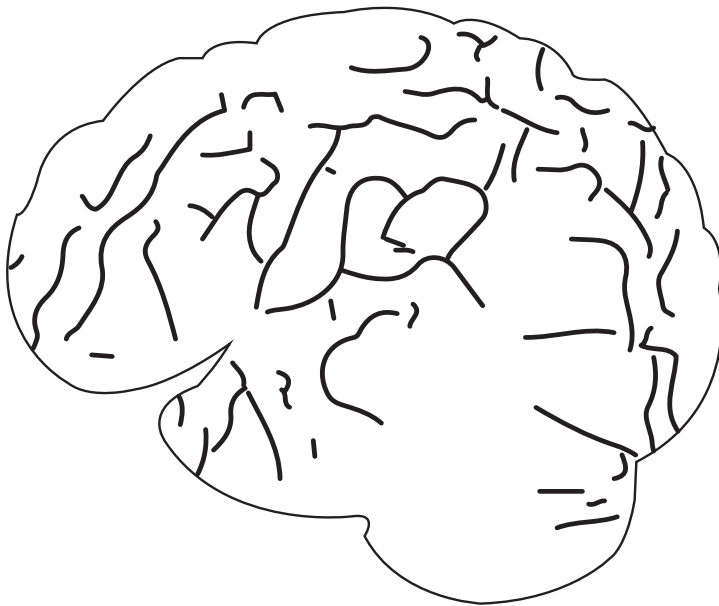
- An open notebook with handwritten notes.
- A wooden mallet.
- A small electronic circuit board.
- A piece of wood.
- Various photographs and diagrams spread out on the surface.

CHAPTER III

SOME FREE OTHERS NOT

Corre, corre y no pares,
Corre y libérate-
de ti, de él, de ese momento,
Corre más allá de tu propio cuerpo,
Corre más allá de tu alma,
de tus recuerdos,
¡Corre! Y no mires atrás,
No hay nada que ver,
más allá de tu sufrimiento,
Olvidalo, cállalo, trágalo,
Deshazte de aquel recuerdo,
Deshazte de la cadena que destroza tu piel, No dejes que el golpe se note,
Estamos aquí, pero no para esto,
Corre y no mires atrás,
Corre, aléjate de ellos,
de nosotros, de ti,
de tus recuerdos,
No perdamos el tiempo.

De hersenen die door de hamer worden geraakt, staan voor de emotionele schade die het rechtssysteem toebrengt aan de overlevende. Het symboliseert niet alleen het machtsmisbruik van het rechtssysteem, maar ook de beslissingen die het rechtssysteem neemt zonder professionele hulp van een therapeut die een negatieve invloed kunnen hebben op de geestelijke gezondheid en het leven van de overlevenden.



The brain being hit by the hammer represents the emotional damage caused to the survivor by the justice system. Symbolizing, not only the abuse of power by the justice system, but also the decisions made by the justice system without professional help from a therapist that can have a negative impact on the mental health and life of the survivors.

El cerebro siendo golpeado por el martillo representa el daño emocional causado a la persona sobreviviente por el sistema de justicia. Simbolizando, no solo el abuso de poder de la justicia, sino también las decisiones tomadas por la justicia sin ayuda profesional de un terapeuta que pueden tener un impacto negativo en la salud mental y la vida de las personas sobrevivientes.

FREE, NOT LIKE ME

Do the police take the slightest initiative to investigate whether the person who allegedly committed the crime and is being named in the informative conversation (informatief gesprek) has been charged in the past? In many experiences shared by individuals, they state that the police have not even asked for the person's name. Or, because they themselves do not know the exact name of the perpetrator, the police have not asked questions about other characteristics of the person.

I would like to show some examples of the responses of the police to the survivor during the first call, the informative conversation (informatief gesprek) or the complaint itself; not only including my experience¹⁹, but also based on other people who have wanted to contribute their experience and newspapers that have published the experience of certain people.

- What you have experienced is not a crime, in the end, you agreed to go out with that person.
- You don't know where he lives or what his name is.
- He was your partner; it is normal for these things to happen.
- You cannot file a complaint since no crime has been committed.
- You said before that you loved him.
- You do not want to go through all this.
- You can't file a complaint; we don't have enough evidence.
- You can't file a complaint.
- It has already been a long time.
- Are you sure you want the person to maybe go to jail?
- Because Corona, we are not accepting reports of sexual abuse.

These sentences share psychological aspects that can have a negative impact on the person who has suffered sexual abuse. For example, minimizing the seriousness of the experience, downplaying its importance by considering that it is not a crime or that it is something normal in a couple's relationship. Thanks to intersectional feminism, it has become more visible and has raised more awareness, regardless of ethnicity, social class, age, disability, or sexuality about the abuses that can be committed against you and your body, redefining aggression that were once normalized for benefit of others. In Joyce Scott's "The devil made me do it!", she makes visible and questions how survivors often face judgment and stigmatization by society, as if they were responsible for the violence perpetrated against them. I think it is important to mention that as in the justice system in the Netherlands as in other parts of the world, institutional racism is also exercised in the form of human rights abuse towards the survivor. In this way, the police delegitimize the person's ability to file a complaint for supposedly lack of evidence or for normalizing the assault wrongly and immorally behind the person's culture. Many of these responses by the police are made without leaving evidence that they have been made by them. This makes me speculate on the question, could this be the reason why the police consciously decide to have this first encounter between the survivor and them as a representation of the institution of justice alone and without witnesses?

Although the abuse is reported with a proper complaint, the police do not act, allowing the aggressor to continue abusing without consequences. For example, Anne, who decided to make her story public in *Volkskrant* to make this problem visible. She filed the complaint in 2020, but one year later, the police still had not contacted the rapist or the witnesses. Anne was able to file a complaint because of the support of her family with a lawyer.

'Twee dagen later besloot ik definitief om de aangifte door te zetten. Ik wil niet dat de dader nooit te weten komt wat hij heeft aangericht. Hij mag er niet mee weggkomen. Maar nu, bijna een jaar later, is er nog niets met mijn aangifte gebeurd. De politie heeft de verdachte nog niet gehoord en met geen enkele getuige gesproken.'

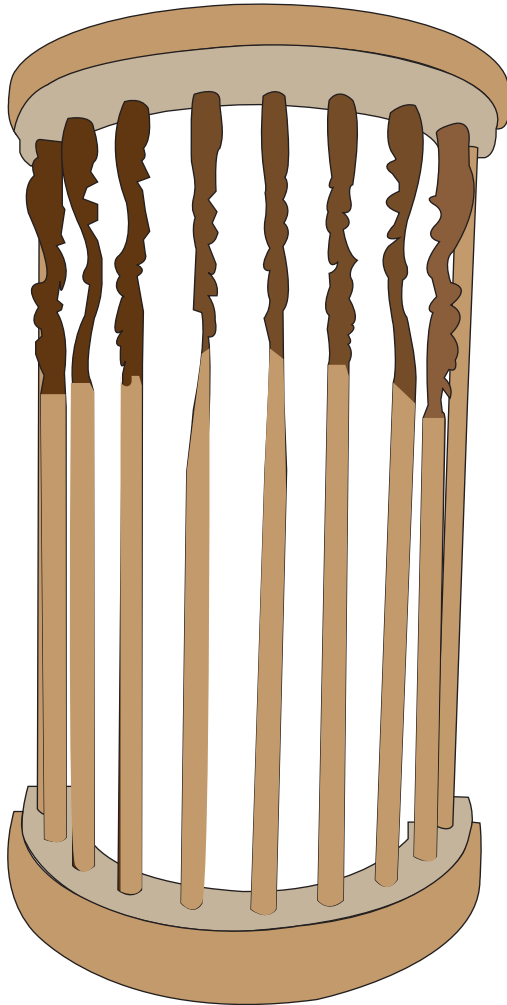
CHAPTER III

THE JUDGMENT

No more "wasting time",
Your silence is over,
Your break, your eternal rest,
No more of your secret hiding place, I'll throw you out into the light,
You, as inept system you are,
I'll light up your crime,
As accomplice of so many silences, And from my own art
With a light and your "altar"
I will show and get rid of your evils, Because the mistakes are over,
the waits
And the violations on your stairs.

Gerechtigheidsaltaar: Getuigenbank

De getuigenbank gebruiken als een altaar versierd met bloemen staat voor mijn persoonlijke en diepgaande kritiek op het rechtssysteem. Naar mijn mening laat deze symbolische voorstelling zien hoe de eerlijke behandeling die van justitie wordt verwacht vaak in het gedrang komt en slechts een formaliteit wordt. Zowel de onthulling als de getuigenbank worden gebruikt in de vorm van een altaar om de persoon, indien nodig, te offeren voordat er recht wordt gedaan.



Justice's Altar: Witness stand

Using the witness stand as an altar decorated with flowers represents my personal and profound critique of the justice system. In my opinion, this symbolic representation highlights how the fair treatment expected from justice is often compromised and becomes a mere formality. Revealing, as well as the witness stand, is used in the form of an altar to sacrifice the person, if necessary, before justice is done.

Altar de la Justicia: Estrado de testigos

Usando el estrado de testigos como un altar decorado con flores, representa mi crítica personal y profunda hacia el sistema de justicia. En mi opinión, esta representación simbólica destaca como el trato justo que se espera de la justicia a menudo se ve comprometida y se convierte en una mera formalidad. Revelando, así como el estrado de testigos, es usado en forma de altar para sacrificar a la persona si es necesario antes de hacer justicia.

THE SENTENCE FOR YOU

The reasons why the police take so long to carry out the investigation and deal with the complaints that they ultimately accept are completely unacceptable and harmful to society and the survivors.

There is a lot to say, but one thing that is evident is that the police system in the Netherlands is infected by patriarchy, reflecting it in its lack of competence and immorality, illegally denying the right to file complaints and judging survivors without taking responsibility for the emotional damage caused to them.

Globally, there is a worrying lack of diligence in the justice system in relation to sexual abuse crimes. Rebecca Campbell²², an expert in community psychology, has revealed numerous cases in which the human rights of survivors have been violated by the justice system. As she mentions in her lecture "Filing Justice: The National Problem of Unanalyzed Sexual Assault Kits," Campbell notes that, to this day, referring only to survivors who file a complaint, "most survivors who do come forward never receive a police investigation in their case." Campbell's research creates a link with similarities in the justice system in the Netherlands, people are either refused to file a complaint or it takes years, or they do not investigate the cases. This issue makes me question why the justice system is not conducting investigations or sentencing in sexual abuse cases.

Which leads me to reflect on the implementation of a new law in the Dutch justice system²³ planned for 2024. This law focuses on sexual abuse and seeks to impose more stringent measures, which are considered highly necessary. Under this new legislation, it will no longer be necessary to prove "imposition" in rape cases. Thus, a person could be punished for rape if they knew that the other person did not want to have sex and, despite this, decided to proceed.

This new law could potentially represent a solution to sexual abuse cases. However, a question arises for me: if the problem was a lack of police capacity to adequately deal with these cases, will convictions and investigations continue to be postponed?

This makes me speculate on the possibility that, despite the introduction of stricter legislation, the judicial system may continue to face challenges in terms of its ability to enforce existing laws. If that is the case, the effectiveness of convictions and justice for survivors may continue to be hampered or even further ignored. I fully support the implementation of the new law, but there is also a need to rebuild the justice system in the Netherlands in relation to sexual assault crimes, as it is in a deteriorated state and favors some people more than others.

Through my medium of expression, art, and this research, I will make my voice heard against these injustices. Following in the footsteps of many artists who addressed this issue that continues to be a problem today. Jenny Holzer who in the early 1980's created a work of art about sexual abuse. She was asked in the book "Unspeakable Acts" ²⁴ about her opinion on the decline of assaults. Jenny replied, "Unfortunately, not much has changed. There's my whole manifesto."

I suggest including a therapist or psychologist external to the justice system during informative conversations (informatief gesprek) with the police, to protect the mental health of individuals in their first contact with the justice system. The intervention of a mental health professional in this type of situation could offer numerous of benefits. The therapist or psychologist can professionally and empathetically manage the emotions and trauma that survivors may experience during their first encounter with the justice system. This would contribute to a safer and more supportive environment for survivors. In addition, their presence during the informative conversations (informatief gesprek) would help to facilitate more effective communication, more profound understanding of lived experiences, and ensure that survivors' voices are heard and considered in a fair and healthy manner in the judicial process.

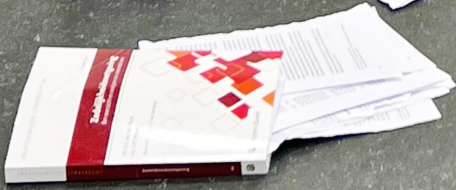
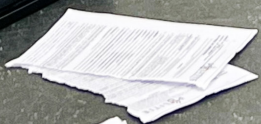
I want to emphasize that this research is based on a critique of the Dutch justice system in relation to sexual abuse or sexual aggression of any kind. It is a constructive critique with the aim of generating visibility of the problem and encouraging thoughts of change that could improve the situation. I seek to visualize the due importance and justice of sexual assault crimes, as well as to promote a conversation about changes in police procedures, with the aim of ensuring that no survivor of sexual abuse or any sexual aggression must face injustice from the justice system.

“Feminist thinking teaches us all especially, how to love justice and freedom in ways that foster and affirm life.”

Bell Hooks







INSTALLATION

ONE PIECE OF YOU? AND NOW WHAT?

This artwork delves into the critique of the justice system in cases of sexual abuse. Through symbols such as the altar of justice, the merging of the judge's gavel with the meat hammer and the printing of denunciations on law sheets, the effectiveness is questioned and the corruption and lack of empathy in the system is exposed. The swinging of the gavel 4 times an hour and the printing of 8 or 9 denunciations a day highlight how often these crimes occur based on facts of 2021 and 2022. The smashed brain symbolizes the psychological damage caused by unjust decisions. The work seeks to raise awareness about the need for changes in the justice system and the protection of victims of sexual abuse, highlighting the persistence and urgency of the problem.

FLOWERS AS MY WITNESS

On A PIECE OF YOU

AND NOW WHAT? by Kathy Murillo – a conversation with Emma Wiersma

I'm watching a documentary about how it feels to kill. A young man was told by his girlfriend how she was raped. The man waited for the rapist outside and took a baseball bat for protection. He saw the rapist strangling another girl in front of his car. The rapist went to attack, the guy held onto the baseball bat and hit him. The rapist died. The young man was jailed for 12 years. When the producer of the documentary asked the guy if he should've taken things into his own hands, and if it hadn't been better to aim for the police to address such cases, he was silent for a moment. Then he answered: I've thought about it, time and time again, over and over. Am I a good person, was I wrong? A police officer was convicted for raping and killing a girl the other day, right? How can girls go to the police? How can girls go to the police when their case will end up on a pile while the police go on taking on the next case?'

I have seen cases where the woman is jailed because she killed the rapist in self-defense.

*

You should know that it's been a long time since I've met an artwork that affected me as much as yours did. I must admit that I'm nauseous. Whenever I see blue on the street, I think of your work. Whenever I pass a police station I think of the insensitive words that are told to survivors that found the courage to come forward with their most intimate experience. I think of how different it would be if there'd be a psychologist present, offering a cup of tea. How was it for you to spend so much time with this work?

For me, it has been a very intense but necessary experience. From the first moment, I realized I had to do this, without doubt. However, I have questioned whether I am emphasizing it in the right way, whether I will be able to give it the visibility it deserves, and whether I will be able to bring about change. I also wondered if it would be possible to start a

conversation with the police to make things better. During this time, I have experienced emotional ups and downs that at times have made me want to rest – but I have not been able to as I felt it might mean that I could not do my best. Despite this, this project has also brought me peace and satisfaction as it has helped me heal my wounds partially and I feel hopeful again for change.

Would you care to summarize the different facets you've explored during your research? What new things did you learn?

My research is based on my personal experience, conversations with police, dialogues with survivors, readings of newspaper articles and studies of other professionals in different countries, such as Sarah Ahmed, Michel Foucault.

In my research I use the theory of Foucault the medical gaze of his book "The Birth of the Clinic", referring to the police gaze,

"By rushing to determine the credibility of the survivor, the police assume the role of defining "truth" and "lies", as well as the role of hastily dictating whether "a crime has been committed" or "no crime has been committed" during the informative conversation (informatief gesprek)".

I have also reflected on the literature of Audre Lorde and Octavia Butler, and researched the impact on mental health when justice abandons you, such as through the writings of Judith Herman, "The fundamental stages of recovery are establishing safety, reconstructing the trauma story, and restoring connection between survivors and their community".

It all started with a reflection on my previous experiences with the police, when I reviewed my 2021 paper on the "informatief gesprek", which is the first meeting with the police when trying to file a report, and decided to investigate whether this problem still persisted. I discovered that the problem still existed and that nothing had changed. I immediately called the police and asked to speak to the sex crimes unit in Rotterdam, as I felt very anxious when talking to the one in Den Haag. I contacted the police specializing in sexual offences and they confirmed that the "informatief gesprek" was part of the process. I asked them more questions and the police responded by asking why I wanted to know that. I explained that my thesis was based on that topic and that I wanted more information. They suggested sending me a brochure via email that I could read and where I could also ask them more questions. I emailed them my questions, but their response was that all the answers were in

the brochure. Clearly, that was not the case, so I decided not to bother them anymore and started researching how sex crimes police officers were prepared and what differentiated them from other officers and what training they received in that area. Thus I discovered that, as I already imagined, they did not have any studies on how to act for the psychological well-being of the person. In addition, the course focused on training them as machines who had to think fast and make quick conclusions during that first informative conversation.

I also discovered that on the police website there was a monthly chat where you could contact the specialized sex crimes unit. They gave one hour to ask questions, so I took the opportunity. However, I was only able to ask them two questions because they took so long to respond. They confirmed that there was no psychological intervention at the first contact and that only the presence of at least one police officer specialized in sexual offences was required. The one who answered me was not a police officer who specialized in sex crimes, but mentioned that his colleague was very busy answering Kathy's questions. The specialized police did not answer any of my questions.

During my investigation, I realized the importance of not only the support of the justice system but also the support of people close to me. So I decided to open up to them and I felt a part of my wounds heal a little more. I have also learned the importance of visualizing this issue, as most people have been survivors of some sexual assault.

Why is art the proper field to address the scope of this problem?

I feel that art is perfect for expressing this problem, as it provides an indirect and less confrontational way of making it visible. By being indirect, people don't feel so cornered or forced to say something, which provides more room for reflection. Through reflection, you can get to talk about the problem thus creating visibility. Also, I feel that art could help visualize the issue better for the police, as it could allow them to see it from a different perspective, even if they have previously refused. Art is my form of expression; it is how I need to translate my emotions and experiences to process or execute them. I feel that this project should be shouted out, it should be heard, not by me or for me, but for everyone, so that future survivors don't have to go through this. They don't have to be silent.

You made this work in three languages: Spanish, Dutch and English. How is it for you to work between these three cultural fields? Do you relate differently to each language, and how?

Working in my three languages has been a decision based on my own identity. My thoughts can manifest in these three languages, and each of them has a different relationship with me. Although I feel that in my mind, I assign different images to each language as if they were visually in separate compartments but at the end, they all connect with me in a very deep emotional way. These three languages feel very natural to me and coexist and support each other on my mind and in my thoughts. All three are equally important.

We've agreed on the term 'survivor' over words such as 'victim of sexual assault'. How do you personally feel the difference between these two designations? What changes when we use one over the other?

For me personally, the use of the term "survivor" aims to adopt a more empowering approach focused on the resilience of people who have experienced sexual assault. In this way, it seeks to avoid the connotation of passivity and vulnerability that may be associated with the term "victim", which can convey the idea that the person is completely bound to the assault without the ability to overcome it.

Would you care to share your own experience with trying to file a report of sexual assault with the Dutch police?

I have a video work from two years ago, *Informative Conversations Sex victims* (2021) I made as a reenactment of my experience with the police. The police told me they couldn't do anything for me at that moment, they were too busy. They even became a bit sarcastic and annoyed because I didn't understand how they could say that by not even looking to the proof. They told me first that I wasn't allowed to file a report but when I ask how that could be possible, they said 'you are allowed but we are not going to do anything about it, or big boss is going to decide that we are not going to do anything, so we are going to lose time, better not to lose time.'

'Domination of women has provided a key link, both socially and symbolically, to the domination of earth, hence the tendency in patriarchal cultures to link women with earth, matter, and nature, while identifying males with sky, intellect, and transcendent spirit.'

Yesterday I read this quote by eco-feminist Rosemary Radford Ruether. I came to understand how the problems you address are wider than let's say, only a flaw in the judicial system or the overworked police force. In the Western world we tend to put our rational mind above all that comes with bodily feeling, emotion or the earthly, let alone how these things are ascribed to femininity. In your work you show various spheres: from bureaucratic facts such as the number of attempted reports, to deep research into the judicial system, to the religious symbolism of sacrifice at the altar with flowers as bars of the witness stand. What is your relation to Catholicism? Does the church merely underline the patriarchal structures we live in, or do you find comfort in the spiritual?

I must clarify that my work is never directly inspired by Catholicism. However, I was raised in a Latin, Catholic family, and my grandmother used to take me to church occasionally. I often felt judged in church and scared because I always questioned whether if god existed truly and if god was the good guy, a white guy, why a guy and why with blue eyes... Regarding the church, it could surely be said that it highlights the patriarchal structures we live in, as it has historically been an institution with a hierarchy dominated by men and toxic gender roles. Spirituality for me is creating art, being connected with my inner self and being able to create art which can connect to others. When I create art, I feel spiritually bounded, it gives me so much fulfilling.

How do we move onward from here? (Does your work offer any relief?)

I have invited the police to my graduation, and I hope they accept my invitation. That would be my second step. Also, I would want to recreate this sculpture as a monument and have it adorned our city, just like our justice system is adorning our safety.

Personally, I believe this project had brought me a lot of hope. I feel that in some way, I will be able to bring visibility to the problem. I also feel that it has helped me process my own situation even more.

I'm truly convinced that showing my vulnerability will help other people feel supported and speak out about their experiences with justice system.

You once asked me where we belong. Did this work change your feeling of belonging? Where do the survivors belong?

I'm more convinced than ever that we always belong in the place where we are, no matter where it is or how long we can or choose to be there, at that right moment we are belonging. This project made me realize I belong in creating this project. Sadly but truly.

Politieagent **Gert Jan** 7:14 PM

@Kath, vaak is het zo dat er uit de aangifte nog wel wat bewijs of onderzoeksrichtingen te halen zijn. echter bij sommige zedenzaken blijft het echt lastig. Meestal zijn de gebeurtenissen 1 op 1

Je bericht wordt voor anderen verborgen totdat het wordt goedgekeurd.

Politieagent **Gert Jan** 7:21 PM

@Kath, het informatieve gesprek is ervoor om de aangever bewust te maken van de aspecten die komen kijken bij een aangifte van een zedendelict. Het kan ontzettend ingrijpend zijn. Een aangever of aangeefster kan er niet altijd aan toe zijn deze fase in te gaan. In sommige gevallen kan het doen van aangifte afgeraden worden omdat de impact van de aangifte en het proces eromheen te zwaar kan zijn voor een aangever of aangeefster. In dat geval geniet het de voorkeur eerst de hulpverlening op gang te helpen en de aangever of aangeefster sterker te maken. ☐

Je bericht wordt voor anderen verborgen totdat het wordt goedgekeurd.

Politieagent **Gert Jan** 7:22 PM

@Kath, het doen van aangifte is dan niet gelijk afgesloten, want er kan altijd later in tijd een aangifte opgenomen worden. Echter kan de bewijslast dan wel minder zijn. Sporen die er niet meer zijn of de herinnering die minder is bij eventuele getuigen

Je bericht wordt voor anderen verborgen totdat het wordt goedgekeurd.

Groepschat

herinnering die minder is bij eventuele getuigen Privechat

@ [redacted], nee dat kan niet

@ [redacted]; jij wel idd

Zedenexpert **Corina** 7:25 PM

@ [redacted], vraag je nu niet naar de bekende weg? Deze vragen heb je in de loop der tijd al tig keer gesteld en tig keer heb je antwoord gekregen.

Politieagent **Gert Jan** 7:25 PM

@Kath, het informatieve gesprek wordt altijd gevoerd door minimaal 1 gecertificeerd zedenrechercheur. Zedenrechercheurs, die nu ook de privéchats doen, zijn daar inderdaad speciaal voor opgeleid.

Je bericht wordt voor anderen verborgen totdat het wordt goedgekeurd.

Politieagent **Gert Jan** 7:35 PM Privechat

@Kathy, er zijn geen therapeuten aanwezig om die vragen te stellen. Therapeuten hebben een ander doel en dat is hulpverlening. Onze vragen zijn onderzoekgericht. De zedenrechercheurs zijn getraind en geoefend om signalen van eventuele trauma's te herkennen, maar dat is echt basis. Denk bv aan dissociatie. Ten alle tijden verwijzen we slachtoffers / aangevers die traumatische herinneringen hebben, en daar in het dagelijkse leven veel hinder van ervaren, in samenspraak met de hulpverlening door.

Zedenexpert **Corina** 7:35 PM

@ [redacted], je mag gewoon blijven.

Gert jan is druk met Kathy haar vragen

De meeste slachtoffers doen geen aangifte na verkrachting

In een strafproces gaat het om het rond krijgen van strafrechtelijk bewijs. En dat is nu juist in zedenzaken moeilijk. Vaak bevond je je in een 'grijze zone': was de dader een vriend, een familielid of hadden jullie een date. Dit maakt dat dwang in sommige gevallen moeilijk te bewijzen is. Dat is ook wat we nu veel terug zien in getuigenissen van vermeende slachtoffers van het schandaal achter de schermen van **The Voice of Holland**: slachtoffers twijfelen vaak sterk aan hun eigen rol en zoeken de schuld bij zichzelf. En als ze het zelf niet doen, legt **de omgeving wel de schuld bij hen neer**. Bovendien moet er in onze huidige zedenwet sprake zijn van dwang om seksueel geweld te bewijzen. Het feit dat de dader alle grenzen overschreden heeft en dat er wel degelijk sprake was van verkrachting, is in de rechtbank soms moeilijk te bewijzen.

Volgens het Centrum Seksueel Geweld wordt de helft van de aangiftes geseponeerd vanwege gebrek aan bewijs. "Superfrustrerend voor de slachtoffers", aldus Iva. "Sepot betekent niet dat het niet gebeurd is. Maar dat kan wel zo worden geïnterpreteerd. Zeker de verdachte zal dat zo vertalen naar zijn netwerk."

Aangifte na aanranding of verkrachting niet altijd hoogste prioriteit

"Aangifte heeft niet altijd de hoogste prioriteit", stelt Iva. "Soms zitten mensen er niet op te wachten om in detail hun verhaal te doen. Of zie zijn er niet op uit om de verdachte achter de tralies te krijgen. Slachtoffers hebben veel aan hun hoofd. Hoe vind ik mijn leven, mezelf terug? Dat speelt zeker bij langdurig misbruik, vooral als in het in de eigen familie is gebeurd. Dan is het hele klus je thuis te voelen in deze wereld en jezelf en anderen te vertrouwen. De samenleving wil graag dat slachtoffers aangifte doen, maar slachtoffers zelf niet altijd."

Aangifte doen of melden

Als de politie heeft vastgesteld dat wat er is gebeurd vrijwel zeker strafbaar is, kan aangifte gedaan worden. Maar een cliënt kan alsnog besluiten om alleen een melding te doen bij de politie. Na een aangifte begint de politie een strafrechtelijk onderzoek. Na een melding gebeurt dit niet automatisch.

Kan de politie een aangifte weigeren?

De politie mag een aangifte niet weigeren

De politie is op basis van de wet verplicht om aangiftes op te nemen. In de praktijk wordt een aangifte wel eens geweigerd om verschillende redenen, bijvoorbeeld omdat er onvoldoende bewijs is of omdat het te druk is. 5 Apr 2023

Verhoor

"Wij moeten weten wat er exact gebeurd is. Praten over seks is sowieso al niet makkelijk, helemaal niet als je slachtoffer bent van een misdrijf. Maar sommige gedetailleerde vragen zijn nodig om te bepalen of er sprake is van een strafbaar feit. En dan komt het voor dat we zeggen: 'Nu zeg je dit, maar net zei je nog dat'. Dan kan snel de perceptie ontstaan dat de politie een slachtoffer niet gelooft", legt De Jong uit.

Inspectie

De werkwijze bij het informatieve gesprek, de bedenktijd en de periode na de aangifte moest op aanbevelen van de Inspectie worden verbeterd. Uit het onderzoek kwam naar voren dat er meer aandacht voor behoeften en verwachtingen van de zedenslachtoffers moet zijn.

Interessante verhoren

"Bij de zedenpolitie tref je heel andere types. Minder de gasten die willens en wetens het criminele pad op gaan, die als ze binnenkomen al roepen: "Ik weet precies hoe het hier werkt." Voor de mensen hier is het vaak hun eerste kennismaking met de politie. Het zijn heel andere zaken, veel complexer, en dat maakt het verhoor veel interessanter. Dat was de diepgang die ik zocht."

Wat is een informatief gesprek? (zedendelicten)

Elk onderzoek naar een zedendelict start met een informatief gesprek bij de politie, tenzij dit vanwege een acute situatie niet mogelijk is.

Het informatieve gesprek is er voor het slachtoffer of voor degene die namens hem melding komt doen. In het informatieve gesprek vertelt het slachtoffer globaal wat er is gebeurd en wat haar of zijn verwachtingen zijn van het politieonderzoek.

De politie informeert het slachtoffer vervolgens in het gesprek over een aantal zaken: de juridische procedure, verjaring, de kans op vervolging, de openbaarheid van de zitting, medisch onderzoek, consequenties van een valse aangifte en de mogelijkheid van ambtsshalve vervolging. Verder wordt het slachtoffer geïnformeerd over het feit dat kritische vragen moeten worden gesteld in het belang van het onderzoek, het opnemen op geluidsband en de rol van vertrouwenspersonen. Ook wordt nagegaan of de opvang is geregeld. Ten slotte wordt het slachtoffer bedenktijd aangeboden om te kunnen overwegen of aangifte wordt gedaan.

RICHARD KORVER, STRAFRECHTADVOCAAT

Toch plaatst Korver wel zijn vraagtekens bij sommige zaken, die overigens ook in andere delen van het land plaatsvinden. "Ik heb regelmatig dat ik denk: er zijn wel onderzoeksmogelijkheden, terwijl de recherche denkt: wij hebben andere zaken liggen waarin wél een opsporingsindicatie is. Denk bijvoorbeeld aan incest-zaken van lang geleden. Dat zijn complexe onderzoeken, die veel tijd kosten. De politie gaat nu eenmaal harder lopen als een vrouw binnenkomt die zegt net te zijn verkracht."

Handwritten notes on a sheet of paper, possibly a checklist or schedule, with green highlights.



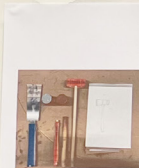
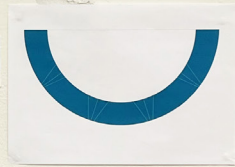
Handwritten notes on a sheet of paper, including a small diagram or sketch.

Three printed sheets of paper with text and diagrams, possibly technical specifications or instructions.



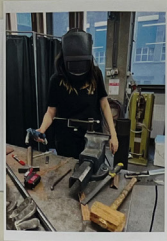
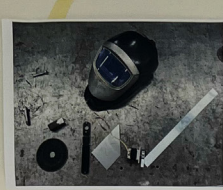
Printed text on a sheet of paper, possibly a technical drawing or specification.

Printed text on a sheet of paper, including a diagram of a wooden structure and some handwritten notes.



Printed text on a sheet of paper, possibly a technical drawing or specification.

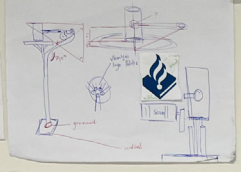




Van de praktijk naar de theorie
De praktijk van het verspreiden van de kennis

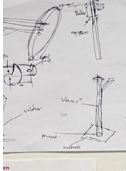


Aangifte na aanraking of
verkrachting niet altijd hoogste
prioriteit



Document with text and a logo that says 'POLITI'.

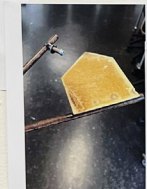
Handwritten notes on a piece of paper.



Document with text and a logo that says 'POLITI'.

Document with text and a logo that says 'POLITI'.

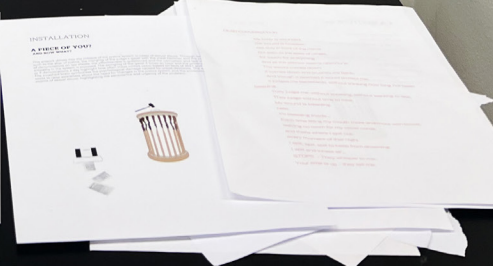
Document with text and a logo that says 'POLITI'.



Handwritten notes in French:
"L'écrou est
le bouton à machine
le plus commun
pour les machines
à vapeur
ou les machines à gaz
à vapeur
et machine à vapeur
à gaz
Les femmes - 1924
Francine et
la femme de la Mont
agne - 1924
L'écrou est le plus
commun des machines à vapeur
ou des machines à gaz
à vapeur
et machine à vapeur
à gaz
L'écrou est le plus
commun des machines à vapeur
ou des machines à gaz
à vapeur
et machine à vapeur
à gaz"



Handwritten notes on a piece of paper.



A NEW MORNING

Esta madrugada llego mi cómplice de la vida, mi inspiración al amor, mi apoyo del día a día...

Abrió la puerta, y entre una sonrisa y la voz media quebrantada en medio de la oscuridad me dijo en un grito susurrado

– Hay un pajarito en las escaleras, ayúdala, pobre...pobre...

Yo le conteste sin pensar por un minuto en lo que acababa de decir

– ¿Has dejado la puerta abierta?

Como si la vida solo se tratara de cerrar las puertas que vas dejando atrás,

Como si las puertas hay que cerrarlas aun que algo te pide volver,

Como si el aire detrás de esa puerta fuera toxico,

Como si tuviera miedo... mucho miedo...

Un poco dudosa de la situación decidí cruzar la puerta,

y allí la encontré...

reconocí su mirada, la reconocí como mía,

y allí me vi, la vi,

En las escaleras de mi casa,

Perdida,

sin fuerzas para volar,

Sedienta, con hambre, pero sin apetito...

Todo se nublo en mi mente,

Pensé, no puedo ayudarla,

– Ayúdala pobre, es muy pequeña, creo que tiene miedo.

No puedo ayudarla, así es la naturaleza, así es la vida...

– Ayúdala

– Ayúdala

– Ayúdala

Me resigne, no puedo hacer nada para ayudarla, no puedo ayudarme...
Pero cuando entré de nuevo a mi casa,
y mi mente se tranquilizo, decidí mirar por la ventana, y la vi, me vi...
Allí, sola, sin fuerzas para volar...
Abrí esa puerta, decidida, me llevé mis llaves, y la dejé abierta,
Fui hacia donde sentía que tenía que ir,
la tome entre mis manos,
Y sentí como me abrace, la abrace,
La cuide, me cuide...
Nos alimentamos, sentí su fuerza,
Sentí como la fuerza fluía en mí,
Y fue así como supe cuando era mi momento de volar de nuevo.



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