UPR - Canada

Maryam SAFARI

Mr. President,

I am speaking on behalf of the Charitable Institute for Protecting of Social Victims. This institute has been campaigning for years with the aim of preventing social sufferings which includes violence against women.

Mr. President,

Studies show that in Canada women's human rights are violated more than other social groups. They are put through various mental and physical pressures, and are faced with the violation of their legal rights. In view the large refugee population of the country, most of which have emigrated with their families, this human rights concern in Canada has a particular proportion and dimension. Even though by ratifying the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms (1982), the state guarantees people's fundamental rights, but by applying discrimination against women, in practice it violates human rights.

There are several cases of violence against women in Canada which raise concern. Reports indicate that young women face the most violence, and serious assault and battery from their husbands, and in all of this the exploitation of the emotional feelings of women, alcoholism, and even the threat of violence from a former partner in life are all just a corner of the realities which are reminded here.

Mr. President,

The effects of violence and abuse on women and on the overall society are a complex issue which must be assessed. Four studies in Canada have shown that the economic costs of violence against women and loss of earnings is very noticeable. The figures show that the negative costs of violence on society go further than the victims and their families themselves.

According to a UNICEF report, the cost of domestic violence in Canada exceeds 1.6 billion dollars.

Mr. President,

This Institute expresses concern towards the violation of women's rights in Canada, and calls upon the UPR to pay closer attention towards the negligence in the promotion and protection of women's rights in Canada in the Reviews. We also call upon the Council to while studying reports and documents on violence against women in Canada, to investigate the causes of neglect in investigation of the condition of women who are threatened with violence and abuse by their husbands.