

COMECITROVI: MAP OF THE ANTI-VIOLENCE CENTRES IN ITALY

Anti-violence centers online

As a result of the increasing attention paid to issues linked with violence against women, many new groups and associations of women have been organized as anti-violence centers. So it was deemed necessary to create a national database. For this reason, in 1991, "Casa delle donne" published a nation-wide guide called "COMECITROVI - how to find us, guide for the anti-violence centers in Italy". This paper guide was updated and republished in 1996 and also in 2000, when an extra database was added to search for the centers.

Recently, the database was replaced by an interactive map which offers more options and makes updating of information easier. This new program benefits not only women and institutions (aimed at contrasting violence against women) but it also fosters the development of political, professional and cultural relationships.

Information search

In the last few years, many new centers in Italy were created: in 2000 there were 56 centers, 17 of them were equipped with shelters.

Now, in Italy there are more than 115 anti-violence centers, 56 of them equipped with a shelter, the remaining are hot lines.

In the region Emilia Romagna, every major town has its own center with shelter facilities.

However, even though it is one of the regions with the highest number of centers, these are not always adequately financed, which prevents the center from fulfilling its functions efficiently.

Seizing the opportune moment of the 8th March a new updated version of the map was launched, updated thanks to new technologies and contains new information about the centers.

Methods

In order to realize this research, an electronic questionnaire was sent to all the known centres, more than 150. The form consisted of 4 detailed sheets, including various types of information such as:

- Address, contacts and opening hours of the centers
- Characteristics of the center
- Activities and history of the NGO's.

Casa delle donne per non subire violenza, Bologna, Italy